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LAST LONG: TRUMP

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PALACE IS
SPECIAL: SAIF
10 VIVACITY



India's interest to rule S-400 deal

On trade tangle, Pompeo says 'great friends are bound to have differences'

PNS ■ NEW DELHI
Against the backdrop of Washington objecting to India's ₹50,000 crore deal for procuring S-400 missile systems from Russia, New Delhi on Wednesday made it clear to the US that its ties with Russia are time tested and it will go by its national interest while dealing with other countries.

However, appreciating the growing strategic relationship between India and the US, the two countries agreed to work through contentious issues.

The entire gamut of bilateral relations, including the issue of S-400, terrorism and other matters came up for discussion during talks between External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar and his visiting US counterpart Michael Pompeo here. Jaishankar conveyed to Pompeo that India will be governed by its national interest on matters like S-400.

In a joint press interaction later, Pompeo said India is an important partner of the US and that the bilateral ties were reaching new heights.

Both the leaders agreed that the even best friends can have differences that need to be worked out. Their talks covered ticklish issues like S-400 deal, purchase of oil from Iran, trade tariffs and the H1B visa. On S-400 deal, Jaishankar said India will be governed by its national interest and Pompeo said, "The US is committed to ensuring that India has the military capabilities it needs to defend its ter-

ritorial integrity." While answering to a question on the issue of sanctions under the US' Countering America's Adversaries Through Sanctions Act (CAATSA) which may also impact India's procurement of the S-400 systems from Moscow, Jaishankar said India has relationships with several countries.

"We have many relationships...They have a history. We will do what is in our national interest and part of that strategic partnership is the ability of each country to comprehend and appreciate the national interest of the other," Jaishankar said.

Noting that India-US strategic partnership was based on deep and broad convergence, Jaishankar said discussions with Pompeo were held on key issues including energy and trade as well as on the situation in Afghanistan and the India-Pacific region.

On terrorism, Jaishankar said he expressed appreciation for strong support of the Trump Administration. Pompeo, who arrived here on Tuesday night, called on Prime Minister Narendra Modi and National Security Adviser (NSA) Ajit Doval in the morning and discussed various aspects of the India-US relationship.

The US Secretary of State admitted that his country has a divergence of view with New Delhi on issues such as trade but downplayed it by saying that "great friends are bound to



External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar and US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo during their joint Press conference following a meeting in New Delhi on Wednesday. PTI

have differences." Both the Ministers said they will explore ways to work through these issues, including the United States' opposition to the \$5-billion defence deal for S-400 air defence systems between India and Russia.

"On some outstanding issues related to trade, I pushed for a constructive and pragmatic view. The real test of our intentions will be our ability to deal with this," said Jaishankar. He also said true "maturity" lies in finding ways and means, something that has not worked out so effectively between the two countries in the recent past.

Continued on Page 4

Let's stand up together for religious freedom: Pompeo

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo on Wednesday called for speaking "strongly" in favour of religious freedom rights and asserted that the world is worse off when they are compromised.

"India is the birthplace of four major world religions. Let's stand up together for religious freedom for all, let's

speak out strongly together in favour of those rights for whenever we do compromise those rights, the world is worse off," Pompeo said in his India policy speech at the India International Centre here.

His remarks assume significance as they come days after the State Department's International Religious Freedom Report.

Continued on Page 4

J'khand lynching pains me, punish mob: Modi

PM says kids death in Bihar 'biggest failure' of the system

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Breaking his silence on Jharkhand lynching incident, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Wednesday said it has pained him and the guilty must be severely punished. At the same time, he stressed that all kinds of violence in the country, whether in Jharkhand, West Bengal or Kerala, should be treated in the same manner and law should take its course.

Addressing the Rajya Sabha, Modi also spoke on the death of over 130 children this month from Acute Encephalitis Syndrome (AES) or 'brain fever' in Bihar, describing it as a matter of "shame" and the "biggest failure" of seven decades that outbreak of such disease continues to kill even after so many years of Independence.

In his over an hour-long reply to the debate on Motion of Thanks to President's address, Modi launched a blistering attack on the Congress saying it was sheer arrogance of the grand old party which is unable to accept its defeat and continues to question the mandate of the people by doubting EVMs.



Prime Minister Narendra Modi speaks in the Rajya Sabha during the Motion of Thanks on President's Address at Parliament in New Delhi on Wednesday. PTI

Modi, who received flak from the Opposition over his 'silence' on the lynching of a Muslim youth in BJP-ruled Jharkhand, said, "Security of every citizen is our constitutional duty but the entire State should not be insulted for the incident."

"The lynching in Jharkhand has pained me. It has saddened me too. Guilty should get severe punishment but for this the entire State has been pronounced guilty and everyone put in dock, which is not right," he said.

The Prime Minister said some people in the Rajya Sabha are calling Jharkhand a hub of lynching. "Is this fair? Why are they insulting a State. None of us have the right to insult the State of Jharkhand," he said and referred to violence in States ruled by Opposition parties.

"All kinds of violence whether in Jharkhand or West

Bengal or Kerala should be treated as same and law should take its course," he said, adding perpetrators of violence should get a lesson that the entire country is one on this issue.

On the death of children in Muzaffarpur district of Bihar where BJP and its ally JD(U) are in power, he said the Centre is extending all help to the State to fight the problem. "In modern times, such a situation is a matter of pain as well as shame for all of us," he said. "This is the biggest failure in last seven decades and we should take it seriously."

Modi, who had targeted the Congress during his reply in the Lok Sabha on Tuesday, accused the Opposition party of heaping "insults" on the people of the country by calling their decision to give a thumping majority to the BJP as "a defeat of the country, democracy and farmers."

Continued on Page 4

ED attaches Sterling Biotech's ₹9,778 cr assets for bank fraud

Four oil rigs, oil field confiscated

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Enforcement Directorate (ED) has attached movable and immovable properties worth ₹9,778 crore belonging to Vadodara-based Sterling Biotech Ltd (SBL)/ Sandesara Group and the firm's main promoters, Nitin Sandesara, Chetan and Deepthi, along with others. The ED was probing a money laundering case relating to cheating and bank fraud against them.

The attached properties include four oil rigs and oil field. These include OML 143 located in Nigeria, and three ships (Tulja Bhawani, Varinda, Bhavya and Brahmani) registered in Panama and held in the name of company Atlantic Blue Water Services. The ED has also attached an aircraft registered in the USA and a residential flat in London. All the

companies holding the attached assets are controlled by SBL. The latest move is in addition to the attachment of assets worth ₹4,730 crore made by the ED in 2018.

"The SBL Group had obtained both Indian and foreign currency loans from Indian banks/ lenders. The loans were sanctioned/ disbursed by consortium of banks led by Andhra Bank, UCO Bank, State Bank of India, Allahabad Bank and Bank of India. It is revealed during investigation that the loan funds were diverted for non-mandated purposes, layered and laundered through a web of multiple domestic as well as offshore entities. The main promoters have not only siphoned off loan funds to finance their Nigerian Oil Business but also for their personal purposes," the ED said.

The promoters used their employees' names and incorporated 249 domestic and 96 offshore shell companies.

Continued on Page 4

Cong, Left snub Didi's unity call against BJP

SAUGAR SENGUPTA ■ KOLKATA

In the wake of BJP's impressive show in the Lok Sabha polls in the State, West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee has appealed to arch enemy CPI(M) and the Congress to unite with her against the "communal forces".

The two parties have, however, rejected her proposal saying no one will like to mount a sinking boat.

Apprehending danger from the BJP in days to come, Mamata on Wednesday told the State Assembly about her fear of the saffron party altering the Constitution of India. "Hence there is a need to unite against the communal forces," she said, and went on to explain her points. "I have fear that the BJP may go on to change the Constitution of India and for this purpose I think there is a need for all the Left and secular forces like the CPI(M) and the Congress to join hands and thwart the BJP's advance in Bengal and India."

