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DEHRADUN HYDERABAD VIJAYWADA

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NEW ZEALAND TO FACE SOUTH AFRICA IN WC 15 SPORT

Opp against PM's polls at one go

Modi to discuss 'one nation, one poll' plan with chiefs of parties today, Mamata demands white paper

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

In a clear indication of the difficult road ahead for its implementation, the Opposition on Tuesday decided to oppose Prime Minister Narendra Modi's ambitious 'one nation, one election' proposal, for which he would make the first serious push during his meeting with party presidents on Wednesday.

The decision was taken unanimously at a meeting of the Opposition parties convened by UPA chairperson Sonia Gandhi and attended by leaders from Congress, TMC, DMK, NCP, NC, RSP, Left and others.

However, BJP's allies like JD(U), Shiv Sena and Shromani Akali Dal are on board the PM's plan. So are those like Samajwadi Party, BJD and TRS.

Congress leader Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury said the parties were opposed to the idea in principle. "Since some issues are to be sorted out, the UPA will meet again on Wednesday morning to discuss the issue further and take a



UPA chairperson Sonia Gandhi along with Congress president Rahul Gandhi and other leaders after a meeting to decide their strategy in Parliament in New Delhi on Tuesday. PTI

common stand at the meeting called by Modi in the evening." The Opposition's tone was set during the day itself with West Bengal Chief Minister and TMC chief Mamata Banerjee excusing herself from attending the meeting citing

lack of sufficient time to come up with a "proper response" to the matter and calling for circulation of a white paper on the subject to all political parties inviting their views by providing adequate time to respond if the Centre indeed wanted "con-

crete suggestions". In her letter to Parliamentary Affairs Minister Pralhad Joshi, who had sent out invites to all party presidents, she said such a "serious and sensitive subject" required consultation with constitutional

and election experts and that to frame a proper response, she needed to consult all the members of her party.

The PM will be meeting with presidents of political parties having at least one Lok Sabha or Rajya Sabha member on the issue.

The Left parties — CPM, CPI — are strongly opposed to the idea but their presidents Sitaram Yechury and Sudhakar Reddy may, however, join the deliberations. The Left parties term the proposal totally "unrealistic and non-practical" one. The CPM Politburo in a detailed statement said this proposal is not workable as the duration of the Lok Sabha and Assemblies are based on the floor strength. When the Government loses majority, elections have to be conducted within six months. They cited how in 1996, 1998 and 1999 Lok Sabha elections had to be held when Governments lost the majority.

CPI national secretary D Raja said, "We will oppose the proposal, which is already rejected by many parties as it is totally non-practical."

The main Opposition Congress said the idea per se is not bad but has preferred to go along with consensus of the Opposition parties. But the Congress was yet to name its representative for the meeting for want of a party chief following Rahul Gandhi's resignation.

BJD chief and Odisha Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik will be here to attend the meeting, party leaders said. But Shiv Sena president Uddhav Thackeray would not make it as he is busy with party's foundation day events. Sanjay Raut is likely to represent the party.

Related report on Page 5

□ Congress is not entirely opposed to the idea but it has preferred to go with the Opposition parties: TMC, DMK, NCP, NC, RSP, Left

□ BJP's allies like JD(U), Shiv Sena and Shromani Akali Dal are on board the PM's plan. So are those like Samajwadi Party, BJD and TRS

□ Mamata says no sufficient time for meeting to discuss such 'important issue in hurry'

□ The Left parties — CPM, CPI — are strongly opposed to the idea but their presidents Sitaram Yechury and Sudhakar Reddy may join the meeting

Om Birla set to be LS Speaker

BJP picks 2-time MP, UPA backs NDA candidate

DEEPAK K UPRETI ■ NEW DELHI

Two-time member of Parliament Om Birla from Rajasthan is set to be the Speaker of the 17th Lok Sabha. In a surprise move, the BJP on Tuesday nominated him as the candidate of the National Democratic Alliance (NDA) for the constitutional post, to which he is expected to be elected unopposed.

The Congress and its UPA partners have decided to support Birla's candidature but they have not been forthcoming on the issue of Deputy Speaker. According to sources, the NDA could back someone from the 'Jalangan Rastra Samiti' (TRS) for the Deputy Speaker's post.

Birla would be the second two-term MP to be Speaker after GMC Bhalayogi, who was succeeded in 2002 by Shiv Sena's Manohar Joshi, a first-time Lok Sabha member. Bhalayogi, a TDP MP, was elected as speaker in 1998 and re-elected in 1999, but he could not complete his term due to his untimely demise.

Conventionally, a senior MP is saddled with the responsibility of Speaker's post. Bhalayogi was the last Speaker-designate's predecessor



Sumitra Mahajan was an MP from Indore, from where she won for a record eight times before she reached the BJP's prescribed cut-off age of 75 years for retirement and did not contest the 2019 Lok Sabha elections.

Birla, the low-profile 57-year-old BJP MP from Kota, is a confidant of party president Amit Shah and is known for his number crunching skills besides being data savvy. "He sends birthday greetings to his voters in Kota," said sources close to Birla, a hands-on organisational man.

With the NDA having a clear majority in the Lower House, that Birla's election will be unanimous is a foregone conclusion. A notice has been given to the Lok Sabha Secretary by the BJP proposing Birla for the post and bringing a motion for his election on Wednesday.

CAPSULE

JEWAR AIRPORT TO GET 8 RUNWAYS

Modi: The Jewar International Airport in Greater Noida will now have eight runways after UP Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath in a meeting held recently endorsed a proposal to add two more runways to existing six.

4 GET LIFE IN AYODHYA TERROR ATTACK CASE

Allahabad: A special court here sentenced four persons to life imprisonment while acquitted one accused in the 2005 Ayodhya terror attack case in which two locals were killed and seven CRPF personnel were injured.

4 RBJU DEPT HEADS QUIT OVER RACIST REMARKS

Kolkata: Four departmental heads of the Rabindra Bharati University here have put in their papers over alleged racist remarks made against them by members of the Trinamool Congress Chhatra Parishad (TMCP), prompting the State Education Minister to intervene into the matter.

Govt sacks 15 top Customs, Excise officers over graft

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Days after sacking a dozen-odd errant Income Tax officers, the Government on Tuesday dismissed from service 15 senior Customs and Central Excise officials, including one of the rank of Principal Commissioner, on charges of corruption and bribery.

Invoking rule 56(1) of the Fundamental Rules, the Government has sacked these Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC) officers, ranging from the ranks of Principal Commissioner to Assistant Commissioner, some of whom were already under suspension, according to a Finance Ministry order.

These officers either had

corruption cases registered against them by the CBI or were involved in bribery, extortion and disproportionate assets cases, Government sources said.

Among those dismissed include Principal Commissioner Anup Srivastava, who was serving as Principal ADG (Audit) in the CBIC in Delhi, and Joint Commissioner Nalin Kumar, the order said.

Sources said the CBI had in 1996 registered a criminal conspiracy case against Srivastava and alleged that he had shown favours to a house building society which was trying to obtain NOC for land purchases in violation of law.

CNG car rebate on anvil to boost Capital's lungs

GAYATHRI MANI ■ NEW DELHI

In yet another relief aimed at middle class voters, the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) Government is going to grant 50 per cent concession in the registration and road tax charges for Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) factory fitted private cars. The proposal is a part of Delhi Government's "Green Budget" to recreate breathing space in the city and to reduce pollution level by promoting the CNG usage.

The project was proposed by the Government in the Budget 2018-19 along with other projects such as 1,000 electric buses, 900 electric feeder buses for last mile connectivity, edge-to-edge paving and landscaping of Public Works Department (PWD) roads and others. Under this Green Budget project, 26 anti-pollu-

tion schemes have been listed from various departments of the Delhi Government.

According to the official sources, the finalisation of the scheme is at the last stages and will be placed in the upcoming Cabinet meeting which is likely to be held by end of this month. The proposal was announced in the Union Budget and the Government is working on it to implement the scheme as soon as possible to promote CNG vehicles in the city for better environment condition. The file regarding the same is under submission and will be placed before the Cabinet meeting," said sources.

If everyone converts their vehicles to CNG, the city will be free from hazardous air pollution, said Jasmine Shah, the chairperson of Delhi Dialogue Commission (DDC).

Ultra whose IED car martyred 40 CRP men in Pulwama shot

Another JeM terrorist killed, cop loses life

MOHIT KANDHARI ■ JAMMU

One of the key conspirators of the February 14 Pulwama terror attack, whose car was fabricated and later handed over to the suicide bomber, was among two terrorists gunned down by the joint team of security forces in Marhama area of South Kashmir's Anantnag district on Tuesday. One Army jawan sacrificed his life in the operation.

Meanwhile, two Army jawans, injured in the IED blast late on Monday evening in Arhhal area of Pulwama, succumbed to their injuries in the command hospital in Srinagar early on Tuesday. Late evening, unidentified terrorists lobbed a grenade outside Pulwama police station causing injuries to several pedestrians. Police said two civilians received serious injuries.

In the last five days, 10 security personnel — five CRPF men, four Army men including a Major, and an Inspector of the J&K Police — have sacrificed their lives.

The martyred soldiers were identified as Havildar Amarjeet Kumar and Naik Ajit Kumar



Paramedics and local people transfer on a stretcher a man wounded in a grenade blast in Pulwama town as he is brought for treatment at a hospital in Srinagar on Tuesday. AP

Sahoo. Another soldier, Rifleman Anil Kumar Jaswal, made supreme sacrifice in anti-terror operations in Marhama on Tuesday.

Confirming the identity of the two terrorists killed in the operation, J&K Police DGP Dilbar Singh said, "Two degraded terrorists of Jaish-e-Mohammad, identified as Sajjad Ahmad Bhat and Tauseef Ahmad Bhat, were eliminated during fierce gunfight in Marhama area of Anantnag on Tuesday morning."

The DGP claimed, "Sajjad Ahmad Bhat's car was fabricated as IED and the same was handed over to the suicide bomber before targeting the

CRPF convoy in which 40 CRPF personnel were martyred."

Singh said, the duo were well trained members of the JeM suicide squad. "Two other terrorists killed in Achabal and KP road attack were also part of the same JeM group," he added.

According to police, "Sajad Ahmad Bhat, alias Afzal Guru, had joined militancy days before the Pulwama terror attack."

He hailed from village Marhama in Anantnag. Kashmiri Army has witnessed third vehicle mounted IED attack on the security forces this year.

Car-free weekend in CP from June 29

SAPNA SINGH ■ NEW DELHI

The controversial plan to make Asia's popular market and New Delhi's iconic heart and global shopping centre Connaught Place a car-free zone is being rolled out soon.

Top sources in the New Delhi Municipal Council (NDMC) said the plan will be executed in two phases.

Senior officials in NDMC told *The Pioneer* that both phases will run at weekends. "We are yet to study the implementation plans, hence we are

launching this during weekends," said an official on the condition of anonymity.

NDMC officials have met Delhi Traffic Police top brass for the required traffic management plan to execute it.

The officials also disclosed the date of the pilot project. "The first phase of experiment will start from June 29, 30, the second on July 6, 7," the officials said.

Connaught Place is favourite destination of Delhiites at weekends as it houses eateries, movie theaters

and shops. For many residents, who believe in spending time with their families and buying authentic stuff from here, the council's plan to execute this project at weekends only is not good news for them.

This is the third attempt of the council to make Connaught Place car-free or pedestrian friendly zone, purportedly to help maintain the beauty of the colonial-era structure. Readers may recall the traders' protest earlier as this plan would hamper their busi-

ness as shoppers in this area use their vehicles to visit CP.

Traders in the area claimed that they have not been taken into confidence by the NDMC officials.

"What is the need to make CP area vehicle-free zone, the council is aware the nature of visitors. The CP market hosts banks, jewellers, pubs and eateries," asked a trader. "Who will ensure the safety of our visitors and this is an attempt to divert our customers," a trader claimed. NDMC officials said an

project to make CP car-free zone is inspired from Paris and New York. "We have studied the redevelopment structures of big cities of the world and we have tried to cultivate such facilities here," said the official. Although it is doubtful if any of town planners are fully cognizant of the planning that went into pedestrian zone of Paris and New York's Woodstock village.

The project was discussed on January 5 this year in a meeting of NDMC officials.

Adhir Chowdhury to lead Cong in LS

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

With Rahul Gandhi refusing to budge from stance on not leading the party either in Parliament or outside, the Congress on Tuesday named its five-time MP from West Bengal and former Union Minister Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury as its leader in the Lok Sabha.

He will succeed Mallikarjun Kharge, who lost the Lok Sabha election, forcing the party to decide on another name. Chowdhury's name was cleared by the top party



leadership during a meeting at UPA Chairperson Sonia Gandhi's residence, after which a letter of his appointment was handed over to the Lok Sabha Secretary.

Chowdhury, who took part in the meeting, initially denied

any deliberation over the issue. However, later on he confirmed saying, "I have been given this responsibility (the leader of Congress in the Lok Sabha). I was asked to stand in the front. I said okay. I am a foot soldier and foot soldiers stand in front. So I will fight as a foot soldier."

Chowdhury, who is the Congress' face in Bengal, was chosen over party's senior most MP K Suresh from Kerala and Shashi Tharoor, the MP from Thiruvananthapuram. Suresh could get an another important position, sources said.

Min Prahlad Patel's son booked for attacking youth

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

The police have registered a case against Prabal Patel, son of Union Minister Prahlad Patel, his cousin and others on the charge of attacking on two youths in Narsinghpur district of Madhya Pradesh.

The victims in the complaint lodged with police claimed that that Prabal and Monu thrashed them following a dispute and also beat them up taking them elsewhere.

The police have registered a case of murderous assault against Prabal, Monu and ten of their associates.

The accused were on the run till the filing of the report.

Monu Patel is the son of former BJP minister and the brother of union minister Prabal Singh Patel's brother Jalam Singh Patel.

An officer from Narsinghpur police said that two persons Himanshu Rathore and Rahul Rajput were on their way to a marriage on Monday night when they entered into a feud with Prabal Patel in Balhai bazaar. Afterwards Prabal and his friend Shivam Rai's home and beat them up. Shivam's father Ishwar Rai,

a home guard also was injured in the attack as he tried to separate the fighting youths.

The victim in the complaint alleged that during fight, Prabal also shot which hit Himanshu Rathore in the hand.

The union minister's son also allegedly fired on Shivam Rai but saved himself. Some other persons also sustained injuries during the scuffle.

The police have lodged a case against Prabal Patel, Monu Patel and ten others on the complaint of Himanshu Rathore on charges of attempt to murder and other relevant sections of the IPC.



Chief Minister Kamal Nath called on Governor Anandiben Patel at Raj Bhawan in Bhopal on Tuesday. Pioneer photo

3-day festival on Kabir continues



In this dance-drama, the artists presented Kabir's life on stage at MP State Tribal Museum

began with a doha 'Where are you looking oh man, I am in your life i.e. Moko Kahan Dhunde Bandle.. Main to tere pass me. In the dance drama it was shown that Kabir was born in the weavers family from Kashi.'

Kabir's life runs on two levels, one person and another person's welfare, on which Kabir walks the whole knowledge of two and a half akhar's love. Kabir did not read the scriptures, but who among them was a great magician, Kabir Fakir, but who was the greatest lover of them? Therefore, the words of that julha born in Kashi are still sounding between us. Kabir awakened countless people, illuminated innumerable minds.

The cast also performed the Odissi dance using Kabir's compositions. This presentation was about 1 hour 10 minutes. In this presentation, the artists gave the message to the audience through Kabir's life to learn some positive and grow on the path of life with meaningfulness through their artistic presentation.

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

On the second day of Nirgun Gaan, a dance drama Khud me Kabir.. Kabir me Hum was staged. Being

organised at Madhya Pradesh State Tribal Museum, the three day festival is all about Saint Kabir. In the direction of Ranjana Gohar from Delhi, the dance drama 'Khud me

Kabir..... Kabir Me Hum' was staged in the museum auditorium. In this dance-drama, the artists presented Kabir's life on stage with his grandfather skills. The presentation

Gwalior admin launches water conservation project

PNIS ■ GWALIOR

With the objective of improving water management, conserving water through technology and improving agriculture, the Gwalior District Administration has launched the Water Conservation Project in the district.

In this connection, collector Anurag Chaudhary, accompanied by Zilla Panchayat CEO, Shivam Varma, Smart City CEO Mahip Tejaswi and other officials visited various places in the district and gave instructions to take appropriate steps to tackle water scarcity, which includes water harvesting and recharging wells among other things.

He asked the officials to put up sign boards during the recharging of wells and also to educate the locals to keep the wells clean. The collector also reviewed the proposed steps in the drinking water and sanitation sectors, especially the Administration's and civic body's preparedness to conserve rainwater during the forthcoming monsoon season. He asked the officials to educate people, especially those in the rural areas to save water. He further said that



The officials visited the Check Dam situated at the Besali river and reviewed the construction work in progress

agriculture consumes more water, so there is a strong need to involve farmers in the water conservation projects.

The officials visited the Check Dam, situated at the Besali river and reviewed the construction work in progress. The construction of the dam, at a cost of about Rs 15 lakhs is in the final stages. The collector instructed the engineers to finish the construction

work in twenty days and submit a report with pictorial evidence of the completion.. Later, the District Collector along with officials visited the Lady's Park developed by the Smart City Project and opined that a beautiful and purposeful park has been developed and instructed the officials to take all possible steps to maintain it properly.

Drone technology workshop organised in City

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

The school students learned the new technology Drone Technology in a workshop organised in city. The workshop was based on Drone Technology and the participants enjoyed the workshop a lot.

At the workshop organised at Regional Science Centre, the students learned to create working drones. The workshop that concluded here on Tuesday was much enjoyed. The students tested their working drones here on the concluding day and were enthralled with their work.

'Drone Technology' which was commenced on June 14. During the Workshop the participating students learnt about the basics of drones, and its applications in different fields viz: Science and Technology, Transportation, Public Convenience, Military etc. and assembled the frame of the drone using aluminium structure and learnt about the dynamics of the drones. They have also practiced the flying of drones using Flying Stimulation Software

The workshop that concluded here on Tuesday was much enjoyed. The students tested their working drones here on the concluding day and were enthralled with their work

and transmitter. An unmanned aerial vehicle is an aircraft without a human pilot on board. UAVs are a component of an unmanned aircraft system; which include a UAV, a ground-based controller, and a system of communications between the two.

Here on Tuesday the participants have assembled the electronic components on the frame of the drones after testing the same.

IGRMS to hold Madhubani, Mysore painting workshops



In Mysore Painting, traditional original painting is made by artists of the great Vijayanagar Kingdom which was famous for its art, literature, temples and architecture

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

The Indira Gandhi Rashtriya Manav Sangrahalaya will be organising a special skill development workshop on Madhubani Painting from June 20th to 30th, 2019 and Mysore Painting from July 4th to 14th, 2019.

In the workshop, the participants will get an opportunity to directly interact with the traditional artist to learn their methods, designs and practices. Madhubani Painting is a painting style, in which paintings are originally created in Mithilanchal of Bihar state.

Since its center is in Madhubani district, it was known as Madhubani Painting. On the occasion of marriage in Mithilanchal, a 'CHAUK' is built on the wall, which is known as KOHBAR.

The KOHBAR, constructed in a very artistic manner, with the expansion of subjects in due course of time it was called Madhubani Painting.

Due to the habitation of Raja Janak and Sita Ji, this place is remained sacred. Hence, episode of Ram and Sita were included in the picturesque of Madhubani Paintings.

Due to its beautiful decoration, heart touching colors, this painting style gradually landed on the canvas and reached home. In Mysore Painting, traditional original painting is made by artists of the great Vijayanagar Kingdom which was famous for its art, literature, temples and architecture.

After the fall of Vijayanagar Kingdom during 15th century, the artist migrated towards South India searching patrons for this intricate and exquisite art of normally mythological subjects. Some of these artists migrated to Madras and some paintings originally done as in Vijayanagar Kingdom, come to be known as Tanjore Paintings and the people who migrated to Mysore and started practicing this art under the patronage of great Wadiyar Kings who themselves were great artists. This was later on popularised as Mysore Paintings.



Seats of the lawyers lying vacant in the district court after they went on strike demanding implementation of Advocates Protection Act and proper security arrangement for lawyers on the court premises, in Bhopal on Tuesday

Simplify process to develop colonies: Jaivardhan Singh



Additional Chief Secretary, Panchayat and Rural Development Gouri Singh said that besides allottees' interest, it is also must to focus on integrated development. She expressed views on proper and on time use of charges

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

Simplify colony development process for common man and builders. Implement single window system to complete all formalities. This was said by the Minister for Urban Development and Housing Jaivardhan Singh during the workshop held on the subject 'Work Completion Certificate'. Officers of 21 departments took part in the workshop.

Singh asserted that rules for releasing work completion certificate based on the conclusions of the deliberations held in the workshop will be simplified. He further added that this will be taken into consideration in totality. The Chairman of Real Estate Regulatory Authority (RERA) Antony DeSa mentioned that simplification and unification of work completion certificate related to colony development in urban and rural area is utmost important. Easy and timely issuance of proper certificate protects interest of allottees and builders. He also informed about the works carried out by the RERA.

Additional Chief Secretary, Panchayat and Rural Development Gouri Singh said

that besides allottees' interest, it is also must to focus on integrated development. She expressed views on proper and on time use of charges. The Principal Secretary Commercial Taxes Mannu Shrivastava said that it is also must to keep in mind the government's interest while simplifying the rules of releasing work completion certificate. Officers of 21 departments took part in the workshop.

The Principal Secretary Urban Development and Housing Sanjay Dubey mentioned that necessary amendment in rules of releasing work completion certificate is being felt keeping in mind the convenience of allottee and builder. This workshop has been organized to fulfill this objective. He further stated that efforts will be made to resolve maximum problems of builders on the basis of suggestions received in the workshop.

Director Town and Country Planning Rahul Jain informed about the objectives of the workshop. Deliberations on deemed permission, online permission, registration charge and other issues took place in the workshop. The Commissioner Urban Development P Narhari and other officers were present at the workshop.

Handloom, handicraft fair 'Ashadh Mela'



STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

Handloom and handicraft fair 'Ashadh Mela' is captivating the interest of the city denizens. The fair is being organised at Bhopal Haat.

A large number of wooden items which used for office, kitchen, and daily use purposes of Gujarat, were the major attraction of the visitors. Some colourful and designer bangles and other accessories costing from ₹10 to 30 are loved by girls.

One of the vendors, Surendra said, "Our all items are in visitor's demand here but bangles mostly in demand of girls. This time we received a

good response from Bhopalites," he added. Some jute and bamboo made items of Rajasthan including curtains, purse in various design also attracted the visitors.

Speaking about the Jute and Bamboo made curtains, vendor Abid Ansari said, "The Bhopalites loved the curtains we had brought this time." Talking about the specialty of the curtains he said, "We have different designs of curtain made of jute including window check window blinds, capsule in indigo print with thread weaving. Some bamboo made curtains in printed and plane design with silk weaving are available here.

Bamboo curtains are more costly than jute and it takes two days to complete one curtain. It is made of vegetable colour. This curtain keeps us cool in summer season and washable. The cost of jute and bamboo curtains starts from Rs 90 and 150 per square feet." Moreover, the carpets and doormats made up of silk and acrylics in Kashmiri and Afghani designs in small and large were also exhibited.

Besides, some handlooms products exhibited here which attracted the buyers. The exhibition was organised by Panchayat Eram Gram Vikas Vibhag. The fair was well received by the shopaholics of the city.

Mega open campus drive at Radharaman Group of Institutions

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

A Mega Open Campus Drive was organised at Radharaman Group of Institutions. Giving a wondrous performance, as many as 42 students were selected at Radharaman mega campus for Wind World India company.

It is to be noted that 42 students have been selected in the country's leading wind energy company, Wind World India, in the mega campus organized by Radharaman Group. Students of various engineering colleges participated in this campus organised for students of 2019 batch of BE EC and EX and Diploma EE.

Authorities from the company examined students' knowledge and skills through written examination, group discussion and personal interview.

42 students successfully crossing these rounds were finally selected.

While talking about the campus selection RR Saxena, chairman of the Radharaman Group, said that in the field of engineering education the Radharaman group is considered as an undisputed leader in whole of India. This is due



to the presence of highly educated and experienced faculty members from the National Institutes like Maiti and presence of world-class education and training facilities in the group.

Due to the presence of good students in the country's leading companies, they organize many campuses throughout the year, due to which thousands of students are employed.

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CM stresses on securing tribals' rights

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

Chief Minister Kamal Nath has reiterated the State Government's commitment to protecting the interests of tribals. He said that in the previous government, as many as over 3.5 lakh applications of tribal families for land titles were rejected. The State Government has ordered to reconsider all such applications.

Nath said this while holding discussions with a delegation of tribal families that met him today at Mantralaya led by the former Chief Minister Shrivraj Singh Chauhan on Tuesday. These tribal families belong to Budhni assembly constituency.

The Chief Minister said that the State Government has always pursued the policy of protecting the rights of tribal people while ensuring their overall development. Nath



Chief Minister Kamal Nath meets former Chief Minister Shrivraj Singh Chauhan at State Mantralaya in Bhopal on Tuesday. Pioneer photo

informed that the Forest Rights Act 2006 was implemented by the then UPA Government. Under this, 6.25 lakh applica-

tions seeking recognition of forest dwelling rights in the

previous government regime, out of which 3.5 lakh applications were cancelled.

The present government has started the process of revising these applications and started working on issuing a land ownership titles to the eligible families.

The Chief Minister informed that the rate of tendu leaf collection has been increased from ₹2000 per standard bag to ₹2500, thus ensuring them a profit of ₹500 per bag. This amount was being given to the underprivileged tendu leaf collectors through the banks, which was troublesome for them. Now they will be paid in cash.

Nath said that the present government is committed to honouring tribal people by recognizing their conventional rights. Injustice to tribal families in any manner is not tolerable.



Principal Secretary of the Madhya Pradesh State Assembly AP Singh presents memento to the Chairman of Ad Implementation Committee of the Assam State Assembly Minral Saikia as the committee members visited State Assembly in Bhopal on Tuesday. Pioneer photo

Silver idol, ₹35K cash stolen from TT Nagar

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

A silver idol and ₹35000 cash were burgled from New Market under TT Nagar police station area on Monday.

Police said that the victim Bharatbhusan Pandey runs a shop near Hanuman mandir in TT Nagar area and when he reached to open shop on Tuesday locks were found broken and valuables were burgled.

A complaint was lodged with the TT Nagar police in which he stated that he left the shop after locking it properly and when he returned on Tuesday to open the shop it was found burgled.

