



# 60 lakh take holy dip on Somvati Amavasya

PNS ■ HARIDWAR

An estimated 60 lakh pilgrims took holy dip in the Ganga on Somvati Amavasya on Monday, claim the officials. The arrival of devotees had begun on Sunday, a day ahead of Somvati Amavasya snan. A long weekend and the auspicious occasion beckoned tourists from Delhi NCR region, Punjab, Haryana and Rajasthan.

Temporary bus stands set up at Rishikul witnessed heavy rush of pilgrims. Movement of heavy vehicles was stopped from Sunday midnight to Monday midnight. The hill pass road and Chilla road were opened to ease the traffic flow in the city area.

The period of merit on Somvati Amavasya started on Monday morning and lasted till late evening. Pilgrims from all parts of the country thronged the Ganga river here to gain the merit of having snan on Somvati Amavasya. The people performed tarpan (offering to the ancestors) at Narayani Shila and Kushawart Ghat. It is believed that whatever one offers on this day to the deceased family members, reaches them and one earns



Multitudes throng Har Ki Paudi for a dip on Somvati Amavasya



Vehicles crawl in Haridwar with lakhs of people arriving on Somvati Amavasya

merit by taking holy dip. The merit gained is even more than performing 'Ashwamedh yajna'.

The district's senior superintendent of police (SSP) Janmejay Khanduri along with his team monitored the movements from CCR Tower at Har

Ki Paudi while the district magistrate Deepak Rawat inspected the area in the morning hours. Speaking to The Pioneer, the SSP Janmejay Khanduri said, "There was no chock-block situation on the highway or other roads connecting to

Har Ki Paudi. In Roorkee there was traffic jam for a few minutes but was resolved soon. Till 4 PM 55 lakh pilgrims had taken the dip at Har Ki Paudi and other Ganga Ghats and after evening Arti the number crossed 60 lakh. The highway

was not closed at any point of time. Four wheelers were allowed beyond Rishikul in the afternoon till the railway station." Discussing about the traffic arrangements, the SSP added, "The whole of mela zone had been divided into

zones and sectors. Police personnel were positioned across the highway and the major crossings to ensure people do not stand midway creating traffic chaos.

While diverting the traffic from Laksar region, the pace

was slowed down but nowhere was traffic jam reported. Traffic was diverted from Narsen intersection and inside city through Chilla route, buses were diverted. "Zero zone was marked from post office tri-junction to the main market of Har Ki Paudi

and towards Bhim Goda area. Two teams of bomb disposal squad and dog squad were deputed in the mela zone and the whole area was under the surveillance through close circuit television cameras, added the SSP.

## State to give minor rape victim compensation of ₹7 lakh

PNS ■ DEHRADUN

State Minister for Women and Child Welfare, Rekha Arya on Monday visited Government Doon Medical College (GDMC) hospital to meet the nine year old rape victim and her family from Tehri.

The minister said that the State will be providing a compensation of ₹7,00,000 to the minor under the state's scheme for victims of serious crimes in Uttarakhand.

Arya said, "I have spoken to the victim and her mother. The girl is suffering from urinary tract infection as the doctors told us. She will be fine in two-three days.

The mother and few other people accompanying them have alleged that police is conducting partial investigation and trying to protect the accused.

They also transported the victim and the minor in the same vehicle for recording their statements. If such is the



State Minister Rekha Arya during his visit to GDMC hospital on Monday

case then immediate action will be taken against the officer concerned."

She further added, "The family belongs to a financially poor background. For the future of the minor victim, we will be providing the compensation amount of ₹7,00,000

under our scheme for victims of crime in Uttarakhand." It is pertinent to mention here that the accused in this case, Vipin Panwar was arrested on May 31. However, the nine year old victim has not been able to give her statement under the section of 164 CrPC so far.

## Edu Min opens 'Super 100' programme

PNS ■ DEHRADUN

As part of State Government's effort to prepare students for competitive examination, a 'Super 100' programme was inaugurated by the Education Minister, Arvind Pandey on Monday.

In a ceremony organised at Rajiv Gandhi Navodaya Vidyalaya, Nanoorkheda in Dehradun on Monday, the minister congratulated the Director General (DG) school education and the education department for conceiving and starting 'Super 100' programme.

In his address, Pandey exhorted the students to work hard so that best results emanate out from the programme. He expressed hope that better results from the initiative would help in alleviating the level of education in the state. The minister assured the students that the state government is prepared to provide every possible facility to them.

The Director General education and state project director, Samagra Shiksha, Jyoti



Yadav said that the participating students have been motivated that the course would help them in achieving their goals. She exuded confidence that the "Super 100" programme would be able to achieve the purpose for which it is started.

Yadav added that the department officials, faculty members and personnel have been directed that they should ensure that high standard of education is maintained during the programme. Similarly, the officials have been asked to provide best reading material,

nutritious food, lodging facility, safety, sanitation and health to the students, she added.

In his address the director Education, R K Kunwar said that the students should set up high standards for them and then study in a dedicated manner in order to achieve the tar-

EDU MINISTER HOPES THAT BETTER RESULTS FROM INITIATIVE WOULD HELP IN ALLEVIATING LEVEL OF EDU IN THE STATE

get. The additional project director Samgra Shiksha, S B Joshi informed that 96 boys and 96 girls have so far registered for the course and the process of registration is open.

In the 'Super 100' programme, meritorious students from every block have been selected. In the course 100 days of crash course would be provided to these students. The course aims to prepare students for competitive examinations.

The programme was also attended by joint project director, Manju Bharati, Principal Rahiv Gandhi Navodaya Vidyalaya Sanjiv Sundariyal, deputy directors, Sanjiv Joshi, Sohan Singh Majilla and faculty members Saurav Kumar, SP Singh, Pramod Kumar Sati.

## 150th anniversary celebrations begin in Sherwood College

PNS ■ NAINITAL

The three-day celebrations of Sherwood College's 150th anniversary celebrations began here on Monday.

The students performed swimming and skating apart from putting up various exhibitions on the first day of the event. Kumaon commissioner Rajiv Rautela was the Chief Guest on the occasion while actor and former student of the school, Dalip Tahil was the special guest.



Addressing the gathering, the Kumaon commissioner said that the occasion was a moment of pride not only for the school but also for Nainital town.

He also appreciated the effort put up by the students. Exhibitions on mathematics, science, geography, history, music, social science and other subjects were also held on the occasion.

In the environment related exhibition, various suggestions for environmental conservation

The Students performed swimming and skating apart from putting up various exhibitions on first day of the event

were shared. Information about latest inventions were displayed in the physics exhibition.

## Deputy commandant's parade held at IMA



PNS ■ DEHRADUN

As part of the preparation for the final Passing out Parade (PoP) scheduled on Saturday, a well coordinated and imposing; Deputy Commandant's parade was held at Indian Military Academy (IMA) on Monday.

In the parade organised at Chetwode drill square 382 Indian and 77 foreign Gentlemen Cadets participated with vigour, zeal and enthusiasm with perfect drill movements. The reviewing officer of the parade was deputy commandant and chief instructor of the IMA, Major General G S Rawat.

In his address, Maj General

Rawat complimented the Gentlemen Cadets (GC) of the Passing out Course for a good parade.