On her mysterious silence about the Rafale deal which the



West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee after paying tribute to legendary poet and writer Bankim Chandra Chattopadhyay on his 181st birth anniversary, at the Assembly in Kolkata on Wednesday. PTI

Congress had made a prime election plank, Mamata said she did not have enough evidence so as to raise the issue. She said, "I was silent on Rafale issue because I did not have the documents with me. This does not mean that I opposed the Congress."

About the Left, she said though her party has ideolog-

ical differences with the Marxists, she respects them.

"I have personal respect for many Left leaders who had done a good job for the betterment of the poor. I am aware of their secular credentials. I am ready to work with them and invite them and the Congress to work together with us to stop BJP from

Parties say none will like to mount a sinking boat

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

advancing further." Accusing the BJP of running a parallel Government in Bengal for four months by using the Election Commission, Mamata said the saffron outfit had paralysed the administration in the State even after the result of the elections were out.

"They have stoked violence throughout the State," she said adding, "how eight out of 10 people who were murdered after the elections belonged to the Trinamool Congress."

Speaking about the threat of encounter death issued by the BJP leaders of Bengal — when they come to power — Mamata wondered why the police didn't arrest the leaders "speaking like rogues."

Meanwhile, rejecting Mamata's appeal for a united fight against the BJP, CPI(M) central committee member and Left legislative party leader Sujan Chakrabarty said, "Mamata Banerjee is daydreaming about an alliance with the Left which will never mount a sinking boat."

Continued on Page 4

Arvind Kumar new IB chief, Samant Kumar Goel to head RAW

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Centre on Wednesday appointed senior IPS officers Arvind Kumar and Samant Kumar Goel as the chiefs of Intelligence Bureau (IB) and Research and Analysis Wing (RAW), respectively.

The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet, headed by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, approved their appointments for a fixed two-year tenure, said two separate orders issued by the Department of Personnel and Training.

Kumar will take up the reins of the IB, country's internal intelligence agency, from Rajiv Jain on completion of his extended tenure on June 30. Goel will take charge from Anil Kumar Dhasmana on completion of his extended tenure on Sunday.

Both Jain and Dhasmana, who were appointed for a two-year fixed tenure in 2016, were given six months extension in December last year.

Kumar, 59, a 1984 batch



IPS officer of Assam-Meghalaya cadre, is at present the special director in the IB and was heading the Jammu & Kashmir desk.

He has been working with the IB since August 1991.

Continued on Page 4

BJP MLA beats civic staffer on demolition drive run-in, arrested

PTI ■ INDORE

BJP leader Kailash Vijayvargiya's son — and the party's MLA in Madhya Pradesh — was on Wednesday arrested for assaulting a civic body official with a cricket bat, after a heated argument over a demolition drive.

A local court rejected Akash Vijayvargiya's bail plea and he was sent to jail in the evening, an official said.

A video of the assault went viral on social media, after which police filed an FIR against Akash and 10 others. Akash went about beating up the officer even as media persons surrounded him with cameras and recorded the entire incident.

Continued on Page 4

In-red friend, her lover killed elderly couple: Cops

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

The triple murder of an elderly couple and their nursing attendant in South-west Delhi's Vasant Vihar that left Delhiites shocked has been cracked, police claimed.

Preeti Sehrawat (42) and her live-in partner Manoj Bhatt (29) were arrested from a hotel in Gurugram by police on Wednesday. Frustrated with their financial losses, the duo had initially planned to rob elderly couple Vishnu Mathur (78) and Shashi Mathur (75), but ended up killing them and the attendant, Khushbu Nautiyal (24).

The bodies of the elderly couple as well as their attendant were found with their throats slit at their residence in Vasant Apartment on Sunday.

"On June 17, Preeti, a family friend of the elderly couple, visited the Mathurs and stayed

with them overnight to become familiar with the entry and exit points of the house. The same night, she spoke to the daughter of the elderly couple using Khushbu's phone," said Satish Golchha, Special CP (Crime).

The South-west district police, which was tracking the case, had earlier ruled out robbery as a motive behind the murders and had said that the entry was friendly as the house was not ransacked. However, the Crime Branch team, which was also simultaneously working on the case, got a vital clue when they came to know from the daughter of the deceased couple that Preeti had suddenly visited them after many years.

The crime branch also came to know that Preeti was the daughter of one of the colleagues of Shashi.

Police said Preeti used to run a restaurant in Sector 9 in Gurugram. "She had earlier got



Preeti Sehrawat and Manoj Bhatt in police custody in Delhi on Wednesday. (Inset) Victim couple. Ranjan Dimri | Pioneer

married to Nicholas in 2000 but her husband left her in 2005 and settled in Canada. She met Manoj at her birthday

party about three years back and started a live-in relationship with him. Initially the duo started the business of restaur-

ant and suffered huge losses. Then they both started a paying guest house in Sector 38, Gurugram, and again suffered

loss," said Satish.

He said Preeti and her live-in partner visited the area to conduct a final reece on June 21. The next day, around 11.30 pm, Preeti and Manoj reached Vasant Apartment on a motor-cycle. Aware of the CCTV cameras, Preeti covered her face with a "dupatta" while her partner covered his face with the helmet, the officer added.

"A police team was deputed to keep track on the movements of Preeti, which revealed that on June 23, she had left her home in Gurugram along with her live-in partner Manoj and checked into a hotel at Gurugram, Sector-31. They both despite having their own home in Gurugram again shifted to another hotel on June 25," said the Special CP, adding that their behavior and randomly changing their hotel created a suspicion.

Continued on Page 4

CAPSULE

KANT GETS TWO-YEAR EXTENSION AS NITI CEO
New Delhi: Amitabh Kant was on Wednesday given a two-year extension as chief executive officer of the Niti Aayog, an official order said. P4

IAF LOST 33 AIRCRAFT IN CRASHES SINCE 2015
New Delhi: The Indian Air Force lost 33 aircraft, including 19 fighter jets and helicopters, in crashes since 2015, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh said on Wednesday.

ORANGE JERSEY: CONG-SP ALLEGE SAFFRONISATION
New Delhi/Mumbai: Congress and Samajwadi Party leaders suspected saffron push from the Modi Government behind the orange colour jersey that the Indian cricket team is likely to wear in its World Cup match against England, drawing ridicule from the BJP which dubbed their reaction as "myopic and reactionary".

Inter-State meet held to share intel about gangs

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

An interstate co-ordination meeting was held at Delhi Police Headquarters for devising better mechanism and cooperation among neighbouring States in sharing information. The meeting aimed to share intelligence and inputs about criminal gangs and their designs as also for strengthening cooperation and co-ordination in taking action against manufacturing, supply and sale of firearms, liquor and drug-trafficking.

"It was decided upon to take joint action against interstate criminals by sharing of information of their activities help each other for keeping surveillance over the interstate criminals involved in trafficking of drugs and proliferation of fire arms," said Anil Mittal, Additional Public Relation



Officer (APRO), Delhi Police. The officers stressed upon exchanging information in advance at senior level in sensitive matters to make the operations successful. "It was also decided to conduct integrated checking on a regular basis with

a focus particularly on criminals moving around with firearms, sharing and collection of intelligence about active

criminals, criminal released on parole, placement of pickets and barriers, deployment of maximum staff with weapons and necessary equipment, identifying the persons involved in selling of drugs or illicit liquor and fire arms in their areas and taking appropriate legal action against them, including action under MCOCA or other preventive section of laws to keep them behind the bars for a longer time," said APRO.

"In order to keep a tab on interstate auto lifters disposing off stolen vehicles in North-Eastern States and J&K areas, members were apprised about the utility of ZIPNET data bank and FRS for searching background online details of criminals. CYPAD Utility created by Delhi Police was offered to other state officers for cyber crimes any state can seek help for investigation of

Cyber Crime," said APRO.

"The meeting ended with a resolution to augment co-ordination in policing in the NCR, and to have one to one interaction at all levels and units for effective action against crime, firearms and drug-trafficking. All officers were also briefed to share advance intelligence having interstate ramifications on crime and law and order," the APRO added.