Police suspects that the miscreants were aware of the whereabouts of the house owner.

The security guard would be questioned while the CCTV footages would be investigated to establish identity of the accused.



Based on the complaint after the preliminary investigation the police have registered a case under section 457 and 380 of the IPC and have started further investigation. Meanwhile, valuables worth ₹60000 were burgled from Gaytri Vihar under Bagh Sewania police station

area on Monday.

Police said that the victim Ajay Shankar Tiwari had gone for work and when he returned in the morning house was found burgled.

The victim reported a complaint stating that he works with National hospital and when he returned from shop after locking it properly and when he returned on Tuesday to open the shop it was found burgled.

Gold and silver jewelry and a cooking gas cylinder worth ₹60000 were burgled claimed the victim.

After the preliminary investigation the police have registered a case under sections 457 and 380 of the IPC and have started further investigation.

Minor boy duped of ₹25,000 at BoB branch in Bairagarh

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

A 16-year-old youth was duped to the tune of ₹25 lakh at Bank of Baroda Bairagarh branch in the day on Monday. Bairagarh police started investigation.

Police said that the victim Jatun Ramchandani was duped by two accused who him to deposit cash at one of the accused was not having bank account.

After the victim found that he was cheated a complaint was lodged with the Bairagarh police stating that he had gone to deposit ₹25000 in Bank of Baroda where while he was filling deposit slip one of the miscreants came and asked for deposit slip and later other appeared and claimed that he took ₹2.5 lakh from her employer who failed to pay his

salary but he do not have bank account and wanted to deposit as he could not carry cash as it would be risky.

The miscreant who came to fill deposit lure the victim that he could earn money by depositing cash in his bank account and provided ₹25000 to the miscreants and provided ₹2.5 lakh cash which was covered. Later when the victim opened the cash he found that it was bundle of paper and informed police.

Based on the complaint after the preliminary investigation the police have registered a case under section 420 of the IPC and started search for the accused. The victim's father has assigned him to deposit money as he was out of town. Police said that CCTV footage of the cameras would be investigated in the investigation.

Doctors put pacemaker in infant's heart in Jabalpur

PNS ■ JABALPUR

This effort is termed unique because the heart of a child of two and a half years is too small to house pacemaker. Dr. Umameshwar said that this heart disease affects one in every 22,000 children

A unique effort gave life to a two and a half year old baby girl who had a Pacemaker implanted inside her heart by doctors of Seth Mannual Jagannath Trust Hospital. Three doctors of Jabalpur implanted 5 x 5 Sq. Cm pacemaker successfully in the heart of a two-and-a-half-year-old girl and successfully performed a unique effort.

This effort is termed unique because the heart of a child of two and a half years is too small to house Pacemaker.

Doctors said, "In this process, the pacemaker is placed on the heart, due to which he needs more energy to maintain heart rate, in which the pacemaker is a life of battery, due to which the patient has to get a new battery every three to four years."

We have tried to resolve

these problems in this new effort. The energy used to be inside the pace-maker's heart will be used, and battery life can increase to ten years and because the pacemaker is inside the heart, the patient does not need any surgery

again.

"Generally, keeping the age of the children in mind, the pace-maker is put out of the heart. In our effort, we put a Pacemaker machine in the heart of the girl's heart, and a loop in her cord, the chord would not break even if the heart develops with age," said Dr. K. Umameshwar, Interventional and Pediatric Cardiologist.

Dr. Umameshwar said that this heart disease is one in every 22,000 children and such an effort has been done in India. This process has been used in 300 operations throughout the world till date.

Dr. Yatin said "We all had this idea that there is no fault of the child to be born from the Congenital Heart Block. He should get life like other children, and that is why we went along with this operation only under the expense of Rs. 30,000."

IN BRIEF

WORKSHOP FOR REGIONAL MEDIA PERSONS HELD
Bhopal: Reserve Bank of India is organising a daylong familiarisation workshop for regional media persons here on June 22. Contemporary topics relating to Central Banking including functions of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) would be deliberated upon in the workshop. The aim is to impart good understanding and perspective of the rationale for the RBI's policy decisions among the media persons, thus giving them a better and broader perspective on the Reserve Bank's functioning. There would be sessions on financial inclusion, consumer education and protection, currency management, co-operative bank regulation/supervision, non-bank regulation/supervision, monetary policy, payment systems and local to media all of which would be taken by senior officials and in-charges of Central Office Departments of RBI from Mumbai. Local issues of relevance to media persons would also be discussed. The sessions would be taken from 10.30 am till 3.30 pm.

YOGA PROGRAMME AT RAJ BHAVAN ON JUNE 21
Bhopal: At the initiative of the Governor Anandiben Patel, a Yoga programme will be organised at Raj Bhavan on the occasion of International Yoga Day on June 21. Over one thousand people including Barkatullah University, Women and Child Development Department, Jain Social Group, Yogacharya Rajeev Jain, Rangpooal Yashu Group, Eminent Citizens and residents of Raj Bhavan campus will attend the programme. The Yoga programme will begin at 6 am on June 21 and on the same day, the programme will be telecasted by the Bhopal Doodardshan from 5.30 pm to 6.30 pm.

COMPLETE ROAD MAINTENANCE WORKS BY JUNE 30: MIN
Bhopal: Minister for Panchayat and Rural Development Kamal Nath has given instructions that maintenance works of about 77,000 km long roads constructed by the Madhya Pradesh Rural Road Development Authority in rural areas should be completed by June 30. Besides, he asked for constituting a team of senior officers for inspection of maintenance works. On the basis of team's report, accountability of concerned agency will be fixed, if any negligence is found in the maintenance works, he added. The Chief Executive Officer of the MPRRD has informed that separate teams have been formed for assessment in Sagur, Jabalpur, Narmadapuram, Gwalior, Indore, Bhopal, Ujjain, Rewa and Shahdol division. Minister Patel further said that 61 per cent routes (₹89 km) have been constructed in the state under the Pradhanmantri Rural Road scheme. Keeping in view of the monsoon period, agency have been told to do works of potholes, side filling, erosion, etc. Along with this, instructions have been given to erect indicators at pro water logging bridges and culverts besides completing all the works with quality and within the stipulated time.

STEPS TAKEN FOR WELFARE OF EMPLOYEES
Bhopal: The state government has taken several important steps for the welfare of employees during the last six months. Eligibility of encashment of earned leave of 300 days in place of 240 days has been granted for the officers and employees of the entire cadres. Permission for dearness allowance from January 2019 has been granted. Similarly, permission for dearness allowance in two instalment payable from January 2018 and January 2019 to government pensioners and family pensioners has been granted in April 2019. Besides, order for payment of second instalment of 7th pay scale arrears to government servants has been issued. Reforming the option of wage revision under the 7th pay scale, payable to the government servants, one more opportunity has been provided. Furthermore, the state government has issued instructions to give benefit of 6th and 7th pay scale to the relieved employees posted through merger in government or deputation from the oilseed federation.

CM GRIEVES OVER MILAP KOTHARI DEMISE
Bhopal: Chief Minister Kamal Nath has expressed grief over the demise of Milap Kothari, the younger brother of the Director and Chief Editor of Patrika Group Gulab Kothari. While expressing condolences to the bereaved family, Nath has prayed to the Almighty to grant peace to the departed soul. SR

Delay in monsoon makes weather unpleasant

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

Moderate temperatures prevailed in the state and state capital on Tuesday while day temperatures have been recorded at the peak at 40 degree Celsius weather conditions are still discomforting.

Delay in monsoon and fading pre-monsoon activities have made the weather conditions unpleasant.

Night temperatures were recorded high at few places in the state. Khargone recorded the highest day temperature at 40.5 degree Celsius.

State capital recorded day temperature at 37.7 degree Celsius while day temperature was recorded at 26.6 degree Celsius.

Throughout the day partial cloudy weather conditions were witnessed.

The clouds fail to pour still providing relief from the harsh weather.

According to the forecast state capital would witness speedy winds



Dark clouds flooded the sky in Bhopal continuously on the second day, but they did not induce rains. Pioneer photo

and thundery activities in the next 24 hours.

The state capital would witness

partial cloudy weather conditions.

In the past 24 hours Pandhara recorded 5 cm of rainfall which was the highest rainfall. Among other regions Gohad, Lahat recorded 4 cm of rainfall, Morena recorded 3 cm of rainfall, Morena, Seoni, Jabalpur, Khurari, Chhatarpur, Umaria and Amarkantak recorded 1 cm of rainfall.

Few places in Chambal, Sagur, Rewa, Shahdol, Jabalpur, divisions and at isolated places in Indore, Gwalior, Bhopal and Raisen rainfall was recorded.

Significant change in the temperature were not witnessed. Jabalpur, Hoshangabad and Indore divisions recorded temperatures above normal temperatures.

Met department in the forecast claimed that in the next 24 hours around 14 districts are likely to witness thundery activities and light showers and speedy winds with a speed of 30-40 km/hr for brief periods.

4 hurt in clash 'MP established excellence in agri production'

Bhopal: Four persons were injured in a violent clash fuelled with old enmity at Dhoi Ghat under Talajaya police station area in the evening on Monday.

Police said that injured were rushed to a nearby hospital after they the two groups attacked with sharp edged weapons and blade. The injured were reportedly stable and later discharged after providing treatment.

The incident took place at around 8.30 in the night when the victim Usman was near his house when the accused Gufran came and started to abuse him. The victim tried to stop him but accused engaged in a verbal spat attacked him with sharp edged weapon and escaped the spot.

Few minutes later Usman along with Mohan Batham attacked Gufran with belt. In the fight Gufran's mobile phone was damaged by the Usman and Mohan. Based on the complaint by Usman the police have registered a case of assault against Gufran and on the complaint lodged by Gufran police have registered case of assault against Usman. SR

Bhopal: Chief Secretary Sudhi Ranjan Mohanty said that Madhya Pradesh has established its excellence in agriculture production. The state is now leading towards industrialization. The Netherland is best in its industrial techniques. The mutual coordination of agriculture production and industrial techniques will be beneficial for both Madhya Pradesh and Netherland.

Mohanty was addressing the seminar organised on the scope of investment by Netherland in agriculture and food processing sector here on Tuesday.

The Counsel General of Netherland Guido Tielman, Chief General Manager of NABARD SK Bansal, Officers of the Indian Council of Agriculture Research including delegates of various organizations working in the field of food processing, warehousing, cold storage and development

of high breed seed were present at the seminar organized at Hotel Jehanuma.

Mohanty further said that the Chief Minister Kamal Nath has a clear opinion that the government will give more concession to those industries which provide more employment to the local people of the state. He mentioned that the state has seven climatic regions. Grains, oilseed, spices and pulses are produced in abundance in the state. Farmers and technique providing companies will be benefitted equally if proper technique for warehousing and food processing of these produces is provided. Informing about the infra-structural capability and resources of the state, Mohanty said that there is a good scope of investment for the companies of Netherland in cold storage, ware housing, silo including food processing sector in the state. SR

Ministry of Labour & Employment, Government of India
Employees' State Insurance Corporation Model Hospital & ODC
Nandanagar, Indore-452011/Tele-0731-2557656, 2559080, Fax-0731-2559080, Website: www.esic.nic.in, www.esichospitals.gov.in, www.esic.in, Email: ms-indore@esic.in

WALK-IN-INTERVIEW FOR THE POST OF SENIOR RESIDENTS/SPECIALISTS/SUPER SPECIALISTS

Sl. No.	Department	3 Yrs. S.R.		1 Yrs. S.R. against G.O.B.A.		Full time/Part time Specialist		Date of Interview
		Total Vacancies	Reserved	Total Vacancies	Reserved	Total Vacancies	Reserved	
1	Anesthesia	05	UR-2, EWS-1, SC-1, OBC-1	01	UR-1	01	01	OBC-1
2	Medicine/ICU	04+03	UR-1+2, SC-1+0, OBC-2+1	01+01	UR-1 SC-1	0	0	26th June 2019
3	Chest Medicine + Pulmonology	01	OBC-1	01	OBC-01	02	02	SC-1, OBC-1
4	Ophthalmology	01	UR-1	0	0	01	01	UR-1
5	ENT	0	0	0	0	01	01	UR-1
6	Paediatrics	02	OBC-1, ST-1	0	0	0	0	OBC-1
7	Obst. & Gynae	02	UR-1, SC-1	01	EWS-1	01	01	OBC-1
8	Orthopedics	02	UR-1, EWS-1	0	0	0	0	
9	Surgery	04	UR-1, EWS-1, SC-1, OBC-1	01	UR-1	01	01	SC-1
10	Pathology	0	0	0	0	02	02	EWS-01, SC-1
11	Dermatology	01	UR-1	0	0	01	01	ST-1
12	Radiology	01	OBC-1	0	0	01	01	OBC-1
13	Casualty	0	0	02	UR-1, ST-1	0	0	
Total		26		08		11	11	

***EWS stands for economically weaker sections:**
(Total Post-26 bifurcated as: UR-10, EWS-03, SC-04, ST-01 and OBC-09 (Backlog post-03, SC-02).
(Total Post-08 bifurcated as: UR-04, EWS-01, SC-01, ST-01, OBC-01, (Backlog Post- 3)UR-01, SC-01, ST-01)
(Total Post-11 bifurcated as: UR-02, EWS-01, SC-03, ST-01, OBC-04, (Backlog Post-03, SC-2).

B-Vacancies for part time Superspecialists

Sl. No.	Department	Total Vacancies	Reserved	Date of Interview
1	Cardiology	01	UR-1	27th June 2019
2	Oncology	01	UR-1	27th June 2019

For complete details please visit our website: www.esichospitals.gov.in. Further any corrigendum/addendum if any/ or any revision will be circulated through mentioned websites only.
dswp 23178/110001/1920 Medical Superintendent

MISSION 75 FOR BJP IN HARYANA

Organisational structure to be further strengthened

NISHU MAHAJAN ■
CHANDIGARH

Setting eyes on "Mission 75" Sin Haryana Assembly elections, the ruling Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) has swung into action to cement its organisational structure at the ground level in all 90 assembly constituencies in the state. The saffron party will hold mandal-level meetings from July 1 to 10 to review its organisational base and chalk out strategy to strengthen its roots and make inroads into opposition's bastion in Haryana. The state organisational

in-charges, Ministers, MLAs among others will hold these meetings on as many as 290 mandals. During the general elections 2019, the BJP had penetrated into voter list by appointing lakhs of panna pramukhs, who had worked under booth incharge and respective Shakti Kendras in the state. The panna pramukhs were given a single page of voter list which included a maximum of 50 voters and a responsibility to connect with these voters, at least thrice before the polling day. In view of further strengthening the organisational struc-

ture ahead of State Assembly polls due to be held in October, the state BJP has now decided to review its functioning and performance in around 2000 booths in the state. Chief Minister Manohar Lal had recently announced that the party has set an ambitious target of winning 75 seats out of total 90 in the State Assembly polls and will review its organisational structure at booth level and make amends, wherever required. In recently concluded parliamentary elections, the saffron party, while riding high on "Modi wave" had not only won

THE SAFFRON PARTY WILL HOLD MANDAL-LEVEL MEETINGS FROM JULY 1 TO 10 TO REVIEW ITS ORGANIZATIONAL BASE AND CHALK OUT STRATEGY TO STRENGTHEN ITS ROOTS AND MAKE INROADS INTO OPPOSITION'S BASTION IN HARYANA

all 10 Lok Sabha seats in Haryana but had also maintained its lead in as many as 79 assembly constituencies out of total 90 assembly seats. The results, however, did bring bad news for two Cabinet Ministers in the Manohar Lal Khattar Government. The BJP candidates had trailed in the

mandal-level meetings from July 1-10. Accordingly, a plan will be formulated to improve the party's performance, where it did not do well in Lok Sabha polls," said a senior party leader. He said that the party gives grading of A, B, C to assembly constituencies, according to the winning margins and performance and consequently, preparations are made and goals are set to improve the performance in that assembly segment. The party had won on 79 assembly constituencies in Lok Sabha polls, the party leader said. Besides focusing on

menting its base at grassroots level, the saffron party will also be working on increasing its membership base right from the booth level. The membership drive will also begin from July 6 in the state, he added. Buoyed by its victory in Lok Sabha polls, the BJP had organized "Karyakarta Abhinandan Samaroh" in all districts to express gratitude towards party workers for working diligently in the polls and to call upon them to work hard for a victory in the State Assembly elections due to be held in next four months. In 2014 Vidhan Sabha elec-

tions, the BJP had won 47 seats in the 90-member Assembly and had managed to make its maiden State Government in Haryana on its own. Currently, the ruling BJP has 48 MLAs while principal opposition party-Congress has 17 MLAs in the State Assembly. Notably, Haryana BJP unit has entered into a poll alliance with the Shiromani Akali Dal under which the SAD had supported the saffron party in the parliamentary elections and would now be given appropriate number of seats in the State Assembly elections.

Capt seeks PM's intervention for permission to construct covered godowns for foodgrain

PNS ■ CHANDIGARH

Punjab Chief Minister Capt Amarinder Singh on Tuesday sought Prime Minister Narendra Modi's urgent intervention for permission to construct 20 LMT capacity covered godowns in the State for scientific storage of foodgrains, to address the acute shortage of covered storage space. Capt Amarinder, in a letter to the Prime Minister, urged him to direct the Union Ministry of Food to "allow construction of 20 LMT capacity covered godowns, under seven-year guarantee by GOI/FCI, so that food grains may be scientifically stored in the State". The Chief Minister pointed out that bumper crops during the last few seasons, coupled with slow pace of evacuation of food grains from the State of Punjab, had resulted in acute shortage of covered storage space. As a result, more than 100 LMT of wheat, out of 280 LMT of foodgrain stocked in the State, is currently stored in the open, he said, adding that the situation had worsened this year because of unseasonal rains, resulting in the purchase of certain quantities of wheat

under relaxed specifications (URS). Though FCI had approved the construction of additional silo capacity of 21 LMT with railway sidings in the State, construction of the same may take four-five years or even more, the Chief Minister noted. As a result, lack of adequate storage space would force State Procuring Agencies to store wheat in unscientific locations in the coming seasons and further lead to damage of wheat stocks, he said, terming this a national loss. Punjab Government, wrote Capt Amarinder, had requested the Union Ministry of Food to allow construction of covered godowns under Guarantee by GOI/FCI. But formal approval from the Ministry was still awaited, he said, adding that it normally takes about 10 months for a scientific godown to be constructed and only 10 months are now left for the start of the next Rabi Season 2020-21. The State Government is, therefore, running against time to ensure availability of adequate scientific storage space for the next Rabi season, he emphasized, seeking the prime minister's urgent intervention to address the critical issue.

Amit Shah to be chief guest in Hry Yoga function

PNS ■ CHANDIGARH

On the occasion of 5th International Yoga Day in Haryana, the Union Home Minister Amit Shah will be the chief guest in the state level function to be organised in district Rohtak on June 21. Chief Minister Manohar Lal will also be present on the occasion. "The State Government would celebrate International Yoga Day in all the districts and assembly constituencies. Overall, the functions will be organized at 79 places in Haryana. Haryana Ministers, MLAs, MPs and other office bearers will be the chief guests of these functions," said an official spokesman. Haryana Vidhan Sabha,

Speaker Kanwar Pal would attend the district level function as chief guest in Jagadhri of district Yamunanagar and Deputy Speaker Santosh Yadav in Ateel of Mahendragarh district. Chief Secretary DS Dhesi said this while reviewing the arrangements and management of functions to be held on the occasion at state level and in assembly constituencies, on June 21 here. All arrangements related to organization of these functions have been completed, he added. About three lakh participants will participate from the state, in which 21,000 participants will be from district Rohtak and Faridabad, besides this 5,000 participants will par-

It was informed in the meeting that control room has been set up at headquarters level in the state. Apart from this, website has also been created for registration of participants

ticipate in the assembly level functions. The participants will mainly include students, different organizations of Arya Samaj and various institutions related to yoga campaigns. It was informed in the meeting that control room has been set up at headquarters level in the state. Apart from this, website has also been created for registration of participants. From 7 am to 8 am, Yoga would be done in these

programmes to be held on June 21. According to common Yoga Protocol issued by Union Ministry of AYUSH, related yoga training has been given at district level. Education Minister Ram Bilas Sharma would be the chief guest in a district level function to be held in district Mahendragarh. Finance Minister Capt. Abhimanyu in Narnauda of district Hisar, Agriculture and Farmers'

Welfare Minister OP Dhankar in Jhajjar city of district Jhajjar, Transport Minister Krishan Lal Panwar in Israna of Panipat, Urban Local Bodies Minister Kavita Jain in Raat of district Sonapat, Health Minister Anil Vij in Ambala Cantonment and Ambala City, Industry and Commerce Minister Vipul Goel and Krishan Pal in district Faridabad and Public Works (Buildings and Roads) Minister, Rao Narbir Singh and MP, Rao Inderjit Singh in district Gurugram. The Minister of State for Public Health and Engineering Banwari Lal would be the chief guest in district level function to be held in Bawal of district Rewari, Minister of State for

Social Justice and Empowerment Krishan Kumar in Shahabad and Minister of State for Food, Civil Supplies and Consumer Affairs, Karan Dev Kamboj in Indri. Similarly, MP Ambala Ratan Lal Kataria would be the chief guest in a function to be held in district Panchkula, MP Kurukshetra Nayab Singh Saini in Kaithal, MP Sanjay Bhatia in Karnal, MP Ramesh Kaulish in Sonapat, former MP Ch. Birender Singh in Narwara of district Jind, Member of Rajya Sabha, Gen. GP Vats in Tohana, MP Sumita Duggal in Sirsa, MP Birender Singh in district Hisar and MP, Bhiwani-Mahendragarh, Dharmbir Singh in district Bhiwani.

Norms to be eased for recipients of food grains

PNS ■ CHANDIGARH

The Food Security - Smart Ration Cards Group, a consultative group recently constituted by Punjab Chief Minister Capt Amarinder Singh, on Tuesday reviewed the food security schemes at length and recommended certain modifications in the implementation of existing schemes to streamline the food grains distribution system and to bring more transparency and efficacy into the process.

Chief Minister had constituted the consultative groups to accelerate the pace of implementation of the State Government's flagship programmes under the chairmanship of the state's Food and Civil Supplies Minister Bharat Bhushan Ashu, comprising of Rural Development and Panchayats Minister Tripti Rajinder Singh Bajwa, Social Security Minister Aruna Chaudhary, seven MLAs, besides senior officers. In its maiden meeting, the Group

suggested ease in verification procedure for Smart Ration Card beneficiaries. It was observed that inordinate delay occurs in verification of identified beneficiaries due to the concerned Performa being passed from office of Patwari to deputy Commissioner. Hence, it has been suggested that in rural areas, Patwaris, Block Development Officers and District Food Supply Controller or his nominee, and in urban areas, Inspectors of Municipal Committees, Executive

Officers and Secretary or Superintendent Level officers, and in areas falling under Cantonment Boards, the nominee of the respective Deputy Commissioner may verify the forms of the beneficiaries. The Group opined that this simplification in the identification or verification of the beneficiaries will go a long way increasing the reach of food security schemes. Besides, it has been proposed that

to maintain transparency in the procedure, regular random checks into the data may be made to the tune of 10 percent by Sub-Divisional Magistrates (SDMs) and five percent by the Deputy Commissioners. The Food Security Group also proposed to rope in more Depot Holders so that the beneficiaries may not travel far to get the subsidized food grains. Village-wise re-verification of data of existing beneficiaries was also suggested.



BJP National Vice-President Shivraj Singh Chouhan addresses a gathering at the inauguration of the head office of 'Beti Bachao Samiti' during a campaign 'Save Girl Child' in Bhopal on Tuesday. Pioneer photo

Japanese Encephalitis fear grips Jharkhand

SAURAV ROY ■ RANCHI

Jharkhand has witnessed two deaths caused by Japanese Encephalitis (JE) in the past one month along with an increase in the number of Dengue and Chikungunya cases, officials from the Vector Borne Disease Control Programme said on Tuesday. Dr. V N Khanna, State head of Vector Borne Disease Control Programme said that both the deaths caused by JE were reported in Ranchi. The first death was reported on May 15 and the second on May 31, he added. "We have tested 305 samples for Japanese Encephalitis this year so far, and 11 of them were positive," Khanna said. Meanwhile, cases of other vector borne diseases such as Dengue and Chikungunya are also on the rise. A total of 75 samples were tested for Dengue



this year in Jharkhand and 25 of them came out positive. At least 10 of the 25 Dengue cases were reported from Ranchi. Out of the 370 Chikungunya samples tested so far in the state, at least 10 came out positive and seven of them were from Ranchi, figures with the State Vector Borne Disease Control Programme said. The

figures were last updated on June 14. Sources from Rajendra Institute of Medical Sciences (RIMS) said that two children suffering from JE were admitted in the hospital earlier this week. Dr. A K Choudhary of Pediatrics Ward at RIMS said that the JE cases reported in Jharkhand were curable and

did not fall in the category of typical acute encephalitis syndrome, which caused several deaths in neighbouring Bihar. By now, at least 100 children have died of JE in Bihar's Muzaffarpur district, hardly 200 kilometer from Jharkhand border. The disease spreads through mosquito bites and is

highly communicable, doctors said. In severe cases, it can cause swelling of the brain in patients and result in death. However, the State health department is yet to issue a JE alert in Jharkhand. Chief Director of Health, Rajendra Paswan said that he will speak to the concerned officials and a final call will be taken depending on the updates on JE cases. "We have not issued any alert by now. We will hold a meeting to discuss the trend soon," he said. Out of the total 11 JE cases reported in Jharkhand this, four were from Ranchi, two from Ramgarh and one each from Dhanbad, Giridih, Gumla, East Singhbhum and Saraikela. Out of the 10 Chikungunya cases reported, seven are from Ranchi and one each from Khunti, Ramgarh and Hazaribag districts.

