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## SC can't dictate terms to Speaker: HDK

Court to take call on Karnataka CM's assertion, MLAs' resignation today

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court will pronounce its verdict on Wednesday on several important Constitutional issues raised by the 15 rebel Karnataka Congress and Janata Dal (S) MLAs as well as State Chief Minister HD Kumaraswamy and Assembly Speaker KR Ramesh Kumar.

The issues before the SC are following: a) pleas of the rebel MLAs for direction to Speaker Kumar to accept their resignation from the Assembly; b) Kumaraswamy contention that the SC had no jurisdiction to pass the two interim orders asking the Speaker to decide and, later, to maintain the status quo on the resignations and disqualification of the rebel MLAs; c) Speaker's plea to the court to modify its earlier order directing him to maintain status quo in the ongoing political crisis in the State.

A Bench headed by Chief Justice Ranjan Gogoi on Tuesday concluded hearing on the pleas of the rebel MLAs, the Speaker and Kumaraswamy. Appearing for the 15 MLAs, senior advocate Mukul Rohatgi asked the Bench to continue with its interim order directing the Speaker to maintain status quo on the issue of resignation and disqualification of the MLAs.

The counsel for the rebel MLAs also asked the Bench that if the House assembles for business, the 15 rebel MLAs be exempted from appearing on



BJP members display placards as they protest in the Well of the Legislative Council demanding resignation of Karnataka Chief Minister HD Kumaraswamy at Vidhana Soudha in Bengaluru on Tuesday PTI

despite the whip of the ruling coalition which, he said, has been reduced to minority Government.

Senior advocate Rajeev Dhavan, appearing for Kumaraswamy, told the Bench that the Speaker cannot be compelled to decide this issue in a time-bound manner. "When resignation process is not in order, the court cannot direct Speaker to decide by 6 pm," he told the Bench, also comprising Justices Deepak Gupta and Aniruddha Bose.

Kumaraswamy also told the SC that the rebel MLAs were hunting in a pack to destabilise his Government and the court should not have entertained their petitions.

Senior advocate AM Singhvi, appearing for the Speaker, told the Bench that no direction was issued to the Karnataka Speaker by the court in the midnight hearing when floor test was ordered and BS Yedurappa was invited to form the Government last year. He told the Bench that the

Speaker was yet to decide on the resignation and disqualification of rebel MLAs and the court had ample power to punish them.

The Speaker urged the apex court to modify its earlier order directing him to maintain status quo in the ongoing political crisis in the State even as the rebel MLAs accused him of acting in a partisan manner by not deciding on their resignations.

Singhvi said the Speaker would decide on both disquali-

fication and resignation of the rebel MLAs by Wednesday but the court should modify its earlier order asking him to maintain status quo.

Rohatgi argued that the Speaker cannot keep the resignation of these MLAs pending and by doing so he is acting in a partisan manner.

Countering his submissions, Singhvi told the Bench that Speakers cannot be asked to decide the matter in a time-bound manner.

"How can the Speaker be directed to decide in a particular manner?" Singhvi asked the court. "Such orders are not passed even to a trial court."

He also said a valid resignation should be submitted to the Speaker personally; the MLAs appeared before him only on July 11, five days after they submitted their resignations to his office.

The rebel MLAs told the court that the Speaker kept their resignation pending just to disqualify them and there was nothing wrong in resigning to escape disqualification.

Rohatgi submitted before the Bench that the Speaker can be directed to decide on the resignation of the MLAs by 2 pm and he can take a call on their disqualification later.

The Bench asked Rohatgi if there was any Constitutional obligation on the Speaker to decide on the MLAs' disqualification which was initiated after the resignation.

Rohatgi said the rules say to "decide now" on resignation.

"How can the Speaker keep it pending?"

The rebel MLAs told the court that the State Government has been reduced to minority and the Speaker by not accepting their resignations has attempted coercing them to vote for the Government in the trust vote.

Disqualification proceeding is a mini-trial under the Constitution's 10th Schedule, said Rohatgi, adding that resignation is different and its acceptance is based on a single criterion alone — whether it is voluntary or not.

There is nothing to show the rebel MLAs conspired with the BJP, the senior advocate said. The disqualification proceeding was nothing but to scuttle resignation of MLAs, he said. He also told the court that the disqualification proceedings were initiated for not being a disciplined soldier of the party and for not attending meetings outside the House.

The Bench further asked if all the disqualification pleas are on same grounds, to which Rohatgi replied "more or less same".

He had also told the court that the Speaker has to only see if the resignations were voluntary or not. "Resignation has to be accepted, there is no other way to deal with it," Rohatgi told the court.

"It is my fundamental right to do whatever I want to do and cannot be bound due to non-acceptance of resignation by speaker," submitted Rohatgi.

## Pakistan opens airspace, Indian airlines relieved

5-month long ban after Balakot costs Air India ₹491 crore

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

In a big relief to Indian and international airlines, Pakistan on Tuesday opened its airspace for all civilian air traffic, lifting nearly five-month-long ban that was imposed after the Balakot air strikes.

The move will give relief to international airlines as well as Air India, which suffered a huge financial loss of around ₹491 crore as it had to re-route its various international flights due to the closure of the Pakistan airspace.

Pakistan's Civil Aviation Authority issued a notice to airmen (NOTAM) around 12.41 am Indian Standard Time, stating that "with immediate effect Pakistan airspace is open for all type of civil traffic on published ATS (air traffic service) routes".

After lifting of the ban, Air India flights AI 184 as well as AI 784 — coming from San Francisco — were among the first flights by an Indian carrier to pass through Pakistan airspace on Tuesday.

"The pilot on AI 184 came to know about the opening of Pakistan airspace while enroute from San Francisco. The



flight landed in Delhi around 7 am in the morning," an Air India official said.

Welcoming Pakistan's decision, Air India said its operation costs for one-way US and Europe-bound flights are likely to come down by ₹20 lakh and ₹5 lakh, respectively while IndiGo, India's largest airline by domestic market share, stated that it is "pleased" with the opening of Pakistan airspace and its flights flying via Pakistan "will operate as normal after all regulatory clearances".

Following Pakistan's move, India also issued a "revised NOTAM", announcing that normal air traffic operations have resumed between the two countries.

"Consequent to Pakistan issuing NOTAM to lift all airspace restrictions, relevant authorities have informed that India has also issued revised NOTAM immediately thereafter. With this, normal air traffic operations have resumed through all Flight Information Regions between India and Pakistan," a Government source told PTI.

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### CAPSULE

#### BOMBAY HC QUASHES CRZ CLEARANCES TO PROJECT

**Mumbai:** The Bombay High Court on Tuesday quashed the CRZ clearances granted to the city civic body's ambitious ₹14,000-crore coastal road project, saying there was "serious lacuna" in the decision-making process and lack of proper scientific study.

#### SHUT DOWN POLLUTING FIRMS IN 3 MONTHS: NGT

**New Delhi:** Contending that economic development cannot take place at the cost of public health, the NGT has directed the Central Pollution Control Board to shut down polluting industries in "critically polluted" and "severely polluted" areas within three months.

#### FLOOD FURY CONTINUES IN ASSAM, BIHAR, KERALA

**New Delhi:** The flood fury continued in Bihar and Assam on Tuesday with the death toll in the region mounting to 47, even as a red alert was sounded in Kerala.

#### 222 LIONS DIED IN GIR DURING 2017-19

**Gandhinagar:** As many as 222 lions died, most of them due to natural causes, in the Gir forest region in Gujarat in the last two years.

## PM seeks list of truant Ministers

Take Parliament duties seriously, Modi asks MPs

DEEPAK K UPRETI ■ NEW DELHI



Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Tuesday came down hard on the Central Ministers who skipped their Parliament duty and sought a list of the absentee Ministers.

Addressing the BJP Parliamentary Party meeting, the Prime Minister indicated that the Parliament session, slated to conclude on July 26, could be extended if required for legislative purposes.

Modi asked MPs and Ministers to attend Parliament regularly and take their roster duties seriously. The PM is learnt to have told the Parliamentary Minister and the party leadership that he be informed if there is dereliction of duty by Ministers or MPs.

Ministers are required to be present in both the Houses to answer queries of the

Opposition and give clarifications as and when required. Opposition leaders are understood to have conveyed to the Government about the absence of Ministers at regular intervals.

Setting goals till 2025, the Prime Minister said his Government would target humanitarian issues like leprosy, TB or disability and asked all MPs to work on a mission mode and in coordination with officials. Talking about leprosy and TB, the Prime Minister invoked Mahatma Gandhi. While inaugurating a hospital for lepers, Modi said that he would rather be invited to put a lock on it. Modi said Mahatma rather stressed the need to eradicate the disease.

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## Neeraj Shekhar joins BJP, may enter Upper House from UP

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

A day after resigning from the Samajwadi Party and the Rajya Sabha, Neeraj Shekhar, son of former Prime Minister Chandra Shekhar, on Tuesday joined the BJP in the presence of its general secretaries Bhubendra Yadav and Anil Jain.

According to sources, Neeraj may be fielded by the BJP from Uttar Pradesh for a RS seat. Neeraj had been contesting Lok Sabha polls from his father's pocket borough Ballia and won twice in 2007 and 2009, but lost in 2014.

The SP then sent him to the Rajya Sabha. He was not fielded in the recent Lok Sabha polls.

Though Chandra Shekhar was not in the Samajwadi Party, SP patriarch Mulayam Singh Yadav had never fielded any candidate against him from Ballia. After Chandra Shekhar's death in 2007, Mulayam had fielded Neeraj from the seat on a Samajwadi Party ticket.

## 11 dead, 40 trapped in Mumbai building cave-in

4-storey house was 100 years old; narrow lanes hamper rescue work

TN RAGHUNATHA ■ MUMBAI

In a second major rain-related mishap in Maharashtra in a little over a fortnight, at least 11 persons were killed and eight others injured when a 100-year-old dilapidated four-storey building collapsed at the congested Dongri locality in south Mumbai.

Indications available late on Tuesday suggested that the toll in the mishap might go up as about 40 persons are feared trapped under the debris of the ill-fated building. Teams of the National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) and Mumbai Fire Brigade continued their search and rescue operations till late in the night.

The 80-year-old Kesarbai building — which in July last year had been classified in structural audit submitted to the Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation (BMC) as a structure "to be evacuated for demolition at the earliest" — caved in around 11.30 am, trapping the residents under its debris.

There were in all 15 families in the building when it collapsed like pack of cards. As per the fatality and



Fire brigade personnel rescue a child from the site of the collapsed four-storey building at Dongri in Mumbai on Tuesday PTI

injury figures released by the BMC at 8 pm, at least 11 persons were killed and eight others injured in the mishap. The deceased included an 18-month-old boy Ibrahim, a 13-year-old girl and three women. Eight persons, including a child, were rescued in an

injured condition and were rushed to Habib Hospital.

Among those killed was one Abdul Sattar Shaikh, said to be the owner of the building.

Expressing his anguish over the mishap, Prime Minister Narendra Modi tweeted: "Collapse of a building in

Mumbai's Dongri is anguishing. My condolences to the families of those who lost their lives. I hope the injured recover soon. Maharashtra Government, NDRF and local authorities are working on rescue operations."

Continued on Page 4

## Anusuiya Chhattisgarh Governor, Bhusan gets Andhra

Swatantra Dev picked as UP BJP president, Chandrakant Patil to head Maharashtra unit

PNS ■ NEW DELHI/LUCKNOW

The Modi Government and the BJP on Tuesday made a series of important appointments, rewarding leaders with experience and organisational skills.

The Government appointed sitting Rajya Sabha member Anusuiya Uikey and senior BJP leader Biswa Busan Harichandan as Governor of Chhattisgarh and Andhra Pradesh, respectively.

On the other hand, the BJP appointed Revenue Minister Chandrakant Patil and party MLA Mangal Prabhat Lodha as president of Maharashtra and Mumbai city units, respectively.

The party also named Uttar Pradesh State Transport Minister Swatantra Dev Singh as party's State president replac-

ing Mahendra Nath Pandey, who was inducted into the Union Cabinet. The announcement comes a day after his meeting with Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Home Minister Amit Shah.

The post of Chhattisgarh Governor was under the additional charge of Madhya Pradesh Governor Anandiben Patel since August after the demise of Balram Das Tandon.

Hailing from Chhindwara, 62-year old Uikey, whose Rajya Sabha term was to end in 2022, has taken special interest in the delivery of justice to women, specially tribal women and solution of their problems.

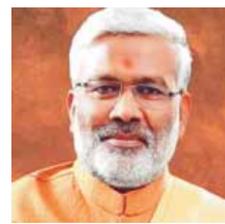
She has also worked for awareness of rights of tribal women leading to their empowerment, her bio-data on the Rajya Sabha website says.

In his early 80s, Harichandan will be the 23rd Governor of Andhra Pradesh and will succeed ESL Narasimhan, who had held the gubernatorial post in various States for last 13 years which includes 10 years in Andhra Pradesh.

He had joined Bharatiya Jana Sangha in 1971 and rose within the ranks till State general secretary. He was detained during Maintenance of Internal Security Act (MISA) during the Emergency.

Ahead of the bypolls to 12 Assembly seats, the BJP on Tuesday appointed OBC leader and UP Cabinet Minister Swatantra Dev Singh as the new State party chief.

Belonging to the influential backward Kurmi caste, 55-year-old Singh replaces Mahendra Nath Pandey, a



Swatantra Dev Singh

Brahmin leader, who moved to the Centre on his re-election to the Lok Sabha from Chandauli.

Sticking to its one man, one post policy, the BJP changed the UP party chief as Pandey was inducted into the Union Ministry. Since the upcoming Assembly bypolls will be the first major test for the BJP after the Lok Sabha win, Singh has his task cut out for him.

The new state BJP chief is said to be an organisation man and is a native of Mirzapur but he made Orai in Bundelkhand his proverbial 'karmabhoomi'.

He studied there and started his political career as an ABVP member from DV Degree College in Orai.

Singh has worked extensively in Bundelkhand region. He was the state chief of Bharatiya Janata Yuva Morcha and was in charge of Madhya Pradesh in the recently-concluded Lok Sabha polls.

Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath, along with all his ministerial colleagues, welcomed the appointment of Singh as the new UP BJP president. "The vast experience of Singh will strengthen the party base and his attachment with youth will certainly give us an edge. Singh excelled as a min-

ister in the state as well as with his work in Bundelkhand region," the Chief Minister in a congratulatory message.

Chandrakant Patil's appointment in Maharashtra comes as the BJP is gearing up to retain power in the western State in the Assembly polls due later this year. He is a Maratha, the largest caste in the State. He is credited for playing a key role in assuaging the community following its long protests demanding quota in Government jobs and educational institutions.

Chandrakant Patil hails from western Maharashtra, a prosperous region of the State which was once a strong turf of the Opposition. The BJP has made strong inroads in this sugar belt of the State. He holds the PWD Ministry in the State Government.

## ICJ to decide Kulbhushan Jadhav's fate today

PTI ■ THE HAGUE

The International Court of Justice will deliver on Wednesday its verdict in a case relating to Indian national Kulbhushan Jadhav, whose death sentence by a Pakistani military court based on an "extracted confession" has been questioned by India.

Jadhav, 49, a retired Indian Navy officer, was sentenced to death by the Pakistani military court on charges of "espionage and terrorism" after a closed trial in April 2017. His sentencing evoked a sharp reaction in India.

The ICJ, in a statement early this month, said a public sitting will take place at 3 pm (6.30 pm IST) on July 17 at the Peace Palace in The Hague, during which top judge Abdulqawi Ahmed Yusuf will read out the verdict.

Pakistan Foreign Office (FO) spokesperson Muhammad Faisal last week said his country cannot "pre-judge" the decision of the ICJ in the Jadhav's case. "We cannot prejudice the judgment," he said. He, however, said that Pakistan has fully contested the case before the ICJ.

India moved the ICJ in May 8, 2017 for the "egregious violation" of the provisions of the Vienna Convention by Pakistan by repeatedly denying New Delhi consular access to Jadhav.

A 10-member bench of the ICJ, which was set up after World War II to resolve international disputes, on May 18, 2017 had restrained Pakistan from executing Jadhav till adjudication of the case.

A four-day public hearing in the high-profile case took place in February.

# Govt nod to prosecution of 39 in memorial scam

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

After facing the heat for the sale of sugar mills in which both Central Bureau of Investigation and Enforcement Directorate have registered separate cases, BSP chief Mayawati found herself in fresh trouble when the state government gave nod for prosecution of 39 government officials for corruption in the Rs 1410-crore memorial scam in Lucknow and Noida during the BSP regime between 2007 and 2012.

Among these officers, the then mining director Ram Both Maurya of Rajikya Nirman Nigam and then managing director CP Singh have already retired.

Prosecution will also commence in corruption cases are then joint director of mining Suhel Ahmed Faruqi and others. All the 39 accused were chargesheeted by the Lokayukta too.

Sources in Lucknow said that the Vigilance department had sought prosecution sanction for 39 officers and engineers accused in the scam after the Yogi government came to power. "After the government's nod, the Vigilance department will file a chargesheet against these officers and engineers in the court," the sources said.

Lokayukta Justice (Retd) NK Mehrotra had probed the matter earlier and also accused 39 people for the scam. However, the Lokayukta also made former minister Naseemuddin Siddiqui and Babu Singh Kushawaha the accused.

The Lokayukta had submitted his report on the memorial scam on May 20, 2013 to then Chief Minister Akhilesh Yadav in which 199 people, including two ministers, were accused, and recommended further inquiry.

The government first recommended a probe by Economic Offences Wing (EOW) but later, it was handed over to the Vigilance department. Among the accused were a sitting legislator, two former legislators, two lawyers, five officers of Mining department, 57 engineers & 37 accountants of Rajikya Nirman Nigam, five engineers of LDA, 60 firms, and 20 consortium along with eight brokers.

The Lokayukta had recommended immediate registration of FIRs against former ministers Naseemuddin Siddiqui, Babu Singh Kushawaha, Rajikya Nirman Nigam MD CP Singh, and joint director of mining Suhel Ahmed Faruqi along with 15 engineers. It also recommended a CBI probe and setting up of a special task force for an in-depth probe into the matter.

During Mayawati regime between 2007 and 2012, several memorials were constructed after Dalit icons in Lucknow and Noida in which financial irregularities to the tune of Rs 1410 were detected. The Lokayukta probe report said that stones were purchased at 34 per cent higher rates and Rs 1,410 crore were siphoned off. The Lokayukta had also recommended realisation of the amount from the accused.

# Prajapati quizzed by ED in mining scam

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

Sleuths of Enforcement Directorate (ED) on Tuesday quizzed former minister Gayatri Prasad Prajapati in connection with a sand mining scam reported during the previous Samajwadi Party regime.

A team of ED officials quizzed the SP leader in a room of the private ward of Urology department at King George's Medical University (KGMU), where he has been under treatment in judicial custody for a kidney ailment for the past 45 days. Prajapati has been in jail in connection with a gang rape since March

**PRAJAPATI HAS BEEN IN JAIL IN CONNECTION WITH A GANG RAPE SINCE MARCH 2017. AMID TIGHT SECURITY ARRANGEMENTS, THE ED TEAM QUIZZED PRAJAPATI FOR OVER THREE HOURS**



Gayatri Prasad Prajapati coming out from the room after being quizzed by Enforcement Directorate officials in KGMU on Tuesday

2017. Amid tight security arrangements, the ED team quizzed Prajapati for over three hours.

Earlier this month, the CBI sleuths raided the residence of Prajapati and his sons and other relatives. Later, the ED registered a case of money laundering and started a probe.

Investigation into the sand mine scam revealed that the SP government gave approval to

22 sand mining licences illegally. Of those, 14 were approved allegedly by the then Chief Minister Akhilesh Yadav, who was also the Mining minister, while the rest by Prajapati, who became the Mining minister thereafter.

The CBI, probing the scam on the direction of the Allahabad High Court, had even registered FIRs against then district magistrates of Fatehpur, Hamirpur and

Deoria along with others before the ED took over the probe. The ED sleuths found assets of Prajapati and his family members grew manifold at the time when he was the Mining minister.

Officials in Lucknow said Prajapati was interrogated after taking prior permission from the court. The ED is also likely to quiz the close associates of Prajapati and his family members in the coming days.

# Yogi pays respect to gurus on Guru Purnima



Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath offering prayers on the occasion of Guru Purnima in Gorakhpur on Tuesday

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

Paying respect to his gurus, Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath said the guru-shishya tradition was an integral part of life as teachers played a vital role in shaping and giving new direction to the society.

"From time to time, many sages have added new dimension to the teacher-student tradition. We all are fortunate that we got the opportunity to celebrate this great tradition at Gorakshnath Dham," the CM said on the occasion of Guru Purnima and visited Gorakhpur to pay his obeisance to his gurus in Gorakshnath

Temple on Tuesday. Remembering the leading lights of guru-shishya tradition, Guru Nanak and Guru Govind Singh, Yogi said that at a time when the country was fighting foreign invaders, the great men of India protected its glory and inspired millions.

Remembering his guru Mahant Avidyanath, the CM said all disciples received blessings of Guruji till four years ago. "It is very sad that he is not among us today but his blessings are always with us. Gorakshnathpeeth is continuously moving forward on Guruji's path of public welfare, which includes 'gau seva', focus on educational institutes and

providing healthcare to Vanvasi samaj," he said.

Yogi said religion was not just about worshipping, but it was a medium that inspired people to move on the path of public welfare.

Explaining the importance of yoga, the CM said: "Yoga is the offering from saints. With the efforts of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, yoga got the recognition worldwide and June 21 is now celebrated as International Yoga Day every year."

Speaking about Kumbh, Yogi said that the mega event took UP to the global platform with UNESCO declaring it as a cultural heritage.

# Rampur likely to witness epic electoral contest

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

Uttar Pradesh is likely to witness another epic electoral contest in the Rampur Assembly bypoll between actor & BJP leader Jaya Prada and Dimple Yadav, wife of Samajwadi Party chief Akhilesh Yadav.

The Samajwadi Party may field former Kannauj MP Dimple Yadav from Rampur Assembly seat in the upcoming bypoll. The seat fell vacant after SP MLA Azam Khan was elected to Lok Sabha in May.

On the other hand, the BJP, keen on giving a tough fight to the SP, may field Jaya Prada, who lost to Azam Khan in the recently-concluded Lok Sabha polls.

"Talks are on within the SP to field Dimple from Rampur, a seat that Khan won nine times, and a decision will be announced soon," said party sources.

"Although the SP and BSP have parted ways, we expect the BSP to not field any candidate if Dimple contests from Rampur. We also expect the same from the Congress, or else there would be a division of votes which might benefit the BJP," a senior SP leader said.

He added that the decision over Dimple's candidature would be taken soon. The bypoll is scheduled to be held



**"Talks are on within the SP to field Dimple from Rampur, a seat that Khan won nine times, and a decision will be announced soon"**

in September-October.

On the other hand, the BJP has never won Rampur Assembly seat but this time, it is hopeful with Jaya Prada bieng in the contest. After being defeated in Lok Sabha elections by Azam Khan, Jaya Prada has been regularly visiting Rampur and preparing ground for her contest.

Jaya Prada had won Rampur Lok Sabha seat in 2004 and 2009 on Samajwadi Party ticket before joining the BJP.

Khan has been Rampur MLA since 1980 with the help of various political parties. After the SP was founded in 1992, Khan won the seat as a Samajwadi Party candidate. Apart from the BJP, the BSP also has failed to open its account in Khan's bastion.

Dimple Yadav began her career with a loss in Ferozabad bypoll in 2009, but went on to win the Kannauj Lok Sabha bypoll unopposed in 2012 after the seat fell vacant as her husband Akhilesh became the Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh.

Though she retained the seat in 2014 general elections, she lost to BJP's Subrat Pathak by 12,000 votes in May earlier this year.

# NHRC issues notice to UP govt over HT wire mishap in school

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) issued notice to the UP government over 55 children sustaining burns after a high-tension wire fell in a primary school in Balrampur on Monday.

Taking suo motu cognisance of media reports that 55 children suffered burns in the incident in Utraula tehsil of Balrampur on Monday, the NHRC issued notices to the Chief Secretary and chairman of Madhyanchal Vidyut Vitran Nigam Limited calling for a detailed report within four weeks. There were at least 100 children in the school when the tragedy struck.

An NHRC communiqué released on Tuesday evening said that the contents of news reports, if true, raised serious issues of human rights violation. The commission sought to know about the status of medical treatment pro-

vided to the injured students along with steps taken by the authorities to prevent such incidents. The commission said the state government was expected to inform it about the status of

**"Authorities concerned cannot escape their liability to ensure safety of students in the school. A large number of people have sustained grievous injuries and lost lives due to electrocution, weak and old electricity wires, dilapidated electric poles and faulty transformers etc in Uttar Pradesh"**

relief provided to the victims. The NHRC further observed that the incident portrayed irresponsible and negligent attitude of Madhyanchal Vidyut Vitran Nigam authorities. The commission said preventive steps should have been taken by the school authorities if the 11,000 KV high-

tension line was passing above the building.

"Authorities concerned cannot escape their liability to ensure safety of students in the school. A large number of people have

tractual lineman and placed a skilled coolie under suspension. Besides, a departmental inquiry was also recommended against a junior engineer. The reports further said that the Chief Minister had asked the managing director of Madhyanchal Vidyut Vitran Nigam Limited to ascertain the cause of mishap and submit a report within 24 hours.

Meanwhile, in the wake of the Balrampur incident, Basic Education Minister Anupma Jaiswal said that the network of wires over school buildings in the state would be removed to prevent a repeat of the incident.

Jaiswal, who visited Naya Nagar Vishnupur area where the incident occurred on Monday, said that the Chief Minister had taken a serious note of the matter and directed the officials to take preventive measures.

Jaiswal also visited the injured students and assured parents of proper medical care.

# VHP LEADER'S MURDER

## Pratapgarh police chief shifted

Lucknow (PNS): Taking a serious note of the murder of a Vishwa Hindu Parishad (VHP) leader in Pratapgarh, the state government on Tuesday shunted out district police chief S Anand and attached him with the DGP office. The government also shifted the SP of Jalaun. After a series of crimes in Pratapgarh, including the sensational killing of VHP leader on Monday, Principal Secretary (Home) Arvind Kumar removed SP (Pratapgarh) S Anand early on Tuesday.

Sources said that DGP OP

Singh was unhappy with Anand and recommended SSP (STF) Abhishek Singh as his replacement. The state government also sent two other deputy SPs Alok Verma & Arvind Verma to Pratapgarh to monitor law and order situation. Another IPS officer Satyarth Anirudh will take charge as the SSP (STF), the release confirmed. In another release, Kumar confirmed shifting SP (Jalaun) Swami Prasad as SP of Special Investigation Team in Lucknow while SP of Cyber Crime Dr Satish Kumar will be the new SP of Jalaun district.

**RAJASTHAN STATE ROAD TRANSPORT CORPORATION**  
Head Office, Parivahan Marg, Chomu House, Jaipur

**NIT For Web based Crew Scheduling & Leave Apps**  
Rajasthan State Road Transport Corporation (RSRTC), Jaipur invite bids from eligible bidders who have necessary qualifications and experience to carry out the work for Web based Crew Scheduling & Leave Apps in a time bound manner. Details of this tender notifications and eligibility criteria can be seen in the NIT exhibited on website <http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in>, <http://transport.rajasthan.gov.in/rsrtc> and <http://sppp.rajasthan.gov.in> from 11<sup>th</sup> July 2019 onward.

Raj.Samwad/C/1429/2019-20 Executive Director (Traffic)

**INDIAN INSTITUTE OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY KOTTAYAM**  
(An Institution of National Importance under an Act of Parliament)  
Valavoor P.O., Pala, Kottayam (Dt), Kerala-686635  
Tel : 04822-202100 (Office), 202135 (Academics), 202110 (Security), 202102 (Accounts)  
Email : registrar@iitkottayam.ac.in, Website : www.iitkottayam.ac.in

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Indian Institute of Information Technology Kottayam invites applications for the Recruitment of Faculty positions in Computer Science and Engineering/Information Technology  
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Advt No. 01/Admn/Fac/2019 Registrar  
Davp- 21330/11/0002/1920

**RAILWAY ELECTRIFICATION, LUCKNOW**  
No. RE-Ten-Civ-LKO-G-283-FSC-04 Dated: 15.07.2019  
**OPEN TENDER NOTICE**

Dy. Chief Engineer, Railway Electrification, Lucknow acting for and on behalf of The President of India invites E-Tender for the works mentioned below.  
**Name of work:** Fabrication and fixing of assembly of G-3/L Type Glued insulated Rail Joint in situ/On cess/running tracks for broad gauge 60 kg/52 kg with all contractors material as per RDSO specification in connection with Railway Electrification of Group No. 280, 281, 283, 284 & 243 etc. under Railway Electrification Lucknow Unit.

1. Tender No.	RE-Ten-Civ-LKO-G-283-FSC-04
2. Tender Type	Open
3. Period of Completion	12 Months
4. Advertised Value (₹)	₹ 45,64,782.08
5. Earnest Money (₹)	₹ 91,300.00
6. Tender Closing Date Time	09.08.2019 15.00 hrs
7. Validity of Offer (Days)	45 Days
8. Bidding System	Single Packet System
9. Date & Time for submission of E-tender and opening of tender	Tender may be uploaded upto 15.00 hrs. on 09.08.2019 on IREPS website <a href="http://www.ireps.gov.in">www.ireps.gov.in</a> . The bidder can participate in the E-tender, the tender will be opened after 15.00 hrs on 09.08.2019.

10. Detailed Tender Notice & Tender Document: The detailed e-tender notice and tender document is available on [www.ireps.gov.in](http://www.ireps.gov.in) web. 15.07.2019 till 09.08.2019 at 15.00 hrs. Above tender document will be available for submission of offer on IREPS website i.e. [www.ireps.gov.in](http://www.ireps.gov.in) from 26.07.2019 to 09.08.2019. All other terms and conditions in respect of above tenders are given in tender document.

**Manish Sharma**  
No. PR/468/19 Dy. Chief Engineer/Railway Electrification, Lucknow  
R.D. Adv For & on behalf of President of India

**DELHI JAL BOARD**  
**OFFICE OF THE EX. ENGINEER (NE) II**  
**R-POCKET DILSHAD GARDEN DELHI-95**

**PRESS NIT NO. 14 (2019-20)**

Sl. No.	Name of Work	Amount put to tender	EMD Amount	Tender Fees	Date of release of tender in procurement Solution	Last Date/time of receipt of tender through eprocurement Solution
1.	Replacement /Shifting of old /deep/ damaged 200 mm dia CI water line under buried central merge from Sherpur Chowk to Chand Bagh Pulya in Mustafabad AC- 69 under EE(NE)-II Tender ID No. 2019_DJB_176229_1	3593823.00	72000.00	500.00	12.07.2019	29.07.2019 upto 02:30 P.M.
2.	Replacement of old /deep/damaged 400 mm dia water main at nala road from Sardar Patel School to Panchal Vihar Shiv Vihar in Mustafabad AC-69 Tender ID No. 2019_DJB_176229_2	3934672.00	80000.00	500.00	12.07.2019	29.07.2019 upto 02:30 P.M.

All the terms and conditions including technical specification and special conditions is available on Delhi Govt. Website <https://delhi.govtprocurement.com>  
ISSUED BY P.R.O (WATER)  
Advt. No. J.S.V 175/2019-20 Sd/-  
EX. ENGINEER (NE)-II

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# Woman working at girls' hostel found hanging

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ LUCKNOW

A 20-year-old woman working at Sai Girls Hostel in Mahanagar was found hanging from the ceiling of a room on Tuesday. Police said the woman ended her life though no suicide note was recovered from the room.

Reports said Chandni, of Loni Katra locality of Barabanki district, worked as a cook at the hostel for a long time and was given a room to stay. On Tuesday morning, she was not seen in the kitchen and an inmate went to her room to know what was wrong. "As the door was closed from inside, he called other staff members of the hostel. They broke open the door but only to find Chandni hanging from the ceiling with a dupatta tied around her neck. They rushed her to a hospital where she was declared brought dead," police said.

The police said Chandni committed suicide but failed to explain the reason. "There were reports that Chandni was under mental stress for a long time and she took the extreme step due to the same reason," sources said. However, the police did not endorse the claim, saying the kin of the deceased were yet to lodge a case in this connection. The Mahanagar SHO said Chandni was under depression after her husband deserted her about a month back. "She used to call her husband to plead him to bring her back. They had a love marriage," the SHO said.

Meanwhile, a 40-year-old man, identified as Sonu Yadav of Chinhaat, jumped into Indira Canal on Tuesday. Police said Sonu, along with his brother-in-law Akash, had gone to Barabanki on Tuesday morning after informing the family that he would come back by afternoon. In the afternoon, Akash returned home and

# Kin demand CBI probe into wrestler's death

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ LUCKNOW

Kin of the deceased wrestler, Resham Singh, on Tuesday demanded a probe into his death by the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI). They sought government help saying a shabby probe would discourage athletes. They also threatened to stage massive protest if Resham Singh did not get justice.