The meeting was attended by senior officials of Delhi Police and their counter parts, K.K. Rao, Inspector General of Police (IGP)/Special Task Force (STF), Haryana, Ajitabh Kumar, IG/Crime Investigation Department, Bihar, Gurmeet Singh Chauhan, Prit Pal Singh, both AIG, STF of Punjab, Satyarth A. Pankaj, Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP)/STF, Uttar Pradesh and Shantnu Kumar Singh, SP/ATS.

2 children among 7 injured in Narela fire

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

Around seven people, including two children, were injured after a fire broke out at a general store in outer Delhi's Narela on Wednesday morning with one of the victims said to be critical.

A senior Delhi Fire Service (DFS) official said that a call was received regarding the blaze at 4.39 am on Wednesday following which two fire tenders were rushed to the spot.

"The blaze was brought under control by 6.45 am. It is suspected that the fire started from one of the electric meters installed in the general store," he said.

According to a senior DFS official, among the minors both Ayush (8) and Vijay (4) sustained 20 per cent burn

'The blaze was brought under control by 6.45 am. It is suspected that the fire started from one of the electric meters installed in the general store'

injuries while other victims identified as Mahesh (16) and Raju Ram (15) sustained minor wounds. Satpal (22) sustained 40 per cent burn injuries whereas Bhagwan Swarup (25) suffered 35 per cent burns.

Another victim, Amarjeet (23) sustained 80 per cent burn injuries and is stated to be in a critical condition. "All of them were rushed to Raja Harish Chander Hospital by DFS with the help of public," the senior DFS official.

2 women fliers held with ₹1.75 cr foreign currency at IGIA

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

The Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) officials have apprehended two women passengers with foreign currency worth ₹1.75 crore on suspicion that the money was being smuggled out from Indira Gandhi International (IGI) airport in national Capital.

According to a senior CISF official, the seizures were made over two days in separate cases.

In the first case, that took place on Wednesday, Maryam Garba, a Nigerian national, was nabbed by the Central Industrial Security Force personnel at the Indira Gandhi International Airport for allegedly carrying currencies of different countries to the tune of ₹1.61 crore.

"She was travelling to Dubai and could not explain the reason for carrying so much cash in multiple currencies like US dollars, Singaporean dollars and Swiss Franc," said the senior CISF official adding that the woman has been handed over to the Customs Department for further probe.

In the second incident, that took place Tuesday evening, Saudi Arabia national Samar Amer Zannab was apprehended with a cache of USD worth ₹14.25 lakh.

"The Saudi woman, travelling to Jeddah, has been handed over to Customs authorities to probe the source and motive of the foreign currency," said the senior police official adding that the total value of foreign currency recovered in the two cases is an estimated ₹1.75 crore.



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Sarai Kale Khan hub to get European Train Control System

SP SINGH ■ GHAZIABAD

The implementing agency of Regional Rapid Transit System (RRTS) project, National Capital Region Transport Corporation's (NCRTC) has decided to equip European Train Control System (ETCS) on its Sarai Kale Khan hub in Delhi to Meerut corridor.



During presentation at Ghaziabad site office, Sudhir Sharma, the CPRO, NCRTC said they are working on to introduce the latest European System which will enable in controlling trains more accurately than the present system on which the Indian railway system is running.

"The existing system can track train's position when it is running on its top speed of 100 kilometer and hour. The latest European System is capable to reflect train's accurate position up to 160 km per hour and even above per kilometer speed," Sharma said.

"Through this device, the NCRTC is capable of providing accurate movement position of the train in 90 second frequency on this corridor.

However, the footfall of the passengers will decide on which frequency trains would run in future. At present NCRTC has decided to run the train in five minute frequency on Sahibabad to Duhai patch, Sharma said.

"Duhai onwards, the trains will run be at 10 minute frequency as less foot fall is expected in this corridor. NCRTC has the wherewithal to run trains in varied frequency from seconds to minutes without any error" added Sharma.

The ambitious Delhi Meerut corridor of NCRTC is expected to be operational in 2023 for which a grant of Rs. 30,270 Crore has been allocated in last budget. In view of

Video of man performing stunts on roof of moving car goes viral

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

A video of a police vehicle, Maruti Suzuki Ertiga, which is issued to top rank police official, went viral on the internet where a man can be seen flouting all norms by performing stunts on the running vehicle. The video was originally posted on Tik Tok by one Dushyant Sharma. Police said that the vehicle shown in the video belonged to a private contractor was hired for certain duties. It was not a Delhi Police vehicle and the person in this video is not a policeman.

In the video, a bare-chested man can be seen driving a white Ertiga which looks like a Delhi Police official vehicle and then goes to the roof of the running vehicle and performs pushups. Whether the man and the vehicle actually belonged to Delhi Police is yet to be ascertained.

"The vehicle in the video confirmed to be of a private contractor taken on hire for certain duties, and it is not a Delhi Police vehicle. The person in the video clip is also

identified to be not a policeman but the friend of the private driver of the hired vehicle," said Madhur Verma, the Deputy Commissioner of Police (DCP), New Delhi and PRO.

"The private contractor has been issued a Show Cause Notice (SCN) for the violation, and necessary legal action will be taken against him.

Incident also appears to



be of an older date, and not of recent times. Matter has also been taken up for further enquiry by Joint Commissioner of Police, Security," said the DCP.

PUBLIC NOTICE

My client Mrs. Shradha Sawhney, W/o Mr. Vikram Sawhney is the registered owner of Freehold DDA SFS Flat No. 181, Pocket-B, Category-II, Second Floor, situated at Sarita Vihar, New Delhi along with Scooter Garage on Ground Floor by virtue of Sale Deed dated 16.07.2018 who had lost the Original Allocation Letter dated 15.01.1984, Original Fifth & Final Demand Letter dated 11.07.1989, Possession Letter and NOC for water & electric connection and Payment Receipts issued by DDA in favour of Mr. Jaganjyoti, if any body found the same may return to the undersigned, if anybody misuses the same, the same shall be at his/her/their own risk. If any body has any claim, right, interest in the said flat shall also inform within 15 days to the undersigned on Telephone No:- 011-24324137, 9955683363 & 991163363.

Karnal Singh, (Advocate)
Ch. No.153, Saket Court Complex, New Delhi-110014. 981163363 & 9955683363

WESTERN RAILWAY

VARIOUS WORKS

Dy. Chief Engineer (Construction) II, Western Railway, Pralapanagar, Vadodara - 390 004, invites e-tender as per the details given below:

e-Tender No.: Dy.CE/II/BRG/2019

Name of the work: Part 01 & 02: Construction of Road under bridge / LHS to eliminate existing level crossing No. 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 9, 10, 11, 14, 16, 17, 17A & 18 by providing cast in situ RCC Box with RCC Wing & Return walls, retaining wall, approach roads and other misc. work from Miyagam to Dabhoi in connection with "Umbrella Work of Western Railway" and Part 03 & Part 04: Construction of Road under bridge / LHS to eliminate existing level crossing No. 4A, 7, 8B, 12, 13 & 15 (6 Nos.) by providing cast in situ RCC Box with RCC Wing & Return walls, retaining wall, approach roads and other misc. work from Miyagam to Dabhoi in connection with "Gauge conversion from N-G to BG between Miyagam-Dabhoi-Samalgam section".

Approximate Cost: ₹ 2730.71 Lakhs.

Availability of online Tender for bidding: From 01.07.2019 at 10.00 hrs. To 15.07.2019 upto 15.00 hrs.

Date of opening & time: 15.07.2019 at 15.30 Hrs. Regarding detailed E-Tender notice containing, detailed tender conditions, please visit www.ireps.gov.in. Manual offers will not be considered.

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DHFL

DEWAN HOUSING FINANCE CORPORATION LIMITED

National Office: DHFL, HDIL Towers, B-Wing, 6th & 8th Floor, Anant Kanekar Marg, Bandra (East), Mumbai - 400 051.