He mentioned that the efforts of the faculty and the hard work of the GCs were quite evident from the crisp and coordinated movements. The Deputy Commandant expressed confidence that the standard of the parade would improve further as the final POP on June 8, draws near.

Exhorting the "would be officers" to lead by example, the soldiers who would be under their command, Maj General Rawat said, "Indian troops are the best in the world, simple by heart, unquestionable loyal and filled with patriotism. But then,

as an officer you have to earn their respect and trust by your action, conduct and demeanor and above all by the truthfulness and purity of your intention and action. Once you have earned their trust and loyalty they will follow you even to hell and conquer it with you."

Large number of school children and local citizens witness the parade at the drill square of Chetwode building.

The Public Relation Officer of IMA, Lt Col Shivendra Singh said that the duty of the IMA to train the GCs ends herein after which they will step into their Units and Regiments, who will groom them further and make them responsible and competent leaders.

गढ़वाल मण्डल विकास निगम लि०  
74/1, राजपुर रोड, देहरादून

**निविदा सूचना**  
प्रबन्ध निदेशक, गठमोडिगिनिडिओ, 74/1 राजपुर रोड, देहरादून की ओर से अयोध्यासमिती द्वारा "श्रीनगर में पर्यटन सूचना केंद्र परिसर का सुदृढीकरण कार्य" हेतु समस्त सरकारी/अर्द्धसरकारी विभागों में भवन निर्माण कार्य हेतु 'डी' एवं उच्चतर श्रेणी में पंजीकृत लेखद्वारा से मुहर बन्ध निविदायें दिनांक 18.06.2019 को अपराह्न 3.00 बजे तक आमन्त्रित की जाती है जो उसी दिन अपराह्न 3.30 बजे निविदा समिति द्वारा निविदा दाताओं की उपस्थिति में खोली जायेगी। कार्य की धरोहर राशि ₹ 17,500.00 (एक लाख अठ्ठासी हजार) से अधिक के रूप में प्रधान प्रबन्धक (निर्माण) के पक्ष में बन्धक होगी। निविदा प्रपत्र का मूल्य ₹ 1000.00 + (जीएसटी) अतिरिक्त। कार्य पूर्ण करने की अवधि 3 माह तथा निविदा की वैधता 3 माह होगी। निविदा प्रपत्र निविदा खोले जाने की तिथि से एक दिन पूर्व तक प्रत्येक कार्य दिवस में कार्यालय से प्राप्त किये जा सकते हैं। कार्य का विस्तृत विवरण, नियम व शर्तें किसी भी कार्य दिवस में कार्यालय में देखी जा सकती है।  
**महाप्रबन्धक (पर्यटन/प्रशासन)**

## BSNL launches its first ASK in State

PNS ■ DEHRADUN

The Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) launched its first Aadhaar Seva Kendra in Uttarakhand at Cross Road CSC. This Aadhaar Seva Kendra was inaugurated by the BSNL Uttarakhand circle CGM (T) HK Verma and UIDAU RO DDG Pradeep Kumar. According to officials, BSNL will open 34 34 Aadhaar Seva Kendras in the whole of Uttarakhand which will provide Aadhaar services like

enrollment and updation. This will provide people of Uttarakhand more ease in availing Aadhaar services. The Aadhaar services like Aadhaar enrollment and mandatory biometrics update at the age of five and 15 years will be provided free of cost. Any other updates like demographic



updates which include address, mobile phone number, name, gender, date of birth and email id can be done at the centre at a cost of Rs 50/-per update. Similarly, any bio-

metric update like photograph, finger prints can be done at a cost of Rs 50/-per update. Residents should also keep in mind that while updating any field one should always carry

original supporting documents to the centre.

Further, the date of birth can be updated only once in Aadhaar. Residents can update name twice and gender also only once in Aadhaar.

In case the date of birth, name or gender is to be updated more than prescribed limit, it can be done through exceptional handling process which may require the resident to visit regional office of the UIDAI.

Residents can also download E-Aadhaar from the website. As E-Aadhaar is an electronic copy of the Aadhaar card, it is a valid document and accepted everywhere. Residents should register their mobile number with Aadhaar. Any Aadhaar related information can be obtained from the Website www.uidai.gov.in and toll free number 1947, said officials.

# CM meets PM, discusses developmental issues



PNS ■ DEHRADUN

Chief minister Trivendra Singh Rawat met Prime Minister Narendra Modi in the national Capital on Monday. Later, talking to the media, the chief minister said that he discussed various issues related to the development of Uttarakhand with the Prime Minister. The Kumbh Mela to be held in Uttarakhand during 2021, hydro power projects in the state and other issues were discussed between the CM and PM. Rawat said that the PM

assured all possible cooperation with Uttarakhand. The CM further said that PM Modi also shared his experiences of Kedarnath during their meeting. The Uttarakhand CM said that after the 2013 disaster, various hydro power projects in the state were stalled. Most of the work on these projects has been completed but due to various reasons these hydro power projects have not been completed so far. He said that if the state receives the cooperation of the National Green Tribunal

and other agencies, these projects would be completed soon. Rawat said, "Uttarakhand purchases electricity amounting to about Rs 1,000 crore despite which it is a state which provides electricity at the most inexpensive rates." He further said that due to PM Modi's special attachment to Kedarnath and after the reconstruction works at Kedarnath, there has been a rapid rise in the number of pilgrims undertaking the Char Dham Yatra. An average of 13,000 devotees are visiting Kedarnath every day, he added.

# Tourism Dept considering dark tourism in Kedarnath



Tourism minister Satpal Maharaj addresses the media along with high commissioner of Mauritius in India, J Goburdhun

PNS ■ DEHRADUN

The State's tourism department is planning to encourage dark tourism in Kedarnath. Defined as tourism involving travel to places historically associated with death and tragedy, dark tourism in Kedarnath is an initiative being taken by the State's Tourism and Culture minister Satpal Maharaj. A Smriti Van (memorial forest) will be developed at Kedarnath where visitors will be able to learn about the 2013 disaster and pay homage to those who lost their lives here in the disaster. The department will submit its detailed proposal to the government.

Addressing the media here on Monday, Maharaj said that thousands of people had lost their lives in the June 2013

disaster at Kedarnath. Those who died included locals and people from across the nation who had come on pilgrimage to Kedarnath. The department wants to depict the details of the disaster including the tragedy and rescue. The tourism department plans to develop a Smriti Van with description of those who died in the 2013 disaster. Guides will also be posted here to provide proper information about various aspects of the disaster to the visitors. Stressing that encouraging dark tourism in Kedarnath would not send a negative message, the minister said that it is important to know about and learn from such disasters. He also cited the 9/11 memorial and Ground Zero in New York and other sites in France, Ukraine, Italy and Czech Republic where dark tourism is being facilitated.

# Utkhand to help Indian-origin citizens of Mauritius know about their ancestors & native place

PNS ■ DEHRADUN

The Uttarakhand tourism department will help non resident Indians to get in touch with their roots by providing them information about their ancestors and their native villages. Initially, this will be facilitated for Indian-origin people of Mauritius.

