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Joblessness, sinking GDP greet Nirmala

Sitharaman becomes first woman in 48 yrs to head FinMin at a time GDP growth is at 5-yr low & unemployment on 45-yr high

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The biggest surprise in the portfolio allocation of the Modi Cabinet on Friday was crucial Finance Ministry going to Nirmala Sitharaman, who was immediately greeted by the forecast of a sagging economy which saw GDP falling to a five-year low of 5.8 per cent and the Government admitting that the unemployment has hit a 45-year high figure.

Nirmala became the first woman in 48 years since then Prime Minister Indira Gandhi to hold charge of the Finance Ministry. Nirmala, who became the first full-time woman Defence Minister in the first tenure of the BJP Government, will also head the Corporate Affairs Ministry.

Indira — who handled the Finance Ministry in 1970-71 — as PM had held additional charge of the Defence Ministry.

Among the BJP leaders, Nirmala is a relatively junior face in the Modi Government.

She joined the BJP in 2008 and was made a member of the National Executive. She was nominated as party spokesperson in March 2010 and has been a full time party worker since then. Her elevation as Finance Minister has raised eyebrows both within and outside the BJP.

Nirmala took over as Defence Minister in September 2017 taking over from Arun Jaitley, who was holding the portfolio as additional charge.

At a time when the GDP is falling, unemployment is rising, export and FDI flow slowing down, and credit off take and NPA emerging major area of concerns, news agency PTI quoted analysts as saying that the narrative in markets will be about economic policies that will be adopted to revive and stimulate the slowing economy.

"The ambiguity of portfolio allocation is now removed, so this is good for the market in a sense. We will get to see new Finance Minister

Nirmala's proposals and approach in the Budget due in about a month," said Jagannadham Thunuguntla, Sr VP and Head of Research, Centrum Broking Limited.

"Emergence of clarity is what was important, and now narrative in markets will be about the economic policies that will be adopted to revive and stimulate the slowing economy," he said.

Meanwhile, India's economic growth rate slowed to five-year low of 5.8 per cent in January-March 2018-19, due to poor performance in agriculture and manufacturing sectors, official data released on Friday said.

The Central Statistics Office (CSO) also revealed that GDP growth during 2018-19 fiscal stood at 6.8 per cent, lower than 7.2 per cent in the previous financial year. The growth in GDP was slowest since 2014-15. The previous low was 6.4 per cent in 2013-14. The fourth quarter growth



Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman takes charge of office on Friday PTI

was below China's 6.4 per cent.

On the unemployment front, Nirmala faced the daunting task of dealing with jobless growth. Months after rejecting the claim that India's unemployment rate had touched a 45-year high, the Narendra Modi Government admitted

the same on Friday with the latest data showing that joblessness had indeed touched 6.1 per cent from July 2017 to June 2018. The unemployment rate is defined as the percentage of persons unemployed among the total labour force.

The data released by the



Government on a day when Modi 2.0 Cabinet took charge showed 7.8 per cent of all employable urban youth being jobless, while the percentage for the rural was 5.3 per cent.

The joblessness among males on all India basis was 6.2 per cent, while it was 5.7 per cent in case of females.

The data comes from the Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS), which was conducted by the National Sample Survey Office (NSSO) from July 2017 to June 2018, and covered 4.3

lakh people across 1.02 lakh households. The PLFS notes that the all-India unemployment rate was at 6.1 per cent for 2017-18, the highest since 1972-73.

As per data, share of self-employed among workers was about 57.8 per cent among rural males, 57.7 per cent among rural females, 39.2 per cent among urban males and 34.7 per cent among urban females. Among regular wage/salaried employees in the non-agriculture sector, 71.1 per cent had no written job contract; 72.3 per cent among males and 66.8 per cent among females.

The data showed joblessness for rural male youth (aged 15-29) went from 5 per cent in 2011-12 to 17.4 per cent in 2017-18. For rural women in the same age group, joblessness went from 4.8 per cent in 2011-12 to 13.6 per cent in 2017-18.

The Government had earlier brushed aside a leaked

official report on the country's poor job scenario and maintained that the unemployment data was yet to be finalised. The Modi Government had come under fire for withholding the key macro data, with the Opposition parties alleging that it was a deliberate attempt to hide its non-performance. Moreover, some members of the Statistical Commission had earlier resigned to protest against the Government's decision to withhold the data.

The data poses a huge challenge to the Modi Government which has returned to power for the second term on the promise that it will set policies right and ensure faster economic growth and employment. The data is also significant because this was the first comprehensive assessment of the employment situation conducted after Modi's decision in November 2016 to withdraw most of the country's banknotes from circulation overnight.

JD(U) won't join Modi Govt even in future: Nitish



Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar addresses the media on his arrival at Jai Prakash Narayan Airport in Patna on Friday PTI

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Bihar Chief Minister and Janata Dal (U) president Nitish Kumar on Friday made it clear that there is no question that his party will join the Union Cabinet in future even as he disclosed that BJP chief Amit Shah made repeated attempts to convince him to accept his proposal for one berth in the Modi Cabinet.

"As the JD(U) national president, I want to tell that there is no question of JD(U) joining the Union Cabinet in the future," news agency PTI quoted Kumar telling reporters at the Patna airport on his returning from Delhi after participating in the swearing-in ceremony of Modi.

Nitish, however, made it clear that one should not have any confusion that being in the Government is the only testimony that they are with the

Government. "We are firmly with the NDA," Kumar said.

The Bihar CM insisted there is no "unease" between the alliance partners and that the decision against joining the Ministry was taken as the JD(U)'s presence there would have been merely "symbolic".

The JD(U) president said Shah called him up on May 28 and said he wanted to meet him for discussion the next day. He said the two met in New Delhi Shah told him that his party wanted to share power with all NDA constituents, and suggested that the JD(U) accepts a Cabinet berth.

"I kept listening to him and the sense I had was that it was to be a symbolic presence for the JD(U) in the Government. I didn't want that. Still, as he insisted, I told him that I will consult my party and get back to him," Kumar told reporters.

Will Shah walk the talk on Article 370?

DEEPAK K UPRETI ■ NEW DELHI

BJP strongman Amit Shah, who had promised that his Government would scrap Article 370, is new Union Home Minister in place of Rajnath Singh. Rajnath has been moved to Defence while Nirmala Sitharaman has been entrusted with an equally high-profile Ministry of Finance and Corporate Affairs.

Replacing Sushma Swaraj, who held the portfolio of Foreign Minister in Modi-1 but opted not to contest Lok Sabha polls, is former Foreign Secretary S Jaishankar. The critical Ministry has been given to Jaishankar, trusted by Modi since latter's days as Chief Minister in Gujarat.

Jaishankar, son of noted strategic expert and a former head of Institute of Defence Studies K Subrahmanyam, is the first former foreign secretary to take charge of MEA. He is also the second diplomat after Natwar Singh to hold Cabinet portfolio.

The command of home portfolio going to Shah is significant given his poll-time assertion in West Bengal last month that his Government would remove controversial provision of Article 370 in Jammu & Kashmir. "We will remove Article 370 from Kashmir after forming the next BJP Government at the Centre," he had said at Kailimpong public rally at Darjeeling. Besides this, he has also maintained that his Government would introduce National Register for Citizens across the country if voted to power again at the Centre.

One of the closest confidant of the Prime Minister, Shah has held MoS home portfolio under Modi's Chief Ministership in Gujarat. Presently an MP from Gandhi

Nagar, Shah was in the past elected as an MLA in 1997, 1998, 2002 and 2007.

As Home Minister, the former BJP president is expected to have a high-level of synergy with the Prime Minister who was effusive in his praise of Shah soon after party's stupendous Lok Sabha success on May 23 when BJP went past 300 and NDA 350 seats.

Sitharaman has stepped into the shoes of Arun Jaitley, who opted out of new Government on health grounds. Known as close to Jaitley, Sitharaman had a steep rise in her profile from being spokesperson to holding ministries of Corporate Affairs, Commerce and Industry to becoming first full-fledged Indian woman Defence Minister.

She will have a deputy in Anurag Thakur, a first time Minister in the Modi Government. Anurag is close to Jaitley.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will retain the Department of Personnel and Training, Atomic Energy and Space as well as all important policy issues and portfolios not allocated.

Giant slayer Smriti Irani, who ended Congress president Rahul Gandhi's run in his pocket borough of Amethi, is the new Women and Child Development (WCD) Minister along with retaining the Textile Ministry, according to a communiqué issued by the Rashtrapati Bhavan. WCD was earlier held by Maneka Gandhi who has not been included in the Cabinet.



Newly-appointed Union Ministers Rajnath Singh and Amit Shah leave after their first Cabinet meeting under PM Modi's second tenure in New Delhi on Friday PTI

Modi's Cabinet: The Portfolios

May 31, 2019

Cabinet Ministers																							
Rajnath Singh • Defence	Amit Shah • Home Affairs	Nitin Gadkari • Road Transport and Highways • Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises	Sadananda Gowda • Chemicals and Fertilizers	Nirmala Sitharaman • Finance • Corporate Affairs	Ramvilas Paswan • Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution	Narendra Singh Tomar • Agriculture & Farmers Welfare • Rural Development	Ravi Shankar Prasad • Law and Justice • Communications • Electronics and IT	Harsimrat Kaur Badiola • Food Processing Industries	Thawar C. Gehlot • Social Justice and Empowerment	S. Jaishankar • External Affairs	Ramesh Pokhriyal • Human Resource Development	Arjun Munda • Tribal Affairs	Smriti Zubin Irani • Women and Child Development • Textiles	Harsh Vardhan • Health and Family Welfare • Science and Technology • Earth Sciences	Prakash Javadekar • Environment, Forest and Climate Change • Information and Broadcasting								
Piyush Goyal • Railways • Commerce and Industry	Urmil Pradhan • Petroleum and Natural Gas • Steel	Mukhtar Abbas Naqvi • Minority Affairs	Prakash Joshi • Parliamentary Affairs • Coal • Mines	Mahendra Nath Pandey • Skill Development and Entrepreneurship	Avinash Saxena • Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises	Girraj Singh • Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries	Gajendra Singh Shekhawat • Jai Shakti	Ministers of State (Independent Charge)															
Santosh K. Gangwar • Labour and Employment	Ras Indrajit Singh • Statistics and Programme Implementation • Planning	Shripad Y. Naik • Ayurveda, Yoga and Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha and Homoeopathy (Int. Charge) • Defence (MS)	Jitendra Singh • Development of North Eastern Region (Int. Charge) • PWD (MS) • Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions (MS) • Department of Atomic Energy (MS) • Department of Space (MS)	Kiren Rijju • Youth Affairs and Sports (Int. Charge) • Minority Affairs (MS)	Prabhat Singh Patel • Culture • Tourism	Raj Kumar Singh • Power (Int. Charge) • New and Renewable Energy (Int. Charge) • Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MS)	Hardeep Singh Puri • Housing and Urban Affairs (Int. Charge) • Civil Aviation (Int. Charge) • Commerce and Industry (MS)	Mansukh L. Mandaviya • Shipping (Int. Charge) • Chemicals and Fertilizers (MS)	Prime Minister Narendra Modi • Personnel, Public Grievances & Pensions • Department of Atomic Energy • Department of Space • All important policy issues • All other portfolios not allocated to any minister														
Ministers of State																							
Faggansingh Kalaste (Sardar) • Health and Family Welfare	Arjun Ram Meghwal • Parliamentary Affairs • Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises	V. K. Singh • Road Transport and Highways	Krishan Pal • Social Justice and Empowerment	Darve Ramesh Dadao • Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution	G. Kishan Reddy • Home Affairs	Parshottam Rupala • Agriculture and Farmers Welfare	Ramesh Athavale • Social Justice and Empowerment	Sudhi Niranjan Jyoti • Rural Development	Rahul Sagaria • Environment, Forest and Climate Change	Sanjeev Kumar Balyan • Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries	Dhrotr Sanjay Shamrao • Human Resource Development	Anurag Singh Thakur • Finance • Corporate Affairs	Agadi Bhanu Chandra Babu • Information and Broadcasting	Bhagwan Rai • Home Affairs	Rattan Lal Kataria • Social Justice and Empowerment	V. Marudhantharan • External Affairs	Parliamentary Affairs	Renuka Singh Sarada • Tribal Affairs	Son Parkash • Commerce and Industry	Rameswar Teji • Food Processing Industries	Pratap Chandra Sarangi • Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises • Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries	Kailash Choudhary • Agriculture and Farmers Welfare	Debasree Choudhary • Women and Child Development

CAPSULE

5 TERRORISTS KILLED IN ENCOUNTERS IN J&K Srinagar: Five terrorists and an "active associate" were killed Friday in two encounters with security forces in Shopian and Pulwama districts of Jammu & Kashmir, police said.

IMD ISSUES RED-CODE WARNING FOR DELHI
New Delhi: Heat wave conditions continued unabated in Delhi even as the Met department on Friday issued a "red-colour" warning for the national Capital.

US WARNS INDIA OVER S-400 DEAL WITH RUSSIA
Washington: India's decision to buy the long-range S-400 missile from Russia will have serious implications on defence ties, the Trump administration has warned.

Bhopalites get no respite from hot weather

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

Unbearable hot conditions prevailed during the day on Friday after day temperatures continued to peak at 47 degree Celsius for the second consecutive day.

State capital recorded the highest day temperature of the season at 44.4 degree Celsius which was 4 degree Celsius above the normal temperature. The night temperature was recorded at 31.4 degree Celsius which was 4.1 degree Celsius above the normal temperature.

Harshness in the weather conditions would be maintained and intense hot wave conditions are likely to occur according to warning issued by Met department for



Chhatarpur, Sagar, Damoh, Khargone and hot wave conditions are likely to occur in Gwalior, Chambal, Hoshangabad, Rewa, Shahdol, Bhopal, Jabalpur, Ujjain and

Indore divisions and Tikamgarh and Panna districts.

In the next 24 hours Gwalior and Chambal divisions and Anuppur, Dindori, Shahdol, Mandla, Seoni and Chhindwara are likely to witness light rainfall and dust storms.

Light rainfall was witnessed in Jabalpur and Ujjain divisions in the past 24 hours while other divisions remained dry. Jabalpur and Rewa were the hottest place of the state on Friday and recorded 47 degree Celsius.

The night temperatures have soared maintaining the weather conditions hotter in nights.

The highest night temperature was recorded in Rajgarh

at 32 degree Celsius. Raisen, Sagar, Umaria recorded night temperature at 30 degree Celsius.

Hot wave conditions prevailed in the state at several places. Jabalpur and Ujjain witnessed intense hot wave conditions while Sidhi, Tikamgarh, Damoh, Umaria, Raisen, Rajgarh, Khandwa, Khargone, Shajapur, Datia, Guna and Sheopur witnessed hot wave conditions.

Among the regions which recorded high day temperatures were Damoh and Khajuraho recorded 46.4 degree Celsius while Nowgong recorded 46 degree Celsius. Sidhi, Sagar, Satna, Umaria, Hoshangabad, Khargone and Rajgarh recorded day temperature at 45 degree Celsius.



Muslims offer prayer on the last Friday during Ramzan at Taj-ul-Masajid in Bhopal on Friday

Pioneer photo

Agarbatti staged at Bharat Bhavan

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

A riveting tale of caste, gender, class and conflict and politics, Agarbatti is based on the Behmai massacre.

The play Agarbatti was staged at Bharat Bhavan here on Friday, marking the conclusion of Madhya Pradesh Rangotsav.

Directed by Swati Dubey, the play was wondrously performed by Samagam Rangmandal, Jabalpur.

The Behmai assassination was committed by Bandit Queen Phoolan Devi and her gang to avenge her gangrape by the upper-caste Thakur men of Behmai.

In order to rehabilitate the widows of the massacred Thakurs, the government opens an incense stick factory in the village.

One of the widows, Lala Ram Thakurain, reserves the last rites of her husband until Phoolan Devi has been executed.

The story begins after Phoolan's death and explores its implications and consequences on a series and spectrum of events.



A scene from the play 'Agarbatti' staged at Bharat Bhavan on Friday

Pioneer photo

This incident was not a lesson for the world but was a big question, and this question has not been answered

till today. Feudalism, patriarchy and racial bouts of racial abuse were split. With the sound of bullets, Phoolan surrendered and went to jail. There were serious differences about the widow's chariot journey and almost all were very selfish.

Politics started practicing this phenomenon and ethnic equation in its favor. Intense sentiment is the tool of Indian politics, which can reach the moment of power at the moment. There is nothing to do with its serious discussions.

Agarbatti Drama is an effort to rebuild this serious discussion, which is the theatrical representation created by the color of fictional characters and events on the real event and the grounds of the geography.

This question is unanswered because, as a Member of Parliament, Phoolan Devi was murdered in Delhi. The purpose of the drama Agarbatti is to discuss this question again.

The play begins from the grave of Phoolan Devi and from here the nine characters of the drama come in front of the audience.

INBRIEF

SARPANCH WILL ISSUE ADMINISTRATIVE APPROVAL

Bhopal: Panchayat and Rural Development Minister Kamleshwar Patel said that now the Sarpanch will issue online administrative approval of construction works under NREGA scheme. The entire process from preliminary estimates to payment has been made online. Patel told that SECURE software is being used in all gram panchayats of the state from April 1, 2019. Under this standard estimate and design is available for community drinking water well (Nirmal Neer) and for construction of Shantidham in rural areas. Two standard cost estimates -Rs 4.46 lakh and Rs 5.34 lakh for community drinking water well and Rs 1.90 lakh and Rs 2.80 lakh have been fixed for Shantidham. According to the software, the layout will be given by the employment assistant/sub-engineer. The sub-engineer will prepare the estimate, assistant engineer will give technical approval and Sarpanch will give the administrative approval. Time-limit has been fixed for all the works.

'GET INFO ON STRUCTURES AT NARMADA BHAWAN'

Bhopal: The newly-appointed Vice President of Narmada Valley Development Authority, Additional Chief Secretary M Gopal Reddy sought information about the Authority Headquarters and field structures at Narmada Bhawan on Friday. Reddy asked to ensure timely completion of the Authority's projects under construction. Effective action plans should be implemented for this. Also, focus on using cent percent of the irrigation potential of the schemes. Complete the pre-construction processes for the proposed schemes soon and make time-bound plan of financial needs. Reddy told to constantly monitor the Authority's works under construction to ensure its progress. Member (Engineering) of Narmada Valley Development Authority RP Malviya told that irrigation water was made available to 5.70 lakh hectare area of Narmada Valley in the year 2018-19 through irrigation schemes. In Malwa region, 98 per cent of the ambitious irrigation project of Narmada-Malwa-Gambhir has been completed. The Narmada-Kshira pipeline scheme is also in progress. Director (Rehabilitation) Sanjay Gupta informed about the rehabilitation works related to the Indra Sagar and Omkareshwar Project along with the inter-state Sardar Sarovar project. Member (Environment) of the Authority, CK Patil apprised with the environmental issues related to the projects.

ASSEMBLY SPEAKER'S SECURITY TO BE UPGRADED

Bhopal: A decision to upgrade the security of Assembly Speaker was taken at a meeting of the State Security Committee concluded under the chairmanship of Home Minister Bala Bachchan. Security arrangement of other important persons and former public representatives was also discussed during the meeting. Principal Secretary Home SN Mishra, ADG Kailash Makwana and IG Yogesh Chaudhary were present in the meeting. Home Minister Bachchan and Law -Legal Affairs Minister PC Sharma will take a meeting on Saturday, June 1 at 11 am. Cases registered under farmers' protests and political nature in the previous years will be discussed in the meeting. Cases withdrawal procedure simplification will also be discussed. The report of the meeting will be handed over to the Chief Minister in 15 days. Principal Secretary Home SN Mishra, Principal Secretary Law-Legal Affairs Satyendra Singh and Director Public Instructions ADG Rajendra Kumar will take part in the meeting. Home Minister Bachchan will preside over a meeting to review law and order system on Monday June 3 at the Mantralaya at 11 am. Decision will be taken to strengthen law and order system and crimes against women. Principal Secretary Home SN Mishra and DGP Vijay Kumar Singh will be present in the meeting.



3 books go online in Vivekananda Library

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

The Bhopalites can now read books of their choice online.

Three books were launched online in the Swami Vivekananda Library on Friday. The books were launched on the Ebook Platform article on the dot platform.

During Summer Vacation different activities based on different themes will be organized in Swami Vivekananda Library that began here from Friday.

On the first day i.e. on Friday three eBooks on "Essential Geeta", "Broken Mirror", and the Option 2020 were released on the Articlesearch.com platform.

During Summer vacation different activities based on different themes will be organized in Swami Vivekananda Library that began here from Friday

Nandan Dubey (former DGP), P. P. Singh (Chief Editor, Medium) Madhavi Dubey (Professor Higher Education) have been included in the panel. The author of three books, Kamal Kishore Dubey, Sadhna Singh Bisen and Vinod Kumar Jain will discuss the books written by them.

It is to be noted that the ArticleSearch.com is an online platform where books can be uploaded and read. In it, Nandan Dubey (former DGP) is included as a special guest. The three books that were released online on Friday included Shri Hari Satha Geeta. Kamal Kishore told about Srimad Bhagvat Gita and also described it as Krishna. Broken Mirror is the another book that was launched online. Sadhna, her views on the atrocities on women and their research.

The third book which was launched online qas Option 2020. Vinod Kumar Jain introduces his book option 2020 and said that the youth should definitely fall in this book.

Two-day theatre festival Balman Natya Samaroh 2019 to be held

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

The two-day theatre festival Balman Natya Samaroh 2019 will be held in city. The festival will begin from Saturday at Shaheed Bhavan auditorium.

The theatre festival is being organised by Saghan Society of Culture and Welfare, Bhopal. The theatre festival will feature performances of different genres i.e. from dance performance to dramas will entertain the audience. The festival is being organised in the memory of Alakhnandan and Shailendra Kumar.

The event will begin from Saturday with Kathak Tarana dance performance. The dance performance will be given by

The festival is being organised in the memory of Alakhnandan and Shailendra Kumar

the artists of Dance Academy, Indore. The dance is choreographed by Vishakha Bansod.

On the same day two plays will be performed. The first play will be Aur Chidiya Sher Ban Gayi. The play is written by Prasanna Joshi and directed by Praful Tiwari. It will be performed by the artists of Saghan Society. Next play will be Anokha Uphar. It is written by Preet Praveen Dubey and is directed by Vibha Shrivastava. The play will be performed by

the artists of Ekrang Socio Cultural Group.

The second day i.e. Sunday will also mark tremendous performances. On Sunday four plays will be performed. First play will be Hum Sab Ek Hain directed by Mukul Tripathi. The play will be performed by the inmates of Apna Ghar and Raunak theatre troupe.

Second performance on the same day will be Bhulva Bhullakad, directed by Rachna Mishra. It will be performed by Rang Triveni theatre troupe. The third play will be Mohan se Mahatma, directed by Niti Shrivastava. The last performance will be Phulwama Tribute, a dance drama choreographed by Bhoomika Thakur.



Jubilant students pose for a group photograph after receiving their degree during 7th convocation ceremony of Indian Institute of Science Education and Research (IISER) at Bhauli, in Bhopal on Friday

Pvt college authorities accused of siphoning off scholarship money

PNS ■ GWALIOR

It has come to the notice of the authorities that some brokers and private college authorities have been siphoning off scholarship money to the tune of crores from the social welfare department by submitting fake list of SC/ ST students of BEd course.

It is alleged that these people have been carrying out this fraud with the connivance of certain bank employees.

According to sources the monthly scholarship amount of an SC/ST student studying for BEd is ₹2000 which works out to ₹48000 for two years. False certificates, fake identities and

Some social activists of the city are claiming the involvement of many top colleges and bank employees

rent agreements have been submitted to the government and crores of rupees drained off in the name of made-up students. The alleged fraud was detected when the authorities began getting complaints from many quarters.

It is still unclear how the brokers and the private college authorities succeeded in getting the bogus certificates, rent agreements and other documents verified and approved by the pertinent authorities before getting a sanction order for the

disbursal of the scholarship money.

Some social activists of the city are claiming the involvement of many top colleges and bank employees.

District Administration has initiated an enquiry into the matter and a few brokers and college directors have been asked to present themselves for enquiry.

A majority of the private colleges and brokers under the radar are from the city.

According to sources in the police and District Administration Prem Singh, Gajendra Uchariya, Lokendra Sagar, Jitendra Kaushal and a few others have already been questioned in this matter.

2 YOUNG MOUNTAINEERS VISIT CM



Bhopal: Two young mountaineers of the state who scaled Mount Everest recently Bhavna Deharia and Megha Parmar paid a courtesy visit to Chief Minister Kamal Nath at the Mantralaya. Both scaled Mount Everest and hoisted the national flag. Congratulating both the mountaineers the Chief Minister said that state government is making special efforts to promote adventurous sports. He said that state government will provide assistance for journey to the mountaineer who scales Mount Everest. Bhavna Deharia and Megha Parmar are residents of Chhindwada and Sehore respectively. Both the courageous women accepted the challenge of such a tedious journey backed by their strong will power and reached the peak of Everest. Earlier Bhagwan Singh, Ratnesh Pandey also scaled the Mount Everest. During the visit, Sports and Youth Welfare Minister Jitu Patwari and Director Sports and Youth Welfare SL Thausen were present.

CAIT DELEGATION VISITS NATH

Bhopal: A delegation of Confederation of All India Traders (CAIT) paid a courtesy visit to the Chief Minister Kamal Nath at the Mantralaya. Talking to the delegation, the Chief Minister said that the state has a friendly environment for the expansion of industries. Nath said that the state government will fulfill the promises made in the manifesto regarding industries and trade. He said that our goal is development, which is significantly based on industry and trade. The state government is constantly working on make these sector progressive. The CAIT delegation included State President Bhopendra Jain, senior National Vice-President Kailash Agrawal, National Vice President Radheshyam Maheshwari, State General Secretary Mukesh Agrawal, Bhopal Division President Rambabu Sharma, Vice President Anshu Gupta, Joint Secretary Manoj Chourasia, Avichal Jain, Yashodhar Soni, Sanjay Cooper, Sushil Surana and Murli Hirani.