"The police have failed to carry out a transparent investigation into the case. They are forcing us to buy their findings. We are not convinced that Resham committed suicide. The Thakurganj police are claiming the same, saying the autopsy has ascertained hanging as cause of death. If Resham committed suicide, he must have some sound reason for doing so and the police should share it with us," victim's brother Gulzar said.

He said he had a hunch that Resham fell victim to some untoward incident. "The police are saying that Resham was upset after his mobile phone and important documents were stolen. But their claims did not look convincing," he said. The brother of the victim expressed surprise that the police jumped to the conclusion that Resham com-



**National-level wrestler Resham Singh (26) was found hanging at BJP media incharge (Awadh region) Rukhsana Naqvi's house in Thakurganj on Sunday morning**

mitted suicide immediately after the incident came to light. "The more surprising aspect in Resham's death case is that the house owner, who is a BJP leader, had no idea about the incident till the next day," Gulzar said.

The police said viscera had been preserved and sent for forensic test. "The autopsy was conducted by a team of doctors and so, chance of any error is zero. The viscera test will confirm the findings in the time to come. It is purely a case of suicide," Thakurganj SHO Neeraj Ojha said.

National-level wrestler Resham Singh (26) was found hanging at BJP media incharge (Awadh region) Rukhsana Naqvi's house in Thakurganj on Sunday morning. He was working in the team, led by Rukhsana, carrying out membership drive for the BJP. A native of Balamau in Hardoi, Resham, along with his friend Rukhsana's house (in Sarfarazganj) around 10 pm on Saturday.

The BJP leader, who had informed the police about the incident, said on Sunday that Resham was found hanging from the ceiling with a bedsheet and dupatta tied around his neck around 10 am. "He did not wake up this morning following which Waris went to the room but found it locked from inside. We broke open the door but only to find Resham Singh hanging," she had said.

Resham Singh, who was unmarried, had taken part in the wrestling championship held at national level and had been working with the BJP leader for the last two months.

informed Sonu's mother Ramawati that he (Sonu) had jumped into Indira Canal to end her life. "The family went to the place and Sonu was taken out of the canal. He was taken to a private hospital where he was declared brought dead," the police said. The

police sent the body for autopsy and started further investigations. Elsewhere, in a freak incident in Mohanlalganj, a 75-year-old man was hit by a speeding vehicle around 3 am on Tuesday. Due to heavy impact, Jagannath of Hasanpur

Kaneri village died on the spot. Reports said Jagannath lived in a house located on Rae Bareilly road in Lucknow. Around 3 am, he woke up to attend nature's call and was crossing the road to go to the other side when a speeding vehicle knocked him down.



Mahant Devyagiri of Mankameshwar Temple performing Gomti aarti on the occasion of Guru Purnima in Lucknow on Tuesday

Pioneer

# LDA asked to not let vacant plots become garbage dumps

Lucknow (PNS): The National Green Tribunal has directed LDA to ensure that the vacant plots across the city are kept clean. Sources said the issue was raised at a recently-held meeting, which was chaired by DP Singh, who is the Chairman of UP Waste Solid Management Monitoring Committee. The directions have been issued to LDA, Lucknow Municipal Corporation and Awasthi Vikas. LDA officials said they had started working in this direction. "We are getting the surveys done of how many vacant plots are there in the city. The vacant plots could be in thousands and the LDA staff is working on it. We will direct the allottees to construct boundary walls and keep the plots clean," he said.

# DM reviews preps made for Haj-bound pilgrims

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ LUCKNOW

District Magistrate Kaushal Raj Sharma reviewed the arrangements for Haj pilgrims on Tuesday. Officials present in the meeting included those from district administration, Transport department, LMC, airport, police, Jal Nigam, and Haj Committee. The DM said there were over 14,500 passengers scheduled to set out for Haj. This year, there will be five flights for four days, three flights for four days and two flights each for two days. The total flights scheduled are 47.

The DM said that the Hajis had to report 48 hours prior to the departure at the

Haj House and one attendant each was allowed to stay with them there. Sharma said that in one day, 600-1200 Hajis would leave for the pilgrimage and at one time, the Haj House witness the stay of over 2000-2500 people.

The DM said that the Hajis could get their identity cards along with those of their attendants made at the four counters at gate number 2 of Haj House. He said that coolies for the passengers would be available at the entrance of Haj House and they had to simply make a payment of Rs 35 to the coolies if they wanted their services. He added that the coolies would also accompany people on the trucks. The

DM said all the departments concerned must coordinate amongst themselves so that preparations were completed by July 17. He said that the Health department should make provision for the ambulances and proper arrangements be made for the security of the passengers inside and outside Haj House.

The District Magistrate directed the LMC officials to take care of cleanliness in and around Haj House and also make available a mobile toilet for Hajis. He also directed them to carry out fogging in the areas and make provision for a mobile water tanker so that people had clean potable water.

# Father of former coast guard official says no to complaint against her husband

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ LUCKNOW

Two days after the mysterious death of former deputy commandant in Coast Guard Services Sneha Katyat (32), her father refused to lodge any case against her husband and his family.

In an undertaking to the police, victim's father Govind Singh Katyat of Uttarakhnad said: "We have been on very good relations with Arvind and his family and I had no reason to doubt them. Sneha had talked to us on a number of times and never complained about Arvind and his

family. She had talked to her mother Suman Katyat hours before she fell off the top floor of the building. She wished to enrol on martial arts classes and Suman advised her to seek consent from Arvind and his family members. I do not want any police action in this regard," he was quoted as saying by police spokesman.

Meanwhile, a tipsy youth attacked a head constable with a knife in Gudamba on Monday night. Police arrested the youth on Tuesday. The accused, identified as Rahul Singh of Kalyanpur, was in a heavily drunk state when he



File photo of SSP Kalanidhi Naithani and other policemen carrying out investigations in the premises of the building from which Sneha Katyat fell off on Sunday

spotted constable Ram Babu, who is a posted in 35 Battalion of PAC. Reports said Ram Babu of Adil

Nagar locality in Gudamba was returning home and he passed from near a model shop where Rahul was standing. Seeing Ram Babu, Rahul rushed towards him and confronted him. As Ram Babu opposed his act, Rahul whipped out a knife and attacked him. The constables sustained injuries on his hand even as Rahul fled the scene. The constable was rushed to a hospital from where he was discharged after dressing. "The son of the constable lodged a case following which we formed a team and nabbed Rahul," the police said.

लखनऊ विकास प्राधिकरण							
प्राधिकरण भवन, विपिन खण्ड, गोमती नगर, लखनऊ (उ.प्र.) दूरभाष : 0522-2302576, वेबसाइट - http://www.idalucknow.co.in							
सार्वजनिक सूचना							
सर्वसाधारण को सूचित किया जाता है प्राधिकरण की आवासीय / व्यावसायिक / रेन्ट / नजूल / इन्फ्लेमेट ट्रेस्ट योजनाओं के निम्नलिखित आवेदकों द्वारा उनके नाम के सामने अंकित सम्पत्ति का हस्तान्तरण / नामान्तरण किये जाने हेतु प्राधिकरण में प्रार्थना-पत्र प्रस्तुत किया गया है :-							
क्र.सं.	मूल आवंटी का नाम	भवन/ भूखण्ड संख्या	योजना का नाम व सेक्टर/खण्ड	मूल्य दिनांक	मूल आवंटी के उत्तराधिकारी अथवा आवेदक का नाम	उत्तराधिकारी के पक्ष में अनारपित कर्ताओं के नाम	मूल आवंटी से (मृतक) का सम्बन्ध
1	स्व. राकेश कान्त शुक्ला	प्लेट सं. सी-7/2/6	शुल्म आवास आश्रय-3, गो.न.वि.	12.01.2017	श्रीमती पूर्णिमा शुक्ला (पत्नी)	1- श्री विभास शुक्ला-पुत्र, 2- श्री धियंक शुक्ला-पुत्र	पत्नी
2	श्रीमती कमला नोटानी	भवन सं. सी-33-3	पेपर मिल कालोनी	27.12.2016	श्री सुरेश कुमार नोटानी-पुत्र	---	पुत्र
3	स्व. श्री राजेन्द्र कुमार टंडन	प्लेट सं. ई-008	सुष्टि अपार्टमेंट सेक्टर-1, जानकीपुरम	01.01.2016	श्रीमती शशि टंडन	श्री पराग टंडन-पुत्र	पत्नी
4	श्रीमती कमला गुप्ता (मृतक) एवं श्री अनुपम गुप्ता	भू.सं.- जी-2/79 सेक्टर - जे.	जानकीपुरम योजना	25.12.2017	श्री अनुराग गुप्ता	---	पुत्र पंजीकृत वसीयत नामा के आधार पर

उपरोक्त नामान्तरण के आवेदन के सम्बन्ध में यदि किसी भी व्यक्ति को कोई आपत्ति हो तो वह साक्ष्य सहित प्रकरण दिग्दि से 30 दिनों के अन्दर अगोहस्ताक्षरकर्ता के कार्यालय में प्राप्त कराये। निर्धारित तिथि तक कोई आपत्ति प्राप्त न होने पर प्राधिकरण अगिलेखों में कॉलम-6 पर लिखित व्यक्ति का नाम दर्ज कर लिया जायेगा तथा उसके बाद किसी आपत्ति पर विचार नहीं किया जायेगा।

**सचिव**

# Tejas Express to be fastest Lko-Delhi train



PNS ■ LUCKNOW

Tejas Express train, proposed to be run under a scheme operated by private players, will be the fastest train between Lucknow and New Delhi. The IRCTC has been assigned the task to run the train from Lucknow Junction in the coming months. Tejas will take six hours and ten minutes in reaching Delhi from Lucknow. Presently, AC Express train is the fastest which completes the journey in seven hours.

Shatabdi Express takes seven hours and 20 minutes while Lucknow Mail eight hours and 50 minutes. The other trains between Lucknow and Delhi like Humsafar, Gomti Express, Faizabad New Delhi take more than eight hours.

Railway sources said that Tejas Express will be

run from Lucknow Junction. "Top Railway Board officials and North Eastern Railway (Lucknow Division) officials are working overnight to find a time slot to accommodate the train at Lucknow Junction. "Platforms at Charbagh railway station are already occupied by trains running between Lucknow and New Delhi. Besides, some other prominent trains are also accommodated at the station and hence accommodating Tejas Express at the station may lead to traffic congest," the sources said.

Sources in IRCTC said they were yet to get a letter of approval. "Some trains have been planned to be run by private players and IRTC has got an opportunity to run Tejas. The trains are being run under the 100-day agenda of Union government," the sources said.

सबका साथ-सबका विकास-सबका विश्वास

**उठो, जागो और तब तक मत रुको, जब तक लक्ष्य की प्राप्ति न हो जाये।**

## स्वामी विवेकानन्द की प्रतिमा का लोकार्पण

**मुख्य अतिथि**  
**श्री राम नाईक**  
मा. राज्यपाल, उत्तर प्रदेश

**विशिष्ट अतिथि**  
**योगी आदित्यनाथ**  
मा. मुख्यमंत्री, उत्तर प्रदेश

के कर-कमलों द्वारा गरिमामयी उपस्थिति

**श्री लक्ष्मी नारायण चौधरी**  
मा. मंत्री, संस्कृति, उत्तर प्रदेश

**डॉ. अनूप चन्द्र पाण्डेय**  
मुख्य सचिव, उत्तर प्रदेश

**दिनांक- 17 जुलाई, 2019 | समय- पूर्वाह्न 11:00 बजे | स्थान- राजभवन परिसर, लखनऊ**

कार चालक सीट बेल्ट अवश्य पहनें। आयोजक - संस्कृति विभाग, उत्तर प्रदेश

सूचना एवं जनसम्पर्क विभाग, उत्तर प्रदेश

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ LUCKNOW

# Communal tension in Behta hamlet, madarsa set on fire

Communal tension prevailed in the Behta hamlet of Fatehpur when an agitated mob torched a madarsa following recovery of animal flesh near a pond on Monday. A large contingent of police force was rushed to the troubled village to bring the situation under control while senior police and district administration officials were camping in the area to avert any further flare-up. As per reports, some women detected flesh in a bag near a pond on Tuesday morning. Claiming that the flesh was stored in the madarsa and later

thrown there, the locals started a protesting. Enraged over the incident, people from adjoining villages like Udrauli, Shabbazpur, Khanjalpur, Faridpur, Dhanmau and Gauri ransacked a madarsa and later torched it before police could act. Later, a large contingent of police and district administration officials rushed to the site. District Magistrate Sanjeev Kumar Singh later claimed

**HUGE POLICE FORCE WAS RUSHED TO THE VILLAGE TO BRING THE SITUATION UNDER CONTROL WHILE SENIOR POLICE AND OTHER OFFICIALS WERE CAMPING IN THE AREA**

that the situation was tense but under control while PAC and police personnel had been deployed in the village to prevent any untoward incident. The police registered an FIR against two accused — Mushtaq and Munna Shah — in connection with the recovery of flesh. However, both are absconding since the violence broke out.



An LDA team demolishing a commercial complex (in Bulaqi Adda) which was being constructed unauthorisedly

Pioneer

**अधीक्षण अभियन्ता विद्युत कार्यशाला मण्डल, मजदूर विद्युत वितरण निगम लिमिटेड लखनऊ। ई-निविदा सूचना**

अधीक्षण अभियन्ता विद्युत कार्यशाला मण्डल, मजदूर विद्युत वितरण निगम लिमिटेड लखनऊ। ई-निविदा सूचना अधी-हस्ताक्षरी द्वारा अनुमोदी एवं कार्य में दक्ष ठेकेदारों से ई-निविदाओं को बागों में निम्न विवरण अनुसार उपरोक्त सरकार के पोर्टल [etender.up.nic.in](http://etender.up.nic.in) पर आमंत्रित की जाती है। निविदा सम्बन्धी विवरण [www.mvnl.in](http://www.mvnl.in) पर भी अवलोकित किया जा सकता है।

**1. अल्पकालीन ई-निविदा सं 42 / विकाश / 2019-20 :** परिवर्तक मरम्मत कार्यशाला-रायबरेली में 10 से 100 केवीए क्षमता के क्षतिग्रस्त परिवर्तकों के मरम्मत का कार्य। निविदा प्रपत्र मूल्य ₹ 3540.00 एवं धरोहर राशि ₹ 80000.00। निविदाओं को अपलोड करने की अंतिम तिथि 01.08.2019 समय 17:00 बजे तक तथा प्रथम-भाग खुलने की तिथि 02.08.2019 समय 14:00 बजे।

**2. अल्पकालीन ई-निविदा सं 43 / विकाश / 2019-20 :** परिवर्तक मरम्मत कार्यशाला-सुल्तानपुर में 10 से 100 केवीए क्षमता के क्षतिग्रस्त परिवर्तकों के मरम्मत का कार्य। निविदा प्रपत्र मूल्य ₹ 3540.00 एवं धरोहर राशि ₹ 80000.00। निविदाओं को अपलोड करने की अंतिम तिथि 01.08.2019 समय 17:00 बजे तक तथा प्रथम-भाग खुलने की तिथि 02.08.2019 समय 14:00 बजे।

**3. अल्पकालीन ई-निविदा सं 44 / विकाश / 2019-20 :** परिवर्तक मरम्मत कार्यशाला-सोहावल में 160 से 630 केवीए क्षमता के क्षतिग्रस्त परिवर्तकों के मरम्मत का कार्य। निविदा प्रपत्र मूल्य ₹ 3540.00 एवं धरोहर राशि ₹ 80000.00। निविदाओं को अपलोड करने की अंतिम तिथि 02.08.2019 समय 17:00 बजे तक तथा प्रथम-भाग खुलने की तिथि 03.08.2019 समय 14:00 बजे।

**4. ई-निविदा सं 45 / विकाश / 2019-20 :** परिवर्तक मरम्मत कार्यशाला - शाहजहाँपुर में 25 केवीए क्षमता के क्षतिग्रस्त परिवर्तकों के मरम्मत का कार्य। निविदा प्रपत्र मूल्य ₹ 3540.00 एवं धरोहर राशि ₹ 55000.00। निविदाओं को अपलोड करने की अंतिम तिथि 19.08.2019 समय 17:00 बजे तक तथा प्रथम-भाग खुलने की तिथि 20.08.2019 समय 14:00 बजे।

**5. ई-निविदा सं 46 / विकाश / 2019-20 :** परिवर्तक मरम्मत कार्यशाला-बदार्गू में 63 एवं 100 केवीए क्षमता के क्षतिग्रस्त परिवर्तकों के मरम्मत का कार्य। निविदा प्रपत्र मूल्य ₹ 3540.00 एवं धरोहर राशि ₹ 40500.00। निविदाओं को अपलोड करने की अंतिम तिथि 19.08.2019 समय 17:00 बजे तक तथा प्रथम-भाग खुलने की तिथि 20.08.2019 समय 14:00 बजे।

**अधीक्षण अभियन्ता पत्रांक 1022, दिनांक 16.07.2019 "राष्ट्रहित में विजली बचाए"**

# Power dept, police strike 'deal' for illegal acts

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ LUCKNOW

When it comes to comfort, Uttar Pradesh Police personnel and officers could go for any lengths even at the cost of the much-hyped traffic drive in the state. Interestingly, the Power department has taught the cops that before launching the crackdown on its employees, they must set their own house in order.

As per reports, a lineman of Power department in Bulundshahr was going to attend to a complaint on his

motorcycle and since he was not wearing a helmet, he was stopped by cops at Kala Aam police outpost crossing two days back. The linemen tried to convince the cops to let him go as he was going for repair work but the cops issued him a challan saying rules were rules. The linemen returned to his office and informed the junior engineer about the incident. Soon afterwards, the Power department enquired about the status of bill payments of Kala Aam police outpost. It surfaced that the outpost was being run on an ille-

gal (katiya) connection. To teach the cops a lesson, the officer asked the lineman to discontinue the supply to the outpost. Interestingly, the cops, who earlier claimed that rules were rules, started pleading with the lineman to let the illegal connection continue in view of the hot and humid weather conditions. It came to light that after eight hours, senior officers from both sides struck a deal to turn a blind eye to each other's illegal acts after which the illegal connection was restored.



Zoo visitors being informed about reptiles on the occasion of World Snake Day on Tuesday

Pioneer

**U.P. POWER TRANSMISSION CORPORATION LIMITED**  
Tenders/Notice Sealed Tenders for executing the following works in two parts (as detailed in tender specifications) are hereby invited from experienced contractors and will be opened on the same dates mentioned below at 15.30 hrs. publicly in the office of the undersigned. The tender documents can be had up to previous working day of the opening day on payment of Rs. 236.00 including GST (NON REFUNDABLE) in cash or demand draft. If tender document is required by post, Rs. 30.00 will be charged extra. Part-I of the tender will contain an earnest money in shape of CDR/ FDR/ BD/ RTGS duly pledged in favour of the undersigned in official capacity and part-II will contain rates, terms and conditions and other relevant details. Without earnest money tender will not be accepted. E-Tender No. 02/ESDS/2019-20 To be opened on 09.08.2019, Tender cost Rs. 236.00, Earnest Money Rs. 2000.00, 1. Providing 01 No. light diesel vehicle of latest model having closed body along with driver on contract basis for Electy. 400KV Substation Division, Sultanpur. EXECUTIVE ENGINEER ELECTY. 400KV Substation Division, Sultanpur. No. 927, Date 15.07.2019. SAVE ENERGY IN NATIONAL INTEREST

## SCHOOLSCAN

### CMS DELEGATION FOR SOUTH AFRICA

A six-member students' delegation of City Montessori School, Gomti Nagar Campus I, will be visiting South Africa to participate in International Mathematics Competition (SAIMC). The competition will be organised at Durban where student teams from nearly 30 countries will be participating. Individual and team contests will be held for junior and senior students. The delegation will be led by principal Abha Anant whereas teacher Sarita Dwivedi will be her deputy. Student members of the team are Aryashri Tripathi, Adhyatm Agnihotri, Ashutosh Kumar and Ishan Mishra.



# RERA asks LDA to form group of consultants

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ LUCKNOW

The Real Estate Regulatory Authority (RERA) on Tuesday directed the Lucknow Development Authority administration to appoint a group of civil consultants whose job will be to help complete the unfinished projects of LDA and private developers so

that people are not at the receiving end of inconvenience. In a letter addressed to the LDA Vice-Chairman, RERA said the names of civil engineers and architects eligible to be consultants should be forwarded to the authorities concerned. The selection will be done by RERA authorities after going through the credentials

and work experience of those recommended. LDA secretary MP Singh said that they would prepare a list and forward it to the authorities concerned within a week. He said the move would check the arbitrary approach of private developers and help LDA in improving its efficiency and performance. The decision was taken

after several rounds of talks with the experts. Besides, RERA was said to be disgusted with the working of its staffers engaged in the civil work, thanks to their lack of professional excellence. The consultants will work in coordination with the LDA Vice-Chairman and submit their reports to RERA officials.

## CITYBRIEFS

### WORKSHOP

Fashion designer Anuj Sharma was in the city for a workshop on the art of tailoring without stitching. Sharma said he had been doing this for the past nine years. "We use the cloth in such a way that no stitching is required and the cloth can be redone to another style of outfit," he said. When asked if they could make a coat or blazer with this technique, he said it was not possible. "We can, at best, have something which can be worn loosely. We can style a shirt in such a manner," he said. "Stitching restricts the garment because you cannot change its shape again," he added. Asked whether this technique was regressive, considering that unstitched garments existed in stone age and since then tailoring has evolved, he said it was not regressive. "In this case, we are keeping the garment loose because with stitching we can



Fashion designer Anuj Sharma in the city for a workshop

only tighten it. This is good for health too. Besides, Indians have largely used unstitched garments," he added.

### EXHIBITION

This exhibition was unique as it was dedicated to the army. Kalastota invited post cards from across the country from artists and poets of their creative ideas on post cards paying tributes to the army. The

exhibition titled 'Salute to Indian Army on the Post Card' was inaugurated at Lalit Kala Akademi. Curator of the exhibition Bhupendra Asthana said they had invited post cards through artist groups and social media network, and received over 450 entries from across the country. "We have received post cards from Tamil Nadu, Assam and Rajasthan among other states," he said. He added

that the idea of using post cards was thought of because army people have always been associated with post cards to communicate with their families. He said kids had been specially creative showing the army people standing atop mountains guarding the country.

### MOVING EXPRESSIONS

LMRC is organising the first-ever art exhibition, 'Moving Expressions', from July 17 to 25 at Hazratganj Metro station. Managing director Kumar Keshav will inaugurate the exhibition on Wednesday to encourage the young artists. In one-of-its kind exhibition at a Metro station, a group of artists from Lalit Kala Academy will showcase their artwork, including paintings, sculptures, miniature art pieces along with major attractions such as live demonstration of select art pieces at the concourse area of the station.

### PAKISTAN OPENS...

Hours later, India's Civil Aviation ministry said flights had started using the closed air routes, bringing great relief to airlines and air passengers. "After cancellation of NOTAMS by Pakistan and India in the early hours today, there are no restrictions on airspaces of both countries, flights have started using the closed air routes, bringing a significant relief for airlines," the Twitter handle of the Ministry said. "This is great news. A big relief to air passengers," it added. Earlier during the day, sources told PTI, "Pakistan has permitted all airlines to fly through its airspace from around 12.41 am today. Indian airline operators will start using normal routes through Pakistan airspace soon." Pakistan fully closed its airspace on February 26 after the Indian Air Force (IAF) struck a Jaish-e-Mohammed (JeM) terrorist training camp in Balakot in retaliation for the Pulwama attack on February 14. The neighbouring country only opened two of 11 routes after that, both passing through the southern region.

## CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

On its part, the IAF announced on May 31 that all temporary restrictions imposed on Indian airspace post the Balakot strike have been removed. However, this did not benefit most commercial airlines and they were waiting for Pakistan to fully open its airspace. While the national carrier lost Rs 491 crore till July 2 due to the closure of the Pakistan airspace, private airlines SpiceJet, IndiGo and GoAir lost Rs 30.73 crore, Rs 25.1 crore and Rs 2.1 crore respectively, according to data presented by Civil Aviation Minister Hardeep Singh Puri in the Rajya Sabha on July 3.

Following the air strike, Air India had to re-route, merge or suspend many of its international flights that connect India with European and US cities. IndiGo, India's largest airline by domestic market share, was unable to start direct flights from Delhi to Istanbul due to the closure of the Pakistan airspace. The low-cost carrier started flying the Delhi-Istanbul route in March. It had to take the longer route over the Arabian Sea and make a stop at Doha in Qatar for refuelling. Pakistan Aviation Secretary Shahrukh Nusrat had earlier informed a parliamentary panel that Pakistan would not move the ban until India removed its jets from the forward bases.

### PM SEEKS LIST...

He also suggested MPs to take up work of animal welfare measures and tend them if they fall ill. The Prime Minister asked MPs to focus on their constituencies and make good impression on public as he said "first impression is the last impression". In the first Parliamentary party meet after the returning to power, Modi had taken a very dim view of the conduct of party MLA Akash, son of general secretary Kailash Vijayvargia, who had assaulted a civic official in Indore, Madhya Pradesh.

In a briefing after the meeting, Parliamentary Affairs Minister Pralhad Joshi told reporters that Modi asked BJP MPs to nurse their constituencies by playing a leading role in its development and advised them to take up a cause of human sensitivity like eradication of leprosy or tuberculosis and water conservation.

Joshi said the Prime Minister also noted that India has fixed a deadline of 2025 for eradicating TB against the global deadline of 2030 and asked MPs to work for its removal.

### 11 DEAD...

Maharashtra Chief Minister Devendra Fadnis ordered a detailed inquiry into the collapse and fix

responsibilities. The Dongri building collapse comes 17 days after 15 persons - most of whom labourers and their family members from West Bengal and Bihar - were killed when a compound wall of a posh residential housing collapsed on their hutments near Talab Masjib Pune's Kondhwa locality in the small hours of June 29. Soon after the Kesarbai building collapse, a blame game began between the BMC and the State-run Maharashtra Housing and Area Development Authority (MHADA) over the jurisdiction and responsibility for the mishap, after it emerged that a portion of the building was completely illegal.

Given that the Kesarbai building is located in south Mumbai's most congested area, the operations became extremely difficult as the rescuers had to navigate through lanes and by-lanes before they could begin the search and rescue operations. Matters got complicated further as political leaders rushed to the site along with their supporters after television channels went to town about the mishap. Such was the chaos at the mishap site that JCB machines or heavy earth moving machines could not be taken in. Even ambulances had to be parked around 50 meters away from the crash site.

Maharashtra Minister Girish Mahajan, who was among the Ministers that rushed to the site, said: "The lanes here are very narrow. That's why this has become the most difficult rescue operations ever". On their part, the local residents sought to be circumspect in dealing with the situation, as they formed human chains around the collapsed building, to facilitate the rescuers to carry on with their operations. The local

**Office of the Superintending Engineer Central Equipment & Stores Procurement Circle-II, Irrigation & Water Resources Department, Uttar Pradesh, Ganga Sinchai Bhawan, Telibagh, LUCKNOW-226025**

**INVITATION FOR BIDS**  
**e-Tender Notice No. TE-899/2019-20**

On behalf of the honorable Governor of Uttar Pradesh online e-bids in three parts namely (i) Earnest Money Bid (ii) Technical bid and (iii) Price bid are invited simultaneously by the undersigned only from ISO: 9001-2008/2015 certified Original Manufacturers, registered with Director of Industries of the State/N.S.I.C./Ministry of Industries, Government of India as original manufacturers for ISI marked M.S.(E.R.W.) Pipes, on variable price up to 17.00 Hours on 14.08.2019. The details of eligibility, qualification and procedure of submission of bids etc. are available in the bidding document uploaded on the U.P. Government e-procurement website <http://etender.up.nic.in>. The undersigned reserves the right to cancel any or all the e-bids/ annual the bidding process without assigning any reason. In case of any variation in English and Hindi version of this tender notice, English version shall prevail. Items mentioned below are for irrigation purpose only. The details of different activities are as follows:-

Sl. No.	Description	TE-899/2019-19
(a)	Manufacture and supply of ISI marked Steel Tubes used for Water wells of type- Electric Resistance Welded (ERW) Grade Fe 410 conforming to IS:4270/2001 (Third Revision) with its latest amendment if any and Departmental Technical Specifications. The workmanship for pipe manufacturing shall conform to IS:ISO: 3183-2007 (para 8.4 of IS: 1978-1982) with its latest amendment if any.	Approx. 815M.T.
(b)	Plain End Casing Pipe Nominal bore 200mm, wall thickness 7.1mm, weight 37.12 kg/m in length of 4 to 7 meters.	
(c)	Date & time for Availability of the bid document on website.	22.07.2019 From 17.00 Hours onwards
(d)	Period for online e-Bid submission.	29.07.2019 From 10.00 Hours to 14.08.2019 up to 17.00 Hours
(e)	Period upto which Hard copy of Bid Document Fee, Bid Security/ Industries Registration Certificate for exemption from EMD and other supporting documents will be deposited in the office concerned.	16.08.2019 up to 14.00 Hours
(f)	Online opening date & time of Part "A" i.e. Earnest Money Bid.	16.08.2019 at 15.00 Hours.
(g)	Online opening date & time of Part "B" i.e. Technical Bid.	17.08.2019 at 15.00 Hours.
(h)	Online opening date & time of Part "C" i.e. Price Bid.	24.08.2019 at 15.00 Hours.
(i)	Venue of opening of bid.	Office of the Superintending Engineer, Central Equipment & Stores Procurement Circle-II, Ganga Sinchai Bhawan, Telibagh, Lucknow (U.P.)-226025. Ph.No. 0522-2442475
(j)	Bid document fee.	Rs. 29,500.00 (Rupees Twenty Nine Thousand Five Hundred only)
(k)	Bid Security (Earnest Money Deposit).	Rs. 5,13,500.00 (Rs. Five Lac Thirteen Thousand Five Hundred only)
(l)	Period of Delivery (from the date of issue of acceptance letter) throughout U.P.	50 Days

UP 142116 Date 15.7.2019  
विज्ञान वेबसाइट [www.upgov.in](http://www.upgov.in) पर उपलब्ध है।

**Superintending Engineer Central Equipment & Stores Procurement Circle-II, Irrigation & Water Resources Department, U.P., Lucknow.**

# RLD hits out at CM over law and order issue

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ LUCKNOW

Hitting out at Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath for deteriorating law and order in Uttar Pradesh, state president of Rashtriya Lok Dal (RLD) Masood Ahmad said there was a spurt in crime incidents like loot, murder and rape. "The CM had instructed the police to take stringent action against criminal. He also had asked the cops to put the criminals behind the bars or shoot them in encounter following which the UP police executed several encounters and jailed many criminals. It is puzzling that the crime graph is still soaring and where are the criminals coming in UP from," he said.

He said the CM's announcement that there would be no place for crime and criminals in the state during BJP rule proved to be hollow. "There is no other state in the country where such a big number of rape incident with minor girls have been reported. It is equally strange that neither the Centre nor the UP government has taken cognisance of the menace. With people in UP living at god's mercy, the apex court took suo motu cognisance of the same," the RLD leader said.

He presented a dossier according to which a total of 24,212 cases of rape with minor girls were reported in the last six months (January to June). "Of these, the police filed chargesheets in 12,231 cases while investigations into others are underway. Only in one-fourth of the cases, the court hearing has been initiated," Masood said. He asked the state government to expedite the investigation into these cases.

# Pay toll if you want good roads: Gadkari

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Stating that private partnership is needed to speed up projects in the country as Government does not have money, Union Surface Transport Minister Nitin Gadkari on Tuesday said people will have to pay toll if they want good roads even as he made it clear that the toll system would stay to generate money so that the public money could be used to implement road network in rural regions.

Gadkari informed the Lok Sabha that his ministry is working on a new green expressway from New Delhi to Mumbai, which can be covered in 12 hours. It will pass through most backward and tribal areas of Rajasthan, Gujarat and Maharashtra and also save Rs 16,000 crore in land acquisition.

Responding to demands of several MPs, he said he will consider if school buses or state transport buses can be exempt from tolls. The country has a shortage of over 25 lakh drivers and he told MPs that he will open a driving training centre in each state. After Minister's reply, NK Premchandran (Revolutionary Socialist Party) withdrew all of his cut-motions.

Replying to a discussion on demands for grants for the Road Transport and Highways ministry in the house, the minister said land acquisition was an issue in implementing several projects in West Bengal, Bihar, Kerala and Goa. He asked MPs from West Bengal to complete land acquisitions and encroachments so that he could give green signal to the pending road projects in the state.

The Minister said the Government has built 40,000 kilometres of highway in the last five years.

Amid concerns expressed by some members over collection of toll in different parts of the country, Gadkari said, "Toll zindagi bhar band nahi ho sakta... Kam zyaada ho sakta hai. Toll ka janamdata main hoon... (Toll system can never end though the rates may vary from time to time. Toll is my brainchild."