Addressing the media along with the high commissioner of Mauritius in India, J Goburdhun, the state's tourism and culture minister Satpal Maharaj said that details of the ancestors will be sought in the historical records kept by priests in Haridwar, Badrinath and Kedarnath. It is being hoped that this will enable many Indian-origin people to learn about their ancestors and their native place. He said that pilgrims have been visiting Haridwar, Badrinath and Kedarnath for centuries now. Their names are recorded in documents maintained by the priests (Pandas) at these pilgrimage centres.

Goburdhun said that Mauritius will soon sign a memorandum of understanding with the Uttarakhand tourism department. Following this, pilgrims from Mauritius will receive rebate in the tourism department's guest houses. Mauritius will also provide similar rebate to visitors from Uttarakhand. Exchanges will also be facilitated in adventure tourism, economic and cultural aspects.

# Mauritian High Commissioner meets CM

PNS ■ DEHRADUN

The high commissioner of Mauritius in India, J Goburdhun met chief minister Trivendra Singh Rawat here on Monday. Meeting the CM after having visited Badrinath and Kedarnath, he also invited Rawat to visit Mauritius.

He thanked the CM for providing rebate to people from Mauritius undertaking the Char Dham Yatra. Stating that Mauritius had a population of 13 lakh and had an equal number of tourists visiting it in a year, he also spoke of cooperation in the sphere of tourism. Goburdhun said that the people of Mauritius had deep faith in the Ganga river. He also informed the CM about the efforts being undertaken by the government of Mauritius for development of Bhojपुर and other languages.

The CM informed the high commissioner about the various steps taken in Uttarakhand for encouraging tourism and pilgrimage. Due to the facilities being provided to the visitors, lakhs of people are visiting the State as tourists or for undertaking the Char Dham Yatra. He also appreciated the attempts being made by the people of Mauritius to reconnect with their roots in India.

# 35 proposals passed in MCD board meeting



Mayor Sunil Uniyal 'Gama' presides over MCD board meeting on Monday

Pioneer photo

PNS ■ DEHRADUN

About 35 proposals were passed in the second meeting of the current board of the Municipal Corporation of Dehradun (MCD) on Monday. Majority of the councillors complained about the poor condition of drainage system in their areas, regarding which mayor Sunil Uniyal 'Gama' said that MCD will be buying three new JCBs for the cleaning of these drains before monsoon season.

Gama informed the media, "The idea is to generate more revenue so that we can do more work for the development of this city. On large chunks of land under MCD area, we are planning to construct hotels, wedding points or markets. On smaller lands, we will make a proposal and send it to the state administration, for selling purpose."

On biogas plant, the mayor said, "We will collect the dung of cattle from dairies and charge them for it. Those who will not abide by it will be penalised."

It is worth mentioning here that during the meeting when councillor Manchand raised objection on this agenda, stating that penalty should be imposed on those dairy owners who abandon old cows and male calves on

the streets, to which the mayor did not give any satisfactory reply.

On the proposal of health department for the compliance of Construction and Demolition Waste Rules 2016, MCD has identified three spots in Harbanswala, Karpur and Makkawala. Additional Municipal Commissioner, Neeraj Joshi said that the National Green Tribunal has taken strict actions against Almora municipal council, imposing a penalty of Rs 10 lakh for not complying with this regulation. Taking that in view, MCD will be taking segregation of waste seriously. In case of building demolition, builders are supposed to segregate the waste into wood, tiles and bricks.

On the proposal from Health department for special cleanliness drive MCD has passed Rs 85 lakh in the 40 new wards.

Councillor Amita Singh pointed out that MCD alone is getting all the blame for the drain blockage. She alleged that National Highway division had left construction materials near the roadside drains from Balliwala to Ballapur Chowk which will create problems during monsoon. She proposed that a letter should be sent to all the departments concerned about the issue.

# STATE'S FIRST ZERO WASTE PARK TO COME UP AT NATHUWAWALA

PNS ■ DEHRADUN

A proposal for the construction of zero waste park in Nathuwawala was also passed in the board meeting. Mayor Sunil Uniyal 'Gama' will be inaugurating the project on June 6. This will be the first of its kind in Uttarakhand and is being constructed as a pilot project on 36,000 square feet land.

Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Feedback Foundation Ajay Sinha told *The Pioneer*, "In ward number 100- Nathuwawala, there are 4,000 households and about 40 bulk waste generators such as wedding points and schools. The project will collect waste from these waste generators in four different categories — dry, wet, domestic hazardous and bio-medical waste. The project will be in accordance with the SWM Rules and only five per cent of the total waste generated will be sent further to Sheeshambada waste management plant. Electronic waste will be sent for recycling, dry waste will be further categorised into sub-divisions, wet waste will be decomposed in the 60 per cent of the 36,000 square feet and for the bio-medical waste we will tie up with the vendors who collect waste from hospitals in Doon."

# Cloud seeding being considered to tackle forest fires

PNS ■ DEHRADUN

The forest department is considering the option of cloud seeding to induce rain in order to tackle the problem of forest fires in the state. The department is currently conducting initial research on this and if it meets various criteria, cloud seeding may be used in Uttarakhand to tackle forest fires by next year, said the principal chief conservator of forests and head of forest force Jai Raj.

Addressing the media here on Monday, the PCCF said that with active cooperation of the public, the forest department had tackled forest fires in the state. He said, "We are also considering the option of cloud seeding to artificially induce rain in order to tackle forest fires. Currently we are in the initial stages of studying this option which is used in various nations. We will have to consider various options including the funds required. If it meets various parameters, we may consider using it next year."

He further informed that till June 2, a total of 1722 cases of forest fires had been reported in the state while the number of such incidents last year was 2020. Forest fires have affected about 2363 hectares this year compared to 4287 hectares last year. The loss from forest fires evaluated so far is about Rs 43 lakh this year while in the previous year this amount was about Rs 83 lakh. He said, "We are also planning to revise the standards for loss caused by forest fires. We believe that while the larger wild animals are able to flee forest fires, the smaller creatures including reptiles and insects bear the brunt of such fires. This results in biodiversity loss. We are studying this and will come up with a formula to calculate the biodiversity loss by forest fires. The department is doing its homework now and will revise the standards to evaluate damage from such fires," he said.

Informing about the measures taken to tackle forest fires, he said that 40 master control rooms and 222 watch towers had been set up. Stating



PCCF Jai Raj addresses the media in Dehradun on Monday

Pioneer photo

that manpower is one of the biggest issues faced in tackling forest fires, he said that in addition to 4,000 personnel of the department, the services of 5,212 fire watchers had also been hired. This year, so far a sum of Rs 17.38 crore had been made available to the forest divisions for tackling forest fire while Van Panchayats had been provided Rs 2.36 crore for the same purpose. So far, 10 workers were injured while tackling forest fires while one worker from Nepal involved in pine resin work — Riyutiya died in Baijnath range of Bageshwar forest division while fighting a fire. Two persons — one each in Bageshwar and Champawat were arrested and sent to jail for the crime of setting fire to the forest. While maintaining that majority of forest fires are set by people, the PCCF stressed that this year the fires had been tackled effectively due to factors including public cooperation along with swift and hard work of the personnel involved. The chief conservator of forests, forest fires and disaster management, PK Singh and other department officials were also present during the Press conference.