LECTURE ON 'WILDERNESS IN THE DARK'

Bhopal: Regional Museum of Natural History, Bhopal organised a Lecture on 'Wilderness in the Dark' delivered by Beenish Rafat, Scientist-B of the museum on Friday under Summer Nature Study Programme-Green Teens. During the lecture, Rafat explained about categories of animals like the Diurnal, Nocturnal and Crepuscular. She also details about the Evolutionary history of the animals. In the continuation 'Environmental Game' programme organized. Dilip Chakravorti, Environmental Education Officer, EPCO, Bhopal was the resource person of the programme. During the programme, Dilip Chakravorti demonstrated the environmental game to the participants like; Food Pyramid-importance of every animal in food chain, Card Roll-Tree Ecosystem, Waste management: Recycle-Reuse-Reduce, Dripping Tap Technique-Calculation of water waste by dripping and water conservation, Wishing tree for the disseminate the importance of environment and its conservation.



A scene from the play 'Mein School Nahai Jaungi' based on good and bad touch behaviour at Jawahar Bal Bhawan in Bhopal on Friday

Manglu Ka Dramo Ashok Ho gayo Nikamo staged

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

Under Abhinayan series of drama, a play Manglu Ka Dramo Ashok Ho gayo Nikamo was staged at Madhya Pradesh State Tribal Museum. The play was performed here on Friday.

At the center of this play is a character named Ashok, who lives with his family. Ashok and his family are very upset about Kanchan for the dowry. Due to not bringing dowry Kanchan has to face domestic violence and many types of struggles in her married life.

When Kanchan becomes ill due to exploitation and violence, Ashok takes him to a Baba, but after very disturbing and running, when he is not well. Then finally Ashoka takes him to the doctor, advises

When Kanchan becomes ill due to exploitation and violence, Ashok takes him to a Baba, but after very disturbing and running, when he is not well. Then finally Ashoka takes him to the doctor, advises Ashok and his family to avoid such blind faith. Therefore, in the Nimadhi Ghamat style, 'Manglu ka dramo Ashok ho gayo nikamo' is the end of the presentation

Ashok and his family to avoid such blind faith. Therefore, in the Nimadhi Ghamat style, 'Manglu ka dramo Ashok ho gayo nikamo' is the end of the presentation.

In this play, artists have presented superstition in the society with great satisfaction to the audience. Dowry and domestic violence have also been discussed in this presentation.

Attempt has been made to present in the presentation how we should make our life meaningful and be patient with positiveness.

The play was directed by Pratap Rathore and was beautifully performed. The play was an eye opener to the society. It gave a message about what women usually go through in our society.

Cong keeping leaders off air surprises many

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

Political circles and common people are intrigued over the decision of Congress party not to send its media panelists to news channels for one month.

It is being discussed whether this decision is justified.

Factually, the decision was taken by Congress president Rahul Gandhi on the suggestion by a young party leader Devashish Jarariya, who had contested Lok Sabha election from Bhand on Congress ticket.

Jarariya himself had been a media panelist of the Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP) in the past

and also took part in numerous debates especially during the caste stir which rattled Madhya Pradesh and other states last year. Of late he shouldered the responsibility for the Congress party. Jarariya who had switched over to the grand old party last year, wrote a letter to Congress president Rahul Gandhi on May 25, informing him that he is one of the spokespersons of the Congress party in Madhya Pradesh and workers like him in last five years felt that media had turned one-sided over the years and where there is no space for constructive debate and communication.

He candidly alleged that after partaking in 600 plus TV

debates, he realised that 95% TV debates were based on BJP propaganda.

Alleging the corporate media had no place for the opposition, Jarariya urged Congress and other parties should seriously consider not sending their spokespersons to TV debates. "Majority of the debates I was part in were influenced by a certain agenda including religion, India-Pakistan, Jammu and Kashmir and so on," claimed Jarariya.

Though he claimed he has not been contacted by the party personally over the issue. I am not against media interaction as leaders should freely interact to the media for bytes and press conferences, claimed Jarariya.

Our goal is to give jobs to educated youths: CM

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

Chief Minister Kamal Nath has stressed that higher education and skill development should be of good quality. He said that our goal is to ensure that every educated and trained youth gets employment opportunities. For this, setting up Knowledge Corporation Limited in the state will be considered.

Nath was reviewing the Department of Higher Education and Skill Development at the Mantralaya on Friday. Higher Education Minister, Jitu Patwari was present.

Nath said that higher education and skill development should not just be a ritual. Pay special attention to faculties in the field of higher education. In skill development, we have to pay special attention to the faculty through whom our youth



will get employment. He said that instead of focusing on the numerical strength in the field of teaching and training, we must constantly make an assessment as to how many got jobs.

The Chief Minister said that the department should develop financial sources of its own for the availability of mod-

ern resources in the field of higher education. He said that industries should be approached to formulate a target oriented strategy towards achieving maximum support from Corporate-Social Resource.

Chief Minister Nath said that local needs of the industries and trade should also be

'Pay special attention to faculty in the field of higher education. In skill development, we have to pay special attention to the faculty through whom our youth will get employment'

studied in the areas of skill development that can provide immediate employment to educated, trained youth. The Chief Minister has told to register all private coaching centres and utilize the best among these coaching institutes to make

the youth skilled in the field of education.

Policy-based issues regarding higher education and skill development were also discussed during the meeting. The Chief Minister issued instructions to make recruitments against vacant posts, establish Skill University, making Common Career Portal, College of Excellence and set up institutes like IIT and IIM, increase Gross Enrollment Ratio (GER) in the field of higher education and prepare a detailed work-plan immediately in connection with providing coaching to students on PPP model from private coaching institutes

Chief Secretary SR Mohanty, Principal Secretary Higher Education Saleena Singh, Commissioner Higher Education Raghavendra Kumar Singh were present in the meeting.

Valuables worth ₹65,000 burgled from Vikas Nagar

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

Miscreants decamped with valuables worth ₹65,000 from Vikas Nagar under Govindpura police station area late on Friday.

According to the police, the Jitendra Patrod, who had gone to Dewas to attend a marriage function on Thursday found valuables burgled on his return on Friday afternoon.

Victim approached Govindpura police and lodged a complaint stating that he along with his family had gone to Dewas at a marriage and when he returned cash and jewelry worth ₹65,000 were found missing. The police registered a case under sections 457 and 380 of the IPC and started further investigation.

Meanwhile, valuables worth ₹55,000 were burgled from Shiv Nagar under Chola Mandir police station area on Friday

The victim is a resident of Amrit Apartment in Govind Garden which was targeted by the burglars. The burglars were aware regarding the whereabouts of the family and committed the burglary when the family was away.

Meanwhile, valuables worth ₹55,000 were burgled from Shiv Nagar under Chola Mandir police station area on Friday. Police said that the victim OP Thakur found in the morning on Friday that valuables were found burgled.

In the complaint the victim has claimed that a gold finger ring, one pair of silver anklets, silver toe ring and cash were found burgled. The total loss is around ₹55,000.

Victim and other family members were asleep while adjacent room was targeted by the miscreants who escaped with the valuables. The family came to know about the burglary after they woke in the morning. A case of burglary has been registered and further investigation has been started.



Mayor Alok Sharma along with Corporators and BMC officials after inaugurating retiring room for passengers at Inter State Bus Terminus (ISBT) in Bhopal on Friday

Minor found dead in water tank near Bhopal Care hospital

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

A 17-year-old youth was found dead at a water tank of an under construction multi-storey building near Bhopal Care hospital under Habibganj police station area on Thursday.

Sensation prevailed in Rohit Nagar area after body of a Rohit More was found in a water tank. The water tank was filled 3-4 ft with water while the height of deceased was 5 ft which raises suspicion.

In the initial investigation it was found that he drowned and to ascertain the reason of the death is not possible and would be revealed after the post mortem report is received. The deceased left the house at around 11 in the morning and later his body was found at the under construction multi-storey building in the evening.

After the preliminary investigation the body was sent for the post mortem. The police have registered a case under section 174 of the CrPC and have started further investigation. Police have found injury marks which are not of serious nature but suggest that struggle or assault might have happened before the death.

Meanwhile, a 75-year-old woman died who met accident on May 6 at Ayodhya Bypass under Chola Mandir police station area; she was undergoing treatment at Hamidia hospital.

Police said that the deceased, identified as Kusum Rai was hit by a speeding vehicle on May 6 and was rushed to a private hospital and later she was shifted to Hamidia hospital where she died on Thursday.

The deceased was a resident of Eco Green City at Ayodhya Bypass. The body was sent for the post mortem. The police have registered a case under section 174 of the CrPC.

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Participants at a clay modeling workshop under 'Do and Learn' programme at a summer camp organised at Indira Gandhi Rashtriya Manav Sangrahalaya (IGRAMS) in Bhopal on Friday

CBI court grants jail term, RI to four accused in NCL contract fraud case

Bhopal: The Special Judge CBI Cases, Jabalpur (Madhya Pradesh) has sentenced Sourabh Agarwal and Gaurav Agarwal, both partners of M/s Anil Kumar, Sonbhadra (Uttar Pradesh) to undergo three years Rigorous Imprisonment with a fine of ₹20,000 and NK Biswas, then Deputy Manager (F&A), Steel Authority of India Ltd, Raw Material Department (RMD), Bhawanathpur Lime Stone Mines, District Garhwa (Jharkhand) to undergo two years Rigorous Imprisonment with a fine of Rs 10,000.

CBI had registered a case against the accused persons on the allegations of entering into conspiracy for awarding 19 NCL contracts worth ₹6,82,77,134 to M/s Anil Kumar on the basis of false past

Experience Certificates purported to have been issued by the Raw Material Department, Steel Authority of India Ltd, Bhawanathpur. The period was 2003-06.

After investigation, a charge-sheet was filed on May 31, 2012 against the accused persons U/s 120-B, 420, 468 & 471 of IPC and section 13(2) r/w 13(1) (d) of Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988 in the Court of Special Judge, CBI Cases, Jabalpur (Madhya Pradesh).

Besides, the Special Judge, CBI Cases, Bhopal (Madhya Pradesh) has sentenced Vijay Kumar Sharma, then Junior Engineer (QS&C) working in the office of Garrison Engineer, Military Engineer Services (MES), Bairagarh, Bhopal to

undergo 04 years Rigorous Imprisonment with fine of ₹ one crore one thousand (₹1,00,01,000) in a Disproportionate Assets case.

CBI had registered a case u/s 13(2) r/w 13(1)(e) of PC Act, 1988, on December 13, 2012, on the allegations that Sh. Vijay Kumar Sharma, Junior Engineer (QS&C) working in the office of Garrison Engineer, MES, Bairagarh, Bhopal had amassed assets worth ₹99,05,864 (approx) which was disproportionate to his known sources of income in his name and in the name of his family members and others during the period July 01, 1999 to August 14, 2012. During investigation DA amount was calculated as 188.63 percent, charge-sheet was filed. SR

Min reviews tourism development corporation upgradation works

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

Tourism Minister Surendra Singh Baghel took stock of the units of Tourism Development Corporation in Pachmarhi today and reviewed the upgradation works.

Baghel said that Pachmarhi is one of the best tourist destinations in the state. Special attention should be paid to its promotion. Baghel said that

Baghel said that Pachmarhi is one of the best tourist destinations in the state

qualitative renovations and construction work should be undertaken to provide modern facilities to the tourists.

Baghel spoke to the tourists and apprised the Corporation officials with their feedback and suggestions.

Man robbed of valuables at Pragati Petrol pump

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

A 22-year-old man was robbed of his bag and mobile phone at Pragati Petrol pump in the evening on Thursday; MP Nagar police have registered a case of theft against unidentified miscreants.

Police said that the victim Rithik Pawar was pushed while bus stopped at Pragati Petrol pump and miscreants escaped with mobile phone and bag he was carrying. The victim chased the accused but failed to catch him and later

lodged a complaint with the MP Nagar police.

In his complaint victim stated that he works with A U Small Finance Bank at Misrod branch and on his way back to home in bus when the bus stopped at Pragati Petrol pump he was pushed outside by miscreant in which mobile phone he was carrying in his hands fell on the ground and when he tried to balance himself at the ground miscreant snatched bag, picked mobile phone and escaped the spot.

Based on the complaint after the preliminary investi-

gation, police lodged a complaint of theft and not of robbery on technical basis said police. The police have registered a case under section 379 of the IPC and started further investigation.

The victim is a resident of Hanumanganj and works with AU Small Finance Bank. He travels by city bus on daily basis.

During the further investigation police would investigate CCTV cameras installed in the nearby areas which would help in the nabbing the accused.

State Govt to withdraw cases lodged against farmers

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

After forming a State-level committee to look into the problems of farmers, the State government has now started process to withdraw cases lodged against farmers.

Most of the cases lodged against farmers were in 2017 when a number of farmers' agitations held in Madhya Pradesh.

The agitation was marred

with violence in latter stage and the police had booked thousands of farmers for indulging in violence and disrupting law and order.

Rashtriya Kisan Mazdur Mahasangh led by Shiv Kumar Sharma 'Kakkaji' and Bharatiya Kisan Union led by Anil Yadav had raised this issue of cases against farmers during their meetings with the Chief Minister Kamal Nath on Saturday.

In accordance with the assurances offered to the farm unions, Chief Minister Kamal Nath has issued orders to withdraw cases lodged against the farmers.

Nath had entrusted this responsibility to Home Minister Bala Bachchan who would be presenting a proposal in this regard in the next cabinet meeting, sources in Mantralaya said. The state government in

the past too had offered assurances to farmers that cases registered against farmers would be withdrawn.

The farm unions had recently given strike call in phased manner in Madhya Pradesh over dearth of fertilisers, seeds, issues in loan waiver, including fruits, vegetables and milk in Minimum Support Price ambit, Bhavantar payments, pur-

chase of crops under MSP and other issues.

The strike was withdrawn following an assurance from the Chief Minister. Dev Narayan Patel, RKMS state president told that besides other things, the organisation had demanded withdrawal of cases slapped on farmers and the Chief Minister had offered an assurance on the same, claimed Patel.

Bhopal Municipal Corporation
11th Floor, Above Passport office, Kushabhau Thakre Inter-State Bus Terminal (ISBT) Campus, Ambedkar Marg, Near Chetak Bridge, Bhopal (M.P.)

No.: BMC/2019/124 Bhopal, Date: 25.05.2019

Tender for online submissions are invited on website www.mptenders.gov.in. under "Live Tender and Department Name "Bhopal Municipal Corporation" for following work. Detailed NIT, Tender Schedule and other information can be seen on the website www.mptenders.gov.in.

System NIT no.	Name of Work	P.A.C. (Rs.)
2019_UAD_27394_1	Temporary Waste Storage Cell at ISWM Facility.	5,99,67,195/-

Corrigendum and Amendment for above NIT shall not be issued separately in newspapers & correction if any, would be Published on website only.

City Engineer (SBM)
Municipal Corporation, Bhopal

T.N. 196/019/020

Office of the Chief Municipal Officer, Nagar Palika Parishad, Raisen Distt. Raisen (M.P.)

No. 387 DT. 28.05.2019

Notice Inviting Tenders

This is for information of all concerned that online bids for the following works have been invited:

S.No./Pkg/Code	Tender No.	N.I.T. No.	Work	Probable Amount (Rs. in lakh)	Cost of Tender Form	Earnest Money	Category of Contractor	Completion Period (months)
1 (a)	2019_UAD_27926_1	385	Construction of Municipal Building, (a) Civil Work in Building (b) Sanitation Work (c) Electrification Work (d) Rain Water Harvesting	133.06	12,500	66530	Registered Contractors of MPPWD	12 Months (Including Rainy Season)
2 (b)	2019_UAD_27927_1	386	Development of Poren Talab Raisen (a) Pitching work in pond area (b) Landscaping (c) Paver Block (d) Lighting System (e) Fencing (f) Welcome gate (g) Construction of 02 Ghat	119.08	125,000	59540	Registered Contractors of MPPWD	12 Months (Including Rainy Season)

1. Interested Bidders can view the NIT website <http://mptenders.gov.in>
2. The Bid Documents can be purchased only online from 30.05.2019 (date) 10:30 AM
3. Amendments to NIT, if any, would be published on website only, and not in newspaper.

Jamna Sen
President
Nagar Palika Parishad Raisen

Chief Municipal Officer
Nagar Palika Parishad Raisen
District-Raisen (M.P.)

Harsimrat richest Minister in Modi Cabinet

MONIKA MALIK ■ CHANDIGARH

Securing the Cabinet berth for the second consecutive term, the Shiromani Akali Dal's (SAD) three-time MP from Bathinda, Harsimrat Kaur Badal is the richest Minister in the newly-constituted Council of Ministers of the Prime Minister Narendra Modi, who himself is far behind her on 46th rank with ₹2.51 crore assets.

As per the assets declared before the Election Commission of India, Harsimrat has declared her assets worth Rs 217.99 crore, including ₹100.30 crore movable and ₹117.69 crore immovable. Harsimrat, who retained

the Food Processing Ministry during her second term as the Cabinet Minister as announced on Friday, is among six women Ministers and the only non-BJP leader inducted in the Union Cabinet.

Besides being the richest, Harsimrat has also topped the list of Ministers with highest liabilities. She has the total liabilities worth ₹95.48 crore, including ₹8.82 lakhs as disputed liabilities.

Wife of SAD president Sukhbir Badal, who was also elected from Ferozpur Lok Sabha seat this election, Harsimrat's declared assets in 2019 were her own, her husband's, HUF and one dependent. Out of the total movable



assets, Sukhbir has over ₹76 crore, while Harsimrat has nearly ₹24.18 crore. Despite

such riches, the Badals do not own a single car. In fact, Sukhbir owns a tractor costing

Rs 2.38 lakh.

Harsimrat, seems to be fond of jewellery, owns jewellery worth ₹seven crore. Besides, she has also invested ₹12.84 crore in various companies, including Orbit, Metro Eco Green Resorts Limited, and Dabwali Transport Limited.

Harsimrat owns agricultural and non-agricultural land worth nearly ₹9.4 crore, while Sukhbir has the same worth nearly ₹59 crore. In addition, Sukhbir also owns residential buildings worth nearly ₹40 crore.

The gross value of their immovable assets is nearly ₹117.67 crore, out of which Harsimrat owns assets worth nearly ₹15.67 crore and

Sukhbir ₹102 crore. The couple has ₹1.6 lakh as cash in hand.

Her assets, in comparison to her previous five-year term starting in 2014, were ₹108.16 crore, and increased by ₹109.82 crore at the rate of 102 percent — listed among the top five MPs, recontesting in 2019, with highest increase in assets.

Another Minister from Punjab, Bharatiya Janta Party's Som Parkash, who was the poorest parliamentarian elected from the state, has declared assets worth ₹2.94 crore. The first-time MP, the bureaucrat-turned-politician has succeeded in making it to the Union Cabinet in his first stint. Parkash, who took oath as

FOUR FROM REGION MAKES IT TO TOP 10 RICHEST MINISTERS

Besides SAD's Bathinda MP Harsimrat Kaur Badal, three other MPs from this part of the region emerged as the top 10 richest Ministers in the Prime Minister's new Cabinet.

On third spot is BJP's Gurgaon MP Rao Inderjit Singh with assets worth ₹42.09 crore, followed by his colleague and Faridabad MP Krishan Pal Gujar on fifth spot with ₹36.96 crore assets, and BJP's Rajya Sabha MP Hardeep Singh Puri, who unsuccessfully contested from Amritsar, on seventh place with ₹34.05 crore assets.

PNS

the Minister of State on Thursday, has been given the charge of the Ministry of Commerce and Industry. Ranking 39 in terms of assets,

Parkash has total immovable property worth ₹73.08 lakhs and immovable property worth ₹2.20 crores, totalling ₹2,94,04,519.

Inmates learn wood making from cow dung at Ujjain jail

PNS ■ UJJAIN

Prisoners at Central Jail Ujjain are contributing in conservation of environment by producing wood from cow dung obtained from 'Gaushala' at the jail. Apart from conservation of environment it holds religious importance.

Superintendent of jail Alka Sonkar said that for making life of prisoners better jail administration is trying to bring change in their behavior.

For this jail administration teaches skills for everyday life to criminals indulged in crimes so that after releasing from the jail they could join main stream and live life using the skills taught inside the jail. In the same line cow dung wood manufacturing unit has been

The cow dung from the Gaushala at the central jail is used for the manufacturing of the wood

developed. The cow dung from the Gaushala at the central jail is used for the manufacturing of the wood. At present 20 Quintals cow dung wood is manufactured, she added.

According to SP Jail Sonkar cow dung wood in not only has

importance in conservation of environment but it also had religious importance as it is believed that using cow dung wood in the last rites would provide salvation.

She said that the best part of the whole venture is the manufacturing of cow dung wood by the prisoners which will help them in their future after leaving jail on the end of serving the term.

The jail administration has informed district collector and Municipal Corporation regarding the cow dung wood production and could be availed from the jail administration for performing last rites and other religious procession and it could reciprocate labour of prisoners by bringing some income.

CPI regrets truck with Cong in Ganjam

KRUSHNA CHANDRA PANDA ■ BRAHMAMPUR

In a post-election introspection, the Communist Party of India (CPI) has reportedly regretted its decision to make pre-poll alliance with Congress in recently concluded general elections, sources said.

Some members of Left parties have started feeling that due to its alliance with the Congress in Ganjam district, the CPI has sustained a substantial loss of its political base that the results of the recently concluded general elections has proved.

It may be mentioned that in the 2019 elections, the CPI had made an electoral understanding with the Congress in the district and left two seats, Aska Parliamentary and Chhatrapur Assembly, to the CPI to contest. Accordingly, the Congress did not put its candidates in these two seats. According to the party decision, senior CPI leader

Ramakrushna Panda contested from the Aska Parliamentary constituency while CPI youth leader Pradip Kumar Sethi contested from the Chhatrapur Assembly seat. Significantly, both the nominees of the CPI were not only defeated but also lost their deposits. CPI Ganjam district secretary Prakash Patra attributed the defeat to the non-cooperation of Congress leaders and workers in these two constituencies.

Had the Congress leaders and workers heartily supported and campaigned for their pre-poll alliance partner the CPI, the CPI candidates could have garnered an impressive number of votes to defeat the ruling BJD, CPI leaders feel.

Notably, the ruling BJD created a history in Indian polity by putting as its nominee from Aska LS seat an illiterate old woman Pramila Bisoyi who was working as organizer of SHG and hails from a remote village. Similarly, the BJD fielded Anita

Priyadarshini, daughter of former Minister Ramakrushna Patnaik who secured 3, 48,042 votes but lost the election. The much talked figure and ruling BJD nominee Bisoyi succeeded in garnering 5,52,749 votes and defeated the BJP nominee Priyadarshini over a margin of nearly 2 lakh votes which surprised the political astrologers here.

The CPI sources have claimed that, on the one hand, the party faced non-cooperation from the Congress and on the other hand the party faced deficit of fund and both the factors led to the defeat of the party nominees, they claimed. CPI sources also claimed that, most of the Congress votes in Aska Parliamentary constituency have gone in favor of BJP which is quite surprising. In spite of all odds, the CPI nominee Ramakrushna Panda could secure only 59,978 votes. According to election norms, if a candidate fails to secure more

than 6% of the total polling (except NOTA) shall have to lose deposit and CPI nominee Panda has become a victim to this.

Notably, Aska Parliamentary constituency once upon a time was the citadel of CPI from which the vibrant CPI leader late Dutikrushna Panda got elected from the same constituency as MP and MLA twice. Similarly, late Harihara Das also got elected from the same constituency several times. Some local political astrologers blamed that Congress has betrayed the CPI in the recently concluded election for which both the CPI candidates lost their deposits.

Similarly, the CPI nominee for Chhatrapur Assembly constituency Pradeep Sethy could get only 12,766 votes and lost deposit too. Like Aska, once upon a time Chhatrapur Assembly constituency was the stronghold of CPI which elected late Lakshman Mahapatra thrice between 1961 and 1971.

DGP felicitates head constable on his retirement

Bhopal: Director General of Police (DGP) VK Singh felicitated Head Constable (Ministerial) Kalandhar Sharma on his retirement at police state headquarters on Friday. On the occasion, DGP Singh said that pending cases of pension, provident fund and gratuity of retired police personnel should be disposed of at the earliest. He presented them with bouquet and mementos and wished them a happy and prosperous life. Kalandhar Sharma hails from Arghakhanchi district of Nepal had served 35 years in the Crime Investigation Department. After completing his retirement age, orders for payment of various acceptance payments were given him. Officers present at the occasion appreciated the hard work and dedication of Kalandhar Sharma. **SR**

Fresh memories of old school days

FIRST ICSE BATCH OF SACRED HEART SCHOOL HOLDS THEIR FIRST REUNION

PARVINDER BHATIA ■ JAMSHEDPUR

The peals of laughter were a give-away that this was no ordinary bunch of women. Going down the memory lane the 1974 batch of ICSE students of Sacred Heart Convent School, Jamshedpur met at Bengaluru for their first reunion, after 45 years. Of the total of 68 students, 38 attended the reunion from various parts of India and abroad. Jaswinder Kaur Bamrah, who flew all the way from Manchester, just to meet her friends was highlight of the event.

It was tireless effort of Devika (Rupa) Chatterjee that made the event possible. With the unstinting support of



It was tireless effort of Devika (Rupa) Chatterjee that made the event possible. With the unstinting support of Mohana Ganesan and Geetha Ramani, she connected to the batch

Mohana Ganesan and Geetha Ramani, she connected to the batch. Mitali Mukhopadhyay, one

of the former students said the two days were spent in reliving our school days, where old friends met with abandon. Time did not matter amidst the endless chatter. Fun, frolic, food and photos seemed to be the happy 'mantra' of those two memorable days.

"It was like a dream come true for us. Together we made it possible. Our team's commitment, dedication, perseverance, love and zeal enthused and motivated each

one to attend the reunion. Special mention goes to the efforts of Rani Thadikaran and her talented daughter Tanya," noted one of the participants.