"If you want good services, you have to pay for it. Government does not have money..." he said adding the toll tax concept was first generated in Maharashtra when he was the State Minister.

Noting that more than 400 projects worth 3.85 lakh crore were closed when he assumed charge of the ministry in 2014, Gadkari said the Modi government saved Non-perform-

ing assets worth 3 lakh crore during the past five years by re-starting work on these projects.

"There were 403 projects pending when Narendra Modi came to power involving a cost of 3,85,000 crore. It is a great achievement of Indian government that we saved bankers of Rs 3 lakh crore of NPAs and now 90 per cent of projects are moving fast," he said.

Gadkari referred to former US President John F Kennedy's quote that "American roads are not good because America is rich, but America is rich because American roads are good" to emphasise on building good quality of highways and roads across the country to boost its economy.

Expressing anguish over deaths caused by road accidents, he said his ministry had identified 786 black spots and added that poor engineering is one of the main reasons for them.

Gadkari said his ministry is working to make Delhi pollution-free and cited pollution has come down by 32 per cent due to various efforts, including building peripheral roads to prevent trucks bound for other states from entering the national capital. All new vehicles from April 1, 2020 will comply with Euro 6 emission norms, he said.

# Set up emergency unit to prevent sewer deaths, Centre directs States

New Delhi: Aimed at preventing sewer deaths in the country, the Centre has asked all States to set up an emergency response sanitation unit (ERSU) on the lines of fire services.

Union Housing and Urban Affairs (HUA) Secretary Durga Shanker Mishra has written to the chief secretaries of states and Union territories, saying that ERSU will be responsible to attend any sanitation emergency request. The ERSU will be responsible to meet sanitation emergency requests from all smaller towns within a cluster of, say, 75 km radius.

"States/UTs/ULBs (Urban Local Bodies) should set up an Emergency Response Sanitation Unit (ERSU), on the lines of the fire service station, in capital cities of each state/UT and also in all major cities having a Municipal Corporation and/or Water and Sewerage Board (in whatever name it is called) with population of more than one lakh," Mishra said in the letter.

Mishra told the states and UTs that the practice of "hazardous cleaning" of sewers and septic tanks is completely banned under the Prevention of Employment as Manual Scavengers and their Rehabilitation Act, (PEMSRA), 2013. As per a report, there have been 1,340 deaths related to manual scavenging in the past 10 years across the country. According to numbers col-

lated by the National Commission for Safai Karamcharis (NCSK), since January 2017, one person has died every five days while cleaning sewers and septic tanks across the country.

Mishra said the government was seized of reports about incidents of deaths in course of hazardous cleaning of sewers and septic tanks.

Sanitation workers, who have been traditionally engaged in sewer and septic tank cleaning, should be properly trained, equipped and certified as sewer entry professionals (SEPs), the HUA secretary said.

"States and UTs should promote mechanized cleaning of sewers/septic tanks by establishing such units in each such city and keeping their contact number readily available for engaging in cleaning sewers/septic tanks at first instance, on priority," Mishra also said.

He added that entry of any person into a sewer and septic tank other than a properly equipped SEP, duly authorised by ERSU, should be strictly banned.

States and UTs should issue directions to urban local bodies and other appropriate authorities for filing FIR against employers if any person is allowed directly or indirectly to enter sewer and septic tanks without proper protective equipments including such individuals entering into sewer and septic tank, Mishra added. PNS

# Postal jobs test deferred after TN parties seek exam in Tamil

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Centre on Tuesday decided to cancel the examination for appointment of postmen, held on July 14. It will now be held in all local languages including Tamil, a demand made Tamil Nadu-based parties who forced a couple of adjournments in Rajya Sabha on the issue.

Union Minister Ravi Shankar Prasad informed the Rajya Sabha that the examination will now be held in all local languages, as per the notification of 10-5-2019 of the department concerned (with) examination, including (in) Tamil.

Tamil parties had been protesting that questions in the postal department's examination for appointments of postmen and assistants in rural areas held on Sunday were only in Hindi and English, and not Tamil. The AIADMK were joined in by DMK, CPI and CPI-M members in the protests.

Proceedings of the Upper House were adjourned thrice during the pre-learned period and again for 30 minutes after the Upper House re-assembled at 2 PM on the issue.

When the proceedings resumed, Prasad, who is the Union Minister for Law and Justice, Communications and Electronics and IT said he has examined the matter and it has been decided to cancel the



examination held on July 14.

"Certain issues were raised in this House by members, including my friends from Tamil Nadu. I have examined the matter today itself and it has been decided to cancel the examination held on 14-7-2019," Prasad said.

The minister said he would like to assure the House and the entire nation that the government led by Narendra Modi has respect for all regional languages, including Tamil. "I have myself seen the depth of language of Tamil when I was (election) in-charge there, and all other languages. Therefore this government's commitment to respecting all languages is full and total," Prasad said.

His assurance satisfied the agitating members. V Maitreyan of the AIADMK expressed gratitude to Prasad and said "due to the development in the last couple of days

unfortunately we were forced to raise the issue in the morning today in our own way. I am really thankful on behalf of my party members."

T K Rangarajan (CPI-M) suggested that all departments should hold examinations in regional languages. Deputy Leader of Opposition in the Rajya Sabha, Anand Sharma (Congress) said the larger issue is to pre-empt and ensure that there is no recurrence.

"Therefore, will the government give a categorical assurance to this House, and through the House to the people of the country, that for all future recruitments, examinations, interviews, in all Central Government Departments, the PSUs, paramilitary forces, the three-language formula, the assurance for which was given by India's first Prime Minister (Jawaharlal Nehru) shall be adhered to."

# Force ready to fight all spectrum of war: IAF chief

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Indian Air Force Chief BS Dhanoa said here on Tuesday the force is ready to fight all spectrum of war ranging from conventional to terrorism and developments undertaken after the Kargil war in 1999 have enabled the IAF to be prepared for handling all challenges.

Speaking at a seminar on 20 years of Kargil, the IAF chief said the force now has the capabilities to conduct precision bombing, like in the case of Balakot aerial strikes, which was limited during Kargil.

During the Kargil conflict, precision bombing capabilities which existed only on Mirage-2000 are now also available on Su-30, Jaguar, MiG-29 and MiG-27 Upp aircraft. Moreover, beyond visual range (BVR) Missiles are NOW carried by MiG-29, Su-30 and Mirage-2000 aircraft, he added. Dhanoa said "the IAF is

prepared to fight across the entire spectrum of warfare, be it an all-out war, a skirmish like Kargil conflict or retaliation to a terrorist attack."

He was the commanding officer of 17 squadron and was operating from Srinagar during the Kargil conflict in 1999. Speaking about his experiences, the IAF chief recounted the operational limitations that existed in 1999 and the innovative ways adopted by the IAF to overcome the difficulties during the conflict.

The developments which took place post Kargil war have transformed the Indian Air Force in capability so as to counter any kind of air threat in conventional and sub-conventional domains of warfare, Dhanoa said. IAF now has the capability to monitor the airspace deep inside the enemy territory and operates on secure communication with network-centric warfare capabilities.

# LS: Cong MPs walk out over Chinese incursion reports

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Congress MPs staged walkout from the Lok Sabha protesting the failure of Government's China police and reports on the recent Chinese incursion attempts in Ladakh. Raising the issue soon after the Question Hour, leader of the Congress in the House Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury accused the Centre of failing the China policy while Prime Minister Narendra Modi makes "tall claims". He said that Modi Government failed to prevent the continuous interference and intrusion by China into India territories.

"China had intruded into Doklam area in the past and created a lot of trouble for us and now. The recent attempt to enter into our territory in Ladakh's Demchok area and disturbing the people," accused Chowdhury, leading to protests from the Treasury Benches.

Cutting short the Congress leader's speech, Speaker Om Birla invited Transport Minister Nitin Gadkari to speak on his Ministry's Demands for Grants in connection with Union Budget. Protesting this Congress MPs staged walkout for a brief time.

# Def Min bars all business for one year with Switzerland-based Pilatus Aircraft

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Defence Ministry has suspended all commercial dealings for one year with Switzerland-based Pilatus Aircraft Limited following alleged corruption charges. The decision came after the CBI in June registered a case against arms dealer Sanjay Bhandari, officials of the Swiss company, unknown officials of the IAF and the defence ministry. Pilatus supplied 72 basic trainer aircraft to the IAF and is alleged Rs 339 crore was paid as kickbacks. The deal was worth over Rs 2,896 crores and inked in May 2012.

The order to suspend business dealings issued on July 12 was for violating the pre-contract integrity pact (PCIP) and will remain in force for one year until further orders. It referred to the ongoing investigation by the CBI, Delhi Police, Enforcement Directorate and Income Tax Department into "corrupt practices, unfair means and illegal activities" by the company.

Under the PCIP of November 12, 2010, Pilatus had agreed that while presenting the bid or during pre-con-



tract negotiation or before signing the contract, it shall disclose any payments made, committed or intended to be made to officials of the buyer or their family members, agents, brokers or any intermediaries in connection with the contract and the details of the services agreed upon such payments.

The Defence Ministry received reports of engagement of agents by Pilatus for assistance in the sale of the basic trainer aircraft for the IAF on payment of a commission, according to the vigilance department order.

The ministry had written a letter to the company in December 2016 asking it to offer comments on the report along with details of any such engagement. In its response submitted in January 2017, the company admitted engaging Offset India Solutions, a firm belonging to fugitive arms dealer Sanjay Bhandari, for the successful resolution, approval or implementation of Pilatus offset proposals, plans and obligations. The ministry then issued a show cause notice as the reply was not found satisfactory. The CBI registered a regular case on June 19 this year under sections 120-B (criminal conspiracy) and 420 (cheating) of the Indian Penal Code. The investigations by the ED and I-T Department are also underway.

# SC seeks report in 3 months from Centre appointed expert panel on aircraft fumigation

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The Centre informed the Supreme Court Tuesday that it has constituted a high-powered 8-member expert panel to ascertain the benefits and hazards of spraying insecticides or fumigation in aircraft with passengers on board.

The top court gave three months till October 31 to the panel to submit final report and suggest interim measures at the earliest.

A bench of Justice DY Chandrachud and Indira Banerjee was informed by the Centre's counsel that a notification on the modalities and working of the high-powered panel will be issued during the week.

As per the note submitted by the Centre, the eight member panel include — Principal Advisor (Public Health), Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (Chairman); Director of National Centre for Disease Control (Member); Director of National Vector Borne Disease Control Programme

(Member); Representative of Directorate General of Civil Aviation (Member) and Head of Epidemiology & Communicable Disease of Indian Council of Medical Research (Member).

The other three members are National Professional Officer, International Health Regulation, WHO (Member); Airport Health Officer, Delhi (Member), and Deputy Assistant Director General (International Health) as Member Secretary.

The Centre's note further said that the panel will take a considered decision and inform the top court. Senior advocate Saurabh Kripal, appearing for Interlobe Aviation Ltd (Indigo Airlines) and others, said that as it was a Monsoon season, some interim measures needed to be taken.

The bench said it was a policy decision the Centre has to take, but the high-powered panel may suggest some interim measures as early as possible.

## IN PARLIAMENT

# Of 8K cold storages 92% owned by private entities, says Tomar

THERE IS NO HARMFUL EFFECT OF FERTILIZERS ON SOIL FERTILITY IF APPLIED IN BALANCED MANNER: TOMAR

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

There are 8,038 cold storages in the country with a capacity of 36.77 million tonnes and 92 per cent of the capacity is owned and operated by private entities.

In a reply to Lok Sabha, Union Agriculture Minister Narendra Singh Tomar on Tuesday said against total stocks of 741.41 LMT (as on June 1, 2019), the total storage capacity available with FCI, Central Warehousing Corporation (CWC) and state agencies (both owned and hired capacity), is 862.45 LMT (as on May 31, 2019) comprising 739.76 LMT in covered godowns and 122.69 LMT in Cover and Plinth (CAP) storage.

"As per the latest available information received from States, there are 8,038 cold

storages with capacity of 36.77 million tonnes in the country," he said during Question Hour. As per a study on All India Cold-chain Infrastructure Capacity, there was cold storage capacity of 32 million tonnes in the country against an approximate requirement of 35 million tonnes.

The Minister said the base line survey conducted during December, 2013 by M/s Hansa Research Group estimated that 92 per cent of cold storage are owned and operated by private sector, three per cent cooperative and remaining five per cent are under Public Sector.

Tomar said the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution deals with storage of foodgrains post procurement by the Food Corporation of India (FCI) and state agencies.

Replying to another question, the minister said as such there is no harmful effect of fertilizers on soil fertility if applied in a balanced and judicious manner.

"The average rate of consumption of chemical fertilizers in the country is only around 134 kg per hectare. The

fertility of soil is being lost in certain situations mainly due to imbalanced use of chemical fertilizers coupled with low use of organic manures," he said.

Tomar said the government has been implementing 'Soil Health Card' (SHC) scheme since 2015 to assist state governments in soil testing and providing soil health cards to all farm holdings in the country regularly in a cycle of 2 years.

Soil health cards provide information to farmers on nutrient status of their soil along with recommendations on appropriate dosage of nutrients to be applied for improving soil health and its fertility.

"So far 411 new static Soil Testing Labs (STLs), 100 new mobile STLs, 8,752 mini STLs and 1,562 village level STLs have been sanctioned under the scheme since 2014-15. This includes 6 mobile STLs and 28 village level STLs sanctioned to Bihar.

"Out of these sanctioned labs, 129 new static Soil Testing Labs (STLs), 86 new mobile STLs, 6,498 mini STLs and 17 village level STLs are already established," he said.

# PMJAY: Around 3L patients made ₹4,405 crore claims

Gujarat tops list with claims worth ₹915 cr followed by TN and K'taka

ARCHANA JYOTI ■ NEW DELHI

Around ₹4,405 crore worth of claims by over 3 lakh patients have been made for health insurance under the Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (AB-PMJAY) scheme since it was launched in September last year.

According to the latest data tabled in Parliament on Tuesday, Gujarat tops the list with claims worth ₹915 crore followed by Tamil Nadu at ₹618 crore and Karnataka (₹553 crore). The scheme has been most availed in Chhattisgarh where 611,216 patients enrolled for the claim followed by Kerala (574,448) and Gujarat (523,011).

However, states like Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand and Madhya Pradesh, which

have poor health indicators, are not the biggest users of the scheme as just 56,139, 130,721 and 107,718 patients registered under the scheme respectively, contrary to the expectations. In fact, in as many as four States less than hundred patients used the scheme. Similarly, Northeastern States except Assam too are yet to warm up to the scheme.

In West Bengal, which was initially reluctant to implement the scheme had 17,636 patients registered under the scheme with claim of over ₹17 crore. (See table) Only Delhi, Odisha and Telangana have not signed the MoU for implementation of AB-PMJAY.

Replying to a query, Ashwini Kumar Choubey, Minister of State for Health said that under the scheme, the States have the flexibility to choose the mode of implementation.

They can either implement it in insurance mode, or through a trust or in a mixed mode ie both the insurance and trust mode. The States implementing scheme through Insurance mode

select Insurance Company through open tendering process. The private insurance companies are allowed to bid in the open tendering process to allow level playing field, said the Minister.

However, he added, the decision lies with the State Government concerned and the government has no role in the selection of Insurance company.

Choubey further said that under the scheme, 1393 procedures have been laid down for treatment of beneficiaries. AB-PMJAY provides a cover of up to ₹5 lakhs per family per year, for secondary and tertiary care hospitalisation to over 10.74 crore vulnerable entitled families (approximately 50 crore beneficiaries).

PMJAY provides cashless and paperless access to services for the beneficiary at the point of service. Over 15,000 hospitals and health care providers have been empanelled across the country to provide healthcare services as per these packages, as per the Ministry.

## DETAILS OF HOSPITALISATION UNDER AB-PMJAY

State	No of hospital admissions	Amount for hospital admissions
Andaman And Nicobar Islands	23	69,900
Andhra Pradesh	147,378	4,149,416,562
Arunachal Pradesh	709	11,894,687
Assam	57,176	837,883,007
Bihar	56,139	565,105,942
Chandigarh	958	8,793,795
Chhattisgarh	611,216	4,467,368,971
Dadra And Nagar Haveli	13,327	84,385,920
Daman And Diu	5,031	42,497,182
Goa	1,415	45,784,121
Gujarat	523,011	9,152,275,799
Haryana	31,985	423,768,613
Himachal Pradesh	21,621	189,594,841
Jammu & Kashmir	23,712	143,539,076
Jharkhand	201,369	1,553,624,781
Karnataka	218,461	5,530,356,358
Kerala	574,448	2,863,340,460
Madhya Pradesh	107,718	1,505,484,559
Maharashtra	148,753	3,866,353,985
Manipur	3,801	61,403,820
Meghalaya	21,581	136,463,418
Mizoram	14,823	81,043,280
Nagaland	1,265	12,524,639
Sikkim	171	1,099,250
Tamil Nadu	256,395	6,186,951,217
Tripura	20,499	64,803,621
Uttar Pradesh	130,721	1,434,346,595
Uttarakhand	55,379	462,166,166
West Bengal	17,636	170,981,470
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>3,266,721</b>	<b>44,053,322,035</b>

'Separate police station for electricity thefts won't reduce crimes'

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The Delhi High Court on Tuesday declined to order setting up of a separate police station to deal with electricity theft cases, saying it would not put an end to such crimes or change the mindset of people indulging in such activity.

A bench of Chief Justice DN Patel and Justice C Hari Shankar said that instead of a separate police station, a dedicated investigative unit was required to probe such cases. "Establishment of a separate police station cannot reduce theft of electricity or change the mindset of people indulging in the theft. What is required is separate police staff to investigate the cases of power theft," the court said.

The bench noted that according to the Delhi government, separate staff to investigate

such crimes can be created within the District Investigation Unit (DIU) of the police. Taking note of the government's submission, the court disposed of a plea seeking a separate police station to deal with cases of power theft as has been done in several states, including Gujarat and Maharashtra.

The bench, however, told the government that such experiment in other states "be kept in mind" and if it is found successful, "it can be implemented here as well".

"In view of the facts and circumstances of the case, we see no reason to issue any direction or writ for establishment of a separate police station to deal with power theft. It is a policy decision to be taken by the respondent 1 (Delhi government)," the court said. It also said that neither the government nor the discoms appeared to be lethargic enough to allow such thefts and "their senses are not required to be awakened by court orders".

With regard to power discom BSES Rajdhani's submission made last year that it was willing to foot the bill of setting up a dedicated police station, the bench said the company may consider the option in future as part of its corporate social responsibility (CSR) initiative. Apart from seeking a separate police station, the petition by Raman Suri had also sought directions to the police, BSES and the Delhi Electricity Regulatory Commission to take steps to prevent power theft in the national capital.

The petitioner had alleged that discoms shift the burden of electricity thefts to the genuine customers by raising their tariff. The allegation has been denied by the discom BSES Rajdhani.

AS TMC WORKERS FACE IMAGE CRISIS

Prashant to enroll 5-L youth to push Didi drive

SAUGAR SENGUPTA ■ KOLKATA

Amid reports that Mamata Banerjee has roped in India's new election guru Prashant Kishor to revive her party Trinamool Congress' electoral fortunes in Bengal, the poll strategist has kick-started a grand plan to enroll at least 5 lakh youth in his "youth in politics" campaign.

These youth, thus drafted in politics will augment a befuddled TMC's worker force. The Bengal ruling outfit suffered stunning reverses at the hands of a surging BJP in the recently concluded Lok Sabha elections whence the saffron party romped home with 18 out of 42 seats leaving 22 for the Trinamool and two for the Congress. In its worst defeat since 2006 the TMC conceded 12 seats to the Opposition.

Assembly segment-wise the Lok Sabha election results projected a whopping gain of 127 seats for the BJP in a 294-member House whereas the TMC's strength hovered around 155 and 160, down 55-60 seats from its 2016 tally.

Considering a general perception that Bengal ruling party had degenerated into a criminalised outfit, Kishor is working on an image-building exercise. Recruitment and training of clean, well-cultivated and untested faces is a part of his programme, sources said.

Kishor's organisation I-PAC is targeting all classes of youth; but mostly the unemployed ones, sources said adding his recruitment programme is called "Youth in Politics" or YIP. Even those who have voted for the BJP or admire Narendra Modi are welcome in the YIP, sources said adding the group has already started enrolling about 4 thousand youth per day. This rate of enrolment is expected to rise further until it reaches 10,000 per day sources said adding by the end of September the number of people thus recruited would go up to five lakh.

These people will then be trained for a period of 15 months or so before they are pushed into the market for election works, sources said. The team will also analyse if any particular caste, tribal, Hindi-speaking or industrial belts in the state had any role in the vote-share swing.

While similar strategy of enrolling foot-soldiers worked well in the case of Andhra Pradesh where Kishor worked for Jagannathan Reddy's YSR Congress to trounce Chandrababu Naidu, this may not work in Bengal as here he has to withstand the anti-incumbency wave against the Mamata Banerjee Government that was witnessed in the general elections.

"We could have won at least 2-3 more seats like Arambagh and Ghatal had the Election Commission managed to control violence unleashed by the TMC goons," said State BJP president Dilip Ghosh adding, "BJP has a connect with the masses and Mamata Banerjee has lost that connect which is why she has to purchase an election expert. But she will have to remember that Bengal has a politically conscious and matured electorate unlike in many parts of India. Here professional electioneering will not work."

Even if the YIP "or whatever they are called moves door-to-door will they be able to erase the impression of a frightful decade a corrupt decade, a criminalised decade from their mind?" another State BJP leader wondered.

Already Kishor has met Banerjee several times and has been working in close coordination with her nephew and MP Abhishek Banerjee. Kishor's endeavour in Bengal is part of a multi-crore contract with the TMC, inside sources said, adding the election guru — responsible for Prime Minister Narendra Modi's landslide victory in 2014 — will also have to watch out for the source of the payment that comes to him as contract fee from the TMC, a galaxy of whose leaders are facing a slew of charges for their alleged involvement in chit fund and other corrupt activities.

Former Indian Space Research Organisation scientist Nambi Narayanan, credited for his contributions in the development of cryogenic technology in the country's space programme, said calling off the launch was disappointing not just for the general public but even for the brains behind the Rs 978 crore project.

"It is a pity that countdown was stopped. They (scientists) might have noticed something wrong. I feel the problem might (have been even) small but they must not have wanted to take a chance", he told PTI.

Noting the glitch. "It may be a small thing, but that is always good (halting a launch instead of going ahead). They are now trying to understand what went wrong. What actually happened. So, we need to wait..." he said.

ISRO had earlier scheduled the launch of the mission, headed by women scientists Ritu Karidhal and Muthayya Vanitha, in the first week of January but shifted it to July 15 after choosing a launch window between July 9 and 16.

Chandrayan-2, comprising an orbiter, a lander and a rover, was to have been injected into an Earth orbit about 16 minutes after lift-off with the lander to touch down on the Moon surface 54 days later through a series of critical orbit rising manoeuvres.

Narayanan's comments came even as the ISRO was yet to make any formal announcement on what went wrong during the final hour of countdown that prompted the space agency to call it off 56 minutes before the lift-off.

Though none of the ISRO officials whom PTI contacted responded, experts have said a glitch might have been noticed when the rocket's liquid propellant was being loaded into the cryogenic upper stage engine.

Incidentally, an update by ISRO around 1.34 am on Monday had said, "Filling of Liquid Hydrogen in Cryogenic stage of #GSLVMkIII-M1 completed. #Chandrayaan2 #ISRO Stay tuned for more updates."

कार्यालय अधीक्षण अभियन्ता, विद्युत वितरण मण्डल, दक्षिणवर्धन विद्युत वितरण निगम लि। निविदा खोलने की तिथि विस्तारण सूचना इस कार्यालय द्वारा आमन्त्रित ई-निविदा संख्या 08 & 09/SE/EDCB/2019-20, जो कि विविध विद्युत/विद्युत/विद्युत, बांदा के अधीन नॉन-आरपीडीआरपी क्षेत्रान्तर्गत बकायेंदार विद्युत उपभोक्ताओं के विद्युत संयोजन कार्य/सुसंयोजन कार्य से सम्बन्धित हैं, की खोलने की तिथि अपरिहार्य कारणों वश दिनांक-23.07.2019 तक विस्तारित की जाती है। विस्तृत जानकारी ई-प्रोक्वोरमेंट पोर्टल https://etender.up.nic.in एवं https://dvvnl.org पर उपलब्ध रहेगी। (राजेन्द्र प्रसाद) अधीक्षण अभियन्ता, विद्युत वितरण मण्डल, बांदा। फोन-569/विद्युत/विद्युत/पी-1 (प्रकाशन)/निविदा/2019-20/08-09, दिनांक 16-07-2019 "संप्रति में बिजली बचायें"

NORTHERN RAILWAY E-Tender Notice Sr. DME/C&W/NR/LKO acting for and on behalf of The President of India invites E-Tender Tender No. 131-Mech-CW-HAFHW-LKO-19-2 Closing Date/Time 08.08.2019 up to 15.00 hrs. and to be opened at 16.30 hrs. on same day. Bidders will be able to submit their original/revised bids upto closing date and time only. Manual offers are not allowed against this tender, and any such manual offer received shall be ignored. Information regarding this tender is available on website www.reps.gov.in on internet & can be seen/download. The tenders/bidders will have to make payment towards Tender document cost and Earnest Money against this tender through online payment modes like Net Banking, Debit/Credit card etc. available on IREPS portal. Manual/offline mode of payment through Demand Draft, Banker's cheque, Cash Deposit receipts etc. are not permitted. Name of Work: Procurement and installation of hot axle & hot wheel detection system (rolling in mode) with limited functionality at six locations at Lucknow Division. Tender Type: Open. Bidding System: Single Bid System. Tender Closing Date & Time: 08.08.2019 15:00hrs. Date & Time of Uploading Tender: Upto 17.07.2019. Pre-Bid (Yes/No.): No. Pre Bid Query Date Time: Not Applicable. Advertised Value (in Rs.) Rs. 47,25,000.00 (Including @ 5% GST). Tendering Section: Tender CW, Bidding Site: Single Rate for Tender, Bidding Unit: % Above/Below/At Par. Earnest Money (in Rs.): 94,500.00. Validity of Offer (Days): 45. Tender Doc. Cost (in Rs.): 3,000.00. Period of Completion: 02 Months. Bidding Start Date: 23.07.2019. No. 131-Mech-CW-HAFHW-LKO-19-2 Dated: 15.07.2019 2293/19