Circle Office : Plot No. A-6, Sector-2 Noida 201301

APPENDIX IV POSSESSION NOTICE (for immovable property)

Whereas, the undersigned being the Authorized Officer of Dewan Housing Finance Corporation Limited (DHFL) under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under section 13(12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002, Demand Notice(s) issued by the Authorised Officer of the company to the Borrower(s) / Guarantor(s) mentioned herein below to repay the amount mentioned in the notice within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice. The borrower having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the Borrower(s) / Guarantor(s) and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him under Sub-Section (4) of the Section 13 of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the Security Interest Enforcement rules, 2002. The borrower's attention is invited to provisions of sub-section (8) of section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets. The borrower in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of DHFL for an amount as mentioned herein under with interest thereon.

S.N.	Name of the Borrower(s) / Guarantor (s)	Demand Notice Date and Amount	Description of secured asset (immovable property)	Date of Possession
1.	(LC No. 00001416 of their Meerut Branch) Amitesh Giroti (Borrower) Sanjay Som, Sharda Som, Jatin Pratap Singh (Co-Borrower)	26-11-2018 Rs. 16,12,435/-	All that part and parcel of the Property Bearing No Flat No G- 601, 6th Floor Pearl Residency Tower A Hapur By Pass Rd, Meerut, Meerut-250002	20-06-2019

If the said Borrowers shall fail to make payment to DHFL as aforesaid, DHFL shall proceed against the above secured assets under Section 13(4) of the Act and the applicable Rules, entirely at the risks of the said Borrowers as to the costs and consequences. The said Borrowers are prohibited under the Act from transferring the aforesaid assets, whether by way of sale, lease or otherwise without the prior written consent of DHFL. Any person who contravenes or abets contravention of the provisions of the said Act or Rules made there under, shall be liable for imprisonment and/or penalty as provided under the Act.

Sd/- Pulkit Baluja (Authorized Officer)
Place: Delhi / NCR Date: 27/06/2019
For Dewan Housing Finance Corporation Limited

Nephew of slain gangster tries to rob petrol pump in Dwarka, held

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

The Delhi Police has arrested an 18-year-old nephew of slain gangster Praveen Gahlot, along with his associate who had allegedly tried to rob a petrol pump on gunpoint from Sector-4 Dwarka on Monday. Police said that the gangster's nephew wanted to fill the gap created due to death of his uncle in May this year.

The accused has been identified as Kamal Gahlot, a resident of Nawada area, Delhi and Sahil Tomar (20), a resident of Delhi's Uttam Nagar. Kamal is the son of Pawan Gahlot brother of gangster Praveen who was recently murdered at Dwarka

Mor by the rival gang.

According to Anto Alphonse, the Deputy Commissioner of Police (DCP), Dwarka district, on June 24, at around 3.15 pm, two men riding a scooter stormed the office of a petrol pump in Dwarka's Sector-4 to rob the cash.

"One of them brandished his pistol and fired two rounds to scare the manager and owner of the Petrol Pump but as there was no cash available the duo fled away from the spot towards Matiala on their scooters," said the DCP adding that a case of attempt to robbery and Arms Act was registered at Dwarka North police

station and investigation was taken up.

"On June 25, after receiving specific inputs and watching CCTV footages of crime scene and the route taken by the criminals, the duo were identified and apprehended. The scooter used in the commission of the crime was also recovered and was found stolen from Bindapur area," said the DCP.

"Police has also recovered a country-made pistol with two live rounds and one magazine with four cartridges from the possession of the accused," said the DCP adding that further investigation is going on.

WESTERN RAILWAY

CONSTRUCTION WORKS

Deputy Chief Engineer (Const) I, Western Railway, 8th floor, Station Building, Churchgate, Mumbai - 400020 invites offer through e-tender portal www.ireps.gov.in through single packet system for the following tender:

Tender No.: Dy.CE(I)-769.

Name of Work: Construction of Olympic level Swimming Pool, Machine Room, Changing room & Toilet block etc. in connection with the main work of Setting up of Sports Academy at Manalaxmi Sports Ground for Western Railway. NIT Code: ₹ 4,58,51,280/-.

EMD: ₹ 3,79,300/-

e-Bid Submission closing on: 22.07.2019 at 15.00 hrs.

e-Bid opening date: 22.07.2019 at 15.30 hrs.

Instructions to the Tenderers: (1) Only e-offers submitted online through e-tender portal will be considered. Please note that printed offers will not be entertained. (2) The date of tender, terms & conditions and scope of work are uploaded and are available in electronic format on our website www.ireps.gov.in

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CHITTARANJAN LOCOMOTIVE WORKS CORRIGENDUM

No. PCMM/CLW/KOL/E-Procurement/CORRIGENDUM/05 Dated:- 25-06-2019. The following Corrigendum of E-Tender is for supply of materials for manufacture of Electric Locomotive. The Prospective/likely suppliers are requested to look up the website www.ireps.gov.in. For detailed instructions please refer to website. Sl.No.; [07]; Tender No.; 37193877 due on 19.07.19 published under T/Notice No.23, dated 18.06.19, Sl.No.141; (1) Field Name- NPQ; From -192 Sets; To- 282 Sets. (2) Field Name- Estimated Value; From - Rupees 7,15,29,150/-; To- Rupees 9,81,30,900/-. (3) Field Name- Earnest Money (INR); From - Rupees 14,30,580/-; To- Rupees 19,62,620/-.

Principal Chief Materials Manager AD76 - 096 CLW/Kolkata

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PUBLIC NOTICE

ICICI Bank ICICI Bank Limited

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

A notice is hereby given that the following borrower/s have defaulted in the repayment of principal and interest of the loans facility obtained by them from the Bank and the loans have been classified as Non Performing Assets (NPA). The notice dated were issued to them under Section 13 (2) of Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act-2002 on their last known addresses as provided to the bank by them, that in addition thereto for the purposes of information of the said borrowers enumerated below, the said borrowers are being informed by way of this public notice.

Sr. No.	Name of the Borrower/ Co-Borrower/ Guarantor (Loan Account Number) & Address	Property Address of Secured Asset/ Asset to be Enforced	Date of Notice Sent/ Outstanding as on Date of Notice	NPA Date
1.	Sudhir Chauhan, Khem Chauhan, Sonali Mentor Services Pvt Ltd, Mahima Fountain, Plot No 6, Jawahar Circle Jaipur Rajasthan A/C No- LBJA100001965605 & LBJA100001965606	Apartment No. H1A 034, Block A, 3rd Floor, along with parking space PBA019 & PBA020, in Building No. 1, "Westend Heights", DLF City Phase V, Wazirabad, Gurgaon, Haryana	06-June-2019, Rs. 23758422/- & Rs. 5727377/-	30/06/2017
2.	Sudhir Chauhan, Khem Chauhan, Sonali Mentor Services Pvt Ltd, P S Chauhan, Orior Developer Infrastructure Pvt Ltd, Plot No 6, Mahima Fountain Jawahar Circle Jaipur Rajasthan A/C No- LBJA100001982896 & LBJA100001983846	House No. 52/ 613, Ground Floor, Block No. 52, Pratap Nagar, Sanganger Jaipur Rajasthan & covering Flat No. C- 606, Block C, 6th Floor, Rai Vihar Housing Project, Situated at GH-01, Sector- 47, Gurgaon Rajasthan	06-June-2019, Rs 10567469/- & Rs. 548070/-	30/06/2017

The above borrower/s and/or their guarantors (where ever applicable) are advised to make the payments of outstanding within period of 60 days from the date of issuance of notice U/s. 13 (2), failing which further steps will be taken after expiry of 60 days from the date of issuance of notice U/s. 13 (2) dated mentioned above as per the provisions of Securitisation and Re-construction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002

Sd/-
Authorized Officer
ICICI Bank Limited
Date: June 27, 2019
Place: Delhi

Auto-lifter arrested, sixty cases of vehicle theft solved

PARVESH SHARMA ■ GURUGRAM

The Crime Investigation Agency of Sohna unit of the Gurugram police has arrested a vehicle lifter who took only seven seconds to steal a two-wheeler.

The accused was arrested on June 20 from Sohna following a tip-off and since then was on police remand.