# No issues in foreign visit of officials: PCCF

PNS ■ DEHRADUN

Stressing that any point raised by the Forest and Wildlife minister Harak Singh Rawat is an important concern for the department, PCCF Jai Raj said that there was no anomaly in the recent foreign visit of department officials including himself. He also said that regarding the Chillarkhal-Laldhang motor road, the department had ascertained that the objection raised earlier by the divisional forest officer was not applicable in this case.

The PCCF said that the Zoological Society of London had borne the expenses of six officials from Uttarakhand forest department who had attended a meeting in London recently. The visit enabled officials to learn of latest global develop-

ments and trends in zoo design and related aspects which would be applied to the international zoo being developed at Haldwani at a cost of Rs 300 crore. He said that permission from the state government to attend the meeting in London was akin to an order to do so. Further, this visit did not affect the department's actions regarding forest fires in any way, he stressed.

Regarding the Chillarkhal-Laldhang motor road, he said that the divisional forest officer concerned had in good faith recommended stalling of work on the road citing section 38 of the Wildlife Protection Act. However, departmental officials later reviewed the case and ascertained that the work would not threaten the wildlife or environment as it was being undertaken in a sustainable manner.

## World Environment Day

5th June, 2019



**Selfie with sapling! Saving the planet.**



Plant a sapling this World Environment Day on 5th June and send the selfie with it to #SelfieWithSapling Best Selfie will be rewarded !!

Your small step may lead to a gigantic impact!




dapp 13101/13/0001/1920















Trend  
Blazer

'KJo fulfilled every dream I had'

SHAH RUKH KHAN says filmmaker KARAN JOHAR and ADITYA CHOPRA have fulfilled every dream of the superstar had.

Shah Rukh tweeted a photo collage of himself, Karan and Chopra and captioned it, "Dreamers are good. But if those dreams are not given a direction they mean nothing. These two fulfilled every dream I had, over and above every dream they had for themselves. Adi and Karan."

"Why share this with all? Because you should know, more important than your dreams are those who fulfill them for you," he added.



'I know that I am admired by youngsters and such admiration makes me feel responsible as an artiste. I am well-versed with what is happening around the world, how the youngsters are reacting to the constant change. I am always at it.'

—Raftaar



Actress KIARA ADVANI says she is comfortable being in front of the camera without any make-up.

Kiara had a no make-up policy for director Sandeep Vanga's forthcoming film *Kabir Singh*, in which she essays the role of a simple college girl named Preeti. "I'm a directors' actor, so if the director has a certain vision for the character's look then I go with that," Kiara said. "Preeti's simplicity and innocence is what makes Kabir fall head over heels for her. Sandeep Sir wanted to capture that purity and also make me look like a 19-year-old first year student."

Miley groped by fan in Barcelona

Singer MILEY CYRUS was groped by a fan while she was leaving a hotel.

In a video, Cyrus and her husband Liam Hemsworth are seen leaving their hotel when the singer was groped in a throng of fans.

The singer was walking behind her husband through a crowd of several fans, when a man started feeling her hair, before moving in to try and kiss her.

The man is only seen in the video for a second but he is seen forcing his way through the crowd and putting his arm around Cyrus and trying to kiss her.

She turns away from him before he can kiss her and security guards separate from her as she keeps walking with Hemsworth, who puts his arm around her.



# HOW GREEN IS MY VINEYARD?

Ahead of World Environment Day, we look at how viticulturists in the country have been adopting measures to ensure a sustainable wine production.  
By TEAM VIVA

Across the sweeping horizon all over the undulating hills and slanting valleys one can see straight rows of leafy grape vines stretching far into the distance. The sight of the vineyards is as stunning as their final produce, maybe more. Well, vineries account for only a small percentage of the agriculture industry in India as grape-growing accounts for around 4.9 per cent of arable and permanent croplands.

While there have been developments and advancements around application technology, crop protection techniques and many other agricultural practices, the question remains how much of it is environment-friendly? Organic, biodynamic and sustainably-produced vines and practices have been a rising trend in various international vineyards, but what about the same in the Indian viticulture?

Inesh Singh, CSO (chief sustainability officer), Sula Vineyards lists some ways in which a more sustainable approach could be adopted towards viticulture and vine producing practices in India.

SOLAR MAKES SENSE

It is an abundant resource which can be harnessed relatively easily. Vineries can leverage this resource, which in turn will allow them to massively reduce their carbon footprint as well as electricity expenses. Now running for more than 10 years, the 196-kilowatt (kW) SunPower solar PV energy system installed at Napa Valley's Domaine Carneros is built into its roof over a waterproof membrane, saving the winery money and reducing its water and energy consumption. At maximum capacity, the panels produce emission-free electricity to power more than 190 average homes and reduce CO2 emissions by 2,400 tonnes over 30 years, which is, as per a study, the equivalent of planting trees across nearly 700 acres.

At Sula, Singh explains, their current solar panel setup allows them to



generate almost 50 per cent of their electricity needs, which they are currently aiming to increase to 75 per cent. The energy generated by solar panels constitutes 49 per cent of what they use at sites and they have plans to reach 75 per cent in the next 12 to 18 months.

REUSABILITY OF WATER

Wine-making requires water beyond what it takes to grow grapes. From bottles to wash, barrels to scrub, and floors to clean, there are multiple processes associated with water. But

what if winemakers treated the water left over from all that cleaning and reused it to irrigate vineyards? Even though researchers wondered if the wastewater might be harmful to the vines, the soil, or even the wine, the myth has been busted. As per a two-year-long research carried out in Napa and Lodi in California, winery wastewater is indeed a viable source to irrigate vineyards.

At vineyards, normal water consumption also results in significant sewage generation. Typically, this sewage is sent to the municipality for

disposal. This makes it imperative to setup water treatment plants which allow vineries to recycle and reuse the water. At Sula, the re-use allows them to cut down on their freshwater consumption in water-starved areas, resulting in a win-win situation for them and the surrounding areas. They reuse 100 per cent of the waste water generated by their sites which totals to almost 40 million litres.

BOTTLE OR BOX?

In a world replete with plastic waste, glass would seem to be a sustainable packaging choice for anything. Glass wine bottles have been around for centuries and glass is easily recycled. However, as per recent data, it is only about a third of wine bottles which actually get recycled — the rest end up in the landfills. Only some wine makers are using recycled glass in their bottles.

However, research has shown that boxing wine is not only cost-effective but more eco-friendly than bottling it. Shipping a three-litre box of wine generates about half the emissions per 750 millilitres. Cardboard is no less recyclable than glass and, in fact, is recycled about twice as often. One downside to cardboard wine boxes is the plastic liner and spigot. Most analyses ignore the bag in the box and look only at the outer cardboard container. One life cycle analysis found that even with the sus-

tainability impacts of non-recyclable packaging components, bag-in-a-box wines were more sustainable than glass bottles.

Sanket Gawand, winemaker at Vallonne Vineyards, tells us that every bottle at their vineyards, which is consumed at the restaurant, is reused. "We cannot do much about the bottles that go to the retail shops as it becomes difficult to track the bottle and get to the winery. And some of our wines have potential to age further so a lot of our consumer tends to age it further. A lot of our regular guests also return used bottles of wine," she says.