कार्यालय अधीक्षण अभियन्ता, विद्युत वितरण मण्डल, गोण्डा। ई-टेंडरिंग निविदा सूचना अनुमती फर्म / ठेकेदारों से निम्नलिखित कार्य हेतु सोलवन्ड निविदाएं दो भागों में दिनांक 14.08.2019 को 14.00 बजे तक आमंत्रित की जाती है। (1) ई-निविदा संख्या 56/ईटीसीओ(गोण्डा)/2019-20: विद्युत वितरण खण्ड, गोण्डा के अन्तर्गत 220 केवीओ उपकेंद्र बहराइच हेतु बाई-मेट्रिक टर्मिनल की आपूर्ति सम्बन्धी कार्य। घरोहर राशि रु 2000.00 निविदा भाग-1 खोलने की तिथि 14.08.2019 को 15.00 बजे, निविदा प्रपत्र मूल्य रु 236.00 (कर सहित)। (2) ई-निविदा संख्या 57/ईटीसीओ(गोण्डा)/2019-20: विद्युत वितरण खण्ड, बहराइच के अन्तर्गत विभिन्न उपकेंद्रों के अनुसूचित हेतु उपकरणों की आपूर्ति सम्बन्धी कार्य। घरोहर राशि रु 2000.00 निविदा भाग-1 खोलने की तिथि 14.08.2019 को 15.00 बजे, निविदा प्रपत्र मूल्य रु 236.00 (कर सहित)। (3) ई-निविदा संख्या 58/ईटीसीओ(गोण्डा)/2019-20: विद्युत वितरण खण्ड, गोण्डा के अन्तर्गत 220 केवीओ उपकेंद्र बहराइच हेतु हाईवोल्टेज फिटिंग्स की आपूर्ति सम्बन्धी कार्य। घरोहर राशि रु 2000.00 निविदा भाग-1 खोलने की तिथि 14.08.2019 को 15.00 बजे, निविदा प्रपत्र मूल्य रु 236.00 (कर सहित)। (4) ई-निविदा संख्या 59/ईटीसीओ(गोण्डा)/2019-20: विद्युत वितरण खण्ड, गोण्डा के अन्तर्गत 220 केवीओ उपकेंद्र बहराइच पर 132 केवीओ मेन बस बार हेतु हाईवोल्टेज फिटिंग्स की आपूर्ति सम्बन्धी कार्य। घरोहर राशि रु 2000.00 निविदा भाग-1 खोलने की तिथि 14.08.2019 को 15.00 बजे, निविदा प्रपत्र मूल्य रु 236.00 (कर सहित)। (5) ई-निविदा संख्या 60/ईटीसीओ(गोण्डा)/2019-20: विद्युत वितरण खण्ड, बहराइच के अन्तर्गत 132 केवीओ निनारा पर प्रकाश व्यवस्था सुदृढ़ करने सम्बन्धी कार्य। घरोहर राशि रु 2000.00 निविदा भाग-1 खोलने की तिथि 14.08.2019 को 15.00 बजे, निविदा प्रपत्र मूल्य रु 236.00 (कर सहित)। (6) ई-निविदा संख्या 61/ईटीसीओ(गोण्डा)/2019-20: विद्युत वितरण खण्ड, बहराइच के अन्तर्गत 132 केवीओ निनारा पर प्रकाश व्यवस्था सुदृढ़ करने सम्बन्धी कार्य। घरोहर राशि रु 2000.00 निविदा भाग-1 खोलने की तिथि 14.08.2019 को 15.00 बजे, निविदा प्रपत्र मूल्य रु 236.00 (कर सहित)। (7) ई-निविदा संख्या 62/ईटीसीओ(गोण्डा)/2019-20: विद्युत वितरण खण्ड, बहराइच के अन्तर्गत 132 केवीओ निनारा पर प्रकाश व्यवस्था सुदृढ़ करने सम्बन्धी कार्य। घरोहर राशि रु 2000.00 निविदा भाग-1 खोलने की तिथि 14.08.2019 को 15.00 बजे, निविदा प्रपत्र मूल्य रु 236.00 (कर सहित)। (8) ई-निविदा संख्या 63/ईटीसीओ(गोण्डा)/2019-20: विद्युत वितरण खण्ड, बहराइच के अन्तर्गत 132 केवीओ निनारा पर प्रकाश व्यवस्था सुदृढ़ करने सम्बन्धी कार्य। घरोहर राशि रु 2000.00 निविदा भाग-1 खोलने की तिथि 14.08.2019 को 15.00 बजे, निविदा प्रपत्र मूल्य रु 236.00 (कर सहित)। (9) ई-निविदा संख्या 64/ईटीसीओ(गोण्डा)/2019-20: विद्युत वितरण खण्ड, बहराइच के अन्तर्गत 132 केवीओ निनारा पर प्रकाश व्यवस्था सुदृढ़ करने सम्बन्धी कार्य। घरोहर राशि रु 2000.00 निविदा भाग-1 खोलने की तिथि 14.08.2019 को 15.00 बजे, निविदा प्रपत्र मूल्य रु 236.00 (कर सहित)। (10) ई-निविदा संख्या 65/ईटीसीओ(गोण्डा)/2019-20: विद्युत वितरण खण्ड, बहराइच के अन्तर्गत 132 केवीओ निनारा पर प्रकाश व्यवस्था सुदृढ़ करने सम्बन्धी कार्य। घरोहर राशि रु 2000.00 निविदा भाग-1 खोलने की तिथि 14.08.2019 को 15.00 बजे, निविदा प्रपत्र मूल्य रु 236.00 (कर सहित)। (11) ई-निविदा संख्या 66/ईटीसीओ(गोण्डा)/2019-20: विद्युत वितरण खण्ड, बहराइच के अन्तर्गत 132 केवीओ निनारा पर प्रकाश व्यवस्था सुदृढ़ करने सम्बन्धी कार्य। घरोहर राशि रु 2000.00 निविदा भाग-1 खोलने की तिथि 14.08.2019 को 15.00 बजे, निविदा प्रपत्र मूल्य रु 236.00 (कर सहित)। (12) ई-निविदा संख्या 67/ईटीसीओ(गोण्डा)/2019-20: विद्युत वितरण खण्ड, बहराइच के अन्तर्गत 132 केवीओ निनारा पर प्रकाश व्यवस्था सुदृढ़ करने सम्बन्धी कार्य। घरोहर राशि रु 2000.00 निविदा भाग-1 खोलने की तिथि 14.08.2019 को 15.00 बजे, निविदा प्रपत्र मूल्य रु 236.00 (कर सहित)। (13) ई-निविदा संख्या 68/ईटीसीओ(गोण्डा)/2019-20: विद्युत वितरण खण्ड, बहराइच के अन्तर्गत 132 केवीओ निनारा पर प्रकाश व्यवस्था सुदृढ़ करने सम्बन्धी कार्य। घरोहर राशि रु 2000.00 निविदा भाग-1 खोलने की तिथि 14.08.2019 को 15.00 बजे, निविदा प्रपत्र मूल्य रु 236.00 (कर सहित)। (14) ई-निविदा संख्या 69/ईटीसीओ(गोण्डा)/2019-20: विद्युत वितरण खण्ड, बहराइच के अन्तर्गत 132 केवीओ निनारा पर प्रकाश व्यवस्था सुदृढ़ करने सम्बन्धी कार्य। घरोहर राशि रु 2000.00 निविदा भाग-1 खोलने की तिथि 14.08.2019 को 15.00 बजे, निविदा प्रपत्र मूल्य रु 236.00 (कर सहित)। (15) ई-निविदा संख्या 70/ईटीसीओ(गोण्डा)/2019-20: विद्युत वितरण खण्ड, बहराइच के अन्तर्गत 132 केवीओ निनारा पर प्रकाश व्यवस्था सुदृढ़ करने सम्बन्धी कार्य। घरोहर राशि रु 2000.00 निविदा भाग-1 खोलने की तिथि 14.08.2019 को 15.00 बजे, निविदा प्रपत्र मूल्य रु 236.00 (कर सहित)। (16) ई-निविदा संख्या 71/ईटीसीओ(गोण्डा)/2019-20: विद्युत वितरण खण्ड, बहराइच के अन्तर्गत 132 केवीओ निनारा पर प्रकाश व्यवस्था सुदृढ़ करने सम्बन्धी कार्य। घरोहर राशि रु 2000.00 निविदा भाग-1 खोलने की तिथि 14.08.2019 को 15.00 बजे, निविदा प्रपत्र मूल्य रु 236.00 (कर सहित)। (17) ई-निविदा संख्या 72/ईटीसीओ(गोण्डा)/2019-20: विद्युत वितरण खण्ड, बहराइच के अन्तर्गत 132 केवीओ निनारा पर प्रकाश व्यवस्था सुदृढ़ करने सम्बन्धी कार्य। घरोहर राशि रु 2000.00 निविदा भाग-1 खोलने की तिथि 14.08.2019 को 15.00 बजे, निविदा प्रपत्र मूल्य रु 236.00 (कर सहित)। (18) ई-निविदा संख्या 73/ईटीसीओ(गोण्डा)/2019-20: विद्युत वितरण खण्ड, बहराइच के अन्तर्गत 132 केवीओ निनारा पर प्रकाश व्यवस्था सुदृढ़ करने सम्बन्धी कार्य। घरोहर राशि रु 2000.00 निविदा भाग-1 खोलने की तिथि 14.08.2019 को 15.00 बजे, निविदा प्रपत्र मूल्य रु 236.00 (कर सहित)। (19) ई-निविदा संख्या 74/ईटीसीओ(गोण्डा)/2019-20: विद्युत वितरण खण्ड, बहराइच के अन्तर्गत 132 केवीओ निनारा पर प्रकाश व्यवस्था सुदृढ़ करने सम्बन्धी कार्य। घरोहर राशि रु 2000.00 निविदा भाग-1 खोलने की तिथि 14.08.2019 को 15.00 बजे, निविदा प्रपत्र मूल्य रु 236.00 (कर सहित)। (20) ई-निविदा संख्या 75/ईटीसीओ(गोण्डा)/2019-20: विद्युत वितरण खण्ड, बहराइच के अन्तर्गत 132 केवीओ निनारा पर प्रकाश व्यवस्था सुदृढ़ करने सम्बन्धी कार्य। घरोहर राशि रु 2000.00 निविदा भाग-1 खोलने की तिथि 14.08.2019 को 15.00 बजे, निविदा प्रपत्र मूल्य रु 236.00 (कर सहित)। (21) ई-निविदा संख्या 76/ईटीसीओ(गोण्डा)/2019-20: विद्युत वितरण खण्ड, बहराइच के अन्तर्गत 132 केवीओ निनारा पर प्रकाश व्यवस्था सुदृढ़ करने सम्बन्धी कार्य। घरोहर राशि रु 2000.00 निविदा भाग-1 खोलने की तिथि 14.08.2019 को 15.00 बजे, निविदा प्रपत्र मूल्य रु 236.00 (कर सहित)। (22) ई-निविदा संख्या 77/ईटीसीओ(गोण्डा)/2019-20: विद्युत वितरण खण्ड, बहराइच के अन्तर्गत 132 केवीओ निनारा पर प्रकाश व्यवस्था सुदृढ़ करने सम्बन्धी कार्य। घरोहर राशि रु 2000.00 निविदा भाग-1 खोलने की तिथि 14.08.2019 को 15.00 बजे, निविदा प्रपत्र मूल्य रु 236.00 (कर सहित)। (23) ई-निविदा संख्या 78/ईटीसीओ(गोण्डा)/2019-20: विद्युत वितरण खण्ड, बहराइच के अन्तर्गत 132 केवीओ निनारा पर प्रकाश व्यवस्था सुदृढ़ करने सम्बन्धी कार्य। घरोहर राशि रु 2000.00 निविदा भाग-1 खोलने की तिथि 14.08.2019 को 15.00 बजे, निविदा प्रपत्र मूल्य रु 236.00 (कर सहित)। (24) ई-निविदा संख्या 79/ईटीसीओ(गोण्डा)/2019-20: विद्युत वितरण खण्ड, बहराइच के अन्तर्गत 132 केवीओ निनारा पर प्रकाश व्यवस्था सुदृढ़ करने सम्बन्धी कार्य। घरोहर राशि रु 2000.00 निविदा भाग-1 खोलने की तिथि 14.08.2019 को 15.00 बजे, निविदा प्रपत्र मूल्य रु 236.00 (कर सहित)। (25) ई-निविदा संख्या 80/ईटीसीओ(गोण्डा)/2019-20: विद्युत वितरण खण्ड, बहराइच के अन्तर्गत 132 केवीओ निनारा पर प्रकाश व्यवस्था सुदृढ़ करने सम्बन्धी कार्य। घरोहर राशि रु 2000.00 निविदा भाग-1 खोलने की तिथि 14.08.2019 को 15.00 बजे, निविदा प्रपत्र मूल्य रु 236.00 (कर सहित)। (26) ई-निविदा संख्या 81/ईटीसीओ(गोण्डा)/2019-20: विद्युत वितरण खण्ड, बहराइच के अन्तर्गत 132 केवीओ निनारा पर प्रकाश व्यवस्था सुदृढ़ करने सम्बन्धी कार्य। घरोहर राशि रु 2000.00 निविदा भाग-1 खोलने की तिथि 14.08.2019 को 15.00 बजे, निविदा प्रपत्र मूल्य रु 236.00 (कर सहित)। (27) ई-निविदा संख्या 82/ईटीसीओ(गोण्डा)/2019-20: विद्युत वितरण खण्ड, बहराइच के अन्तर्गत 132 केवीओ निनारा पर प्रकाश व्यवस्था सुदृढ़ करने सम्बन्धी कार्य। घरोहर राशि रु 2000.00 निविदा भाग-1 खोलने की तिथि 14.08.2019 को 15.00 बजे, निविदा प्रपत्र मूल्य रु 236.00 (कर सहित)। (28) ई-निविदा संख्या 83/ईटीसीओ(गोण्डा)/2019-20: विद्युत वितरण खण्ड, बहराइच के अन्तर्गत 132 केवीओ निनारा पर प्रकाश व्यवस्था सुदृढ़ करने सम्बन्धी कार्य। घरोहर राशि रु 2000.00 निविदा भाग-1 खोलने की तिथि 14.08.2019 को 15.00 बजे, निविदा प्रपत्र मूल्य रु 236.00 (कर सहित)। (29) ई-निविदा संख्या 84/ईटीसीओ(गोण्डा)/2019-20: विद्युत वितरण खण्ड, बहराइच के अन्तर्गत 132 केवीओ निनारा पर प्रकाश व्यवस्था सुदृढ़ करने सम्बन्धी कार्य। घरोहर राशि रु 2000.00 निविदा भाग-1 खोलने की तिथि 14.08.2019 को 15.00 बजे, निविदा प्रपत्र मूल्य रु 236.00 (कर सहित)। (30) ई-निविदा संख्या 85/ईटीसीओ(गोण्डा)/2019-20: विद्युत वितरण खण्ड, बहराइच के अन्तर्गत 132 केवीओ निनारा पर प्रकाश व्यवस्था सुदृढ़ करने सम्बन्धी कार्य। घरोहर राशि रु 2000.00 निविदा भाग-1 खोलने की तिथि 14.08.2019 को 15.00 बजे, निविदा प्रपत्र मूल्य रु 236.00 (कर सहित)। (31) ई-निविदा संख्या 86/ईटीसीओ(गोण्डा)/2019-20: विद्युत वितरण खण्ड, बहराइच के अन्तर्गत 132 केवीओ निनारा पर प्रकाश व्यवस्था सुदृढ़ करने सम्बन्धी कार्य। घरोहर राशि रु 2000.00 निविदा भाग-1 खोलने की तिथि 14.08.2019 को 15.00 बजे, निविदा प्रपत्र मूल्य रु 236.00 (कर सहित)। (32) ई-निविदा संख्या 87/ईटीसीओ(गोण्डा)/2019-20: विद्युत वितरण खण्ड, बहराइच के अन्तर्गत 132 केवीओ निनारा पर प्रकाश व्यवस्था सुदृढ़ करने सम्बन्धी कार्य। घरोहर राशि रु 2000.00 निविदा भाग-1 खोलने की तिथि 14.08.2019 को 15.00 बजे, निविदा प्रपत्र मूल्य रु 236.00 (कर सहित)। (33) ई-निविदा संख्या 88/ईटीसीओ(गोण्डा)/2019-20: विद्युत वितरण खण्ड, बहराइच के अन्तर्गत 132 केवीओ निनारा पर प्रकाश व्यवस्था सुदृढ़ करने सम्बन्धी कार्य। 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अन्तर्गत 132 केवीओ निनारा पर प्रकाश व्यवस्था सुदृढ़ करने सम्बन्धी कार्य। घरोहर राशि रु 2000.00 निविदा भाग-1 खोलने की तिथि 14.08.2019 को 15.00 बजे, निविदा प्रपत्र मूल्य रु 236.00 (कर सहित)। (38) ई-निविदा संख्या 93/ईटीसीओ(गोण्डा)/2019-20: विद्युत वितरण खण्ड, बहराइच के अन्तर्गत 132 केवीओ निनारा पर प्रकाश व्यवस्था सुदृढ़ करने सम्बन्धी कार्य। घरोहर राशि रु 2000.00 निविदा भाग-1 खोलने की तिथि 14.08.2019 को 15.00 बजे, निविदा प्रपत्र मूल्य रु 236.00 (कर सहित)। (39) ई-निविदा संख्या 94/ईटीसीओ(गोण्डा)/2019-20: विद्युत वितरण खण्ड, बहराइच के अन्तर्गत 132 केवीओ निनारा पर प्रकाश व्यवस्था सुदृढ़ करने सम्बन्धी कार्य। घरोहर राशि रु 2000.00 निविदा भाग-1 खोलने की तिथि 14.08.2019 को 15.00 बजे, निविदा प्रपत्र मूल्य रु 236.00 (कर सहित)। (40) ई-निविदा संख्या 95/ईटीसीओ(गोण्डा)/2019-20: विद्युत वितरण खण्ड, बहराइच के अन्तर्गत 132 केवीओ निनारा पर प्रकाश व्यवस्था सुदृढ़ करने सम्बन्धी कार्य। घरोहर राशि रु 2000.00 निविदा भाग-1 खोलने की तिथि 14.08.2019 को 15.00 बजे, निविदा प्रपत्र मूल्य रु 236.00 (कर सहित)। (41) ई-निविदा संख्या 96/ईटीसीओ(गोण्डा)/2019-20: विद्युत वितरण खण्ड, बहराइच के अन्तर्गत 132 केवीओ निनारा पर प्रकाश व्यवस्था सुदृढ़ करने सम्बन्धी कार्य। घरोहर राशि रु 2000.00 निविदा भाग-1 खोलने की तिथि 14.08.2019 को 15.00 बजे, निविदा प्रपत्र मूल्य रु 236.00 (कर सहित)। (42) ई-निविदा संख्या 97/ईटीसीओ(गोण्डा)/2019-20: विद्युत वितरण खण्ड, बहराइच के अन्तर्गत 132 केवीओ निनारा पर प्रकाश व्यवस्था सुदृढ़ करने सम्बन्धी कार्य। घरोहर राशि रु 2000.00 निविदा भाग-1 खोलने की तिथि 14.08.2019 को 15.00 बजे, निविदा प्रपत्र मूल्य रु 236.00 (कर सहित)। (43) ई-निविदा संख्या 98/ईटीसीओ(गोण्डा)/2019-20: विद्युत वितरण खण्ड, बहराइच के अन्तर्गत 132 केवीओ निनारा पर प्रकाश व्यवस्था सुदृढ़ करने सम्बन्धी कार्य। घरोहर राशि रु 2000.00 निविदा भाग-1 खोलने की तिथि 14.08.2019 को 15.00 बजे, निविदा प्रपत्र मूल्य रु 236.00 (कर सहित)। (44) ई-निविदा संख्या 99/ईटीसीओ(गोण्डा)/2019-20: विद्युत वितरण खण्ड, बहराइच के अन्तर्गत 132 केवीओ निनारा पर प्रकाश व्यवस्था सुदृढ़ करने सम्बन्धी कार्य। घरोहर राशि रु 2000.00 निविदा भाग-1 खोलने की तिथि 14.08.2019 को 15.00 बजे, निविदा प्रपत्र मूल्य रु 236.00 (कर सहित)। (45) ई-निविदा संख्या 100/ईटीसीओ(गोण्डा)/2019-20: विद्युत वितरण खण्ड, बहराइच के अन्तर्गत 132 केवीओ निनारा पर प्रकाश व्यवस्था सुदृढ़ करने सम्बन्धी कार्य। घरोहर राशि रु 2000.00 निविदा भाग-1 खोलने की तिथि 14.08.2019 को 15.00 बजे, निविदा प्रपत्र मूल्य रु 236.00 (कर सहित)। (46) ई-निविदा संख्या 101/ईटीसीओ(गोण्डा)/2019-20: विद्युत वितरण खण्ड, बहराइच के अन्तर्गत 132 केवीओ निनारा पर प्रकाश व्यवस्था सुदृढ़ करने सम्बन्धी कार्य। घरोहर राशि रु 2000.00 निविदा भाग-1 खोलने की तिथि 14.08.2019 को 15.00 बजे, निविदा प्रपत्र मूल्य रु 236.00 (कर सहित)। (47) ई-निविदा संख्या 102/ईटीसीओ(गोण्डा)/2019-20: विद्युत वितरण खण्ड, बहराइच के अन्तर्गत 132 केवीओ निनारा पर प्रकाश व्यवस्था सुदृढ़ करने सम्बन्धी कार्य। घरोहर राशि रु 2000.00 निविदा भाग-1 खोलने की तिथि 14.08.2019 को 15.00 बजे, निविदा प्रपत्र मूल्य रु 236.00 (कर सहित)। (48) ई-निविदा संख्या 103/ईटीसीओ(गोण्डा)/2019-20: विद्युत वितरण खण्ड, बहराइच के अन्तर्गत 132 केवीओ निनारा पर प्रकाश व्यवस्था सुदृढ़ करने सम्बन्धी कार्य। घरोहर राशि रु 2000.00 निविदा भाग-1 खोलने की तिथि 14.08.2019 को 15.00 बजे, निविदा प्रपत्र मूल्य रु 236.00 (कर सहित)। (49) ई-निविदा संख्या 104/ईटीसीओ(गोण्डा)/2019-20: विद्युत वितरण खण्ड, बहराइच के अन्तर्गत 132 केवीओ निनारा पर प्रकाश व्यवस्था सुदृढ़ करने सम्बन्धी कार्य। घरोहर राशि रु 2000.00 निविदा भाग-1 खोलने की तिथि 14.08.2019 को 15.00 बजे, निविदा प्रपत्र मूल्य रु 236.00 (कर सहित)। (50) ई-निविदा संख्या 105/ईटीसीओ(गोण्डा)/2019-20: विद्युत वितरण खण्ड, बहराइच के अन्तर्गत 132 केवीओ निनारा पर प्रकाश व्यवस्था सुदृढ़ करने सम्बन्धी कार्य। घरोहर राशि रु 2000.00 निविदा भाग-1 खोलने की तिथि 14.08.2019 को 15.00 बजे, निविदा प्रपत्र मूल्य रु 236.00 (कर सहित)। (51) ई-निविदा संख्या 106/ईटीसीओ(गोण्डा)/2019-20: विद्युत वितरण खण्ड, बहराइच के अन्तर्गत 132 केवीओ निनारा पर प्रकाश व्यवस्था सुदृढ़ करने सम्बन्धी कार्य। घरोहर राशि रु 2000.00 निविदा भाग-1 खोलने की तिथि 14.08.2019 को 15.00 बजे, निविदा प्रपत्र मूल्य रु 236.00 (कर सहित)। (52) ई-निविदा संख्या 107/ईटीसीओ(गोण्डा)/2019-20: विद्युत वितरण खण्ड, बहराइच के अन्तर्गत 132 केवीओ निनारा पर प्रकाश व्यवस्था सुदृढ़ करने सम्बन्धी कार्य। घरोहर राशि रु 2000.00 निविदा भाग-1 खोलने की तिथि 14.08.2019 को 15.00 बजे, निविदा प्रपत्र मूल्य रु 236.00 (कर सहित)। (53) ई-निविदा संख्या 108/ईटीसीओ(गोण्डा)/2019-20: विद्युत वितरण खण्ड, बहराइच के अन्तर्गत 132 केवीओ निनारा पर प्रकाश व्यवस्था सुदृढ़ करने सम्बन्धी कार्य। घरोहर राशि रु 2000.00 निविदा भाग-1 खोलने की तिथि 14.08.2019 को 15.00 बजे, निविदा प्रपत्र मूल्य रु 236.00 (कर सहित)। (54) ई-निविदा संख्या 109/ईटीसीओ(गोण्डा)/2019-20: विद्युत वितरण खण्ड, बहराइच के अन्तर्गत 132 केवीओ निनारा पर प्रकाश व्यवस्था सुदृढ़ करने सम्बन्धी कार्य। घरोहर राशि रु 2000.00 निविदा भाग-1 खोलने की तिथि 14.08.2019 को 15.00 बजे, निविदा प्रपत्र मूल्य रु 236.00 (कर सहित)। (55) ई-निविदा संख्या 110/ईटीसीओ(गोण्डा)/2019-20

# FLOOD FURY



One-horned rhinoceros seen moving to an elevated area following floods due to incessant monsoon rainfall in Kaziranga National Park, on Tuesday PTI

Flood situation remained grim in parts of North-East and Bihar as the toll mounted to 44, with nearly 70 lakh people affected, even as north India witnessed widespread rainfall

## Unusual heavy rain in Nepal led to flash floods in Bihar: Nitish

PTI ■ PATNA

Unusual torrential rainfall in catchment areas in Nepal and subsequent massive discharge of water in rivers led to flash floods in Bihar where 25 people have lost their lives in the last few days while more than one lakh people have been evacuated, Chief Minister Nitish Kumar told the Assembly on Tuesday.

A total of 25.72 lakh people have been affected by the natural calamity so far, he said. In a statement, Kumar said floods normally struck north Bihar in August or, sometimes, in September, but this time they came a month earlier primarily because of unusually heavy rainfall in the Terai region of the neighbouring country.

For the last three-four days, the Terai region of Nepal has been lashed by rainfalls ranging between 280-300 mm which was many times higher than the 50 mm which is considered normal for the area during this time of the year. As a result, several rivers in Bihar like Kosi, Bagmati and Mahananda have been in spate, the Chief Minister said in the House.

Twelve districts Madhubani, Sitamarhi, Sheohar, East and West Champaran, Supaul, Darbhanga, Muzaffarpur, Katihar, Purnea, Kishanganj and Araria have been affected by the floods, the CM added.

He cited the example of the catchment area for Kamala river in Nepal which received 203.60-



People cross a flooded street in Madhubani district PTI

319.80 mm of rainfall on July 12-13. This led to a massive discharge of water in the river which passes through Jayanagar in Madhubani district.

Water has inundated a road bridge in Jayanagar while in Jhanjharpur water level at a rail bridge has reached 54.50 metres, which is higher than the all-time record of 54.34 registered in 1987.

The Kamala Balan embankment has been breached at six places, affecting several blocks of Madhubani and Darbhanga districts. Water level in the Bagmati has broken previous records at several places affecting people in Sheohar, Sitamarhi and Muzaffarpur districts. All embankments

along the Bagmati have, however, so far remained unharmed, he added.

Besides, a dam over Khiroi river burst in Darbhanga district affecting many villages. Excessive water discharge in Mahananda has inundated large parts of Kishanganj district. All embankments in the Mahananda basin are, however, secure till now, Kumar added. Till 10 am Tuesday, 25 people have died in the floods and instructions have been issued for prompt payment of ex-gratia to the next of their kin, he said.

The flood-hit area covers 555 Panchayats of 78 blocks spread across these districts. Rescue work is being carried out by 796 personnel equipped with 125 motor boats.

Besides 26 teams of NDRF and SDRF are engaged in the rescue operations and so far 1.25 lakh people have been evacuated from the marooned areas, the Chief Minister said.

For those displaced by floods, 199 relief camps have been set up which are at present inhabited by 1.16 lakh people. Their food is being prepared at 676 community kitchens. Instructions are in place for setting up more relief camps and community kitchens if such a need arises, he added.

Good quality of food and drinking water is being ensured and so is availability of bleaching powder and chlorine tablets, ORS and anti-diarrhea drugs, he said.

## Have to eat rats to survive, claim locals in affected village

**Katihar:** Locals in Dangi Tola village of Katihar district in Bihar claimed they have no option but to eat rats as floods have wreaked havoc and destroyed houses in the region.

Around 300 families have been affected by floods in the area. Speaking to ANI, Talla Murmur, a local, said, "We have to eat rats as our house has been destroyed by the flood. There are no arrangements for us. The Government has given no facility to us. We are dependent on rats only to fill our stomachs. All my family members eat rats as they are easy to find in the floods."

"I have come here to catch a mouse with my grandfather as we don't have anything else to eat," said Murmur's grandson Vijendra. However, Block

Development Officer of Kadwa constituency, Rakesh Kumar Gupta said officials are unaware of the conditions claimed by the locals.

"We have no information regarding the condition of the villagers in the flood-affected areas. Even if they are eating rats, maybe it is likely that the tribal people might be eating it," he said.

Meanwhile, Congress MLA Shakeel Ahmad Khan said he has written a letter to Chief Minister Nitish Kumar, requesting him to provide assistance.

Bihar is witnessing floods as the water levels of several rivers have been rising following heavy rainfall in the past few days.

Many villages of Bihar's Araria, Darbhanga and Madhubani districts are flooded due to the heavy downpour. Agencies

## Extremely heavy rain forecast in Kerala, red alerts in 6 dists

**Thiruvananthapuram:** With the weather office predicting extremely heavy rains in the coming days for Kerala, a red alert has been issued in the state's six districts, including Idukki and Malappuram, from July 18.

The red alert, denoting likelihood of very heavy to extremely heavy rain, has been issued in Idukki, Malappuram, Wayanad, Kannur, Ernakulam and Thrissur districts on different days from July 18-20.

Extremely heavy rain — over 204 mm rains in 24 hours, have been forecast, a IMD bulletin said. The second spell of the South West Monsoon is starting Wednesday and there is a possibility of formation of low pressure in the Bay of Bengal. Kerala State Disaster Management Authority sources said. Officials have asked to open control rooms at taluk level. Fishermen have been advised not to venture into the sea. PTI

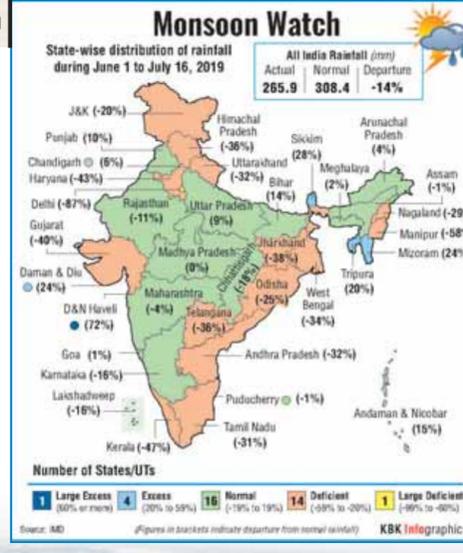
An aerial view of flooded Majuli, an island in River Brahmaputra, Assam on Tuesday AP



## 90% of Kaziranga National Park submerged

**Kaziranga/Guwahati:** With over 150 anti-poaching camps in the Kaziranga National Park affected by the Assam floods, the authorities are working round-the-clock to check poaching at the UNESCO World Heritage site, officials said.

The staff and security personnel are performing their duties using mechanised and country boats to deal with any kind of eventualities, they said. Ninety per cent of the Kaziranga National Park in Golaghat and



## ACROSS INDIA

**IN ASSAM,** the deluge spread to 30 of the State's 33 districts, affecting nearly 43 lakh people and claiming 15 lives, besides submerging rhino habitats the Kaziranga National Park, Pobitora Wildlife Sanctuary and the Manas National Park

The water level of the Brahmaputra rose above the danger level across the State

The death toll **IN BIHAR** floods mounted to 24, with 25.66 lakh people reeling from the deluge in 12 districts of the State following incessant rains in neighbouring country Nepal

Five more children drowned in two separate incidents in East Champaran district, but a senior official of the State disaster management department said they were not counted among the flood casualties

At least 1,000 families had to be evacuated in Lunglei district of **MIZORAM** as raging waters of the Khawthlangtuipei river flooded 32 villages, while rain-related incidents led to the death of five people in the State, officials said

At least 32 villages in the Tiabung area of south Mizoram's Lunglei district were flooded by the river Khawthlangtuipei. Around 700 homes were submerged in the district and 800 families had to be shifted to safer places, the officials said

Nearly 200 families were evacuated from central Mizoram's Serchhip district, they said

Incessant rains across **MEGHALAYA** for the last seven days and rising waters of two rivers flooded the plains of West Garo Hills district, affecting at least 1.14 lakh people

A total of 57,700 people, residents of 50 villages in Demdema block and over 66,400, residents of 104 villages in Selsella block have been affected due to the floods, they said

The flood situation in **TRIPURA** showed signs of improvement as Khowai and Haora rivers started receding, officials said

Personnel of the NDRF and security forces rescued a number of people in the flood-affected Khowai and West Tripura districts, they said

**IN MAHARASHTRA,** 75 villages along river banks in Palghar and Thane districts have been put on alert as the water level of two major dams in the region are close to the overflow mark, a senior civic official said

As many as **119 TEAMS OF THE NATIONAL DISASTER RESPONSE FORCE (NDRF)** have been deployed in flood-hit areas of the country, including Assam and Bihar, and a 24x7 control room has been set up in Delhi to closely monitor the regions, an official statement said

The teams, each comprising around 45 personnel, are equipped with boats, divers and other flood rescue-related equipment, it said



## Fair probe

No matter what the amendments, the NIA must first free itself as an extension counter of political vendetta



The problem with investigative agencies in our country is that the perception of their toothlessness or subservience to the powers that be clouds their efficacy and compromises trust. This explains why, despite the appreciable urge of the Modi 2.0 government to evolve a zero tolerance module against terror, the passage of the National Investigation Agency (Amendment) Bill, 2019, saw massive protests from the Opposition. And in the end will do nothing to restore lost credibility. True, the ambit of investigation now includes cyber

crimes, human trafficking, fake currency and probes against Indian interests on foreign soil and the amendments are intended to establish a coordinated inquiry process but the Opposition fears probes could be misused to turn India into a police State. Besides, the creation of special courts for adjudicating such crimes and ensuring their speedy disposal has also raised some eyebrows as has the fear that centrist powers may overrun States. No matter what the assurances by Home Minister Amit Shah or the concerns expressed by Congress MP Manish Tewari, the fact remains that both are or have been part of ruling parties which have used investigations as a coercive tool for votebank management and in cases of terror, given them a frighteningly communal or religious tilt than developing a clinical approach. Political vendetta unleashed by the State has often been used to buy support, please respective votebanks and constituencies and build suitable narratives. This theory has gained further credence simply because there has been no closure of some of our most blighted terror cases. And leaving us wondering still if somebody had committed a conspiracy indeed or nobody knows what happened. Particularly, in the current context of simplified binaries between nationalists and anti-nationalists and a deep distrust of minorities, that is being reinforced by a hegemonic endorsement of Modi 2.0, there are bound to be questions about intent. Simply because past records show nothing to elevate the status of NIA as an independent entity but an extension counter of the ruling regime's priorities. It will surely take more than a reassuring speech in the House to change this presumptive perspective and one the new Modi government has to mean in actionable terms. For each failure of investigating agencies only ends up ridiculing our justice system.

The NIA itself doesn't have an enviable track record, set up as it was in 2009 by the then United Progressive Alliance (UPA) government after the Mumbai terror attacks, which claimed 166 lives. Then when it came to the Mecca Masjid, Malegaon and Samjhauta blasts, suspects have been either acquitted or booked depending on which side of the political divide they were on. For example, in the Mecca Masjid blast case, questions remain as to who killed the nine people and injured scores of others, considering that all the suspects were acquitted. Despite NIA's investigations, several key witnesses turned hostile weakening the case, either because of the agency's loopholes, its incompetence or counter-pressures from the political party or vested interests concerned. Three agencies — Hyderabad police, CBI and NIA — had probed the case and yet each seemed to work at cross purposes with each other, compounding complexities instead of ensuring a logical conclusion. The Hyderabad police arrested 20 Muslim youths but the CBI didn't consider that report worthy enough and focussed on a common strand between the Malegaon, Samjhauta, Ajmer Dargah and Mecca Masjid blasts. While a Jaipur NIA court convicted RSS worker Devendra Gupta for the Ajmer blast, he was cleared in the Mecca Masjid blast. Both Jaipur and Hyderabad NIA courts rejected Swami Aseemanand's confession, the critical mass on which the cases rested. Aseemanand himself changed his statement, claiming it was made under CBI pressure. So no matter what the amendments entail or not, there needs to be a foolproof process of inquiry, beginning with confessions and cross verifications with both the offenders and investigating officers and recordings. Also, the political to and fro — the Opposition assigning motives to the inquiry process and wanting to know why legislation needed to be hurried in the Budget session itself, and the BJP insisting that it was time to remove inconsistencies in anti-terror operations — only exposes how politics overshadows the need to curb terror forcefully. National security must be shielded from each other's agenda-driven campaigns. One wonders why there can never be a political consensus on tackling terror, assuming all parties are nationalists? Don't the Government and the Opposition equally owe an answer to the victims of terrorist violence?

## Time to split

Is dividing India's cricket captaincy as part of a post-World Cup rebuild a good idea?



The unique thing about the England team that won the World Cup, questionably according to many, was that there were two captains on the field. While Eoin Morgan, one-time Irish cricket star, lifted the trophy on behalf of his adopted nation, among those who celebrated with the team was its batting talisman Joe Root, the captain of the English test cricket team. Morgan has completely focussed on white ball cricket and given up his ambition to play test cricket while Root continues playing white ball cricket but

without the stress of captaincy. And this has led to the English coming to dominate both the long and short versions of the game. Many other nations, India included, have tried such split captaincy. When MS Dhoni quit test cricket, Virat Kohli became test captain while Dhoni remained captain of the shorter versions. Yet, this split captaincy didn't win fans among cricket administrators and followers in India and Kohli was soon elevated to being captain of all three formats of the game. Australia had a bit more success with the split captaincy format, having a separate captain for its T20 side very early on, even though right now Aaron Finch is the team's undisputed captain in all formats.

So what has changed now that the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) is reconsidering splitting the captaincy and is it a good idea? Should Rohit Sharma, India's explosive opening batsman, become the captain of the Indian team in white-ball cricket? Sharma's success as a captain can be judged by the success of his leadership of the Mumbai Indians T20 franchise in the Indian Premier League. Some also claim that Virat Kohli is being overburdened with captaincy, and as undoubtedly one of the best batsmen in the world, he is wilting under the pressure. This is possibly one reason that he quit the captaincy of his IPL franchise team, the Royal Challengers Bengaluru. On the other side, many would argue that a common leader allows all team members to walk the same talk rather than be confused by divergent voices. Will this then be antithetical to unity? Only if you look at it egoistically.