Integrated medicine must be encouraged by Govt in hospitals

PNS ■ HARIDWAR

Every Lok Sabha election brings with it hopes and new promises for the country and so were this year's elections. From the newly formed government, the doctors here have expressed their aspirations. Prime Minister Narendra Modi in his Independence Day speech last year had announced the launch of Ayushman Bharat National Health Protection Scheme. Claimed as the biggest government sponsored health scheme in the world, Ayushman scheme aims to provide healthcare services to over 10 crore families comprising the urban and rural poor. The Pioneer spoke to some doctors on the health scenario of the country. Ayurvedic consultant Dr. Deepak Kumar said, "The Ayushman Bharat scheme requires much vigilance in



implementation. It should not be just an election gimmick but should be carried forward in practice. Those states of India which have not initiated this scheme must do that, the centre should make it compulsory. This central government must retain its valid control and states should be asked to follow it compulsorily." Swami Dayadhinpananda, head of diabetics centre in a hospital said that complete

overhaul of medical education is sought by the medical fraternity. In healthcare, more development of government sector with substantial amount of budget allocation should be done. The government must also think of measures to protect doctors against violence and unnecessary litigations. He also added that the government should take more initiatives to promote integrated medicine and all branches of

medicine should be brought under one umbrella. More focus should be laid on preventive medicine. Paediatrician Dr Vijay Verma said that health education and health awareness should be given priority. Integrated medicine for treatment of vector borne diseases like dengue and swine flu which grip the city residents every year, must be encouraged in district hospitals. AYUSH department must ensure inclusion of Yoga therapist in every state run hospital for reducing post surgery recovery time, opine some Ayurvedic and natural medicine consultant Dr VK Agnihotri said, "Doctors expect few things from governments which include the availability of required number of doctors in the health centres. At present most government hospitals are reeling under scarcity of doctors. Cost of medicines should

remain within reach of all sectors of society. Integrated therapies of allopathy and Ayurveda must be encouraged by government in disseminating healthcare to patients. Senior physician at RK Mission hospital, Dr S Choudhary said, "The Ayushman Bharat scheme launched by the central government is a good initiative. It must be implemented by the state with utmost care lest it fails. The centre had initiated this scheme for select beneficiaries belonging to BPL families, but Uttarakhnad Government has made it accessible to one and all, even for a family with annual income of Rs 10 lakh. This increases the risk factor in its implementation. Initially the government must start with one or two big hospitals in a city and then take it to every health centre."



Congress MLA from Vidisha Shashank Bhargava speaking at the Annual General Meeting of Madhya Pradesh Small Scale Industries Organisation in Bhopal on Tuesday. Pioneer photo

Didi for white paper, skips polls at 1 go meet

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI/KOLKATA

West Bengal Chief Minister and TMC chief Mamata Banerjee on Tuesday excused herself from attending the meeting convened by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Wednesday on the issue of 'one nation, one election'.

She cited lack of sufficient time to come up with a 'proper response' to the matter and called for circulation of a white paper on the subject to all political parties, inviting their views by providing adequate time to respond if the Centre indeed wanted 'concrete suggestions'.

The PM-convened meeting will also hold deliberations on celebrations for 75 years of Independence and the 150th birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi.

In her letter to Parliamentary Affairs Minister Pralhad Joshi, who had sent out invites to all party presidents, she said such a 'serious and sensitive subject' required consultation with constitutional and election experts and that to frame a proper response, she needed to consult all the members of her party.

Mamata had skipped the NITI Aayog meeting last Saturday and also did not attend the swearing-in ceremony of Prime Minister Narendra Modi for his second term on May 30. She had called the NITI Aayog meeting 'fruitless'.

important subject," she wrote in the letter. The TMC supremo's decision to stay away from Wednesday's meeting in Delhi comes against the backdrop of heightened tussle between the ruling party and the BJP in West Bengal after the saffron party made inroads into the eastern State.

Mamata had skipped the NITI Aayog meeting last Saturday and also did not attend the swearing-in ceremony of Prime Minister Narendra Modi for his second term on May 30. She had called the NITI Aayog meeting 'fruitless'.

Reacting to Banerjee's decision, West Bengal BJP chief Dilip Ghosh said she was yet to recover from her defeat in the parliamentary polls and was making excuses to avoid any meeting convened by the Centre on all political parties. "All the political parties are attending it except the TMC. They shout the most about the federal structure but are busy destroying every aspect of a healthy democracy," he said in Kolkata.

With 22 Lok Sabha members, the Trinamool Congress (TMC) is the fourth-largest party in the Lok Sabha along with the YSR Congress, which also has 22 members in the Lower House.

The TMC chief stated that regarding the development of aspirational districts, her party had already conveyed that they were not in favour of the selection of a few districts as it would not conform to the overall objective of achieving a balanced and uniform development of all the districts of the State.

Banerjee, nevertheless, said she and her party would wholeheartedly participate in the celebrations for 75 years of Independence and the 150th birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi. And for ways to improve the productivity of Parliament, the parliamentary affairs ministry might consult the matter with all the political parties.



She cited lack of sufficient time to come up with a 'proper response' to the matter and called for circulation of a white paper on the subject to all political parties, inviting their views by providing adequate time to respond if the Centre indeed wanted 'concrete suggestions'.

The PM-convened meeting will also hold deliberations on celebrations for 75 years of Independence and the 150th birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi.

In her letter to Parliamentary Affairs Minister Pralhad Joshi, who had sent out invites to all party presidents, she said such a 'serious and sensitive subject' required consultation with constitutional and election experts and that to frame a proper response, she needed to consult all the members of her party.

Mamata had skipped the NITI Aayog meeting last Saturday and also did not attend the swearing-in ceremony of Prime Minister Narendra Modi for his second term on May 30. She had called the NITI Aayog meeting 'fruitless'.

Reacting to Banerjee's decision, West Bengal BJP chief Dilip Ghosh said she was yet to recover from her defeat in the parliamentary polls and was making excuses to avoid any meeting convened by the Centre on all political parties. "All the political parties are attending it except the TMC. They shout the most about the federal structure but are busy destroying every aspect of a healthy democracy," he said in Kolkata.

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Opp firm against PM's 1 nation, 1 election call

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Opposition parties have decided to oppose Prime Minister Narendra Modi's call for 'One Nation, One Election'. The decision was taken unanimously at a meeting of the Opposition parties convened by UPA chairperson Sonia Gandhi and attended by leaders from the Congress, the TMC, the DMK, the NCP, the NC, the RSP, the Left and others.

Prominent leaders who attended the meeting included Sonia Gandhi, Rahul Gandhi, Adhir Ranjan Choudhary, K Suresh all from the Congress party, TR Baalu, Kanimozhi of the DMK, Supriya Sule of the NCP, Farooq Abdullah of the NC, Thiruvavalan 'Thol' (VCK), NK Premachandran (RSP), PK Kunhalikutty (IUML), and Thomas Chazhikadan of KC-M. TMC chief Mamata Banerjee has already opposed by declining to attend the meeting called to discuss the issue of 'One Nation, One Election' idea.

The meeting by Sonia Gandhi was called to chalk out their joint strategy for the Parliament session and to take a decision of the choice of Lok Sabha Speaker. Newly appointed leader of the Congress in the Lok Sabha Adhir Ranjan Choudhary said the Congress and other UPA allies have decided to support the BJP candidate Om Birla for the post of the Lok Sabha Speaker but

remained silent on the issue of Deputy Speaker. Chowdhury said the Congress has already moved a motion supporting the ruling party candidate for the post of Speaker of Lok Sabha. The Congress and other Opposition parties, however, did not decide on the strategy for the post of Deputy Speaker of Lok Sabha and are adopting a 'wait and watch' policy.

On the issue of One Nation Election, Chowdhury said the parties were opposed to the idea in principle. Since some issues are to be sorted out, UPA will meet again on Wednesday morning to discuss the issue further and take a common stand at the meeting called by Modi in the evening.

Earlier in the day a meeting of the Congress top brass, including Sonia Gandhi and party chief Rahul Gandhi, was held to decide the strategy on key matters such as Lok Sabha speaker's election and Prime Minister Narendra Modi's call to discuss the one nation, one election issue.

Sources said the meeting, chaired by Congress Parliamentary Party leader Sonia Gandhi and attended by Rahul Gandhi and former Prime Minister Manmohan Singh, discussed the strategy to be adopted by the party during the meeting called by the Prime Minister.

Senior Congress leaders AK Antony, P Chidambaram, Ghulam Nabi Azad, Anand Sharma, Jairam Ramesh, K Suresh, and Adhir Ranjan Choudhury, were among those present at the meeting held at Sonia Gandhi's residence 10, Janpath. The strategy for the dinner-meeting was also discussed at the Congress meeting.



UPA chairperson Sonia Gandhi after a meet to decide their strategy in Parliament, on Tuesday.

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Pak Army-ISI trying to create another Burhan Wani in J&K?

RAKESH K SINGH ■ NEW DELHI

The recent spurt in terror attacks in Jammu & Kashmir is a ploy of the Pakistan Army-ISI combine and their terror affiliates to create a Burhan Wani type character to lament India at a slew of events coming up at the international level, including Financial Action Task Force.

Assessments here suggest, the latest Pakistani tactic comes soon after neighbouring country's Prime Minister Imran Khan was isolated at the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) meet in Bishkek amid a towering presence of India's Prime Minister Narendra Modi declared at the meet to call out nations that sponsor terror.

Earlier, then Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif has used the United Nations platform in 2016 to hail Wani as a 'young leader' who was 'murdered' by India. Wani was a Hizbul Mujahideen terrorist who was neutralised by security forces in an encounter in 2016.

A slew of events at UN and European Union are coming up in the next few months and a desperate Pakistan is seeking to exploit these platforms for an anti-India tirade by projecting liquidation of terrorists as human rights abuse by security forces in Jammu & Kashmir.

"The spiralling terror attacks in the Kashmir Valley by Pakistan sponsored terror groups are aimed at creating hero out of a terrorist to exploit the international audience as well as deflect domestic pressures on the failing economy in the terror-sponsoring nation," counter-terrorism expert Dr Rituraj Mate said.

The Pakistani tactic also comes days ahead of the visit of US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo's visit to New Delhi and Islamabad to provoke security forces in Jammu & Kashmir to initiate major counter-terror operation in the Valley.

In its bid to deceive the international community ahead of the FATF meeting later this month, the Pakistan Government has also sent an alert to India and the US that an attack might be carried out in the Valley by terror groups through explosives-laden vehicle to project to the international anti-terrorist financing body and the international community that Islamabad has begun taking security forces in an encounter in 2016.

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As strike ends, SC defers hearing on security of doctors, keeps open 'larger issue' of their safety

New Delhi: The Supreme Court on Tuesday deferred the hearing on a plea seeking protection of doctors working in Government hospitals, saying since doctors have called off their strike in West Bengal and other states, there is no urgency to hear the matter.

The top court observed that it understands that safety of doctors is a serious issue but it cannot direct to depute police personnel with each and every doctor without taking into account the holistic picture.

A vacation Bench of Justices Deepak Gupta and Surya Kant refused to issue notice to the Centre at present but said that it is keeping the larger issue of protection of doctors open.

"When this matter was mentioned yesterday, we had directed to list it today because of the time taken by the fraternity in West Bengal and in some other States was continuing. On Monday, the strike was called off. Therefore we find no urgency to take up the matter. List the matter after summer vacation before appropriate bench," it said.

The Bench said safety of doctors is a serious issue and it needs to take a holistic view in providing security to doctors. "We understand it is a serious issue but we can't provide security to doctors at the cost of other citizens. We have to take a holistic view. We have to look at the larger picture like availability of police personnel and other things. We are not against protection to doctors but at the same time we cannot direct to depute police personnel with each and every doctor," the Bench said.

Meanwhile, the Indian Medical Association (IMA) also filed an implementation application seeking the court's intervention into the plea already filed, saying protection needs to be provided to doctors across the country. PTI

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LOKSABHASESSION: DAY 2

Oath-taking marks exchange of slogans by MPs

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The second day of oath-taking in the 17th Lok Sabha on Tuesday was marked by raising of slogans such as 'Jai Shri Ram, Jai Maa Durga, Jai Bheem, Tamil Vazhuka and Allahu Akbar' by members with some even engaging in heated exchanges and bravados and countering. The sloganeering went unabated ignoring the Chair's direction to desist from it.

Many MPs were adding their own slogans related to religion and cheering up regionalism from the podium after Oath taking. Ruling party also paid tit for tat for those who on Monday made hue and cry during the Bhopal MP Sadwi Pragna Singh Thakur.

Asaduddin Owaisi, AIMIM MP from Hyderabad, chanted 'Jai Shri Ram, Jai Meem, Takbeer Allahu Akbar, Jai Hind', after members from the ruling side shouted slogans of 'Jai Shri Ram', 'Bharat Mata Ki Jai' and 'Vande Mataram'. Chanting of 'Jai Shri Ram' was at its peak, when Owaisi was called to take oath. At one point, Owaisi was seen asking Chair to control the sloganeering BJP MPs, asking how could take oath during such a noisy situation.

Slogans of Vande Mataram rose at its peak in Lok Sabha after 'Bharat mata ki jai' and Jai Shri Ram, Sanjwadi Party MP from Sambhal, Shaifur Rahman Barq, objected to Vande Mataram slogan, drawing protests from members of treasury benches who demanded an apology from him. BSP member Shyam Singh Yadav concluded his oath with 'Jai Bheem, Jai Bharat and Jai Sanjwadi'.

Some of the members especially from West Bengal and Tamil Nadu began and ended their oath with sloganeering despite the presiding officer ruling that that no slogans can be on record. Many DMK MPs ended with slogan 'Tamil Vazhuka (Let Tamil win)', BJP MPs and other MPs from North India also countered them from shouting Bharat Mata Ki Jai and Jai Hind.

When the members from the West Bengal, especially those belonging to Trinamool Congress, took oath, those from the treasury benches teased them with 'Jai Shri Ram' slogan.

TMC members countered with slogans like 'Jai Hind, Jai Maa Durga and Jai Mamata'. Kalyan Banerjee of TMC recited 'Durga Path' after concluding his oath while his party colleague Abu Taber Khan began his oath with 'Bismillah, ar-Rahman, ar-Rahim' and ended with 'Allahu Akbar. Devendra Singh Bhole began with 'Om Namah Shivay', while Ravindra concluded his oath 'Jai Yogi, Jai Modi, Nisith Pranamik came to the House with 'rajbongshi padgi' and took oath in Bengali.

As West Bengal CM Mamata Banerjee's nephew Abhishek Banerjee's name was called for oath, BJP members chanted Jai Shri Ram. Responding to chanting by treasury benches, he said even Modi is not so much popular in the House. Banerjee hoped that he will continue to get blessing from members of treasury benches.



AIMIM MP from Hyderabad Asaduddin Owaisi takes oath as a Member of the 17th Lok Sabha on the second day of its first Session, at Parliament, on Tuesday.

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Sluggish monsoon may fuel drought

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The slow progress of the monsoon, which irrigates more than half of India's farms, may worsen the drought-like situation prevailing in many States with an overall 45 per cent rain deficiency recorded till June 18 since its advent on June 8.

The monsoon is yet to mark its arrival in Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Maharashtra and Odisha. The country has so far received 46.1 mm of rainfall against the normal of 82.4 mm for this time.

Due to deficiency of rainfall, kharif sowing area was 82.20 lakh hectares compared to 90.34 lakh hectares during the corresponding week in 2018-19. The Telangana Government has issued advisory asking farmers not to rush into sowing. The farmers are also advised not to grow maize on light soils.

According to IMD, south peninsula, including Kerala, Telangana, Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu, are witnessing deficient rains of over 38 per cent till June 18. As many as 14 subdivisions, including drought-ridden Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh, are facing a deficiency of more than 60 per cent, the IMD said.

IMD's Director General Dr KJ Ramesh said the monsoon should have reached Central India till June 18. But this year it hasn't even covered Karnataka properly or entered the Northeast.

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Govt restores 'ration in kind' for armed forces in peace areas

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Government has restored supply of rations to Defence officers posted in peace areas following a recommendation by the Defence Ministry.

The scheme in practice since mid 1980s was scrapped in 2017 following a recommendation by the Seventh Pay Commission and in lieu officers were paid Rs 117 per day.

Doing away with providing rations had led to discontentment amongst the armed forces and taking note of it the Government gave the nod for the Defence Ministry proposal for restoration of ration in kind, officials said on Tuesday.

Rations include butter, eggs, cheese, pulses and vegetables besides other such items. Incidentally, this is one of the first decisions taken after Defence Minister Rajnath assumed charge.

The provision of 'ration in kind' was earlier applicable to junior officers and later allowed for all officer ranks. The officers were given a choice to opt for allowance instead of rations in kind but very few opted for it, sources said. They also said the Defence forces had appealed for restoration of the scheme soon after it was scrapped in 2017.

However, officers deployed in operational areas continued to get ration in kind besides those posted in peace stations in counter-insurgency areas.

CBI books Anand Grover, his firm under FCRA

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The CBI has booked noted lawyer Anand Grover and his Mumbai-based voluntary organisation, Lawyers Collective, for alleged violation of Foreign Contribution Regulation Act (FCRA) after receiving funds from abroad and other offences under the Indian Penal Code.

The agency

Children of a lesser God

Bihar's AES deaths are symptomatic of policy apathy towards public health standards and failure to create awareness



The real headline behind the death of over a hundred children in Bihar's Muzaffarpur is the utter lack of priority towards addressing primary health issues in a backward pocket that is living in denial of itself and the ruling class denies it even exists. So disembodied has reality become from our national narrative that losing a hundred young lives was disgustingly set aside by the Bihar Health Minister during a containment strategy meeting in favour of statistics of an ongoing cricket match. And that reality is of

encephalitis assuming epidemic proportions in the dust bowls of Bihar and Uttar Pradesh every season, both of which serially account for 35 per cent of child deaths in the country. The disease is just the manifestation of a chronic illness called malnutrition and low immunity, which makes the locals vulnerable to outbreak of brain fever, particularly the young and the old. The fact that this has been occurring cyclically since the mid-1990s shows how we have grossly misdiagnosed preventive and primary healthcare in the rural hinterland and failed to communicate combat strategies among the community. Had the children been given proper vaccines, had they access to equipped primary health centres and received first-line treatment, the deaths could have been avoided. Had there been proper awareness campaigns, then it would be found that neither encephalitis nor deadly litchi toxins from neighbouring fruit farms or hypoglycaemia were the cause of the deaths. However, each worked together in varying degrees to exacerbate a malaise called collective apathy, covered up as a "mystery disease."

The biggest problem is in defining the malady. Any brain disease, brought on by virus, bacteria, parasites, chemicals or toxins can be defined as acute encephalitis syndrome, which basically manifests as inflammation of the brain. One has to isolate the causative variants, which could differ on a case by case basis. And as studies conducted by the National Centre for Disease Control (NCDC) and the Atlanta-based Center for Disease Control (CDC) over the past few years have shown, the fever strikes when there is a severe heat wave. This leads to severe dehydration, worsening attendant problems relating to under-nourishment. Besides, most victims have been found to work or live near litchi cultivations, consumption of which some say has led to dipping blood sugar levels and hypoglycaemia. But experts have found that malnourished children, who ate litchis and went to sleep without a meal, fell ill, particularly during the high heat of summer. And methylene cyclopropyl-glycine (MCPG) found in litchis only affects the brain in severely malnourished victims. So generalising litchi as a toxin and other such confusing theories are deflecting attention from the Bihar government's abject failure in implementing public health correctives and developing resistance to a known health hazard. Early detection and treatment is a near impossibility in these parts with the nearest health centres sometimes eight hours away. That wait gets longer if the health centre is not equipped enough with either trained staff or intravenous glucose drips and the victim has to be taken to a State hospital. And although the Bihar government has mandated availability of free vaccines at all primary health centres, the execution is yet to be a hundred per cent. Little wonder then that with such glaring lacuna in crisis response, the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) has sent notices to the Union Health Ministry and Bihar government over the Muzaffarpur deaths. There is a need for ensuring basic hygiene, health and nutrition parameters for our children, who are the social and human capital of the future. As an Asian powerhouse that's looking to consolidate its economic and strategic standards, it is shocking that India continues to be among the topmost countries with the largest number of children being stunted (46.6 million) and wasted (25.5 million). This is despite the fact that children's health has been the Government's priority since 1975, when the Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) scheme was rolled out, or 1995, when the mid-day meal scheme was launched nationally. The recent National Nutrition Strategy, too, aims to end malnutrition by 2022. It is expected to synergise efforts, monitor progress and issue alerts for timely action and help States/UTs achieve targeted goals. But all of this is possible only when there are resources. In short, budgetary allocation for the health sector needs a thorough look.

Electric shock

The auto industry is against the move to electrify transport. Is this its last gasp or does it have a point?



The automotive industry is being described by some, who feel the future is electric, as status-quoist. After all India's two-wheeler manufacturers have openly attacked proposals by the NITI Aayog to make all sub-150cc motorcycles and scooters electric. So it is being ridiculed as ancient, not open to new ideas and scared of becoming extinct. But there are some severe issues with electrification in India that urgently need to be addressed and the industry, while dragging its feet on the issue, does have some points. The government and

policy-makers would be silly to ignore them. While India has enough electricity, the electrical grid is nowhere near capable enough of handling the tremendous load that even disaggregated home-charging will place on the system. Of course, that will be built up over the next decades, but the other problem, that of cost, is not going to go away in a hurry.

Electric motorcycles and scooters are expensive, particularly if they have a functional range of over 100 km. The average commuter motorcycle costs around ₹50,000 today, but an e-motorcycle with 100 km range will cost ₹1 lakh at the bare minimum, possibly more. The batteries also will have a lifespan of around 1,500 cycles, which would be decent for a mobile phone, but you wouldn't change your 100 cc motor after five years, would you? Nobody will buy electric vehicles for altruistic reasons, no matter how much greenmail the government and environmentalists indulge in, unless the motorist sees actual benefit of the product. In a two-wheeler, running on electricity is less than half as expensive as running on petrol. Even in extreme scenarios, that means a saving of ₹500 a month. If fuel prices increase faster than electricity prices, buying an electric two-wheeler does not make sense and the government's FAME-II subsidy scheme is but a drop in the ocean. The fact is the four-stroke 100cc petrol motorcycle brought mobility to millions of Indians, giving even the impoverished a mode of transport that empowered them economically. The economic impact of the motorcycle thanks to the mobility it produced was crucial to India in the late 1980s through the 1990s, much like the mobile phone in the mid-2000s and cheap over-the-air data today. Going electric is a noble goal but if we set targets in a very short-term, it will leave millions of Indians behind. It is elitist and if we are to work towards "sabka saath, sabka vikas", we will need to work towards solutions that make environmental friendliness affordable.

Forked road in Sri Lanka

In a conflict between parallel enquiries into the Easter bombings, the question of accountability will be drowned. The Sirisena Government can't evade tough questions by vilifying Muslims



ASHOK K MEHTA

Two months after the Easter bombings, while the dots have been connected, accountability is still playing truant. Besides others, India had alerted Sri Lanka on April 4, 10, 16, 20 and 21 but incredibly, security agencies in Colombo took no action. On this page, after the horrendous bombings, this writer had called the catastrophic event a mystery.

Both President Maithripala Sirisena and Prime Minister Ranil Wickremesinghe of what was once a National Unity Government of two rival parties have said they received no official information on terror attacks. Sirisena is the Minister for Defence and Minister for Law and Order, which place all intelligence, defence, security and police agencies under his command. The Minister of State for Defence for good optics is in Wickremesinghe's Cabinet. While Sirisena has ordered a presidential commission to investigate the bombings, the powerful speaker, Karu Jayasuriya, has appointed a parliamentary select committee (PSC) for enquiry. The PSC has had public hearings aired on television which has upset the President, who has since prohibited all serving defence, intelligence and security officials from testifying before it. It has been boycotted by Sirisena's Sri Lanka Freedom Party (SLFP) and Rajapaksa's Sri Lanka Podujana Peramuna (SLPP).

Defence Secretary Hemaraj Fernando, who was forced to resign, told the PSC that intelligence was available on April 9 of a possible threat on April 21 and had assumed that Sri Lanka's state intelligence services chief would have informed the President as was the practice. He added that as Defence Secretary, he could not meet the President — not even once in two weeks — as he had no time. The shocker was the revelation that Sirisena had told Fernando not to invite the Prime Minister, MoS for Defence and Inspector General Police, Pujith Jayasundara for National Security Council meetings since November 13, 2018, following the Constitutional crisis in which Sirisena had sacked Wickremesinghe and appointed Opposition leader and his presidential rival, Mahinda Rajapaksa, as Prime Minister, which was later revoked by the courts.

IGP Jayasundara, who refused to resign, was suspended by the President and moved the courts, told the PSC that prior intelligence was available, giving specific details about the catastrophic intelligence failure adding: "No emergency was declared." He said Sirisena offered him an ambassadorial post for his resignation, assuring him that the presidential commission would clear his name. Jayasundara struck the final nail in the coffin by saying there was "total unpreparedness of Government to act on intelligence reports."

The head of national intelligence, Sisira Mendis, a former police chief who



reported directly to the President, testifying before the PSC said that the bombings could have been averted. Mendis also said that the President failed to hold regular security meetings to assess the threat from Islamic radicals linked to National Towheed Jamaat (NTJ). Sirisena has dismissed Mendis.

Linked to the suicide bombings is the revelation that in 2018, the premier spy agency, state intelligence chief, Nilantha Jayawardene, ordered the IGP to stop investigating Islamic militants as well as NTJ. He also did not take seriously the information provided by India on the radical NTJ. While in India for Prime Minister Modi's swearing in, Sirisena said there was no proof that the bombers visited India, contradicting Army Commander Mahesh Senanayake, who told *BBC* that they did go to India for training. Clearing himself of any responsibility for the intelligence failures, Sirisena said: "I was in Sri Lanka up to April 16 before going to Singapore on a private visit. None of the defence chiefs informed me of any such intelligence."

All that one wished to know about the nine suicide bombers is now in the public domain. Zahran Hashim, the radical preacher linked to NTJ from Kattankudy in Batticaloa, which has Sri Lanka's biggest mosque, was the ring leader. How the suicide bomber inside Taj Samudra hotel panicked, walked out and blew himself up along with two others in a small hotel in Dehiwala suburb of Colombo is well known. The mass resignation of two Muslim Governors and nine Ministers to enable the Government to conduct investigations, clearing them of linkages to suicide bombings, has opened a new front. Organisation of Islamic Countries (OIC) envoys based in Colombo have appealed to the Government to protect Muslims and their properties. The presidential pardon to reactionary monk Gnanasara Thero, who was implicated in the anti-Muslim violence of 2018 and stormed a court hearing old cases of "enforced disappearances", will add fuel to fire. Rumours against Muslims and anti-Muslim riots are a smoke screen to shift focus from the presidential and parliamentary enquiries to extremist Sinhala Buddhist resurgence directed at Muslims. The Government is drafting a legislation to change Muslim laws dealing with *burqa*, *hijab*, *halal*, mosques and *madrasas* in consultation with Muslim clergy and leadership.

The question of accountability will be drowned in the conflict between parallel enquiries reflecting the breakdown of the co-habitation Government. Why did Sirisena not know about the intended bombings and why did intelligence and security forces fail to act? Sirisena can only be investigated after January 2020 by a new President. But the broken-down Government cannot afford to wait to be fixed till after the elections.