WATER ATMs

Another way that Sula is trying to give back to local communities is by providing water solutions. Impetus is given to not only the operations at the vineyards but largely the communities they operate in as well. They have installed water ATMs in nearby communities which provide water security and safe drinking water to approximately 600 families near their plant. The numbers are expected to only increase with time.

"We have a responsibility towards the local communities in the areas where we operate. We want to ensure that we are able to increase their standard of living as we continue to grow as a business," says Singh.

## Being Jonita

The Indo-Canadian singer, who has made a mark in films with her unusual voice, extends her repertoire with her solo in a reality show, says SIDDHIKA PRAJAPATI



Be it the *Break Up Song* consoling us after a heartbreak or an energetic rhythm of *Sau Tarah Ke* to groove on during weekends, Jonita Gandhi has crooned some unforgettable songs in her soulful voice. "It's always helpful to have a unique voice since there's so much competition. It undoubtedly helps to stand out but it also depends on how you give the song an exotic feel," says the 29-year-old singer.

Gandhi has sung for many Bollywood films and her latest number is for the forthcoming season of *Royal Stag Barrel Select MTV Unplugged Season 8*. This has extended her repertoire beyond films and she is also enthusiastic about making her debut on the show as a solo performer. She says, "I was a part of *Season 6* but it was in collaboration with Amit Trivedi, which was a great experience."

According to Jonita, in the West, singers get established as "brands" as they have a unique voice and they don't have to prove their adaptability and versatility. However, she believes, "In India, the play-back singer has to target both the youth through peppy numbers as well as play a enchantress in a party-themed song. The music industry is separate and independent abroad since the singers get better acknowledgment for their work solely."

There are many musicians and singers that inspire Gandhi to be the best version of herself and widen the ability in improving her performance. She believes that the biggest challenge for an aspiring singer today is to stand out among the bunch of contenders today. She says, "Being yourself in terms of

trends but more so applying your own versatile personality to explore artistic opportunities can help to make a mark." She feels that there's a long way to go before any-

thing changes in a noticeable manner. The audience is enormous and there is a lot of variety and diversity globally. One can't impress everyone with every song. "There are people who

acknowledge me for my unplugged albums and there are others who will still talk about the songs where I'm singing in a low pitch and in English. I just want to explore myself and the atmosphere," she says.

She claims to be a good example of making a mark in Bollywood without a godfather. "It definitely helps in opening up doors but you have to show efforts and hard work to cement your position. I am still learning to work on my voice while recording any song," she says.

Gandhi is developing her YouTube channel further because that platform has given her a remarkable recognition. "My fans know me because of my covers. I can be myself in the videos and it gives me satisfaction," she says.

The singer promises to bring new content for her fans. She considers returning back to Youtube because that is where she has gained recognition. She says, "I will continue making singles on that platform as that is where my fans had started acknowledging and accepting my work. I would simultaneously work for Bollywood, single music albums and unplugged covers, the only challenge really is to manage both in time. But apart from that, they all co-exist in harmony," says she.

## Want to stay with my kids: Hemsworth

Chris Hemsworth feels he has spent his whole career chasing one thing after another and now wants to live in the moment. The actor has decided not to shoot anything more this year and says he wants to step back to spend some quality time with his three children in Australia.

After steering projects like *Home and Away* and JJ Abrams' *Star Trek*, Hemsworth scored his big break in 2011 with film *Thor* as Norse God of Thunder Thor, embarking on the journey of becoming one of the biggest and bankable movie stars in the world. "I have spent so many years. I think my whole career, kind of looking so far ahead and chasing that world. (Thinking I should go for) this thing and that thing and (thinking) if I get this job and maybe this is it," Hemsworth said while looking back at the time when he started his journey in showbiz.

The constant rush, he says, can be; for one, exhausting and two, "you are never in the moment enjoying the process." "I am trying to just be more present. And that gives me greater sense of comfort and not out of 'Oh, I have made it. I can sit back and rest'. It is more of just appreciating and enjoying it now," Hemsworth added.

The actor wants to take a moment to appreciate things in his life but doesn't want to take things for granted. "You don't want to get comfortable in the sense that you are sitting back and taking it for granted and thinking 'That's it, I have made it... Unless, you are quite okay with not working in and just be where you are," Hemsworth said.

"I do feel more comfortable now and not out of thinking because 'I have made it... If you would have asked me 10 years ago about

what my dream scenario with career in life would be, this will be it. I am really sort of trying to appreciate this experience in this moment now," added the actor, who will soon be seen in *Men in Black: International*.

Is it easy to stay in the moment or easier said than done? "It is tricky." But a day during the busy press tour helped the 35-year-old take a decision. "I was just on the *Avengers: Endgame* press tour and I was reading scripts for another job and talking about the next thing. And I was like 'This is crazy. One of the biggest film of all time is releasing and I am already thinking about something else.' I had to say, 'I don't want to talk about it for few weeks.'"

He has made up his mind now — well, almost. "This year, I will probably won't shoot anything. I have shot *Dhaka* at the start of the year. I just want to be at home now with my kids. They are at a very important age. They are still young at the moment. And they are aware when I leave more than before.

"And I am like, if there is ever a chance where I could stop and just be at home, this is it. So I am just going to enjoy that for the moment, and see what happens," he said with a chuckle and a gleam in his eyes as he spoke about his family.

For now, Hemsworth, who has featured in projects like *Ghostbusters* and *Snow White and the Huntsman*, is happy to be associated with the legacy of *Men In Black*.

*Men in Black: International* will take place in the same universe as the previous trilogy with Emma Thompson back as Agent O. Hemsworth and Tessa Thompson portray the new agents dealing with aliens. The plot centers on a mole in the *Men in Black* organisation.

The film will release in India on June 14 in Hindi, English, Tamil and Telugu. —IANS











# nacoste ENGLAND

WE CAN ALWAYS BOUNCE BACK, WE ARE A TEAM THAT BOUNCES BACK FROM SITUATIONS AND WE WILL DEFINITELY DO IT AGAIN — ANDILE PHEHLUKWAYO

# NO ROOM FOR ERROR

## Plan AB not on cards

IAN S ■ NEW DELHI

South Africa have no margin for error after second World Cup loss and should take advantage of India's 'first game nerves' to bring their World Cup campaign back on track, said legendary all-rounder Jacques Kallis.

South Africa, who were thrashed by England in the opening match, suffered their second successive loss in the World Cup, going down by 21 runs against Bangladesh on Sunday. The Proteas will be under a lot of pressure ahead of their clash against favourites India. It's disappointing and frustrating and there is lots of pressure on the next game, otherwise the tournament could be over before it's really starts for SA.

It doesn't get any easier though against India but it's their first game and our third, so maybe that could give us the edge we need. They've not played for a week and maybe they'll be some first game nerves, where as we are settled. India will make South Africa pay if they commit any silly mistake. We've got to play all our cards and we can't afford anymore silly mistakes at vital stages — these are the best sides in the world and they'll always punish you.

Strange things happen in this sport and if we can get a win then I think we can go on a streak and we are still good enough to be a contender. There will be no margin for error though. I think you'll need six wins, maybe five with a really good run rate, to finish in the top four, so SA almost need to win every game they will play."