# Defenceless defence

The Budgetary allocation to the armed forces has been stagnant as Governments have failed to address the concern that modern warfare needs upgradation



GEN ASHOK K MEHTA

When former Defence Minister Nirmala Sitharaman — one of four in the Modi 1.0 government — presented her maiden finance budget, hope and expectation about the defence allocation had rocketed, especially after she flagged national security and economic goals as her government's priorities. The reality was different. The grandstanding of national security — rich on symbolism and rhetoric, hollow in providing resources for the jawans to fight another Kargil whose 20th anniversary is being commemorated with high drama — is delusion. Nothing has changed, no lessons learnt especially after Army Chief Gen Ved Malik said, "We will fight with what we have" when surprised by Pakistani incursions. Unfortunately Air Chief Marshal B S Dhanoa expressed precisely similar resolve after Balakot when confronted with a question about a two-front war by a journalist. In the catastrophic 1962 war, Lt Col M S Rikh, Commanding Officer 2 Rajput at Namka Chu, said the same: "We will fight with what we have". The infection has spread among the higher military leadership, which has made a fetish of fighting under-resourced even as governments have milked the armed forces for electoral gains. The Modi government thinks that its three quarters-baked One Rank One Pay (OROP) is a substitute for modernisation. Sitharaman's defence allocation got the thumbs down when it made a token increase of six per cent over the last budget with hardly any change from the interim budget in February. "Soldiers got a raw deal from Sitharaman," said veterans.

In her several media interviews, the solitary question on defence allocation was standard: "You were defence minister; why no increase in defence budget". Her reply was also standard: "There is an increase customs duty on imports...MoD is ok with the allocation." At the India Today TV's budget conclave with India Inc, she was asked how difficult it was for her in the MoD. Smilingly she answered: "The Generals are easy to deal with" — a backhanded compliment with a message: "You will continue to fight with what you have". Militaries fight with essentials.

When the suave and articulate Arun Jaitley was Defence Minister, his views on the Defence Budget were revealing. In his second budget presentation, when asked on *Doordarshan* why there was only a nominal hike in defence, he replied: "I can give them more. But they can't spend the money". In the next budget, to the same question by the same person on the same channel, he said: "I don't have the money". Incidentally, Jaitley, not Sitharaman was the first Finance Minister to skip mentioning defence allocation in the budget speech. Just before the last election he told an *Aaj Tak* national security conclave that defence budget would increase once the tax net expanded and GDP grew. This esoteric method-



ology of defence allocation was confirmed by Defence Secretary Ajay Prasad on *Doordarshan*. When asked about inadequacy of funds for modernisation, he replied: "Towards December, I usually expect a call from the Finance Secretary asking MoD to return ₹ eight-10,000 crore."

The plea to increase the defence budget this year was made in Parliament by Congress members — soldier-politician Amarinder Singh, Manish Tewari, Shashi Tharoor and Preeti Kaur. Tewari quoted from a parliamentary panel report that defence expenditure had fallen in 2017-18 to 1.6 per cent of GDP and in 2019-20, the interim budget had declined further to 1.52 per cent GDP, the lowest since 1962. Defence Capital account has also reduced from 45.3 per cent in 2009-10 to 31 per cent in 2019-20. Returning to Sitharaman's budget, she said as defence had immediate requirement of modernisation and upgradation which is a national priority, "I am exempting defence imports from customs duty (started in 2016)". Besides, the revenue head of salary accounts and defence pension is not included in the defence budget, the crux of funding as the minister cited, is in modernisation of the armed forces. When the interim budget allotted a meagre increase in capital account,

PRIME MINISTER MODI HAS WAXED ELOQUENT ON THE SOLDIER, BUT NEVER SAID A WORD ON HIS DEFENCE BUDGETS. NEXT WEEK, KARGIL WILL BE SHOWCASED. SITHARAMAN'S PITHY REMARK, THAT GENERALS ARE EASY TO DEAL WITH, WILL HAUNT SERVICE CHIEFS WHO WILL FIGHT WITH WHAT THEY HAVE

defence Minister Sitharaman promised to take up the issue with the Finance Ministry.

The capital outlay this fiscal is ₹1,08,248 crore, which is 30 per cent of the total government capital expenditure. The IAF has received 38 per cent of the capital account amounting to ₹39,303 crore. It has a committed liability of ₹47,400 crore for Rafale fighter and S 400 AD system. It has paid up ₹40,000 crore of the ₹59,000 crore of Dassault. While the Navy's share is ₹23,156 crore, its committed liabilities amount to ₹25,461 crore. The Army which used to get the dominant share, around 51 per cent, has slumped to 35 per cent to ₹29,461 crore. It has reported a shortfall of ₹12,000 crore - ₹6,300 crore in capital and ₹5,700 crore in revenue (non salary account). The cumulative capital account shortfall is ₹25,000 crore without factoring any new projects.

The MoD has a way about explaining deficiencies in funding. It says it is bound by budgetary ceilings laid down by Finance Ministry, adding that the reduced allocations were passed on uniformly to all the three services. Here's the rub. Who is prioritising capital allocations in the absence of the CDS? Is it the Defence Secretary? Or the new czar of the Defence Planning Committee, NSA A K Doval?

This brings us back to the basics: the lacunae in the defence planning process.

"Unless the Defence Minister has issued her operational directive to the armed forces this month (one has not been given to them for more than a decade; in any case, the services/Integrated Defence Staff scripts it), the single services work independently along their own strategic perspective to evolve roles and missions without any prior strategic and technological environment assessment," said the *Strategic Defence and Security Review*. Is India going to fight a two or two and a half front war? Only former Army Chief, Gen Deepak Kapoor knows as he evolved this scenario in 2009. The force levels to match the threats and challenges will emerge from the SDSR, not Kapoor's strategic thinking.

Prime Minister Modi has waxed eloquent on Uri, Balakot and the soldier, but never said a word on his defence budgets. Next week, Kargil will be showcased with great symbolism. Sitharaman's pithy remark that Generals are easy to deal with, will haunt Service Chiefs who will fight with what they have. (The writer is a retired Major General of the Indian Army and founder member of the Defence Planning Staff, currently the revamped Integrated Defence Staff)

## SOUNDBITE

The BJP came to power by winning the elections, then why is it scared of students elections and their voices? Isn't it dictatorship?



Congress General Secretary —Priyanka Gandhi

If you want good services, you have to pay for it. Government does not have money



Road Transport and Highways Minister —Nitin Gadkari

We should celebrate our diversity, we do in New Zealand, I'm proud of that and so I obviously take a very different view to President Trump



New Zealand PM —Jacinda Ardern

You attempt to do justice to somebody else's life and somebody else's story and somebody else's character, and that becomes you..



Bollywood actress —Sara Ali Khan

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Don't abuse NIA

Sir — Apropos to your report "Lok Sabha passes bill to give NIA more teeth" (TP 16 July). Though on the face of it, giving more teeth seems to be good but it should not be allowed to target people from a particular community in the name of fighting terror. While participating to push the amendments, the Home Minister should have shown some maturity while handling those people who have some reservations. As a person holding high office once occupied by stalwarts like Sardar Patel, Lal Bahadur Shastri, Gulzari Lal Nanda, L K Advani, his gesture and body language should not mirror election rallies. He could have worked towards passing the Bill unidely instead of forcing division and making claims of anti and pro terrorism which make such an important amendment a political one. Also, by enlarging its power to more areas, it should not be allowed to become another version of CBI whose reputation has declined rapidly. However, merely empowering NIA or any other agencies cannot prevent terror acts which need measures to prevent acts similar to the one that happened

in Pulwama, a plank later used in the election battle.

N Nagarajan  
Via email

### No more gentlemanly

Sir —It refers to "Fair game?" Not only New Zealand fans but cricket fans and former cricketers all over the world are

### Winner takes it all

England are World Champions. That too after winning a cliff-hanger by a single run in a super-over. The thrilling six-ball shootout happened when the match was tied at 241 runs — making fans delirious at Lord's. It might have taken them 44 years, but England has finally done it. Neither a tied game nor a spirited New Zealand could stop them from bringing the trophy home. It finally took a super over for England to be crowned winners of the 2019 World Cup.

However, the match result does not tell the entire story. Much to its dismay, New Zealand discovered that fine margins matter — and how! The Black Caps put up a score of 241/8 in their allotted 50 overs. England, too, reached that score but not before losing all its wickets.

Then came the Super Over. England, having posted a total of 15 runs in the critical over, must have thought it had an advantage over New Zealand. But, much to the chagrin of the English, New Zealand also reached that score. The hosts were, however, crowned the world champions on the basis of the number of boundaries they had



hit: 26, compared to New Zealand's 17. Surely, the decision was taken in accordance with a bizarre ICC rule.

KS Padmanabhan  
Chennai

scored six instead of five runs as per ICC law no. 19.8. gave the team a huge edge. Luck deserted the Kiwis. Hopefully ICC will look seriously into this besides the umpiring standards which were not great throughout the tournament. ICC needs to create a bigger and better pool of umpires for any of its future event.

Bal Govind  
Noida

### Overcoming pollution

Sir — There has been an alarming rise in air pollution levels. In the past, it was rare to spot a person wearing a mask on the streets but now it has become a common sight due to the health risks involved. If it escalates at this pace, the future of our nation will be bleak. As responsible citizens, we must ideally adopt alternative measures such as shifting to Electric Vehicles. Small steps like this will help us ensure a better tomorrow.

Adrian David  
Chennai

Send your feedback to: [letterstopioneer@gmail.com](mailto:letterstopioneer@gmail.com)

FIRST COLUMN

## Plan early for a happy retirement

An independent US institute has recommended saving 10 per cent of our salaries from our early 20s to live comfortably



HIMA BINDU KOTA

People are living longer in these times and this can be considered both good and bad news. According to the latest WHO report in 2018, the life expectancy of men has increased from 64.2 years in 2015 to 67.4 years in 2018, and an average woman in India lives to the age of 70.3 years. However, the catch is that people are living longer with disability and illness. All of us, whether we are in our early 20s, 30s, or 40s, will age and reach a stage of life where we would retire and stop working for a living and may continue to have a long life albeit with some diseases. And here comes the worrisome thought, "Am I saving enough for my retirement?" and "How much of my salary should I set aside for a comfortable life after retirement?" So, what is the magic number representing the percentage savings from our salary that would make our retirement easier and happier for us?

While we try to save as much as possible for our retirement, during our working years, we feel pinched from all directions. Life can be expensive even in our earning years, with kids' education, housing and medical costs going through the roof. Any kind of loans, like student loans and credit-card debt, also intrude. Often it is not easy for us to look way ahead in future and imagine what would our future income be and how long would we continue to work; what would be our preferred lifestyle after retirement; how much would healthcare cost after many decades; our longevity; and how will our investments fare many years down the line? The result is obvious confusion and sometimes, this forces us to relegate it for consideration later. Although there is no magic number that can be same for all due to several reasons like low salary for some people, longevity or higher requirement of medical care in some others, independent research by some institutions, which do not have conflict of interest, like Employee Benefits Research Institute in Washington D.C, have given a useful thumb rule of saving 10 per cent. This organisation came to the conclusion after gathering anonymous information of millions of people and their saving habits.

So, based on the thumb rule, between you and your employer, set aside at least 10 per cent of your salary for retirement. Research shows that saving 10 per cent of salary, starting in your mid-20s, cuts the risk of running out of money in retirement to about 30 per cent. If your employer contributes three per cent, then your share is at least seven per cent. If the company kicks in five per cent, then you save at least five per cent. If your employer does nothing, set aside at least 10 per cent of each salary on your own. But is the 10 per cent rule same for all? Generally, if a person decides to save for retirement early, it is safe to say that 10 per cent savings would suffice. The moment the age of starting retirement savings increases, the rate of savings should also go up. Therefore, the 10 per cent is probably not enough for all. For the late savers, the rule of 20 per cent can come handy. This rule requires that for every rupee in income needed in retirement, a retiree should save ₹20. Let's say you earn about ₹5,00,000 in a year. You would need ₹1 crore by the time you stop working to maintain the same income level afterward. If you had somehow managed to save ₹4,000 per month (10 per cent of that wage) for 40 years at 6.5 per cent interest, that would get you to slightly more than ₹91,34,250, which is close. However, young people generally earn less than older ones. And how many people save ₹48,000 a year for 40 years?

Realistically, most people need to save well over 10 per cent of their income to come close to what they need. Once you have saved enough for your retirement, the four per cent rule suggests how much you should withdraw once you get to retirement. To sustain savings in the long term, it recommends that retirees withdraw about four per cent of their money from their retirement account in the first year, then use that as a baseline to withdraw an inflation-adjusted amount in each subsequent year. More conservative people should think of three per cent withdrawal rate. Although several rules are given by different financial planners and independent research agencies, retirement fund planning is very individualistic in nature.

We need to keep in mind the following steps while planning our retirement. First, develop a retirement budget and age. You have to know how much you need per month to live on. The categories of expenses, like groceries, car expenses and eating out may change significantly in retirement, but having an idea of what normal feels like before retirement is a good place to start. In addition, decide what age you plan to retire at and determine how much you will need to save in order to live a comfortable lifestyle. Achieving financial security is not possible without proper planning and commitment to save on a regular basis.

(The writer is Assistant Professor at Amity University)

I HAVE SENT MY RESIGNATION TO THE CHIEF MINISTER PUNJAB, HAS BEEN DELIVERED AT HIS OFFICIAL RESIDENCE.  
 —NAVJOT SINGH SIDHU  
 PUNJAB CABINET MINISTER

POINTCOUNTERPOINT



I'LL DECIDE ON HIS RESIGNATION ONLY TOMORROW, I'LL LOOK INTO THE CONTENTS OF THE LETTER BEFORE TAKING A DECISION  
 —AMARINDER SINGH  
 PUNJAB CM

# The great Kashmir betrayal

Kashmiris have been betrayed by their very own and such perpetrators need to be exposed so that the false image they have built among locals is shattered



BRIG ANIL GUPTA

A recent Home Ministry report has publicised a fact that was known to many but did not get due visibility in the media and hence remained confined to a few. It revealed how hardline separatist leaders received funds from abroad and utilised them for personal gains — from amassing properties to paying for foreign education of their kin. This has not only dominated the media but also raised a public outcry that the misdeeds of these leaders should reach every household in Kashmir, the people they claim to represent.

Ever since Amit Shah has occupied the all-important chair of the Union Home Minister, the Ministry has got a new fillip because of his perceived image as a doer. During his recent maiden visit to Kashmir, he minced no words in reiterating the zero tolerance policy of his government towards terror and terrorists, enunciating the need to crack down on terror funding first and ensure that the law of the land prevails.

Tightening its noose around those who were involved in terror funding, terror financing, money laundering and hawala operations, the National Investigation Agency (NIA), for the first time, under the directions of the previous Modi government, had arrested many separatist leaders, businessmen, hawala operators and close relatives of the Hurriyat leadership and put them through sustained interrogation to track the sources and origin of terror funding in Kashmir. NIA was successful in not only tracking the trail of terror funding but also revealed the beneficiaries and how terror was being sustained in the Valley apart from allowing the so-called leaders in Kashmir lead a luxurious life. The regional parties, who were heading the governments in Kashmir, turned a blind eye to this notorious malpractice because of their vested interest in continuation of terrorism in the state. How else can they explain cases of money laundering and hawala operations which were lingering on for decades together despite the registration of the cases?

This, in fact, has been the misfortune of Kashmir because the regional mainstream parties owe their political survival to separatist and extremist forces operating in the Valley. During their interrogation, the separatist leaders confessed that Pakistan was the main source of terror funding with the specific purpose of fuelling separatist sentiments among the people of Kashmir. Cross-LoC trade was one of the major sources of hawala operations and terror financing. During interrogation, Asiya Andrabi of the Dukhtar-e-Milat admitted that she had been receiving funds and donations from Pakistan and other foreign sources for organising protests by Muslim girls and women in the valley. She has used part of this money to finance the education of her son in Malaysia while a major portion of expenses is borne by Zahoor Watali, a businessman arrested for terror funding. Watali is one of the main hawala conduits who received funds from Pakistan, ISI, UAE and had floated various shell companies to disguise foreign remittances for further transfer to separatist leaders and stone-pelters in the valley. Masrat Alam, the master-mind of stone-pelters, has confessed that funds were being distributed among various Hurriyat leaders including Syed Ali Shah Geelani.

“ WHILE 'BACK TO VILLAGE 1.0' WAS A MASSIVE OUTREACH PROGRAMME AIMED AT TAKING THE ADMINISTRATION TO THE DOORSTEP OF THE VILLAGERS, ITS 2.0 VERSION SHOULD AIM AT LAUNCHING AN EFFECTIVE INFORMATION CAMPAIGN AND LINK IT TO A MASSIVE ANTI-DRUG AND ANTI-RADICALISATION DRIVE. ONE SHOULD ALSO REVIVE LOCAL FOLK GROUPS FOR SOCIAL MESSAGING ”



Shabbir Shah, another separatist leader, confessed that his hotel in Pahalgam and other businesses are financed through funds received from Pakistan. Yasin Malik, who brought together the various factions of Hurriyat under the banner of Joint Resistance Leadership (JRL), which became notorious for issuing "bandh rosters" in Kashmir, affecting the lives of common Kashmiris, confessed before the agencies that funds were received from big business houses in Kashmir and other "sources." These sustained the bandh calls, disrupting economic activities in Kashmir, which also indirectly affected the trading community of Jammu.

These funds were used to fuel unrest in the Kashmir valley and organise violent agitations and anti-India activities, which resulted in large scale violence, leading to numerous injuries and deaths of innocent civilians and security forces personnel. The funds were also used to pay stone pelters, Friday protesters, those tasked to torch schools and government buildings, particularly *panchayat ghars* and the over ground workers. Pakistan has also entrusted Hurriyat the responsibility of financing "home-grown" terror groups from the funds received by them. Thus, apart from promoting and sustaining terror in Kashmir, these leaders were also involved in the killings of Kashmiris, closure of educational institutions and encouraging local youth to join the terror ranks. Among all this they also indulged in a luxurious life of their own and financing foreign education of their wards. According to the list released by the MHA, 210 relatives of Kashmiri separatist leaders currently live abroad. The documents also mention that 112 children of the separatists study in foreign countries,

out of which 21 belong to 14 well-known separatists.

The MHA document also reveals as to how they spread hate and violence in Kashmir to further the Pakistani agenda of keeping the pot boiling and in perpetual turmoil. While they deny Kashmiris the right to live peacefully and decide their future as per their own wishes, they themselves lead a lavish lifestyle. While the separatists encourage the youth of the Valley to pick up stones and arms against security forces and join militancy, they seem to have no qualms in shielding their own family from the strife in the region by settling them not only in the metros but abroad as well. The hands of the Hurriyat leadership are soaked with the blood of innocent Kashmiris, who have the right to know about their misdeeds. This is the story of the great betrayal in Kashmir by their own and they need to be exposed so that the false image they have built in the hearts of the poor Kashmiri folk is shattered.

Sensing defeat in its design of annexing Kashmir through "religious militancy," radicalisation and *jihadi* terror, it has now resorted to destroying the future generations of Kashmir by making them drug addicts. The frequency of seizure of drug consignments in the near past must have rung the alarm bells among the concerned authorities by now. Incidentally, drug menace is not confined to the Valley but has also engulfed the border districts of Jammu and is slowly penetrating other areas. It is more alarming in the Valley because the youth there is a vulnerable target due to the prevailing circumstances. The environment is such that the youth can be easily lured and the example of post-militancy Punjab is worth noting. Radicalisation and drug-

addiction are the two major challenges staring in the face of the administration.

There is a desperate need to launch "Back to Village 2.0" in the State. While "Back to Village 1.0" was a massive outreach programme aimed at taking the administration to the doorstep of the villagers, its 2.0 version should aim at launching an effective information campaign and link it to a massive anti-drug and anti-radicalisation drive.

Apart from extensive coverage in the vernacular press, the campaign should also aim at educating the people and making them aware through audio-visual means. One is reminded of the good old days when the teams of field publicity division of the Government of India used to visit the villages with 16 mm projectors and screen documentary films. Now the technology has improved manifold. Rather than depending on in-house resources, the government should consider taking the services of professionals in the field. The films/songs should be in the local dialects to widen their reach. One should also revive local culture and use "bhandis" to promote local folk art and messaging. *Nukkad natak* (street plays) can also be staged by professional groups to give voice to the youth angst. If terror has to end and lasting peace ensured in Kashmir, the terror support network, both local and Pak-sponsored, will have to be completely eliminated. Social awareness will ensure that such elements are exposed and are unable to mislead the simple Kashmiris with anti-India propaganda and exploit the Kashmiri youth.

(The author is a Jammu based political commentator, columnist, security and strategic analyst. He can be contacted at anil5457@gmail.com)

## Where is the alternative voice?

Constructive criticism and not blind agitation is the role of an effective Opposition in a parliamentary democracy. Sadly, a counter view is missing in the 17th Lok Sabha making PM Modi look even more larger than life



KALYANI SHANKAR

The first session of the 17th Lok Sabha has begun well without much disturbance with even first-timers getting an opportunity to make their maiden speeches. While the 16th Lok Sabha saw a divided and fractured Opposition, the current one has so far seen only feeble voices with no effort to speak unitedly. This could be because the Opposition is yet to recover from the blow it has received in the elections.

While any democracy needs a stable government, it also needs a credible and strong Opposition. Its main role is to question the government of the day and hold it accountable to the public. It is the Opposition that puts rein on the power of the gov-

ernment of the day and checks it. It is indeed a well-established fact that political parties with massive majorities and weak opposition have adversely impacted crucial issues.

However, when Rajiv Gandhi came to power after the assassination of Indira Gandhi in 1984 with a brute majority of 415 seats, the Opposition was weak in numbers but not silent. A half a dozen leaders from various Opposition parties, including Madhu Dandavate, Somnath Chatterjee, Inderjit Gupta, Unnikrishnan and Jaipal Reddy, had effectively exposed the Bofors gun deal scam, which really cost Rajiv Gandhi his government. Prior to that, when Indira Gandhi lost the elections in 1977, she had fielded vocal leaders like C M Stephan. Unfortunately, the current Opposition does not have many such leaders who could hold forth in Parliament and outside. This is indeed the real concern. In a blog post titled, *The frightening and scary scenario of India's Opposition*, BJP leader Arun Jaitley, calling the Opposition camp "fractured," pointed out that they have no agreement on either a leader or pro-



gramme and the common point between them is just to "get rid of one person (Modi)." By failing to unite, the Opposition had gifted a whopping 352 seats to the BJP in 2019.

The muted voice of the Opposition is also linked to the phenomenal growth of the BJP emerging as a pan-national party in the past decade or so. That is primarily because of the Congress' inability to function as an effective opposition. The grand old party is still living in its past glory without realising that the voter profile has changed and the

party has lost its connect with the new voters. Rahul Gandhi, though younger than Prime Minister Modi, is unable to attract his youthful peers. The Congress is yet to introspect what went wrong in the 2019 polls or make efforts to reinvent itself. On the contrary, Rahul Gandhi's resignation has plunged the party into a leadership crisis from which it is yet to come out. The Congress is yet to build up the party at the grassroots level to match the BJP. Only boycotting Parliament and hitting the streets are not enough. Congressmen need to connect with

the masses and educate them on issues that could set the agenda for the next round of Lok Sabha elections. Above all, even after the defeat in the polls, the Opposition remains divided as is evident from the way the Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP) leader Mayawati broke her alliance with the Samajwadi Party (SP) recently. The Congress-JD (S) coalition is crumbling in Karnataka. Also many Opposition leaders are vulnerable, facing several court cases and are so caught up in their survival that they can hardly prepare an alternative blueprint of governance to go the people with.

The second reason for the current state of affairs is the gradual demise of the Left parties. From ruling in three States earlier, the Left parties have been practically decimated in its strongholds of Kerala, West Bengal and Tripura. The comrades have long been split between a highly intellectual circle and a rural movement with the result they are gradually losing their hold on both. They also have failed to re-orient themselves to the current day requirements of the vot-

ers without realising that chanting secularism and class struggle no more attract them.

As for the rest of the parties like the SP, BSP, RJD, Trinamool Congress, NCP, DMK, JD (S), Shiv Sena, TRS, TDP and most Northeastern regional parties, they are led by regional satraps, who believe in family rule and have no worldview. The lack of opposition is indeed a great tragedy in India today and a worrisome factor in a democracy. The Congress had it going for six decades dealing with a weak Opposition. A complete decimation of Opposition parties is not good for the country. Constructive criticism and not blind agitation is the role of an effective Opposition in a parliamentary democracy.

It is quite clear that political power equations have shifted heavily towards the BJP. Right now Prime Minister Modi is enjoying a larger than life image like Nehru once did or Indira Gandhi. Time has come now for the Opposition to rise.

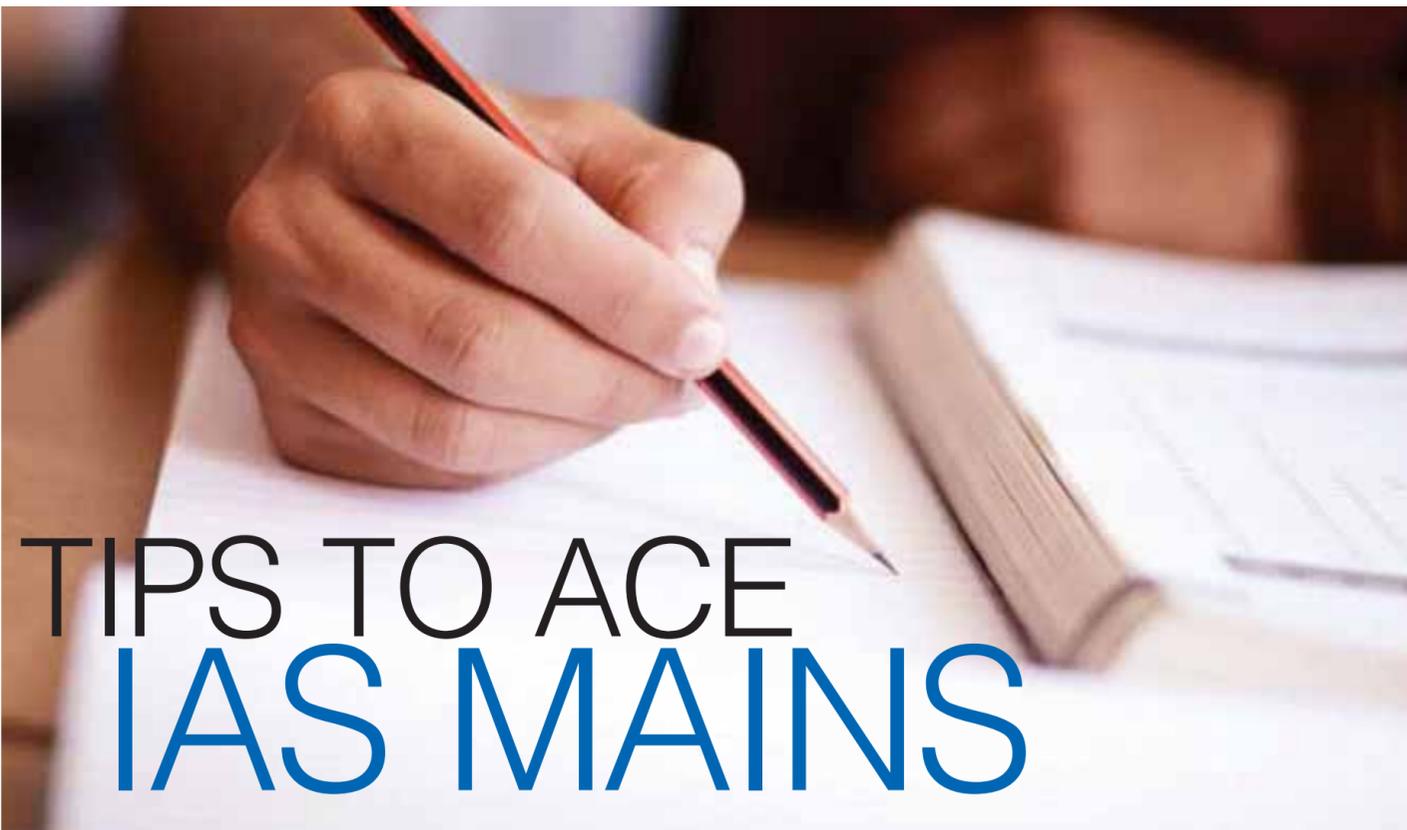
(The writer is a senior political commentator and syndicated columnist)



FOREIGN EYE

### PAK BEATS FINALISTS IN LEAGUE BUT NEEDS 20 FRESH FACES

This World Cup witnessed many thrilling games and upsets, and threw up many young stars, while bringing the curtain down on the careers of others. For Pakistan, the experience was mixed: they lost some easy games initially, but bounced back to win four on the trot. They fell agonisingly short of the semi-finals, but could still take consolation from the fact that they had beaten both the finalists in league matches. However, they need to plan ahead by grooming the best 20 players for the next World Cup edition in 2023. (Dawn editorial)



# TIPS TO ACE IAS MAINS

With less than three months left for the civil services mains, AK MISHRA tells aspirers how to get that perfect score

A full proof preparation strategy for the most coveted exam of the country will play a major role in writing answers for the exam as well as the success rate in the competition.

After appearing for IAS Prelims exam 2019, many students are waiting for its results but those who are confident must have started the preparation for the mains exam. However, the prelims exam was quite unpredictable and had surprised many students as well as the experts. The weightage of the questions had shifted a lot from analytical to current-affairs based questions. So no one can predict the upcoming IAS Mains 2019. We being an academy which is imparting quality education and providing a helping hand for all the civil service aspirants from the past 25 years can give you effective preparation tips after the discussion with a panel of experts and successful candidates.

Here are some vital tips to master your answer writing skills for the upcoming IAS Mains exam:

- Familiarity with the complete syllabus.
- Give equal importance to each subject and topic.
- Don't forget to read current affairs on a daily basis.
- Work on answer writing skills
- Start thinking as a problem's perspective rather than a common person as you are going to be the administrator.

To become a master in answer writing for such competitive exam requires a tremendous amount of practice. So students must begin with making notes on all the important subjects and topics. After getting a sound hold on subjects, they are advised to begin solving the questions.

Now these are some important tips which help you during your

**INTRODUCE THE SUBJECT IN A SHORT PARAGRAPH, GET TO THE MAIN POINT OF THE ANSWER. AVOID GIVING LENGTHY PARAGRAPHS AND INSTEAD OF GIVING POINTERS, TRY TO ANSWER THE QUESTION IN BRIEF. TRY TO CONCLUDE THE ANSWER ON A POSITIVE NOTE**

actual examination phase for mains.

- **Read all the questions carefully:** Always read your questions properly and re-read it again until the time you totally understood it. You must spend approximately eight-nine minutes so try to understand the question within one minute. Understand and underline the keywords, you must weave your answers around.
- **Analyse all the important aspects:** Having understood the exact demand of the question, analyse all the aspects that must be mentioned, start from giving the background details to explaining further subject further in detail. Don't just stick to one issue in depth and analysis. Don't forget to recall all the current affairs, facts, and figures related to the topic.
- **Answer in a well-structured manner:** Introduce your subject in a short paragraph, get to the main point of the answer. Avoid giving lengthy paragraphs and instead of giving

ing pointers, try to answer the question in brief as much as you can and conclude the answer on a positive note.

- **Focus on your handwriting:** In Civil Service exams, handwriting has never been considered for the candidate's calibre and suitability for the outcomes. But in our opinion, good handwriting will always stimulate examiner's mind and help them come at ease with your answers. Make sure your answers have clear handwriting, big character size and enough space between the words.
- **Support your answers with facts/dates/names and other important details:** An exceptional answer for the civil service exam, especially considering the current trend of questions, must have enough factual backing with facts, dates, views, related to the topic.

The writer is Director and Founder, Chanakya IAS Academy

**QUOTE OF THE DAY**

**The improvement of understanding is for two ends: first, our own increase of knowledge; secondly, to enable us to deliver that knowledge to others**

— John Locke

**UG-PG PROGRAMMES**

Manav Rachna International Institute of Research and Studies invites applications for admission to its UG/PG/diploma programmes of Journalism and Mass Communication.



**Programmes offered:** BA — Journalism and Mass Communication; MA — Journalism and Mass Communication; PG diploma in Advertising & Public Relation

**Duration:** Three years for BA, two years for MA; one year for PG diploma.

**Eligibility:** For BA — Pass in Class XII examination /equivalent examination with at least 50 per cent marks in aggregate in five subjects including English as compulsory subject along with four subjects with the highest score out of the remaining subjects.

For MA — 50 per cent marks in any stream at graduation level from a recognised university with pass in English in Class XII.

For PG diploma — 50 per cent marks in any stream at graduation level from a recognised university with pass in English in Class XII.

**BBA PROGRAMME**

Manav Rachna International Institute of Research and Studies (MRIIRS) invites applications for admissions to its BBA programmes.

**Programmes offered:** Bachelor of Business Administration (BBA) General, Bachelor of Business Administration (Banking and Financial Markets), Bachelor of Business Administration (Global) — International Business.