The organising committee headed by Dipika Modi, Vandana Dutta, Rupa Das Gupta, Mitali Mukhopadhyay and others, worked overtime to prepare a flawless agenda for the reunion. The teenage school day's atmosphere was replicated with prayers, assembly, classes and sheer fun.

The cultural committee members - Raji, Vijaylakshmi, Pompa Ghatak, Sharanjeet Suri, KG Lalitha, Shobha, Sanjukta Nanda and others entertained with their tributes, prayers, drills, dances, songs, anecdotes.

"The reunion days flew by and left an indelible mark on each one's heart. It strengthened the school day friendship and with the school anthem and "So long Farewell" song ended the meet with promises to stay connected and meet again - at the Platinum Jubilee Celebrations in the coming year in Jamshedpur," said a former student.



Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath being welcomed by BJP activists on his arrival at State Hangar in Bhopal on Friday. Pioneer photo



Vice Chancellor of Rajiv Gandhi Proudyogiki University Sunil Kumar and Chief Electoral Officer VL Kantha Rao distribute degree to the students at the eighth convocation ceremony of National Institute of Fashion Technology (NIFT) in Bhopal on Friday. Pioneer photo

Capt writes to Modi with 101 suggestions to simplify GST 2.0

PNS ■ CHANDIGARH

Punjab Chief Minister Capt Amarinder Singh on Friday wrote to the Prime Minister Narendra Modi, suggesting the way forward on Goods and Services Tax (GST) 2.0 rollout, with 101 suggestions "to plug the gaps in GST 1.0 and alleviate the problems currently faced by businesses in its implementation."

Capt Amarinder made several suggestions on improving GST revenues that should help Punjab narrow its revenue deficit, including higher rates of the State GST (SGST) than the Central GST (CGST) so that all states do not suffer such huge deficits.

Among others, Capt Amarinder suggested an amnesty scheme to overcome various aberrations

that led to serious confusion in business circles in GST's initial phase and "there is no need to continue with VAT legacy issues, which should find a sunset clause".

Pointing out that India has dubious distinction of being amongst five countries in the world that have four or more non-zero GST rates, Capt Amarinder called for a single GST rate, "but it should include not more than two rates for any Chapter and not more than one rate at four-digit level of any chapter sub-heading. This will ensure harmonization of tax rate across similar supplies and avoid classification disputes besides opportunities to evade," he said giving the example of different tax rates in various modes of transport.

Rising tobacco deaths cause for concern

PNS ■ HARIDWAR

Second-leading cause of preventable deaths. It is a rising concern that while tobacco consumption is declining in high-income countries, it is increasing in low and middle income countries.

On World No Tobacco Day, The Pioneer explores the tobacco usage in the state of Uttarakhand and how the non-smokers are passively getting affected by this menace at home.

A study published by the Global Adult Tobacco Survey indicates that the prevalence of tobacco use in any form in Uttarakhand state is approximately 31 per cent, which is the highest of all the northern states of India. Though the number of females actively smoking is quite less in the state - 5.8 per cent against 43.9 per cent males, yet the females and the children bear the brunt at homes. The study indicates that 85 per cent

of adults are exposed to second-hand smoke at home and nearly 50 per cent at public places. It is more astonishing that 62 per cent of daily users consumed tobacco within half an hour of waking up when the other members of the family especially household women and children have no option but staying at home and become passive smokers.

Speaking to this correspondent, district programme officer, department of child development, Mohit Chaudhary said, "Based on a study it is found that women and children are four times more vulnerable to lung diseases caused by tobacco than men. Tobacco chewing by mother affects the foetus in the womb. Unsafe chullahs (fire places) are another reason for increase in lung diseases in rural women since they inhale more smoke than what a regular smoker produces puffing 10 cigarettes. A dangerous combination of high tobacco

usage prevalence and ignorance about its dangers to passive smokers suggests the need to develop effective and evidence based interventions to prevent a health and development disaster in Uttarakhand.

A housewife from Jagjeetpur, Nirmala Devi, whose husband is a chain smoker laments, "My husband wants to quit smoking but he feels stressed when he does. So he starts again. We have small one room house and children have to bear when he smokes inside. Our 10 year old son has started coughing frequently."

Working on the possible solutions, Acharya Balkrishna of Patanjali Yog Peeth said, "Certain herbal combinations help the tobacco addicts quit this habit easily."

These combinations of various herbs and spices give the feeling of tobacco munching to the user but in no way harm the health of a person."

DAY AFTER MODI 2.0 SWEARING-IN



Prakash Javadekar
Information & Broadcasting Minister

Back to the Information and Broadcasting Ministry saddle, Prakash Javadekar on Friday stressed the importance of Press freedom even as he targeted the Congress for imposing the Emergency. As he took charge of the ministry on Friday, Javadekar said the government not only recognises freedom of press, but cherishes it. "Press freedom is the essence of democracy and we not only recognise it, we cherish it. In the history of free India, only once this freedom of press was curtailed and that was in 1975 during Emergency brought by the then Congress government,"

he said. "That was the black period for the media, there was everyday censorship and complete curtailment of press freedom. We fought against it under the leadership of Jayaprakash Narayan, Atal Bihari Vajpayee, Advani ji," Javadekar added. He said the leaders fought on two-three main issues during Emergency and press freedom was one of them. "I am very happy that it was restored after our struggle was successful. I also fought and went to jail for 16 months. So for us press freedom is the basic essence of democracy," he said. Javadekar also hailed the work done by Rajyavardhan Rathore, M Venkaiah Naidu and Arun Jaitley, who were in-charge of the ministry earlier.

PRAHLAD PATEL
Culture and Tourism Minister

Prahlad Patel, senior BJP leader and MP from the Madhya Pradesh's Mahakoshal region is the new Culture and Tourism Minister. A former Union minister of state in the Atal Bihari Vajpayee Cabinet, Patel took charge of the Culture Ministry on Friday. He will take charge as tourism minister on Tuesday. Known for supporting ban on cow slaughter, Patel said he would work towards "correcting the malicious percep-



tion" created about the Indian culture. The 57-year-old parliamentarian brought a private bill in Parliament for ban on cow slaughter way back in 2000. "The roadmap for the future has already been drawn

during 2014-2019, but some deficiencies remain. There have been some malicious perceptions that have been created about the Indian culture, like about Kumbh. I believe that one of the big successes between 2014-2019 is that today what the world knows about Kumbh is actually what Indian culture is," Singh, said adding, "We have to work on both aspects. India is big and our culture is big. If it spreads in the world, so will tourism. So, we have to correct this perception".

RAMESH POKHRIYAL 'NISHANK'
Human Resource Development Minister

Having remained in political wilderness of sorts for eight long years after helming Uttarakhand as the Chief Minister till 2011, Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank' was one of the surprise picks of the Modi-Shah combine. To add further to his stature, he was allotted the key HRD Ministry - one of the most important Ministries in the Government. As Nishank took charge on Friday senior ministry officials handed him the draft of the much awaited New Education Policy (NEP), which is an ambitious project of the previous Modi government. The NEP is expected to be on the agenda of Nishank, who started his career as a teacher in the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh-affiliated Saraswati Shishu Mandir. Nishank said that he will be meeting officials of the Ministry of Human Resource Development and will chalk out a plan of action soon. A committee, headed by former ISRO chief K Kasturirangan, was formed to draft the new education policy by the HRD Ministry previously headed by Prakash Javadekar, who is now Information and Broadcasting minister. Nishank, a PhD



from Hemwati Nandan Bahuguna University in Garhwal, is a prolific Hindi writer with 36 works to his credit, of which 10 have been translated into other languages. His works include novels, short stories, poems and travelogues. He holds a PhD degree from Hemwati Nandan Bahuguna Garhwal University.



PIYUSH GOYAL
Railway Minister

Having retained the portfolio, Piyush Goyal expressed happiness over Prime Minister Narendra

Modi reassigning him the Ministry and said it would mean there would be "continuity" in the work. Improving passenger experience and modernising the railways would be his focus areas, he spelt out his priority. "I am happy that there will be continuity in the work that we had begun in the first stint. The many works that we have started will be continued. I hope that we will be able to improve the passenger experience as well as the process of loading of goods," he said, with Minister of State Angadi Suresh Channabasappa,

a four-time MP from Karnataka, by his side. "Together we can take the work of railways to newer heights. Newer heights of transparency, newer heights of innovative thinking, newer heights of bringing honesty in the railways and growth in passengers and freight traffic," he maintained.

He outlined that newer speed of implementing infra projects and customer satisfaction that is the new Indian Railways and new India that the PM has charted for us. However, Goyal's biggest challenge would be to ensure punctuality, timely track maintenance and renewal, ramping up production of state-of-the-art coaches for trains such as Vande Bharat Express so that more such services can be introduced.



KIREN RIJJU
Sports Minister

Kiren Rijju is the new Minister of Youth Affairs and Sports, replacing Rajyavardhan Singh Rathore, who has been dropped from the Council of Ministers. The charge of Minister of State in the Ministry of Minority Affairs has also been awarded to Rijju. A lawyer by profession, Rijju, who took charge of his new Ministry, has emerged as the key face in the North East. "My heartfelt gratitude to PM Narendra Modi for reposing faith in me to be a member of his council of ministers. I sincerely thank Amit Shah and karyakartas and well wishers across India. For me, leadership is not about power and privilege, it is about responsibility," he said. He also thanked Team India, which playing the world cup in England, saying together we will work as a team. While Rathore was 2004 Athens Olympic medalist, Rijju does not have such a background as he had only participated in the National Games during his college days. Rijju was MoS in the Union Home Ministry in the first Modi-led government.

HARDEEP SINGH PURI
Civil Aviation Minister
New Delhi

His defeat in the Lok Sabha polls notwithstanding, he is the biggest gainer as Prime Minister Narendra Modi has not only retained him but also rewarded him. Hardeep Singh Puri, diplomat-turned-politician, is the new Civil Aviation Minister, whom he took charge of on Friday, even as he has been re-appointed as the Minister of State (Independent Charge) of the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs



(MoHUA). He has also been given responsibility as the deputy under Piyush Goyal in the Commerce and Industry

Ministry. After assuming the charge of the MoHUA, Puri said the NDA government had spent six times higher on urban schemes in five years compared to the amount UPA dispensation spent in its 10 years. There are several schemes for the urban sector including PMAY (U), SBM (U), Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation (AMRUT) among others. "This is what Prime Minister Narendra Modi through flagship programmes has been able to do for the urban sector and that is work in progress, he said.

Mizoram Cong extends support to Rahul Gandhi

Aizawl: The Congress in Mizoram on Friday extended full support to the leadership of AICC chief Rahul Gandhi and said there is no need for him to resign. Gandhi had offered to resign as the party president after the Congress received a severe drubbing in the Lok Sabha polls. A resolution adopted at the meeting of the Mizoram Pradesh Congress Committee (MPCC) unanimously decided to stand by Gandhi. "Gandhi must continue as the party president. We strongly believe that his leadership is required for the Congress, to steer the party out of its current state..." the resolution said. "The MPCC sincerely felt that Rahul Gandhi had shown an exemplary leadership during the party's election cam-

paing across the country... (though) the outcome of the recent Lok Sabha election may not have come in our favour," it said. The resolution said the Congress is one of the few parties that won more seats in this Lok Sabha polls than in the 2014 election, "and therefore we felt that Rahul Gandhi's leadership is required for the organisation". The Congress improved on its 2014 tally of 44, winning 52 Lok Sabha seats this year. "The Congress had lost (polls) many times in the past and bounced back... With Gandhi's leadership, we will sure come back and save the motherland like we had done in the past," it added. The resolution said Gandhi has championed the spirit of secularism in the country. **PTI**

Help kin of farmer who committed suicide: Rahul to Kerala CM

Thiruvananthapuram: Congress chief and Wayanad MP Rahul Gandhi urged Kerala Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan to provide assistance to the family of a farmer, who committed suicide allegedly due to non-repayment of loans, and also conduct an inquiry into the matter. VD Dinesh Kumar, 53, died after consuming some poisonous substance, police said on May 25. His relatives said that financial burden had forced him to take the extreme step. Gandhi, in his letter to Pinarayi dated May 28, said he was "deeply saddened" by the farmer's suicide. He requested the state government to conduct an inquiry and extend financial support



to the family. Police aid that Kumar had taken a loan of Rs 10 lakh from three banks and was reportedly facing recovery proceedings. "Kumar's case isn't an isolated one. There have been a spate of farmer suicides in Wayanad, due to an inability to repay loans," Gandhi had

said in his letter. "What is disturbing is that while the government of Kerala has announced a moratorium on repayment of farm loans till December 31, 2019, yet farmers are still being pressured and hounded by loan collection agents," the letter said. The Congress chief said it was important to consider "long-term measures" to free farmers from the "vicious debt trap" given the devastating impact of the last year's floods. "I offer you my fullest support and cooperation in finding concrete long-term solutions to the critical issues Kerala's farmers are faced with and in ensuring every farmer in Kerala lives a life of dignity," Gandhi said. **PTI**

MA NAQVI
Minority Affairs Minister

Soon after taking charge, SMinority Affairs Minister Mukhtar Abbas Naqvi on Friday said his ministry will work with the mantra of 'sabka saath, sabka vikas and sabka vishwas' - as outlined by Prime Minister Narendra Modi. Naqvi said the ministry has prepared a 100-day roadmap to strengthen Prime Minister Narendra Modi's commitment to 'sabka saath, sabka vikas and sabka vishwas' (with all, for everybody's development and having everyone's trust). He asserted priority will be given to "3Es" -- education, employment and empowerment -- for development of minorities. The Minority Affairs Ministry will launch a nationwide awareness campaign on a war footing to reduce school dropout rate among minorities, especially Muslim girls, he said adding, "Schools, colleges, ITIs, polytechnics, hostels, Sadbhav



Mandap will be constructed on a war footing in minority-concentrated areas across the country to ensure better educational infrastructure under Pradhan Mantri Jan Vikas Karyakram". Naqvi said that 100 per cent digitization and GPS mapping of waqf properties across the country will also be a priority for the ministry. Naqvi said the campaign to

provide employment and employment opportunities to master artisans from the minority communities will be further accelerated. Hunar Haat, which has been proved to be an effective measure to provide employment and employment opportunities to master artisans, will be organised across the country in the coming days, he said.

Modi can now play decisive role on Kashmir: Mirwaiz

Srinagar: The overwhelming mandate to Prime Minister Narendra Modi has given him an opportunity to play a decisive role in the resolution of the Kashmir issue, Hurriyat Conference chairman Mirwaiz Umar Farooq said on Friday. Farooq expressed hope that Pakistan Prime Minister Imran Khan's offer of dialogue would be seriously considered by the new National Democratic Alliance government. "As the people of India overwhelmingly voted for Mr Modi and his party back into power, this mandate gives PM Modi the opportunity and the power to play a decisive role in the resolution of the long-pending Kashmir conflict," the separatist leader said. The mirwaiz was address-

ing the prayers at the Jama Masjid here on the occasion of 'Jum'at-ul-Vida', the last Friday of Ramadan. "Pakistan PM Imran Khan's oft-repeated offer of dialogue on all issues between India and Pakistan, including on the Kashmir issue, should be seriously considered by the new dispensation in New Delhi as the way forward," Farooq said. The moderate Hurriyat chairman said Kashmir cannot be resolved militarily or through confrontation, but by dialogue and deliberations. "All Kashmiris, irrespective of their organisational affiliations, are speaking in one voice about the urgent need for resolution of the conflict," he said, adding that the Hurriyat Conference was will-

ing to support any initiative in this regard. "So, it is an opportune time to initiate political processes which enables and facilitates conflict resolution," he added. The separatist leader said a resolution to the Kashmir issue could transform both India and Pakistan and usher in a new era of stability and progress in South Asia, bringing the much-needed relief to the people of Kashmir striving for a resolution. "For that, it is imperative that democratic processes are invoked and restored by New Delhi and the policy of repression and military approach be done away with. "One measure for doing so is the release all of all political prisoners languishing in vari-

ous jails across India, including (separatist leaders) Yasin Malik, Shabir Shah, Asiya Andrabi and others," he added. The mirwaiz said during the Hurriyat's engagement with the governments of Atal Bihari Vajpayee and Manmohan Singh, and after visiting Pakistan, the separatist conglomerate had put forward certain substantial measures as a precursor to serious negotiations. Farooq claimed that both India and Pakistan had at that time had agreed to implementing these steps -- including revocation of the Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act, gradual demilitarisation, prisoner release -- to prepare ground for serious negotiations. "These measures hold true

even today when the situation has only further deteriorated," he said. "If these steps are initiated by both sides, it will bring relief to the people of Kashmir and an atmosphere for sincere engagement among all stakeholders will be created for a permanent resolution." The Hurriyat chairman said India and Pakistan have to acknowledge and address "the unresolved political problem" in Kashmir. "We want this long cycle of killings and violence to end. We do not want to see our youngsters or an Indian or Pakistani soldier die in this 'forever' conflict," he said. "Without addressing the question of Kashmir, there will be repeated returns to perilous states of war as we recently witnessed." **PTI**

IN THE QUEUE



New Defence Minister Rajnath Singh is likely to assume charge at South Block here on Saturday. A seasoned politician and former Home Minister, Singh will have to hit the ground running to sustain the momentum of modernisation to ensure operational preparedness to meet the challenge of two-front war. Besides ensuring that the armed forces are well-equipped in terms of bolstering the dwindling fighter jet squadron strength of the IAF and fast tracking the project to manufacture six submarines urgently needed by the Navy, Singh will also have to push for major reforms in terms of integrating the armed forces.



New Home Minister Amit Shah is expected to take charge on Saturday. Though he was expected to take charge on Friday evening, the Cabinet meeting kept him preoccupied. The officials at the North Block as well as the lensmen and jurnos waited anxiously for him to arrive even as all arrangements were in place for his takeover.



Ravi Shankar Prasad, who has once again been handed the charge of crucial Ministries of Telecom, Information Technology and Law & Justice, is expected to take charge in his Ministries on June 3. "I am grateful to the PM for entrusting me with such responsibility. In telecom, I will first hold meetings to take a long-term view, and also see how a greater synergy can be driven in IT and communications." Prasad told reporters after being named the Minister for the three portfolios.



It's like homecoming for senior BJP leader Dr Harshvardhan, who has been handed over the portfolio of Union Health Ministry for the second time. He will take charge of the Ministry on Monday. In the first inning of the Modi Government, he was shifted from the Health Ministry after just six months. He is the only MP from Delhi who has been inducted in the Modi's Cabinet. Harshvardhan, however, has retained Union Science and Technology and Union Earth Sciences Ministries. He no longer holds the Environment Ministry portfolio which has been given to Prakash Javadekar.

Shah, Jaishankar to be new faces in CCS

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

There will be two new faces in the all-powerful Cabinet Committee on Security (CCS) with the induction of BJP president Amit Shah as the

Home Minister and career diplomat S Jaishankar as the external affairs Minister. Chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the CCS is the final decision-making body on matters related to country's

security, including defence policy and internal security. Besides the Prime Minister, the Ministers of Defence, Home, External Affairs and Finance are members of the committee.

It's Govt of Modi & Shah only, senior leaders sidelined: NCP

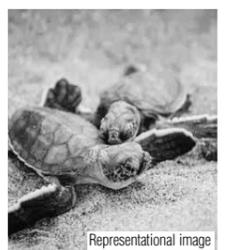
Mumbai: The NCP on Friday took a dig at the new NDA dispensation, saying it is a government of only Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Home Minister Amit Shah, while senior leaders like Rajnath Singh and Nitin Gadkari stand "sidelined". NCP chief spokesperson Nawab Malik alleged that Modi and Shah do not want senior leaders to be part of the cabinet. Singh, new Defence minister, had led the Home Ministry in the previous Modi government. Gadkari will continue to hold the Minister for Road Transport and Highways.

"Many senior leaders were not given Cabinet berths. Singh has been given Defence portfolio and sidelined. Same is the case with Gadkari ji," Malik told reporters. He claimed that some of the BJP leaders would call the previous Modi-led dispensation as the government of only "two-and-half" people, implying that other ministers had no say in its functioning. "Now, it is a government of only Modi and Shah. Others have no opportunity. They don't want seniors in the government, that's their mentality," Malik alleged. Modi and his new team of ministers took oath on

Thursday and the Rashtrapati Bhavan announced allocation of portfolios to the ministers on Friday. Meanwhile, on the speculations that the NCP might merge into the Congress, Malik said there was no substance in the reports. Speculations that the NCP would be merged into the Congress were rife on Thursday. These were fuelled after Congress chief Rahul Gandhi met NCP president Sharad Pawar at the latter's residence in New Delhi. "The two leaders discussed only the Maharashtra Assembly polls and drought in the state," Malik added. **PTI**

14 turtles found dead in dried-up pond

Vadodara: Fourteen turtles were found dead in a dried-up pond in Gadogar village in Kutch district of Gujarat, forest officials said on Friday. Deputy conservator of forests (wildlife) S S Asoda said 15 other turtles were rescued from the pond after the incident was reported on Thursday evening. "After being alerted, our team rushed to the pond that is located in Rapar taluka, and found carcasses of 14 turtles. They must have died due to lack of water as the severe heatwave has dried up the pond," he told PTI over phone. "Fifteen other turtles, which



were found alive there, were rescued and immediately shifted to another pond in Thanisara village located nearby, which still has sufficient amount of water," Asoda said. **PTI**

PAPER WITH PASSION

Modi, Modi all over

The Prime Minister's imprint is writ large in all Ministries, which are headed by his favourites



After all the hullabaloo over the formation of the new Narendra Modi government, there should have been a sense of catharsis, some feeling of continuity with many old names featuring as a cladding and awe at decisive changes in the big league. But it doesn't inspire emotions, either of excitement or despair. For the Modi 2.0 Cabinet is not just an upgrade of version 1.0 but a total overhaul. The message is very clear. The Prime Minister will be aggressively pushing the BJP's nationalist vision, means business from the word go

and wants to do it with a beehive mindset of anodyne co-workers who are congenitally attuned to his schematics. So while old performers continue with their briefs, those not falling within his bandwidth have been moved out. Also, he didn't reward a stupendous electoral performance with a prize if the candidate was not good enough. The big move was, of course, the induction of his deputy Amit Shah as Home Minister and a virtual Number 2 in government. It would be easy enough to attribute Shah's ascension as a reward for crafting both Modi's and the BJP's political journey to an unassailable position today. But Shah as Home Minister means he will not just be tasked with the law and order machinery. One can expect him to push the BJP's vision for Jammu and Kashmir — if not Article 370, then maybe Article 35 A — take a tough line on militant and Naxal terror and drive the National Register for Citizens (NRC) in border states, particularly Bengal. With Arun Jaitley choosing to stay out of the government, Modi will be counting on Shah to be his sounding board. However, both Modi and Shah, as the dream team which gave BJP its moment in the sun, are not leaving the party unattended as Assembly elections tumble in one after the other and the BJP's real intention in winning Vidhan Sabhas is to get comfortable numbers in the Rajya Sabha. The name of another of Modi's favourites, JP Nadda, is doing the rounds as BJP president, that role now more crucial than any Government post. Rajnath Singh, yet another tall leader whom the BJP needs to keep the primacy of Uttar Pradesh, moves to Defence. But Modi is perhaps counting on his seasoned maturity and low-key style of working to shake up defence acquisitions, in recent times overshadowed by the Rafale imbroglio.

The second big takeaway is that of Nirmala Sitharaman breaking the glass barrier and taking charge of the all-important Finance Ministry. She is expected to address slowdown in investment and industrial production, tackle unemployment and more importantly convince India's corporates that she is good enough to push reforms. Having worked assiduously with former Finance Minister Arun Jaitley, she is expected to follow through with the PMO shadow-coaching reformatory moves. The other woman Cabinet member, Smriti Irani, despite being a giant killer at Amethi, has Woman and Child Development in addition to the old Textiles. With Modi having won a sizeable percentage of women voters, one can expect some empowering policy initiatives. The import of S Jaishankar, who replaces the towering Sushma Swaraj as Minister for External Affairs (MEA), shows that technocrats are going to get lateral entries. It is by the same logic that Hardeep Puri continues to remain in the Council of Ministers. A huge Modi favourite, Jaishankar will harmonise the PMO with MEA and helm critical initiatives vis-a-vis Pakistan, US and China at a time of trade wars and oil sanctions. With Shah and Jaishankar, Modi has created a muscular phalanx in presenting India to the world. The entry of Ramesh Pokhriyal, who has got Human Resource Development, bears the imprint of the BJP's ideological anchor, the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS). So cultural nationalism will be an ongoing project, one that envisages changes in curriculum not undertaken before. The Sangh wants a new education policy and reforms in the higher education system. Of course, there are those who remind us of all the good things of Modi 1.0 — the doer Nitin Gadkari retains his hold on infrastructure and now has MSMEs, Ravi Shankar Prasad sticks to Law, Dr Harsh Vardhan has regained the Health portfolio, Prakash Javadekar has Environment and Information and Broadcasting while Piyush Goyal, till recently the front-runner for Finance, has kept Railways and added Commerce and Industry. Apart from the tokenisms to castes, States and allies, the Cabinet has only one theme, that of the charioteer Modi, who keeps space and atomic energy as his plum picks but will have the only say among his yes men.

Towering heights

Air traffic management at Delhi will become easier with a new ATC tower, yet delays in modernisation are worrisome



Delhi Airport has over the past decade overtaken Mumbai as India's largest airport, so much so that almost half of all Indian air traffic flows through the Indira Gandhi International Airport. Now the new 103-metre tall Air Traffic Control tower, which has been physically ready for a couple of years, is finally set to start operations. This tower that will allow ramp, approach and departure controllers grand sweeping views of the airport should also finally be able to allow simultaneous departures and arrivals on Delhi's runways.