South Africa are battling injury issues with pacer Lungi Ngidi being ruled out of India clash

### KallisTone



JACQUES KALLIS Former SA All-Rounder

INDIA WILL MAKE SOUTH AFRICA PAY IF THEY COMMIT ANY SILLY MISTAKE. WE'VE GOT TO PLAY ALL OUR CARDS AND WE CAN'T AFFORD ANYMORE SILLY MISTAKES AT VITAL STAGES — THESE ARE THE BEST SIDES IN THE WORLD AND THEY'LL ALWAYS PUNISH YOU

due to a hamstring strain and Kallis feels experienced Dale Steyn needs to be drafted into the playing XI. The injury to Ngidi certainly didn't help Faf, he's a world-class player and a big part of our attack. You've got to play Dale Steyn against India now, and hopefully he is close to fitness. Bangladesh posted their highest ODI total, scoring 330 for six at the Oval after du Plessis elected to bowl after winning the toss.

South Africa then fell short at 309 for eight while trying to become the first team to successfully chase more than 330 in a World Cup match. Bangladesh got all their partnerships going and once you get over 300 then it always become a tough chase, letting them score 50 or so runs in the final four overs really didn't help either and ultimately proved the difference.

I understand what Faf du Plessis was doing with the toss and playing the extra pace bowler. However, the wicket just didn't allow it and perhaps he stuck with the tactics a bit too long and should have started bowling a little fuller and straighter.

It's great having a game plan but you need to have a back-up. We were one step behind the entire match and just tactically a bit off. We need to be a bit smarter.

— Courtesy PTI



AB de Villiers in a file picture AP

- I don't think we are far away. We were 21 runs short and we can identify areas where we could have made that up whether the bat or the ball
- They (India) have a got a lot of match winners. From the bowling perspective, they rely a lot on spin and obviously (Jasprit) Bumrah has been in form, particularly in the IPL. So those are the kind of threats in bowling
- At the end of the day, it comes down to partnerships and we fell short. Honesty has always been one of our pillars. It's about understanding where we can improve.
- We thrive on body language and create a presence in the inner ring. That is something we can get better on. If you are going to win a tournament like the WC, you need good strong characters in the group.

JP DUMINY — PTI

In the clash against Bangladesh on Sunday, South Africa had failed to chase down Bangladesh's total of 330 on a good batting track. It was Shakib

Al Hasan (75 off 84) and Mustafizur Rahman (3/67), who starred for Bangladesh in their 21-run win.



South African skipper Faf Du Plessis AP

# Chokers tag a Shakespearean tragedy

PTI ■ SOUTHAMPTON

The tag of eternal chokers is as painful as 'Shakespearean tragedies' but the ongoing World Cup could be different for South Africa since youngsters in the side are not carrying burden of the past, says pacer Kagiso Rabada.

Since their return to international cricket in 1991, the only major event won by South Africa was the 1998 inaugural mini-World Cup (later known as Champions Trophy) in Bangladesh.

They have never made it to the final of an ICC World Cup. "It's something that has been haunting us for years. It's like a Shakespearean tragedy almost. Hopefully, we can change that," Rabada said.

Rabada said youngsters like him go into the tournament with a clean slate. "You can't be anything but positive going into the World Cup. We believe we have every chance to win the World Cup. What has happened in the past, you got to let go of that," said the 24-year-old, who has 108 wickets from 67 ODIs.

"We have a young team that has shown potential. And I feel it's a blessing that not many of them have been to the World Cup. It's young and it's fresh," said Rabada.

In 2015, when South Africa toured India, Rabada had bowled a fabulous final over to Mahendra Singh Dhoni at the Green Park in Kanpur, defending less than 10 runs. That match perhaps was the first indication of Dhoni's waning powers as a finisher.

When asked about his perfect executions at the death, Rabada said that more than all the homework done, it is all about what works at any given moment.



Kagiso Rabada in action during Bangladesh clash at The Oval on Sunday AP

"These days players do a lot of analysis. So the batters and bowlers are looking up batting and bowling histories. You can prepare what could be coming your way.

"But it's more about what works for you on the day of the match rather than all the planning you've made," said Rabada, whose ODI economy rate is an envious 5.01.

Being compared to Jasprit Bumrah is a compliment for the talented Protea, who reckons that the ongoing World Cup will be an interesting one for the fast bowlers.

"Well, that's a compliment surely. But I don't know who is the best because all teams at the moment have good fast bowling units. Which is also a big reason why I think this World Cup will be a very interesting one," he said.

South African cricket over the years has suffered due to a lot of quality cricketers quitting international cricket to play county cricket, using the Kolpak agreement.

The Kolpak deal allows any player from European Union as well as Caribbean and South Africa to ply their trade in UK without being considered overseas citizen. "Kolpak is a touchy issue, people are entitled to their choices of course. For me playing for the country is a big deal," Rabada made his priorities clear.

With Faf du Plessis in all likelihood playing his last 50 over World Cup, Rabada is certainly a contender for national captaincy, a challenge he wants to accept head on as and when the opportunity arises.

"I get asked this question very often. I think if I am given the responsibility I would take up the challenge. There's a lot you need to learn," said the youngster.

SINCE THEIR RETURN TO INTERNATIONAL CRICKET IN 1991, THE ONLY MAJOR EVENT WON BY SOUTH AFRICA WAS THE 1998 INAUGURAL MINI-WORLD CUP (LATER KNOWN AS CHAMPIONS TROPHY) IN BANGLADESH

# Right foot forward

PTI ■ LONDON

Considered underdogs for a long time, Bangladesh have the strength to get the better off big teams and his side's 21-run win over South Africa in the World Cup should not be seen as a surprise anymore, believes skipper Mashrafe Mortaza.

Bangladesh started their World Cup campaign on a perfect note, posting their highest one-day international score of 330 on the back of half centuries by Shakib Al Hasan (75) and Mushfiqur Rahim (78).

Sublime bowling performances by Mustafizur Rahman (3/67) and Mohammad Saifuddin (2/57) then helped them beat World No. 3 South Africa at the Oval on Sunday.

Asked if this was a sign of Bangladesh's development, the skipper replied: "Do you think this was a surprise? If we can deliver our best we knew what we could do."

"I'm sure some people don't think well of our cricket. We are concentrating on our game and let other people talk."

Experienced allrounder Shakib said expectations from the Bangladesh team have changed since their triumphs over India and South Africa in the 2007 edition.

"It's been 12 years, so our cricket has come a long way forward. At that time, if we play well, that was good enough for the crowd and for us. But now, they are not satisfied with defeat to any other team. This is the expectation level we've got in these 12 years," Shakib said.

"We prepared ourselves well. We were in Ireland, where we played really well against West Indies and Ireland. That gave us a lot of confidence and belief."

"There are so many things to prove in this tournament, and we were upto the challenge. The boys were confident,



Rohit Sharma, left, interacts with Bangladesh's captain Mashrafe Mortaza during the warm up match between Bangladesh and India ahead of the main tournament at Sophia Gardens in Cardiff on May 28 AP

but at the same time, we were relaxed. We knew we have the skill to beat big teams."

Mortaza also hailed his team's all-round show against South Africa.