The ultimate irony for Sri Lanka was when Wickremesinghe, after a meeting with Modi, who was on a five-hour visit to Colombo this month, sought India's help in counter-terrorism. Since 2009 after vanquishing LTTE, Colombo has proudly showcased its unique prowess and skills in eliminating root and branch, terrorism in the 21st century — a historic first! (The writer is a retired Major General of the Indian Army and founder member of the Defence Planning Staff, currently the revamped Integrated Defence Staff)

SOUNDBITE

'One nation one poll' is an attractive idea but cannot be put into practice without a Constitutional amendment providing for fixed tenure for legislators.

Former CEC
—TS Krishnamurthy

It's been a tough journey for me when it comes to my battle with obesity. Everyone has their own struggles. I have had and continue to have mine.

Actor
—Arjun Kapoor

Trade deficit with China is not economically sustainable and it can also be politically sensitive if we don't take steps to address it.

Indian envoy
—Vikram Misri

A vibrant Opposition, notwithstanding whatever its numbers are, is important in a parliamentary democracy. Every word of the Opposition is valuable.

Prime Minister
—Narendra Modi

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Good sense prevails

Sir — Like a raging wildfire, the medical fraternity across the length and breadth of the country lent support to agitating doctors in West Bengal, seeking a Central legislation against hospital violence and attacks by infuriated attendants. Failing to grasp the seriousness of the situation, when a 200-strong mob beat up doctors and nursing staff and generally indulged in rowdy acts, West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee used harsh language against the agitating doctors and threatened to lock all of them in case they failed to resume work immediately. Instead of controlling the situation, Banerjee let it get out of hand by dismissing it as a Bharatiya Janata Party-Communist Party of India (Marxist) conspiracy. This fuelled the protests. Creating an image of a victim of the conspiracy and machination of the BJP is no way to help reclaim the situation. Violence against doctors trying to follow the best line of treatment for a patient is unacceptable. They may have a demi-god status in the public eye, but they are no

More strength to team India

This refers to the editorial, "Not worth the hype" (June 18). For the thousands of Indian fans waving the tricolour at Old Trafford and lakhs of viewers in India, there was never a dull moment. While people were sweating back home, Indians patiently in the rain to watch the Indian team triumph. As scripted, the game started as one of the fiercest rivalries in world sport. India had put its unbeaten start on the line, while Pakistan was hoping to boost its chances of reaching the semi-finals. But it ended — as is customary — with India riding roughshod over the "Men in Green". It was a day of disruption with the players on and off the field all afternoon. But finally, we had an outcome — India defeated Pakistan by an emphatic 89 runs. Even the rain gods were on India's side. The drizzle hovered over Old Trafford all day but there were only two major interruptions — one towards the end of the Indian innings and the other when Pakistan was on the verge of a huge defeat. For the record, India has now won all its seven



World Cup matches against Pakistan. And remember, it was not firing on all its cylinders — Shikhar Dhawan and Bhuvneshwar Kumar were off the field. Millions are now pondering over the most tantalising question: Can Captain Virat Kohli repeat Kapil Dev's World Cup triumph? If the India-Pakistan match is any indication, Virat's warriors seem sure to be in a great shape.

KS Jayathartha
Hissan

After oath-taking ritual

Sir — The oath-taking ceremony for the 17th Lok Sabha session witnessed several members affirming in different languages while assuming the position. The day-long event witnessed the members reading transcript of the oath presented in the presence of pro-tem speaker.

However, in today's times, a single day reserved only for oath taking holds no relevance and is only a wastage of tax payers' money. The archaic oath reading ceremony could have been replaced by mere signing of the papers through necessary parliamentary business procedures and the session could have started off directly through business proceedings from day one. There are

many crucial Bills that are pending and require sufficient time to be discussed.

Varun Dambal
Bengaluru

Focus on real growth

Sir — The Prime Minister is reported to have unveiled his vision for a \$5 trillion dollar economy by the NITI Aayog meeting held last week. This is indeed encouraging. But what is of grave concern is that more than 80 per cent of the population is reeling under abject poverty. There are many villages which do not have access to either potable water or electricity. Without proper healthcare, roads and education, people are suffering. Development must be inclusive. It should not be for data or record. Our economy/GDP should speak well about people's standard of living. On the economic front, India has a long road to traverse. Will a \$5 trillion dollar economy spin the fortune of the poor?

NK Ramachandran
Chennai

Send your feedback to: letterstopioneer@gmail.com

FIRST COLUMN

Make the right choice

Despite the many risks, it is likely that IPOs will continue to attract investors because they are usually issued by firms in a transitional phase



HIMA BINDU KOTA

Bombay Stock Exchange (BSE) is the oldest stock exchange. It has around 5,000 companies listed with it. On the other hand, the National Stock Exchange, which is comparatively a newer exchange, has around 2,000 firms listed with it. Companies range from GoIathis like TCS and Reliance with market capitalisation crossing the ₹8 trillion mark, to inconsequential companies with market capitalisation as less as the price of a car. Companies had to start somewhere. Each spring to trading as Initial Public Offerings (IPOs), a process where a previously unlisted company sells new or existing securities and offers them to the public for the first time. Prior to an IPO, a firm is considered to be private — with a smaller number of shareholders, limited to angel investors, venture capitalists and high net-worth individuals; and/or early investors, for instance, the founder, family, and friends. After an IPO, the issuing company becomes a publicly listed company on a recognised stock exchange. Thus, an IPO is also known as “going public.”

Although consumers are on the lookout for the next big thing, IPOs can be difficult to gauge ahead of their listing and incredibly volatile when they hit the market, but are a potentially lucrative investment if done right. But just as with any share, potential buyers need to sort out the firms offering good value, with staying power to thrive in public market from those where red flags could spell disaster. A company's prospectus will give some of the best clues to the underlying business. It should lay out what the company does and what it hopes to do with the money raised. Details about the management team will also be made available. Investors need to feel comfortable with the business they are buying into and should be aware of any factors that could push them to walk away.

One of the first factors would be investors need to consider is whether or not they like the company and believe that it has room to grow. The listing business should have a sound business model with a strong competitive edge in its market that differentiates it from peers. Investors should feel they understand why a customer would want to pay for the products/services offered by that specific company as opposed to others that offer something similar, especially if its competitors are more established or well-known businesses. As with any other company an investor is looking to buy shares in, discipline is required when assessing the company's strategy, competitive position, finances and the ability of the management team to run it properly.

A more established business may fare better on the public market than one that has less of a track record. Another important question to ask is about the investment plans by management on having access to funds, whether it will be to fund expansion plans or pay off existing debt, or some hybrid of the two. The former is often preferred since shareholders are often encouraged by a business that can demonstrate that it has plans to become bigger. However, paying down debt also frees the firm from the burden of interest payments, allowing it to invest in its core strategy and to improve its business model and efficiency.

Third, a trustworthy and reputable management team, with a good track record, is a must have. Becoming a public company is a significant step in the life of a business and a big commitment for management to take and so the team must communicate clearly with new shareholders and deliver on the promises.

There are some criteria which show that the companies are in good shape before investing in the IPOs:

- Debt should not be more than twice of the profits.
- 10 per cent earnings growth forecast for 12 months.
- Earnings growth of at least 10 per cent during last two years.
- A healthy growth of free cash flows.

An IPO is a key milestone in a firm's life cycle and a healthy IPO market is important for many reasons. IPOs give entrepreneurs liquidity for investments, so a vibrant market can stimulate and help develop new ventures by bringing new investors to a firm, which facilitates its access to future growth capital. Being public also reduces the costs of raising future capital by stimulating the supply of information from the investment community. IPOs are significant as they are regarded as the barometer of the health of the capital market. A single bad IPO can create considerable market disruptions and stall the plans of other firms that want to go public.

Despite the risks, it is likely that IPOs will continue to attract investors because they are usually issued by companies in a transitional phase. Companies in transitions are exciting and interesting to investors. The prospects for a big win and the possibility of earning millions can be very enticing. Just make sure you understand the risks before you take a chance.

(The writer is Assistant Professor at Amity University)

SANIA, I AM SO WORRIED FOR YOUR KID. YOU GUYS TOOK HIM TO A SHEESHA PLACE, ISN'T IT HAZARDOUS? YOU MUST KNOW WELL AS YOU ARE MOTHER.

—PAKISTANI ACTOR

VEENA MALIK

POINT COUNTERPOINT



I DID NOT TAKE MY KID TO A SHEESHA PLACE. NOT THAT IT'S ANY OF YOUR BUSINESS. I THINK I CARE ABOUT MY SON A LOT MORE THAN ANYONE ELSE.

—INDIAN TENNIS PLAYER

SANIA MIRZA

Secure outer space

There is a dire need to revisit treaties governing our space to protect our extra-terrestrial security interests and scale down militarisation



RAGHAV PANDEY

ANOUSHKA MEHTA

On May 23 this year, the United States (US) successfully launched 60 of its Starlink internet satellites. Starlink is one of the most ambitious projects of Space X, the private rocket company of high-tech entrepreneur, Elon Musk. The aim of the firm is to launch as many as 2,000 satellites per year, with the ultimate objective of placing up to 12,000 of such satellites into the orbit. Space today has been a witness to numerous projects that are funded by both Governments and private, commercial entities. In the present era of boundless technological capabilities, the use of the outer space for military purposes has become a cause of concern.

“It is not enough to have an American presence in space, we must have American dominance in space,” US President Donald Trump said, adding that he didn't want to see “China and other countries leading us.” With this aim, the Trump administration is in the process of creating a US Space Force, the sixth branch of the US military service, which will undertake missions and operations in the rapidly evolving space domain.

With a global quest for military supremacy and dominance, other space-faring countries have not remained mute spectators. Take the example of India, which recently launched an anti-satellite (ASAT) weapon on March 27. Indian military scientists successfully destroyed a low-Earth orbit satellite in space by using a missile which covered a distance of 300 km to engage the target. In a televised address, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said, “India has entered the name as an elite space power. An anti-satellite weapon, ASAT, successfully targeted a live satellite on a low-Earth orbit.”

ASAT weapons can be used in warfare as they have the capability to incapacitate or destroy enemy satellites for strategic military purposes. With the recent accomplishment, India became the fourth country to possess such a weapon alongside the US, Russia and China.

Given the increased militarisation of space and the immense threat it poses to nations across the world, it is essential to take a look at the laws which govern the military use of space. The use of space is governed by five space-related international treaties of the United Nations. One of them, the Outer Space Treaty, came into effect in 1967 and was signed by most nations on the globe. It has been signed and made official, or has been ratified, by 105 countries across the world. With regard to the use of space, the treaty prohibits military manoeuvres, weapon testing, establishment of military bases, installations and fortification on celestial bodies. Moreover, objects carrying nuclear weapons or any other kind of weapons of mass destruction is forbidden in the orbit.

However, the use of military personnel — any equipment or facility on the celestial bodies — is not forbidden unless used for peaceful purposes. So far, the treaty has worked well but lacks clarity on several issues, which has left plenty of wiggle room.

Questions have been raised as to what constitutes “mass destruction”, whether the outer

“THE CREATION OF AN INTERNATIONAL REGIME, MUCH LIKE THE WORLD TRADE ORGANISATION, IS THE NEED OF THE HOUR. AN INTERNATIONAL PLATFORM NEEDS TO BE SET UP WHEREIN DELIBERATIONS ON PEACEFUL USE OF SPACE CAN BE TAKEN UP THROUGH NEGOTIATIONS. SINCE ONLY FOUR COUNTRIES OFFICIALLY HAVE THE ASAT TECHNOLOGIES, NEGOTIATIONS MUST START AMONG THEM.”



space can be used for exploration of resources to be used in military machinery; if weapons of mass destruction can be placed in space without fully achieving orbit, and what about weapons that would not cause mass destruction? The treaty remains ambiguous in some crucial aspects about the use of the space.

Another issue that has attracted much debate in the arena of public interest is the need for clarity of definition. There has been a plethora of debates to decide whether the term is supposed to adopt the ideology of being “non-aggressive” or “non-military.” Majority view it as “non-military” but the same has not been substantiated upon any of the space treaties.

Another treaty, commonly known as the ‘Moon Treaty’, falls within the overarching ‘Outer Space Treaty’. The ‘Moon Treaty’ specifically is applicable to the Moon and other celestial bodies in the solar system excluding planet Earth. It explains that these bodies should be used exclusively for peaceful purposes; that their environments should not be disrupted, and that the UN should be informed of the location and purpose of any station established on those bodies. It also plugs a loophole in the Outer Space

Treaty by banning ownership of any extra-terrestrial property by any organisation or private person, unless that body is international or Governmental.

However, the most controversial part of the ‘Moon Treaty’ pertains to the natural resources on the Moon. It provides that the Moon and its natural resources are the common heritage of mankind and harvesting of these riches is prohibited except by way of an international regime established to govern the exploitation of such capital. The exact nature of this regime is not detailed, nor the term “resources” is defined.

It becomes a cause of concern for the international community when the ‘Moon Treaty’ is neither signed, acceded to, nor ratified by any of the space-faring nations. Also, the ambiguity of the provisions of the treaties can leave the nations to interpret the provisions in a way that complements their self-interest in the issue.

Take the example of the US’ National Space Policy. On the one hand, it emphasises the country's commitment to the exploration and use of outer space by all nations for peaceful purposes but at the same time, it declares US’ defence and intelligence-related activities in pursuit of national interests to be consistent with “peaceful purposes.”

Ever since the treaties were formulated in the 1960s, there was a limited view of the potential of utilisation

of the outer space. But with rapid advancements in the use of technology and intelligence in the space, there is a dire need that the laws governing the use of space be revisited so as to address some important space issues of the 21st century like that of mining, space tourism, Artificial Intelligence and intellectual property of space resources among other things. Meanwhile, the international community can only live in the hope that the world does not see warfare and attack missions in space.

The creation of an international regime, much like the World Trade Organisation, is the need of the hour. An international platform needs to be set up wherein deliberations on peaceful use of space can be taken up through negotiations. Since only four countries officially have the ASAT technology, negotiations must start among them.

It is highly possible that a Non-proliferation Treaty (NPT)-type of regime may be established, wherein ASAT's powers are recognised and further militarisation of the space may be scaled down. India needs to exercise its diplomatic heft to materialise the same because then the country's strategic and security interests will also be secured while discouraging further space militarisation.

(Raghav Pandey is an Assistant Professor and Anoushka Mehta is a student at Maharashtra National Law University, Mumbai)

Avoid catastrophe of a war

Approximately 73 years after Hiroshima and Nagasaki, the world finds itself in similar straightened circumstances as the US once again puts into motion steps to curb the rise of another Asian power, China. We must be prepared to tackle the fallout



DEEPAK SINHA

American writer and philosopher George Santayana famously said, “Those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it.” We would do well to remember that on December 7, 1941, the Japanese fleet, under Admiral Isoroku Yamamoto, launched its devastating attack on the US Pacific Fleet at Pearl Harbour, leaving it all but crippled. While to the uninitiated it may well have seemed the first act of the tragedy that would ultimately leave Hiroshima and Nagasaki devastated by fireballs, millions dead and Japan utterly defeated, but in truth, it was only a denouement of events set in motion nearly a century before.

Incidentally, while the attack may have surprised the Pacific Fleet, Washington had broken the Japanese code and was fully conversant with Yamamoto's operational plans. Whether it was sheer incompetence or a deliberate strategy to not inform the Pacific Fleet of the impending attack, to arouse public opinion against Japanese “perfidy” and allow Franklin D Roosevelt to enter the war, still remains a matter of conjecture and debate.

Of course, the delay on the part of the Japanese Ambassador to Washington to convey his Government's decision to declare war on the US, inadvertently delivered after the attack, obviously played into Roosevelt's hands as well. However, what is now well known is that the Japanese Government was fully aware — even before the first shots were fired — that it was a conflict they could never win.

Yet, they had little choice but to take on the might of the US if they were not to be economically and militarily strangled and denied

their rightful place in the world. Ninety years before, on July 8, 1853, Commodore Matthew Perry of the US Navy, commanding a squadron of two steamers and two sailing vessels, sailed into Tokyo harbour aboard the frigate Susquehanna and imposed an unequal treaty on the Japanese, making full use of the technological superiority that his force enjoyed. A supposedly powerful Japan was forced to retreat.

From this humiliating event emerged the understanding that if they were to avoid the fate that had befallen a weak and divided China, they would have to copy the Western imperialist powers. The year 1868 saw the start of the reformist movement — the Meiji Restoration — which turned feudal Japan into a modern industrialist nation, best exemplified by its defeat of Russia in the Russo-Japanese War of 1904-05 that gave it control over parts of Manchuria.

Subsequently siding with allies in the World War I allowed it to take control of Germany's colonies

in the Pacific. In effect, it emerged as another great colonial power engaged in competition for resources with the British, Dutch and the US, something these powers did not take kindly to, even refusing to treat it as an equal in the League of Nations.

It was only a matter of time before an expansionist Japan found itself in the cross hairs of the US. In 1937, following the Marco Polo Bridge incident, Japan found itself bogged down in a war with China that put extreme strains on its military capabilities and economic resources. The Nanjing Massacre, the occupation of Korea and a series of other incidents led to the imposition of an economic and oil blockade on Japan by the US that finally forced the former to confront the US at Pearl Harbour and take on the British in the Malayan Peninsula in a desperate bid for oil, rubber, tin and other metals required to keep its factories going.

Today, approximately 73 years after Hiroshima and Nagasaki, the world finds itself in similar straight-

ened circumstances as the US once again puts into motion steps to curb the rise of another Asian power, the People's Republic of China.

The meteoric rise of US President Donald Trump, his “America First” ideology and the focus on trade restrictions to curb the exponential growth of the Chinese economy are no different from the embargoes we saw on the Japanese those many years ago.

The ratcheting up of tensions in the Persian Gulf from where the Chinese receive most of their oil, is obviously no coincidence and while some may see the US’ actions directed at Iran, one cannot rule out the fact that the ultimate target may well be the Chinese.

Many analysts believe that a miscalculation in the Gulf may well ignite an unwanted conflict between Iran and the US. If so, while extremely serious, it would only be one aspect of a larger global problem. What should be of even graver concern is the possibility that American attempts to stymie Chinese growth may lead to conflict

if China finds itself economically cornered and responds much in the manner that the Japanese did in 1941, preemptively if it feels it is being cornered.

Incidentally, a scenario, which could apply to Iran, in its current standoff with the US as well. In such a situation, where would our best interests lie? Would we want to be at the forefront of the confrontation as a close US ally or would we prefer to keep our powder dry? Whatever be our choice, one thing is very clear, we better initiate substantive actions to revamp and reorganise our military if we wish to be ready to tackle the fall out of the ongoing US-China tussle for power. This is an issue that diplomacy alone cannot solve and we would do well to remember Mao Zedong's prophetic words that “power flows out of the barrel of the gun.”

(The writer, a military veteran, a consultant with the Observer Research Foundation and a Senior Visiting Fellow with The Peninsula Foundation, Chennai)

FOREIGN EYE



HONG KONG'S EDGE

Beijing has not, until now, shown much concern for the potential economic impact of Hong Kong's political struggle. But the region's economy is intertwined with that of the southern Chinese mainland, and — with the trade war starting to hit home — leaders may well feel the need to tread cautiously. The bipartisan support in the US Congress for the Bill threatening Hong Kong's status as a special trading partner will have underscored the risks. (The Guardian editorial)

Lenders file for Jet Airways' bankruptcy

PTI ■ MUMBAI

The consortium of 26 bankers led by State Bank Tuesday took the grounded Jet Airways to the National Company Law Tribunal to recover their dues of over Rs 8,500 crore. The tribunal will hear the matter Wednesday.

Jet Airways, started over 25 years ago by airline-ticketing agent-turned-entrepreneur Nareesh Goyal, stopped flying on April 17 after it ran out of cash and the unpaid lessors took away most of its 100-odd operational airplanes. The lenders have been trying to sell the airline as a going concern since the past five months, but failed due to many reasons.

Apart from banks, the airline also owes over ₹10,000 crore to its hundreds of vendors, primarily aircraft lessors and over ₹3,000 crore to around 23,000 employees who have not been paid since March.

The airline has been having negative net worth for long and has run a loss of over ₹13,000 crore in the past few years. Thus it has over ₹6,500 crore of dues and being a services company negligible assets to recover.

Also, most of its domestic airport slots have been given away to other airlines by the government and so are some of

its slots at some key international airports. On the aeroplane asset side, Jet had only 16 on its book which are valued around ₹5,000 crore as per some media reports, as the rest of its 123 fleet were on lease and most of them have been de-registered or taken away by the foreign lessors already.

The Jet shares are at multi-year lows and plunged 41 percent Tuesday to close at ₹40.45 on the BSE. During the day, it tanked ₹2.78 percent to hit an all-time low of ₹32.25. In the past five trading sessions alone, the shares lost over 73 percent of their value.

When banks converted a part of their debt into equity when the stock was trading over ₹250 apiece. The conversion price was fixed at a nominal ₹1, though.

Following a meeting of the lenders Monday, SBI had said that "after due deliberations, the lenders have decided to seek resolution for Jet Airways under the bankruptcy code since only a conditional bid was received."

The statement further said the move was necessitated as the prospective investor (a consortium of Etihad Airways and Hinduja group) wants some SBI exemptions waiting the open offer requirement, which can be worked out better under the bankruptcy laws.

Jet Airways shares plummet 41% as company lands in NCLT

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Jet Airways' shares faced massive trading on Tuesday and tumbled nearly 41 percent after State Bank of India-led consortium of lenders decided to send the grounded airline to the National Company Law Tribunal.

The scrip plummeted 40.78 percent to close at ₹40.45 on the BSE. During the day, it tanked ₹2.78 percent to hit an all-time low of ₹32.25.

On the National Stock Exchange (NSE), shares plunged 40.78 percent to close at ₹40.50 apiece. During the day, it dropped 53.72 percent to a record low of ₹31.65.

This is the 12th consecutive trading day fall for Jet Airways and the scrip has plunged over 73 percent during this time, wiping out ₹1,253.5 crore from its market valuation, on the BSE.

Sensex, Nifty close higher; all eyes on US Fed policy meet

PTI ■ MUMBAI

Equity benchmarks Sensex and Nifty on Tuesday closed in the green on emergence of buying in metal, energy and IT counters, but gains were capped by a caution among investors ahead of the crucial US Federal Reserve meeting.

Snapping its four-day losing streak, the 30-share Sensex settled the day at 39,046.34, 0.22 percent or 85.55 points higher. The massive trading on Tuesday and tumbled nearly 41 percent after State Bank of India-led consortium of lenders decided to send the grounded airline to the National Company Law Tribunal.

Similarly, the 50-stock NSE Nifty ended at 11,691.50, up 0.17 percent or 19.35 points. Sentiments turned a bit optimistic towards the end of the session in view of lower crude oil prices and strengthening rupee.

Top gainers in the Sensex pack included Vedanta, Coal India, PowerGrid, ICIJ Bank, HCL Tech, Bajaj Finance and Infosys — rising up to 2.47 percent.

On the other hand, Yes Bank emerged as the biggest loser, crashing 5.94 percent, followed by Maruti, Asian Paints, Sun Pharma and HDFC twins, shedding up to 2.20 percent.

Shares of Jet Airways plummeted 40.48 percent after State Bank of India-led consortium of lenders Monday decided to send the grounded

Jet Airways to the National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT) as they have not yet received any concrete proposal for the airline.

Sectorally, BSE oil and gas, tech, power, energy, metal and utilities rose up to 1.13 percent, while BSE healthcare, auto and FMCG fell up to 0.55 percent.

Broader BSE midcap index settled 0.08 percent higher and BSE smallcap index fell 0.42 percent.

Analysts opined that market is finding it difficult to sustain at elevated levels due to a host of reasons like muted corporate earnings, slow monsoon progress, concerns over corporate defaults and worries with regard to India-US trade disagreements.

Today, market ended positive supported by ease in oil prices due to concern over global growth, trade-war and uncertainties in upcoming OPEC meeting. There was a hope that the weakening domestic market will be supported by fiscal and monetary measures. This hope is being tested today given continuous weak economic and monsoon data. Market will be careful during the ongoing FED meeting which is expected to provide a dovish, Vinod Nair, Head of Research, Geojit Financial Services, said.

RBI sets up panel under UK Sinha to study MSMEs

PTI ■ MUMBAI

The Reserve Bank on Tuesday set up an eight-member expert committee under the leadership of former chairman of SEBI UK Sinha to review the current framework for the MSME sector.

The committee will suggest long-term solutions for the economic and financial sustainability of the micro, small and medium enterprises, RBI said in a statement, adding the panel will submit the report by the end of June.

The central bank said the committee will study the impact of the recent economic reforms on the sector and identify the structural problems affecting its growth.

"The committee will examine the factors affecting the timely and adequate availability of finance to the MSME sector," the RBI said.

The other members include development commissioner for MSME Ram Mohan Mishra; joint secretary at the department of financial services Pankaj Jain; SBI managing director PK Gupta; ICIJ Bank executive director Anup Bagchi; IIM-Ahmedabad professor Abhinav Das; Ipsirit Foundation founder Sharad Sharma and Dvara Trust chairman Bindu Ananth.

RBI to examine concerns over data localisation rule: Govt

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The RBI will examine concerns around its strict data localisation rules that require storing of customer data exclusively in India without creating mirror sites overseas, the Government said Tuesday.

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) in April last year asked payment firms to ensure their data are stored exclusively on local servers, setting a tight six-month deadline for compliance.

That deadline was said to have been missed by some foreign firms including credit card giants Visa and Mastercard.

Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal on Monday held extended consultations with the tech industry and e-commerce companies, a statement by his ministry said.

"All the companies who were represented in this meeting put forth their concerns related to RBI data storage requirements and processing related guidelines issued by the RBI," Deputy Governor of RBI, BP Kanungo, assured the industry representatives that the Reserve Bank of India will look into this, it said.

The RBI in April 2018 put out a circular requiring that all "data relating to payment systems" are "stored in a system only in India" within six months.

International giants usually store data on global servers and the requirement to store data locally would require them to make an additional investment. But policymakers in India believe storing data locally would help monitor and conduct investigations if the need arises.

Mastercard CEO Ajay Banga joined the meeting via video conference, the statement said.

Besides the RBI rule, concern was also expressed at the meeting about a draft e-commerce policy that requires exclusive local storage and processing of data generated by users in India from various sources including e-commerce platforms, social media and search engines.

While domestic companies such as Reliance Jio have spoken up in support of the government's data localisation efforts, others like Facebook, Amazon, Microsoft, and Mastercard have led the way in opposing it.