It will also hopefully allow the authorities at the Delhi Airport to get cracking on rapidly improving allied infrastructure as well. The collapse of Jet Airways and the subsequent decline in passenger traffic have eased the congestion at the terminal temporarily but with airlines like IndiGo, Vistara and SpiceJet continuing to expand, adding more domestic and international services out of Delhi, traffic should reach numbers that were there before Jet's demise by the end of the summer and growth should come back to the market shortly. This means that the Delhi Airport operators will need to get cracking on stalled infrastructure building projects such as a new fourth runway and the two new terminals that have been planned. The fact is that Terminals 1 and 2 are either well past their maximum capacity or too old to continue. They need urgent rebuilding.

This is not just a problem at the Delhi Airport. Across the country, several large aviation infrastructure projects are currently stalled other than at Bengaluru, where work is continuing fast on the new runway. Air travel has transformed India's economic growth but with aviation infrastructure across the country pushed to its maximum limits with the current infrastructure, the new Aviation Minister Hardeep Singh Puri has a challenge on his hands to ensure that growth does not slow down. New aviation infrastructure such as the new Navi Mumbai, Mopa and Jewar airports have to be built quickly to keep pace. There are other systemic challenges that have to be countered as well, some of them regarding protecting passengers rights and keeping profiteering to a minimum. At the same time the Civil Aviation ministry has to be mindful of the overall health of the Indian airlines. A brand new tall tower might be a nice landmark but the problems around the industry have to be tackled urgently first.

Why people are going Right

The idea of exclusionary torture, as against the traditional idea of Left liberalism, has today hybridised to remain relevant. This reactionary wave is the bedrock of the radical right



RINKU GHOSH

In his first speech after a mammoth electoral victory, Prime Minister Narendra Modi had summarised what could best define not just India's but the axis shift in world politics. "For years the Left had its ideology but we translated that into reality," he said with conviction. Justifiably so because he proved a theorem that is being borne out by the rest of the world, where the right-wing is drawing strength from all sections of people — hordes of ordinary people to be precise — to becoming a mainstream entity than just being a fringe benefit or aberration, depending on its tolerance or virulence. So the narrative is not about right-wing dominance but about right-wing populism.

In that sense, the Modi phenomenon is in continuity with a global pattern really, one that is sweeping the Far East, through the European continent and lunging across the Atlantic. If Donald Trump and Xi Jinping are the twin polarities in the West and East, then there are several in between other than Modi. Consider the frenetic rise of Brazil's new far-Right leader Jair Bolsonaro, who crested a series of social movements that gave him the pulse of the people. Hungarian Prime Minister Viktor Orban and Turkish president Recep Erdogan have overturned the Left-inspired liberalism and made it their own. In Thailand, the compliance of conservatives is the reason for the continuity of military rule.

So what is the reason for this socio-psychological behaviour profile in a post-globelised world? It would be easy enough to dismiss it as born of hopelessness and desolation, climbing out of a similar trough seen between two World Wars whose belly fired up fascism and gave us a Hitler. He successfully built "otherness" as a reason for Germany's ills before suggesting his outrageous solutions. But we are not in the Great Depression or a World War but in a globalised world which was meant to equalise and share resources. Or at least attempt to do so. What has happened in the process of an increasingly flat world of give and take, in no small part aided by the massive empowerment courtesy digitisation, is that it has led to total deconstruction of traditional social-economic structures. In its time, globalisation was a dream concept advocating free trade across borders and by extension an exchange in services, capital and ideas. All sounded good. But down the years, as industries shifted due to outsourcing from the rich to cheap-labour economies, leaving in their trail job losses in affected countries, and as home manufacturing got hit by cheap imports, like it has in India, too, the anxieties about losing identities, resources and self-worth began gaining traction. Worse, the process quickly mutated to economic imperialism and colonisation where the dominant manufacturer countries like China quickly created debt economies with hugely imbalanced



deficits. In many countries, the entry of multi-nationals meant loss of land for lavish units and sweatshop conditions for local labour. The second biggest problem that arose from free movement of skilled labour was immigration, an influx that worked when subservient but not when it claimed equal stakeholder status in the host country. So if supposedly the most apolitical country like Sweden is becoming intolerant of immigrants, leave aside the crisis fuelled by Brexit, then anti-globalisation is a bigger sentiment and the neo-age protectionism advocated by Trump its mere expression. Research has shown that in the US, the regions hardest hit by globalisation have become more politically extreme. Besides, human psychology is such that while you want to flow with the world, share the same living indices, you still crave for primacy in your manageable unit, your controllable home and the community. This rationale is tied by cultural factors, religious beliefs and a national identity, which while acknowledging the presence of all kinds of otherness, is deeply distrustful of it. It is this undercurrent, which was dumbed down by liberals and free world

economists, that has bubbled up now, forcing a review of existing theories and paradigms. This deep discontent is also the reason why traditional civil liberties, of the kind that is supportive of human rights, protection of minorities and progressive and democratic values, are under attack. Simply because they do not acknowledge the crisis of "otherness," somebody else stealing your job, somebody else taking over the economy, somebody else denying what could be due to you, somebody benefiting from doles and, therefore pushing you to poverty. In short, the classic psychological "blame game" that lets you assign victimhood to yourself. It is this idea of exclusionary torture that doesn't fit in with the traditional idea of Left liberalism, which, as Russian President Putin and Italy's Five Star movement have shown, has hybridised to remain relevant. This reactionary wave is the bedrock of the radical right. Seen through this prism, Modi's "Make in India," the projection of an enemy snapping at our borders or the one within as entitled minority and caste votebanks, make acceptable sense. Of course, the Left, which has been reduced to a rump

over a longer period of time, made the job easier. Its version of trade unionism dwindled since the 1990s and has since pejoratively been seen as a deterrent to economic activity than as a guarantor of local jobs that the Right has successfully marketed. The Singur movement, a watershed marker in the decimation of the Left, which catapulted Mamata Banerjee in Bengal, showed that for a party which initiated land reforms, it could be blatantly snub about land acquisitions too. Most importantly, the class interests that it so abhorred were solidified by its own internecine machinery of out-sourced implementers. In relying on its ground machinery of people, who might not have been ideologically committed but were communicating with the grassroots, the Left lost its empathy and the right to leadership. Which is why a slumborn Mamata seemed more credible at the time just as the tea-seller Modi, who is born of the silent suffering kind and is more local than global, is now winning hearts. A World Values Survey shows that people are increasingly disaffected with their government and are more willing to support authoritarian leaders, thinking that their robustness will give them a voice that civil society, so far an ivory tower of privileged and imperious intelligentsia, has denied them. Ironically, it is also the children of globalisation, the millennials — the generation that is disconnected from history or hasn't lived through catastrophic world events really and whose reality is shaped by what is floating on the internet brand of unpoliced democracy — who are seeking another kind of destiny, a dream crafted on their terms than the one bequeathed. They also haven't felt the impact of authoritarianism unlike those in transitional generations. As they don't fit the same negative experience of authoritarian rule and are complacent about democracy and democratic stability, they are naturally inclined to any change of status quo, especially one that is iconised by social media cults. All authoritarian leaders, Modi included, are harnessing them as their neo Army and leading them to a promised land at a time when the world seems to be running out of promises in the first place. (The writer is Associate Editor, The Pioneer)

SOUNDBITE

For the next 10 to 15 years, Opposition leaders need to do a lot of *kapaalbhati*. Only then will they be able to control their stress.

Yoga guru — Baba Ramdev



The pay package has to be a good amount because you put in a lot of hard work on TV. If a male judge is getting so much, a female judge can also.

Actor — Kareena Kapoor Khan



We will look forward to working with the government as it has now taken office. India is a very valuable partner of the United Nations.

UN official — Farhan Haq



I am happy that there will be continuity in the work that we had begun in the first stint. The many works that we have started will be continued.

Union Minister — Piyush Goyal



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Self-introspection time

Sir — It is not unusual for parties to introspect after a big defeat in the elections. It is also common for party presidents to tender resignations after taking "moral responsibility" for the poor performance. Congress chief Rahul Gandhi has done the same. So far, Rahul has not budged under pressure from the party members to rescind his resignation. He will do well to go ahead with his resolve to resign and hand over the reins of the party to someone outside the Nehru-Gandhi family. His personal diatribe against Narendra Modi, who is held in high esteem by the people, cost him dearly. He has much to think about.

KV Seetharamaiah
Hassan

Jaitley will be missed

Sir — Former Finance Minister Arun Jaitley's defence of demonetisation and the murky Rafale deal went a long way in helping the Government save face. It is unfortunate that at a time when his services are required by the

The new Govt must follow the Constitution

The most striking aspect of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and other Central Ministers taking oath to serve the country and its people was the pledge, "I will do right by all manner of people" in accordance with the Constitution without fear or favour, affection or ill-will. "All manner of people" includes all people, irrespective of caste, religion or faith. What is most important for a country as diverse and disparate as India is social harmony. Harmony between communities is a *sine qua non* for our country's progress and prosperity and the new Government must strive to attain harmony as embedded in the philosophy of *Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam* and not let resentment accumulate.

Whenever a decision or whatever call is taken, it must be based on what is right without paying heed to any religious consideration. When faced with a clash of ideas, the Prime Minister and the Ministers must go by what the Prime Minister himself once famously



described as his Government's only holy book — the Constitution. Just bowing before the Constitution is not enough, it is vitally important that what is enshrined in it must be followed in letter and spirit.

G David Milton
Maruthancode

new Government to set right its past blunders in the financial and economic arenas, he has decided to call it a day.

Tharcus S Fernando
Chennai

Huge responsibility

Sir — Citing health reasons, Former Finance Minister Arun

Jaitley has requested Prime Minister Narendra Modi to relieve him from the rigours of ministerial position and allow him to recuperate. During his term as the Finance Minister, Jaitley had proved his mettle as a "trouble shooter" Minister in Modi Government's first term by providing panacea for all problems. Now that Nirmala Sitharaman has been given the

huge responsibility to revive the Indian economy, which is far from being in the pink of health.

JS Acharya
Hyderabad

The troubleshooter

Sir — It is unfortunate that troubleshooter former Finance

Minister Arun Jaitley will not be a part of the NDA-II Government. This is a great loss not only to the BJP but also to the country. His tenure as Finance Minister will be remembered for the implementation of key reforms like the Goods and Services Tax and the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code. We pray for his quick recovery and return to office.

Shankar Sen
Via email

Contender's role

Sir — A responsible and a strong Opposition is very much a necessity for the functioning of a vibrant democracy as that of India. While the Congress remains the main Opposition party, it could not qualify to be a Leader of Opposition in the House. The 2019 debacle is enough for the Congress to shun old ideas and instead re-design its entire organisational structure and working style to emerge as a strong contender for 2024.

Prakshit
Via email

Send your feedback to: letterstopioneer@gmail.com

FIRST COLUMN

Defuse toxic time bomb in oceans

The issue of marine plastic litter warrants bold new answers, strong action and urgent measures if we want to save our planet



KOTA SRIRAJ

Mountains of toxic waste and garbage on the outskirts of our otherwise glossy cities and urban hotspots have become a common sight. These landfills have in a way started to symbolise major cities in India. A recent report found that housing settlements around the landfill zones in the national capital region are suffering from worsening air and water quality levels. Water quality has especially touched rock bottom as toxins from the landfill area is leaching into the ground water table. These conditions, though sad, are not entirely unheard of. However, what is really making news is the level of garbage and litter that are now found on Mount Everest and its base camp. The reach of garbage generated by mankind is now reaching the highest place on the planet. It is, therefore, not surprising that the same garbage is now choking our oceans, too.

A recent study published in the journal *Scientific Reports* found the remote Cocos (Keeling) Islands in the Indian Ocean littered with 238 tonnes of plastic, despite being home to around 500 people. The study found almost one million shoes and over 370,000 toothbrushes among the 414 million pieces of plastic washed ashore on the unspoiled part of Australian territory. Logic points to the Australian sources of pollution but in-depth reports are suggesting that the actual source could be Indonesia and that the oceanic currents are driving the garbage towards the Aussie shores. The fact that Indonesia is closer to the Cocos Islands also lends credence to these reports.

The fact that developing nations are unable to contain their waste and dispose it more responsibly is also due to the fact that these countries are still in the learning curve of establishing cleanliness as a habit rather than once in a while ritual. The practice of "cleanliness drives" in developing nations is evidence that cleanliness is still to be ingrained quality in the national consciousness. Having said that, in the interests of the health of its people, tourism and international image, many nations are striving hard to improve their conditions. However, developed countries have completed their learning curve in waste disposal after decades of littering the planet and are now pointing fingers at the developing nations. This is a classic case of the pot calling the kettle black.

Developed nations are slowly but steadily turning the trend on its heels. China and the US are now the biggest Oceanic polluters, according to a study published by the World Bank. The scale of pollution from these countries is becoming hard to ignore like the proverbial elephant in the room. Research data shows that person per day production of waste is the highest in the US and European countries at 2.58 kg and 1.46 kg per person per day respectively, which is eventually finding its way to the high seas. But predictably, these so-called developed nations are looking the other way.

This unflattering information is further corroborated in the latest World Bank report, 'What a Waste 2.0', which states that: "Although they only account for 16 per cent of the world's population, high-income countries generate 34 per cent or 683 million tonnes of the world's waste..." After this disclosure, it is quite impossible to give the developed countries a clean chit for their role in oceanic pollution. The countries themselves are oblivious to the pollution they are causing since the entire blame is being shifted to the third world nations, which are not generating the waste that they are being accused of disposing. But the blame they are rightly accused of is that they are importing much of these plastic waste from the developed nations in the form of meat trays, milk cartons, beer cans, water bottles, food containers, bottles of shampoos, conditioners, laundry detergents. So, since plastic is an internationally traded commodity, the empty bottle or can a person puts in a recycle bin in Melbourne or Manchester, becomes part of a global supply chain and travels across the world to China. Till 2016, China had topped the list of plastic waste importers with over half of the developed world's refuse sent there. But not anymore as China has banned the import of non-industrial plastic waste. Till now, developed nations were dumping their waste in third world nations and keeping their back yards clean while blaming the latter of creating pollution. But now, these nations will have nowhere to dump their garbage and will have to set up their own waste processing industries.

Despite the huge per capita waste generation in high-income countries, of which almost 12 per cent is plastic, their mismanaged plastic waste percentage is strikingly low. Before you go gushing that it is their efficient recycling facilities or processes that have led to close to zero mismanaged waste, dig deeper! For these nations, recycling is another name for shipping off the waste to economically weaker countries, which may be already struggling with their own garbage. The narrative needs to change here and the world needs to know how and who is generating the oceanic waste. Till this is done, the third world will be at the receiving end of both plastic waste from developed nations and the accompanying blame.

(The writer is an environmental journalist)

POINT COUNTERPOINT

THEY (BJP) WANTED ONLY ONE PERSON FROM JD(U) IN THE CABINET, SO IT WOULD HAVE BEEN JUST SYMBOLIC PARTICIPATION.
 —JD(U) CHIEF NITISH KUMAR



NITISH IS VERY SELFISH. THE MOMENT HE REALISED THAT HE CAN RUN THE GOVERNMENT INDEPENDENTLY, HE KICKED OUT OUR PARTY.
 —BJP MP GOPAL NARAYAN SINGH

Wake up and smell the coffee

The dismal showing of the Samajwadi Party in UP has put Akhilesh Yadav's leadership under the scanner. He has to re-unite factions and rebuild grassroots networks



BISWAJEET BANERJEE

In 2011, Samajwadi Party (SP) chief Akhilesh Yadav led a spirited campaign against the then Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh and Bahujan Samajwadi Party (BSP) chief Mayawati. As SP president, he toured the length and breadth of the State — sometimes on cycle — calling the then BSP Government as one of the most corrupt regimes in the annals of Uttar Pradesh. He even called it a *pathar wali sarkar* (a Government of stones) — an oblique reference to Mayawati's penchant to build parks and statues. This mutual mistrust and antagonism was so deep-seated that the subsequent SP-BSP trust alliance always seemed cosmetic and superficial.

But before this misadventure, Akhilesh's hard work bore fruit when in 2012, the SP won the Assembly elections in Uttar Pradesh with a huge margin. Mulayam Singh Yadav was then the national president of the party and he surprised all by projecting Akhilesh as the Chief Minister. At the age of 38, Akhilesh, then an MP, took oath as the Chief Minister on March 15, 2012. This, political pundits say, was the beginning of the new era in Yadav politics. Talks then centered around how Akhilesh, a foreign-educated young man, could transform the impoverished State, which is home to around 23 crore people, into one of the most developed States in the country.

People had pinned hopes on Akhilesh because of the legacy he carried. Son of wrestler-turned politician Mulayam Singh Yadav, it was believed that the young leader was well-versed with political ups and downs. Mulayam was three-time Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh besides being the Defence Minister in 1996 during the United Front Government. So, for Akhilesh, politics was nothing new. He had brushed shoulders with the high and mighty and was well-versed with every Machiavellian manoeuvre.

But the high hopes were soon dashed. First, Akhilesh failed to keep his family together. The way he carried out a bloodless coup, replacing his father with himself as national president of the party, did divide the party. Mulayam, after all, was the reason for SP's claim to any sort of relevance. The rift widened so much that uncle Shivpal Singh Yadav parted ways and formed his own party, the Pragatishheel Samajwadi Party (Lohia), which inflicted larger damage to the SP in three Yadav pocketboroughs of Kannauj, Budaun and Firozabad in the 2019 Lok Sabha elections. All old-timers in the party, who had built the SP brick-by-brick and whose advice was worth a pound of gold for Mulayam, were left ignored and their constituencies were taken up by the new cadres.

The courtiers in Akhilesh Yadav's *darbar* were rich, having no practical understanding about the ground realities or imperatives. They became the eyes and ears of the former Chief Minister. Such was their influence on Akhilesh that they started campaigning for the 2019 elections very late. Some even advised that campaigning through WhatsApp was enough because the SP-BSP alliance would fetch dividends as the arithmetic just would not fail. They argued that the battle was between 85 per cent (combination of Dalits, Muslims and backwards as represented by the alliance partners of SP, BSP and RLD)

“
 AKHILESH FAILED TO KEEP HIS FAMILY TOGETHER. THE WAY HE CARRIED OUT A BLOODLESS COUP, REPLACING HIS FATHER WITH HIMSELF AS NATIONAL PRESIDENT, DID NOT GO DOWN WELL WITH THE RANK AND FILE. ALL OLD-TIMERS, WHO HAD BUILT THE SP BRICK-BY-BRICK, WERE LEFT IGNORED AND THEIR CONSTITUENCIES WERE TAKEN UP BY THE NEW CADRES
 ”



versus 15 per cent (upper caste), which would undoubtedly go in their favour.

One of the courtiers of Akhilesh Yadav had told this reporter poetically that the bouquet of caste in this alliance was spread from western Uttar Pradesh to eastern Uttar Pradesh and also had its footprints in Rohilkhand and Bundelkhand.

The just-concluded parliamentary poll results came as a rude shock to the *mahagathbandhan* as it stood completely decimated. In this ignominious defeat, however, the BSP can walk away with its head high — if one can say so — because the party won 10 seats where it had drawn a blank in the 2014 Lok Sabha election. But it is Akhilesh, who has to face the bigger question, because while his family members lost the election, he failed to increase his tally.

In the 2014 election, the SP had won a total of five seats — all the winners were from the family. Besides, Mulayam (who had won from Mainpuri and Azamgarh), other family members of Akhilesh, namely Dimple Yadav and his two cousins Dharmendra and Akshay, won the elections. In the bye-election after Mulayam vacated Mainpuri, another cousin of Akhilesh, Tej Bahadur, romped home. SP's total tally further increased to seven after it won the bye-elections of Gorakhpur and Phulpur in 2018.

In the 2019 Lok Sabha polls, the party once again won five seats while Dimple Yadav (Kannauj), Dharmendra Yadav (Budaun) and Akshay Yadav (Firozabad) lost the elections. Besides, Akhilesh Yadav (Azamgarh) and Mulayam Singh Yadav (Mainpuri), three Muslim leaders — Azam Khan

(Rampur), Shafiqur Rahman Warq (Sambhal) and ST Hasan (Moradabad) — emerged victorious.

The defeat has raised many questions on Akhilesh's leadership simply because it is the second time the SP has contested the election under him. As national president of the party, he had contested the first election in 2017. In fact, it was his idea to enter into an alliance with the Congress. His political acumen was even questioned back then because as a performing Chief Minister, who had carried out a spate of development work, including the construction of the Agra-Lucknow Expressway, he did not need a prop. With the tagline of his campaign as 'Kaam Bolta Hai', his inclination to go for an alliance with the Congress showed that he was unconvinced about his own work and did not have the stomach to drive hard political decisions or go it alone. In that election, the SP's tally reduced from 226 to 47.

In 2019, again, he showed political nervousness and entered into an alliance with the BSP and RLD to contest the Lok Sabha election. Some termed it as the election story of 2019. The result, however, was pathetic. Akhilesh not only lost seats but his party's vote percentage, too, came down. (SP's vote percentage is 18 per cent while it is 19 per cent for BSP and 50 per cent for the BJP).

His father and the wily SP founder Mulayam had publicly said that Akhilesh had "lost half the battle" when the latter chose the politics of alliance. He had even admonished his son, saying that the SP was not battle-ready as it was relying too much on Mayawati whereas the BJP had started

ground work almost a year ago.

Mulayam's words have proved prophetic. The SP stands vanquished today, primarily because neither the Dalit nor the Yadav vote was consolidated enough to ensure transference to each other's candidates. The results announced on May 23 punctured the invincibility argument and now the alliance stands exposed. The BSP, SP and RLD have around 39 per cent vote share while the BJP and its ally has over 50 per cent of the vote. This shows that the myth of castes moving at the *diktat* of leaders does not hold good anymore.

Akhilesh is standing at the crossroads now. He is carrying the legacy of Mulayam Singh Yadav while the reputation of SP that senior leaders like Janeshwar Mishra, Rama Shankar Kaushik, Babu Lal Yadav, Md Azam Khan and Reoti Raman Singh had built through blood, sweat and tear is at stake. Uttar Pradesh has witnessed how Ajit Singh floundered the political legacy of Chaudhry Charan Singh. His politics of *ayaa ram, gaya ram* and fondness to align with the ruling party has reduced the RLD to a political non-entity.

Akhilesh should take lessons from the failure of Ajit Singh. He should try for a reconciliation of the party and the family. The first step should be to hand over the baton back to Mulayam Singh Yadav. Shivpal Singh should be brought back and he should start touring the State. He should open his doors to the party workers. It is time for Akhilesh to smell the coffee or otherwise he could be heading Ajit Singh's way.

(The writer is Executive Director [News] with The Pioneer, Lucknow)

It's the economy, stupid

Political consciousness is almost always shaped by economic circumstances — a lesson everyone learns sooner or later



FOREIGN EYE



OF BEING FRANK

The first big challenge to modern Germany's liberal order came from the far left, with the urban guerrillas of the 1970s. A noted thinker had observed that the democratic, liberal state depends on conditions that it cannot itself guarantee. In other words, written rules are not enough to hold society together. They must be supplemented by unwritten moral understandings. Strengthening those was the task in the 1970s, successfully accomplished then; it must be resumed now. (The Guardian editorial)



NADEEM PARACHA

In March 1991, a few days after the US forces invaded Iraq for the first time, 90 per cent of Americans, who were polled, approved of President George H Bush's job performance. Bush's approval ratings skyrocketed and political commentators predicted that the Republican Party would be able to retain the presidency in the 1992 election. Republican presidents Ronald Reagan and then Bush had held the White House since 1981. And in 1991, it seemed Bush, too, would be able to win a second term just as his predecessor Reagan had. However, by the end of 1991, Bush's approval ratings began to plummet, surprising many political pundits. This was when the strategy team of Bush's opponent Bill Clinton (Democratic Party) came up with the slogan, "It's the economy, stupid!" Clinton was able to break the win-

ning streak of the Republican Party by attacking the Bush administration's economic performance, knowing fully well that the struggling economy had begun to impact many Republican voters as well. According to the famous German philosopher and political theorist Karl Marx, a person's "political consciousness" is almost always shaped by his economic circumstances.

Let me demonstrate this through the example of an acquaintance of mine, Tahir, or rather, through the story of his dad, Baqir. I've known Tahir since school. His family became extremely conservative in the 1980s but it wasn't always so. Tahir's father had migrated to Pakistan from India in 1947. He was 16 at the time. In Karachi, Tahir's paternal grandfather was a small trader who set up a shop in Karachi in 1949. Tahir's father often visited the shop after school.

Tahir once told me that their "class status suddenly jumped from lower-middle to upper-middle" in the early 1950s, when his grandfather managed to export merchandise to the US forces stationed in Korea. Between 1950 and 1953, the Pakistani economy witnessed a boom of sorts due to such exports to the US

during armed conflict between the US military and China-backed North Korean armies.

Tahir's father, Baqir, took over the family business in the mid-1950s and began to expand it. Tahir told me that his father led a "highly Westernised life" and befriended many industrialists, bureaucrats and politicians. Baqir fully supported Ayub Khan's 1958 coup because he believed that political instability had begun to negatively impact his family's economic fortunes.

And Baqir did greatly benefit from the Ayub regime's 'pro-business' policies. In 1960, he married a bureaucrat's daughter. It was a love marriage. Apart from expanding his export business, Baqir spread his economic interests by buying two cinemas in Karachi and one in Lahore. He also bought a restaurant and opened two bars in Karachi's Saddar and Tariq Road areas. He also built a new palatial family home in Karachi.

According to political economist Akbar Zaidi, the country's annual growth rate during the Ayub regime (1958-69) was an impressive 6.7 per cent in Gross Domestic Product. But Zaidi also mentions that Ayub's policies in this context also created economic

disparities, which were exploited by parties such as ZA Bhutto's Pakistan People's Party (PPP).

Baqir was a card-carrying member of Ayub's centrist and modernist Conventional Muslim League. In December 1971, the PPP came to power on a 'socialist' platform. There was an increase in Pakistan's import bills due to the 1973 world oil price shock, a serious post-1973 global recession during 1974-77, failure of cotton crops in 1974-75, pest attacks on crops and massive floods in 1973, 1974 and 1976-77. Pakistan experienced the worst inflation during 1972-77 when prices increased by 15 per cent.