"We played so well, especially being in England. It's not easy for us in the conditions, which don't favour us in the way they do at home," Mortaza said after the win.

"I thought it was one of our best performances, and we love to play the way we played in this game. I'm sure

that it won't happen every day, but that is the idea."

Bangladesh have landed in the UK with a blend of experience and new players. While the likes of Mashrafe, Shakib, Tamim Iqbal and Mushfiqur featured in the side's 2007 World Cup victory against South Africa, youngsters like Soumya Sarkar, who smashed 42 off 30 balls provide new dimension to the team.

"We have a heavy batting line-up. You look at the experience, I have Tamim opening and Shakib batting at three, Mushfiqur comes back at four. Soumya, he's coming out with something out of the box."

Mortaza was also lavish in his praise for all-rounder Shakib. "Shakib has got the experience and makes sure that in the top order, he's more responsible and he can hold all the pressure to deliver at his best. He's exactly spot on, and performed so well for the team," Mortaza said.

"We have a heavy batting line-up. You look at the experience, I have Tamim opening and Shakib batting at three, Mushfiqur comes back at four. Soumya, he's coming out with something out of the box."

Mortaza was also lavish in his praise for all-rounder Shakib.

"Shakib has got the experience and makes sure that in the top order, he's more responsible and he can hold all the pressure to deliver at his best. He's exactly spot on, and performed so well for the team," Mortaza said.



WE'RE PLAYING A STRONG TEAM IN INDIA. AND AS A TEAM, WE KNOW WE'RE NOT GOOD ENOUGH AT THE MOMENT AND WE HAVE TO TURN IT AROUND — FAF DU PLESSIS

# RESURGENCE

After opening embarrassment, Sri Lanka, Afghanistan look for maiden win to get an edge



UPNEXT



Afghanistan players train during practice session ahead of second game against Sri Lanka

SIANS ■ CARDIFF

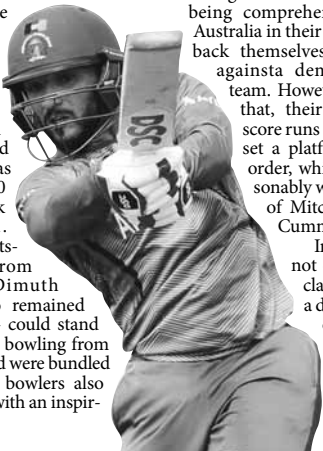
**S**ri Lanka, who were comprehensively beaten by New Zealand in their opening game, will look to come out with a much improved performance when they take on dark horses Afghanistan in the ongoing World Cup at the Cardiff Wales Stadium here on Tuesday.

Sri Lanka did not have the ideal start to their World Cup campaign as they lost by 10 wickets to the Black Caps on June 1. None of their batsmen — apart from skipper Dimuth Karunaratne who remained unbeaten at 52 — could stand against the hostile bowling from the Kiwi pacers and were bundled out for 136. The bowlers also failed to come up with an inspir-

ing performance and proved ineffective as New Zealand chased down the target inside 16 overs.

Karunaratne's men need to pull up their socks and improve in all the three departments if they want to beat Afghanistan, who have a well-rounded bowling attack. Afghanistan, despite being comprehensively beaten by Australia in their opening game, will back themselves to bounce back against demoralised Lankan team. However, in order to do that, their openers need to score runs and make sure they set a platform for the lower order, which performed reasonably well against the likes of Mitchell Starc and Pat Cummins in Bristol.

In Rashid Khan, they not only have a world-class spinner but also a decent batsman who can score big on his day. And they would also be gaining confidence with the perfor-



HEAD TO HEAD			
	Played	Afg	Sri Lanka
Matches	3	1	2
Day matches	2	1	1
In World Cup	1	-	1

HIGHEST TOTALS			
Afghanistan:	249 in 50 overs at Abu Dhabi	17-09-2018	
Sri Lanka:	253-6 in 50 overs at Dhaka	03-03-2014	

PERFORMANCE IN WC						
Team	P	W	L	T	N/R	Success%
Afghanistan	7	1	6	-	-	14.28
Sri Lanka	74	35	36	1	2	49.32

FAISEL FEATURES

formance of fast bowler Hamid Hasan, who produced a fast, disciplined opening spell against the mighty Aussies.

Milinda Siriwardana, Lahiru Thirimanne, Isuru Udana, Jeffrey Vandersonay

### SQUADS

**Sri Lanka:** Dimuth Karunaratne (c), Avishka Fernando, Suranga Lakmal, Lasith Malinga, Angelo Mathews, Jeevan Mendis, Kusal Mendis (wk), Kusal Perera (wk), Thisara Perera, Nuwan Pradeep, Dhananjaya de Silva,

**Afghanistan:** Gulbadin Naib (c), Mohammad Shahzad (wk), Noor Ali Zadran, Hazratullah Zazai, Rahmat Shah, Asghar Afghan, Hashmatullah Shahidi, Najibullah Zadran, Samiullah Shinwari, Mohammad Nabi, Rashid Khan, Dawlat Zadran, Aftab Alam, Hamid Hassan, Mujeeb ur Rahman.

## MEN WHO MATTER

### MOHAMMAD NABI (AFGHANISTAN)

Currently ranked third in the MRF Tyres ICC ODI All-Rounder Rankings, Mohammad Nabi has been one of the torch-bearers of Afghanistan cricket. Apart from his batting skills, the veteran can be expected to come in handy with his off-breaks, against a batting line-up dominated by left-handers.



### ANGELO MATHEWS (SRI LANKA)

After having got out for a duck against NZ, Mathews will be expected to motivate his side with a significant contribution on Tuesday. With his supreme batting talent, the former captain, who showed signs of form with a half century in the warm-ups, has the ability to produce match-winning performances in any conditions.



— Courtesy: © ICC Business Corporation FZ LLC 2018

# No looking back

AFP ■ CARDIFF

**E**xperienced Sri Lanka bowler Lasith Malinga stressed the importance of patience as his side look to bounce back with an emphatic performance in a "must-win" game against Afghanistan.

The two teams are both searching for their first wins of the World Cup when they meet in Cardiff.

Sri Lanka were on the wrong end of a heavy defeat to New Zealand in their opening match, with captain Dimuth Karunaratne's unbeaten fifty the only highlight of a ten-wicket loss.

And after Sri Lanka collapsed to 136 within 30 overs against the Black Caps, Malinga admitted the batsmen must take more responsibility when they face the ever-improving Afghans.

"At the moment, we are concerned with our own skill and how we're going to play," he said. "That's what we are most con-

cerned about. Whoever is batting or bowling, he has to have a perfect game.

"We need a must-win game in this competition, we need a must-win game tomorrow. We will try our best in accuracy and tactically, everything hopefully will be there tomorrow.

"The most important thing we need is patience, patience is very important. We know these conditions, we can have someone get 60, 70 runs and still some balls can move.

"We have to have a bit of patience; we have to analyse the conditions. Whoever is the batsman, he has to finish the game. It's down to whoever is there, he has to finish the game.