With the arrest of an alleged vehicle lifter, the district police on Wednesday claimed to have solved over 60 cases of vehicle theft. The sleuths have recovered 60 bikes, one car and two mobile phones from his possession which he had stolen from Delhi, Gurugram, Faridabad, Palwal, Rewari, Bhiwadi, Mathura (UP) and Jhajjar.

According to the police, the

accused has been identified as Azaad alias kudu (40) of Nuh in Haryana and has served jail terms in the past as well. He has been declared a proclaimed offender from Delhi, Bhiwadi, Mathura and Jhajjar.

"During the questioning, he has admitted to being involved in several incidents of vehicle theft, house theft, loot and snatching in several districts of Haryana and adjoining states. After coming out of jail in 2013, he continuously carrying out the theft and snatching but was out of the grip of the police," ACP (crime) Shamsher Singh Dhayia said.

Earlier he was a member of notorious Mewat based Ammu gang and had been in jail from 2009 to 2013 in a robbery case. Later he left the gang after a quarrel over profit share and fear of huge punishment due to

involvement in robbery cases. Since then, he started stealing bikes on his own.

"The accused came out on bail in 2013 and since then he was involved in cases of vehicle theft, house theft, loot and snatching," said Santander Rawal Incharge Sohna crime unit.

He was a very expert thief and used to break the lock of the targeted vehicle with the help of self-made small key shape iron plate. He used to sell the stolen bike for Rs 5 to 12 thousand.

"The police team recovered the stolen bike's from multiple hideouts locations of the culprit. He used to give the vehicles to his relatives for a joy ride and later sold them. He also parked the bikes in parking lots and godowns," Rawal said.

PUBLIC NOTICE

My client Mrs. Rajni Aggarwal intends to purchase First Floor undersigned at the address mentioned herein below within 15 (Fifteen Days) days of publication of this notice, failing which the same shall be deemed to have been waived and/or abandoned. In the event of no response being received to this notice, the purchase of this property shall be completed by our client without any reference to and without in any manner being affected by any such right title, interest or claim whatsoever.

Sd/-
Authorized Officer
Karnal Singh, (Advocate)
Ch. No.153, Saket Court Complex, New Delhi-110014. 981163363 & 9955683363

Centre rejects Govt terms on Ph-4

Asks it to review its decision to not execute the project on time

GAYATHRI MANI ■ NEW DELHI

The Central Government on Wednesday asked the Delhi Metro Corporation (DMRC) to review its decision to not start the work of Delhi Metro Phase IV till the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA) revises its approval in tune with the AAP dispensation's proposal.

It may be recalled that the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) ruled Government in April directed the Delhi Metro Rail Corporation (DMRC) not to start the work on Phase-IV project till the Ministry revises its approval in tune with the AAP dispensation's assent.

The secretary of MoHUA, Durgashaker Mishra has written a letter to the Delhi Chief Secretary Vijay Kumar Dev asking him to review the decision taken by the Government for stopping the work of Phase-IV and lifting of embargo at the earliest in public interest as the

Metro Network is necessary to reduce road congestion, accidents and vehicular pollution and for providing highly needed connectivity to the citizens and visitors.

"Delhi Metro Phase-IV has already been delayed by more than four years for want of approval by GNCTD. The directive of GNCTD to DMRC not to start the work of phase-4 will further jeopardises of expansion of Metro network in the Capital and leaves it devoid of its benefits apart from adding to cost and time overruns," said Mishra in the letter, a copy of which is with *The Pioneer*.

The Union cabinet in March approved three of the six corridors: Mukundpur-Maujpur (12.54 km), Janakpuri West-R K Ashram (28.92 km) and Tughlakabad-Aerocity (20.20 km) of the Metro Phase-4 approved by the AAP dispensation, sidelining the conditions imposed by the Delhi government while giving its nod to all six corridors.

"You are aware that metro rail projects are approved after detailed examination which includes extensive inter-ministerial consultation. Proposals are appraised using due process, which takes time.

METRO



Proposal for Delhi Metro Phase IV in its final form was received at the end of December, 2018. Considering the urgency and importance of this project, which was pending with the government of India processed the approval for three priority corridors, which were highly populated and facing serious congestion in urban transport before the advent of model code of conduct," read the letter.

Mishra further said that as per the metro policy 2017, states/UTs are advised to recast their proposals of metro project in line with the provisions in the policy but the Delhi Government went against the norms laid down in Metro Rail Policy.

"The Delhi Government in December conveyed approval on all six corridors of Phase IV

subject to the condition that operating losses, if any are to be shared between GOI and GNCTD in 50:50 ratio and the state government will not bear any liability of repayment of JICA loan. These conditions posed by the GNCTD are against the norms and what was agreed to by the Delhi Government in Delhi Metro phase III project," he said in the letter.

Appreciating the other cities such as Surat, Kanpur and Indore, he said financing sanction pattern for the other cities are same as that of Delhi Metro phase IV in accordance with the Metro Policy 2017. Thus, there cannot be any special privileged condition for Delhi.

"All metro projects in any part of country are as per the policy or practices evolved over the years and the same

conditions were applied in the approving Delhi Metro Phase IV project. Thus, there is no question of accepting the recommendation of GNCTD, as mentioned above, which has not been done for any other metro project," reads the letter.

The Union Secretary further said that the final cost of the project is arrived at after scrutiny by various stakeholders and appraisal by the public Investment Board (PIB) which may even be less than that proposed by the state government. It is not understood why the GNCTD has taken the stand that there cannot be any change in overall project cost and project cost of three priority corridors from what has been sanctioned by GNCTD.

The AAP government had objected it, alleging that the Union government has made some "unilateral changes" in the project, without communicating any reasons.

The remaining three corridors were not approved and these corridors are under appraisal.

The three corridors that were not approved by the Centre are Rithala-Bawana-Narela, Inderlok-Indraprastha and Lajpat Nagar-Saket G Block.

CCTVs in Babarpur for women safety: Min Rai



Development and Labour Minister Gopal displays CCTV cam on Wednesday

Ranjan Dimri | Pioneer

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

Lauding Delhi Government's efforts to provide safe and secure environment to women, Labour Minister Gopal Rai inaugurated the installation of CCTV cameras in his Babarpur constituency.

According to Delhi Government, recorded footage (Database) will be shared with Station House Officers (SHOs) and Public Works Department (PWD) which will help to solve crime.

Rai said CCTVs will act as major deterrent to crime and will create fear of law. "Despite not having the Delhi Police under the Government's control, several steps are being taken to strengthen rule of law. In this direction, the biggest project towards security of women is the installation of CCTV cameras throughout the city," the Minister said.

Targeting Delhi police for recent incidents of crime in city, Rai, said, the biggest project towards security of women is the installation of CCTV cameras throughout the city," Rai

added further. "We are committed to create a secure environment for women and children," the minister said during the inauguration.

Earlier, Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia also inaugurated the installation of CCTV cameras in his constituency Patparganj.

"For the last six months, Members of Legislative Assembly (MLAs) and the CCTV manufacturer BEL, along with the local RWAs have been surveying their area and have identified spots for surveillance," quoted a statement from Chief Minister Office (CMO).

"The security of the people of Delhi is not just a commitment of this Government; it is something the Government is actively working to achieve. It is an important day for Babarpur as the installation of CCTV cameras begins today. This was a key promise of our government to the people and is being fulfilled today," Rai said.

Stressing on the need for

this project with respect to women security, he further said, "Today women in Delhi are afraid to step outside their homes. CCTV cameras strike at this fear itself."

"Women can now step outside their homes with the confidence that Delhi Government's cameras are watching out for their security. If anyone misbehaves, they will be captured on camera and nabbed immediately.

The Delhi Police SHO of the area will have a live feed of all cameras to avoid any delays in accessing footage," the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) Minister said further.

"The footage will also reach our command centre at the Public Works Department (PWD) headquarters over internet for which a WiFi connection has been provided by the Government.

I appeal to all people to keep in touch with local RWAs for any issues with respect to the CCTVs and inform the administration in case of any problems faced," the minister said.