As his business nosedived, Baqir sold his cinemas and bars in 1973 and in 1975, he wrapped up his export business and moved the family to London where he opened two Pakistani restaurants. However, he returned to Karachi after the fall of the Bhutto regime in 1977. By 1980, he was able to resurrect his business in Karachi when the Gen Zia dictatorship initiated denationalisation, deregulation and privatisation policies.

Pakistan achieved a national savings/GDP ratio of 16 per cent in 1986-87 amidst massive inflows of worker

remittances from the Middle East. Unprecedented financial aid from the US and Saudi Arabia (for the anti-Soviet insurgency in Afghanistan) also helped.

Baqir was successful in regenerating his export business and also became an importer after Zia lifted curbs on imports. This was the period of Zia's 'Islamisation' and Baqir followed suit by shunning his 'Westernised ways'. He became a 'born-again Muslim'. His palatial house in Karachi also went through a transformation. Expensive paintings gave way to equally expensive calligraphy of sacred verses and water colour paintings of Islam's sacred sites. He built a mosque in the area where the house stood and also one in his vast office.

He remained a Zia supporter even after the latter's demise in 1988. He voted for Nawaz Sharif's (then 'Ziaist' and pro-business) Pakistan Muslim League (N) until his business once again began to go south due to international sanctions imposed on Pakistan after the country tested two nuclear devices in 1998.

In the early 2000s, Baqir handed over the reigns of the family busi-

ness to Tahir, who supported the Musharraf dictatorship for a while but despite the 8.5 per cent growth rate achieved by the regime till 2005, he could not revive the family business.

Out of frustration, he sold it off and joined a multinational organisation as an employee. The frustration was also vented out through supporting the anti-Musharraf movement in 2007. The economy had begun to spiral down and this also meant Tahir's wish to revive the family business was thwarted.

He got married and moved to Qatar and then Saudi Arabia. This is when I reconnected with him through Facebook. He supported Imran Khan in 2013 and just before the 2018 elections, he was posting statuses about the upcoming 'Islamic welfare state' and Riyasat-i-Madina on Facebook.

However, only recently, as the country's economy is once again threatening to spiral down, his Facebook posts have become critical of Khan's regime. So I inboxed him: "Tahir, it seems there is no place for you to restart the family business in Riyasat-i-Madina." He didn't reply. (The Dawn)

10 more TMC MLAs, MPs may join BJP, hints Mukul

SUGAR SENGUPTA ■ KOLKATA

In what could give Mamata Banerjee more butterflies in her stomach, senior BJP leader Mukul Roy on Friday said another crop of about 10 Trinamool Congress MLAs and "some MPs" were waiting to join the saffron camp.

Roy, a major architect of BJP's astounding performance in the Lok Sabha elections from Bengal, said the Mamata Banerjee Government may not last till 2021 and could collapse well before its time as "many MLAs and MPs are in touch with me."

He said, "just now there are 10 MLAs and some MPs who are in touch with me. There will be more to join us in the coming days," and added he would prefer the TMC leaders to join the BJP gradually so "causing her chest pain to increase slowly. I will not give them a sudden heart attack but a slow and sure shock causing a stroke."

Already a large number of TMC leaders including MLAs,

former and sitting, municipal chairmen and councilors have joined the BJP in Delhi.

On whether he saw a revival of Trinamool Congress from the electoral jolt it had suffered in the recently held parliamentary elections, Roy said more and more people were getting attracted towards the BJP impressed by the performance of Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

"If this trend continues and if the TMC leaders continue to join our party in such large numbers then I don't think this government will survive its full term till 2021" the former Railway Minister said.

Meanwhile, with a view to stimulate the senior Trinamool leaders' sagging spirits Chief Minister on Friday held a party core committee meeting where she asked the Ministers, MPs, MLAs and district presidents to stick to their basic jobs and expand their public base.

"Don't live your respective areas. This is my strong instruc-

tion," she said adding, "expand your support base through public contact because we will definitely bounce back from this place," she told her party leaders.

Once again attacking the BJP and the Election Commission for manipulating the electronic voting machines to win the elections Banerjee said, "the people will have to be told about this. We will have to descend on the streets, organize mass movements against the EC so as to build pressure" on the poll panel in order to "prevent it from repeating its mischief in the 2021 Assembly elections."

Buttressing her argument she wondered "how Amit Shah and the BJP could say prematurely that they would get 300-plus seats and how could he say this will happen at 10 am and that will happen at 11 am and yet another thing will happen at 12 pm on the counting day. This means that there was connivance and high-tech manipulation of the EVMS."

2 cops injured after gunfight erupts in Kishtwar

5 terrorists killed in two separate terror operations

MOHIT KANDHARI ■ JAMMU

Kishtwar district in Jammu province, declared a terrorism-free zone over a decade ago, witnessed first firefight between unidentified terrorists and jawans of police patrol party in the wee hours of Friday in Appan area of Marwah tehsil.

Two Special police officers (SPOs) wounded in the attack were rushed to Army command hospital, Udhampur for specialised treatment.

Meanwhile, in two successful operations, a joint team of security forces eliminated five terrorists during the day. According to police, three Hizbul Mujahideen terrorists were neutralised in Dragad area of Sugan village in Shopian while two terrorists were killed in Nana area of Tral in South Kashmir's Pulwama district.

Public Relations Officer (PRO) of Inspector General of Police, Jammu range, MK



Sinha said, "after receiving a specific input about the movement of anti-national elements in Appan area of Marwah, a team of SOG and district police had left for the area on Thursday evening".

He said, early Friday morning while police team was on its job, it came under fire from unidentified militants near Faizi Bridge. The fire was retaliated. He said in the exchange of firing, 02 SPOs, Mohd. Iqbal & Ashiq Hussain got bullet injuries. He said, after the attack, Army and police teams

launched comprehensive searches in the area.

IG, Jammu range, MK Sinha also visited Army Command Hospital at Udhampur and enquired about the health and welfare of the 02 SPOs who sustained bullet injuries.

Since beginning of the holy month of Ramzan, more than 20 terrorists have been eliminated by the security forces across Kashmir valley in relentless operations.

The overall tally of terrorists killed since January 2019 is

nearing 100. Out of these more than two dozen terrorists of Jaish-e- Mohammad terror outfit including its top commanders have been eliminated by the security forces.

Since November 2018, Kishtwar was witnessing regular movement of 'radicalised' youth in the area.

The same month saw targeted killing of a senior BJP leader Anil Parihar along with his brother Ajeet Parihar.

In April 2019, another RSS leader, Chandermohan Sharma, was killed in cold blood along with his body guard inside district hospital in Kishtwar. Incidents of weapon snatching were also reported in the area in the recent months raising concerns of revival of militancy in the region.

In March 2019, posters carrying pictures of seven "wanted terrorists" affiliated with the Hizbul Mujahideen and the Lashkar-e-Taiba were released by the police. Official sources said, at least seven terrorists are active in the region and six of them belonged to the Hizbul Mujahideen and one to the Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT).

Meanwhile, Police spokesman in Srinagar said, "the encounter broke out after a Cordon and Search Operation was launched in the Dragad area of Sugan village in Shopian following credible inputs about the presence of militants, adding that the gunfight site was located in orchards and with no habitation nearby".

"During the search operation, the hiding militants fired on the search party, police said, adding that the fire was retaliated, leading to an encounter in which two listed militants along with the other one who was part of this group were killed".

The killed terrorists were identified as Abid Manzoor Magray alias Sajju Tiger son of Manzoor Ahmad Magray resident Nowpora Payeeen Pulwama, Bilal Ahmad Bhat son of Gul Mohammad resident of Urmulla Lassipora Pulwama and Jasim Rashid Shah son of Abdul Rashid resident of Malnar, Shopian.

Abid and Manzoor were wanted by law for their complicity in a series of cases including attack on security establishments and civilian atrocities. Several cases were registered against them, police said.

Amethi BJP worker's killing: Key accused held after encounter

Amethi (UP): The main accused in the killing of a close aide of Amethi MP Smriti Irani was arrested on Friday following an encounter with police here, officials said.

Wasim was held in Shalhapur area under the Jamo police station area on Thursday night, Assistant Superintendent of Police Daya Ram said.

With this, all the five accused in the case have been arrested, he said.

Wasim has suffered gunshot injuries and has been admitted to a community health centre, the ASP said, adding the Jamo police station

in-charge also suffered minor injuries in the gunfight.

A case was registered against five people for killing Surendra Singh.

Ramchandra, Dharmanath, Naseem and Golu were arrested earlier. Ramchandra is a member of the kshetra panchayat and also a local Congress leader, the police said.

Singh, 50, a former head of Baraulia village, around 25 km from the Amethi district headquarters, was shot at around 11.30 pm on May 25. He was referred to a Lucknow hospital, but succumbed to injuries during treatment. PTI

DMK likens Rahul to Nehru, says victory is possible

Chennai: The DMK on Friday likened Rahul Gandhi to Jawaharlal Nehru for his liberal ideological moorings that went beyond just electoral politics and asserted that the Congress needed a "broad-minded person" like him.

At a time when the Congress appeared to be in a disarray with Rahul wanting to step down from the post of party chief due to poll drubbing, the Dravidian party said, "Rahul's political journey should be about slogging from the grassroots level. If that is there, victory is possible."

Apparently seeking to lift Rahul's spirits, the DMK's Tamil organ "Murasoli", in its editorial, said the Congress was a broad-based party and to lead it, only a broad-minded person like Rahul was needed.

K Stalin persuaded Rahul not to quit from the president's post, the party mouthpiece said he did not confine himself to only "electoral politics," during the run up to the polls.

Instead, Rahul, the DMK said showed his concern about the Indian society, and expressed his anguish about several aspects like religious hostility, economic inequalities, and poverty.

The DMK daily said he also understood the difference in mindset between the southern and northern states.

Rahul spoke of "Periyar (rationalist leader) and celebrated Kalaingar (late DMK patriarch M Karunanidhi)," and all such aspects went beyond poll victories and defeats, Murasoli said.

By doing so, the DMK said, "Rahul transcended. To be very precise, Rahul Gandhi reflected the thoughts (liberal ideological stand) of Jawaharlal Nehru."

"Rahul is the strong brick for building the fort of Congress and it is more strong than a mountain of sand."

The DMK also said it was usual to blame the Nehru-Gandhi family during poll debacles.

"Many do not realise during times of success that it is the very same family which fetched victories for the Congress party."

Similarly, some were now trying to place the blame on Rahul for the Congress party's poll defeat.

Rahul has offered to step down following the dismal performance of the Congress in the Lok Sabha elections, while the Congress Working Committee rejected it.

The BJP had on May 23 won 303 out of 542 Lok Sabha seats that went to polls, handing out a crushing defeat to the Congress and many other political opponents. PTI

No evidence to suggest Payal Tadvi was killed: Mumbai Police

Mumbai: No evidence was found to indicate that Payal Tadvi, the junior doctor at a Government hospital here who allegedly committed suicide, had been killed, the Mumbai Police's crime branch told a court on Friday.

The court, which refused to extend police remand of the three accused, noted that the case diary and the autopsy report did not suggest that it was a "clear-cut" case of murder.

Tadvi (26), a post-graduate student at B Y L Nair Hospital, allegedly hanged herself in her hostel room on May 22, as she was reportedly fed up of being ragged by the three accused who were her seniors.

It was also alleged that the accused had hurled casteist slurs at her.

The prosecution, seeking police remand for the accused when they were arrested, had suggested that it could be a case of murder.

However, the crime branch, which took over the case on Thursday, told the court that it has not "come across any material to call it a murder". The accused — Bhakti Mehere, Hema Ahuja and Anika Khandelwal — were produced before Additional Sessions Judge R M Sadrani at the end of their police custody on Friday. Seeking their further custody, the investigating officer said it was required for the recovery of the suicide note. PTI

NORTHERN RAILWAY
TENDER NOTICE (through e-Tendering)

S. No.	Name of work with its location	App. Cost of the work (In Rs.)	Tender Inviting Officer Address	Tender Document Fee (In Rs.)	Earnest Money to be deposited (In Rs.)	Date & Time for Closed of tender
1.	Installation and commissioning of Axle Counter in c/w Provision of SSDAC in conjunction with DC track circuit for improving reliability of track circuit in section of ABSTE/PS of Delhi Division.	Rs. 73,98,212/- only	Sr. Divisional Signal & Telecom Engineer/II, Northern Railway, 2 nd Floor, Annex.-1, DRM office, New Delhi-110055	Rs. 5,900/- only	Rs. 1,48,000.00 only	Tender uploaded date & time- 26.06.2019 upto 15.00 hrs.

Website Particulars & notice board location where complete details of the tender can be seen etc. : See the N. Ry. website www.ireps.gov.in & Notice board at S&T Building, 3rd Floor, DRM Office, State Entry Road, New Delhi-110055. Tender No. : 558-Sig/16M/Tender/1278 Dated : 30.05.2019. 1707/19

NORTHERN RAILWAY
NOTICE INVITING TENDER

Name of work and its location :- 30-Elect-18-T-2019-20-E3, Replacement & rewinding of submersible & monoblock submersible pumps over Delhi Division, Approx cost of the work :- Rs. 47.95 lacs. Address of the office :- Sr. Divl Elect. Engineer/General, New Delhi. Earnest Money :- Rs. 95900.00. Date & time of submission of tender :- 25.06.2019, 15.00 Hrs. Opening of tender :- 25.06.2019, 15.15 Hrs. Website & notice board :- www.ireps.gov.in & Sr. Divl. Elect. Engineer/General, New Delhi. 1712/2019

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

NORTHERN RAILWAY
TENDER NOTICE

The Dy Chief Engineer/TMCLine, Northern Railway, State Entry Road, New Delhi for and on behalf of the President of India invites Open E-tender under Single Packet System for the under noted work:- Name of work and location: Repairing of Track machine Cabins including flooring, operating chairs repair, providing and fixing tool boxes, painting of track machine etc. at TMM/DTKD, KKDE, LKO, MB, BTI & JUC under the jurisdiction of Dy.Chief Engineer/TMCLine, S.E. Road New Delhi for a period of One year. Completion period of the work: 12 Months (One year) Approx cost of work :- ₹ 25.52 Lakhs. Earnest Money amount to be deposited Online: ₹ 51,100/- (Rupees Fifty One Thousand and One Hundred only) Cost of Tender Document (to be deposited Online): ₹ 3,000/- Date & Time for submission of E-tender and opening of tender: Tenders may be uploaded from 12.06.2019 & upto 15.00 hrs on 26.06.2019 on IREPS web site i.e. www.ireps.gov.in. The bidders can participate in the e-tender, the tender will be opened soon after 15:00 hrs on 26.06.2019. Detailed Tender Notice & Tender Document : The detailed tender document is available on Above tender document will be available for online submission of offer on IREPS website i.e. from 12.06.2019 to 26.06.2019. All other terms and conditions in respect of above tenders are given in tender document. The detailed tender notice also can be seen on the Notice Board of the above office. Tender Notice No. 14W-DyCETMCL-CR-03-19-20 Dated: 30.05.2019 1703/19

Serving Customers With A Smile

New Okhla Industrial Development Authority
Administrative Building, Sector-6, Noida, G.B. Nagar (U.P.)
Website : www.noidaauthorityonline.com

E-TENDER NOTICE

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

A) 1) 01/SM-Jal-III/ET/19-20, M/o W/s (Annual Maintenance of Booster Motor & Other Electrical work at UGR Nagla (04 Nos), UGR-47(3 Nos), Jlabans (03 Nos.), & Sector-80 (3 Nos), Noida. Cost. Rs. 29.45 Lacs
2) 08/SM-Jal-III/ET/19-20, Water Chlorination (Repairing, Operation & Maintenance of Chloromak-500 Chlorination Plant at UGR Sector-82 & 93) Noida. Cost. Rs. 34.05 Lacs
3) 09/SM-Jal-III/ET/19-20, Water Chlorination (Repairing, Operation & Maintenance of Chloromak-500 Chlorination Plant at UGR Sector-50 & 50B) Noida. Cost. Rs. 34.05 Lacs

The above tenders can be uploaded by date 17.06.2019 upto 5.00 PM. Pre-qualification shall be opened/downloaded on date 18.06.2019 at 11.00 AM. (M.K. Jain) Senior Manager (JAL)-III Noida

Office- Sector-39, Noida
CLEAN, GREEN, SAFE & SECURE NOIDA

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

PRESS NIT No. 03 (2019-20)

S. 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 procurement solution
1.	Providing interconnection with newly installed tubewell to 400 mm dia water main by 150 mm dia DI water line at Brijpur road in Mustatabad, AC-69	25,26,895/-	Rs. 51,000/-	500/-	29.05.2019	17.06.2019 Up to 02:30 PM

ISSUED BY P.R.O (WATER) Advt. No. J.S.V 40/2019-20 EX.ENGINEER (NE)II

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform the public at large that one of the customer of HDFC Bank Ltd, namely M/s Smart Entertainment Pvt Ltd, having registered office at Plot No.19A & 19B, Sector-125, Noida, U.P.-201301, is the registered owner of land and building in Khata No.78, Gata No. 93min, 94min, 95, 97, 98, 99 & 101min, total area 7 Bigha 4 Biswapukhta (i.e. 1.917 Hectare), situated at Village Durg Nigla, Tehsil Sadar, District Rampur, Uttar Pradesh, vide registered Sale Deed dated 24.08.1984 (the "Property"). It is further informed that the documents i.e. Original Sale Deed dated 24.08.1984 executed by previous owner namely M/s Mod Xerox Ltd. in favour of M/s. Modpur Hotel's Pvt. Ltd. (now known as M/s Smart Entertainment Pvt Ltd), including other original chain documents with respect of above said Property, got misplaced from Rampur, Uttar Pradesh, during transit for photocopy purposes in the year 1986. In this regard above said customer also made a complaint with the concern police station on 06.05.1986.

Above said customer is in process of providing said Property as collateral for availing certain Loan facilities from HDFC Bank Ltd. Aforesaid documents are neither traceable nor readily found available, thus any persons, institution having claim, interest, rights of whatsoever nature, in the any part of above said property may contact within 7 days from the date of publication of this notice to us at following address:

Amitabh Bhanj Chamber No 11, Bara Waqalat Khana, Civil Court, Bareilly-243201, Uttar Pradesh Mob No. : +91-9319908378

Place: Rampur Date: 31st May, 2019

GURU GOBIND SINGH INDRAPRASTHA UNIVERSITY
(Established by the Govt. of NCT of Delhi)
Sector-16 C, Dwarka, New Delhi - 110 078
Website: www.ipu.ac.in

NOTICE INVITING E-TENDER

Online tender is invited in two bids system (Technical & Financial Bid) from specialized agencies, the detail is as under:

Name of Work : Tender for Engagement of Agency for the purpose of Hiring of Taxis (Commercial Vehicle)

Tender ID : 2019_GGSP_172880_1

Estimated cost of the work : Rs. 1,50,00,000/- (Rupees One Crore Fifty Lakhs Only)

EMD : Rs. 3,00,000/- (Rupees Three Lakhs Only)

Last date of submission of bid online : 21/06/2019 (upto 3:00 p.m.)

Date of opening of Technical Bid : 21/06/2019 at 3:30 p.m.

The detail of the tender document and other terms and conditions of the contract to be compiled can be seen at www.ipu.ac.in and applied through website <https://govtprocurement.delhi.gov.in> free of cost. Registrar

ELECTRICITY DEPARTMENT
NEW DELHI MUNICIPAL COUNCIL
BUILDING MAINTENANCE DIVISION - II
VIDYUT BHAWAN, DR. A.P.J. ABDUL KALAM ROAD, NEW DELHI-110011
E-procurement Tender Notice

Name of the work : Annual Rate Contract for maintenance of ductable AC units and AC plants installed at various Municipal buildings and Bara Ghats in South of Rajpath.

Tender ID No. : 2019_NDMC_173196_1(2nd Call)

Estimated Cost : Rs. 14,99,200/-

Date of release of tender through e-procurement solution : 31.05.2019 at 10.00 AM

Last date/time for receipt of tenders through e-procurement solution : 10.06.2019 at 3.30 PM

Date of opening of tender through e-procurement solution : 10.06.2019 at 4.00 PM

Further details can be seen at www.ndmc.gov.in or <https://govtprocurement.delhi.gov.in>

Note :- To participate in e-tender in NDMC, registration with application services provider (ASP) of NIC is mandatory. Executive Engineer (E) BM-II

To Be The Global Benchmark for a Capital City

SEARCH FOR MISSING

General public is hereby informed that a girl namely **Neha Rajpoot D/o Sh. Om Prakash, R/O H. No. B-69, Gali No. 8, Khajuri Khas, Delhi.** The girl has been missing from her house since 16.04.2019 from the area of P.S. Khajuri Khas, Delhi.

In this regard DD No. 73A, dated 26/04/2019 has been registered at P.S. Khajuri Khas, Delhi. Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out the missing girl but no clue has come to light so far.

The description of the missing girl is as under:
Name: Neha Rajpoot, Age: 19 Years, Height: 5'2", Complexion: Shallow, Face: Round, Built: Normal, Wearing: Red Colour Top, Blue Colour Jeans and Hawai Chappal in Feet.

If anyone has any information regarding this missing girl, kindly inform SHO/P.S. Khajuri Khas, Delhi.

Email: cic@cbi.gov.in, Website: <http://cbi.nic.in>
Ph. : 011-23015229, 23015218 SHO
Fax: 011-23011334 P.S. Khajuri Khas, Delhi
DP/7090/NE/19 Ph. No. 011-229668581, 0875087027

APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION

General public is hereby informed that an unknown person was found and admitted in LNJP Hospital during the treatment doctors declared him dead, dated 12.05.2019. In this regard a DD No. 52A dated 12.05.2019, has been lodged at P.S. IP Estate, Delhi.

The Description of the dead body is given as under: Name: Unknown, S/O: Unknown, R/O: Unknown, Sex: Male, Age: 20-22 Years, Height: 5'7", Complexion: Dark, Built: Thin, Wearing: White Pant.

Sincere efforts have been made by the local Police to trace out the dead person but no clue has come to light so far. If anyone having any information about this dead person, please inform undersigned.

Website: <http://cbi.nic.in>
E-mail: cic@cbi.gov.in
Fax: 011-24368639 P.S. IP Estate, Delhi
Ph. No. 011-23370928, 08750870426

SEARCH FOR MISSING

General Public is hereby informed that a female (depicted in the photo) namely **Nijma, W/o Sekh Sohrab R/O H. No. 57, J-3 Block, Delhi,** has been missing since 24.10.2017. In this regard a D.D. No. 14-A, Dated 25.10.2017 has been registered at Police Station - Kanjhawala, Delhi. Her physical description is as under:-

Age: 38 years, Complexion: Wheatish, Height: 5'0", Face: Round, Clothing: Wearing orange colour Suit-Salwar and Hawai Chappal in feet.

Any person is having any information/Clue about this missing female may inform undersigned.

Website: <http://cbi.nic.in>
E-mail: cic@cbi.gov.in
Fax: 011-24368638, 24368641 P.S. Kanjhawala, Delhi
Ph. No. 011-25952485, 25951486

SEARCH FOR MISSING

General public is hereby informed that a man namely **Gyanendra Mishra, S/o Sh. Braj Narayan Mishra, R/O H.No. 203, Star Paper Mill Road, Vinay Vihar Colony, Saharanpur, UP** has been missing since 19.05.2019 from the area of P.S. Mandawali, Delhi. In this regard a DD No. 102A dated 20.05.2019, has been lodged at P.S. Mandawali, Delhi. Sincere efforts have been made by the local police to trace out the missing man but no clue has come to light so far. The description of the missing man is as under:
Name: Gyanendra Mishra, Gender: Male, Age: 37 years, Height: 6', Complexion: Fair, Face: Round, Wearing: Maroon colour T-Shirt and Blue colour Pajama.

If anyone has any information regarding this missing man, kindly inform SHO/Mandawali, Delhi.

E-mail : cic@cbi.gov.in
Ph.: 011-24368638, 24368641 SHO
Fax : 011-24368639 P.S. Mandawali, Delhi
DP/6835/ED/19 Ph. No.: 011- 22720808, 22720809, 8750870628

PUBLIC NOTICE
Notice is hereby given that the below mentioned share Certificates of In Deepak Fertilizers and Petrochemicals Corporation Limited having their registered office at Opp Golf Course, Shastri Nagar, Yerawada, Pune-411008 and Corporate office at Sai Hira Survey No. 93, Mundhwa, Pune-411036 are lost/misplaced and the company is in the process of issuing duplicate share certificates in lieu thereof on request made by the registered shareholder and on execution of documents required for issue of duplicate share certificates. Folio No 144787 Certificate No. 298719 & 298720 Distinctive Nos from 18904526 to 18904625 No of shares 100 Folio No 144787 Certificate No 298719-298720 Distinctive nos from 40754625 to 40754625 no of shares 100. Any person who has a valid claim on the said shares may lodge such claim with the company at their corporate office within 15 days hereof failing which the company will issue duplicate share certificates and no claim will lie thereafter.

Riyadh rallies allies against Tehran at Mecca summits

AFP ■ MECCA

Gulf and Arab allies rallied around Saudi Arabia Friday as it ratcheted up tensions with regional rival Iran after a series of attacks, drawing accusations from Tehran of "sowing division". Tehran, which has strongly denied involvement in any of the attacks, expressed disappointment that Riyadh plans to level the same "baseless accusations" at a summit of the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) early on Saturday.

King Salman called on Gulf and Arab leaders to confront Iran's "criminal acts" after still unexplained sabotage attacks damaged four vessels, two of them Saudi oil tankers, in the Sea of Oman and twin Yemeni

rebel drone attacks shut down a key Saudi oil pipeline.

His remarks came at the start of two back-to-back emergency summits in the Muslim holy city of Mecca that drew near-unanimous support for the Sunni kingdom from Gulf and Arab states -- with the notable exception of Iraq.