"Whoever takes responsibility, bowler or batsman, whoever is the best tomorrow will win. Afghanistan have good experience players because most of the players play in franchise cricket. They have that experience, they know how to accelerate and



Lasith Malinga during practice session

ICC/Twitter

they have confidence, a few from IPL and others have been playing franchise cricket. The important thing is pressure handling.

"I think they have more experience, especially handling pressure, and that's the big challenge for us. I believe if we do our best, we can see good finishing at the end of the day."

Sri Lanka were World Cup finalists in 2007 and 2011 after winning the trophy in 1996, but they had only won two of their last 16 completed ODIs coming into this year's tournament.

And despite their less than promising start, Malinga believes Sri Lanka have the ability to go far if they can pick up a confidence-boosting victory against Afghanistan in the Welsh capital.

"I think for our first match back against New Zealand, we know how tough these conditions are and we tried our best but it didn't go our way," said the 35-year-old fast bowler.

"We have in this tournament

nine matches, but it's just our second match starting tomorrow and before the match both teams are the same - no runs, no wickets, still the same.

"Whoever is doing best first half innings, they can carry on the winning way. That's why we are looking forward to the game and trying to do our best after 10:30.

"We have talent but not much experience in these conditions and people to have to realise what the team expects in this situation. We see Dimuth had a good temperament to play this condition.

"I feel we have also top seven batsman and they have responsibility, but bowlers have a big role to play in the game as we never know what's going on, who is bowling first or second.

"Bowlers can change the game, I still believe that. I feel players need to get confidence, but we can improve skill at the moment and we need to get mentally tough as all the pressure is on us."

### captainspeak

GULBADIN NAIB



■ **After being hit, Hamid Hassan went down like it was pretty serious, but no one seemed to be that concerned.**

No, no, he's fine. Hassan was hit by the ball — but, no, he's feeling well.

■ **You're not worried about him not playing tomorrow?**

No, no. He's ready to play. It's good now.

■ **And obviously you got Sri Lanka who, like you guys, are one of the lower-ranked teams. This is a really a big opportunity for you guys, isn't it?**

Yeah, definitely I saw the Sri Lankan play on TV, and they lost few games in last two years and they're struggling in one-day matches. We have opportunity to do well against them. I hope if play is 50 over, especially in the batting, so maybe definitely we can beat them. So they also a good team, Sri Lanka, and we can't take easy. We can try to score big. If we play 50 overs maybe difficult for them.

■ **Your main strength is spin attack. On this surface, we saw NZ seamers had good purchase. How would you seamers plan on this and do you think the spinners will be ineffective?**

Definitely if in the start the seamers bowl well, so automatically confident goes to the spinners. So we have a good spinner attack, like Rashid and Mujeeb. If you do well in the bowling I think especially in 10 overs, so maybe everything will go well. So I have full confidence in the spinners. We want momentum on the match, because they need the momentum of spinners like how they bowl, like especially Rashid and Mujeeb. Just one match if they grab the momentum, so maybe it's very difficult for all teams.

■ **There is a big chance of rain tomorrow and obviously that might shorten the game. Do you think that brings you guys in a little bit?**

We not going for the weather. We will see what's the weather. So if we can reduce the overs it will be much better for us. We have potential now so like limited overs, so like everyone knows about Afghanistan batting lineup, so it will be good.

■ **What's the main message been to your players after Oz defeat?**

Just one thing: We got to be positive. If you look, we missed out on 12 overs (previous game), yet we scored 200 plus. If you have wickets in hands, maybe the score is 300-plus. So one thing we tell them, so if you stay on the wicket and you don't give wicket in the middle. So if you have wickets in the hand last, we can do — you have potential to do in the last 10 overs 98 plus runs like this. So one thing I got is just play your natural game and stay calm in the wicket. This is the main thing.

■ **Any changes in the team for today's game?**

It's depends. We saw the wicket, so come in the morning time and then we decide who is playing.

■ **The wicket seems to be more suited for pacers. Are you going to stick with the main three spinners, or will Aftab be making a comeback?**

The wicket is suitable for the seamers, so it's looks green. But one match has already been played on the same wicket, so I can't say anything.

■ **How are you looking at this tournament as such?**

If you look for the last game play against Australia, we did well a lot of things there, so definitely if you face this kind of team on the world stage, World Cup, top 10 teams playing there, you should be prepare well to playing against them. I think we played how we played last two, three years cricket back, so we improve a lot of things, especially in domestic level. We have good growth now. So maybe the tournament will be difficult for everyone. Can't say any one team. So we have a good team now. You have eight, nine games each team. Maybe will be very difficult. So think it's good for us here. If you play this kind of matches only this kind of team, you take a lot of positive things and it's work in the future.

### QUOTE UNQUOTE

I HOPE THAT IF WE CAN PLAY 50 OVERS, ESPECIALLY IN THE BATTING, MAYBE WE CAN BEAT THEM, BUT THEY ARE ALSO A GOOD TEAM AND WE CAN NOT TAKE THEM EASY — GULBADIN NAIB, AFGHANISTAN CAPTAIN

I THINK THEY HAVE GOOD EXPERIENCE PLAYERS BECAUSE MOST OF THE PLAYERS PLAY IN FRANCHISE CRICKET. THEY HAVE THAT EXPERIENCE. THEY KNOW HOW TO ACCELERATE AND THEY HAVE ALL THAT CONFIDENCE — LASITH MALINGA, SRI LANKA PACER

### XFACTOR

- Spin trioka of Mujeeb, Nabi & Rashid
- Hazratullah Zazai power hitting
- Mohammad Shahzad role at top
- Lasith Malinga's toe crushing yorkers
- Angelo Matthews all round game
- Will Afghanistan be able pull out another shock by overcoming SL?

### Record ALERT

- ❖ Lahiru Thirimanne who scored 2994 runs at 34.81 in 99 innings of 119 matches, needs just six runs to become 16th Sri Lankan and 151st batsman overall to complete 3000 runs in one day internationals.
- ❖ Mujeeb ur Rahman is the youngest among the 150 players who are participating in this World Cup. He was 18 years and 62 days old on the opening day of the tournament.



It is expected to be a wet day, with outbreaks of rain, often of the heavy kind, throughout the morning and afternoon, which might well produce a shortened game at Cardiff. Seamers are expected to get ample assistance, with a 90 per cent cloud cover for most part of the day.

— Courtesy: © ICC Business Corporation FZ LLC 2018

### 'PAK CAN WIN WC'

Former swashbuckling batsman and Pakistan skipper Shahid Afridi has put his weight behind the Sarfaraz Ahmed-led Green Brigade and said that the team is well capable of winning the ICC Cricket World Cup 2019, currently underway in England and Wales.

Pakistan had opened their tournament campaign on a disastrous note after suffering a humiliating seven-wicket defeat to West Indies at in Nottingham as they were folded out for a paltry 105 runs. The Windies then overhauled the target in just 14.4 overs, losing three wickets.

Afridi then took to Twitter, urging the team to build confidence and strive for a win in their second group game against hosts England, which is presently in progress in Nottingham on Monday.

"I'm fully confident in our team and their capabilities & truly believe they can go on to win this World Cup. Wishing the best of luck to our boys including @Sarfaraz\_54. Early games are crucial in building up confidence & momentum; we should strive for a win against England 2day," tweeted Afridi on Monday. — SIANS