Tiwari, Hans Raj Hans lay foundation stone of biomethanation plant

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

Delhi Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) president and Member of Parliament (MP), Manoj Tiwari along with North-West Delhi MP, Hans Raj Hans on Wednesday laid the foundation stone of biomethanation plant at North Delhi Municipal Corporation's Bhalaswa Dairy, Shradhanand Colony

The project is funded by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs for animal waste treatment plant for production of electricity and CNG.

On the occasion, Deputy Mayor, Yogesh Verma said that Bhalaswa being Dairy colony is dung is disposed into a drain that is in enormous quantity which till now was not being



utilized and disposed into the drains which is hazardous for the living beings.

"Now, the dung would be processed and genuinely disposed in the environment friendly manner.

This treatment plant would

be set up by the Government of India to produce electricity and CNG. The cow dung which was considered a waste, will now be put for the generation of electricity and CNG," said Verma adding that many health problems will vanish in the fore coming days with the setting up of this treatment plant.

Chairman of the Standing Committee, Jai Prakash said that North DMC is making all out efforts to improve the environment by adopting latest technology and ideas.

"Processing of garbage and cow dung is the most important. North Corporation is putting its resources to get maximum waste processed to improve environment," he said.

Temp rises in city as rain plays truant

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The mercury crossed the 41 degrees Celsius mark in the national Capital on Wednesday as rains continued to play truant.

The city recorded a high of 41.1 degrees Celsius, four notches above the normal, and a low of 29.6 degrees Celsius. Humidity levels oscillated between 36 and 72 per cent.

The weather stations at Palam, Ayanagar and Sports Complex recorded the maximum temperatures at 42.8, 42 and 43 degrees Celsius respectively.

The weatherman has predicted similar conditions for another two to three days and rains are likely after June 30. On

Thursday, the maximum and the minimum will hover around 41 and 29 degrees Celsius respectively, the weather office said.

The national capital has received 87 per cent less rainfall as compared to the normal levels for this time of the year, making it the second-most rain-starved state in June.

The Union Territory of Dadra and Nagar Haveli is the most rain-starved place in the country right now with a rain deficiency of 91 per cent.

Delhi has recorded 6.3 mm of rainfall till June 25. On an average, the city gauges 47.2 mm of precipitation in the corresponding period, according to data from the India Meteorological Department.

Cong workers join AAP

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) on Wednesday welcomed Congress workers, including some from Valmiki community who joined the party in presence of Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal.

Welcoming them, Kejriwal said that they would have to work together for the development of the city and the country.

"We have fixed to a large extent the corrupt exploitative system that has existed for the last 70 years. This has been possible because Delhi elected an honest Government. But this project is much longer than just four years. After winning the next election in Delhi, we have to continue to work towards a better country, a better system. We are committed to ensuring a dignified life for all Delhiites," said Kejriwal.

Leader of the Maharishi Valmiki Ambedkar Navyuvak



'After winning the next election in Delhi, we have to continue to work towards a better country, a better system. We are committed to ensuring a dignified life for all Delhiites'

Sangh, Harkisan Tank joined the party today, along with his supporters.

"The Valmiki community is a very backward group in terms of education. Aam

Aadmi Party is the only party that makes education a top priority and works on improving government schools. Our children mostly study in Government schools and we have learnt that Delhi's Government schools are the best in the country, even competing with private schools," said Tank.

Asha Verma, a Congress member from Kirari who joined the party On Wednesday said, "We will work with all our energy and enthusiasm to ensure you are re-elected next year."

Complete info on S Ridge encroachments not available: NGT

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The NGT on Wednesday said complete information regarding encroachments in the Southern Ridge area is not available and directed officials to inform it about the total areas to be demarcated and illegal construction identified.

A vacation bench, headed by Justice Raghuvendra S Rathore, directed the district magistrates of South, South East and New Delhi to file a personal affidavit in this regard. The National Green Tribunal also took strong note that the district magistrate of North and concerned officer of the Forest Department of District New Delhi were not present despite earlier orders and issued bailable warrants against them.

"We direct the district magistrate South, district magistrate South East and district magistrate New Delhi to file a personal affidavit mentioning therein the total areas to be demarcated and the area



'It is made clear that the information with regard to the demarcation and the one which is yet to be demarcated and also removal of encroachments should be precise and in accordance to the revenue record which shall be taken as complete and final information from the department'

encroachments on forest land in Southern Ridge area and sought a proper map giving complete details.

remaining, if any, which is yet to be demarcated and also the encroachments identified, removed and yet to be removed.

"It is made clear that the information with regard to the demarcation and the one which is yet to be demarcated and also removal of encroachments should be precise and in accordance to the revenue record which shall be taken as complete and final information from the department," the bench said.

It also directed the deputy conservator of Forest, South

Division, under whom districts of South as well as South East fall, to file a personal affidavit to the effect that as to how much area has been fenced and the one which remains to be fenced by the department.

"It is made clear that the aforesaid affidavit should be filed well in advance with a copy to the counsel for the other side," the bench said while posting the matter for hearing on July 17.

The tribunal had earlier rapped the Delhi government over improper depiction of

Government's revenue secretary to inform it about the reasons for delay in demarcation of forest land in Southern Ridge area here.

The green panel had directed the principal chief conservator of forests to file an affidavit stating how much time would be needed to take the possession of the demarcated forest land in the Southern Ridge area here.

The tribunal was hearing a bunch of pleas filed by South Delhi resident Sonya Ghosh and others against encroachments on forest land in the Southern Ridge area and seeking their removal.

The NGT had directed the Delhi government to adhere to the time schedule and expeditiously carry out demarcation of the area falling within their limits. It had said the city government was "frustrating" the orders of the green panel on one pretext or another and showing "disdainful conduct" in the matter.

E-vehicles get boost with launch of Urban Lab

Govt joins hands with Rocky Mountain varsity

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

In a bid to provide better last mile connectivity and to promote electric vehicles in the national Capital to curb pollution level, the Delhi Government has launched 'Urban Mobility Lab' in association with the Rocky Mountain University. The lab will promote innovative projects aiming at clean and sustainable mobility solutions in the city. Also, as part of this, the government has announced its first electric vehicles freight pilot with the goal of piloting up to 1,000 electric vehicles (EVs) for urban deliveries in the city over the next 12 months.

The lab was launched by the Delhi Transport Minister Kailash Gahlot and Vice Chairperson, Dialogue and



Delhi Transport Minister Kailash Gahlot launches Urban Mobility Lab

Development Commission (DDC), Jasmine Shah. The event was attended by seniors' officials and stakeholder from the government, industry and civil society.

"Delhi government believes electric vehicles (EVs) are the future and it's time to bring this future into the present. To make life easier and better for the common man, it is critical that the cost of EVs comes down. We are willing to work

with all stakeholders in the industry and resolve any hurdles that they face in the roll out of EVs in the city," said Gahlot.

As part of the Urban Mobility Lab with the goal of piloting up to 1,000 electric vehicles (EVs) for urban deliveries in the city over the next 12 months. It is a first-of-its-kind project with an objective to pilot and rigorously analyse the performance of EVs for urban deliveries.

"Delhi aims to become the EV capital of India. Electrification of final mile delivery vehicles has the potential to kick-start the transition to EVs in the city. We expect this pilot to pave the way for other market segments and are committed to its success," said Jasmine Shah.

Regarding the UML pilot working group Dave Mullaney, Director for RMI's global freight transport initiative said, "The use of EVs for final mile delivery is ready to take off. The participants who are working with us and their excitement to be on this pilot show that clearly. It is an incredibly exciting group that includes titans of Indian industry, global e-commerce giants and brand new homegrown startups. We look forward to working with companies and the Delhi Government to make the city a global leader in final mile electrification."

Real estate projects info just a click away

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

With an aim to bring transparency, Delhi Lieutenant Governor Anil Bajjal on Wednesday inaugurated the official web portal of the Real Estate Regulatory Authority (RERA).

According to the Delhi Government, the web portal rera.delhi.gov.in has been launched to help disseminate information to the citizens about the real estate projects and real estate agents operating in Delhi.