A joint statement issued by Arab leaders condemned "acts by the terrorist Huthi militias supported by Iran who (sent) aircraft that crossed into Saudi Arabia to two oil pumping stations and acts of sabotage that affected commercial ships in territorial waters of the United Arab Emirates".

They said Iran's behaviour "poses a direct and serious threat" and called on "the inter-

national community to take a firm stand to confront Iran and its destabilising acts in the region". A joint statement issued by Gulf leaders went further, echoing criticism of a landmark 2015 nuclear deal between major powers and Iran voiced by US President Donald Trump when he abandoned the agreement in May last year.

It expressed "support for the US strategy towards Iran" that has seen Washington tighten the screws on Iran's economy with crippling unilateral sanctions and deploy an aircraft carrier task force, B-52 bombers and an amphibious assault ship to the Gulf, along with additional troops. Gulf leaders called on Iran to "stay away from hostile, destabilising acts".

Iran rejects US Mideast peace plan at Quds Day rally

AFP ■ TEHRAN

Thousands of Iranians joined annual rallies in support of the Palestinian cause on Friday, rejecting a US peace plan President Donald Trump has dubbed the "deal of the century".

The Quds (Jerusalem) Day commemorations, which are held on the last Friday of the Muslim holy month of Ramadan, were launched by Iran's revolutionary leader Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini and are held by pro-Iranian groups across the region.

Demonstrators burnt US and Israeli flags and effigies of Trump and Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu. They held up posters reading "Quds, the eternal capital of Palestine" and "no to the deal of the century".

In similar protests in Baghdad, flags of the United States and the Jewish state were set ablaze and portraits of

'Undoubtedly, the deal of the century will become the bankruptcy of the century'

Trump and Netanyahu trampled as pro-Iranian militias marched through the streets.

The long-awaited "deal", which has yet to be unveiled by its architect, Trump son-in-law Jared Kushner, has already been rejected by the Palestinians, who say Trump's policies have shown him to be blatantly biased in favour of Israel.

High-ranking officials attended the Tehran rally, including President Hassan Rouhani, Foreign Minister Javad Zarif and parliament speaker Ali Larjani.

"Undoubtedly, the deal of the century will become the bankruptcy of the century," the state news agency IRNA quoted Rouhani as telling reporters at the rally.

On his arrival in the White

House more than two years ago, Trump proclaimed his ambition to secure a final accord ending the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

But the odds of his succeeding where every previous US president — Republican as well as Democrat — has failed appear particularly low.

Palestinians have broken all contacts with the Trump administration since he recognised Jerusalem as the capital of Israel in December 2017.

Kushner, who was in Jerusalem on Friday on the latest leg of a regional tour to sell the plan, has looked to an alliance with Saudi Arabia against Iran as a way to gain Arab support.

The US is expected to roll out the economic aspects of the peace plan at a conference in Bahrain on June 25-26.

GLOBE TROTTER

LIST TO REPLACE UK LEADER MAY GROWS TO 12
London: Backbencher Mark Harper became the 12th Conservative MP to enter the contest to replace British Prime Minister Theresa May, the Daily Telegraph reported Friday, as a shock poll highlighted the task facing her successor.

CHINA SLAMS US 'LIES' AS TARIFF HIKE LOOMS
Beijing: China on Friday accused the United States of repeatedly lying about the effects of the trade war on its economy as Beijing prepares to hike tariffs on American goods ranging from wine to pianos and condoms.

RUSSIAN DIPLOMAT NAMED TO LEAD EUROPEAN HQ
Geneva: Russian diplomat Tatiana Valovaya is named the next director-general of the UN office at Geneva, making the former journalist the first woman appointed to run the world body's European headquarters.

SUMMER SPECIAL TRAINS - 2019

In order to clear extra rush of passengers Northern Railway in association with other zonal Railways have decided to run the following Summer Special Trains as per schedule given below:-

Train No.	Station From	Dept. Time	Station to	Arr. Time	Frequency/Day(s) of run	Period	Accommodation
04503	Kalka	01:30	Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Katra	12:00	Weekly	Thu upto 27.06.19	AC 2 Tier, AC 3 Tier, Sleeper & General
04504	Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Katra	21:20	Kalka	07:50	Weekly	Thu upto 27.06.19	AC 2 Tier, AC 3 Tier, Sleeper & General
04921	Saharanpur	04:45	Ambala Cantt	06:30	Daily	upto 30.06.19	General & Chair Car
04922	Ambala Cantt	20:45	Saharanpur	22:40	Daily	upto 30.06.19	General & Chair Car
04401	Anand Vihar (T)	23:00	Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Katra	14:00	Bi-Weekly	Mon, Thu upto 27.06.19	1st AC, AC 2 Tier & AC 3 Tier
04402	Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Katra	23:30	Anand Vihar (T)	14:20	Bi-Weekly	Tue, Fri upto 28.06.19	1st AC, AC 2 Tier & AC 3 Tier
04502	Nangal Dam	23:45	Lucknow	13:50	Weekly	Monday upto 24.06.19	AC 2 Tier, AC 3 Tier, Sleeper & General
04501	Lucknow	21:30	Nangal Dam	13:00	Weekly	Tuesday upto 25.06.19	AC 2 Tier, AC 3 Tier, Sleeper & General
04612	Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Katra	23:30	Varanasi	01:40	Weekly	Sunday upto 30.06.19	AC 2 Tier, AC 3 Tier, Sleeper & General
04611	Varanasi	06:00	Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Katra	09:05	Weekly	Tuesday upto 02.07.19	AC 2 Tier, AC 3 Tier, Sleeper & General
04998	Bathinda	20:50	Varanasi	19:20	Weekly	Sun upto 30.06.19	AC 3 Tier, Sleeper & General
04997	Varanasi	21:20	Bathinda	19:00	Weekly	Mon upto 01.07.19	AC 3 Tier, Sleeper & General
04924	Chandigarh	23:15	Gorakhpur Jn.	17:30	Weekly	Thu upto 27.06.19	1st AC-cum-AC 2 Tier, AC 2 Tier, AC 3 Tier, Sleeper & General
04923	Gorakhpur Jn.	22:10	Chandigarh	14:25	Weekly	Fri upto 28.06.19	1st AC-cum-AC 2 Tier, AC 2 Tier, AC 3 Tier, Sleeper & General
04404	New Delhi	19:25	Barauni Jn.	19:45	Bi-Weekly	Tue, Fri upto 28.06.19	AC 3 Tier
04403	Barauni Jn.	21:35	New Delhi	22:10	Bi-Weekly	Wed, Sat upto 29.06.19	AC 3 Tier
04024	Delhi Jn.	11:15	Barauni Jn.	09:30	Bi-Weekly	Mon, Thu upto 27.06.19	AC 2 Tier & AC 3 Tier
04023	Barauni Jn.	12:00	Delhi Jn.	12:40	Bi-Weekly	Tue, Fri upto 28.06.19	AC 2 Tier & AC 3 Tier
04972	Jammu Tawi	09:30	Udaipur City	09:20	Weekly	Thu upto 27.06.19	AC 3 Tier
04971	Udaipur City	13:50	Jammu Tawi	15:20	Weekly	Fri upto 28.06.19	AC 3 Tier
04036	Anand Vihar (T)	22:50	Chhapra	19:30	Weekly	Tue upto 25.06.19	AC 2 Tier, AC 3 Tier, Sleeper & General
04035	Chhapra	23:30	Anand Vihar (T)	20:30	Weekly	Wed upto 26.06.19	AC 2 Tier, AC 3 Tier, Sleeper & General
04111	Allahabad	14:45	Jammu Tawi	13:50	Weekly	Wed upto 26.06.19	AC 2 Tier, AC 3 Tier, Sleeper & General
04112	Jammu Tawi	22:10	Allahabad	20:25	Weekly	Thu upto 27.06.19	AC 2 Tier, AC 3 Tier, Sleeper & General
04191	Agra Fort	20:45	Ramnagar (via Bareilly)	08:25	Tri-Weekly	Tue, Fri, Sun upto 30.06.19	AC 2 Tier, AC 3 Tier, Sleeper & General
04192	Ramnagar	17:40	Agra Fort (via Bareilly)	05:00	Tri-Weekly	Wed, Sat, Mon upto 01.07.19	AC 2 Tier, AC 3 Tier, Sleeper & General
02009	Chhatrapati Shivaji T.	05:10	Gorakhpur (via Lucknow)	12:10	Weekly	Fri upto 05.07.19	Sleeper & General
02010	Gorakhpur Jn.	14:40	Chhatrapati Shivaji T. (via Lucknow)	20:25	Weekly	Sat upto 06.07.19	Sleeper & General
01475	Pune	19:55	Gorakhpur (via Lucknow)	04:30	Weekly	Sun upto 30.06.19	Sleeper & General
01476	Gorakhpur Jn.	07:25	Pune (via Lucknow)	17:00	Weekly	Tue upto 02.07.19	Sleeper & General
01019	Chhatrapati Shivaji T.	11:05	Lucknow	13:45	Weekly	Thu upto 04.07.19	Sleeper & General
02108	Lucknow	15:10	Chhatrapati Shivaji T.	16:45	Weekly	Fri upto 05.07.19	Sleeper & General
01023	Lokmanya Tilak T.	00:45	Gorakhpur (via Varanasi)	11:35	Weekly	Sat upto 29.06.19	AC 3 Tier
01024	Gorakhpur	14:00	Lokmanya Tilak T. (via Varanasi)	23:55	Weekly	Sun upto 30.06.19	AC 3 Tier
09019	Udhna	23:55	Chhapra (via Varanasi)	06:15	Weekly	Sun upto 30.06.19	AC 2 Tier, AC 3 Tier, Sleeper & General
09020	Chhapra	07:50	Udhna (via Varanasi)	13:15	Weekly	Tue upto 02.07.19	AC 2 Tier, AC 3 Tier, Sleeper & General
04193	Agra Cantt.	10:40	Jammu Tawi	01:25	Weekly	Fri upto 28.06.19	AC 2 Tier, AC 3 Tier, Sleeper & General
04194	Jammu Tawi	05:30	Agra Cantt.	21:00	Weekly	Sat upto 29.06.19	AC 2 Tier, AC 3 Tier, Sleeper & General
09725	Jaipur Jn.	07:55	Delhi Cantt.	13:20	Tri-Weekly	Tue, Thu, Fri upto 28.06.19	AC Chair Car, 2nd Sitting & General
09726	Delhi Cantt.	15:20	Jaipur Jn.	21:20	Tri-Weekly	Tue, Thu, Fri upto 28.06.19	AC Chair Car, 2nd Sitting & General
09809	Kota Jn.	20:20	H. Nizamuddin	03:15	Daily	Everyday upto 30.06.19	AC 2 Tier, AC 3 Tier, Sleeper & General
09810	H. Nizamuddin	05:15	Kota Jn.	13:15	Daily	Everyday upto 01.07.19	AC 2 Tier, AC 3 Tier, Sleeper & General
09021	Bandra (T)	05:10	Jammu Tawi	15:30	Weekly	Mon upto 24.06.19	AC 2 Tier, AC 3 Tier & AC Chair Car
09022	Jammu Tawi	02:30	Bandra (T)	10:20	Weekly	Wed upto 26.06.19	AC 2 Tier, AC 3 Tier & AC Chair Car
09015	Bandra (T)	06:40	Gorakhpur (via Lucknow)	18:20	Weekly	Sat upto 29.06.19	AC 2 Tier, AC 3 Tier, Sleeper & General
09016	Gorakhpur	21:20	Bandra (T) (via Lucknow)	09:20	Weekly	Sun upto 30.06.19	AC 2 Tier, AC 3 Tier, Sleeper & General
09025	Mumbai Central	23:25	Ghaziपुर City (via Jaunpur)	10:30	Weekly	Mon upto 24.06.19	AC 2 Tier, AC 3 Tier, Sleeper & General
09026	Ghaziपुर City	19:30	Mumbai Central (via Jaunpur)	07:50	Weekly	Wed upto 26.06.19	AC 2 Tier, AC 3 Tier, Sleeper & General
09013	Mumbai Central	19:35	Lucknow Jn.	20:40	Weekly	Thu upto 27.06.19	AC 2 Tier, AC 3 Tier, Sleeper & General
09014	Lucknow Jn.	22:35	Mumbai Central	23:00	Weekly	Fri upto 28.06.19	AC 2 Tier, AC 3 Tier, Sleeper & General
09005	Mumbai Central	16:00	New Delhi	07:55	Tri-Weekly	Tue, Fri, Sun upto 30.06.19	AC 2 Tier & AC 3 Tier
09006	New Delhi	14:50	Mumbai Central	06:55	Tri-Weekly	Wed, Sat, Mon upto 01.07.19	AC 2 Tier & AC 3 Tier
09413	Ahmedabad	16:10	Delhi Sarai Rohilla	06:50	Weekly	Sat upto 29.06.19	AC 2 Tier, AC 3 Tier & General
09414	Delhi Sarai Rohilla	15:50	Ahmedabad	07:00	Weekly	Sun upto 30.06.19	AC 2 Tier, AC 3 Tier & General
04419	Mumbai Central	16:00	New Delhi	07:55	Bi-Weekly	Sat, Mon upto 01.06.19	1st AC, AC 2 Tier & AC 3 Tier
05101	Chhapra	16:00	Delhi Jn.	12:30	Weekly	Sun upto 30.06.19	AC 3 Tier, Sleeper & General
05102	Delhi Jn.	14:20	Chhapra	10:55	Weekly	Mon upto 01.07.19	AC 3 Tier, Sleeper & General
01103	Lokmanya Tilak (T)	00:45	Varanasi	05:40	Weekly	Mon on 10.06.19	AC 3 Tier, Sleeper & General
01104	Varanasi	08:00	Lokmanya Tilak (T)	12:15	Weekly	Tue on 11.06.19	AC 3 Tier, Sleeper & General
02485	Nanded	23:00	H. Nizamuddin	02:10	Weekly	Thu upto 27.06.19	AC 2 Tier, AC 3 Tier, Sleeper & General
02486	H. Nizamuddin	05:50	Nanded	07:00	Weekly	Sat upto 29.06.19	AC 2 Tier, AC 3 Tier, Sleeper & General
06521	Yeshvant Pur	06:30	Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Katra	18:50	Weekly	Thu upto 20.06.19	AC 2 Tier, AC 3 Tier, Sleeper & General
06522	Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Katra	05:40	Yeshvant Pur	15:00	Weekly	Mon upto 24.06.19	AC 2 Tier, AC 3 Tier, Sleeper & General
09451	Gandhidham	17:40	Bhagalpur (via Lucknow)	20:15	Weekly	Fri upto 28.06.19	AC 2 Tier, AC 3 Tier, Sleeper & General
09452	Bhagalpur	06:30	Gandhidham (via Lucknow)	08:00	Weekly	Mon upto 01.07.19	AC 2 Tier, AC 3 Tier, Sleeper & General
04936	Jammu Tawi	07:25	Chennai Central	08:00	Weekly	Tue on 04.06.19	AC 3 Tier & General
82101	Lokmanya Tilak T.	00:45	Varanasi	05:40	Weekly	Mon upto 01.07.19	AC 3 Tier
82102	Varanasi	08:00	Lokmanya Tilak T.	12:15	Weekly	Tue upto 02.07.19	AC 3 Tier

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UN atomic agency: Iran in compliance with 2015 nuclear deal

Vienna: The UN atomic watchdog said Friday Iran continues to stay within the limitations set by the nuclear deal reached in 2015 with major powers, though its stockpiles of low-enriched uranium and heavy water are growing.

In a confidential quarterly report distributed to member states and seen by The Associated Press, the International Atomic Energy Agency said Iran has stayed within key limitations set in the so-called Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action, or JCPOA.

The deal is meant to keep Tehran from building atomic weapons in exchange for economic incentives. It has been complicated by the unilateral withdrawal of the United States last year and Washington's

increased sanctions, which has been taking a toll on the Iranian economy. That has left the other signatories — Germany, Britain, France, Russia and China — struggling to come up with enough incentives to keep Iran in the deal.

Earlier this month, Iran announced that if a way couldn't be found within 60 days to shield it from US sanctions targeting its economy and oil industry, it would increase its enrichment of uranium beyond the purity allowed under the JCPOA.

And about a week ago, Iran said it had increased its uranium-enrichment production capacity, though only of the lower-enriched uranium permitted by the agreement. AP

Trump unhappy with special counsel's comments on obstruction

AP ■ WASHINGTON

President Donald Trump angrily assailed special counsel Robert Mueller's motives on Thursday, a day after Mueller bluntly rebuffed Trump's repeated claims that the Russia investigation had cleared him of obstructing justice.

The president also offered mixed messages on Russia's efforts to help him defeat Democrat Hillary Clinton in the 2016 campaign.

Early in the day, Trump tweeted he had "nothing to do with Russia helping me get elected." That was the first time he seemed to acknowledge that Russia tried to help his campaign.

Then on the White House South Lawn, Trump told reporters: "Russia did not help me get elected. You know who got me elected? You know who got me elected? I got me elected. Russia didn't help me at all." Mueller's report said Russia interfered in the election in hopes of getting Trump elected, but his findings and intelli-

gence officials have stopped short of saying the efforts contributed to Trump's victory.

Trump's 20-minute eruption underscored that he remains deeply distressed over the probe that has shadowed his presidency for nearly two years, even after Mueller announced his resignation and the closure of his office. Democrats are mulling the possibility of impeachment proceedings.

Trump insisted that he's been tough on Russia and that Moscow would have preferred Clinton as president. But that's not what Russian President Vladimir Putin has said.

When asked last year in Helsinki whether he wanted Trump to become president, Putin replied: "Yes, I did." On Wednesday, Mueller, in his first public remarks on the Russia investigation, pointedly rejected Trump's claims — repeated almost daily — that the special counsel's investigation cleared him of criminal activity and was a "witch hunt."

Pope visits Romania 20 years after John Paul's historic trip

AP ■ BUCHAREST

Pope Francis arrived in Romania on Friday for a three-day, cross-country pilgrimage that in many ways is completing the 1999 trip by St. John Paul II that marked the first-ever papal visit to a majority Orthodox country.

President Klaus Iohannis met Francis at the airport and the two huddled for a private meeting before Francis opened a series of meetings with Romania's political and reli-

gious leadership.

Francis' visit comes on the heels of the European Parliament elections that hollowed out the political middle in the bloc, and Francis is expected to speak about issues confronting the continent during the trip.

Key moments are Francis' Mass for the largely Hungarian-speaking Roman Catholic faithful at the country's most famous Marian shrine, Sumuleu Ciuc, in eastern Transylvania.

APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION

General public is hereby informed that this male Named: Unknown, S/o: Unknown, R/o: Unknown, Age: 40 years, Sex: Male, Height: 5 feet 3 inch., Complexion: Shallow, Wearing: Grey T-Shirt & Black Pant has been found dead Condition at Ring Road Near S.J. Hospital Park, New Delhi on dated 26.05.2019 at 13:23 PM.

In this regard a DD No. 21-A, dated 26-05-2019 has been lodged at P.S. Sarojini Nagar, Delhi.

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

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PS. Sarojini Nagar, New Delhi
DP/6914/SW/19 Ph.: 011-24671281, 8750870835

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EXTRACT OF AUDITED FINANCIAL RESULTS FOR YEAR ENDED ON 31ST MARCH 2019

Sr. No.	Particulars	Half Year Ended 31/03/2019 (Audited)	Year Ended 31/03/2019 (Audited)	Half Year Ended 31/03/2018 (Audited)
1	Total Income From Operation	2.71	2.9	7.50
2	Net Profit for the period (before tax and exceptional items)	1.7	(20.79)	(55.24)
3	Net Profit for the period before Tax (after exceptional items)	1.7	(20.79)	(55.24)
4	Net Profit for the period after tax (after Exceptional items)	2.93	(19.56)	(55.18)
5	Total Comprehensive Income for the period (Comprising Profit for the period (after tax) and Other Comprehensive Income (after tax))	2.93	(19.56)	(55.18)
6				

AN EASY WIN

Windies bowlers exploit overcast conditions to dismantle Pak batting unit for 105 & win the opening encounter by 7 wickets

AFP ■ NOTTINGHAM

West Indies crushed Pakistan by seven wickets in a one-sided World Cup match at Trent Bridge on Friday, with the two-time champions showing they are a resurgent force in the one-day game.

Fast bowler Oshane Thomas took four wickets as Pakistan were bundled out for their second-lowest World Cup total of 105 in just 21.4 overs on the second day of the competition in England and Wales.

West Indies cruised to victory in just 13.4 overs, Chris Gayle top-scoring with 50. He reached his half-century off 33 balls with three sixes and six fours before he was dismissed off the next ball he faced.

During his innings Gayle, who calls himself the "Universe Boss", broke the record for the most sixes hit in World Cup history.

He now has 40 maximums, three more than retired South African batsman A B de Villiers.

Nicolas Pooran smashed pace-man Wahab Riaz for a huge six over the square-leg boundary to give the 1975 and 1979 world champions an ideal start to their campaign.

"It was a good game. I think the bowlers were outstanding today," said Holder. "We kept our foot on the accelerator. We've eased off in the past but it was good to see the killer instinct today."

"We wanted to be aggressive. It's the nature of our cricket with bat, ball and in the field."

"We've definitely come to win this World Cup but I just want us to enjoy our cricket, play fearless cricket and make the fans back home proud."

The only positive for Pakistan was three wickets for paceman Mohammad Amir on his World Cup debut after he missed the 2011 and 2015 tournaments due to a spot-fixing ban of 2010.

Amir had Shai Hope (11), Darren Bravo (0) and Gayle caught in an incisive six-over spell, but the batsmen had not put enough runs on the board to give the bowlers a chance.

Pakistan's sloppy and vulnerable batting was cruelly exposed by some short-pitched bowling by the West Indies pacemen on a Trent Bridge pitch famous for big totals.

Opener Fakhar Zaman and



SARFARAZ AHMED'S SIDE HAD LITTLE TO OFFER WITH THE BAT AS OSHANE THOMAS, JASON HOLDER, ANDRE RUSSELL, SHELDON COTTRELL AND CARLOS BRATHWAITE PERFORMED A MORE THAN PASSABLE IMPERSONATION OF YESTERYEAR GREATS ANDY ROBERTS, MICHAEL HOLDING, MALCOLM MARSHALL AND COLIN CROFT

SCOREBOARD

Pakistan	
Imam-ul-Haq	c Shai Hope b Cottrell 2
Fakhar Zaman	b A Russell 22
Babar Azam	c Shai Hope b Thomas 22
Haris Sohail	c Shai Hope b A Russell 8
Sarfraz	c Shai Hope b Holder 8
Mohammad Hafeez	c Cottrell b Thomas 16
Imad Wasim	c Gayle b Holder 1
Shadab Khan	lbw b Oshane Thomas 0
Hasan Ali	c Cottrell b Holder 1
Wahab Riaz	b Oshane Thomas 18
Mohammad Amir	not out 3
Extras (nb 2, w 2)	4
Total (10 wks; 21.4 overs)	105
Fall of wickets:	17-1 (Imam-ul-Haq, 2.6), 35-2 (Fakhar Zaman, 5.5), 45-3 (Haris Sohail, 9.4), 62-4 (Babar Azam, 13.1), 75-5 (Sarfraz Ahmed, 16.1), 77-6 (Imad Wasim, 16.6), 78-7 (Shadab Khan, 17.3), 81-8 (Hasan Ali, 18.3), 83-9 (Mohammad Hafeez, 19.3), 105-10 (Wahab Riaz, 21.4)
Bowling	
Sheldon Cottrell	4-0-18-1
Jason Holder	5-0-42-3
Andre Russell	3-1-4-2
Carlos Brathwaite	4-0-14-0
Oshane Thomas	5-4-0-27-4
West Indies (Target: 106)	
Chris Gayle	c Shadab Khan b Amir 50
Shai Hope	c Hafeez b Amir 11
Darren Bravo	c Babar Azam b Amir 0
Nicholas Pooran	not out 34
Shimron Hetmyer	not out 7
Extras (lb 3, w 3)	6
Total (3 wks; 13.4 overs)	108
Fall of wickets:	36-1 (Shai Hope, 4.3), 46-2 (Darren Bravo, 6.2), 77-3 (Chris Gayle, 10.5)
Bowling	
Mohammad Amir	6-0-26-3
Hasan Ali	4-0-39-0
Wahab Riaz	3-4-1-40-0
West Indies win by 7 wickets	



CHRIS GAYLE'S PERFORMANCE IN WC

Year	M	Runs	AVG	H.S	Wkts
2003	6	206	34.33	119	4
2007	9	228	25.33	79	5
2011	5	170	42.50	80	-
2015	6	340	56.66	215	5
2019	1	50	50.00	50	-
Total	27	994	38.23	215	14

SHORTEST COMPLETE MATCHES (BY BALLS)

Balls	Teams	Venue	Date
140	Canada-Sri Lanka	Paari	19-02-2003
187	West Indies-Bangladesh	Dhaka	04-03-2011
191	Kenya-New Zealand	Chennai	20-02-2011
212	Pakistan-West Indies	Nottingham	31-05-2019
215	Australia v Bangladesh	North Sound	31-03-2007

FAISEL FEATURES

Babar Azam were the joint top-scorers with 22 each in an abysmal display of batting.

The only other batsmen to reach double figures were Riaz, who scored 18, and Mohammad Hafeez (16).

Holder took three wickets and Andre Russell chipped in with two. Pakistan's lowest World Cup score was 74, made against England at Adelaide on the way to their only World Cup title in 1992.

Pakistan captain Sarfraz Ahmed, said: "Very disappointed at the batting. I was very confident before the match, batting was a key point but we didn't apply it to the short ball."

"Credit to the West Indian bowlers, they bowled really well."

Aggressive fast bowling key for Caribbean

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

There's no secret to Jason Holder's game plan now - the West Indies captain is ready to unleash the fury.

Much has been made of his powerhouse batting line-up, with names like Chris Gayle, Shai Hope, Nicholas Pooran, Shimron Hetmyer and Andre Russell enough to strike fear into any bowling attack.