**Duration:** Three years

**Eligibility:** For BBA General — Pass in Class XII examination/equivalent examination with at least 50 per cent marks in aggregate in five subjects including English as compulsory subject along with 4

subjects with the highest score out of the remaining subjects.

**How to apply:** Log on to [www.manavrachna.edu.in](http://www.manavrachna.edu.in).

**HOTEL MANAGEMENT**

Delhi Paramedical and management Institute (DPMI) invites applications for admissions to its Diploma course in Front Office Operations (DFO), Food & Beverage (DFB), and House Keeping (DHK).

This course provides syllabus that combines theory and practice of Hotel Industry. It is an ideal field for students having a keen interest in interacting with people.

**Duration:** One year

**Eligibility:** Candidates who have recently passed Class XII from any recognised board can enroll for these courses.

**How to Apply:** Log on to [www.dpminiindia.com](http://www.dpminiindia.com) or the application forms and brochure may be obtained from admission office of Delhi Paramedical & Management Institute, New Ashok Nagar, Delhi.

**Last date to apply:** July 18, 2019.

**FASHION DESIGN**

International School of Design invites application for admissions to its bachelors, masters & diploma programmes in Fashion Design.

**Eligibility:** Class X pass

For Diploma, Class XII for bachelors & diploma and graduates for masters degree or diploma (Any Stream).

**How to apply:** Log on to <http://www.insd.edu.in/apply-online.html>.

**Last date to apply:** July 31, 2019.

## Choose the master wisely

Selecting the right Scrum Master for the organisation can be a tedious task. AJAY KABRA tells you how one can simplify the decision making

Industry practices have been nurtured over the period of years by pseudo Agilest and the so-called sponsors of the transformation game from traditional project management to agile way of doing the job. Have we achieved success? Do expending millions of dollars justify? How do organisations measure Return on Investment (ROI) in their balance sheets? Nobody has a clue; the consulting organisations are making merry and laughing all the way to the bank.

One of the failure points could be the Scrum Master. Especially on how we appoint the Scrum Master, who selects them and what characteristics and traits should one look for when selecting a Scrum Master?

Let's explore how it is done today in our industry as compared to how should this happen?

Most of the times (9 out of 10), it would be the management who would appoint a person, whom they feel qualified for the job. However, the irony is that the Management would have little or no idea what that role entails. Experience has suggested that we find the job for the person rather than find the right person for the job.

At times, the selection process of appointing the Scrum Master has been dictated by the person who is on the bench and we are trying to find a project to make the person billable or

the other approach as seen is to nominate a person close to the management.

In fact, according to Scrum co-founder Dr Jeff Sutherland, great Scrum Masters can come from virtually any background or discipline (i.e., engineering, design, testing, product management, journalism, academia, social work), and their role is relatively simple:

- Remove impediments
- Guide the team in Scrum practices
- Protect against outside interference

All that a Scrum Master can do is to inspire you through effective coaching, enablement and guidance, but the implementation of the same is in your hands.

Who should be or become the Scrum Master for your new team? Is it your current project manager, Tech Lead, or the functional manager? I would have to argue against the current industry practices and say, anyone but one of these above-mentioned roles. Although, understandably, the management usually wants a standard answer for who they should select to be the Scrum Master in this new work approach called Agile it is not a one-size-fits-all answer. And the reason is because it depends on the person, the team and the environment. There are



multiple factors that would impact the selection of the person for the role. It cannot be a cookie cutter approach, which is much standardised, even in the same organisation across two teams, the selections could vary (and they should vary, if the circumstances vary).

Now, the question is who decides the Scrum Master? We often see that it is the management who decides, but they make the decision without knowing what Scrum is and more importantly, how it works.

We commonly see Project Managers being given the role of Scrum Master. What makes a great Project Manager may not make a great Scrum Master. Often, the management wants Project Managers who can get

things done. They drive performance and push the team. They may even micro-manage for results and visibility by tracking every task, status, risk, change and deviation from the plan. Management loves this (or, more truthfully, love the results). On the other hand, I've also seen Project Managers who provide management what they want (helping get more productivity and more visibility to progress, issues and options) by serving, empowering and trusting the team.

To simplify the decision making, one should look for these ideas when selecting a of Scrum Master:

- A person who understands and can practice servant leadership and facilitation
- Always in pursuit of continuous improvement
- Can create a degree of influence with team members and other stakeholders

You need a person who is humble, ego-less, collaborative in nature, knowledgeable on Scrum. Getting all of the traits in a single person could be a near to impossible task, in case we do see that happening, find from above items, which are your critical success factors for the Scrum Master role in your organisation.

The writer is Sr Director Agile transformation, Xebia IT Architects India Private Limited

## 'No dead-end for learning'

Today, practical knowledge is just as important as theory. MONICA CHAUDHARY tells MUSKAN BAKSHI how their simulation lab is solving the purpose

■ **Why did you come up with the Simulation lab?**

The reason behind introducing the first if its kind simulation lab was to provide our students with in-depth knowledge of the field. The students will be able to gain practical knowledge by training through MRI and CT scan. The lab also has ICU beds and dialysis technology machines which will provide the students with much needed exposure. It is often seen that students are made to learn everything theoretically which is not of much help. When the students step in to the industry they are left to manage things on their own. In such an industry, where there is no room for errors, students need hands-on learning practices which will help them in the long run. Here, with the help of this lab, the students can make mistakes and learn from it so they are future ready.

■ **How is the collaboration with Yuva Healthcare?**

Yuva Healthcare has been into these simulator labs from quite some time. We have partnered with them because they bring in technology and equipments from abroad. We believe in industry integration and therefore we decided to do this collaboration which will be of immense



**Professor Monica Chaudhary**  
Director, Sushant School of Health Sciences, Ansal University

benefit for our students.

■ **What changes would you like to see in the medical field?**

I would want that we should be open to exploring more and accepting the newer technology. This would not only help doctor to cue more patients but also the students to be able to know this world inside out. It is an era where we have to adapt to the newest technology and apply it in the daily basis that is what makes people stand out in the crowd.

■ **What role does technical**

advancement play?

Technical advancement means new, better and simple ways to cure patients and make students learn in the best way possible. Technology is evolving and even the doctors are learning new things every day. Learning process for both professionals and aspirers is continuous. With technology, medical education is also advancing.

■ **What advice would you like to give out to aspiring medical students?**

Hunger to learn and explore is always the first step. Second comes the feeling to serve people. Those who are looking to make a career in the field should be able to take responsibility. Students should remain calm and focuses. A lot of patience is the key. Medical students should be active, quick and should be able to react to different situations at the snap of a finger. They should be energetic and enthusiastic and should have a keen interest in learning things. They have to run at a fast pace and be prepared to follow strict working hours because for doctors there is nothing more important than a patient's life. Those who have these qualities in them are ready to go out and make a career in the field.

## New high for SRMIST

Indigenously designed and built by students of the SRM Institute of Science and Technology in collaboration with the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO), the nano-satellite SRMSAT-1 has completed 40,000 orbits since it was launched on October 12, 2011 from Sriharikota.

Speaking about the significant milestone, Dr S R S Prabaharan, Joint Director (Research) at SRMIST, said that the satellite has outlived its original life span of two years and continues to send data to the ground control centre in the campus at Kattankulathur in Kancheepuram district. Indeed, the satellite will complete nine years in space on October 11th this year.



Model of SRMSAT-1 sending data to ground control centre

An ambitious project conceived by SRMIST President Dr P Satyanarayanan, the satellite is tasked to monitor and estimate carbon diox-

ide and water vapor in tropical atmosphere globally. "We are proud of our students who built and launched the satellite with the help of ISRO," Prof Prabaharan said complementing all branches of engineering students and faculty mentors at SRMIST who came together to create the satellite. ISRO provided solar cells and batteries for the satellite apart from making available its facility at the Satish Dhawan Space Centre at Sriharikota for the launch.

On upcoming initiatives of the SRM students who have formed a Team SRMSAT, he said one of the projects being proposed to ISRO was on how to neutralise and/or prevent space debris.

## A step towards safe and secure future

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

A high level seminar on Railway Police Force (RPF) Vision 2030 was organised by JRRPF Academy Lucknow in RDSO on of July 10 and 11. DG RPF Arun Kumar, DG RDSO Virendra Kumar and more than 50 RPF officers and delegates from all over India participated in the seminar which included three IGS, seven DIGs, and field officers of RPF with emphasis on vertical interaction and to incorporate ground realities and field experience to craft a futuristic policy and pilot projects for RPF in the future. The seminar was envisioned as

a pivotal exercise in preparing a futuristic road map for Security in Railways in 2030, and exploring possible technological interventions and innovative, practical solutions which are grounded in, in-depth understanding of the present context and positioned within a long term strategic view.

Presentations were made by officers ranging on subjects from Role of Information and Communication Technology in Railways security, Human Resource Management, Infrastructure security in railways, Video analytics of CCTV footage, Revamping Dog squads, making RPF a sports super-

power, LWE problems in railways and countermeasures, Intelligence setup up in RPF and role of RPF in disaster management.

The seminar aimed to capitalise on the transformation momentum within Indian Railways under the leadership of Minister of Railways, to provide a boost to comprehensive transformation of RPF to equip it to face the challenges ahead. Modern policing strategies and tactics must be driven by accurate, timely and reliable information supplied by current and emerging technologies, data-analytics and supported by the Department's systematic engage-

ment of all of the Indian Railways' diverse stakeholders. Issues pertaining to predictive and precision policing, efficient utilisation of manpower with technological reinforcements, new cyber investigative techniques, use of data analytics and reimagining infrastructure security of railways was deliberated during the two-day seminar.

DG RPF deliberated on each of the topics and great churning of ideas took place. The vision is to fulfill the motto of Yasho Labhasva i.e. Attain Glory by emerging as a professionally proficient and technologically savvy force in the next decade.



# Be on top of the game

The fashion world is more than just glitz and glamour. In order to start a new venture in this industry, there are a few points to keep in mind, says PRANAV AGGARWAL

The world of fashion appears to be filled with a lot of glamour and glitz. However, the reality is quite different. Just like any other business startups or new aspirants, the one related to fashion designing has a lot of hassle and a lot of hard work has to be put into it in order to achieve great heights and make the company scale new heights. There are a few tips to be followed in order to be successful in a new venture, a few of which have been mentioned below.

**Awareness and proper research is very important:** The fashion world is constantly changing and you need to update yourself as well in order to keep pace with it. There is a cut-throat competition in this field with everyone eyeing to be the best and people are ready to bring others down to achieve it. The challenge is all the more prominent now as the number of aspirants has skyrocketed in recent times. Something new is coming up every day and there is an increased necessity to be aware of all the changes that are taking place. You need to be

involved in extensive research as well which needs to be done not only through the online forum but also through visiting the stores physically. Only then you will be able to keep up and even stay one step ahead.

**Consider your target customers:** The fashion field is pretty huge and widespread and you are better off targeting one customer niche before expanding the investment with time. Be very clear about who the designs exactly are for and is it any better than what is already available in the market. You have to make a decision between the markets for men and women, older or younger age group, the type of clothes like either western or Indian etcetera. There is another point of consideration while choosing the target, which section of the society will be ready to wear the design of yours. Once all of these are taken care of, you should direct most of your work towards this direction.

**Have a good plan in place:** Planning never goes waste and comes to fruition sometime or the other. Therefore, it is very



THE FASHION FIELD IS WIDESPREAD. YOU ARE BETTER OFF TARGETING A NICHE CUSTOMER BEFORE EXPANDING. BE CLEAR ABOUT WHO THE DESIGNS ARE FOR

important that you have a business plan chalked out about how you are going to go about the whole process. The main aspect that needs to be taken care of immediately is the financial aspect of the business. Do you plan to have investors for it or take a loan for meeting the requirements. If it is the former, you will also need to know whom to approach and when and once that is done, you need to finalize the deal as soon as possible. The business plan is not very concrete though. It is always subjected to different forms of changes and adjustments that might be required.

**Find out about manufacturing and production details:** A plan might be in place but you should also know how to execute it properly. Looking at it from the perspective of a fashion design business, you need to take care of the manufacturing and production units of the materials and who is going to take the responsibility of distribution. Again, you can spread your wings either through the online or offline source

**Promote it well:** When

starting a new business, proper promotion is as important as anything else. One of the major mediums of doing so is through social media nowadays as the number of people hooked it is numerous. Thus, maximum coverage can take place through it only. You must be aware of the multiple advertisement forums that are available these days and everyone wants to make their online presence felt. You should also jump into this bandwagon and promote your business extensively.

**Look for feedback:** You should always be looking to satisfy the needs of the customers and making amends in your business accordingly. One potent way of doing so is to ask your customers for feedback. The utilities are many. You will not only know about the potential of your business adequately and also you can address some grievances of the customers as soon as possible. Thus, this tip can be included in the most important along with the others.

The writer is Executive Director, International School Of Design

# How to climb the corporate ladder

As more and more organisations hiring women, NAVNEET SINGH shares tips on how they can reach the top slot

It is our choices that show, what we truly are, far more than our abilities — JK Rowling

The above aphorism stands true in most of the circumstances we encounter in our lives. Similar is the case with female presence and growth in corporates. There is a tightrope walk between work and life for them and being able to manage their personal and professional aspirations is a big time achievement. And in today's world, "Be yourself" isn't sufficient. We need to acquire knowledge daily, familiarise ourselves with it and become proficient in no time.

According to McKinsey study on women in workplace, women are less likely to be hired into entry-level jobs than men and as we climb up the corporate ladder, the disparity increases. The ratio stands to be 79:100 when it comes to promotion to management level.

If we pick a red ball from the jar containing 79 red and 100 green balls, probability of red ball being picked up would definitely be less. Second, Pyramid narrows as we become senior and competition becomes fierce. Therefore, it becomes more important for female workforce to perform and acquire some extra ordinary skills which stands them apart and if not apart, equivalent to men at that level.

**Sync between skills in demand and skills women possess:** Problem solving, time management, communication skills, teamwork ability, good work ethics are the skills which are considered at first place to promote a person to managerial level. Employers expect hybrid skills from employees which are combination of technical and soft skills. Hence, it is very much necessary for women to brush up the technological skills. Also, social media skills, knowledge related to Content Management Systems, and specific data entry tools are considered an added advantage and will distinguish you from others.

**Networking:** The second critical asset for progress is networking. Build a strong professional network since organisations are all about people. Enroll in seminars and workshops. They would give you better visibility in the professional world and help with better networking opportunities. Nurturing relationships is mutually beneficial.

Women can broaden their access to opportunities by raising their professional profiles. Being in the network of stakeholders, who would be in right roles to make decision or influence decision, helps a lot. They can guide through all the career transitions and some-



Navneet Singh  
Founder-CEO, Avasar HR Services

times on personal front as well.

**Adaptability:** Mid-career drop-offs for women are common and this can be justified as well. This is the time when relationships and life related decisions are to be made. On the other hand, provision of right opportunities at the organisation level goes a long way in helping women stay focused on their career goals. Hence, it is all about a woman's conscious career management and balancing life choices and transitions. She should not let her dreams fade away.

Smart work-life balance also means focusing on health, fitness and being happy from inside. This would lead a woman to achieve smart multi-tasking goals and consequently increase her productivity at workplace.

**Able to raise the hand:** Sometimes opportunities are not visible. They do not present themselves. Woman needs to be bold enough to ask for them. And for it, she should:

- Explore strengths by understanding the workplace
- Build credibility
- Understand future work options
- Develop herself financially strong
- Be confident

Raising hand will also strengthen her emotionally and remind her that she should never forget her aspirations. They can face more challenges than men. They can excel more than men. They can climb the corporate ladder faster than men. They just need to take care of certain skills.

The process of risk management aims at identifying and prioritising risks before their occurrence and provide action-oriented information to facility managers. This process requires deliberation of events that may or may not occur. An efficient Facilities Management (FM) team can look across the business, identify a risk and put in place measures to help the company manage it. With specific procedures in place and systematic recording of actions, external risks can be mitigated if unexpected incidents result in legal action.

Efficient management of assets: The operational phase of an asset is the most crucial period as the asset is used to deliver services and support core businesses.

Therefore, proactive asset

management with a thorough maintenance plan is essential at this point. Understanding the right type of maintenance and evaluating the importance of each maintenance request will help extend the life of an asset. It is necessary to rate these by priority for the facilities manager to assess the asset's characteristics and make an informed decision about the frequency of maintenance or physical audits. The key aspect is to understand the impact of a failure of a critical equipment and have a go to plan for such failures with details on responsibilities and key task.

Understanding and managing people: An important asset for a company is its people as employee management directly impacts a company. Owing to the nature of the FM

## MINDIT

industry, team management can be a little more challenging than managing a static team. The management has to take numerous parameters into consideration — the geographical spread of various sites, shift patterns, emergency response including each team member's technical skill set. Today, many innovative software programmes are available for scheduling of staff and for managing work quality and deadlines. However, facility managers should ensure that they create a safe, healthy and positive environment for not only on-site but also off-site employees. The importance of employee health and wellness is

rising in the workplace: 89 per cent of the organizations responding to the CBRE Health and Wellness Survey, 2016, reported giving some level of attention to this growing trend. While the best interest of employees is the focus, employers do stand to benefit as well — initiatives in this area represent opportunities to responsibly manage/reduce healthcare costs and increase productivity and performance.

Ensuring the security of data: In the 'Big Data' environment, the decision-making process is largely driven by data, and the world of FM is no exception. As cable information has become exceedingly important, data

security has also become a prime concern. Data breaches primarily occur through hosted system for vendors on the company's network, thereby providing easy access to hackers. Segregation of company data from vendor access and utilization of cloud-based systems providing restricted and indirect access to vendors can minimise such data-related risks.

Creating a healthy vendor and contractor relationship: FM teams hire a range of commercial contractors to address various facility aspects related to repairs, maintenance and on-site management. While dealing with contractors and external agencies, facilities managers can face various challenges such as unqualified or poorly performing contractors, non-compliance with corporate standards and operational or performance-related risks. To

minimise these risks, companies can adopt the practice of rating or scoring contractors and their services.

Being compliant: Although compliance entails adhering to all the laws and regulations, it intersects almost every FM aspect like operations and ethics. In order to design an effective compliance strategy, it is essential to understand the requirements, challenges and inherent risks associated with each category. After developing an understanding of compliance requirements, an effective compliance programme detailing regulatory, professional and data standards with a methodical approach to compliance can be designed by facility managers.

The writer is Rajesh Pandit, MD Global Workplace Solutions & Property Management, CBRE



**Application deadline:** September 30, 2019.

The University of Melbourne, Australia is offering McKenzie Postdoctoral Fellowships Program. The aims to recruit new researchers who have the potential to build and lead cross-disciplinary collaborative research activities inside and across faculties.

**Eligibility:** Must have been awarded a PhD from a university other than the University of Melbourne by the closing date. The PhD must have been awarded no earlier than January 1 2017. Applicants may be drawn from any field in which the university has research strength, and must have an ability to contribute to research collaborations and programs across faculties or disciplines. Applicants will be required to provide a declaration of support from the department/school in which they would be located if successful, but the criteria for selection will be university-based. Assessment will take account of achievement relative to opportunity.

**Language requirement:** Need meet specific English language/other language requirements in order to be able to study there.

**How to apply:** Submit application by email to [mckenzie-application-at-unimelb.edu.au](mailto:mckenzie-application-at-unimelb.edu.au).

**Application deadline:** August 20, 2019.

Excellent opportunity to get a higher education with financial support from RMIT University in Australia — public research university which is ranked 16th in the world.

**Course level:** Research Award: \$31,000 per annum

International students can apply.

**Eligibility:** Must participate in a PhD or a Master by Research degree programme at the university.

The participants must have an equivalent level of academic attainment, taking into account previous study, relevant work experience, research publications, and other research experience.

Are able to take receipt of a funding for a minimum 12 months duration on a full-time basis (or part-time equivalent) because of prior enrolment in a graduate research programme.

Have not already completed a graduate research programme at the same or higher course level.

**How to apply:** Depending on your circumstances, you will need to provide different types of evidence such as transcripts or certificates and language proficiency.

## STUDY CENTRES

Surgical Technology is a specific technical profession in the field of health science. Their primary duty is to take care of all the work and management of the operation theatre. The curriculum comprises of training in Anatomy and Physiology, Biomedical Science, Pharmacology, Pathology, Microbiology, Obstetrics and Gynaecology. Besides basic educational qualification, excellent clinical, communication and behavioural skills are necessary. There are several paramedical institutes as well as hospitals across the country that offer courses in Surgical Technology. Some of them are:

- Martin Luther Christian University: Allied Health Science Department, Shillong. Course: BSc Surgical Technology, MSc Surgical Technology
- Armed Forces Medical College, Pune. Course: Bachelor of Medical Technology-Operation Theatre
- Tripura Institute of Paramedical Sciences, Agartala. Course: Bachelor of Medical Technology-Operation Theatre
- Om Sai Para Medical College, Saharanpur. Course: Bachelor of Medical Technology-Operation Theatre
- Institute of Paramedical, Management and Technologies, New Delhi. Course: Diploma in Operation Theatre Technician
- Patna Institute of Nursing and Para Medical Science, Patna. Course: Diploma in Operation Theatre Technician



## MARKETING AT THE SOCIALSCOOP

Location: Delhi, Mumbai, Bengaluru  
Stipend: ₹35,000 per month  
Link: [internshala.com/i/1160254](http://internshala.com/i/1160254)  
Application deadline: July 25, 2019

## SOCIAL LEADERSHIP PROGRAM AT INDIA FELLOW

Location: Delhi, Pune, Jaipur, Bengaluru  
Stipend: ₹16,000 per month  
Link: [internshala.com/i/1160255](http://internshala.com/i/1160255)  
Application deadline: July 25, 2019

## MARKETING & LEAD GENERATION AT THE SMARTTREE

Location: Delhi, Bengaluru  
Stipend: ₹1,000 per week  
Link: [internshala.com/i/1160256](http://internshala.com/i/1160256)  
Application deadline: July 24, 2019

## BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT (SALES) AT AVIATE EDUCATION

Location: Delhi, Pune, Mumbai, Bengaluru  
Stipend: ₹10,000 per month  
Link: [internshala.com/i/1160257](http://internshala.com/i/1160257)  
Application deadline: July 24, 2019

## HUMAN RESOURCES (HR) AT BP INCORPORATE INTERNATIONAL

Location: Delhi, Mumbai, Bengaluru  
Stipend: ₹2,000 per month  
Link: [internshala.com/i/1160258](http://internshala.com/i/1160258)  
Application deadline: July 24, 2019

## PRODUCT MARKETING AT 523 BUDDHA TECHNOLOGIES

Location: Delhi, Pune, Mumbai, Kolkata, Bengaluru  
Stipend: ₹12,000 per month  
Link: [internshala.com/i/1160259](http://internshala.com/i/1160259)  
Application deadline: July 23, 2019

## CONTENT WRITING AT DIMAKH CONSULTANTS

Location: Work From Home  
Stipend: ₹5,000-₹10,000 per month  
Link: [internshala.com/i/1160260](http://internshala.com/i/1160260)  
Application deadline: July 25, 2019

## IN BRIEF

### INTERNATIONAL LIFE SKILLS OLYMPIAD TEST

Skillzen Learning Foundation, a Singapore based global socio-educational company, has announced registrations for Life Skills Olympiad, 2019.

The International Life Skills Olympiad (ILSO) is designed for school children (including home-schooled ones) from Classes III to XII. The test will focus on evaluating real-world skills and

competencies that are critical for young children to manage and succeed in professional and social lives.

The registration for ISLO is live; registration has a fee of ₹490. Interested parents and schools can register students on [www.lifeskillsolympiad.org](http://www.lifeskillsolympiad.org) by paying the nominal registration fee that includes life skills guides, practice questions, and a mock test.

For more details visit: <http://www.lifeskillsolympiad.org>

### LEARN NOW PAY LATER

The ICA EduSkills has joined causes with Bajaj Finserv to bring out a revolutionary scheme called the — Learn Now Pay Later scheme. This will enable students to avail cutting-edge and valuable courses that ICA has to offer, without having to worry about paying the entire fees for these courses upfront. Student can pay now fee in convenient installments of ₹2,500-₹3,500 per month. The students can start repaying the fee from the seventh month of completion of the course, over a tenor ranging from 12-24 months.

With the scheme, students just need to pay ₹10,000-₹20,000 and can complete any finance-related course within six months. This, in turn, would empower the nation to house a new and fresh workforce, skilled with the apt skill to contribute towards the growth of the nation.

### TOPPERS SPEAK SEMINAR

The FIITJEE Punjabi Bagh centre organised felicitation ceremony for the Toppers of JEE Advanced 2019 along with a toppers speak seminar wherein the students shared tips and success mantra with future aspirants of IIT-JEE. More than 350 students attended the session.

Addressing the audience Partha Halder Centre Head of FIITJEE Punjabi Bagh Centre said: "One must strive for excellence in every sphere of learning during the preparatory days. One must practice a lot and identify the reasons for committing silly mistakes. This will help to plug the loopholes." Adding further, he said "A student needs to raise the bar with every passing month leading up to IIT-JEE."



### MAKE THE FUTURE LIVE

After a successful first edition in 2018, Shell is back with Make the Future Live India, to be held at the Shell Technology Centre, Bengaluru.

The edition will showcase innovation and foster dialogue on

clean energy solutions for powering progress in mobility, while deliberating on technologies, challenges, opportunities and partnerships. This is also a valuable opportunity for student teams to test and fine tune their self designed and built

energy efficient vehicles for the regional Shell Eco-marathon Asia competition in 2020.

It is a platform for widespread youth participation following the growing demand of the students to continue hosting the fuel-efficiency competition.

### ONLINE COURSES FROM SHAW ACADEMY

As part of the fast expanding range of exciting benefits Bhatti Airtel has now partnered with Irish and India based global EdTech, Shaw Academy to offer popular online courses to its mobile customers.

A part of benefits, select customers will now get a one year access to the entire academy course library worth ₹6,000. Customers will also get a free one month access to any one academy

course worth ₹800. Eligible customers can unlock the benefit through the Airtel app and visit [www.shawacademy.com](http://www.shawacademy.com).

James Egan, CEO-founder of Shaw Academy said: "Our mission is to deliver accessible high quality education. Such a partnership shows that the demand for interactive, engaging educational content as a lifestyle offering within major consumer programs continues to grow."

# Sensex, Nifty extend gains for second day

PTI ■ MUMBAI

Equity benchmark BSE Sensex on Tuesday rose by 234 points, extending gains for the second straight day as index major Reliance Industries, Yes Bank and Tata Motors advanced. The 30-share index closed at 39,131.04 points, showing a rise of 234.33 points or 0.60 per cent. It touched an intra-day high of 39,173.89 and a low of 38,845.27 during the day.

The broader NSE Nifty ended 72.70 points or 0.63 per cent up at 11,661.05. During the day, the index hit a high of 11,670.05 and a low of 11,573.95. Yes Bank was the biggest gainer in the Sensex pack, rallying 11.48 per cent amid reports that private equity firms have showed interest in buying a major stake in the private sector lender.

Tata Motors jumped 5.53 per cent after reports suggested that its British brand JLR has secured a loan guarantee from the UK government. Sun Pharma, NTPC, PowerGrid, Tata Steel, Axis Bank, L&T, HUL, Asian Paints, RIL and SBI rose up to 2.57 per cent.

Infosys rose by 0.71 per cent, continuing its rise for a second day after its quarterly results. Among others, Dewan

## Yes Bank soars 11%

Housing Finance Corp rebounded by 4 per cent after a massive selloff on Monday. The company stressed that it was working with stakeholders and creditors to ensure resolution of liquidity issues, without any haircut to the lenders.

On the other hand, TCS, M&M, HCL Tech, Kotak Bank, TechM, Bharti Airtel and HDFC Bank fell up to 1.86 per cent. "Indian markets are showing resilience as we move into earnings season," said Sunil Sharma, Chief Investment Officer, Sanctum Wealth Management. The market has clearly factored in dismal earnings, but is cheering the decline in interest rates, improving liquidity as well as incremental positive news on resolution of some of the large stressed assets, he pointed out.

"Investors seems to take comfort from positive data from RBI on India's services export receipts which grew 15.5 per cent in May-19," Narendra Solanki, Head Fundamental Research (Investment Services) - AVP Equity Research, Anand Rathi Shares & Stock Brokers.

Broader BSE midcap and smallcap indices followed

benchmarks, closing up to 0.69 per cent higher. Sectorally, BSE realty, oil and gas, consumer durables, power, utilities, energy and capital goods indices ended in up to 1.98 per cent higher. While, BSE IT and tech indices settled up to 0.59 per cent lower.

Market breadth was negative as 1,300 scrips declined while 1,162 advanced. Bond yields slid for a fifth straight day to 6.34 per cent, a 2.5-year low mark on the hopes of further rate cuts post three consecutive rate cuts announced by the RBI so far in 2019, he said, adding that yields have come off by almost a percentage point since beginning of the fiscal year.

Elsewhere in Asia, Shanghai Composite Index and Nikkei ended in the green, while Hang Seng and Kospi settled in the red. Equities in Europe were trading higher in their respective early sessions.

On the currency front, the Indian rupee depreciated 17 paise to 68.72 (intra-day) against the US dollar as crude oil prices continue to rise. The global oil benchmark Brent crude futures were trading 0.36 per cent higher at USD 66.72 per barrel.

# Retail sales of passenger vehicles declined in June

## Liquidity issues, delayed monsoon took toll: FADA

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Automobile dealers' body FADA on Tuesday said retail sales of passenger vehicles (PV) in June declined by 4.6 per cent to 2,24,755 units as compared to the same period last year, hit by liquidity issues and delayed monsoon. According to Federation of Automobile Dealers Associations (FADA), PV sales stood at 2,35,539 units in June 2018.

PV wholesales, on the other hand, declined by 17.54 per cent to 2,25,732 units in June from 2,73,748 units in the year-ago period. Two-wheeler retail sales declined by 5 per cent to 13,24,822 units last month compared with 13,94,770 units in the year-ago period. Commercial vehicle sales dropped by 19.3 per cent to 48,752 units against 60,378 units in June last year. Three-wheeler sales saw a dip of 2.8 per cent to 48,447 units last month from 49,837 units in the same period last year.

Total sales across categories declined by 5.4 per cent to 16,46,776 units in June as against 17,40,524 units in the same month last year. "Despite starting the month with a positive outlook and hope, the monthly sales ended in a de-growth due to continued liquidity tightness



and a much-delayed monsoon," FADA President Ashish Harsharaj Kale said in a statement.

Even with inquiry levels being reasonably strong, retail sales got affected as consumer sentiment continued to be weak and purchase postponement was seen across all segments, he added. In the April-June quarter, passenger vehicle sales declined by 1 per cent to 7,28,785 units as compared with 7,36,290 units in the same period of the previous fiscal.

Two-wheeler sales declined by 6.4 per cent to 40,64,903 units in the April-June period as compared with 43,44,827 units in the same period of 2018-19 fiscal. Sales across categories declined by 6 per cent to 51,16,718 units as against 54,42,317 units in April-June period of the last fiscal.

Commenting on outlook, Kale said that due to delayed monsoon in June and uneven spread in the first half of this month so far, the near-term outlook of four-six weeks remains negative. "FADA will once again be engaging with policy makers with an appeal to look at the current situation and request for urgent measures to support the auto industry get back to its growth trajectory," he added. Liquidity still continues to be a worry, both at the retail front as well as the for dealer working capital and with NBFCs and banks still in a cautious mode, normalcy in lending required to get industry back to growth still cannot be seen, Kale said. He added that inventory levels in the PV segment is returning to three-week level, helping dealers manage their viability and profitability.

## BRIEFLY

### SKODA LAUNCHES LIMITED EDITION RAPID

New Delhi (PTI): Czech carmaker Skoda Auto on Tuesday launched a limited edition of its mid-sized sedan Rapid in India at an introductory price of Rs 6.99 lakh (ex-showroom). The edition, which is powered by 1.6 litre petrol engine, is equipped with essential safety features like dual airbags and anti-lock braking system as standard across the range, Skoda Auto India said in a statement. It also has features such as rear parking sensors, anti-glare interior rear view mirror, rear windscreen defogger with timer, height adjustable three-point seat belts at the front, rough road package, and engine immobiliser with floating code system, it added.

### SUZUKI LAUNCHES UPDATED ACCESS 125

New Delhi (PTI): Suzuki Motorcycle India Pvt Ltd (SMIPL) on Tuesday said it has launched a refreshed version of its scooter model, Access 125 priced at Rs 61,788 (ex-showroom, Delhi). The new version comes with all black alloy wheels, beige coloured leatherette seat and round shaped chrome mirrors to make the rider stand apart in the crowd, the company said in a statement. It also offers a standard DC socket convenient for charging mobile phones while commuting, it added. "Access 125 is a major contributor in Suzuki's India growth story and we are committed to making it even better to resonate the love received from the customer," SMIPL Vice President Devashish Handa said. The family scooter, powered by a 124 cc, 4 stroke single cylinder engine offers better mileage without compromising on power, performance and style, he added.