"The e-commerce industry representatives also put forth their concerns before the Commerce Minister about the e-commerce draft policy which they felt was not adequately consultative," the statement said, adding Goyal assured them that each and every concern of the industry will be addressed.

₹ rises 21 paise to 69.70 vs USD

PTI ■ MUMBAI

The rupee on Tuesday appreciated by 21 paise to close at 69.70 against the US dollar as easing crude prices and a weak dollar ahead of the US central bank's meeting helped the currency snap its three-day losing streak.

Forex dealers said the selling of the American currency

by exporters and gain in other Asian currencies also supported the rupee.

The US dollar fell against its major rivals before the US Federal Reserve's meeting amid expectations that the central bank may signal a rate cut. The dollar index dropped 0.1 percent to 97.43 Tuesday.

Brent crude futures, the

global oil benchmark, eased 0.46 percent to \$60.66 per barrel.

The interbank foreign exchange market, the rupee opened at 69.82 per dollar and advanced to a high of 69.63 during the day. It finally settled at 69.70, up 21 paise over its last close.

The domestic currency had settled at 69.70 against the

US dollar Monday.

"Rupee has broken the three-day losing streak by

the US dollar taking a cue from other strong Asian currencies. The weak trend of Brent crude prices has also aided rupee for domestic currency," said V K Sharma, Head-PCG & Capital Market Strategy, HDFC Securities.

Micromax co-founder 'electrifies' two-wheeler industry

Rahul Sharma calls new venture 'Revolt', showcases first product

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Revolt Motors wants to revolutionise the two-wheeler industry, the company established by Micromax co-founder Rahul Sharma showcased their new RV400 product today.

Sharma, however, was very frank about the issues faced by the industry, including a lack of parking in front of the house and battery and range issues. However, he said that Revolt will disclose any pricing details. But it appears that he is revamping the model practiced by Micromax in the past, which was to import Chinese products to work on localisation and slap an Indian brand on them as the RV400 is a rebadged Super SOCO 1200 made by Chinese manufacturer SOCO. The Chinese product costs around ₹3,300,



Rahul Sharma with a motorcycle.

removing the range anxiety that electric vehicle owners rightly have. Sharma said that the RV400 would be open for pre-bookings from June 25 on the Amazon and Revolt Motors sites for ₹1000. However, he did not disclose any pricing details. But it appears that he is revamping the model practiced by Micromax in the past, which was to import Chinese products to work on localisation and slap an Indian brand on them as the RV400 is a rebadged Super SOCO 1200 made by Chinese manufacturer SOCO. The Chinese product costs around ₹3,300,

Sebi permits stock exchanges to introduce futures on commodity indices

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Capital markets regulator Sebi on Tuesday permitted stock exchanges with commodity derivatives segment to introduce futures on indices.

The stock exchanges, willing to start trading in futures on commodity indices, are required to take prior approval for launching such contracts, Sebi said in a circular.

"Exchanges will have to submit at least past 3 years data of the index constructed along with data on monthly volatility, roll over yield for the month and monthly return while seeking approval from Sebi," the circular added.

Constituent futures contracts should be in existence on the respective exchange for at least previous twelve months, and should have traded for at least 90 percent of trading days in last twelve months and have a minimum average daily turnover. The turnover should be at least ₹75 crore for agricultural and agri-processed commodities, and ₹500 crore for all other commodities, Sebi said.

APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION

General public is hereby informed that an unidentified dead body of a female namedly Unknown, W/o: Unknown, R/o: Unknown, was found on 10.06.2019 at 10:51 PM between Badli Metro Station and Samaipur Badli Railway Station, Delhi. In this regard proceeding DD No. 100-A, dated 10.06.2019 has been lodged at Police Station, Samaipur Badli, Delhi. Identification of unidentified dead body of female is as under:

Name: Unknown, Age: 50-55 Years, Height: 5', Complexion: Shallow, Face: Round, Wearing: Blue Saree and Pink Blouse.

If anyone have any information or clue about this female deceased may kindly be inform undersigned.

SHO
Police Station, Samaipur Badli, Delhi
Ph.: 011-27854757, 8750870326
DP/372/ON/19

PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF A PERSON ACCUSED (See Section 82 Cr.PC.)

Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused persons (1) Duggi, S/o Shri Fandebaj, (2) Ruksana, D/o Shri Fandebaj, (3) Manoj, S/o Shri Fandebaj, (4) Chidi, S/o Shri Fandebaj all are R/o Jhuggi Gaspur, Delhi has committed the offence in case FIR No. 92/18 U.S. 323/341/354B/365/197/506/34 IPC PS Guru Teg Bahadur Enclave, Delhi and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest thereupon issued that the said accused (1) Duggi, (2) Ruksana, (3) Manoj, (4) Chidi can not be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said accused (1) Duggi, (2) Ruksana, (3) Manoj, (4) Chidi have absconded (or are concealing themselves to avoid the service of the said warrant).

Proclamation is hereby made that the said accused persons (1) Duggi, (2) Ruksana, (3) Manoj, (4) Chidi of case FIR No. 92/18 U.S. 323/341/354B/365/197/506/34 IPC PS Guru Teg Bahadur Enclave, Delhi are required to appear before this court to answer the said complaint on or before 22.07.19.

By Order
Ms. Chhavi Kapoor
Metropolitan Magistrate
Mahila Court No. 1
Karkardooma Court, Shahdara, Delhi
DP/960/SHD/19

SEARCH FOR MISSING GIRL

General Public is hereby informed that one girl (depicted in the photo) namedly Babita D/o Sanjeev Kumar R/o H.No.247, Sultampur Dabas, Delhi Age-18 Years 04 months has been reported missing since 19.05.2019 from the area of P.S. Bawana, Outer North Distt. W.D. No. 52-A Dated 24.05.2019 registered at Police Station Bawana, Delhi. Her physical description is as under:-

Complexion: Wheatish, Height: 4'9", Face: Round, Clothing: Pink Coloured top, Black Coloured Jeans and Jutti in feet.

Any person having any information/Clue about this missing girl, may inform SHO, Bawana, Delhi at E-mail: cic@cbl.gov.in or website: <http://cbl.nic.in>

Tele No. : 011-24368638 or 24368641 Sd/-
FAX No. : 011-24368639 SHO, Bawana, Delhi
DP/351/ON/19 Tel.: 011-27751949, 27756090

Appeal For Identification

General public is hereby informed that this person Name : Unknown, S/o : Unknown, R/o : Unknown, Age : 40 Years, Sex : Male, Height : 5 Ft., Insn. No. : Unknown, Complexion : Wheatish, Wearing : Black Colour T-shirt, has been found dead on 10.06.2019 Near Axis Bank ATM, Nicholson Road, Kashmere Gate, Delhi. In this regard a DD No. 30-A Dated 10.06.2019 has been lodged at P.S. Kashmere Gate, Delhi.

Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out information about this person but no clue has come to light so far.

Any person having any information or clue about this person may kindly inform to the following.

SHO
PS, Kashmere Gate, Delhi
Ph.: 011-23967889, 8750870123
DP/127/N/19

SEARCH FOR MISSING

General public is hereby informed that a Boy namedly Furkan (aka Sika S/o Sh. Gabbar, R/o A-531, Jhuggi, Behind ITI, K-Block, Jahangir Puri, Delhi, Age: 16 yrs., Height: 4'8", Complexion: Fair, Shallow, Face: Long, Built: Thin, Wearing: White Colour T-shirt, Blue Colour Jeans and Sandal in Feet, has been missing / kidnapped since 15.04.2019. In this regard a case FIR No. 278/19 dated 08.06.2019 u/s 363 IPC has been registered at PS, Jahangir Puri, Delhi. Sincere efforts have been made by local Police to trace out the missing / kidnapped boy but no clue has come to light so far.

If anyone have any information about this missing / kidnapped by please inform undersigned.

Website: <http://cbl.nic.in>, Email: cic@cbl.gov.in, Ph.: 011-24368638, 24368641, Fax: 011-24368639

SHO
PS, Jahangir Puri, Delhi
Ph.: 011-27636000, 27631600
DP/9005/NW/19

PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF A PERSON ACCUSED (See Section 82 Cr. PC)

Whereas complaint has been made before me that that accused person Vasim S/o Bashruddin R/o Main 4th foot road Jhuggi, Binda Pur, Chanakya Palace Delhi has committed (or suspected to have committed) the offence in case FIR No. 107/19 u/s 356/379/34 IPC registered at PS Janakpuri Delhi and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest thereupon issued that the said accused Vasim could not be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said accused Vasim has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant). Proclamation is hereby made that the said accused person Vasim of FIR No. 107/19 u/s 356/379/34 IPC PS Janakpuri, Delhi is required to appear before this court to answer the said complaint on or before 31.07.2019.

By Order
Sh. Deepak Vats
Metropolitan Magistrate
Room No. 9, Ground Floor,
Dwarka District Courts,
Sector-10, Dwarka, New Delhi
DP/8288/WD/19

SEARCH FOR MISSING GIRL

General Public is hereby informed that one girl (depicted in the photo) namedly Babita D/o Sanjeev Kumar R/o H.No.247, Sultampur Dabas, Delhi Age-18 Years 04 months has been reported missing since 19.05.2019 from the area of P.S. Bawana, Outer North Distt. W.D. No. 52-A Dated 24.05.2019 registered at Police Station Bawana, Delhi. Her physical description is as under:-

Complexion: Wheatish, Height: 4'9", Face: Round, Clothing: Pink Coloured top, Black Coloured Jeans and Jutti in feet.

Any person having any information/Clue about this missing girl, may inform SHO, Bawana, Delhi at E-mail: cic@cbl.gov.in or website: <http://cbl.nic.in>

Tele No. : 011-24368638 or 24368641 Sd/-
FAX No. : 011-24368639 SHO, Bawana, Delhi
DP/351/ON/19 Tel.: 011-27751949, 27756090

Appeal For Identification

General public is hereby informed that one unknown dead body of male, Age 55 years, Height 5'8", Complexion Shallow, Thin Built, Wearing White colour T-shirt and grey colour pant was found dead at Red Light Opposite DT Mall, PS Shalimar Bagh, Delhi on 11.06.19.

In this regard a DD No. 64-A dated 11.06.19 has been lodged at PS Shalimar Bagh, Delhi.

Any person having any information or clue about this male deceased may kindly be informed to the undersigned.

SHO
PS : Shalimar Bagh, Delhi
Ph.: 24495198, 8750870227
DP/9053/NW/19

SEARCH FOR MISSING/KIDNAPPED

General Public is hereby informed that one man namedly Suresh Kumar, S/o: Late Sh. Kula Ram, R/o: G-438, Jahangir Puri, Delhi is missing since 18.03.2019 from the area of P.S. Jahangir Puri, Delhi. In this regard a case vide DD No. 40A dated 13.05.2019 has been lodged at P.S. Jahangir Puri, Delhi. The description of the missing man is as under: Age: 53 yrs, Height: 5'11", Face: Long, Built: Thin, Complexion: Swallow, Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out the man but no clue has come to light so far. Any person having any information or clue about this man kindly inform to the following.

Website: <http://cbl.nic.in>
E-mail Id: cic@cbl.gov.in
Ph.: 011-24368638, 24368641
Fax No. 011-24368639

SHO
PS, Jahangir Puri, Delhi
Ph.: 011-27631600, 8750870229
DP/9011/NW/19

SEARCH FOR MISSING

General Public is hereby informed that one person namedly Raju S/o Late. Sh. Sharada R/o H.No. 258, Banjara Wall Gali-Village, Haiderpur, Delhi Age-26 years, Height-5'6", Face-Oval, Built-Thin, Complexion-Sallow, Wearing-Black Colour T-Shirt and Pyjama and Hawal Chappal in his feet has been missing since dated 15.04.2019. In this regard, DD No. 49A Dated 21.04.2019 has been lodged at P.S. Shalimar Bagh, Delhi.

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

E-mail : cic@cbl.gov.in
Ph.: 011-24368638, 24368641
Fax : 011-24368639

SHO
P.S. Shalimar Bagh, Delhi
Ph.: 011-27495198
8750870227
DP/9019/NW/19

PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF ACCUSED PERSON

See Section 82 Cr. PC

Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused Bajinder S/o Mahender Singh R/o H. No. 2428, Goniya Road, Muktsar, Punjab has committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence of case registered vide FIR No. 232/16 at Police Station - Alpur, Delhi which is punishable under section 407/484/714/20411/201/34 of Indian Penal Code and a warrant of arrest issued thereupon has been returned unexecuted stating that the said accused Bajinder could not be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said accused Bajinder has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the warrant).

Proclamation is hereby made that the said accused Bajinder is required to appear before this court to answer the said complaint on or before 30.08.2019.

By Order
Sh. Gagandeep Singh
Chief Metropolitan Magistrate,
Room No. 115, 1st Floor
Robini Courts, Delhi
DP/349/ON/19

APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION

General public is hereby informed that one unknown dead body of male, Age 55 years, Height 5'8", Complexion Shallow, Thin Built, Wearing White colour T-shirt and grey colour pant was found dead at Red Light Opposite DT Mall, PS Shalimar Bagh, Delhi on 11.06.19.

In this regard a DD No. 64-A dated 11.06.19 has been lodged at PS Shalimar Bagh, Delhi.

Any person having any information or clue about this male deceased may kindly be informed to the undersigned.

SHO
PS : Shalimar Bagh, Delhi
Ph.: 24495198, 8750870227
DP/9053/NW/19

2005 AYODHYA TERROR ATTACK 4 GET LIFE TERM

PTI ■ ALLAHABAD

A special court here sentenced four persons to life imprisonment and acquitted one in connection with the 2005 terror attack on a makeshift temple at the Ram Janambhoomi-Babri Masjid complex here in which two locals were killed and seven CRPF personnel injured.

Special judge Dinesh Chandra, who announced the verdict in the Naini Central Jail where the accused are lodged, also imposed a fine of Rs 2 lakh on each of the four. Public Prosecutor Gulab Chandra Agrahari told reporters here.

Agrahari said the four who got life imprisonment are: Doctor Irfan, Shaked Ahmed, Asif Iqbal and Mohammed Naseem; while Mohammed Aziz was acquitted for lack of evidence.

Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath welcomed the conviction. On the sole acquittal in the case, he said the state government would take appropriate action after examining the ruling.

"The court judgement is welcome. For one person who has been acquitted, necessary action will be taken after seeking legal opinion. The government will keep an eye on the case," he said in a statement.

Five heavily-armed terrorists attempted to carry out a suicide attack near the makeshift temple at the disputed site on July 5, 2005. After blasting the outer barricade of the complex, they tried to move towards the inner barricading where troops of the 33rd battalion of the CRPF were deployed.



Five heavily-armed terrorists attempted to carry out a suicide attack near the makeshift temple at the disputed site on July 5, 2005. After blasting the outer barricade of the complex, they tried to move towards the inner barricading where troops of the 33rd battalion of the CRPF were deployed

At the time of the attack, they tried to move towards the inner barricading where troops of the 33rd battalion of the CRPF were deployed.

The terrorists fired heavily at the troops and lobbed grenades in order to storm the Sanctum Sanctorum.

Agrahari said Naseem produced a mobile SIM card using documents attached by Aziz and on the direction of Pakistani terrorist Kari. He said that the vehicle, having a Jammu registration number, that was used to carry weapons for the attack was owned by Shaked Ahmed.

Kari paid Rs 2.20 lakh to Shaked to use the vehicle but the latter was told it will remain in his name, Agrahari said. The vehicle was used to bring weapons to Aligarh on June 5, 2005 and it returned to Jammu on June 7.

The public prosecutor said Asif Iqbal was the main accused in the case and Kari gave him the SIM purchased by Naseem.

He said one of the terrorists killed during the gunfight has been identified as Arshad.

The verdict in the case came nearly 14 years since the attack and after 371 hearings and testimonies by 63 people. While Irfan belongs to Uttar Pradesh's Saharanpur, the four others are from Poonch district of Jammu & Kashmir.

I'll produce 500 leaders for every turcoat: Didi

SAUGAR SENGUPTA ■ KOLKATA

Fresh from her party's unimpressive show in the recently concluded parliamentary elections and tormented by regular exodus of party men, including MLAs and municipal councilors, to the BJP Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee on Tuesday said the spate of emigration was not on account of ideological transformation but "greed for cash."

Addressing a meeting of party corporators at the Netaji Indoor Stadium Banerjee said "we don't want thieves in our party. I call upon these thieves who are more eager to get their money out of every project to quit the party immediately so that I can fill their places with honest and hardworking workers," adding she "won't allow the party leaders to extract cut money even from small schemes worth even Rs 2,000."

Claiming that she had reports of party men were extorting 10 per cent cut money for a grant of even Rs 2,000, she said "TMC is not a



TMC MLA from Bongaon Biswajit Das (2L) joins BJP in the presence of party's West Bengal leaders Kailash Vijayargya and Mukul Roy, in New Delhi on Tuesday. Along with Biswajit Das, 12 TMC councillors and Congress spokesperson Prasanjeet Ghosh also joined the BJP.

produce 500 others. In fact I have my names ready for them."

The TMC supremo said, "we don't want thieves in our party. I call upon these thieves who are more eager to get their money out of every project to quit the party immediately so that I can fill their places with honest and hardworking workers," adding she "won't allow the party leaders to extract cut money even from small schemes worth even Rs 2,000."

Claiming that she had reports of party men were extorting 10 per cent cut money for a grant of even Rs 2,000, she said "TMC is not a

TMC men going to BJP for cash, says Bengal CM



TMC MLA from Bongaon Biswajit Das (2L) joins BJP in the presence of party's West Bengal leaders Kailash Vijayargya and Mukul Roy, in New Delhi on Tuesday. Along with Biswajit Das, 12 TMC councillors and Congress spokesperson Prasanjeet Ghosh also joined the BJP.

party of thieves and we shall not allow you to cheat the common people. For that if you want to quit the party and join the BJP you are free to do so. I ask you to go now."

However, she reminded that "no one will be allowed to come back to the party afterwards. None will be allowed to return and rejoin the party by holding some big leaders' feet," she said directing senior party leaders Subroto Bakshi and Firhad Hakim to evolve strict conditions for returning to the

TMC after he had left it. The massive exodus from TMC to the BJP started soon after the conclusion of the Lok Sabha elections where the TMC won 22 a total of 12 seats with its 2014 tally where as the BJP got 18 seats 16 more than what it got five years ago.

Already four TMC MLAs have left the TMC to join the BJP whereas the Bengal ruling outfit has lost at least five municipalities to a surging BJP in the wake of councilors joining that party in hordes.

INBRIEF

BANK FRAUD: 6K VEHICLES OF FIRM ATTACHED

New Delhi: The ED on Tuesday said it has attached more than 6,000 vehicles worth about Rs 1,610 crore in connection with a bank loan fraud and money laundering case against a Surat-based company and its promoters. The agency issued a provisional order for attachment of assets under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA) against Siddhi Vinayak Logistics Ltd (SVLL) and its Director Rupchand Baid. A total of 6,170 vehicles worth Rs 1,609.78 crore have been attached as part of the latest order, it said. The central probe agency had similarly attached assets of the company worth over Rs 19 crore in June, 2017.

SC TO HEAR CONG PLEA FOR PULLS FOR 2 RS SEATS

New Delhi: The Supreme Court Tuesday agreed to hear on June 19 a plea of Gujarat Congress challenging the decision of the Election Commission to hold separate bypolls to two Rajya Sabha seats in the State. The Rajya Sabha seats fell vacant following the election of BJP chief Amit Shah and party leader Smriti Irani to Lok Sabha from Gandhinagar and Anethi, respectively.

FOREST FIRE A SERIOUS ISSUE, PRAY FOR RAIN: SC

New Delhi: The Supreme Court on Tuesday agreed to hear on June 24 a plea seeking urgent steps to protect forests, wildlife and birds from wildfires in Uttarakhand, saying "it is a serious issue and in the meantime, pray for rain." A vacation Bench of justices Deepak Gupta and Surya Kant listed the matter for June 24 after the petitioner, Advocate Rituparni Uniyal, sought urgent listing of the matter.

Thousands join final journey of martyr Major in Meerut



A family member breaks into tears near body of Major Ketan Sharma after it was brought at his home in Meerut, on Tuesday.

Meerut: Thousands turned up to pay their last respects to Major Ketan Sharma, who was killed in an encounter with militants in Jammu & Kashmir's Anantnag, as his mortal remains were brought to his hometown Meerut in Uttar Pradesh on Tuesday. The 29-year-old officer was killed in an encounter in Achabal area of the south Kashmir district on Monday. A militant was also killed in the gun fight which broke out after the security forces launched a cordon-and-search operation in the area.

Sharma's mortal remains were flown from Jammu & Kashmir to Delhi. Defence Minister Rajnath Singh and Army Chief General Bipin Rawat paid tributes to the slain officer at the Palam airport in the national capital where his mortal remains were taken to Meerut. The slain Armyman, who will be cremated in Surajkund later, was accorded a gun salute by his colleagues here.

Appeal For Identification

General public is hereby informed that this person named: Unknown S/O Unknown. R/O Unknown Age: About 70-75 years. Sex: Male, Height: 5 feet 6 inch. Complexion: Wheatish, Face: Oval, Built: Thin, Wearing: White Without Sleeves Banyan and Blue White Checkd Lungi been found dead in Tikona Urdu Park, Near Parda Bazar, on dated 11.06.2019. The dead body has been preserved in Maulana Azad Medical College mortuary for identification for 72 hours. In this regard a GD No. 76-A dated 11.06.2019 has been lodged at P.S. Darya Ganj, Delhi.

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

SHO PS. Darya Ganj, Delhi DP/6364/CD/19 Ph.: 011-23279331, 8750870421

SEARCH FOR MISSING

General public is hereby informed that one person (depicted in the photo), Namely: Firoz S/O M.D. Natwar Lal R/O H. No. 2967, Gali No. 12, Ranjit Nagar, Delhi has been missing since 23.04.2019 from his house. In this regard a case vide DD No. 46A dated 24.05.2019 has been lodged at PS Ranjit Nagar, Delhi. His physical description is as under:-

Age: 30 Years, Height: 5'6", Complexion: Shallow, Face: Long, Built: Medium, Identification: A cut mark on left leg, Wearing: White colour shirt & Green colour short, Black colour Chappal in feet. Any person is having any information/clue about this missing person, may inform SHO, Ranjit Nagar, Delhi at E-mail: sic@cbl.gov.in or website: http://cbl.nic.in SHO Phone: 011-2436638, 2436864 P.S. Ranjit Nagar, Delhi Fax No. 011-2436639 Ph. No. 011-25704008, 25704009 DP/6334/CD/19

New Okhla Industrial Development Authority

Main Administrative Building, Sector-8, Noida-201301 (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 opened/downloaded as per schedule mentioned. The details and conditions of all tenders are available on Noida Authority's official website: www.noidaauthorityonline.com & http://etender.up.nic.in Please ensure to see these website for any changes/amendments & corrigendum etc.

A. (1)19/DGM(JAL)/AO/SM(JAL)/IV/2018-19 - Strengthening of Sewerage (Change of Old Sewer Line in D-Block Sector - 27) Noida. Cost/Rs. 69.50 Lacs.

The above tenders can be uploaded by date 03.07.2019 upto 5.00 PM. Pre-qualification shall be opened/downloaded on date 04.07.2019 at 11.00 AM.

B (1) 97/DGM(JAL)/AO/SM(JAL)/IV/2018-19 - M/o W/s (Sanitization) Harvesting in UGR Compound in Sector -162) Noida. Cost/Rs. 47.33 Lacs.

(2) 111/DGM(JAL)/AO/SM(JAL)/IV/2018-19 - M/o Sewerage Annual Maintenance of Sewer Line, Sewer Cleaning Manhole in Sector-132) Noida. Cost/Rs. 29.25 Lacs.

(3) 112/DGM(JAL)/AO/SM(JAL)/IV/2018-19 - M/o Sewerage (Annual Maintenance of Sewer Line, Sewer Cleaning Manhole in Sector-135) Noida. Cost/Rs. 28.32 Lacs.

The above tenders can be uploaded by date 26.06.2019 upto 5.00 PM. Pre-qualification shall be opened/downloaded on date 27.06.2019 at 11.00 AM.

Office:- Sector-5, Noida, Senior Manager (Jal) Noida

CLEAN, GREEN, SAFE & SECURE NOIDA

Hospital services in Bengal back to normal as junior docs resume work

Kolkata: Patients heaved a sigh of relief on Tuesday after junior doctors resumed work at all state-run hospitals following their week-long stir that had disrupted healthcare services across West Bengal.

All the 14 medical college and hospitals in the state started functioning, with normal work resuming at outdoor facilities, pathological units and other departments.

Patient turnout was high at all the hospitals.

"Most of our colleagues have resumed work and they are helping the seniors in delivering regular services," a spokesperson of a joint forum of junior doctors said.

In a move to benefit skilled persons from economically underprivileged sections of the society, the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways has decided to do away with the requirement of minimum educational qualification for driving a transport vehicle. A notification to this effect will be issued soon.

At present, under Rule 8 of the Central Motor Vehicle Rules, 1989, a transport vehicle driver needs to have passed Class VIII.

According to a statement issued by the Ministry, the removal of the requirement will open up employment opportunities for a large number of unemployed persons, especially the youth, and the decision will also help meet shortage of nearly 22 lakh drivers in transport and logistics sector, which is hindering its growth.

"In a move to benefit skilled persons from economically underprivileged sections of the society, the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways has decided to remove the

No more minimum qualification needed to drive in country

requirement of minimum educational qualification for driving a transport vehicle," the statement said.

The Ministry has initiated process to amend Rule 8 of Central Motor Vehicles 1989 and a draft notification in this regard will be issued soon, it added.

There are large numbers of unemployed persons especially in rural areas of the country, who may not have a formal education, but are otherwise literate and skilled, it said.

"In a recent meeting in the Transport Ministry, the Haryana Government had requested for waiver of the educational qualification condition for drivers from the economically backward Mewat region where the population is dependent for livelihood on low-income earning pursuits including driving," the statement said.

The State Government had submitted that many people in the region possess the required skill but not the required educational qualification, and were finding it difficult to obtain driving license, it said, adding

CYCLONE VAYU CROSSES GUJARAT COAST, CAUSES HEAVY RAIN

Ahmedabad: After playing truant for a week, Cyclone Vayu went past the Kutch coast in Gujarat on Tuesday in a considerably weakened state, leaving moderate to heavy showers at several places with the mercury plummeting dramatically.