But it was Holder's bowlers that provided the destructive force at Trent Bridge, an all-seam attack that brought back memories of the past as they laced together aggression, hostility and speed in a combination that proved deadly to Pakistan.

The two-time champions bowled their rivals out for just 105 in 21.4 overs - Pakistan's second lowest total in ICC Men's Cricket World Cup history.

Oshane Thomas took 4-27, Holder 3-42 and Russell a scorching 2-4 in just three eye-catching overs as only two Pakistan batsmen passed 20.

"We want to remain aggressive and that's through good fast bowling," said Holder.

"Our style is to be aggressive, whoever we are playing against. If you aren't picking up wickets then you are never going to contain teams."

"It's good to see a lot of short balls and the discipline and aggression we showed was great. We stacked the overs nicely together and really built the pressure on them."

"If we feel a batsman is susceptible to a short ball then it will be an option we will use."

Pakistan fans outnumbered



Pak can turn to history for inspiration

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Pakistan suffered a seven-wicket defeat to the West Indies in their ICC Men's Cricket World Cup opener in Nottingham.

Beaten by seven-wickets it was their second-lowest World Cup score in history as they were rattled out for just 105 by a hostile West Indian bowling attack at Trent Bridge.

It was their 11th consecutive ODI defeat but maybe they can take some inspiration from history.

When they last lifted the World Cup in 1992 they lost by ten wickets to the West Indies in their tournament opener, so it could be worse.

And they were bowled out for just 74 by England just a few days later.

By the end of the tournament, Imran Khan's side were world champions, famously turning the tables on this year's hosts in the final at the MCG.

The point is, they remain as predictably unpredictable as ever. "We wanted to bowl first and the start is very crucial for our

WHEN THEY LAST LIFTED THE WORLD CUP IN 1992 THEY LOST BY TEN WICKETS TO THE WEST INDIES IN THEIR TOURNAMENT OPENER, SO IT COULD BE WORSE. AND THEY WERE BOWLED OUT FOR JUST 74 BY ENGLAND JUST A FEW DAYS LATER. BY THE END OF THE TOURNAMENT, IMRAN KHAN'S SIDE WERE WORLD CHAMPIONS, FAMOUSLY TURNING THE TABLES ON THIS YEAR'S HOSTS IN THE FINAL AT THE MCG

team," said Sarfraz.

"We lost too many wickets early on and that's why we didn't come back into the game."

"We expected a hard game and we knew what was coming to us. It was not a good result for us but we have what it takes to play and win."

All the pre-match talk was about whether the Windies' powerhouse batsmen could threaten the 500-run mark on a ground made for big scores.

Sarfraz countered he believed it would be a game for the bowlers, though it was the men in maroon who rolled back the years with a performance reminiscent of the 1970s, when their pace attack inspired them to two World Cup victories.

But it won't get any easier for the Pakistan captain, with world No1 side England - pumped up from their opening win over South Africa - their next opponents on the same ground next Monday.

"I was happier with how we bowled and the effort we showed, especially as we were defending such a low score," added Sarfraz.

"It was good to see Mohammed Amir back in the form we know he is capable of and it will be good for us in the next matches as well."

"We have got to back ourselves and not think too much about what happened in this match."

"This game is gone but we have a strong players who will help us bounce back and win the next match."

"We know we can beat England, we came close twice in the recent series and we just didn't finish well."

KIWIS CONFIDENT

AFP ■ LONDON

New Zealand are happy to go under the radar as they prepare to launch their campaign for World Cup glory against Sri Lanka in Cardiff today. The Black Caps reached the final four years ago for the first time after six semi-final defeats, only to be soundly beaten by Australia in Melbourne.

Kane Williamson has replaced the swashbuckling Brendon McCullum as captain but the core of the team that came so close in 2015 remains.

Since the last World Cup, New Zealand have risen as high as second in the world rankings but have also been beaten at home by South Africa, England and India.

New Zealand beat fancied India in their opening World Cup warm-up game before going down to the West Indies.

Taylor has been in breathtaking form in recent years in the one-day game, averaging over 60 in ODIs in 2017 and more than 90 last year.

Williamson, ranked 12th, and Martin Gupthill, ranked 10th, are the other main dangers in the New Zealand batting line-up. Trent Boult leads an impressive



HEAD TO HEAD					
	Played	NZ	SL	Tied	N/R
Matches	98	48	41	1	8
Day matches	62	40	20	1	1
In World Cup	10	4	6	-	-
Last 5 matches	05	4	-	-	1

HIGHEST TOTALS					
New Zealand:	371-7	in 50 overs at Mount Maunganui	03-01-2019		
Sri Lanka:	326	in 49 overs at Mount Maunganui	03-01-2019		

PERFORMANCE IN WC						
Team	P	W	L	T	N/R	Success%
New Zealand	79	48	30	1		61.39
Sri Lanka	73	35	35	1	02	50

— **KANE WILLIAMSON, NEW ZEALAND CAPTAIN**

CAPTAIN'S CABIN

I DON'T KNOW HOW MUCH THE PAST REALLY COUNTS FOR AS WE COME INTO A TOURNAMENT. IT IS ON THE DAY AND WE KNOW IN THIS COMPETITION THAT EVERY TEAM CAN BEAT ANY OF THE OTHER TEAMS. WE ARE CERTAINLY TREATING ALL OF OUR MATCHES LIKE THAT AND WANT TO BRING THE FOCUS BACK ONTO THE CRICKET WE WANT TO PLAY

— **DIMUTH KARUNARATNE, SRI LANKA CAPTAIN**

IF WE PERFORM REALLY WELL IN ALL THREE DEPARTMENTS I THINK WE CAN DEFINITELY BEAT THE KIWIS. IT'S A 50/50 GAME. NEW ZEALAND BEAT INDIA AND THE NEXT DAY WEST INDIES BEAT NEW ZEALAND. IT DOESN'T MATTER WHO ARE THE UNDERDOGS

— **DIMUTH KARUNARATNE, SRI LANKA CAPTAIN**

WATCH OUT FOR

- New Zealand pace attack of Boult, Southee and Ferguson
- Consistent performers Williamson & Taylor
- Sri Lanka's veteran Lasith Malinga
- Angelo Matthews performance
- Can Gupthill continue to shine in WC
- The battle between Colin Munro & Sri Lankan pacers in the start

TODAY LIVE

STAR SPORTS
NZ vs Sri Lanka
Starts from 03:00 pm IST
VENUE: Sophia Gardens, Cardiff

RECORD ALERT

◆ Tom Blundell will become ninth New Zealander and 196th player overall to make one day international debut in World Cup.

◆ Lasith Malinga who is participating in the World Cup for the fourth time, took 43 wickets at an average of 21.11 in 21 innings of 22 matches. He is the seventh highest wicket taker in this mega event

KEY PLAYERS

TRENT BOULT (New Zealand)

He was exceptional in 2015, taking 22 wickets in just 9 matches. The left-arter was in fine touch during the warm-ups, collecting four-wicket hauls in both games. A top-order which tends to struggle against pace and swing presents ideal opportunity for the 29-year old to carry his form in the tournament major.



CONDITIONS

With negligible chances of rain & sunny intervals throughout the day, a full 100-over game with lots of runs can be expected. Gentle breeze might just assist new-ball bowlers early on.

DIMUTH KARUNARATNE (SL)

There can't be a better person than the captain to inspire the unit. He proved his batting against the new ball when he scored a 87 in the warm-up fixture against SA. The left-hander, who had scored his maiden test hundred against the Blackcaps in 2014, could be the glue that the batting together.



Kane calls on NZ to be adaptable

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Kane Williamson knows there is more than one way to win a match and the Kiwi skipper has forecast a return to the 'scrappy' one-day cricket of the past if they are to lift the World Cup in 2019.

Brendon McCullum's master blasters destroyed all in their path on their way to the ICC Men's Cricket World Cup final four years ago on home soil.

But in the final against Australia their all-out aggression came unstuck and they had to settle for a runners-up finish in the end.

Fast-forward to 2019, and Williamson is now in charge of a Black Caps side that sit fourth in the ODI rankings and kick off their campaign in Cardiff on Saturday against Sri Lanka.

And in English conditions — despite plenty of pre-tournament chat about hitting the mythical 500-mark — Williamson insists adaptability rather than aggression is the order of the day.

"There has been a lot of talk about really high scores but I think there will be a number of games where that isn't the case and it will require adjustment," he said.

"For us at the last World Cup, there was a trend in how we played. It was about being smart with the crop that we had to try and get the best performance.

"That meant we were aggressive, the ball swung and we looked to use that.

"We are yet to know how things will shape in this tournament, but the last few years we have been growing and it is about adjusting to the day.

"Guys maybe will have to push harder on a particular surface on a given day, but equally it might be about adjusting to what one-day cricket used to look a little bit like.



THERE HAS BEEN A LOT OF TALK ABOUT REALLY HIGH SCORES BUT I THINK THERE WILL BE A NUMBER OF GAMES WHERE THAT ISN'T THE CASE AND IT WILL REQUIRE ADJUSTMENT

Scores that are a bit lower and much more of that scrappy type.

"There will not be one way to play.

"We know that not every game will be a 350 score, and it's important to be made aware of that as we go throughout this tournament.

"It's easy to get ahead of yourself and think, this is what we are going to need to do versus what do we need to do now in this current situation to give us the best chance?"

The Kiwis have a clean bill of health ahead of the Sri Lanka clash, a side they beat handily four years ago, coincidentally also in their World

Cup opener.

And despite a 3-0 series win over Sri Lanka on home soil back at the start of the year, Williamson is not going to underestimate their opponents.

"I don't know how much the past really counts for as we come into a tournament. It is on the day and we know in this competition that every team can beat any of the other teams," he added.

"We are certainly treating all of our matches like that and want to bring the focus back onto the cricket we want to play.

"We know the Lankan side is a bit different to the one we played at home, but we have no doubt that they are a tough side."

Struggling SL get much-needed pep talk

PTI ■ CARDIFF

New Sri Lanka skipper Dimuth Karunaratne said his struggling side has received timely advice from former greats including Kumar Sangakkara ahead of their World Cup opener against New Zealand here on Saturday.

Sri Lanka, who won the tournament in 1996 before making consecutive finals in 2007 and 2011, enter the 2019 edition on a difficult recent run of form.

They are ranked ninth among the ten teams competing here in England and Wales, have been whitewashed 5-0 four times in three years. They called up Karunaratne to skipper the side, despite the opener not playing an ODI for his country in four years.

But the likes of Arjuna Ranatunga — captain of the 1996 champions — and Kumar Sangakkara have given this squad their backing.

"Sanga came and gave us some words of advice which was really helpful, he did really well in the last World Cup so it was useful to hear how he prepared, mentally and everything else," he said here on Friday.

"Arjuna who lifted the World Cup in 1996, he spoke to



us and gave us advice before we left Sri Lanka.

"That is the sort of thing we need to be courageous, past cricketers coming in and helping us. Jayawardene is also here and we hope he will come and talk to us as soon as possible."

Karunaratne realises that he has a daunting task ahead.

"It is not easy when you don't know the players and they haven't played a single game in a long time. Even me, I came

back into the side after four years so it is not easy.

"But if you get a chance you need to prove yourself. Every time you need to be hungry. Those new players who want to do well, they want to perform to stay in the team.

"I also have some experienced guys that have played World Cups before and they are key if you want to do well, you need those kind of players."

Karunaratne, who led Sri Lanka to historic Test series in

South Africa earlier this year, skipper a squad that includes six players who have 80 or more ODI caps to their name — including veteran and until recently captain Lasith Malinga.

But there are a number of new faces on board as well, including Avishka Fernando and Isuru Udana, and that inexperience could work in their favour, according to the captain.

"No-one seems to remem-

ber the domestic level of games. All the other guys who have played in the last couple of years failed to perform for Sri Lanka," added Karunaratne, who has not decided if he will open or bat at No 3 on Saturday.

"That is why the selectors want to give a new chance to the players who have done well domestically. That was the past. We have a good side with fresh faces, and are trying to start again.

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Latham had been a doubt for his side's opening game after breaking his finger during a warm-up game in Australia earlier this month.

While he is yet to play a game since the injury, the 27-year-old took full part in a training session on Thursday, 30 May, and remains on track to be available for selection for New Zealand's first World Cup game, against Sri Lanka on Saturday, 1 June.

"He's probably slightly ahead of time," said Gary Stead, the New Zealand head coach. "So far Tom's reached all the milestones that we've wanted him to, and today was another step, taking balls with more heat on them and making him dive and jump around a wee bit more. It's a bit bent from what happened, but he's had no pain so far, which

Blackcaps confident of Latham fitness



means the bone has knitted back well."

However, both Stead and Latham preached caution, explaining that how Latham's finger reacts to the training session is as important as the fact that he got through it. "It's nice to get through training today but we'll still wait and see how it pulls up tonight and tomorrow," Latham explained.

If Latham does need more time to recover, the Black Caps will feel assured due to the form of their back-up keeper, Tom Blundell. Though he's yet to make his ODI debut, the youngster scored a century in New Zealand's final warm-up game against West Indies, and looks set to step up if needed.



INCULCATING HONESTY AMONG CHILDREN

Honesty is a virtue and it can be taught to children. Teaching the value of honesty to children is part of the development of moral and emotional strength, says TEAM VIVA

When it comes to small children and honesty, it's not usually hard to find. With older children and teens, the truth sometimes becomes more elusive. Honesty is a virtue and it can be taught to children. Teaching the value of honesty to children is part of the development of moral and emotional strength. The quality of honesty helps to develop character and solid self-esteem.

Catching your child being dishonest is a good time to break out your teacher hat. Help him correct the mistake. Talk about how he could have responded or reacted differently. An example would be that your son came home with an Evan Longoria rookie card. He obtained it by trading his friend two Pat Burrell cards. Obviously, his friend knows nothing about baseball or really likes Pat Burrell. Either way, he got swindled. Explain to your son that trades should include fair value on both sides. Preying on the unaware is not a desirable character trait. Return the card and work out a fair deal.

The most important character trait a person can possess keeping and following through on promises made. This one thing alone will take a person very far in life. To be trusted and deemed honorable is a crown even a king would envy. Teach your children to be people who consider their word gold. When they give it, they don't break it. It is much harder than it sounds. Fool's gold is easily found. The real thing takes a lot of digging. Gold is highly sought after and is extremely valuable. Just the kind of person you want your child to be.

Correct morals and purity of spirit always trump protecting the feelings of someone who is doing wrong. Wrong is always wrong. For instance, your son's best friend is cheating on tests and your son is fully aware. He has a duty to go to his friend and advise him to quit. He's hurting himself and cheating the others who have honestly studied. If he refuses, then your son would have to tell the teacher about what is going on. That is called the hard truth. Nobody wants to be put in that position. Yet, life constantly puts us in these types of situations. As adults, we are faced with all kinds of scams, rampant adultery, and general dishonesty. Teach your children to stand strong on the side of righteousness.

Lessons about honesty are learned differentially, depending on the child's age. If you start the teaching of honesty early on, you can continue to support this virtue, as your children get older. Explain to your child what honesty means at his/her developmental level. Use words that they can understand at their ages.

As is always the case, you are the role model. You do not want your child to hear you telling a lie. Though it's tempting to test them, try to avoid asking questions that give your child a chance to not be honest. You saw your daughter spill red juice on the couch. No need to ask, "Did you just spill your juice on the couch?" This leads her to believe she might have a way out and could possibly pass blame elsewhere. Just tell her to clean it up. She'll have enough opportunities to tell the truth.

We all sin. Even children do. They will eventually lie to you and you will eventually catch them. It's important that there be consequences for their actions. Appropriate discipline should be carried out and followed through. Make it so not worth it to lie.

Possessions can create all sorts of problems. The best policy is to teach a child early on that what they have belongs to them. What other people have belongs to that person. It is not OK to borrow a game and never return it. It's awesome to share, but the item must always be returned. We all have that neighbor who borrows our trimmer and never brings it back. You don't want your son to be that guy. It might sound harmless, but honesty does not take days off. Value your own possessions and keep your hands off your neighbors'.

Talk with your children-beginning very early- about how much you value honesty in your family. Tell them how important it is to all of you that you can always count on each other to tell the truth-even when it's difficult. If there's not honesty between parents and children, there won't be trust or closeness in your family either. When my two daughters were young, we focused on how honesty was the very backbone of our family. It formed the bedrock upon which



BE BRIEF AND BE AGE APPROPRIATE IN YOUR RESPONSE, BUT IF YOU LIE TO THEM WHEN IT'S EMBARRASSING TO TELL THE TRUTH, YOU CAN'T EXPECT THEM TO BLURT OUT THE TRUTH WHEN IT'S TOUGH FOR THEM

our family relationships and mutual trust and respect were built. I told them explicitly that I would go out on a limb to support them, defend them, even fight for them, but if I ever found out they had lied to me, it would change the nature of our relationship dramatically. Once that trust was broken, it would take a long time to build it back.

Be brief and be age appropriate in your response, but if you lie to them when it's embarrassing to tell the truth, you can't expect them to blurt out the truth when it's tough for them. Obviously, both parents and children have a right to a private life and you need to draw careful boundaries when sharing intimate details that are

over their heads or too personal, issues of the past you are still struggling with or things that will just plain freak them out. But your goal should be to create an open environment where there are no secrets and everyone feels comfortable being truthful. Everyone has the ability to be honest, but if you don't practice it, both you and your kids may develop the habit of cutting corners, fudging and telling white lies-because it's easier. As a parent you have the opportunity to help your kids develop the characteristic of being honest, but it has to be nurtured. Don't lower your standards, but do understand that they might not be perfect every time. Fortunately, perfection isn't one of our goals.

SHORT CIRCUITS



ROHIT SHETTY
It takes real fathers to transform their boys into heroes. Started doing stunts at the age of 16, still going strong at 45. And I know one man who will always be proud of me in heaven is my guru, my father — Veeru Devgn. He taught me to be honest with my work and to take proper safety measures before performing any stunt.



SAYANI GUPTA
I don't choose my films on the basis of what my character looks like, it's always the script that attracts me. But at the same time, there is a lot of thought and work that I put into every character. Some of them require me to go the extra mile. I like to take up the challenge of doing something that I am not familiar with.



MITHILA PALKAR
I am very greedy as an actor. I want to explore as much as possible... Of course, I want to do a lot more films, I want to stick to the Internet and I want to do more of theatre. So, wherever there's an opportunity, I will jump. I really enjoy being on digital platforms. I think it is the future.



FARAH KHAN
Every person is responsible for themselves. There are so many people in my family who smoke, but after a point, everybody is an adult and they know what they are doing. So, I don't think we have to preach to anybody. I can say what I can do as a responsible filmmaker.

SOPHIE TURNER
I was quite nervous. I mean, in *X-Men: Apocalypse*, I didn't really have a crazy amount to work with. I had a little bit of the character. And so, I wasn't prepared when (director) Simon Kinberg told me. But I read the script and it was a delicious five-course meal for an actor.



CONVERSATION 45 MINUTES

'THE FUTURE IS SHORT'

It is tougher to convey the same vision in a reduced time frame than in a full-length feature, believes filmmaker AVALOKITA DUTTA. By AYUSHI SHARMA

In this age of short attention spans, a condensed format of different forms of entertainment prevails in our consciousness. With an abundance of digital platforms, the short film format is here to stay. Filmmaker Avalokita Dutta, who is all set to debut with her short film *Guthi*, believes that these are the future. "People nowadays want short, sharp and tight bursts of entertainment, which they can watch at work, at home or on the move on their phones," she says.

If we compare them to feature films, they have traditionally been treated as a poor cousin, especially at film festivals. However, their brevity makes them ideally suited to the digital platforms.

Avalokita explains that short films engage the audience for a little time but simultaneously provide great quality content. And that is what today's generation needs. She says, "Anyone can make these because this is the digital era. Moreover, these films could be about anything and everything that a person wants to talk about. These screening platforms have made short films more democratic. It's so amazing. Who would not want to see the world through so many different eyes?" Short films for sure have two undeniable roles. "First, they allow new talent the chance to get noticed and refine their style. Second, they also help to encourage creativity and innovation that includes new ways of telling stories," she adds.

Given their obvious importance, why do short films continue to remain in the shadows? Well, "that's more a sociological question," she says. "The obvious answers could be — lack of great actors. Or the penchant that we as an audience might have for the epic." Avalokita appraises us that short films are very important for filmmakers as they give a playing field to them. Moreover, it hones their skills as a short film needs to be tighter in what it is trying to convey as compared to a feature film. It's more difficult to say something vital in shorter time.

"The audience has become more accepting of short films. There's a huge difference in today's time and 90s when there was a star system. People headed out to watch films only to see the big stars on the screen. And now cinema is taking a turn for something better. People prefer content over everything. They want to see actors presenting quality content. Take the



example of *Badhai Ho*. The same has happened with short films because the audience has begun to watch films for what they are about rather than who stars in it," she adds.

Avalokita's *Guthi* is about about friendship between two girls. She explains that she wanted to treat friendship with the same amount of importance that love stories get. She feels that friendship between two females hasn't got much exposure in our cinematic space. It's her take on friendship in an intimate manner. She says, "Relationships wither away with time. These two girls are dreamers. They make films to change the world. But over the years, their friendship has become monotonous. The spark has completely gone."

The short film is one of six films titled *Shuruat Ka Twist*.

The only commonality between the six films is the theme, that is of 'twist'. Every film is the interpretation of the word twist by six different directors.

She adds, "The twist in my film is what happens when one girl decides to move out."

Amit V Masurkar, popularly known for directing *Newton*, mentored Avalokita for this film. She says, "I have never worked with Amit before. But

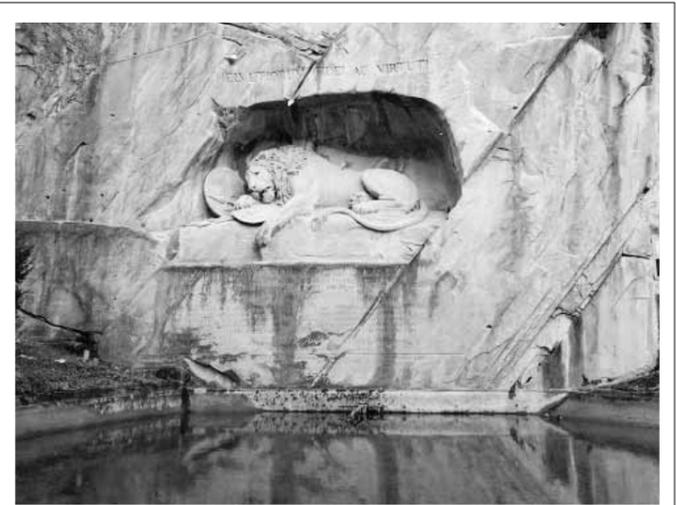


'PEOPLE PREFER CONTENT OVER EVERYTHING ELSE. THE AUDIENCE HAS BECOME MORE ACCEPTING OF SHORT FILMS. CINEMA IS TAKING A TURN FOR SOMETHING BETTER. THE AUDIENCE HAS BEGUN TO WATCH FILMS FOR WHAT THEY ARE ABOUT RATHER THAN WHO STARS IN IT'

we have known each other for quite a long time. We met at a film festival. I am much younger to him as he's a senior filmmaker. But he always treats me with great respect and equality. I don't even know if I deserve it. Maybe I have earned it."

She tells us that she was a bit scared about this whole mentorship thing. "Because we both are extremely opinionated people and have our own visions for the kind of cinema that we want to make. But he gave me quite a free range. He placed more faith in me than I have in myself. Amit asked me to be responsible for every decision that I take. I have learnt from him that you need to have respect for another person's vision," She adds.

She further tells us that she's a control freak and wants to dominate every single person in the crew. But thanks to Amit, "I understand how important it is to allow freedom to everyone. You need to give people space and the liberty to work as per their strategies. So that they can contribute in the best possible way. Maybe you could actually get something extraordinary out of it. Because there's a difference between when one brain works and when many brains work for the same goal in unison."



The saddest stone

Switzerland's beloved Lion Monument is heading for decay

It's a giant dying lion carved into the cliff face of a former sandstone quarry, above a pond and set in a landscaped garden in this medieval town. It is often referred to as the "saddest stone" as it commemorates the sacrifice of 800 Swiss guardsmen in the pay of King Louis XVI during the French Revolution — but is now threatened with decay, chiefly from melting snow.

Not surprisingly, the Lion Monument, one of Switzerland's most loved icons and described by American author Mark Twain as "the most mournful and moving piece of stone in the world", is visited by some 1.4 million tourists who come to gaze at the regal beast, dying from a spear wound marked by a shield bearing the mark of the French monarchy. Above it is the inscription — *Helvetiorum Fidei Ac Virtuti* (To the loyalty and bravery of the Swiss).

The monument, ten metres in length and six metres in height, has a very emotional history. When the angry masses stormed the royal palace on August 10 1792, the 800 Swiss guardsmen stood as the defenders of the monarchy — but in vain. Their defeat was devastating.

Surrounded by popular tourist attractions like the Glacier Garden, the Alpineum and the Bourbaki Panorama, the monument was initiated by Karl Pfyffer von Altshofen, a junior lieutenant with the Swiss guardsmen who was on leave at the time and thus escaped the massacre.

In 1793, he felt obliged to erect a monument in honour of his fallen officers, comrades and soldiers and it took almost 30 years to complete amidst of several design and architectural changes. The monument was designed by Danish sculptor Bertel Thorvaldsen and hewed by Lukas Ahorn. Completed in 1821, it will mark its 200th anniversary in 2021.

"Before the Lion Monument was erected, the area had not yet been built on. However, intensive construction began in 1870. Due to the constant building activity, with numerous new buildings and conversions up to the present time, the situation of the garden with the

lion monument has steadily deteriorated," Damian Suess of Lucerne Tourism said.

"The Lucerne administration took over the monument in 1882 and in 1891, a report on its condition was drawn up. On the basis of that report, it was decided that the conservation of the monument, renewal of the weathered areas, preservation of the rock around the monument and the laying of a protective stiffener above the rock face would be done," Suess explained.