### SEBI FINES GKS PROPERTIES FOR FRAUDULENT TRADE

New Delhi (PTI): Markets regulator Sebi levied a fine of Rs 5 lakh on GKS Properties for executing non-genuine trades in the illiquid stock options segment at BSE. The ruling follows an investigation conducted by Sebi in the stock options segment of the bourse between April 2014 and September 2015. During investigation, Sebi noted that 81.38 per cent of all trades executed in the segment at BSE were the ones which involved reversal of buy and sell positions by the clients and counterparties in a contract on the same day, thereby creating artificial volume in the stock options segment. GKS Properties was one such entity which executed reversal trades, Sebi said in an order dated July 15. "The non-genuine and deceptive transactions of the Noticee are covered under the definition of 'fraud'," it added. The firm by indulging in manipulative trade practices violated the provisions of Prohibition of Fraudulent and Unfair Trade Practices regulations.

## NIFTY 50

SCRIP	OPEN	High	LOW	LTP	CHANGE
NIFTY 50	11596.65	11670.05	11573.95	11662.60	74.25
YESBANK	94.35	106.30	92.25	106.25	13.05
TATAMOTORS	159.80	170.95	159.05	170.35	9.40
ADANIPORTS	411.65	421.50	407.65	420.70	11.60
SUNPHARMA	420.00	435.00	418.65	434.05	11.10
BAIJAJFINSV	771.00	790.00	770.25	789.00	184.55
NTPC	128.80	131.40	128.00	131.00	3.05
BFCL	349.00	356.30	348.60	355.00	7.60
TITAN	1092.00	1118.00	1082.55	1113.00	23.60
DREDDY	2622.65	2684.00	2603.20	2674.90	47.30
POWERGRID	204.80	209.40	204.30	208.40	3.45
AXISBANK	750.00	763.20	747.50	762.10	12.35
TATASTEEL	465.10	478.60	464.10	475.45	7.15
IT	1442.00	1464.00	1426.90	1460.45	19.85
GRASIM	923.60	937.35	918.65	934.85	12.55
HINDUNILVR	1723.50	1750.60	1712.75	1740.00	23.05
ASIANPAINT	1352.00	1375.00	1345.00	1371.00	17.85
RELIANCE	1279.95	1294.90	1277.05	1292.10	16.00
GAIL	145.50	148.00	144.80	147.30	1.80
MARUTI	6079.95	6172.00	6056.00	6153.95	74.25
BAIFINANCE	3433.40	3464.90	3406.05	3452.90	40.80
HEROMOTOCO	2515.00	2569.45	2487.15	2543.00	29.45
SBN	358.50	366.00	357.65	363.95	3.90
ECHERMOT	186.00	191.00	186.50	190.55	19.70
IOC	148.00	148.00	145.45	146.90	1.50
COALINDIA	229.45	233.65	229.35	232.40	2.00
ONGC	151.00	154.40	150.70	152.00	1.30
JSWSTEEL	269.95	275.00	269.00	273.20	2.25
BAIJAJFINSV	632.10	651.70	613.55	643.90	4.95
BAJAJ-AUTO	2710.00	2745.00	2678.00	2734.00	20.00
CIFLA	554.75	558.45	549.40	554.00	3.45
ICICIBANK	421.55	430.55	421.55	424.75	3.45
HDFC	2270.00	2284.80	2256.95	2277.55	12.20
INFRAEEL	261.60	264.70	261.30	263.50	1.25
INFY	777.00	787.80	776.00	782.90	3.55
ITC	271.00	272.75	270.60	272.00	1.05
INDUSINDBK	1485.00	1485.00	1460.05	1476.10	1.00
ULTRACEMCO	4590.10	4615.00	4568.75	4600.00	3.00
WIPRO	259.00	262.70	256.25	260.00	-0.10
BHARTIARTL	351.00	354.95	349.65	350.55	-0.05
VEDL	166.65	170.20	166.00	167.00	-0.05
HDFCBANK	2418.00	2418.00	2382.00	2393.00	-1.75
ZEELE	341.70	352.80	339.30	345.25	-0.35
TECHM	680.00	681.60	670.00	676.50	-1.40
HINDALCO	199.40	202.50	197.50	198.95	-1.20
BRITANNIA	272.00	277.00	273.60	275.80	-1.80
UPL	647.50	645.75	630.35	643.00	-4.40
KOTAKBANK	1508.00	1511.50	1490.00	1497.00	-11.10
HCLTECH	1031.90	1032.15	1013.45	1019.00	-8.50
M&M	624.70	627.90	618.85	623.50	-8.35
TCS	2126.00	2132.50	2100.00	2105.00	-35.70

## NIFTY NEXT 50

SCRIP	OPEN	High	LOW	LTP	CHANGE
NIFTY NEXT 50	27072.45	27395.00	27031.10	27265.50	269.20
INDIGO	1384.00	1458.55	1365.00	1440.30	59.25
HDFCAMC	1943.00	2014.00	1915.00	2012.70	77.90
DABUR	408.60	426.95	407.25	426.00	15.30
HINDPETRO	288.00	296.25	287.10	296.25	10.00
DMART	1420.00	1471.00	1405.00	1467.80	42.55
CADILAC	239.00	247.40	238.50	245.00	6.70
SRTANSFIN	1059.00	1090.00	1056.00	1086.00	27.95
DLF	185.25	193.60	184.85	190.85	4.80
GODREJCP	620.70	629.80	620.70	634.50	13.80
DIVISLAB	1620.10	1654.00	1614.00	1650.00	35.60
BIOCON	252.95	258.80	250.00	258.00	5.30
HAVELLS	719.00	737.75	715.45	734.05	14.90
BANKBARODA	121.00	124.70	120.50	124.25	2.25
LUPIN	763.95	782.00	760.60	779.00	14.00
NMDC	112.65	115.20	112.25	114.55	2.00
PIDILITIND	1201.00	1226.00	1192.05	1223.00	21.20
MCDOWELL-N	587.55	599.25	584.00	596.80	9.50
ABB	1496.75	1524.95	1475.15	1519.00	22.25
PETRONET	245.50	254.35	244.60	249.50	3.45
ACC	1594.80	1619.95	1583.25	1617.00	22.25
AUROPHARMA	576.00	585.00	571.30	582.15	6.55
SAIL	46.75	47.40	46.50	47.10	0.50
BAJAJHLDRG	3527.00	3565.00	3508.50	3556.95	34.10
SIEMENS	1214.00	1234.50	1214.00	1228.10	11.60
ASHOKLEY	82.45	86.65	82.20	86.25	0.80
MRPL	5851.00	5674.50	5581.00	5600.00	467.60
COLPAL	1127.60	1140.90	1120.80	1134.30	7.50
SHREECEM	21400.00	21673.40	21300.00	21599.00	134.20
UBL	1365.10	1374.25	1355.65	1371.00	8.40
BHEL	64.35	65.10	63.90	64.55	0.30
PGH	10967.90	11000.00	10900.15	10986.00	34.90
HINDZINC	228.25	232.00	227.65	228.90	0.55
AMBUJACEM	219.75	220.75	216.55	219.95	0.35
HDFCLIFE	493.40	498.45	487.10	491.80	0.70
GICRE	226.00	227.80	224.35	225.85	0.20
BANDHANBNK	549.90	555.90	541.60	549.00	0.00
IDEA	118.50	119.10	115.50	117.00	0.00
CONCOR	549.95	553.95	546.35	551.30	-0.20
BOSCHLTD	15921.00	16040.00	15912.05	16000.00	-11.25
PAGEIND	20610.00	20873.35	20355.00	20551.00	-51.95
MARICO	369.05	369.95	366.05	368.10	-1.30
L&TFH	121.70	122.20	118.50	120.85	-0.55
SBLIFE	783.00	788.40	770.20	777.50	-6.05
NHPC	24.20	24.60	24.00	24.10	-0.20
NACL	137.20	140.70	137.20	137.70	-1.15
OFSS	3360.00	3406.45	3329.95	3351.35	-30.20
ICICIGI	1080.00	1080.75	1049.80	1065.00	-11.35
ICICIPRULI	385.00	394.40	380.00	380.40	-4.20
MOTHERSUMI	118.50	119.20	116.65	117.00	-1.50
PEL	2070.00	2070.00	2012.80	2039.95	-38.05

## BSE 500

Script	Open	High	Low	LTP	TECHM
YESBANK	94.35	106.30	92.30	103.90	627.90
ICICIBANK	422.00	430.40	421.20	424.55	162.65
RELIANCE	1279.00	1295.00	1269.10	1293.10	270.70
IBULHGFIN	63.00	65.05	61.40	64.610	1551.55
SPIICEJIT	126.00	131.00	125.15	131.75	97.50
INDIGO	1388.70	1458.45	1366.95	1445.90	47.00
TATAMOTORS	160.20	170.00	159.35	169.85	73.75
FEDERALBNK	108.20	108.70	101.90	107.35	84.70
AXISBANK	752.50	763.00	748.		

# In India, obese rising and undernourished declining: UN report

PTI ■ UNITED NATIONS

More Indians are becoming obese while the number of undernourished people in the country have declined, according to a report by the UN that said that globally over 820 million people are suffering from hunger.

The report titled the State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World 2019 was issued Monday by United Nations' Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), the UN Children's Fund (UNICEF), the World Food Programme (WFP) and the World Health Organization

(WHO).

The report said that an estimated 820 million people across the world did not have enough to eat in 2018, up from 811 million in the previous year, which is the third year of increase in a row, underscoring the immense challenge of achieving the Sustainable Development Goal of Zero Hunger by 2030.

In India, the number of undernourished people declined from 253.9 million in 2004-06 to 194.4 million in 2016-18. However the number of adults (18 years and older) who are obese grew from 24.1 million in 2012 to 32.8 million in 2016.

The number of children (under 5 years of age) who are

overweight stood at 2.9 million in 2018.

In percentage terms, prevalence of undernourishment in the total population in India was 22.2 per cent in 2004-06 and 14.5 per cent in 2016-18. Prevalence of wasting in children (under 5 years of age) was 20.8 per cent in 2018, while the Prevalence of obesity in the adult population was three per cent in 2012, increasing to 3.8 per cent in 2016.

The report said that globally, hunger is increasing in many countries where economic growth is lagging, particularly in middle-income countries and those that rely heavily on international primary commodity trade.

The annual UN report also

found that income inequality is rising in many of the countries where hunger is on the rise, making it even more difficult for the poor, vulnerable or marginalised to cope with economic slowdowns and downturns.

"We must foster pro-poor and inclusive structural transformation focusing on people and placing communities at the centre to reduce economic vulnerabilities and set ourselves on track to ending hunger, food insecurity and all forms of malnutrition," the UN report said.

It noted that poverty rates have declined between 3 per cent and 6 per cent per year in El Salvador, Ghana, India, Tunisia and Uganda.

"China and India have enjoyed significant economic growth in recent years. Between 1990 and 2017, the two countries had an average GDP per capita growth rate of 8.6 per cent and 4.5 per cent, respectively. However, the effects of growth within each country have been different," it said. The report noted that increase in the GDP per capita in both countries has been accompanied by poverty reduction. China's poverty rate declined from 88 per cent in 1981 to 0.7 in 2015.

In comparison, India's poverty reduction "seems relatively more modest" — moving from 48.9 per cent in 1987 to 21.2 per cent in 2011, it said. "The unique growth pat-

terns and inequality levels in each country may help explain the differences observed in the countries in terms of poverty and food security and nutrition trends."

"The pattern of economic growth in China, especially in the 1980s, shows that the primary sector, where most of the poor derive their livelihoods, was one of the most dynamic sectors behind the GDP growth. On the other hand, in India the rate of growth has been higher in the industrial and services sectors than in agriculture," it said.

The report said that the impacts of economic slowdowns on food security and nutrition are demonstrated in Haiti, Nepal and the Niger.

Amid a global financial crisis coupled with high food prices, households' food security, as measured by dietary diversity, reduced by 5 per cent in Nepal, 8 per cent in the Niger, and 23 per cent in Haiti due to increased food prices.

In the Indian Himalayas, economic slowdown coupled with natural resource depletion and climate change negatively impacted on food production and employment opportunities. This resulted in increased threats to food security due to lower purchasing power, it added.

The report also took note of the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS), introduced by India in

2005, the largest public works programme in the world.

"Unlike the previous cases, the MGNREGS was not designed to address employment problems arising from an economic downturn or to rebuild infrastructure damaged by a natural disaster.

Building on the experience of the state of Maharashtra, the MGNREGS instead guarantees up to 100 days of unskilled manual work on public projects during the lean seasons, at the statutory minimum wage, to all rural households.

"In this way, the programme helps rural households to stabilise their earnings and to smooth their consumption all along the year," it said.

## China gifts warship to Sri Lanka

PTI ■ BEIJING

China has gifted a warship to Sri Lanka, in the latest sign of its deepening military cooperation with the strategically located island nation in the Indian Ocean.

Also, China's rolling-stock manufacturer has announced that it would shortly deliver nine "new type" of diesel trains to Sri Lanka. The China-gifted frigate 'P625' arrived in Colombo last week.

The Type 053 frigate was commissioned into China's People's Liberation Army Navy in 1994 as the Tongling. The 2,300-tonne warship was decommissioned by the PLA Navy in 2015. The warship has now been gifted to the Lankan Navy.

The Lankan Navy, which played a key role in fighting the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam, has about 50 combat,

support ships and inshore patrol craft with most originating from India, the US, China and Israel.

India last year gifted a coast guard off shore patrol vessel (OPV) to the Lankan navy in addition to providing two OPVs in 2006 and 2008.

The Commander of the Lankan Navy, Vice Admiral Piyal De Silva, thanked China for the frigate and said his forces would take the gift as a suggestion of the good friendship between the two countries, state-run Xinhua news agency reported.

He said Lanka is currently facing maritime challenges with the surrounding sea being used by perpetrators for carrying out unlawful acts including drug trafficking.

With the acquisition of the frigate, the surveillance capabilities of the navy will be greatly enhanced, he said.

As a new member of the Lankan Navy, the 'P625' frigate will be mainly used for offshore patrol, environment monitoring and anti-piracy combats, the report said.

According to a statement issued by China's mission in Colombo, the Chinese navy held a two-month professional training for more than 110 Sri Lankan naval officers and sailors in Shanghai.

China, which has acquired Sri Lanka's Hambantota port in 2017 as a debt swap, has been ramping up its ties with the island nation and expanded its naval presence in the Indian Ocean with an established logistics base in Djibouti.

Xinhua also reported that China's rolling-stock maker CRRC Qingdao Sifang Co has produced nine diesel trains for Sri Lanka.

The new type of diesel trains, equipped with 90 train

cars, rolled off the production line on Friday in the Chinese city of Qingdao. They are the fourth batch of diesel trains the company produced for Sri Lanka, the report said.

The trains were designed to travel at a speed of 120-km per hour. Compared to trains currently used in Sri Lanka, the new trains have more air-conditioned carriages and are equipped with facilities such as a passenger information system, LCD TV and toilets designed for people with disabilities. The new trains are made with special corrosion-resistant material and techniques catering to the high-temperature and high-humidity in Sri Lanka.

Previously, the company exported three batches of 43 trains to Sri Lanka, accounting for over a half of the country's total trains in operation, the report said.

## Thailand's new Cabinet sworn in, ending rule by army junta

AP ■ BANGKOK

Thailand's new Cabinet was sworn in Tuesday, creating a nominally elected government after five years of military rule but keeping power in the hands of the same allies of the army.

King Maha Vajiralongkorn presided over the swearing-in of the 36-member Cabinet, during which they pledged their loyalty to the constitutional monarch.

"Every task has obstacles. Every mission faces problems," he told them in brief remarks.

"It is normal to take on work and solve problems so that the country can be run smoothly according to circumstances."

The Cabinet afterward regrouped at Government House for its first meeting.

Prayuth Chan-ocha, who as army commander seized power in a 2014 coup and then served as junta leader and prime minister, returns to serve again as prime minister.

This time he was elected by a parliamentary vote after a March general election gave pro-military parties a majority. The junta, which had given itself almost unlimited powers without oversight, was dissolved with the inauguration of the new Cabinet.

The election was held under a new constitution and laws enacted by Prayuth's junta aimed at disadvantaging established political parties.

Critics say the vote was undemocratic and engineered to prolong rule by the military and its conservative allies.

The measures were seen as being directly particularly at the Pheu Thai party, which headed the government



In this photo released by the Bureau of the Royal Household, Thailand's Prime Minister Prayuth Chan-ocha and his 36 cabinet members to take their oath in front of Thailand's King Maha Vajiralongkorn and Queen Suthida at Ampornsan Throne Hall in Bangkok on Tuesday

deposed in 2014.

Pheu Thai, under various names changed for legal reasons, had won every national election since it was founded in 1998 by telecoms tycoon Thaksin Shinawatra, who is despised by the country's conservative base, which includes the military.

Thaksin himself was overthrown as prime minister in a 2006 military coup.

Thaksin's populist policies won him enormous support at the polls but also threatened the influence of traditional power holders, including the military. After seizing power in 2014, Prayuth declared a war on money politics and so-called "influential persons," including political power brokers with shady connections.

But in assembling a political machine, the Palang

Pracharath Party that made him its candidate for prime minister recruited the same types of wheeler-dealers and made alliances with some to attain a majority.

"This Cabinet either represents old wine in a new bottle," said Paul Chambers, a political scientist at Narasuan University in northern Thailand, referring to major posts held by former members of Prayuth's military government, "or a product of a multiparty and multi-factional balance of power."

Thitinan Pongsudhirak, a professor of political science at Bangkok's Chulalongkorn University, described the Cabinet as "dominated by patronage politics and pay-backs," including at least two members with questionable reputations who were recruit-

ed for their abilities to turn out the vote.

"The unsavory few who have had a shady and criminalised past are surprising because they will be a lightning rod on the Prayuth government's credibility," he said in an email interview.

"It suggests that Prayuth has paid a high price for luring old-style politicians and influential figures into his party and Cabinet."

Prayuth is both prime minister and defense minister in the new government.

His key partners are Democrat party leader Jurin Laksanawit, who is deputy prime minister and commerce minister, and Bhumjai Thai Party leader Anutin Charnvirakul, who is deputy prime minister and health minister.

## Trump says he wants review of Google's ties to China

AFP ■ WASHINGTON

President Donald Trump said Tuesday he wants his administration to "take a look" into whether Google has been working with the Chinese government — an allegation swiftly denied by the US internet giant.

Trump echoed an unsubstantiated remark from tech billionaire Peter Thiel that Google had been working with China's government or military establishment.

"Billionaire Tech Investor Peter Thiel believes Google should be investigated for treason," Trump said in a tweet.

"A great and brilliant guy who knows this subject better than anyone! The Trump Administration will take a look!" Google said the allegations were baseless and questioned the motives of Thiel, a longtime Trump supporter who is on the board of tech rival Facebook.

"As we have said before, we do not work with the Chinese military," Google said in a statement to AFP.

Google pulled its search engine from China in 2010 to protest efforts by Beijing to censor its search results. It recently began researching a modified version of its search

engine for China but said it had no plans to deploy it.

Trump has assailed Google on several occasions, claiming "bias" against him and his supporters.

Earlier this year, he criticized the tech giant for withdrawing from the bidding for a large Pentagon computing contract, but later softened his tone after meeting Google chief executive Sundar Pichai.

Google has limited business operations in China, but one report this year said one of its scientists participated in a research project that could have both civilian and military applications.

## Zimbabwe's civil servants protest pay as inflation soars

AP ■ HARARE

Representatives of Zimbabwe's government workers Tuesday protested against what they called "slave salaries" as inflation almost doubled to 176%, a decade high that highlights the country's rapidly deteriorating economy.

Holding placards and singing songs denouncing the country's finance minister, about two dozen union leaders representing teachers, nurses and other government workers gathered in front of the finance ministry offices in central Harare. A few police officers monitored the protest from a distance.

Leaders of the civil servants union said government workers would be unable to continue showing up for work if their salaries are not adjusted to match inflation. "We have become slaves of the government. We just came as the leadership today but we will paralyze government operations if our demands are not taken seriously," said Cecilia Alexander, leader of the workers' union.

The inflation rate increased dramatically from 97 per cent in May, according to figures released by the government's statistics agency Monday.

Civil servants earn an average of 500 Zimbabwe dollars (about USD 50), just enough to buy 80 litres (21 gallons) of gasoline. They have rejected a "cushioning allowance" offered by the government.

## US says cryptocurrency a national security issue

PTI ■ WASHINGTON

The Trump administration has come out openly against cryptocurrencies, asserting that bitcoin had been exploited to support billions of dollars of illicit activity like cybercrime, tax evasion and ransomware.

"This is indeed a national security issue," US Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin told reporters at a hurriedly-convened news conference at the White House on Monday.

Mnuchin's serious concerns regarding the growing misuse of virtual currencies by money launderers, terrorist financiers, and other bad players, comes days ahead of representatives of Facebook will go to the Capitol Hill to discuss the proposal for its recently-announced cryptocurrency, Libra.

India, meanwhile, has throughout maintained that cryptocurrencies were illegal and it did not recognise such activities. The Treasury Department has expressed very serious concerns that Libra could be misused by money launderers and terrorist financiers.

Cryptocurrencies, such as bitcoin, had been exploited to support billions of dollars of illicit activity like cybercrime, tax evasion, extortion, ransomware, illicit drugs, human trafficking, Mnuchin said. "Many players have attempted to use cryptocurrencies to fund their malign behaviour. This is



indeed a national security issue."

Asserting that the United States had been at the forefront of regulating entities that provide cryptocurrency, Mnuchin said the administration would not allow digital asset service providers to operate in the shadows and would not tolerate the use of the cryptocurrencies in support of illicit activities.

"Treasury has been very clear to Facebook, bitcoin users, and other providers of digital financial services that they must implement the same anti-money laundering and countering financing of terrorism, known as AML CFT safeguards, as traditional financial institutions," he said.

Given the international nature of cryptocurrencies, the official said the US was also going to great lengths to ensure that effective regulation does not stop here at the US border. Last month, led by the United States, the Financial Action Task Force, known as FATF, the global standard setter for AML CFT, adopted comprehensive measures on how countries must regulate

and supervise activities and providers in this space.

This was a major step towards harmonising international regulations concerning crypto currencies, he said.

"We have also had extensive work at the G20, and I will be addressing this again this week at the G7 finance ministers in France. To be clear, the US welcomes responsible innovation, including new technologies that may improve the efficiency of the financial system and expand access to financial services.

That being said, with respect to Facebook's Libra and other developments in cryptocurrencies, our overriding goal is to maintain the integrity of our financial system and protect it from abuse," Mnuchin said.

In an apparent suggestion to Americans not to invest in cryptocurrencies, Mnuchin said they should be clear why they were investing in them.

"There's a lot of good things to invest in, obviously, we know about, but you know, our number one issue is that one, we don't want bad actors using cryptocurrencies, and that's our number one issue," he said. "I think to a large extent; these crypto currencies have been dominated by illicit activities as backup speculation. We'll make sure that the general public and investors understand what they're investing in and, whether it's the SEC or other regulators, there's proper disclosures," he added.

## First Imran-Trump meet to bolster Pak-US ties: Qureshi

PTI ■ ISLAMABAD

Pakistan Foreign Minister Shah Mahmood Qureshi Tuesday expressed confidence that the first summit-level talks between Prime Minister Imran Khan and US President Donald Trump next week will bolster bilateral ties and bring an era of peace in the broader region.

Khan and Trump will meet on July 22, after a flurry of exchanges between Islamabad and Washington seems to have eased the friction in bilateral ties, especially on securing a peace deal in war-ravaged Afghanistan and paved the way for the meeting at the White House.

Addressing a seminar here on Pak-US relations, Qureshi said that a constructive and cooperative approach is the

best option to improve bilateral relations between the two countries.

Qureshi, who will accompany Khan to Washington, acknowledged that there have been ups and downs in the past, but on the broader spectrum, the relationship has been mutually beneficial for both countries during the period of "active cooperation".

"The extraordinary achievements during the 1980s and post 9/11 success against the common enemy, terrorism, was possible through close and dynamic cooperation between the two countries," he was quoted as saying by The Express Tribune.

The minister expressed confidence that as the two countries embark upon the first summit-level engagement,

it will strengthen their ties and bring an era of peace and stability in the broader region.

Qureshi said the invitation from President Trump to Prime Minister Khan can be seen as an "acknowledgement of the inherent importance" of the bilateral ties.

On the issue of Afghanistan, he said that Pakistan is "mindful" of America's priorities in the war-torn country.

"Pakistan has been facilitating the US-Taliban talks in good faith, underscoring that it remains a shared responsibility," he said.

"Pakistan's engagement to promote intra-Afghan dialogue and regional consensus in support of the Afghan peace process are acknowledged by the relevant stakeholders," he said,

days after China hosted a meeting on Afghanistan in Beijing that involved Pakistan.

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

The four countries jointly urged the Taliban to immediately agree to a ceasefire and begin direct negotiations with the Afghanistan government to end the 18-year violence in the country.

In a joint statement, they re-affirmed that the negotiations should be "Afghan-led and Afghan-owned" and produce a peace framework as soon as possible.

Qureshi also said that the convergence in the Pakistan-

US policies on Afghanistan has rekindled hope for the resolution of the protracted Afghan conflict which only has brought misery and dependency on the region.

In December last year, President Trump announced that the US would pull out troops from Afghanistan.

The US still has about 14,000 troops in Afghanistan, nearly 18 years after the US-led invasion to topple the Taliban.

Trump and Imran even had a war of words on Twitter earlier over Pakistan's role in fighting terrorism. But a flurry of exchanges between the two countries appear to have eased friction and paved the way for the much-anticipated Khan-Trump summit meeting, the Express Tribune commented.

# Trump, Democrats clash over racism

PTI ■ WASHINGTON

The Democratic party, which has a majority in the House of Representatives, introduced a resolution on Monday condemning the tweets of US President Donald Trump against four of their women lawmakers as "racist".

The opposition leaders and the president continued to clash over the issue that has caught the national attention for the past few days.

"The Dems were trying to distance themselves from the four 'progressives,' but now they are forced to embrace them. That means they are endorsing Socialism, hate of Israel and the USA! Not good for the Democrats' Trump said as he unleashed a series of tweets against four Democratic Congresswomen.

Congresswomen Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, Ilhan Omar, Rashida Tlaib and Ayanna Pressley held a news conference at the Capitol to denounce a tweet by the president in which he apparently suggested that they leave.

"This is a president who has overseen the most corrupt administration in our history," Omar said.

"To distract from that, he's launching a blatantly racist attack on four duly elected members of the United States House of Representatives, all of



From left: US Reps Rashida Tlaib, D-Mich., Ilhan Omar, D-Minn., Ayanna Pressley, D-Mass., and Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, D-N.Y., respond to base remarks by President Donald Trump after he called for four Democratic congresswomen of color to go back to their "broken" countries, as he exploited the nation's glaring racial divisions once again for political gain, during a news conference at the Capitol in Washington. All four congresswomen are American citizens and three of the four were born in the US. Omar is the first Somali-American in Congress. AP

whom are women of colour," she said. "This is the agenda of white nationalists, whether it is happening in chat rooms or it's happening on national TV. And now it's reached the White House garden."

Trump had in a tweet, which was widely considered as against these four Democratic progressive lawmakers, said they should "go back and help fix the totally broken and crime

infested places from which they came" before speaking out about how the United States government should be run.

"He would love nothing more than to divide our country based on race, religion, gender, orientation or immigration status because this is the only way he knows how to prevent the solidarity of us working together across all of our dif-

ferences," Omar said.

Trump also said these progressive Democrats "came from countries whose governments are a complete and total catastrophe." His tweets were considered by the Democrats as racist. On Monday Trump defended his tweets.

"They hate our country. They hate it, I think, with a passion. Now, it's possible I'm wrong. The voter will decide.

But when I hear the way they talk about our country, when I hear the anti-Semitic language they use, when I hear the hatred they have for Israel, and the love they have for enemies like al Qaeda -- then you know what?" he asked.

Later in the day Democrats introduced a resolution in the House of Representatives condemning the alleged racist tweets. The resolution by Congressman Tom Malinowski could be voted on as early as Tuesday.

In a series of tweets, Trump defended himself. "We will never be a Socialist or Communist Country. IF YOU ARE NOT HAPPY HERE, YOU CAN LEAVE! It is your choice, and your choice alone. This is about love for America. Certain people HATE our Country..." he said.

"They are anti-Israel, pro Al-Qaeda, and comment on the 9/11 attack, 'some people did something.' Radical Left Democrats want Open Borders, which means drugs, crime, human trafficking, and much more...." he said in another tweet.

"Detention facilities are not Concentration Camps! America has never been stronger than it is now -- rebuilt Military, highest Stock Market EVER, lowest unemployment and more people working than ever before. Keep America Great!" he added.

# Leyen pledges EU 'green deal' in first 100 days

AFP ■ STRASBOURG

European Commission president nominee Ursula von der Leyen pledged Tuesday to propose a "green deal" for Europe in her first 100 days in office, which would see a carbon-neutral continent by 2050.

"I will put forward a green deal for Europe in my first 100 days in office. I will put forward the first ever European climate law which will set the 2050 target in law," von der Leyen told the European Parliament.

Von der Leyen pledged the European Union will "lead international ambition" on fighting climate change when she delivered a speech to the assembly in Strasbourg, France, which was to vote on her nomination later Tuesday.

At least 24 of the 28 EU member countries have so far pledged to set a target of a carbon neutral Europe by mid century where it emits no more greenhouse gas emissions than it absorbs.

Eastern countries like Poland, Hungary and the Czech Republic have so far refrained from issuing such a pledge amid concerns about financing their transition away from their dependence on coal and fossil fuels.

Von der Leyen, German defence minister, said the EU must go beyond its 2030 goal of reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 40 per cent, compared to 1990 levels, if it is to produce zero net emission by 2050.

That goal was set under the 2015 Paris climate agreement.

Warnings have multiplied since 2015, when 195 countries meeting in Paris sealed a landmark agreement to keep temperature rises well below two degrees Celsius (3.6



Ursula von der Leyen, the candidate to succeed Jean-Claude Juncker as head of the EU executive, answers parliament members during a debate at the European Parliament in Strasbourg, eastern France, on Tuesday. Ursula von der Leyen is seeking to woo enough legislators at the European Parliament to secure the job of European Commission President in a secret vote late Tuesday. AP

## Leyen 'ready' to back Brexit delay if needed

Brussels (AFP): European Commission president nominee Ursula von der Leyen said Tuesday she is prepared to extend Britain's exit from the EU beyond the October 31 deadline if necessary.

"I stand ready for further extension of the withdrawal date should more time be required for a good reason," von der Leyen told a confirmation hearing in the European Parliament. Her remarks triggered howls of derision from pro-Brexit members of the European Parliament.

Fahrenheit) compared with pre-industrial levels. The Intergovernmental Panel for

Climate Change (IPCC) warned in October that warming is on track towards a catastrophic 3 or 4 degree rise.

## Boris raises Brexit stakes

AP ■ LONDON

The favorite to become Britain's next prime minister, Boris Johnson, has raised the Brexit stakes by saying he will discard a contentious part of the European Union divorce deal agreed by outgoing leader Theresa May.

Britain's Parliament rejected May's deal, in large part because of a measure designed to ensure an open border between the U.K.'s Northern Ireland and EU member Ireland.

Brexit supporters think the so-called "backstop" keeps Britain too closely bound to EU trade rules. Some have argued for an exit clause or time limit.

# Khamenei: Iran will continue to cut nuclear commitments

AFP ■ TEHRAN

Iran's supreme leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei said Tuesday that his country will "certainly continue" to roll back on its commitments under the landmark 2015 nuclear deal.

"You did not carry out a single one (of your commitments), why do you want us to stick to our commitments?" Khamenei said, criticising European countries which are party to the deal.

"We have just started to decrease our commitments (in the deal) and this process will certainly continue," he said in a speech in Tehran partly aired on

state television.

Meanwhile, China has called the Iran nuclear deal "irreplaceable" and the sole way to resolve the concerns over Tehran's nuclear program.

Foreign ministry spokesman Geng Shuang said on Tuesday that "the complete and effective implementation of the agreement is the only viable and effective way to settle the Iranian nuclear issue and ease tensions."

He said that Iran's commitment to the agreement should be dealt with by the joint commission that oversees it.

Geng also blamed the United States for causing the current ten-

sions — last year, the Trump administration pulled out of the deal and re-imposed economic sanctions on Tehran.

Geng said the US should stop exerting pressure on Iran and create the conditions for a political and diplomatic settlement of the issue.

However, Iran's top leader says his country will retaliate over the seizure of an Iranian tanker by British authorities.

Ayatollah Ali Khamenei called the seizure of the ship "piracy" in a televised speech Tuesday, saying: "God willing, the Islamic Republic and its committed forces will not leave this

evil without a response."

The Iranian supertanker, carrying 2.1 million barrels of light crude oil, was seized with the help of British Royal Marines earlier this month off Gibraltar.