"Cyclone Vayu converted into a low pressure area and crossed over Kutch in the morning," Manorama Mohanty, scientist at the India Meteorological Department's (IMD) Ahmedabad Centre, told reporters.

MAHARASHTRA BUDGET - Fin Min presents ₹20.29K cr deficit budget sans fresh tax

State debt rises to staggering ₹4.14L cr as on March 31 Announces sops, including 33.5% rebate in power tariff for drought-hit farmers Opp stages walkout over 'leak' of Budget proposals ahead of presentation

Chooosing not to propose any fresh taxes on the people ahead of the State Assembly polls due in October this year, Maharashtra Finance Minister Sudhir Mungantwar on Tuesday presented Rs 20,292.94 crore revenue deficit budget which among other things contained several sops for the drought-affected farmers, including 33.5 per cent concession in power tariff.

Amid a noisy walkout by the Opposition from both the Houses of the State Legislature over the alleged "leak" of budget papers, Mungantwar presented a budget for 2019-20 which showed that the State debt had mounted to Rs 4.14 lakh crore as on March 31, 2019.

"As per the revised estimates, at the end of March 2019, the total State debt is at Rs 4,14,411 crore. In view of economic size of the State, the debt is within the permissible limits of financial indicators," Mungantwar said.

The Minister said that during 2019-20, the state government expected a revenue of Rs 3,14,60,12 as against an anticipated revenue expenditure of Rs 3,34,93,306 Thus, the revenue deficit will remain at

Rs 20,292.94 crore. Mungantwar said that the tax base of Maharashtra had broadened after the implementation of GST with the increase in number of registered taxpayers from 7,75,000 to 15,50,000.

Reiterating his government's resolve stand solidly behind the drought-affected farmers, Mungantwar said that the State Government had credited Rs 4,461 crore in the bank accounts of 66,88,422 farmers from 17,985 villages in 151 tehsils in 26 districts in the State.

Among the farmers that Mungantwar came up with were: concession in payment of

land revenues, Restructuring of concessive loans, Stay on recovery of agricultural loans, 33.5 per cent concession in current electricity bill of agricultural pump sets, waiver of examination fee for school and college students, relaxation in the criterion of works under Employment Guarantee Scheme Drinking water supply by tanker wherever necessary and no disconnection of agricultural pump sets in the villages where scarcity has been declared.

The minister said that scarcity control rooms had been set up in all Collector Offices in the state for redress of drinking water scarcity.

DELHI JAL BOARD GOVT OF NCT OF DELHI OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER (EAST) I M 16 MAYUR VIHAR PRT E PHASE II NEW DELHI 110091						
PRESS NOTICE TENDER						
NIT NO.10/EA-ST-I (2019-20)						
Sl. No.	Name of Work	Estimated Money (ECV) Amount put to tender	Estm'd Money (EAM)	Tender Fees	Date of Release of E-Procurement Solution & Tender ID No.	Last Date / Time of receipt of tender E-Procurement Solution
01	Replacement of settled sewer between 15 A23 Block Trikopur by pipe bursting method in AC-55 in East-I. (Re-invited)	Item Rate 51,700/-	500/-		15.06.2019 2019_DJB_17	03.07.2019 03.15 PM

Further details in this regard can be seen at https://govtprocurement.delhi.gov.in ISSUED BY P.R.O. (WATER) Advt. No. J.S.V. 83/2019-20 EXECUTIVE ENGINEER (EAST-I)

BSES Yamuna Power Limited, New Delhi A Joint venture with Govt. of NCT of Delhi					
TENDER NOTICE Date: 19.06.2019					
Sealed tenders under two Bid System (Unpriced & Priced) are invited for following jobs from all bidders					
NIT No.	Brief Item Description	Estimated Cost (₹)	Cost of EMD (₹)	Due Date & Time of Submission	Date & Time of Opening
CMC/BY/19-20/RB/VCS/20	SUPPLY, DEVELOPMENT, INSTALLATION & TESTING OF EFFLUENT TREATMENT PLANT	₹ 20 Lacs	₹ 0.40 Lakhs	15.07.2019 UPTO 3:00 PM	11.07.2019 AT 3:00 PM

Cost of each Tender Documents: ₹ 1100/- For details in respect of qualifying requirements, Terms & Conditions, Purchase and Services /Submission of tender documents/Corrigendum (if any) please visit our website: www.BSES YAMUNA POWER LTD -> Tenders -> Matters to open tenders. Head (Contracts & Financials) BSES Yamuna Power Ltd, Shakti Kirti Building, Kirti Road, New Delhi-110032 | CNR 0470902301/PLG111523 | Email: 011-39971111 | Fax: 011-39920761 | Website: www.bsesdelhi.com

US to deploys 1K more troops amid Iran tension

Washington: Amidst an escalation of tensions with Iran, the US has approved the deployment of 1,000 additional troops in the Middle East for 'defensive purposes'...



Representational image

The action of deploying 1,000 more troops is being taken to ensure the safety and welfare of US military personnel working throughout the region and to protect its national interests...

China warns US against opening West Asian 'Pandora's box'

Beijing: China on Tuesday warned against opening a 'Pandora's box' in the Middle East after the United States announced the deployment of 1,000 additional troops to the region...

Hong Kong leader apologises for extradition crisis, vows to stay on

Hong Kong: Hong Kong leader Carrie Lam apologised on Tuesday for the political unrest that has shaken Hong Kong, but the pro-Beijing chief executive refused to cave in to demands for her resignation...



A protesters shout slogan demanding Hong Kong Chief Executive Carrie Lam to step down outside Government office in Hong Kong on Tuesday

Lam said she was sorry for the political unrest that has shaken Hong Kong, but she would not make the legislative council by July next year, it will expire... Lam vowed to stay on as chief executive.

Rouhani says world 'praises' Iran over US standoff

Tehran: President Hassan Rouhani said on Tuesday the world 'praises' Iran over its standoff with Washington, and that the US had broken promises by abandoning a landmark nuclear deal...

Advertisement for UJVN Limited, featuring a logo and text about tendering for electrical work. Includes contact information and a slogan 'Save Electricity in the Interest of Nation'.

Advertisement for Northern Railway, featuring a logo and text about a notice inviting tenders for electrical work. Includes contact information and a slogan 'Serving Customers With A Smile'.

Advertisement for 'SEARCH FOR MISSING' featuring a photograph of a woman named Heena and text describing her disappearance. Includes contact information for the search team.

Advertisement for 'APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION' featuring a photograph of a man and text describing his disappearance. Includes contact information for the search team.

Qureshi briefs Pompeo about addressing FATF concerns: FO

Islamabad: Pakistan Foreign Minister Shah Mahmood Qureshi on Tuesday briefed his American counterpart Mike Pompeo about the steps taken by Islamabad to address the concerns raised by the Financial Action Task Force (FATF)...

A large table titled 'TENDER NOTICE' containing multiple columns: SR. No., NAME OF BOARD/ CORP./ AUTH, NAME OF WORK NOTICED TENDER, OPENING DATE, AMOUNT/ EMD (APPROX), WEBSITE OF THE BOARD CORP./ AUTH, and NODAL OFFICER/ CONTACT DETAILS/ EMAIL. It lists various construction and maintenance projects across different municipal corporations.

15 missing as crowded jeep plunges into river in Nepal

Kathmandu: Fifteen people are missing after a crowded jeep they were travelling in skidded off a mountainous road and plunged into a river in Nepal's Humla district on Tuesday...

The jeep veered off the road and plunged into the Karnali river in Kharpanuth rural municipality at around 1 pm (local time), the Himalian Times reported. The jeep - which had the capacity to carry only nine persons - was crowded as it was carrying 15 people, it was said.

CRICKETCRADLE

TODAY LIVE
New Zealand vs South Africa
3:00 pm IST
VENUE: Edgbaston, Birmingham

Tweet a buzz
India maintained their dominance over arch-rivals Pakistan in World Cup history when the Virat Kohli-led team thrashed Pakistan by 89 runs at Old Trafford, Manchester on Sunday. It was for the seventh consecutive time in the history of the showpiece event when the Green Brigade failed to put up a show against the Men in Blue. While everyone saw the rivalry between both teams on the field, the roar of the fans was also loud on microblogging site Twitter. The much anticipated World Cup game broke records by becoming the most tweeted about ODI match, generating 2.9 million tweets. While there was dialogue between both countries on the platform, when compared, official hashtags like #Istamind and #WeHaveWeWill as well as the number of tweets mentioning Indian cricketers and Pakistani cricketers, the Indian side dominated the conversation on Twitter.

We are Indians
India vice-captain Rohit Sharma slashing Pakistan pacer Hasan Ali for a six over back-punt in their clash at Old Trafford on Sunday had fans revisit the upper-cut played by the legendary Sachin Tendulkar off Shoaib Akhtar in Centurion in 2003. While there have been constant comparison between the two shots and who played it better, Tendulkar shared his take on the same. Taking to Twitter, Tendulkar wrote: "We both are from India and in this case, Aamchi Mumbai! as well. So heads I win, tails you lose! (sic)" Earlier, ICC had posed the question for the fans when it tweeted: "Sachin in 2003 or Rohit in 2019 — who did it better?" It was an amazing display of professionalism from the Men in Blue against Pakistan in Manchester. They first scored 336/5 in their 50 overs with Rohit hitting a brilliant 113-ball 140 and the bowlers then tightened the screws on the Pakistan batsmen as the Indians won the game by 89 runs (D/L method).

Don't get personal
Shoaib Malik, who is drawing flak after Pakistan's embarrassing defeat to India, has lashed out at the country's media for claiming that he and other players were out partying and smoking sheesha hours before the crucial encounter in Manchester. There were questions raised about the Pakistan players' fitness and the apparent flouting of the curfew norms after a series of photos and videos showed certain members of the allegedly socialising past curfew. "When will Pak media be accountable for their credibility by our courts? Having served my country for +20 years in international cricket, it's sad that I have to clarify things related to my personal life. The videos are from 13th June and not 15th," he tweeted. Sania too took to Twitter to answer potshots being aimed at her post the defeat. She battled Pakistani actress Veena Malik as she denied taking her kid to the Sheesha bar. "Veena, I have not taken my kid to a sheesha place. Not that it's any of your or the rest of the world's business cause I think care about my son a lot more than anyone else does. Secondly I am not Pakistan cricket team's dietitian nor am I their mother or principal or teacher," she tweeted.

Forget & move on
Sarfraz Ahmed has warned his teammates of further backlash at home if they fail to lift their game in the remaining matches of the ongoing World Cup. Pakistani cricketers are facing strong criticism from both fans and former players after the 89-run defeat to India in the marquee World Cup clash on Sunday. With just three points from five games, Pakistan are at the second last position in the tournament table and Sarfraz has cautioned his teammates to be ready for the wrath of the public back home if the below-par performances continue. "If anyone thinks that I will go home, then it is their idioy. If God forbid something unfortunate happens then I won't be the only one going back home," Pakistani media outlet *theNews.Com.Pk* quoted Sarfraz as saying. The captain has urged the team to forget the loss against the neighbours and move on. "Forget the bad performance and uplift the team for the remaining four matches," said Sarfraz.

AGENCIES

PRELIMINARY STAGE

Pos	Team	P	W	L	N/R	Net RR	Pts
1	AUS	5	4	1	0	+0.812	8
2	NZ	4	3	0	1	+2.163	7
3	IND	4	3	0	1	+1.029	7
4	ENG	4	3	1	0	+1.557	6
5	B'DESH	5	1	2	2	-0.270	5
6	SL	5	1	2	2	-1.778	4
7	WI	5	1	3	1	-0.272	3
8	RSA	5	1	3	1	-0.208	3
9	PAK	5	1	3	1	-1.933	3
10	AFG	4	0	4	0	-1.638	0

An open partnership



Rohit Sharma, right, congratulates teammate KL Rahul on scoring fifty runs during World Cup match between India and Pakistan at Old Trafford

PTI ■ SOUTHAMPTON
Communication had been the biggest USP in Rohit Sharma and Shikhar Dhawan's enormously successful opening partnership and the Indian vice-captain wants to create the same level of understanding with KL Rahul by the time World Cup reaches business end.
Dhawan's fractured left-hand has put Rahul in the line of fire in a stage like World Cup but his senior opening partner is confident that they will slowly be able to build up the right level of communication required in such big event.
In fact against Pakistan, Rohit allowed Rahul to take first strike, which he normally does when Dhawan is around.
"Yeah, KL also likes to take the strike, and for me it was important to give him that because just like me, he also has the mindset of taking the first ball. That is

his comfort. He is playing his first game as an opener here, so I wanted to make sure that he's comfortable," Rohit said while making it clear what his responsibilities are as a senior player.
Rahul, on his part, knows what a big opportunity it is and he is ready to fill in the big boots of Dhawan till the time he comes back (if at all in this tournament).
"Obviously Shikhar and Rohit for the last three or four years have been such a dangerous combination having done so well. They have owned those positions. I had to wait for my chance and I am just happy that I got to bat in the top of the order," Rahul told reporters in mixed zone.
However, during their stand of 136, there were a couple of occasions when Rohit could have nearly got run out primarily because of the lack of communication between the two.
But the champion opener is game for this new challenge as that's what

WE (RAHUL & I) HAD A LOT OF COMMUNICATION (DURING PAKISTAN GAME) WHILE WE WERE BATTING, SO SLOWLY WE WILL BUILD ON IT. NOW THAT I KNOW HE'S GOING TO OPEN FOR THE NEXT FEW GAMES AS WELL, SO THAT CONVERSATION BETWEEN US IS REALLY, REALLY IMPORTANT, AND I HOPE THAT CONTINUES BECAUSE IT'S GOING TO ONLY HELP BOTH OF US — ROHIT SHARMA

Not a perfect score

PTI ■ MANCHESTER

Promoted to the opening slot, KL Rahul rated his performance against Pakistan at six out of ten, saying he will only get better after his composed fifty helped India set up a challenging total against the arch-rivals.
With Shikhar Dhawan ruled out of three World Cup games following a hairline fracture on his thumb, Rahul opened the innings with Rohit Sharma in his first international match against Pakistan here Sunday.
Rahul, who made 57 off 78 balls as part of the record 136-run opening partnership with Rohit, said he is grateful to get the opportunity to realise his dream of representing his country against Pakistan.
"Shikhar and Rohit, in the last three or four years, have been such a dangerous combo. Their partnerships, if you see anywhere in the world, they've played so well for the country and they've been No 1 and 2 — they've owned those positions," said Rahul.
"I've had to wait for my chance and I'm just happy that I got to bat in the top three. It's my first international game against Pakistan and it has come in a World Cup so I couldn't ask for anything bigger or better.
"As a kid or as a young cricketer growing up this is what you dream to do - I'm really happy that I got the opportunity and I give myself six out of ten! Hopefully I carry on the confidence and get better.
The 136-run partnership was India's best first-wicket stand in a World Cup match against Pakistan as the two-time champions set an intimidating total of 336/5 against their arch-rivals.
Rahul stressed on the need to fight in the initial few overs to



KL Rahul bats during nets session

build up a partnership.
"With the new ball, against any bowler, it's important to see off the first few overs. That was especially true here because we didn't know what to expect from the wicket as it had been under covers for the past few days," he said.
"Once we got through those, we felt a lot more comfortable. For an opening batsman it's important to hit a few balls in the middle of the bat and get a few boundaries going."
Then you start to focus on the game and all the pressure, the hype of India-Pakistan and the World Cup stage just goes away from your head. The initial few overs are the fight, so we were happy to get through that and happy to get the win."

international cricket is all about - clearing new obstacles every passing day.
"These are the sort of challenges you face — the understanding of when he wants to run that, when I want to take that single, and things like that."
"These are very little things, but of course, eventually they add up to a whole lot for the team because at that point we never wanted to get run out. That was the last thing in our mind to do that," said Rohit.
But since they batted for nearly 24 overs (23.5 to be precise), they had communicated a lot and it's only going to improve from here on, feels Rohit.
"But we had a lot of communication (during game against Pakistan) while we were batting, so slowly we will build on it. Now that I know he's going to open for the next few games as well."
"So that conversation between us is really, really important, and I hope that continues because it's going to only help both of us."

For Rahul, the biggest challenge against Pakistan was to play out Mohammed Amir's first spell, which they did with a fair degree of success.
"Look I mean, with the new ball against any bowler, you have to see off the first few overs and didn't know what to expect from the wicket as it was under covers for the first two days. It was important that we saw off the first spell," the talented Karnataka batsman said.
Amir, whether it was Champions Trophy final in 2017 or the Asia Cup T20, a year before that, he had always struck in the first over that he bowled but this time around the Indians had done their homework.
"We needed to focus from ball one as he has earlier done damage in the first over. We were switched on from ball one and we didn't take too many chances in the first few overs. We gave their bowlers and the ball the respect it deserved and carried on from there," Rahul said.

Fun, food & other things

PTI ■ SOUTHAMPTON
A team that stays together, plays together.
At least that's what the Indian team management believes as its plans various activities during long tours which has a two-fold gain — to switch off a bit and also enjoy each other's company off the field which is very important for on-field performances.
The current Indian team also actively take part in bonding sessions, which are carefully planned during an away series. It could be anything from fun games to having a simple meal in a group of four.
Before the start of the World Cup, Indian team was seen playing paint ball and now that there is a break before the next game against Afghanistan on Saturday, some bonding activities are planned.

While Virat Kohli is the captain, the team's 'Leadership Group' has three members — Kohli, Rohit Sharma and Mahendra Singh Dhoni.
At times, in a team of 15, the 12 players are divided into groups of four and they are handed by each of the three senior members.
"It is always insisted that players from different regions hang out together and at least have a meal together. Just for example, Vijay Shankar, newest member of the team will certainly feel more comfortable interacting with a Dinesh Karthik. Same language, food habits, that is natural."
But there are times when Karthik will need to have a meal with another junior player. It's not something that is forced but it should happen naturally," the official said.
It's not only about cricket but seniors are encouraged to speak to the junior players about other aspects of life also where they can take a cue from them.
"It could be anything from handling stardom to managing investments. The seniors with their practical experiences could help the juniors out or may be dividing them into groups of three, with the same gym slot.



Shikhar Dhawan's Instagram post in which he and his opening partner Rohit Sharma is seen spending time with their families

Bonding during some strenuous exercises isn't a bad idea either," he added.
Team bonding sessions have been in vogue in Indian cricket for long, only the terminology has changed with changing times.
In 70s, it used to be Sunday Clubs, a concept that was borrowed from English counties where players were told to dress up in a certain way or enact certain scenes.
There used to be punishment like walking from one's own hotel room to the team activity room in underwear with a neck tie tied around the waist.
Or else, some were made to apply lipstick and told to dance like 'Basanti of Sholay'. At times it would be fun but other times it could be bordering on ragging as some of the older timers recall.
It became more of a fun during Gary Kirsten's time and Paddy Upton's much acclaimed book 'Barefoot Coach' has some cute pictures of Virendra Sehwag and Gautam Gambhir dressed as women during a play they were part of.
From the mid 90s till early 2000s, the team bonding activities hardly took place, especially during Azharuddin's era when the Indian side was a disjointed unit with not much trust existing between the players.

Shakib best in business

TIGER TALK

By ABDUR RAZZAK
Bangladesh spinner

At this moment, I have to say Shakib Al Hasan is the most in-form all-rounder in the world.

He is in very good touch with his bowling and his batting has been brilliant at this ICC Men's Cricket World Cup.

He made another century in the win over the West Indies, his second of this tournament with two other half-centuries.

He is the number one all-rounder in the ICC rankings as well and he is in tremendous form. In fact, I have never seen him play like this — the consistency he is showing is incredible. I have played with him many times over the years but this is the best form of his career.

That was a very good win for Bangladesh against the West Indies because they are a very, very good side — they've played really good cricket in this World Cup.

For Bangladesh it was a crucial game because if they lost or even it rained, then they wouldn't have had a great chance to go through to the semi-finals.

It's really, really important to start quickly, especially in England. If you



Bangladesh all-rounder Shakib Al Hasan *CricketWorldCup/Twitter*

“ I HAVE NEVER SEEN SHAKIB PLAY LIKE THIS. THE CONSISTENCY HE IS SHOWING IS INCREDIBLE. I HAVE PLAYED WITH HIM MANY TIMES OVER THE YEARS BUT THIS IS THE BEST FORM OF HIS CAREER ”

start well, either bowling or batting, most of the time those teams win — we've seen that at this World Cup. We started well with the ball by getting Chris Gayle out early and that was important. When West Indies scored 300+, I heard from quite a few people saying 'Bangladesh will lose this game'. But I told them just wait and see. I know the ground at Taunton, I've played over there, and on a wicket which wasn't seaming they had a chance. It was a batter's wicket and at Taunton, 320 isn't an easy target but it isn't that hard either.

They started well with the bat and then Shakib and Liton Das did brilliantly to put on that 189-run partnership and see them over the line.

It's really difficult coming into the team in the middle of this type of tournament, so Liton Das was definitely under pressure. When a new player comes to play in a big game, in a big tournament, with this type of atmosphere, it is really tough.

It was a pressure moment and he coped very nicely. He showed what he can do as a player and it's exciting for Bangladesh cricket. Bangladesh had confidence from their recent record against the West Indies, which is now eight wins in the last ten ODIs.

They've beaten them in the West Indies, in Ireland and in Bangladesh as well. If you keep beating any team consistently then it's really, really confidence-boosting.

When they were set 320, the boys would have still felt they were going to win the game because they know they can do it against the West Indies. Importantly, their chances of reaching the semi-finals are still alive. Each and every game is so important because if you lose one now, it will be really difficult to go through.

This one was crucial and the game against Australia at Trent Bridge on Thursday is the same but this confidence will help them and carry over to that clash. They will believe they can beat anyone because they are playing really good cricket.

Bangladesh reached the quarter-finals at the 2015 World Cup and then the semi-finals at the ICC Champions Trophy in 2017 — they've done really well at recent big tournaments — but I honestly believe they are playing even better than that at the moment.

Courtesy: © ICC Business Corporation FZ LLC 2019



West Indies players walk off dejected after losing World Cup game against Bangladesh *AFP*

Bitter pill to swallow

AFP ■ TAUNTON

Jason Holder says the West Indies face a tough task to reach the World Cup semi-finals after their dismal seven-wicket defeat against Bangladesh on Monday.

Holder's side fell victim to the second highest run chase in World Cup history as Bangladesh reached 322-3 with 8.3 overs to spare at Taunton.

It was a bitter pill to swallow for Holder after they had posted a solid 321-8, only to implode with a combination of woeful fielding and sloppy bowling.

The West Indies have lost three of their five matches and, with four games left, captain Holder conceded there is only a slim chance they can make the semi-finals in the 10-team tournament.

"It's looking tough at this pre-

Revelry@124

AFP ■ TAUNTON

Shakib Al Hasan admitted his match-winning 124 in Bangladesh's victory over the West Indies ranked as one of the best moments of his career.

Shakib's majestic display paved the way for Bangladesh to record the second highest run chase in World Cup history as they reached 322-3 at Taunton on Monday.

Hitting 16 fours in his unbeaten 99-ball innings, Shakib was well supported by Liton Das, who scored 94 from 69 balls in his first World Cup appearance.

The pair's unbroken stand of 189 was the second highest for the fourth wicket in World Cup history.

It was a memorable day for Shakib, who rated both his performance and his team's among the greatest he has experienced.

"It's obviously one of the best, because the way we chased that run, the way I paced the innings, I was never in a rush. I didn't have to play too many shots from a good ball," he told reporters.

"I had to be patient. And I was patient enough to put the bad ball away.

"If we want to go through into the semi-finals we've got to beat the best teams," Holder said.

"We've got to back ourselves and be more clinical with the ball. A few top edges didn't go our way, but we didn't help ourselves as well.

"We've also got to score more runs because we haven't got a batsman with a hundred yet.

"I thought with the pitch dimensions we could have got 365-375 but we were well short, 40 or 50 runs."

But Shakib insisted Bangladesh never doubted they could overhaul the West Indies' total of 321-8.

In the end they reached the target with 8.3 overs to spare thanks to Shakib and Das.

"At the end of the first innings in the dressing room no one felt that this was tough. Everyone was comfortable and was chilling," he said.

"It gave a lot of confidence in the dressing room and belief that we could chase that run. Once we started batting, I think the way the openers started their innings, everyone in the dressing room felt good and comfortable and relaxed.

"That helped us a lot. So at no point of time we had to panic." Shakib has now scored two centuries in this World Cup after hitting 121 against England.

In the course of the West Indies match he became just the second player to score 6,000 career ODI runs for the Tigers.

His heroics have kept Bangladesh in with a chance of making the semi-finals and Shakib hopes there are more golden moments to come.

"I don't know if this is the best I have been batting or not, but so far it's going well and fingers crossed, hope it continues," he said.



Unsettled Aussies embrace Cup uncertainty

Assistant coach Haddin praises Khawaja as Australia try to settle on their best XI



Australian skipper Aaron Finch, right, and assistant coach Brad Haddin during team's practice session at Trent Bridge stadium in Nottingham *cricket.com.au/Twitter*

AGENCIES ■ NOTTINGHAM

Australia concede they're still uncertain of their best side for the remainder of the World Cup, despite losing just one of the opening five matches of their title defence.

But assistant coach Brad Haddin believes their flexibility could be a trump card for the crunch matches to come.

With a loss to India marking their only blip so far, the Aussies find themselves in the unusual spot of sitting on top of the World Cup standings yet openly admitting there are question marks hanging over several crucial positions.

An injury to key man Marcus Stoinis shapes as their biggest headache, with the allrounder set to test out his troublesome left side in Nottingham this week ahead of Thursday's clash with Bangladesh.

"At the moment, we're still trying to find that best XI," Haddin said.

"We're still trying to find what works best for us. Come later in the tournament, we'll start to understand what the conditions are like a lot better and what ... our best XI (is)."

"At the moment, we're not settled on our best XI."

Haddin, the wicketkeeper in Australia's 2015 World Cup-winning side that used all 15 of its available squad members throughout the tournament, suggested the uncertainty isn't necessarily a bad thing.

"We're not too concerned about it all," he said. "One of the things we spoke to the squad about is we need to be a flexible squad to win a World Cup."

"The players understand that and we're training them accordingly. We make sure each and every player is ready for game day.

"I don't think it's a concern, you'd like to start getting your team (right) at the back-end of the tournament. I think one of the luxuries at the moment is we're still winning, and we still haven't found

WE'RE STILL TRYING TO FIND WHAT WORKS BEST FOR US. LATER IN THE TOURNAMENT, WE'LL START UNDERSTANDING WHAT THE CONDITIONS ARE LIKE AND WHAT OUR BEST XI (IS).