"The Real Estate (Regulation and Development) Act is a landmark legislation to safeguard the interests of prospective apartment owners and home buyers. The real estate sector has remained unregulated for all these decades and has been brought under the fold of regulation through this legislation," quoted a statement from LG house. Visitors or Real Estate realtors can now check the status of registered or pending projects with the authority. The web portal will also help to update people about the all judgments and orders passed by the authority in different complaint cases.

It is a mechanism for general public to seek information over email/phone, and for giving feedback.



L-G Anil Bajjal inaugurates the official web portal of the Real Estate Regulatory Authority (RERA)

Apartment owners or buyers can now create login ID and password, the Real Estate Agent can also Creation/generation of a LOGIN ID and passwords and upload all documents.

"It will be a game changer in the real estate sector which was more or less unorganized. The regulatory authority will gradually ensure that the interest of the citizen, buyers and promoters will be protected. The authority will ensure accountability, transparency and fair play in this unorganized sector," LG Bajjal said.

A system is to be evolved in which infor-

mation is shared with other RERA of various states on real time basis for adopting the best practices by the different Authorities.

This may be noted that RERA has a dual responsibility, one regulation and the other of development of the real estate sector.

Regulatory framework must provide relief to the consumer while in the medium to long term developmental framework must greatly precede and strike a balance among the respective interest of three major stake holders the consumers, the real estate agents and the builder or promoters.

In-red friend, her lover killed elderly...

From Page 1
 "The duo was detained and during search police found Manoj wearing a gold chain with locket and a diamond gold ring which was suspected to be stolen from the couple's house. Subsequently both were subjected to interrogation and they confessed to their crime, which they had planned due to their extreme financial hardship," said the Special CP.
 "During interrogation, the duo revealed that they were constantly on the lookout for a vulnerable target and had zeroed in on the hapless septuagenarian couple. Preeti in order to execute their plan had stayed Mathurs' where she stayed overnight on 17 June and again she along with Manoj had visited the area to do recon of their escape route," said the Special CP.
 "The duo further told police that on the night of incident, both Preeti and Manoj reached Vasant Apartment flat on Baja Pulsar bike, being aware of the CCTV cameras they had covered their faces. Preeti went to Mathur's flat while Manoj followed after waiting for a few minutes," said the Special CP.
 "Khushbu had opened the door, while the Mathurs were in their bed room. Manoj asked Khushbu to switch on the TV to suppress any possible shriek. He then took out a bottle of cold drink in which he had already mixed alcohol. Preeti asked Khushbu to prepare tea. Thereafter, Manoj stabbed Khushbu multiple times in the dining area and then went on to kill the elderly couple. Soon thereafter, they ransacked the entire house for more than two hours before fleeing away," said the Special CP.
 "The duo after committing the crime went to Sector 9, Gurugram at the house of Preeti and from there the duo booked a hotel and checked in to it on June 23 afternoon," said the Special CP, adding that further investigation was going on.
 Police have recovered ₹86,000 cash and jewellery, stolen from the Mathur's house, from the possession of the accused.

Will reinforce support for reformed multilateralism at G20, says PM Modi

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Wednesday said he would reinforce India's strong support to reformed multilateralism at the G20 summit, crucial to preserve rule-based international order.
 In his departure statement, he said issues such as women empowerment, artificial intelligence and common efforts to address challenges like terrorism will be high on his agenda.
 The prime minister emplaned for Osaka, Japan to participate in the summit.
 The summit will provide an important opportunity to reiterate and reinforce our strong support to reformed multilateralism, which is crucial for preserving rule-based international order in today's



fast-changing world," Modi said.
 The summit, he said, will also be a platform for sharing India's strong developmental experience of the last five years, which provided the basis for a resounding mandate by the people of India to the government to continue on the path of progress and stability.

Reliance Infra bags ₹7K cr Versova-Bandra Sea Link project in Mumbai

TN RAGHUNATHA ■ MUMBAI

Having bagged one of the largest EPC contracts of the state-run Maharashtra State Road Development Corporation (MSRDC), the Reliance Infrastructure Ltd (RInfra) will construct the 17.17 km long Versova-Bandra Sea Link (VBSL) at a cost of ₹7,000 crore. The RInfra, which was awarded the Engineering, Procurement and Construction (EPC) contract by the MMRDA on Monday, expects to ready in 60 months the VBSL, which is three times Mumbai's current iconic Worli-Bandra Sea Link (WBSL) of 5.6 km.
 The work on the Versova-Bandra Sea Link is being undertaken nine years after the WBSL — known officially as the Rajiv Gandhi Setu, was thrown open to traffic on

March 24, 2010. The VBSL is expected to cut down commute time between Worli and Versova from 90 minutes to 10 minutes. The existing WBSL carries 10 lakh vehicles per annum. The VBSL, once completed, is estimated to serve to serve nearly one crore vehicles annually, according to R-Infra.
 "Mumbaikars can look forward to drastic savings in their fuel cost besides an eco-friendly travel with minimal carbon footprint," a R-Infra spokesperson said.
 R-Infra has already completed the works related to soil investigation, in partnership with M/s. Fugro Ltd, and engineering design, in partnership with M/s. Dar Al Handasah. MSRDC is expected to finalise the location of casting yard for the work to start on the project.

Pak tension hits Baba Chamliyal congregation

MOHIT KANDHARI ■ JAMMU

Missing "bonhomie" between India and Pakistan has once again impacted annual congregation of devotees of Baba Dalip Singh Manhas, popularly known as Baba Chamliyal, for the second consecutive year in Ramgarh sector of Samba district.
 Last year, the annual fair was suspended after four BSF personnel including an Assistant commandant were martyred in cross border firing in the same area on June 12-13.
 This year the annual fair is being organised by the district administration but the traditional flag meeting between the BSF and the Pakistan Rangers will continue to remain suspended for the second consecutive year.
 On Wednesday, a senior

BSF officer of Jammu frontier, issued a written statement clarifying, "there hasn't been any formal communication between Rangers and BSF on this year's Chamliyal Mela".
 Devotees on both sides of the International border converge at the shrine on last Thursday of June to find cure for their chronic skin ailments as per the popular legend.
 At the peak of hostilities during Kargil war the annual fair was not organised in 1999.
 After performing the rituals in their own territory the men in uniform, from both the countries, gather at the zero line along the International border in Ramgarh sector and exchange holy cloth with trolleys of shakkar-sharbat (mud and holy water of the well).

Niti Aayog CEO Amitabh Kant gets two-year extension

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Amitabh Kant was on Wednesday given a two-year extension as chief executive officer of the Niti Aayog, an official order said.
 The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet has approved the extension of Kant's tenure for a further period of two years beyond June 30, 2019, that is up to June 30, 2021, on the same terms and conditions, the Personnel Ministry said in the order.
 He was appointed as the CEO of the government think-tank on February 17, 2016, for a fixed two-year term.
 Kant was later given an extension till June 30, 2019.

J'khand lynching pains me, punish...

From Page 1

Going by the Congress party's arguments, he wondered whether victory of the Congress in Wayanad and Rae Bareilly seats too was a "defeat of the country".
 Noting that the Congress was not able to win even a single Lok Sabha seat in 17 States, he said it was time for the Congress to introspect and "accept defeat".
 "My friends in the Congress: They have not been able to digest

victory. They have not been able to accept defeat. I do not consider this to be a healthy sign in a democracy," he said.
 Congress leaders, he said, are saying farmers were sold out to Rs 2,000 cash dote and the elections were won with the help of media.
 "This is an insult to farmers. A farmer is not available for sale. Farmers cannot be insulted. The use of language that they were sold for Rs 2,000 is an insult to 15 crore farmers," he said.
 The Prime Minister said there have been so many polls with EVMs and parties that are represented in the Rajya Sabha have got opportunities to govern in some State or the other after elections conducted through EVMs. "Then,

why question EVMs today," he asked.
 The Prime Minister said, "We are seeing this same attitude when it comes to discussing 'One Nation, One Election.'" "Yes, people may not like the idea or have inputs on this. But, it is important to present these ideas and have discussions on the subject," he said on the proposal for holding simultaneous Assembly and Lok Sabha elections which the Government had been batting for.
 Countering the Opposition charge of media bias during elections, he said, "Is media on sale. Was it on sale in Tamil Nadu and Kerala (where Congress and its allies won)." The Prime Minister also took the

Congress to task for its "clamour for credit" saying why it was not doing so in case of National Register for Citizens as it was first agreed to by the then Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi in the Assam Accord.
 With 22 Bills lapsing as the Rajya Sabha did not pass them before the term of the 16th Lok Sabha ended, Modi said the Upper House is part of the federal structure of the country and the members must introspect and cooperate in framing of crucial legislations.
 Parties which obstructed constructive Government work in the Rajya Sabha have been punished by the voters in the recent general elections, the Prime Minister said.