British Foreign Secretary Jeremy Hunt said Saturday that Britain will facilitate the release of the ship if Iran can provide guarantees the vessel will not breach European sanctions on oil shipments to Syria. Tensions have soared in the Persian Gulf over the past year as the Trump administration has ramped up sanctions on Iran after withdrawing from Iran's 2015 nuclear deal with world powers.

# Zuma admits initiating media initiatives with Gupta family

PTI ■ JOHANNESBURG

South Africa's former president Jacob Zuma, facing allegations of corruption, has told an inquiry that he initiated the idea of having an "alternative media" in the country that led to the controversial Indian-origin Gupta family establishing their media empire.

Zuma, who was forced to resign as president in February 2018, appeared for the first time on Monday at the inquiry, which is investigating allegations that he oversaw a web of corruption during his term in office.

The allegations against 77-year-old Zuma focus on his relationship with the Gupta family, which was accused of influencing Cabinet appointments and winning lucrative

state tenders through corruption.

"I have been vilified, alleged to be the king of corrupt people," Zuma told the inquiry led by Judge Ray Zondo.

Zuma told the judge that he had conceived the idea of having an "alternative media" in South Africa because "the media in this country is very biased; at all material times, just critical".

The Zondo Commission is inquiring into allegations of "state capture" during Zuma's rule.

Zuma said the African National Congress (ANC) had been trying to establish some media as an "alternative" voice, but despite trying by partnering with other people, this never worked.

He had then suggested

that a newspaper be established, which the ANC had agreed to. This led to him approaching the Guptas with the idea.

"They seemed to be warm to the idea" Zuma said, adding that he and ANC secretary-general Gwede Mantashe met the Guptas to further discuss the idea. "When (the Guptas) were ready with the idea, they said to me: 'Give us a name; we don't know what to call this newspaper.'"

He gave them some names of newspapers during the freedom struggle, from which they selected 'The New Age'.

"When this paper was operating and really being appreciated in this country to bring in an alternative voice, ... I wondered whether I could push them further," he said. "I suggested the paper to

them; I suggested the [TV] channel [ANN7]."

The Guptas partnered with a media house in India to establish the ANN7 channel, which was closed down after allegations of their involvement in "state capture" emerged.

The New Age was earlier first sold to an individual with controversial vendor financing from the Guptas, but also shut down after being economically unviable.

"Somebody can then say we were abusing this friendship. It was never the other way round," Zuma said.

"It's me who put them into trouble, because I said your paper is so successful and so your TV thing can be successful."

"They agreed and said it's a good idea and they moved

on it. There was no law broken there. There was no wrong thing done," he said.

"ANN7 brought a fresh air in the country in terms of reporting; in terms of putting across progressive ideas," the former president said. "It was never a back door thing or there's corruption about it. Never."

Zuma said he found the Gupta family "very friendly".

"I never did anything with them unlawfully. They just remained friends, as they were friends to everybody else," Zuma said, adding that they had also been friends of former presidents Nelson Mandela and Thabo Mbeki.

He objected to allegations that he had allowed the state to be "captured" by the family, and had auctioned the country, the BBC reported.

# Apollo astronauts meet at historic launchpad

AFP ■ CAPE CANAVERAL

Fifty years ago on Tuesday, three American astronauts set off from Florida for the Moon on a mission that would change the way we see humanity's place in the universe.

The crew's surviving members, Buzz Aldrin and Michael Collins, are set to reunite at the same launchpad on Tuesday, the start of a week-long series of events commemorating Apollo 11.

Their commander and the first man on the Moon, Neil Armstrong, passed away in 2012.

But Aldrin and Collins, 89 and 88 respectively, will meet Tuesday at precisely 9:32 am at the Kennedy Space Center's pad 39A to kick off the festivities.

Their spacecraft took four days to reach the Moon, before its lunar module, known as "Eagle," touched the lunar surface on July 20, 1969. Armstrong emerged a few hours later.

Collins remained in lunar orbit in the command module Columbia, their only means of returning back to Earth.

"They knew, I knew, if they couldn't get off for some reason there was nothing I could do about it," he told reporters in New York in May as part of a series of events.



In this July 24, 1969 photo from the US Navy, Navy UDT swimmer Clancy Hattberg prepares to jump from a helicopter into the water next to the Apollo 11 capsule after it splashed down in the Pacific Ocean, to assist the astronauts into the raft at right. Hattberg was the first to welcome Apollo 11's moonmen back to Earth. AP

"I had no landing gear on Columbia, I could not go down and rescue them." Aldrin has remained relatively more elusive but has also taken part in a few events, including a gala dinner last Saturday where the

cheapest ticket cost \$1,000.

Aging but active on Twitter, and always seen in stars-and-stripes socks, Aldrin has faced health scares and family feuds, culminating in a court case over finances, which was settled

in March.

On Tuesday, he will be the undeniable star of the show, as the second man to have stepped foot on the Moon. Only four of the 12 men who have done so remain alive.

Despite the festivities, neither the US nor any other country has managed to return a human to the Moon since 1972, the year of the final Apollo mission.

President George Bush promised to do so in 1989, as did his son president George W Bush in 2004, while pledging to also march forward to Mars.

But they both ran up against a Congress that wasn't inclined to fund the adventures, with public opinion markedly changed since the height of the Cold War.

For his part, President Donald Trump relaunched the race to re-conquer the Moon and Mars after taking office in 2017. But the immediate effect has been to create turbulence within the space agency.

Last week, NASA administrator Jim Bridenstine fired the head of the human space exploration directorate Bill Gerstenmaier, likely over disagreements over the 2024 ultimatum set by Trump to return an American to the Moon.

Five years appears unlikely given that neither the rocket, capsule or lander are yet ready or even finalized.

"We don't have a lot of time to waste, if we're going to have new leadership, it needs to happen now," Bridenstine told CSPAN last week.

# Indian convicted of killing wife in US

New York (PTI): An Indian-origin man extradited from India has been convicted by a US court for killing his estranged wife 12 years ago when she asked for a divorce, according to media reports.

Avtar Grewal, 44, who was extradited to the US in 2011, was found guilty of first-degree murder by the jury on Monday, for strangulating and submerging his 30-year-old wife Navneet Kaur in a bathtub in the Phoenix suburb of Ahwatukee in 2007, the Arizona Republic reported.

His sentencing is scheduled for August 23. The two got married in India in 2005, but had a long-distance relationship. Grewal was living in Canada while Kaur was in the US on a visa. Prosecutors told the court that Grewal showed his "true colours" immediately after he married Kaur.

Grewal would call his wife multiple times to find out her location, according to prosecutors. When she didn't answer the phone, he would call her office and other people.

Defence attorneys argued that Grewal killed his wife on accident and then made multiple attempts to take his own life. However, prosecutors argued the murder was premeditated and Grewal had a pattern of controlling behaviour.

Around the time of her death, Kaur told Grewal over the phone that she wanted a divorce. Grewal travelled from Canada to her Ahwatukee home so they could talk about it. Kaur picked him up from the airport and took him to her house.

Kaur repeated her desire of wanting a divorce and admitted to cheating on Grewal, according to defence attorneys. The couple started to argue and it escalated to the two slapping each other, the defence attorneys said.

He strangled her and then submerged her in a bathtub of water. He was arrested by international authorities and extradited back to the US, the daily said. The defence says while there was a fight between the two, Kaur's death was not premeditated.

# De Ligt agreed to join Juventus

AFP ■ TURIN

Defender Matthijs de Ligt has agreed to join Juventus, Dutch and Italian media reported on Monday, but it was not clear whether the Turin club had yet agreed a fee with Ajax.

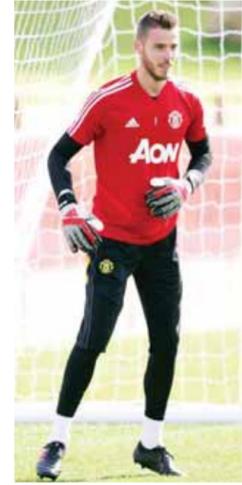
De Ligt has been linked with many of Europe's leading clubs after his impressive play for resurgent Ajax and Netherland teams last season. He has played 117 games for Ajax in all competitions, scoring 13 goals, including three as the club reached the last four of the Champions League last season, only to lose in the final seconds to Tottenham. De Ligt scored the winner in Turin as Ajax eliminated Juventus in the quarter-finals.



He has played 17 times for the Netherlands. Earlier on Monday, Juventus unveiled Aaron Ramsey, the Welsh midfielder who had agreed in February to join as a free agent once his contract with Arsenal expired.

several stars, including De Gea who is in the last year of his contract and has been linked with French champions Paris Saint-Germain. The Spaniard is reportedly close to signing a new five-year deal with United worth in excess of £350,000 a week that would make him the highest paid goalkeeper in the world.

# Ole confident De Gea will sign new deal



David de Gea during practice session

AFP ■ PERTH

United's pre-season opener against Perth Glory on Saturday but will line up against Leeds on Wednesday to wrap up the Red Devils' 10-day visit to the Western Australia city.

"He'll play and hopefully we can agree (on a new deal) with David, as I've said a few times," Solskjaer told reporters. "That'll be up to David to announce when that happens, if and when."

The United boss refused to be drawn on whether Leicester City and England centreback Harry Maguire was on his way to Old Trafford.

"There's been loads of speculation but I can't really say anything," Solskjaer said.

"There's a limit of players and whoever performs will be part of the team and whoever doesn't they will have to fight to get back in."

After an unconvincing 2-0 victory over a depleted Perth, United will be hoping for a better performance against one-time bitter enemy Leeds.

The rivalry has simmered since Leeds' relegation from the English Premier League in 2004 but hostilities between the passionate fan bases are still evident with extra security measures being put in place by organisers at Perth Stadium.

Solskjaer said United were excited to renew the rivalry. "Of course you want to have games against the biggest clubs," he said. "It's a great occasion for both sets of supporters and the players because there were great games (in the past)."

Romelu Lukaku, who is reportedly looking to secure a move to Inter Milan, is set to play his first pre-season match against Leeds after recovering from a "niggle". However, Luke Shaw is likely to miss out after suffering a hamstring injury in the match against Perth.

United will have further pre-season games against Inter Milan in Singapore on July 20 and Tottenham in Shanghai on July 25, while Leeds will head to Sydney to face Western Sydney Wanderers.

# Sharath & Co Start favourites Commonwealth Table Tennis C'ships



based on the weakest England, Nigeria and Singapore teams that have come here.

"Indeed, we are in the toughest group but since England, Nigeria and Singapore have not fielded their best players, Indian men should win the team and open events," said the winner of 10 medals, including the 2004 singles and team championship Gold medals.

Sharath said the way G Sathiyam, ranked No 24 in the world, has been playing, of

late, India would always fancy their chance against even the toughest. "He is in the form of his life. Besides, two seasoned campaigners in Liam Pitchford and Paul Drinkhall (England) and Aruna Quadri and Segun Toriola (Nigeria) are not here. Singapore, too, have fielded a young side while other teams are not that strong. It makes our job easier," he said.

In comparison, the women team draw looks far easier than one would have expected.

MEN			
Group A:	England, Sri Lanka, Cyprus		
Group B:	India, Singapore, Scotland		
Group C:	Nigeria, Malaysia, Bangladesh		
Group D:	Australia, South Africa, Wales		

WOMEN			
Group A:	Singapore, Wales, Scotland		
Group B:	India, South Africa, Sri Lanka		
Group C:	Australia, Malaysia, Cyprus		
Group D:	Nigeria, England, Bangladesh.		

Again, on the basis of team ranking, Singapore is the top-seeded squad but India, at No 2, form a part of group B with South Africa and Sri Lanka, while group A has Singapore, Wales and Scotland.

The other groups have lesser teams in terms of ranking.

The Indian women, on its strength, should be able to cross the first-stage hurdle without dropping a sweat.

However, they could face some stiff competition from Singapore as the hosts approach the final. Manika Batra, on

whose shoulder the burden is placed, may not be in the kind of form she had in 2018 CWG and Asian Games, but she is capable of pulling it off in a team event like this, particularly when the home crowd would be rooting for her and Team India.

In their first group match, Indian women take on Scotland, followed by Singapore.

The championships open with group matches in women section for the team championships.

PTI ■ CUTTACK

Indian men's team, led by skipper A Sharath Kamal, will start as favourites when the 21st Commonwealth Table Tennis Championships begins at the Jawaharlal Nehru Indoor Stadium here on Wednesday. India are clubbed with Singapore and Scotland in

group B, while England, the top-ranked team here and placed in group A, have Sri Lanka and Cyprus for company.

With the format allowing two teams from each group to qualify for the second stage, Sharath and Co are confident of sweeping the Gold medals. Sharath's calculations are

# Mirabai in constant battle with fear of injury



PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Top Indian weightlifter Mirabai Chanu on Tuesday said she lives in fear of injuring herself ahead of next year's Tokyo Olympics despite recovering from an unspecified back problem, which marred her progress in 2018.

After the Gold-winning performance in the Gold Coast Commonwealth Games last year, Mirabai had complained of lower back pain.

The injury puzzled doctors across the country, who were unable to diagnose the cause, forcing the 24-year-old to miss the Asian Games and the World Championships in the same year.

"A lot has changed after the injury. There is a always a fear as to what will happen if I get injured again. I have to think twice before every lift, every training session," Mirabai said.

About nine months later, the back pain has subsided allowing Mirabai to make a successful comeback to the arena. She notched up a Gold medal at the EGAT Cup in Thailand in her first

outing after the setback.

The injury has led Mirabai and coach Vijay Sharma to tweak their training regimen.

"My approach has changed because we don't know why the pain occurred in the first place. Was it because of some exercise or was it because of my technique, we still don't know that," she said.

"She is taking things a bit slowly," added Sharma, only slightly elaborating on what has changed for the star.

Mirabai has enjoyed a good run since her comeback. In the Asian Championships in April, she missed out on a medal by a whisker.

The 24-year-old had lifted 199kg (86kg+113kg), her personal best, but lost out to China's Zhang Rong, owing to a lower clean and jerk result.

She then got back to winning ways by notching up the gold at the recently concluded Commonwealth Championships.

"My progress since the injury has been good. I have won Gold EGAT and then again in Commonwealth Championships. I am satisfied with the performance."

The diminutive Manipuri has now set her sights on the World Championship, scheduled to be held in September. She has fond memories of the tournament, where she was crowned champion in 2017.

With those memories, come the expectations and with that a lot of pressure as the World Championship will also double up as an Olympic qualifying event.

"Compared to 2017 the expectations are much more because I am returning for the first time and this is the main event for the Olympics. But I try not to think about it. I just keep in mind what the coach tells me," she said.

In order to win at the World Championship, Mirabai will have to up the ante. She heaved 194kg on way to Gold at the 2017 Worlds in Las Vegas.

However, the 2018 world champion in the 49kg category lifted a world record weight of 209kgs. While the Silver and Bronze went to 208kg and 206kg, respectively.

"I am targeting 202kg-plus in this event. Thailand, China Japan, Korea we are all together."

"Because Asia is the powerhouse the same players will be in the Worlds as well, and I almost won a medal in the Asian Championship so I'm confident I'll do well. I have lifted 203kg in training. My aim is 210 but it has to be done slowly hopefully till Tokyo I will be able to achieve it," she explained.

After the rejig of weight categories, Mirabai had to move from 48kg to 49kg alongside a lot of lifters participating in the 53kg.

Asked if that's added pressure considering the 53kg lifters have an advantage over her, Mirabai said: "I am not thinking about others. I have to focus on my performance."

"Yes, I am at a disadvantage because those who have moved from 53kg can lift one or two kilogram more than us but I have to focus on my own performance," she said.



# Another super over should decide winner

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Sachin Tendulkar on Tuesday endorsed a second super over to decide the winner instead of considering the boundary count if such an extraordinary situation arises like it did in the World Cup final.

In a gut-wrenching final at Lord's on Sunday, England were adjudged the World Cup winners on the basis of their superior boundary count — 22 fours and two sixes to New Zealand's 16 — after both the regulation match and the ensuing Super Over ended in a tie.

"I feel there should be another super over to decide the winner, instead of considering the number of boundaries scored by both teams. Not just in a World Cup final. Every game is important. Like in football, when teams go into extra time, nothing else matters," Tendulkar told *100mb*.

Current and former cricketers including Rohit Sharma, Gautam Gambhir and Yuvraj Singh, have questioned ICC's "ridiculous" rule on boundary count that decided the World

Cup title.

After table toppers India were knocked out of the World Cup after losing the semi-final to New Zealand, skipper Virat Kohli had suggested IPL-like playoffs instead of knockouts in the World Cup going forward.

Asked if the World Cup format needs to be changed in the knock out stages, Tendulkar said: "I think the two teams that finish at the top should definitely have something going for them for having played consistently through the tournament."

During India's semifinal, former skipper Mahendra Singh Dhoni was sent at number seven with Hardik Pandya and Dinesh Karthik being promoted in the batting order.

Asked what batting order he would have gone with for the chase, Tendulkar said: "Without a doubt, I would've sent MS Dhoni at his usual position, No 5. With the kind of situation that India was in and the experience that he has, the need of the hour was for him to build the innings. Hardik could've batted at 6 and Karthik would've followed at 7."

# Mandhana wants to add more power to her game

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

India opener and number one ODI batswoman Smriti Mandhana is in no mood to take it easy after a memorable season and is busy tweaking her all-round game in the lead up to the Women's T20 World Cup early next year.

The season that went by saw the 22-year-old reach the top of the ODI rankings. Mandhana is not just known for her stylish strokeplay anymore, she has added much needed power to her game to meet the demands of the modern game.

After a fruitful fitness camp at the NCA in Bengaluru, Mandhana said she remains a work in progress.

"It was a good fitness camp. Finally after a year or



Smriti Mandhana in a file picture

two, we got a month off. It was good for us to come back and do a fitness camp. It was much needed because we are going to have a hectic eight months, so we have to get our body prepared for the grind," Mandhana said after

receiving the Arjuna Award here on Tuesday.

On her own batting, she said: "I and coach Raman sir have been discussing quite a bit about my game. How I can become more consistent in T20 cricket, how I can add



more power to my game. I still feel I need to improve on that front.

"You have to improve because other teams are also keeping an eye on you. Adding new shots is not something which I am looking for, I am looking to consistently hit the same length of balls in different places," said Mandhana, who is confident of another stellar season in the *Kia Super League* to

be held in the UK next month.

While Mandhana was India's stand-out performer in ODIs and T20s, the team's performance in the shortest format has left a lot to be desired as it lost six games in a row. The team did not have enough fire-power and though the issues facing the side were discussed at length in the camp, Mandhana feels there is still a long way to go.

"Fitness was a major point of discussion after the season ended. Raman sir and we collectively discussed that fitness needs to be better to be a potent T20 side. That thing is being worked out and girls are looking in better shape."

With the likes of Mandhana, Jemimah Rodrigues and Harmanpreet Kaur playing their part, the

team needs more aggressive batters, especially in the middle order.

"Our batting depth has to improve and Raman sir has been speaking to all the batters on the aspect of power hitting. Improved fitness will not only help our power-hitting but will also help our fielding."

"It is more mental than anything else. That is what Raman sir has been stressing on. He has given the freedom to the batters to express themselves in the middle rather than holding back," she added.

India, who have not played international cricket since March, host South Africa in September. The T20 World Cup will be held in Australia from February 21 to March 8.

# LOCAL EVENTS

SELECTED

Uttar Pradesh state badminton teams for East Zone Senior and Junior Badminton Tournament, to be held at Utrakhland, have been announced on Tuesday.

TEAMS:

**SENIOR: (Boy's)** Abhyansh Singh, Chandrabhushan Tripathi, Kunwar Ishan Singh, Shubham Yadav, Rajan Yadav **(Girl's)** Tanisha Singh, Samridhhi Singh, Shailja Shukla, Mayuri Yadav, Shruti Mishra

**JUNIOR: (Boy's)** Ansh Vishal Gupta, Abhinav Sharma, Bal Kesari Yadav, Ayush Raj Gupta, Akash Singh **(Girl's)** Mansi Singh, Shivangi Singh, Sonali Singh, Amolika Singh, Shruti Mishra.

JUBILEE COLLEGE WIN

Jubilee College edged past Sky Fall FC 1-0 in Division 'B' of Lucknow Football League 2019 at La Martiniere ground on Tuesday. Jack scored the lone goal of the match in the 45th minute. In another match, ND Razak FC played a 3-3 draw with LMP FC. Meanwhile, in the 'A' category match, Brayen XI thrashed Euro FC 4-1. Aditya and Satyam struck braces for the winner.

# Lampard takes over Chelsea

AFP ■ LONDON

Chelsea legend Frank Lampard said Tuesday he won't be looking backwards as he takes on possibly the biggest challenge of his career: managing his former team.

Speaking in Japan where the Blues are playing two friendlies, Lampard said he was "very happy" with his squad but expects to work the team hard during the pre-season. "For me the story is not to look backwards," said Lampard, whose return to his former club as head coach was confirmed earlier this month.

"I know the club very well, I know the players very well. I have my own way that I want to work with the players," he told reporters in Yokohama, where Chelsea will face Japan's Kawasaki Frontale on July 19. Lampard acknowledged taking on leadership of the Blues will be a major undertaking, with Chelsea having lost their best player of recent times, Eden Hazard, to Real Madrid last month, and serving a two-window transfer ban that prevents him from making new signings.

But he said there was no reason to dwell on the ban. "I think I inherited very good players. We cannot bring in any

players we know that... But I'm very happy with the squad.

"My job now is to work hard in pre-season with them. I like my teams to play with a lot of energy and speed, with and without the ball, so I want to win it back as quickly as we can," he said.

Chelsea's new \$72 million signing, Christian Pulisic, is listed as one of the team members visiting Japan, but it was not year clear when he will arrive.

Lampard declined to reveal the line-up for the two friendlies on Chelsea's calendar, which include a much-anticipated face-off against Barcelona on July 23.

American international Pulisic signed a five-and-a-half year contract with Chelsea in January but was immediately loaned back to Germany to finish the season at Borussia Dortmund. Lampard won 13 trophies in 13 years and became Chelsea's all-time leading marksman with 211 goals from midfield during a decorated playing career at Stamford Bridge. But he has a lot to prove in his new role. The former England midfielder has just one season of managerial experience having led Derby County to the Championship play-off final in May, when they were beaten by Aston Villa.

# Stokes sets sights on Ashes glory



England's Ben Stokes, left, celebrates with supporters at the Oval in London on Monday after Poms beat New Zealand to win its first World Cup in 44 years

AFP ■ LONDON

Ben Stokes has already started turning his attention to the Ashes just a day after starring for England in their dramatic ICC World Cup final win against New Zealand.

The all-rounder made an unbeaten 84 as the host nation tied the scores in regulation play at Lord's on Sunday and batted again in a Super Over shootout that also ended all-square.

The hosts won what Stokes described as the "best-ever" final on superior boundary count.

Monday saw a bleary-eyed Stokes on the other side of London's River Thames, where he was attending a team celebration event at the

Oval, with Eoin Morgan's side parading the trophy in front of hundreds of young fans.

"I've woken up in better conditions, but it's an incredible feeling," Stokes, who was man of the match said.

"We would have been devastated if we hadn't managed to lift that trophy but looking back over that game I think it will go down in the history books as the best ever, with all the drama of a World Cup final.

"It's an amazing thing to be part of."

The World Cup could be the first half of remarkable double with England, for the first time since the inaugural 1975 edition, staging a World Cup and Ashes in the same season.



— THERESA MAY to England Cricket team

game of your lives, you simply and stubbornly refused to lose. It is that determination, that character, that has made you world champions. You have helped the nation fall in love with cricket once again. We have a team that will be spoken of in awe for generations to come."

First comes a one-off Test against Ireland at Lord's next week before England begin their quest to regain the urn against an Australia side seeking a first away Ashes series win since 2001 at Edgbaston on August 1.

"We may be world champions but also want to be Ashes winners as well," said the 28-year-old Stokes.

"Everyone here deserves to feel like a champion because we've just won it but when it comes to the Ashes it's going to be heads on again because it has to be.

"Whether you're winning or losing games, you've just got to wipe the slate clean."

Stokes also revealed how he had coped with the highs and lows of finally winning the World Cup final

in regulation play before going out to bat again for the Super Over.

"Needing two runs off one ball, all I was thinking was 'just don't hit it in the air and get caught'. It was just 'don't try to be a hero and do it with a six,'" he explained.

"I wish it had gone for two because I wasn't best pleased with myself walking off and back to the changing rooms for that 10-minute turnaround.

"I actually had to go and have five minutes to myself in the shower area of the changing room. I was pretty annoyed, angry. I had to get my head switched back on because I knew there was a job out there to do.

"I was full of adrenaline so I needed to make sure my head was in the right place."

## ROOT HOPES DOUBLE

Basking in the glory of their maiden World Cup triumph, England Test captain Joe Root feels the team are on the cusp of reaching the cricket "pinnacle" if they also manage to win the Ashes.

"It's what we set out to do two or three years ago and we're halfway there," Root was quoted as saying by the BBC on Monday.

"We couldn't be in a better place really, having achieved what we've achieved here," said Root. "This will give the guys confidence and we've talked about taking that forward into a series like that.

"The way we played against Australia in that semi-final at Edgbaston... the guys who were involved relished it and will want a bit more: the feeling of euphoria we felt at that ground..."

"To potentially be able to experience all that again is very exciting. Ashes cricket always has a different edge to it so that in itself will get everyone going."

"It's always so special," added the 28-year-old.

"The atmosphere, the way it builds up and the way the guys get excited about it, it's like no other series in Test cricket.

"It's something I'm really looking forward to and it'll be massive, especially on the back of this. It'll make it even bigger."

# Sir Ben Stokes?

Stokes likely to be knighted for final heroics



Ben Stokes reacts during World Cup final match against New Zealand AP

PTI ■ LONDON

**11 English cricketers have been knighted for services to cricket till now with Alastair Cook being the last to be conferred with the honour**

England's World Cup hero Ben Stokes is likely to be bestowed with knighthood for his sensational performance in the summit clash against New Zealand which helped the hosts claim their maiden title in the ICC's 50-over showpiece event.

Stokes smashed an unbeaten 84 off 98 balls to help England tie the final match at the Lord's on Sunday. He then scored eight in the Super Over which also ended in a tie.

Stokes' World Cup heroics impressed Boris Johnson and Jeremy Hunt, the two contenders to be the next prime minister of the UK.

"I will give dukedoms, whatever — I will go to the maximum, to, what, the Garter King of Arms," said Johnson, the frontrunner to replace Theresa May as Britain's PM, during a series of rapid-fire 'yes or no' questions at the end of leadership debate hosted by *The Sun* and *talkRADIO*.

Asked if Stokes deserves knighthood, Johnson said, "Yes is the answer, absolutely."

When Hunt was asked the same question, he replied succinctly: "Of course."

Eleven English cricketers have been knighted for services to cricket till now with former Test and ODI skipper Alastair Cook being the last to be conferred with the honour.

The 28-year-old Stokes had missed the 2017-18 Ashes due to a pending investigation into his role in a fight in Bristol that had left a man in hospital with facial injuries.

Stokes went on to redeem himself with a superlative performance at the World Cup, amassing 465 runs and claiming seven wickets for England.

His performance was lauded by England captain Eoin Morgan, who described him as "extraordinary" and "superhuman".



Shakib Al Hasan celebrates with Liton Das after completing flier against Afghans AP

# Shakib rested for SL ODIs

AFP ■ DHAKA

Bangladesh are resting all-rounder Shakib Al Hasan but have retained skipper Mashrafe Mortaza for the three-match one-day international series against Sri Lanka later this month, officials said on Tuesday.

Left-arm spinner Tajjul Islam and top-order batsman Anamul Haque were also recalled to replace Shakib and batsman Liton Das, who has been rested for personal reasons.

Medium pace Abu Jayed, who was part of World Cup squad but did not play any games, was the other player to miss out.

"Now that the World Cup chapter is over and we are starting a new season. This series is very important for us," said Minhajul Abedin Nannu.

"We didn't make big changes from the World Cup squad here. As we don't have Shakib and Liton, we included two players in their places and dropped one player," he said.

Bangladesh finished eighth in the World Cup after

just three wins — against struggling South Africa, West Indies and Afghanistan.

The Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) sacked coach Steve Rhodes after the team returned home last week and announced it will not renew the contract of bowling coach Courtney Walsh.

Mashrafe, who claimed just one wicket in eight matches, shouldered the responsibility for the team's lacklustre performance, but the BCB has kept faith on him.

Bangladesh will become the first team to tour Sri Lanka since the deadly Easter attacks in which 258 people were killed.

The teams will play three one-day internationals on July 26, 28 and 31 at the Premadasa International Stadium in Colombo.

**Squad:** Mashrafe Mortaza (Capt), Tamim Iqbal, Soumya Sarker, Anamul Haque, Mohammad Mithun, Mushfiqur Rahim, Mahmudullah Riyad, Mosaddek Hossain, Sabbir Rahman, Mehidy Hasan, Tajjul Islam, Rubel Hossain, Mohammad Saifuddin, Mustafizur Rahman.

# Next India coach should be below 60

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The Indian cricket board on Tuesday invited applications for the men's team support staff including head coach who will need to be less than 60 years of age with a minimum international experience of two years.

The BCCI has streamlined the process of hiring the support staff including head coach, batting coach, bowling coach, fielding coach, physiotherapist, strength and conditioning coach and administrative manager. The application deadline for all the roles is 5 pm, July 30.

Before Ravi Shastri was appointed as the head coach in July 2017, the



Indian team coaching staff, from left, batting coach Sanjay Bangar, head coach Ravi Shastri & bowling coach Bharat Arun stand outside dressing room before the semi-final match against New Zealand AP

BCCI had issued a nine-point eligibility criteria which lacked focus and clarity. This time, it is only a three-point criteria for all the coaching roles including head coach besides the positions in the batting, bowling and fielding department.

"The current coaching staff of Team India will get an automatic entry in the recruitment process," said the BCCI in a statement.

The head coach should have coached a Test playing nation for a minimum of two years or three years with an associate member/A team/IPL side. The applicant also should have played 30 Tests or 50 ODIs.

The criteria remains the same for

batting, bowling and fielding coach except the number of games played. The three personnel should have played at least 10 Tests or 25 ODIs and be less than 60 years of age.

The current support staff comprising Shastri, bowling coach Bharat Arun, batting coach Sanjay Bangar and fielding coach R Sridhar were given a 45-day extension following the World Cup, covering the West Indies tour from August 3 to September 3.

All of them can re-apply but the team is set to have a new trainer and physio after the departure of Shanker Basu and Patrick Farhart following India's semifinal exit in the World Cup.

# 'No one lost the final'

PTI ■ WELLINGTON

"No one lost the final," New Zealand skipper Kane Williamson said on Tuesday as his team tried coming to terms with the gut-wrenching defeat against England in the World Cup's greatest summit clash.

Cricketers, current and former, shared New Zealand's pain on losing the title on boundary count with many of them asking for a "serious look" into the rule, slammed as "absurd".

"At the end of the day nothing separated us, no one lost the final, but there was a crowned winner and there it is," Williamson told *Newstalk ZB*.

Widely praised for the grace with which he and his side accepted the defeat, Williamson said they had signed up to the rules that governed the tournament.

"I suppose you never thought you would have to ask that question and I never thought I would have to answer it (smiling)," was Williamson's first reaction when asked about the rule.

"While the emotions are raw, it is pretty hard to swallow when two teams have worked really, really hard to get to this moment in time.



New Zealand's captain Kane Williamson walks away after getting his losers medal after the WC final match at Lord's AP

# Stead wants rules review after 'hollow' WC final

AFP ■ WELLINGTON

New Zealand coach Gary Stead has called for the Cricket World Cup's rules to be overhauled, labelling the showpiece final "hollow" after England defeated the Black Caps on a technicality.

The teams could not be separated at the end of both regular play and a Super Over shootout, so England were handed victory because they had a superior boundary count.

"It's a very, very hollow feeling that you can play 100 overs and score the same amount of runs and still lose the game, but that's the technicalities of sport," Stead told reporters in remarks released by *New Zealand Cricket* on Tuesday.

He said such a thrilling match, which has been hailed by many experts as the greatest one-day game in history, deserved a better way to determine the result.

"There's going to be many things they look at over the whole tournament — I'm sure when they were writing the rules they never expected a World Cup final to happen like that," he said.

"I'm sure it'll be reviewed (and) there's many different ways that they'll probably explore."

Stead shrugged off suggestions England had been mistakenly handed an extra run after a throw from a fielder hit the bat of a diving Ben Stokes' and deflected to the boundary in the



Gary Stead during Kiwi nets session AP

final over of regular play.

England were awarded six runs but former umpire Simon Taufel said they should only have got five as the batsmen had not crossed for their second run when the throw was made.

"I didn't actually know that," Stead said. "But at the end of the day the umpires are there to rule."

"They're human as well, like players, and sometimes there's a mistake but that's just the human aspect of sport."