AGENCIES ■ NOTTINGHAM

Injured allrounder Marcus Stoinis returned to the bowling crease on Monday at Trent Bridge as he aims to prove he can still play a part in Australia's World Cup campaign.

Having injured his side against India more than a week ago, time is running out for Stoinis to hold onto his spot in Australia's 15-man squad, with Mitchell Marsh ready and available to replace his state teammate.

Under World Cup playing conditions, Stoinis cannot return to the squad should selectors decide to officially draw a line through him and call up Marsh for the rest of the tournament.

Australia will face Bangladesh in Nottingham on Thursday and Stoinis is doing everything he can to prove his fitness ahead of that match. He bowled four overs at Trent Bridge on Monday — the first time he's bowled since the India game — and now faces a bigger test at the team's main training session on Tuesday.

As the sole allrounder in the squad, the absence of Stoinis left

Race against time



Marcus Stoinis stretches during Australia's training session *cricket.com.au/Twitter*

Having injured his side against India, time is running out for Stoinis to hold onto his spot in Australia's 15-man squad, with Mitchell Marsh ready and available to replace his state teammate

Stoinis' teammates remain hopeful the popular all-rounder can keep his World Cup dream alive.

"He had a light bowl today and he'll have a better run around tomorrow at the main session," wicketkeeper Alex Carey told

RSN. "Mitch Marsh is here as well ready to go and in really good condition."

"Hopefully Marcus gets up. It's such an important role and he's done such a great job for Australia over the past 12-18 months as

well."

With selectors keen to give Stoinis every chance to return to full fitness, they took a risk for the matches against Pakistan and Sri Lanka by picking a side with just four frontline bowlers along with off-spinner Glenn Maxwell, who skipper Aaron Finch said last week is "a good part-timer".

Maxwell impressed in bowling his full allotment of 10 overs against Sri Lanka while Finch chipped in with two overs himself in the win against Pakistan.

But vice-captain Carey indicated Maxwell's bowling was ideally viewed as a handy sixth option, rather than a frontline required to bowl 10 overs in every match.

"His bowling is really handy for us, ideally as an option, but not 'we need the 10 overs (from him),' he said.

"But we want to him for 10 (against Sri Lanka) and he did such a good job. Even Finch got a wicket against Pakistan, so there's an option there.

"Maxi is bowling well, but fingers crossed the allrounder comes up."

the perfect rhythm for our game, which is a dangerous sign."

Usman Khawaja, having thrived as an opener in the lead-in to the World Cup, has been forced to adapt to unfamiliar late-innings scenarios in a handful of Australia's matches so far.

He performed admirably after coming in at No 4 halfway through Australia's run chase against India, scoring 42 at better than a run-a-ball, but has contributed scores of 15, 14 and 10 when he's been in the No 3 spot he's more accustomed to.

"He's playing a different role. It's not that he's not having success, he's been in a role where he's had limited opportunities," Haddin said.

"Before he could go out and set the pace of the innings and now the innings is dictating the role he needs to play. He's been okay with it — he's a class act.

"He's had little cameos throughout ... We're pretty happy with where he's at. He's just got to bat (according to) the situation."

vivacity

CHILE BEAT
JAPAN IN COPA
AMERICA

-P 16



Take an intelligent step



With college admissions underway, students often get confused about which course to opt for. DEEPA SAYAL shares tips that may help them to choose the right option

As college admissions are underway especially for private institutes. Students have already filled forms for admission to Delhi University. It is normal for students to get bogged down with vexing questions as to which course to choose and how to build a lasting career. Here is some help.

For those coming from a Science background, there are a myriad of promising career avenues to choose from. The adoption and innovation of emerging technologies such as Artificial Intelligence (AI), machine learning (ML), Internet of Things (IoT), and Robotics are increasing impressively high, especially now when the underlying potential of these techs is unlocked. From software development to robotics engineering, diverse industries call for scientific knowledge and technical skills to register double-digit growth. In fact, Indian Engineering Research and Development (ER&D) is also expected to double to \$42 billion by FY 2022. Therefore, the students setting an eye on Science Technology, Engineering, Math (STEM) jobs will hit the nail right.

The STEM as the industry is contained with a pool of education and career prospects because the world is

moving towards data-driven decision-making. From marketing managers to financial analysts, from executives to C-suite, expertise in data and computation is more of a necessity than merely a choice.

The NASSCOM predicts that nearly 65 per cent of four million jobs in IT are going to change over the next five years. With it, skills and talent in demand will also change. In the present case scenario, most of the highly-paid jobs require an engineering or tech degree as well as digital engineering skills at the least.

Lately, AI has emerged as one of the most interactive fields of the study. It is the technology that keeps on bestowing us with smart and intelligent creations that makes our life a lot easier. Whether it is Siri or Netflix, these AI powered software help us type message without using fingers, turn on the lights at home, and even discover new shows and movies that are a delight to our eyes. As businesses strive to offer us more convenience through AI technologies, the field is going to expand creating over 2.3 million jobs by 2020, as Gartner estimates.

To work in this domain, students should have a B.Tech degree in computer science, artificial intelligence,

AI HAS EMERGED AS ONE OF THE MOST INTERACTIVE FIELDS OF THE STUDY. IT IS THE TECHNOLOGY THAT KEEPS ON BESTOWING WITH SMART AND INTELLIGENT CREATIONS THAT MAKES OUR LIFE EASIER

machine learning and a postgraduate degree or diploma.

There are many institutes like SRM Institute of Science and Technology, Delhi-NCR and Manav Rachna University (MRU) that has started offering these courses from this new academic year.

The mightiest of tech advancements are born out of small bit-sized information, otherwise called data. The present is futuristic age where even a human gene is a source of the pertinent data and information and can open a whole new world to us. The organisations understand the real value of this data as it allows them to innovate and serve the customers through a result-driven approach. For example, a brand can introduce a new product line that fulfills the requirements of the customers, on the basis of their previously shown behaviour. But, the world produces an infinite amount of raw and unstructured data the value of which is insurmountable for businesses, government bodies, and scientists.

To derive insights from the complex data, there is an urgent need for data scientists, data analysts, data engineers, and data managers. The job market for data science jobs has witnessed a hike of nearly 76 per cent in

India, according to UpGrad Analytics and Data Job Survey 2018. The average salary of a data scientist ranges from 4-6 lakh at an entry level. The candidates should have a B.Tech or BSc degree in computer science as well as should be thorough with programming languages such as Perl, Java, and Python. An equivalent degree or certification in business analytics, data analytics, and data science strengthen one's educational background.

The digital transformation continues to revamp the business landscape where almost every stakeholder, data, and information is vulnerable to cyber security threats. The antidote to cyber security risk is ethical hacking, which is going to be the game changer in future.

An ethical hacker is responsible for building and protecting the company's security system and network against any weakness, fault, and cyber attack. For this, B.Tech in computer science will be a brownie point for those looking to become ethical hackers. If not, courses in Certified Ethical Hacking (CEH), Certified Security Analyst, and Computer Hacking Forensic Investigation suffice to build a secure future in the domain.

The writer is Executive Director, Vivaki & Director-Co-Founder, ADG Online Solutions

QUOTE OF THE DAY

Education is not just about going to school and getting a degree. It's about widening your knowledge and absorbing the truth about life

— Shakuntala Devi

BTECH CLOUD COMPUTING

Keeping in view the emerging field of Cloud Computing and Artificial Intelligence (AI) in Computer technology, Apeejay Stya University (ASU) has introduced specialisations in Cloud Computing and AI under its B.Tech in Computer Science & Engineering programme.

Programme: B.Tech. in Computer Science & Engineering with specialisation in Cloud Computing and Artificial Intelligence in academic collaboration with Oracle University (Workforce Development Partner).

Duration: Four years
Eligibility: Minimum 50 per cent aggregate marks in Class XII with PCM (Physics, Chemistry, Mathematics) from any recognised board.

All eligible applicants shall be short listed on the basis of their academic performances and aptitude followed by a mock test.

How to apply: Log on to www.universityapeejay.edu or visit the campus at Gurugram or the Admission Office at Sector VIII, Institutional Area, Dwaraka, New Delhi and ASU - City Office, Plot no. 23, Sector 32, Institutional Area, Gurugram - 122001, Haryana.

PSYCHOLOGY COURSES

Amity University Gurugram invites applications for admissions to its graduate and post graduate courses in Psychology for the new academic session.

Programmes: BSc Clinical Psychology, BA Applied Psychology and MSc Clinical Psychology, MA Applied Psychology, MA Counselling psychology and Post Graduate diploma in Counselling psychology.

Duration: Three years for UG course, two years for PG course and one year for Post graduate Diploma.

How to apply: Log on to www.amity.edu/gurugram.

Last date to apply: June 21, 2019.

CIVIL PROGRAMMES

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

Programmes: B.Tech - Civil Engineering, M.Tech - Civil Engineering With Specialisation in Structural Engineering/Transportation Engg and PhD - Civil Engineering.

Duration: Four years for B.Tech.

How to apply: Log on to www.manavrachna.edu.in.



Odd-ball programmes

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

As odd education is becoming mainstream, the field is witnessing an increase demand of institutions which offer cross-disciplinary courses with contemporary curriculum. There are very few educational institutions in India that offer futuristic odd-ball courses for the students.

Shankar's Academy of Art equipped with one of the largest portfolio of art and design courses is offering many cutting-edge programmes including art, book illustration and computer graphics for which it awards diplomas.

These professional future-oriented odd-ball courses aim to produce skillful professionals who will shape up seamlessly with the work environment and readily meet the requirements of the fast-growing global design economy. These courses offer unique platforms that not only aim at academics but also look to spread awareness of newer, emerging career streams and even lead to job creation.

"We aim at providing experiential learning through a mix of in-studio learning, field-work and theory. The odd-ball courses are in fact well-researched well-thought out courses that have been designed keeping the future requirements in mind. These courses will prepare the students in various streams other than the traditional ones thus making them future ready," said director, Children's Book Trust and Shankar's Academy of Art.

New courses on offer

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Indraprastha Institute of Information Technology, Delhi (IIIT-Delhi) has announced B.Tech in Computer Science and Artificial Intelligence programme for the academic year 2019-20. The students can log on to the website www.iiitd.ac.in to get more details about the eligibility criteria and admission process.

Artificial Intelligence (AI) has become an integral part of technology in our daily lives. With its rapid adoption, there is a significant requirement of researchers and technologists who can build AI technologies. Being one of a kind course in India, IIIT-Delhi's B.Tech in CSAI programme will provide students an opportunity to learn both foundational and practical components of AI and Machine Learning.

Presently, only a few universities offer four-year engineering course dedicated to Artificial Intelligence.

Highlighting the importance of the course, Professor Ranjan Bose, Director, IIIT-Delhi, said: "Even though many institutions today are embracing AI-powered products and applications, still there is a scarcity of job-ready talents who can engineer home-grown AI technologies. The objective behind offering this course is to equip our future engineers with expertise in AI so that they can also significantly contribute towards groundbreaking development and innovation in the field."

A student completing this programme will be able to build a career in varied industries as well as can become a researcher in niche AI-related fields such as computer vision, robotics and many others.

JEE Open House

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The IIT-Gandhinagar is organising the JEE Open House at three different locations with the first being held at New Delhi on June 22, 2019 at the PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Nipced Campus, Hauz Khas.

The second and third events will be held on June 23, 2019 at Mumbai in the Walchand Hirachand Hall, Churchgate, and at the IIT Gandhinagar campus. Interested students visit: <http://events.iitg.ac.in/2019/openhouse/>. Highlighting the objectives of these Open House Events, Prof Pratik Mutha, Dean (Academic Affairs), IIT Gandhinagar said: "The JEE Open House aims to address doubts and queries of prospective students and their guardians regarding various disciplines, course structures, activities and opportunities at IITs so that they can take informed decisions. The Open House being organised at three different locations will make it convenient for them to attend at a place of their choice."

The New Delhi session starts from 10 am. The Mumbai session will start from 3 pm onwards.

Practice is key

AIIMS topper, BHAVIK BANSAL speaks with ROHAN BAILWAL about his success story

■ What was your study plan?

I never followed any particular pattern. It was regular depending upon the topic and subject. I used to think topic wise. In AIIMS' entrance exam, new questions come up every year for which you need to have brief knowledge about every topic and subject.

■ Time spent studying.

I never went for the hours. Like I mentioned earlier, I planned everything topic-wise and not time bound. Even if a particular topic took a week I never worried about the time it took. The aim was to gain insight knowledge. When you have vast syllabus, one should learn topic wise for better understanding.

■ How did you manage your institute and school studies?

It's a myth that we can't handle both. Both of them have the same syllabus. All you need to do is practice.

■ How long have you been a part of Aakash institute?

I have been a part of institute for two years. It gave me the peripheral knowledge that one requires to apply for entrance exam. The NCERT gave me the base and the institute gave me



peripheral content.

■ What role did your parents play?

The main thing they did was to support me in my decisions rather than enforce their ideologies on me.

■ What made you choose this field?

When I was in school, I was attracted towards this field. I always wanted to be a doctor. Biology, Chemistry and Physics were my favourite subjects. It is my passion and what's better than doing what you love.

■ Who have been your inspiration?

I don't have any inspiration. The thing which keeps me going is that I enjoy the scientific method to explore different things and learn more.

Study Centres



Those who love to teach and want to work with children with special needs, a career in special education is perfect. Children with special needs require training and instruction by specially trained professionals. The field offers different career opportunities. One can enter this field either doing a diploma course or a bachelor of special education programme. For diploma course 10+2 is the minimum requirement. Special education teachers usually work along with speech therapists, psychologists and physiotherapists. A few colleges to study are:

- Chetana Institute for the Mentally Handicapped, Bhubaneswar. Course: MEd Special Education
- Kurukshetra University : Department of Education, Kurukshetra. Course: Course: MEd Special Education
- MJP Rohilkhand University : Faculty of Education and Allied Sciences, Bareilly. Course: Course: MEd Special Education
- National Institute for the Mentally Handicapped, Secunderabad. Course: MEd Special Education
- Helen Kellers institute of Research and Rehabilitation for the disabled children, Secunderabad. Course: Bachelor of Education (BE) Hearing Impaired)

Trend *Blazer*

Ranveer lauds Virat Kohli

Actor **RANVEER SINGH** has praised star skipper **Virat Kohli**, saying he has changed the face of Indian cricket forever.

Ranveer, who made his commentary debut with Star sports alongside cricket stars Sunil Gavaskar and Virender Sehwag for the ICC Cricket World Cup, shared a photograph of himself along with Kohli on social media.

He captioned it, "I have been a die-hard fan of Indian cricket since childhood. Invested so much emotion into our beloved team. Willing and wanting them to be the undisputed best in the world. And then, there was Virat Kohli."

Ranveer is currently tied up with *83*, a film based on India's historic victory at the 1983 Cricket World Cup.



'It has been a tough journey for me ever since I was a kid when it comes to my battle with obesity. Everyone has their own struggles. I also have had where I tried to manage. But the whole point of life is that we fail, we get back up and try again. Efforts will pay off eventually if not today then in a week or in a month or it can even take a year.'
—Arjun Kapoor



Lakshya clocked 15 years of its release. Its lead actor **Hrithik Roshan** said the film resonated with his phase of self discovery as an actor.



"A beautiful story of self discovery that touched my life in many ways. It gave me a friendship of a decade and half with Farhan (Akhtar) and Ritesh (Sidhwani)." Hrithik said.

Calling it a special film, the actor added, "It blessed me with the overwhelming love from my audience."

Lakshya is a 2004 romantic war drama film, directed by Farhan Akhtar. It also stars Preity Zinta and Amitabh Bachchan.

Dwayne stands for positivity

DWAYNE JOHNSON didn't make a household name for himself by conforming to someone else's idea of who he should be, an approach he encouraged others to take while accepting a top honour at the MTV Movie & TV Awards.

The actor said, "Embracing himself allowed him to carve his own space in the entertainment industry and become one of its biggest stars."

He accepted MTV's generation award with fanfare — running down the stage amidst a blend of hip-hop and Samoan dancers with screens reading "The Rock" in flaming letters behind him — during the show, which was taped Saturday in Santa Monica, California.



A Scorsesean view of Dylan

Filmmaker **MARTIN SCORSESE's** documentary gets up close and personal with the iconic singer and the way he engaged with the audience while on tour. By **TEAM VIVA**

Bob Dylan admits he doesn't remember anything about the *Rolling Thunder Revue*, a 1975 concert tour by the American singer and songwriter. He says it had happened a long time ago when "I wasn't even born."

He finds it impossible to get to the "core" of what it was about because "it's about nothing."

Filmmaker Martin Scorsese's pseudo-documentary *Rolling Thunder Revue* begins with this sequence to try and delve into the phenomenon that was Dylan.

The footage that has been utilised in the film was shot by some incredible director-cameramen — Dave Myers, Howard Alk and a few others. "How do you talk about something that happened 40 years ago? Music is such an important part of his creative life" and goes on to add about the tour, "which I don't know much about but I sensed that there was a negative response to this tour. I didn't quite understand it. People complained about something that Dylan did. The footage that I saw was captured from the stage. It was remarkable but what's the story? What are we telling? I received the assembly of this film and remember watching it. It's conventional," he says and goes on to add, "But what is it really about? Why do I care where they went? It's nothing to ignore. It is something that can move us, and make us think, make us feel before you even think. It has to be preserved and captured and be reminded that it is possible."

Scorsese points out that despite Dylan saying that he did not remember the tour, there was something special both about the singer as well as the concert. "There's a mythology that grows up about it, so let's embrace the mythology. This is not a legend, this is kind of myth, kind of supposed to explore something that is timeless about us as human beings. There's one shot of a young woman crying, after the concert. To have something that, touching, that moves you so much, that was real at that time. Nothing to ignore. That if something can move us, and make us think, make us feel before you think, even. That's something that has to be pre-



served and has to be captured and reminded, audiences today they have to be reminded of what that's possible."

Talking about what drew him to the music of Dylan, Scorsese says, "I have seen Dylan in concerts just once or twice in all these years. My concentration was always on cinema, its music and literature. The films that are still stuck in my mind are *Jazz On A Summer's Day*, *Rock 'n' Roll*, there used to be Doo-wop and other things as well but somehow it is all about music. It was captured in a way that I don't think will ever find an equal. The key was staying on the performer because all the magic and that element

of the music that transcends the situation comes from the performer. I was completely drawn into that music world, so to speak, with *The Last Waltz*. It's as if to offer a certain performance, especially as the concert moves on and they warm up, it's like being around in a fight for prize and they all get through it. 'Ok, take a break, round 5! Then they go back in and soar. They take off and I thought to capture the essence of that beauty of their art. It's like a wild, spiritual experience," Martin says.

Talking about what truly drives him and how he is able to channelise it to great storytelling, he explained that it is intense and personal and also a spiritual experience for him. People say that he is different from all the other directors and knows how to create magic. He says, "You know, when they say, 'Well, directors create magic.' I don't really think so. Because it's more than just that. I don't see directing films as magic, I see that as the nature of the film. There's an element to the tour that has a sense of fun. You do something to the audience, open their minds, so that they don't expect the normal things or the 'conventional.' You don't make it predictable."

The filmmaker, who is known for his mafia films, tells us where his fascination for the mafia world comes from. He says, "I grew up in Little Italy, a small area in New York, very primarily Italian-Americans, Neo Politicians, Sicilians and all kinds of different Italians who, came over to New York on the turn of the century, reside. Growing up there, I saw a lot of very decent people, good and hard-working ones getting into the mafia trap. The area became a transposition of the mafia or the organised crime from Sicily to New York and to America that actually came from New Orleans. So I grew up amongst them. I was seven to eight years old and it seemed to me that they were normal, regular people. You couldn't tell as they were very sweet."

Martin is known to be doing impressions of Robert De Niro during the shooting of *Cape Fear*. "I don't really do impressions of Bob (Robert). I don't know what happened over the years. We became in each other. There's one that I really like and it's from *Goodfellas*, it's become part of my mantra in the sense, it was a scene where Frank Vincent playing Billy Batts really gets under Joe Pesci's skin by calling him 'Go get your shinebox and at that point, they have to go away from him, screaming, kicking. Then, Frank says what the hell is matter with you, you know, what the big deal, can't he take a joke and so Bob he is about to have a drink and he goes 'Well you did insult him a little bit' and then Frank says, 'No, I didn't' (laughs). I always do that, 'you did insult him a little bit and okay, okay let it go.'

'IMPOSSIBLE TO PLEASE EVERYONE'

ANU MENON, popularly known as **Lola Kutty**, asserts that regional accents are bound to influence the way we speak English. By **SAKSHI SHARMA**



A centre parting with braided hair, profusion of jasmine *gajras*, a small bindi on her forehead, Kanjivaram saris teamed with her gold jewellery and a strong accent, Anu put out this description to a 90s kid, nine times (or maybe even 10) to 10, the answer would be Lola Kutty.

Anuradha Menon, who played the much-loved Channel V *VJ*, will be seen in a stand alone comic show on Amazon Prime called 'Wonder Menor'. The show is a collection of her observations, a style that she has favoured since she started out. Through this, she aims to boldly expose the absurdity of life and language with humour and multi-lingual jokes. "In this show, I have tied together all my observations and writings, which luckily make that one hour special, really special," she says.

Her style of comedy is observational-coupled with humour rather than one where she delivers traditional punchlines. With Wonder Menor, Anu has exhausted all her writing for this Amazon show so much so for any other programme she will have to start from a scratch. Anu started comedy in the 90s when she did not feature high on the list of things to be pursued. She paved her own path while combating challenges that are inherent in a field that is new and relatively unexplored. Talking about the evolution of the comic industry, the chirpy *VJ* com actress says, "I think in the current scenario, there are far more platforms to showcase your talent and connect to people." In keeping with the times, she feels, if she was doing *Lola Kutty* today she would have gone through the web route as opposed to television. "The game is changing as there are so many web platforms which have created more avenues and opportunities for stand-up comedy to flourish as well other different kinds of stories."

For her, comedy is merely jokes and does not convey any lesson. "Everyone portrays comedy differently. Some people are into dark humour, others do lighter comedy while still others are more political. Each one of us have different strengths and this is what makes the comic industry appealing. The various voices offer different perspectives which perhaps one might have not thought about," she says. In India, off late, it is the political satire that has been making waves. Anu feels that everyone has a different route to humour. "People believe, with humour, the point is understood smoothly and it also lightens a heavy topic," she says. Menon has been accused of making fun of the Malayali community because she imitated the accent. However, she counters saying, "In this country we take offence easily. For me, stereotypes are there for a reason, because they are true. In fact, I don't think there is anything wrong with people having a strong regional accent as the way we speak our regional tongue possibly infiltrates our English accent." She strongly feels that we should not be apologetic about the way we speak. As she was playing a character from a particular social setting, it was essential for her to zone out of Anu in order to play it convincingly. She is also the last one to pay heed to what people think about her. Asserting that it is fundamentally impossible to please everyone every time, she is glad that because of her some people feel that Malayalam is a cool language. With respect to films, she laughs and tells us, "I would not fit into the role of a conventional heroine because I would never survive in this industry as she is a healthy Malayali girl."

Filmmaker **Kiran Rao**, who has directed two 10-second short films for Facebook India, says shooting a film by a mobile camera and in a vertical frame makes storytelling exciting and inexpensive, especially for youngsters. Eight years after her maiden Bollywood directorial *Dhobi Ghat*, Kiran has returned to filmmaking with the two short movie films that show change in human behaviour. The short film are part of the Facebook Thumbstoppers initiative launched in May.

On the question how short film format will help bring more stories alive as it does not require huge production cost, Kiran said, "Shooting something on a vertical frame will cut the cost and will be more economical. It's also true the cost of

'Mobile storytelling is economical'

shooting is going down with time as technology is becoming more accessible to people. But the cost of shooting also depends on the concept of the film. If I have a high concept that requires VFX, the product will be more expensive. The short format is exciting. Also, the 10-second time format is cutting the cost for an advertiser hugely. I also believe few stories in the short format create more impact than in a longer format." One of her films features Flora Salini and shows a woman nursing a bruise — signifying domestic violence — with an ice pack when her domestic help walks up to her and gives her a cell phone which has the police's



number. In another film, a mother serves milk to her son and daughter. As the sons' glass has more milk than the glass of the daughter, the son pours some of his share into his sister's glass, making the quantity equal. Talking about how the for-

mat will encourage new storytellers, Kiran said, "When we were shooting, we realised that it is coming on a mobile phone and not on a 70 mm screen, we were not conscious about the resolution. It really encourages people to experiment with storytelling with good as your mobile camera. We can do a lot with technology now. That way, I think technology is making this much more affordable and democratic." Thumbstopper Challenge is an invitation to creative minds to submit their short stories on the brief of driving behaviour change in less than 10 seconds, by July 12. —VNS

DHFL DEWAN HOUSING FINANCE CORPORATION LIMITED
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DEMAND NOTICE

Under Section 13(2) of the Securitisation And Reconstruction of Financial Assets And Enforcement Of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with Rule 3 (1) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002. The undersigned is the Authorized Officer of Dewan Housing Finance Corporation Ltd (DHFL) under Securitisation And Reconstruction Of Financial Assets And Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (the said Act). In exercise of powers conferred under Section 13(2) of the said Act read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002, the Authorized Officer has issued Demand Notices under section 13(2) of the said Act, calling upon the following Borrower(s) (the "said Borrower(s)"), to repay the amounts mentioned in the respective Demand Notice(s) issued to them that are also given below. In connection with above, Notice is hereby given, once again, to the said Borrower(s) to pay to DHFL, within 60 days from the publication of the Notice, the amounts indicated hereunder, together with further interest as detailed in the said Demand Notice(s), from the date(s) mentioned below till the date of payment and/or realization, payable under the loan agreement read with other document(s) written up by, executed by the said Borrower(s) as security for due repayment of the loan, the following Demand Notice has been mortgages to DHFL by the said Borrower(s) respectively.

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LLC No. 00000102 of Handwar (Branch) Mahesh Rana (Borrower Sandhya Rani (Co-Borrower 1)	18-02-2019 @ ₹ 136540.00 (₹ Eleven lakh Thirty Six Thousand Five Hundred Forty only) NPA (01-01-2019)	A Plot No.32 Bhabar Kharsa No.394 Situated At Vp Vihar Gang Dadpur Gopindpur Dadi Handwar, Handwar Uttaranchal-249402

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Sd/-
(Authorised Officer)
Dewan Housing Finance Corporation Limited

Place : Delhi
Date : 19.06.2019

NORTHERN RAILWAY E-NOTICE INVITING TENDER
TENDER NOTICE No. -230-Elect-RSO-30-CT/C, Dt. 17.06.2019

For and on behalf of President of India, Sr. Divisional Electrical Engineer (RSO), Northern Railway, Delhi Division, New Delhi invites 'E-Tender' in prescribed tender form for the following work.