In 1902 construction of a new framework to protect the monument from snow in winter was planned and executed but tragedy struck in 1950.

"That autumn, a piece of the lion's thigh, at least a meter long, detached and fell into the pond. That was a major blow for the authorities, who were struggling hard to protect the monument and restoration work immediately began," Suess said.

Rock protection measures were undertaken in 1978 and minor repair work was carried out on the lion in 1982. On the upper right side, a larger rock section of approximately 15 tonnes was stabilised and in 1990, the monument was thoroughly washed with water.

Drainage has been a perpetual problem. The area behind the quarry is heavily forested with the temperature plunging to zero degrees celsius in winter accompanied by snow. A series of pipes were laid to prevent the melting snow in spring from seeping into the rock-face and to drain the water into the pond.

"Despite all efforts, the condition of the monument deteriorated rapidly. Taking this seriously, all copper pipes for draining the water were replaced in 2004. Further measures were taken in 2008 to improve the water flow and thus protect the monument," Suess pointed out.

So, in order to save its most beloved monument from adverse climatic conditions and erosion, the Lucerne administration has spent millions of Swiss Francs and is expected to do so for many more years because it attracts great testimonials from people around the world.

—IANS

STUDIO CHAT 30 MINUTES

Older and wiser

Returning to the role of Queen Victoria for the third season, JENNA COLEMAN explains what makes the journey so fulfilling. By TEAM VIVA

Where is the Queen of England now and what challenges lie ahead of her?

Series three opens with pregnant Victoria expecting her child number six on the eve of the French Revolution. There is a definite sense that time has passed as the children are older. Victoria is wiser and her relationship with Albert is in a very different space. Victoria faces question of whether or not her role is disposable because the King of France turns up on her doorstep in rags, having been overthrown and she questions whether this could happen to her. This is all she has known and all she expects to know so that forces her to look in the mirror and examine her relationship with her people and what that truly means to her.

The core difference between Victoria and Albert is that the latter is more methodical whereas Victoria is emotionally-led. Ultimately, she just wants to be supported and adored by her subjects. She always wrote about it. On the day of her coronation, she wrote about the crowds

and how loudly they were cheering at The Great Exhibition. She wrote about the joy on people's faces and the tears in their eyes. Being loved, more than she would like to admit, is incredibly important to her.

What irks Victoria? Is it the arrival of agent provocateur, Lord Palmerston? She hates him. Palmerston was a law unto himself. He managed things in a very different way and perhaps didn't give her the deference that she felt she deserved.

There is a battle between them for people's affections and Victoria isn't used to competition in that area. However, she slowly realises that they are more similar than she thought and she begins to become rather fond of him. He is always somewhere between being invited over for tea and being thrown out — you never know which side of the fence she sat with him.

What is the relationship that Queen Victoria has with the new character, Feodora, who is her half-sister and a



masterful schemer?

There is a lot of unspoken resentment and history between these two. Victoria resents Feodora for leaving her when she went off and got married, Feodora resents Victoria for having the attention and focus because she has the heir. It's a difficult relationship. They also have a shared experience at Kensington, which bonds them, so there is a constant push and pull of love and resentment between them.

They haven't seen each other for years and instinctively Victoria doesn't trust Feodora. She knows there is something going on but the extent to which Feodora is being an Iago figure comes to light later on. Feodora cleverly weaves her way through the family, putting a wedge between Victoria and Albert, who are most distant during this series. They are a few years into their marriage now and have many children, so there are new pressures and strains. They operate completely differently and have always been yin and yang but they seem to have fallen out of balance with each other.

What is it like to work with so many children?

It is a form of utterly amazing and completely chaotic mayhem. You just have to call action and see what happens. Kids really do say the funniest things and it is the unpredictability on the set which is hilarious, especially when you throw in a few dogs, horses and a couple of politicians. I can't imagine the palace now not

inhabited by hordes of children.

What was the biggest challenge that you faced during the filming?

In a scene, Queen Victoria takes a dip in the water whilst wearing her bathing suit, which is a lot like pajamas that are made from hemp. It was absolutely freezing and unfortunately we had to film this twice because the weather was so awful. The Queen is meant to be taking a leisurely dip but the waves were making it seem treacherous.

Why is the role of Queen Victoria so exciting and enjoyable to return to?

I love her lack of filter, her frankness and honesty. I love the fact that if she likes someone she is incredibly loyal and if she doesn't, she will let that person know. In terms of playing her, when she is in a bad mood or is tired, she is very reactionary and temperate so she has always been known and written about as having a temper.

They used to write about her having a 'combustible', which I love. Victoria didn't have to answer to anybody and so could really get angry within her own house. She would feel mortified after having one of these 'combustibles' and would cry and apologise to Albert but she ping pongs through emotions rapidly. As she gets older, she can be controlled even less, so it is fun to age with her.

(The season 1 and 2 of the show are live on SonyLIV.)



nabasta ENGLAND



I THINK FIRST WE HAVE TO BACK OURSELVES AND NOT THINK TOO MUCH ABOUT WHAT HAPPENED TODAY. — SARFARAZ AHMED

POSSIBLE SETBACK?

AFP ■ LONDON

Steve Smith and David Warner will seek redemption on the biggest stage as they re-launch their one-day international careers for Australia against Afghanistan at the World Cup on Saturday.

The star batsmen were both banned for a year for their roles in a ball-tampering scandal but they have found form on their return to the international set-up.

Warner was the top runscore in the recent Indian Premier League while Smith struck a hundred in a warm-up victory against England last weekend.

The defending champions have endured a tumultuous past year but the Aaron Finch-led side are peaking at the right time and are considered one of the favourites in the 50-over showpiece event.

After edging out hosts India 3-2 in a five-match ODI series in March, Australia welcomed back Smith and Warner with open arms.

But they are not expected to be given an easy ride by English fans, with former captain Smith being booed and called a "cheat" during the England warm-up game.

Former Australian paceman Brett Lee expects the pair to make big contributions but has warned they might need thick skin playing in front of the English crowds.

"I don't think they have got a point to prove, they will just be happy to be back playing for Australia," said Lee, who won the tournament with Australia in 2003.

Australia also boast a potent pace attack led by Pat Cummins and Mitchell Starc, ably supported by Jason Behrendorff, Nathan Coulter-Nile and



WARNER WAS THE TOP RUNSCORER IN THE RECENT INDIAN PREMIER LEAGUE WHILE SMITH STRUCK A HUNDRED IN A WARM-UP VICTORY AGAINST ENGLAND LAST WEEKEND

Kane Richardson. Spinners Adam Zampa and Nathan Lyon lend variety to the bowling attack that combined to get the better of England and Sri Lanka in warm-up games.

The five-time champions will start as overwhelming favourites in Bristol against an Afghanistan side only playing their second 50-over World Cup.

Afghanistan's rise from associate-nation status to cricket's elite has been nothing short of a fairytale.

The minnows witnessed a captaincy change two months before the start of the World Cup, with little-known Gulbadin Naib named leader of the ODI side in place of Asghar Afghan, a move that did not go down well with some senior members of the team.

But the team have now settled to

HEAD TO HEAD						
	Played	Afg	Aus	Tied	N/R	
Matches	2	-	2	-	-	
In World Cup	1	-	1	-	-	
HIGHEST TOTALS						
Afghanistan:	206 in 43.5 overs	at Sharjah	04-03-2015			
Australia:	417-6 in 50 overs	at Perth	28-01-2005			
PERFORMANCE IN WC						
Team	P	W	L	T	N/R	Success%
Afghanistan	6	1	5	-	-	16.66
Australia	84	62	20	1	1	75.00

FAISEL FEATURES



RECORDALERT

Australia's 417 for six in 50 overs against Afghanistan at Perth on March 4, 2015 is the highest ever team total in World Cup. It is also Australia's second highest total in one day internationals behind 434 for four in 50 overs against South Africa at Johannesburg on March 12, 2006.

Afghanistan's only victory in World Cup was against Scotland. They beat the European team by one wicket with three balls to spare at Dunedin on February 26, 2015.

focus on their World Cup campaign. "Gulbadin has said he'll make use of Asghar's experience (at the World Cup). They are a united front now," said chief selector Dawlat Khan Ahmadzai.

Afghanistan, who beat Pakistan in a World Cup warm-up match, are setting their sights high.

"There was no Rashid or Mujeeb (ur Rahman) in 2015 so this time we are aiming for a semi-final berth. With the team composition we have, we can definitely surprise a few teams," said Ahmadzai.

"We have identified teams we can beat but obviously I can't tell you which teams."

SQUADS

Afghanistan: Gulbadin Naib (capt), Mohammad Shahzad (wk), Noor Ali Zadran, Hazratullah Zazai, Rahmat Shah, Asghar Afghan, Hashmatullah Shahidi, Najibullah Zadran, Samiullah Shinwari, Mohammad Nabi, Rashid Khan, Dawlat Zadran, Aftab Alam, Hamid Hassan, Mujeeb ur Rahman
Australia: Aaron Finch (c), David Warner, Usman Khawaja, Steve Smith, Shaun Marsh, Alex Carey (wk), Marcus Stoinis, Glenn Maxwell, Mitchell Starc, Kane Richardson, Pat Cummins, Jason Behrendorff, Nathan Coulter-Nile, Adam Zampa, Nathan Lyon

CAPTAIN'S SCABIN



THEY (AFGHANISTAN) ARE A DANGEROUS SIDE. IF YOU TAKE YOUR FOOT OFF THE GAS FOR A WHILE THEY WILL HURT YOU, AND YOU STILL HAVE TO PLAY AT YOUR ABSOLUTE BEST TO BEAT THEM. WINNING THEIR WARM-UP GAME AGAINST PAKISTAN, THEY PLAYED BRILLIANTLY. THEY HAVE GOT A HUGE FOLLOWING, WITH SUPPORT ALL OVER THE WORLD NOW, WHICH IS HUGE FOR CRICKET — AARON FINCH, AUSTRALIA

WATCH OUT FOR

- David Warner & Steve Smith in Aussie line up
- Opening combination of both teams
- Afghan spin triko of Nabi, Rashid & Mujeeb
- Cummins, Starc spell
- Ahmad Shahzad power hitting
- Can Afghanistan pull out the biggest setback of the World Cup history?

TODAY LIVE



Afghanistan vs Australia

Starts from 06:00 pm IST

VENUE: County Ground, Bristol

KEY PLAYERS

RASHID KHAN (Afghanistan)

ranked third in the ICC ODI Rankings for bowlers, the 20-year old will look to bring his experience of playing against most of the Australian batsmen in the Big Bash League, into play in batting friendly conditions in Bristol.



CONDITIONS

It is expected to be a fine, dry and warm day, with lengthy spells of sunshine. Dry conditions might bring spinners into play.

STEVE SMITH (Australia)

Steve Smith's century against the hosts, England, in their first warm-up game gave us a fair glimpse of his skills and a staggering fortitude. His abilities to counter spin with his sublime wrists, would come in handy against the quality of Rashid and Nabi in the middle overs.



Finch relishes return of Smith & Warner

AFP ■ BRISTOL

Australia captain Aaron Finch says disgraced stars Steve Smith and David Warner will use the World Cup to restore their "world-class" credentials after their role in the infamous ball-tampering scandal in South Africa.

Both players are back in the Australia squad for the World Cup after serving 12-months suspension and are set to start their country's first match of the tournament against Afghanistan in Bristol on Saturday.

Finch said the tournament was the ideal stage to show their competitive qualities had not been dimmed by the scandal.

"I think when you are a world-class player, you adapt again really quickly and you get up to speed," he said.

"Having them play, I think, 13 games each in the IPL (Indian Premier League — they actually played 12 each) was really important.

"That's a higher standard of cricket and it just gets you back up to as close to international competition as you can."

Finch said

Smith would be one of the "all-time greats" by the time he retired.

"There was never any issue about how he would bounce back, and the same with David," he said.

"They are both so competitive, they have got great records. There was never any doubt how well they would come back."

The pair were given a hostile reception by some members of the crowd at the Ageas Bowl in Southampton during Australia's World Cup warm-up victory over England last week in which Smith scored a century and Warner hit 43.

Warner is fit to face Afghanistan after recovering from a sore muscle.

"David is fine. He will play tomorrow, no doubt about that," said Finch. "We are very close to a starting XI but we are not going to name it yet. Everyone is in contention."

Australia are the reigning world champions, having won four of the past five editions of the tournament, and are expected to open their campaign with a comfortable victory against minnows Afghanistan.

But Finch is taking nothing for granted, with Afghanistan having served notice of their ability by beating Pakistan in a warm-up match.

"They are a dangerous side. If you take your foot off the gas for a while they will hurt you, and you still have to play at your absolute best to beat them," he said.

"Winning their warm-up game against Pakistan, they played brilliantly. They have got a huge following, with support all over the world now, which is huge for cricket."

Langer begs for respect

AFP ■ NOTTINGHAM

Australian coach Justin Langer has requested fans to show Steve Smith and David Warner respect and not boo them during the World Cup.

Langer, a former Australian opener, said they have already paid a big price for their mistake.

"You (the media) talk about earning respect, and I think it's really important that people show respect as well," Langer said ahead of

five-time winners Australia's World Cup opener against Afghanistan on Saturday.

The pair, who both recently completed one-year bans for ball-tampering, were given a hostile reception by the crowd at the Ageas Bowl in Southampton during Australia's warm-up victory over England.

"They made a mistake and paid a big price for it. After the experience of Hampshire, we have a pretty good idea what to expect.

We've talked about it a lot and we can put strategies in place," Langer said.

"That said, when it happens it doesn't make it any easier. They are human beings, that's the truth — and that's what I find the hardest.

"I'd be disappointed by any player being booed at any cricket ground, regardless of what country they play for. It's never a good look when that happens," the Australian coach added in the pre match conference.



From refugee to Afghan star

AFP ■ NOTTINGHAM

Groomed on dusty pitches as a refugee, record-breaking Rashid Khan will face his toughest examination yet at the World Cup, with former coaches confident the Afghan can "dismantle" top batting line-ups.

The world's top-rated Twenty20 bowler from the war-torn nation last year made history as the fastest to reach 100 one-day international wickets.

Aged just 20, and after a remarkable cricket upbringing shaped by years of conflict and displacement, Khan will on Saturday make his World Cup debut against defending champions Australia.

"I am sure he will dismantle the best in the World Cup," said his former school coach Ali Hoti of his former charge, who is also third in the International Cricket Council ODI rankings.

"He is the bowler to watch in the event."

Afghanistan cricket is a rare source of pride in the conflict-riven country, where murals of Khan and teammates adorn the maze of concrete blast walls criss-crossing the capital Kabul. Born in the restive Nangarhar province in 1998,

Khan's family joined the waves of refugees flooding across the Pakistani border, fleeing the bloody battles that followed the US invasion in 2001 and the war with the Taliban.

It was in Pakistan's bustling frontier city of Peshawar that Khan began playing cricket and he grew up to idolise fellow Pashtun slugger and great Pakistan all-rounder Shahid Afridi.

Coaches in the area took notice of the raw talent of the developing athlete, who had plenty of skill but was lacking focus.

"He was God-gifted but he was not very hard-working," remembered Lala Ali Shafiq, who coached Rashid at the city's Islamia academy.

"There was no doubt that he was a very talented bowler and a better batsman."

Islamia College assistant director of sports Hoti described how a young Khan caught the eye of senior Afghan players including the captain at the time, Mohammad Nabi, and Nawroz Mangal.

"In 2013/14, he went to play a tournament in Islamabad and impressed with his bowling," said Hoti.



CAREER STATISTICS

M	Inn	Runs	HS	Wkts	Best
58	44	798	60	125	7/18

BORN IN THE RESTIVE NANGARHAR PROVINCE IN 1998, KHAN'S FAMILY JOINED THE WAVES OF REFUGEES FLOODING ACROSS THE PAKISTANI BORDER, FLEEING THE BLOODY BATTLES THAT FOLLOWED THE US INVASION IN 2001 AND THE WAR WITH THE TALIBAN

"Nabi was there so I told him that since you are looking for an all-rounder, you won't find a better all-rounder than him," he added. "Initially they did not agree."

But Khan went on to prove them wrong, making his Afghanistan debut on the tour of Zimbabwe in 2015 as he developed his wicket-taking armoury, which relies less on prodigious spin but more on his unusual bowling action, with disguised googlies, subtle variation and changes of pace to

keep batsmen guessing. He reached 100 wickets in his 44th ODI, shattering Mitchell Starc's previous record, achieved in 52 matches.

"Rashid's action is unique," said Shafiq, whose academy has also helped develop Pakistan players such as Usman Shinwari, Mohammad Rizwan and Shaheen Shah Afridi.

"It's different, so it's hard to judge and he also has a good googly and has worked on his leg-break. He works hard and is getting better."



CAPTAINS COUNTER

Need to move on quickly: Faf

PTI ■ LONDON

South Africa will have to move on quickly from the drubbing it received in the World Cup opener against England and regroup themselves before its next game against Bangladesh, said captain Faf du Plessis. The South African captain admitted they were outplayed in all facets of the game by England. "You are going to play games and come up against opposition that are better than you. England beat us in all three facets of the game," Du Plessis said after the defeat.

"As much as we are disappointed, we will want to learn from it quickly and put it to bed. We want to move on from it quickly." South Africa will face Bangladesh in its



"AS MUCH AS WE ARE DISAPPOINTED, WE WILL WANT TO LEARN FROM IT QUICKLY AND PUT IT TO BED. WE WANT TO MOVE ON FROM IT QUICKLY"

second match at The Oval on Sunday. Du Plessis backed his decision to start the innings with Imran Tahir in place of Kagiso Rabada and the play worked wonders as the leg-spinner got rid of Jonny Bairstow with the second delivery of the tournament. "It was a plan. It was something we first thought about a year ago. When we played against England, I thought we want to go with him because it is different," Du Plessis said. "At The Oval you want to bowl two seamers first but we went with what I thought was the best way to get a wicket. I went with my gut." "Imran had not bowled with the new ball before so he had been practising that for the last two weeks. He knew he was going to do that today," he added.



Stokes takes a brilliant catch near boundary line to dismiss Phehlukwayo

'That wasn't my best catch'

AFP ■ LONDON

Ben Stokes insists his astonishing catch in England's rout of South Africa on Thursday doesn't rank as the best of his career. Stokes capped a man-of-the-match display in England's victory with one of the greatest catches in World Cup history.

Diving backwards to dismiss Andile Phehlukwayo with a one-handed take on the boundary off Adil Rashid, Stokes' sensational effort was immediately labelled "the catch of the century" by former England spinner Phil Tufnell on the BBC.

It was the culmination of a remarkable day for Stokes, who also top-scored for England with 89 in 79 balls and took the last two wickets in successive balls to finish off the South Africans.

But Stokes claimed he preferred his stunning one-handed grab of an Adam Voges edge in the gully during a 2015 Ashes Test against Australia at Trent Bridge. Asked if it was the greatest catch of his life, Stokes told reporters: "Nah, that one was against the Aussies, so that one ranks higher!" Stokes admitted he had misjudged the flight of the ball initially, leading Phehlukwayo's shot to flash past him until the all-rounder leapt backwards to complete a jaw-dropping catch with his right hand.

"I was actually in the

“ I WAS ACTUALLY IN THE WRONG POSITION. IT WOULD HAVE BEEN A REGULATION CATCH IF I WAS IN THE RIGHT PLACE, BUT YEAH IT IS ONE OF THOSE THAT STICKS OR DOESN'T ”

wrong position. It would have been a regulation catch if I was in the right place, but yeah it is one of those that sticks or doesn't," Stokes said. "I bowled the next over and Eoin Morgan had to come to me and ask if my heart rate had gone down. Things like that catch do get you fussed up."

"I didn't really know quite hard to react to be honest. I just tried to take it in." Regardless of which catch deserves top billing on Stokes' CV, the 27-year-old was grateful to be back in the spotlight for the right reasons.

Morgan hails England's adaptability skills

PTI ■ LONDON

Skipper Eoin Morgan rued that a sluggish track did not allow them post a desired total but hailed the adaptability skills of his side, which thumped South Africa by a massive 104-run margin in the World Cup opener.

Half centuries by Jason Roy (54), Joe Root (51), Morgan (57) and all-rounder Ben Stokes (89) helped the hosts post 311 for eight before they bundled South Africa for a paltry 207.

"I think given the nature of the pitch and the way South Africa bowled, we were struggling with our plan A game with the bat for some time and that emphasised how slow the pitch was," said Morgan.

"You could not get away and we could not strike the ball like we would do for our plan A. One of the ways we have improved in the last two years is understanding conditions and we adapted really well here."

The skipper felt even the 300-plus score was not enough.

"We did not think we had enough runs but we thought we were on par. It is extremely pleasing. I would back us to lose four early wickets and still go to five an over."

"We have been at 20-5 before and put a reasonable score on the board, fought to the end and believed we can still win. If we lose wickets then we will adapt."

Morgan heaped praise on Stokes for starring in all three departments. Stokes returned with the figure of 2-12 before hitting 89 runs off 79 balls.

However, it was a sensational one-handed catch by Stokes near the boundary off Adil Rashid, to dismiss Andile Phehlukwayo that drew admiration.

"He has had a full day out and when he does, it is entertaining. We see him do stuff like that in training all the time and you shake your head at it," Morgan said.

Ngidi satisfied with bowling

PTI ■ LONDON

Handed a massive defeat in their World Cup opener, South African pacer Lungi Ngidi said the team was satisfied with their bowling effort as they managed to restrict England to what he feels was a "below-par" total.

Opting to field first, the South African bowlers did well to restrict the powerful English batting line-up to 311 for eight. "We believed we could have kept them to under 300. Even when they got to 311, I thought they were below-par," Ngidi said after the defeat.

Ngidi, who was hit for 27 runs in his first four overs, said initially he was bothered by the thought of preventing England from scoring 350.

"I was very disappointed with my bowling performance upfront. I might have been overthinking it. All the talk was how they post totals of 350 maybe that was at the back of my mind," he said.

However, the 23-year-old soon found his bearings, adjusting his pace according to the wicket.

"There were a few opportunities in the Powerplay, where they nicked it through the slips and I started to think, 'These people are humans, just like me.' I kicked into my rhythm from there."

"I listened to what the wicket was telling me. Slower balls were working so I stuck to that. Even though they were trying to come after me, they couldn't seem to get it away," Ngidi said. Ngidi finished with figures of 3/66 and took the crucial wickets of Ben Stokes, Jos Buttler and Moeen Ali. "I was happy to take three sticks but would have preferred two up front," he said.



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PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Jofra Archer showed why England could not leave him out of their final World Cup squad as he bowled them to opening win against South Africa.

On a rainy day that saw England's first ODI against Pakistan curtailed to just 19 overs of play, Archer displayed both control and vicious pace to return figures of 1/6 from four overs.

On Thursday he returned to south London and once more — before Ben Stokes pulled off the impossible — was the star of the show, proving again that the step up to international cricket has been child's play for a bowler who has made his name in global T20 leagues.

While it was Archer's speed and movement off the pitch that impressed in that ODI against Pakistan, Thursday, on his World Cup bow, he showcased his ability to find success with the short ball, wreaking havoc on the Proteas batting line-up.

Hashim Amla has fond memories of playing at The Oval; it was the scene of his Test-best 311* in 2012. Today, however, he was sent back to the changing rooms for an extended period thanks to a striking blow to his grille from a rising Archer delivery. He eventually returned to the crease later in the match — a good sight for all to see — but in forcing him off early, South Africa were, quite literally, struck a hefty blow in their chase of 312.

Next came Aiden Markram. Gloriously talented, Markram has yet to truly demonstrate his Test-level excellence in the ODI format. He hinted at doing something special today with a luscious cover-drive off Chris Woakes that was followed by another hit through the covers off Archer. But Archer had the last laugh, finding extra bounce to catch the edge of Markram's push from the very next ball — Joe Root obliging with a neat grab at first slip.

And also against Archer, Du Plessis couldn't demonstrate similar genius with bat in hand. As a short-of-length ball rushed on him, his bat swished hard only send the ball high and long towards fine-leg. Moeen Ali did the rest, and Archer's impassioned cry told the tale.

Archer returns to The Oval and delivers again



ARCHER BOWLED REALLY WELL WITH THE NEW BALL. AS I SAID BEFORE THIS GAME A LOT OF GUYS HAVEN'T PLAYED AGAINST HIM. IT WILL TAKE TIME FOR INTERNATIONAL BATTERS TO GET USED TO HIS ACTION; HE'S A LITTLE BIT NIPPIER WHEN HE HITS THE CREASE AND THAT'S WHY HE'S SUCH AN X-FACTOR BOWLER. HE BROKE THROUGH OUR OPENING THREE THERE AND THAT, PRETTY MUCH, WAS ALWAYS GOING TO BE A TOUGH ASK FROM THERE.

— FAF DU PLESSIS (SOUTH AFRICA CAPTAIN)

Rassie van der Dussen has had a prolific start to his own international career, and got himself to another half-century, hinting at life in the South African chase. But Archer returned in the 32nd over to have the right-hander top-edge high into the air with the ball lobbing into the hands of Moeen at mid-on.

Archer's place in England's World Cup squad has been a debated topic for quite some time, but here he was finally at the tournament, and the occasion was one he was more than ready for.

With figures of 3/27, he has confirmed that the decision to include him in the 15-man squad — despite his status as international newbie — is a sound one.

Du Plessis revealed the difficulties of facing Archer after the match, highlighting how there remains a sense of mystery to a player who has only played in five international matches (including today's game).

Du Plessis — victim of Archer's short-ball barrage — highlighted the effectiveness of the seamer's tactics. "You can see towards the end -

with Rassie [van der Dussen] - he bowls slower-ball, slower-ball, 80 per cent ball, 80 per cent ball and then a quick bouncer. There's some thinking behind it. When he does bowl that short one it is bit quicker than his other balls."

"When we get an opportunity to face England again we'll know how his short-ball is his wicket-ball. He's not necessarily a guy that will swing the ball as much as other bowlers but his short-ball will be his wicket-taking ball."