Name of the work	Approx. Tender value (Rs.)	E.M.D (Rs.)	Cost of Tenders	Completion period
(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
Hiring of road vehicle (7+16 seater including driver) i.e. TAVERAMAHINDRA SCORPIO/MAHINDRA XOL/OMAHINDRA XUV/IN/COVA or better etc. round the clock with driver under chief tractor. Location: Controller, DIRM's Office New Delhi for the period of two years. Rate for 3000 Km duty per month.	13,26,663/- (with GST)	26,800/-	2,360/- (with GST)	2 Years

(i) The period of issue of Tender Form available on website : 17.06.2019
(ii) Tender bid start date : 27.06.2019
(iii) Tender closing date and time : 17.07.2019 at 14:30 HOURS

1. Tender document and associated attachments (if any) can be downloaded from IREPS website i.e. www.ireps.gov.in or in e-f 17.06.2019 on payment of Rs. 2,360/- (Rs. Two Thousand Three Hundred Sixty only) through online payment mode as available on IREPS website and NIT of the work will also be available on website i.e. www.ireps.gov.in. Tender Submission period is from 17.07.2019 to 14.30 hrs. Tender closing date and time as mentioned in the said Notice. Tender shall be submitted their offer before tender closing date and time. Cost of tender form is not refundable and also not transferable. The cost of tender document will have to be deposited ONLINE. This should be paid separately and not included in the Earnest Money. The tender documents are available on the website www.ireps.gov.in during the period from 17.06.2019 and can be downloaded and used as tender documents for submitting the offer. Railway Administration shall not be responsible for any delay/difficulties/inaccessibility of the downloading facility for any reason whatsoever.

2. The tenders are required to be submitted in original and subsequent to uploading of the Tender Notice and Schedule. Railway reserves the right to make any additional alterations to the tender notice and schedule and issue corrigendum to the same effect. In case the tenderer fails to take note of the above corrigendum, the additions and alterations entered effected in the corrigendum shall be binding upon the tenderer and no claim what so ever will be entertained by Railway. 193/2019

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STAR SPORTS

PTI ■ BIRMINGHAM

With pacer Lungi Ngidi back in the side, South Africa will look to avenge their 2015 semifinal defeat while New Zealand will aim to reclaim their position at the top when the two sides clash in a World Cup match here on Wednesday.

South Africa, who suffered a heart-breaking loss to New Zealand in the last edition, had a dismal start to their World Cup campaign, losing three straight games followed by a wash-out before registering their maiden win against bottom-placed Afghanistan.

In contrast, New Zealand are yet to face defeat in the tournament and are lying second on the table with three wins and a wash-out.

Injuries to pacers Dale Steyn and Anrich Nortje have hurt the South African bowling unit severely.

With Ngidi fully fit and the team finally tasting victory, skipper Faf du Plessis will breathe a sigh of relief.

"Hopefully this is a real confidence booster for everyone on the team. And there's a little bit of weight that you feel that's off your shoulders now. We need to win every game that we play," Du Plessis had said after the win against Afghanistan.

South Africa will need their bowlers to step up to keep their World Cup hopes alive.

A lot will depend on veteran spinner Imran Tahir should the Edgbaston surface offer turn. The 40-year-old took two wickets each against England and Bangladesh, before running through Afghanistan.

The Proteas have been mostly done in by their batting but they will take heart from the fact that pacers Hashim Amla and Quinton de Kock finally clicked in the previous game.

The pair, alongside du Plessis, will have to navigate their way through a quality seam attack led by Trent Boult.

However, considering South Africa's dismal record against spin and the



New Zealand skipper Kane Williamson, right, and pacer Tim Southee

HEAD TO HEAD				
	Played	NZ	RSA	N/R
Matches	70	24	41	5
Day matches	33	13	18	2
In World Cup	7	5	2	-
Last 5 matches	5	2	3	-

HIGHEST TOTALS				
New Zealand	299-6 in 42.5 overs at Auckland		24-03-2015	
South Africa	324-4 in 50 overs at Centurion		25-10-2010	

PERFORMANCE IN WC						
Team	P	W	L	T	N/R	Success%
New Zealand	82	51	30	-	1	62.31
South Africa	60	36	21	2	1	62.50

FAVOURITE FEATURES

and Afghanistan while Ross Taylor has also been among the runs but the team will hope for openers Colin Munro and Martin Guppitt to start clicking.

New Zealand also have two destructive all-rounders in Jimmy Neesham and Colin de Grandhomme in their ranks



South African captain Faf du Plessis reacts during team practice session

SQUADS

New Zealand: Kane Williamson (captain), Martin Guppitt, Matt Henry, Tom Latham, Colin Munro, Jimmy Neesham, Henry Nicholls, Mitchell Santner, Ish Sodhi, Trent Boult, Colin de Grandhomme, Lockie Ferguson, Tim Southee, Ross Taylor, Tom Blundell.

South Africa: Faf du Plessis (captain), Aiden Markram, Quinton de Kock, Hashim Amla, Rassie van der Dussen, David Miller, Chris Morris, Andile Phehlukwayo, JP Duminy, Dwaine Pretorius, Beuran Hendricks, Kagiso Rabada, Lungi Ngidi, Imran Tahir, Tabraiz Shamsi.

XFACTOR

- Pace battle between Rabada-Ngidi and Boult-Henry
- Ross Taylor & Williamson's batting in middle overs
- Imran Tahir's spin magic
- De Kock & Du Plessis' role
- Morris' all-round performance especially with ball
- Will South Africa be able to take revenge of 2015 semis defeat?

playerspeak

TRENT BOULT, NZ

■ **How much assistance are you expecting out of that wicket?**

Not really too sure. It looks pretty light. Obviously, there's been a lot of weather around, but it's just going to be one of those things that we adjust to as it comes. Looking forward to getting out there. We've obviously had a few quiet days. We can't wait to get started.

■ **You've only got three wickets so far. What would you put that down to?**

We've got 30 wickets that's the only main thing I'm worried about. As a unit we've been going really well. We've put the ball where we wanted, and we've put a lot of pressure on the teams that we've come against. If we can continue to do it as a unit then I'll be happy.

■ **Which South African batsman are you looking forward to bowling to?**

We've got to respect all of them. They've got some classy players at the top of the innings. They've obviously had an interesting start to their tournament, so they'll be hungry to come out and perform. Led by an experienced captain, they've got some dangerous hitters lower down in the order. We need to be on the mark with how we start 100 per cent.

■ **Have you had to try a few other things during this competition?**

I'm always trying to get better, first of all, but when the ball hasn't swung, it's always been the biggest challenge to try to get wickets and try to apply pressure. In terms of running on the wicket, it's not really something that I'm worried about. I'm just trying to get close to the stumps and, I suppose, make the most out of the swing that is available.

■ **This is essentially a knockout match for SA. Does that confer an advantage?**

There have always been exciting games between NZ and SA over the past World Cups and past time that we've met each other. 2015, the semis at Eaton Park was one of the greatest games that the Kiwis have played. It obviously got a lot of attention back home, and it was a cool one to be a part of. We're looking forward to facing them.

■ **Why do you think NZ has had the upper hand over SA at World Cups?**

I'm not too sure. Like I said, they're big games. Whether there's a lot of pressure on them, I'm not too sure. For us, we know what works well. For me as a bowler, I'm sure I want to lead the bowling attack as best as I can. If we can do things that we do well and we know that works well, put some early pressure on and get some wickets, then, hopefully they feel that pressure a little bit more.

■ **NZ has come across as the nice guys. What do you think about that?**

I don't think we're going out there to aim to be the nice guys of world cricket or put on a front of any sort. We've just been genuine and been who we are. Just playing the game in good spirits and enjoying it. That's why I feel to love with the game and that's why a lot of people follow the team is because we go out and have fun.

■ **Has the NZ attack been sufficiently challenged in the matches?**

It's definitely going to be a big challenge to see where we're at. We've been lucky to be on a couple of new surfaces that have offered a lot to our style of bowling. The challenge is always going to be to see what we can do on the wickets that don't offer too much, and that's what we're prepared for here. It's a quality wicket. There's been a lot of runs scored here, so it's definitely going to be a good challenge.

MEN WHO MATTER

KANE WILLIAMSON (NZ)

The skipper has been in prime form, scoring 40 and 79* in his last two innings after aggregating 152 runs in the two warm-up games. Williamson, who scored a century in his last outing at Edgbaston, will once again look to play a long innings.



KAGISO RABADA (SOUTH AFRICA)

The star spinner, who couldn't bowl against New Zealand after being hit by a Lockie Ferguson bouncer earlier in the day, went wicket-less in seven overs against South Africa. Rashid will eye a much-improved performance on Tuesday, as he holds the key to Afghanistan stopping the power-packed England batting line-up.



UNDER THE WEATHER

It will be a cloudy start to the day with chances of some light rain showers. However, it should become increasingly dry and bright as the day wears on. Teams batting first have won three of the last four completed games at Edgbaston.

PTI ■ BIRMINGHAM

South Africa pacer Lungi Ngidi has confirmed he is "100 per cent fit" to take the field in their World Cup match against New Zealand today.

South Africa's start to their World Cup campaign has been far from ideal, having lost three opening games and a wash-out tie, with a slew of injuries hampering their progress.

Ngidi played just the two opening games before sustaining a left hamstring injury in a match against Bangladesh.

"It's been tough. Injuries are never nice, but with the support staff that I've had around me it's been pretty good and I've been alright," Ngidi was quoted as saying by the official website of the *Cricketer World Cup*.

"It's just been frustrating not being able to play."

"I've just finished a fitness test today and passed that, so I'm match-fit ready. It's 100 per cent. That's how the fitness test goes and if you're not bowling at 100 per cent then you're not ready to play," the young fast bowler added.

South Africa had been forced to field a depleted pace attack with legendary fast bowler Dale Steyn ruled out of the entire tournament, while Ngidi sat out of three matches.

The 23-year-old pacer's return is expected to bolster South Africa, who have only an outside chance now of making it to the semi-finals after three losses from five games.

In their last match, South Africa finally managed to get a win under their belt after beating Afghanistan and now they would need to win the

All is well



South African pacer Lungi Ngidi reacts during practice session

rest of the league stage matches in order to make the last four, and Ngidi feels New Zealand do have some weaknesses that could be exploited.

"I don't think their middle and lower order have been tested enough. They have got most of their runs at the top of the order, so if we can get one or two maybe we can test them. It then you could be looking at a different situation with their batting," said Ngidi.

AFP ■ EDGBASTON

Quinton de Kock has told his South Africa teammates to keep their heads when they face New Zealand in a must-win World Cup match on Wednesday.

South Africa's hopes of making the semi-finals would effectively be over if they lose at Edgbaston after a wretched start to the tournament.

Defeats to England, Bangladesh and India have left South Africa wicketkeeper-batsman De Kock billing the New Zealand match as a "quarter-final".

A nine-wicket victory over Afghanistan on Saturday was their first win in this World Cup in England and Wales.

The Proteas cannot afford any more slip-ups in their remaining games against New Zealand, Pakistan, Sri Lanka and Australia if they are to maintain slender hopes of a semi-final berth.

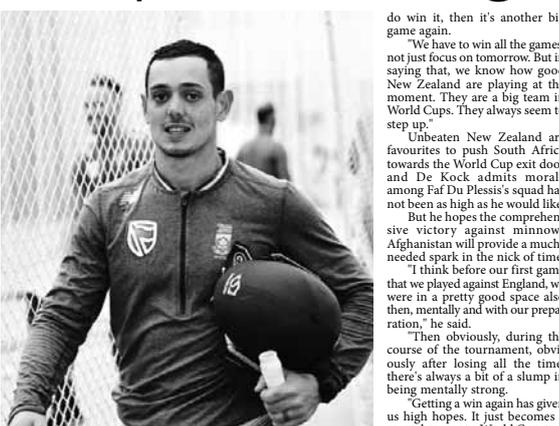
De Kock admits South Africa's chances of avoiding an embarrassingly early elimination will be wrecked if they do not cope with the stress of playing in a do-or-die situation.

"Obviously it's a big game for us but, in saying that, our next three or four games that we have, they are all going to be big games for us for the rest of the tournament," he said.

"We're just going to have to go out there, keep our heads steady and play freely."

"Tomorrow is a quarter-final, I guess you could say it, but if we

Keep heads high



South African wicket keeper batsman Quinton de Kock

do win it, then it's another big game again.

"We have to win all the games, not just focus on tomorrow. But in saying that, we know how good New Zealand are playing at the moment. They are a big team in World Cups. They always seem to step up."

Unbeaten New Zealand are favourites here to push South Africa towards the World Cup exit door and De Kock admits morale among Faf du Plessis's squad has not been as high as he would like.

But he hopes the comprehensive victory against minnows Afghanistan will provide a much-needed spark in the nick of time.

"I think before our first game that we played against England, we were in a pretty good space also then, mentally and with our preparation," he said.

"Then obviously, during the course of the tournament, obviously after losing all the time, there's always a bit of a slump in being mentally strong."

"Getting a win again has given us high hopes. It just becomes a mental game at a World Cup, trying to deal with all the pressures and stuff."

"We've put a lot of emphasis on our energy going into the games, and the situation we're in right now, our energy needs to be better than ever."

Captain Marvelous

Morgan's record breaking 148, Bairstow's 90 and Root's 88 guide England to 397-6 against hapless Afghanistan



England's captain Eoin Morgan, right, celebrates with teammate Joe Root after scoring a century

MOST RUNS CONCEDED IN AN INNINGS

OVERS	RUNS	BOWLER	OPPONENT	VENUE	DATE
10	113	Mick Lewis (Aus)	South Africa	Jo'burg	12-03-2006
10	110	Wahab Riaz (Pak)	England	Nottingham	30-08-2016
9	110	Rashid Khan (Afg)	England	Manchester	18-06-2019
10	106	Bhuvneshwar Kumar (Ind)	South Africa	Mumbai	25-10-2015
10	106	Nuwan Pradeep (SL)	India	Mohali	13-12-2017

FAISEL FEATURES

AFP ■ MANCHESTER

England captain Eoin Morgan set a new record for most sixes in a one-day international innings as the World Cup hosts piled up 397 for six in against Afghanistan on Tuesday. Morgan hit 17 sixes in his career-best 148, with England's total of 25 sixes also a new world record.

Morgan, dropped on 28, dominated a third-wicket stand of 189 with Joe Root (82), whose contribution to their partnership was a mere 33.

Afghanistan star leg-spinner Rashid Khan set an unwanted record with 0-110 in nine overs — the most expensive return at a World Cup and second costliest in all ODI cricket.

Morgan's tally surpassed the record of 16 sixes in an ODI innings previously shared by India's Rohit Sharma, South Africa's AB de Villiers and West Indies' Chris Gayle.

But one ball after launching Gulbadin Naib for the record-breaking six, Morgan holed out off the Afghanistan captain to end a 71-ball innings that also featured four sixes.

Morgan settled in quickly, hitting Naib for two sixes including a fine hit over long-on. But the left-hander should have been out when he skied Rashid Khan only for Dawlat Zadran at deep midwicket to make such a mess of the catch that the ball bounced out of his hands and over the rope for four.

It was a costly error, with Morgan immediately hitting a soaring six. He cleared the boundary again in a 36th over that cost 18 runs.

Morgan then went to fifty with his fifth six in 36 balls faced when he pulled off-spinner Mohammad Nabi high into an 8,000-capacity temporary stand.

Root was denied a second successive hundred and third of the tournament when he holed out off

MOST SIXES IN AN INNINGS IN ODIs					
Sixes (Score)	Batsman	Opponent	Venue	Date	
17 (148)	Eoin Morgan (Eng)	Afghanistan	Manchester	18-06-2019	
16 (209)	Rohit Sharma (Ind)	Australia	Bangalore	02-11-2013	
16 (149)	Ab de Villiers (SA)	West Indies	Jo'burg	18-01-2015	
16 (215)	Chris Gayle (WI)	Zimbabwe	Canberra	24-02-2015	
15 (185)	Shane Watson (Aus)	Bangladesh	Dhaka	11-04-2011	

FASTEST CENTURIES					
Balls (Score)	Batsman	Opponent	Venue	Date	
50 (113)	Kevin O'Brien (Irl)	England	Bangalore	02-03-2011	
51 (102)	Glenn Maxwell (Aus)	Sri Lanka	Sydney	08-03-2015	
52 (162)	Ab de Villiers (SA)	West Indies	Sydney	27-02-2015	
57 (148)	Eoin Morgan (Eng)	Afghanistan	Manchester	18-06-2019	
66 (101)	Matthew Hayden (Aus)	South Africa	St Kitts	24-03-2007	

FAISEL FEATURES

SCOREBOARD	
England	397-6 (100 overs)
Afghanistan	110-6 (20 overs)
England batsmen	
Joe Root	82 (100)
Eoin Morgan	148 (148)
Jonny Bairstow	90 (100)
Ben Stokes	28 (100)
Moeen Ali	28 (100)
Chris Woakes	not out (1)
England bowlers	
Rashid Khan	110-6 (20)
Dawlat Zadran	28-1 (10)
Mohammad Nabi	28-1 (10)
Gulbadin Naib	28-1 (10)
Rahmat Shah	28-1 (10)
Rashid Khan	28-1 (10)



Roy targets Aus match for return

AFP ■ MANCHESTER

Jason Roy is targeting England's match against arch-rivals Australia for a World Cup return after being sidelined with a torn hamstring.

The in-form opening batsman was ruled out of England's match against Afghanistan at Old Trafford and their pool encounter with Sri Lanka at Headingley on Friday.

He tore his left hamstring in the field during England's eight-wicket win over the West Indies last week and did not bat. But having suffered a similar injury during England's tour of the Caribbean earlier this year and with the World Cup featuring a long pool phase that sees all 10 teams play each other ahead of the semi-finals, the 28-year-old Roy is confident of returning to action.

"I did it in the West Indies and it was a lot worse," Roy told Sky Sports. "It could be way worse — the scan told me it's minimum 10 days. We've got to assess it as we go along."

"It's a huge understatement being frustrated, but I've got to keep smiling," the Surrey star added.

Roy hit a fifty in England's opening win over South Africa and then struck a commanding 153 in the host nation's victory over Bangladesh.

But he fell for just eight during England's surprise 14-run defeat to Pakistan at Trent Bridge.

Now he hopes to face reigning champions Australia at Lord's on June 25.

"We're targeting Australia but we'll see how this week goes," said Roy, whose opening partnership with Bairstow has been a key factor in England's rise to the top of the one-day international rankings and their status as favourites to win the World Cup.

"If this week goes to plan, then Australia. If not, then who knows. Handstrains are such a grey area."

OTHER SPORTS



Chile's Eduardo Vargas, center, celebrates scoring his side's second goal during Copa America Group C match against Japan

Vargas scores brace as Chile rout Japan

AFP ■ SAO PAULO

Eduardo Vargas scored twice as Chile launched the defense of their Copa America crown with an emphatic 4-0 defeat of Japan in Sao Paulo on Monday.

Vargas, who plays for Mexico club Tigres UANL, netted twice in the second half as Chile gradually overpowered a skillful but limited Japan, who are playing in the South American showpiece as one of two invited teams from Asia.

Erick Pulgar had opened the scoring for Chile in the first half before Vargas doubled the 2015 and 2016 champions' advantage with a deflected second-half strike.

Manchester United's Alexis Sanchez then took his Chilean record goals tally to 42 after diving to head home in the 82nd minute before Vargas scored the pick of the goals moments later with a deft lob over Japan goalkeeper Keisuke Osako.

The win saw Chile join Uruguay at the top of Group C, level on points and goal difference.

"The important thing is that we move on now with humility," said Chile coach Reinaldo Rueda. "This win doesn't suddenly make us a dream team, just as we weren't the disaster that our critics were saying we were before." The scoreline was harsh on Japan, who had carved out sever-

al promising chances but were let down by poor finishing from young striker Ayase Ueda.

"We deserved to score a goal," said Japan coach Hajime Moriyasu. "The difference was that they were clinical and took their chances. We're sad to lose but proud that we really took it to them."

Japan had started confidently, dominating territory and possession albeit without threatening the Chile goal.

Their best early chance came after nine minutes when Shoya Nakajima let fly after bursting forward only to see his shot saved by Chile goalkeeper Gabriel Arias. As the first half wore on, Chile looked increasingly more threatening, and Sanchez sounded the alarm in the Japanese defense in the 35th minute when his low shot flashed just wide.

Sanchez then almost played in Charles Aranguiz but the Bayer Leverkusen midfielder took too long to get his shot away, allowing Japan to deflect behind from a corner.

CHILE DOMINANT Aranguiz made amends, though, in the 41st minute by delivering the set piece which gave Chile the lead. The goal reflected Chile's dominance, but Japan were given a glorious opportunity to equalize just before half-time. Chile coughed up posses-

sion inside their own half and Gaku Shibasaki released Ueda on goal.

The 20-year-old Ueda was unable to make the chance count, though, rounding Arias but failing to find the empty net with his shot from a tight angle.

The half closed with Chile threatening to add to their lead, Sanchez's header from close range saved by Osako. Chile picked up where they left off as the second half got under way, stroking the ball around confidently to deny Japan possession. In the 54th minute the Chileans doubled their lead. A fluent build-up saw Mauricio Isla go clear down the right and he squared for Vargas, whose shot took a wicked deflection off Takehiro Tomiyasu on its way into the net.

Once again, though, a Chilean goal was followed by a golden Japan opportunity which they again squandered.

Shibasaki's fine cross picked out an unmarked Ueda at the back post but the youngster's composure again deserted him, hooking his shot wide with Arias and the Chile goal at his mercy.

Ueda missed another chance in the 69th minute but Chile slammed the door shut on hopes of a revival when Sanchez headed in Aranguiz's cross on 82 minutes before Vargas made it 4-0 a minute later.

PTI ■ HIROSHIMA

Gurjit Kaur slammed four goals, including a hat-trick as India thrashed lowly Fiji 11-0 to storm into the semifinals of the FIH Women's Series Finals hockey tournament, here on Tuesday.

Gurjit struck in the 15th, 19th, 21st and 22nd minutes while Monika (11th, 33rd) scored a brace for India in a lop-sided Pool A match.

Lalresiamia (4th), Rani (10th), Vandana Kataraya (12th), Lilima Minz (51st) and Navneet Kaur (57th) were also among the goal scorers for the winners.

World No 9 India dominated their lowly ranked opponents throughout the match, allowing Fiji to only have one circle entry in the entire 60 minutes, whilst making 74 entries into the opposition's striking area.

The first quarter was dominated by India which saw them take the lead in the fourth minute when Lalresiamia's cross-field ball was deflected by a Fiji defender into the back of the net.

Captain Rani scored India's second goal in the 10th minute from a penalty corner.

India maul Fiji 11-0, enter semis



Indian player battles for ball possession with her Fiji counterpart during last group stage game

the next minute Monika made the scoreline 3-0 from Neha Goyal's assist.

Forward Vandana Kataraya scored only her second goal of the competition when she struck in the 12th minute.

Gurjit then scored her first of four goals by converting a penalty corner in the last minute of the first

quarter to hand India a 5-0 advantage.

In the 19th minute, Gurjit scored from another penalty corner by slotting home in the left bottom side of Fiji goal to make it 6-0 in India's favour.

Two minutes later, Gurjit completed her hat-trick when she scored from a rebound with a reverse stick shot after her drag-flick was blocked by a defender.

Gurjit struck again in the 22nd minute from another penalty corner to make it 8-0 in India's favour.

Early in the third quarter, midfielder Monika scored India's ninth goal of the match, deflecting in Sushila Chanu Pukhrambam's shot from just outside the circle in the 33rd minute.

Lilima then joined the party and registered her name in the scoresheet with reverse stick shot in the 51st minute.

Six minutes later, Navneet pounced on a loose clearance by the Fiji goalkeeper to round off the tally for India.

India will play their semifinal encounter on Saturday.

Real's Rodrygo identifies with Neymar

AFP ■ MADRID

Real Madrid's new signing Rodrygo has said he models his game on Neymar and Robinho as the 18-year-old on Tuesday became the latest arrival unveiled at the Santiago Bernabeu.

Madrid completed a 45-million-euro (\$50.3 million) deal for Rodrygo Silva de Goes in June last year but agreed to let the Brazilian striker stay at Santos for another season.

He is the fifth player to join Madrid this summer, following Eden Hazard, Eder Militao, Ferland Mendy and Luka Jovic for a minimum transfer outlay to 300 million euros.

"For me it is a dream come true," Rodrygo said at a press conference. "I have always said it is the dream of every child in Brazil and the world. I'm living a dream, it's the happiest day of my life." Rodrygo has signed for Madrid's first team but said he would be happy to play



Brazilian player Rodrygo Goes, left, poses with Real Madrid President Florentino Perez during his official presentation at the Santiago Bernabeu

for Castilla, the club's B side, to gain experience.

"After being presented in the stands by club president Florentino Perez, Rodrygo emerged on the pitch at the Santiago Bernabeu, where he kicked balls into a crowd of around 2,000 fans.

on the left especially, but I have no preference. I'm ready to play."

Neymar has been linked with a return to Spain just two years after he joined Paris Saint-Germain from Barcelona for a world record 222 million euros.

Asked if he would like either to play alongside or emulate his compatriot, Rodrygo said: "Neymar is a great player but he's on another team and I can't talk about him."

"No, I would like to be the Rodrygo of Madrid. There is only one Neymar, there can't be another."

Madrid struggled for goals last season in the wake of Cristiano Ronaldo's departure to Juventus, despite another Brazilian teenager, Vinicius Junior, enjoying an impressive first year in the Spanish capital.

Vinicius began the season playing for Castilla but was promoted by coach Santiago Solari. Rodrygo hopes to follow suit.

"I have spoken to Vinicius since I signed and when we met in the national team we talked about the club," Rodrygo said.

"Madrid always has the best players in the world, I know there will be a lot of competition but I am available to the club to play in the first team or for Castilla."

"The pressure is here at all football clubs but there it is much higher. Vinicius told me about his experience. He told me to be patient. I'm young, I have a big future ahead of me and everything will happen naturally."

Perez said: "Today marks a momentous time in your career, soon you will wear the white shirt."

"Your growth has been spectacular and you now face the challenge that you have chosen. Here you will succeed with work and humility, the fans will always be on your side but you must know the high demands of our club, it is a hallmark of Real Madrid."