Modi quoted former president Pranab Mukherjee that Opposition has a right to question but not obstruct as he sought protection from the Chair to help Government get through important legislations.
 Taking a jibe at Leader of the Opposition Ghulam Nabi Azad, he said during the debate some people demanded a return to 'Old India' instead of the 'New India' where technology is being used to ease lives and end corruption. "Do they want an Old India where Cabinet decision is torn in a Press conference, where Navy assets are used for picnic, where scams are order of the day, where 'tukde-tukde' (separatism) gang gets support of leaders, where middlemen are required for railway

tickets, MP's letter is needed for gas connection, where interviews are held for low-level jobs such as peon in a Government department and there is rampant inspector raj," he said.
 The citizens of the country are not willing to go back to the old India, he said adding the 'new India' is destined to come.
 Modi said while Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel was a Congress leader, it is his party's belief that had he been the first Prime Minister of the country, there would not have been any J&K problem. Taking a swipe at the Congress, he said Patel was their party leader and they should at least once go to the Statue of Unity in Gujarat to pay homage.
 The party should in fact hold their

Congress Working Committee (CWC) meeting there, he said. "Azad saheb kuch din guzariye Gujarat mein (Mr Azad please spend some days in Gujarat)," Modi quipped, using a tagline of Gujarat Tourism.
 On the Congress' claim of Indian economy expanding by only \$0.8 trillion to \$2.8 billion in five years, he said under his rule the economy has expanded by nearly half when compared to \$2 trillion added in 60 years of Congress rule.
 Stating that water shortage was a growing crisis, he said 226 districts have been identified where there is a shortage and MPs should use their area development fund to help tide over the problem.

Arvind Kumar new IB chief, Samant Kumar Goel to head...

From Page 1

Kumar has also served in the Indian Embassy in Moscow, Russia.
 Kumar, who is considered an expert on the Kashmir and Naxal issues, is the second most senior officer in the IB after Jain.
 Goel will succeed Dhasmana at the country's external spy agency, RAW. Goel, a 1984 batch IPS officer of Punjab cadre, is at present the Special Secretary in the RAW.
 Goel was heading the operations wing of the agency when

the Pulwama incident happened in February this year in which 40 CRPF personnel were killed in a suicide bombing by the Pakistani terror group Jaish-e-Mohammad (JeM) and India had to retaliate by carrying out aerial attack in Balakot. RAW has a separate Jammu and Kashmir desk where inputs relating to the terror-hit State is collected and collated, sources said.
 Goel's name had cropped in a CBI investigation into allegations and counter-allegations of corruption against each other by two of its former senior officers — the then CBI director Alok Kumar Verma and Special Director Rakesh Asthana.
 The CBI had booked Asthana on allegations of receiving a bribe from an accused, Manoj Prasad, probed by him in a case linked to meat exporter Moin Qureshi.

BJP MLA beats civic staffer on demolition drive run-in, arrested

From Page 1

Justifying his action, Akash said, "In the BJP, we have been taught, phir aavedan, phir nivedan aur phir danadan. (first request and then attack)."
 Eye-witnesses said the locals were protesting against razing of a house when Akash, who was a part of the protest, warned the civic body staff of consequences if they do not leave the spot.
 His supporters even removed the keys of the earth moving machine brought in to carry out the demolition, they said.
 Amid heated exchange, Akash brought out a cricket bat and started hitting an officer

who was talking over his mobile phone. The MLA's supporters also attacked the officer and abused him while police personnel tried to bring the situation under control.
 Soon after the incident, Indore Municipal Corporation employees held a demonstration by stopping their work.
 Akash said some civic officials were razing even those houses which are in a good condition, by declaring them as dilapidated.
 "This is a conspiracy between owners of the houses and officials. They want to raze the houses so that leaders of the ruling Congress can take possession of the land," he said.
 Condemning the assault, state Congress spokesperson Neelabh Shukla said, "The lawmaker himself has broken the law. The incident has exposed the real face of the BJP."

ED attaches Sterling Biotech's ₹9,778 cr assets for bank fraud

From Page 1

Investigations also revealed that the Group was engaged in round tripping of Standby Letters of Credit (SBLCs) funds to the tune of ₹4,500 crores by violating the conditions laid down by RBI while sanctioning the loan.
 "The said SBLCs were later on devolved on the guarantor banks causing wrongful loss to these public sector banks and to the public at large. Their strategy included incorporation of multiple shell companies, conducting circular transactions to artificially inflate turnover of flagship companies, claiming higher depreciations

on non-existing machinery to avoid tax liabilities, artificial share trading with the shell companies, layering and laundering of proceeds of crime within India and abroad through the web of multiple shell companies," the agency further said.
 The original PAN cards, stamps, seals, Memorandum of Association and signed blank cheque books of shell companies have been seized by ED from possession of the promoters.
 All these shell companies were controlled, managed and beneficially owned by the main promoters and were used in the

process of money laundering, the agency said.
 The probe has also revealed that the promoters have created a web of corporate and accounting structures abroad. They have incorporated 96 entities in various countries including UAE, USA, UK, BVI, Mauritius, Barbados, Panama, and Nigeria.
 The main entities outside India include Richmond Overseas, Sunshine Trust Corporation, SEEPCO BVI, SEEPCO Nigeria, Atlantic Blue Water Services Pvt Ltd, Geodynamic Geospectra Limited, SAIB LLC and Goldcoin Construction.

Office of the Executive Engineer, Provincial Division, P.W.D., Hapur
 No. 1253/3A **Very Short Term E-Procurement Notice Inviting Tenders** Date- 21.06.2019

1. On behalf of Governor of Uttar Pradesh invites online bids through e-tendering from the registered firm for Road Category A, B, C and D as per applicable. The bid document may be uploaded from dated 29-06-2019 to 04-07-2019 up to 2:00 PM. Technical bids will be opened on date 04-07-2019 at 2.30 PM. by the Committee in the office of the Executive Engineer, Provincial Division, PWD, Hapur. Date of financial bid will be inform separately to the technically qualified contractors. In case of holiday or office closed the technical bid/financial bids will be opened on next working day in the same manners.

S.No.	Dist- rict	Name of Work	Esti- mated cost (Rs.in Lacs)	Bid Secu- rity (Rs.in Lacs)	Cost of Tender	Time of Com- ple- tion	Address of Executive Engineer executing the work	Address of Superin- tending Engineer	Address of Chief Engi- neer
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1	Hapur	Construction of RCC overhead tank of 50 KL capacity and 15.0m staging with pump house and boring of tubewell of 200X150 mm X150 mm lowering of assembly with submersible pump of 7.5 hp complete as per drawing and design, under construction of district hapur DM residence/campus.	33.50	3.50	300+500+ GST	4 Month	EE, PD P.W.D. Hapur	SE, BSR-Circle, PWD Bul-andshahar	CE, WZ PWD, Meerut
2	Hapur	Wate supply and sanitary work in campus of DM residence / campus (main building, servant room etc) as per approved drawing and design.	9.00	0.90	300+500+ GST	3 Month	EE, PD P.W.D. Hapur	SE, BSR-Circle, PWD Bul-andshahar	CE, WZ PWD, Meerut

3. Details and conditions/rules related to bid available on Website <http://etender.up.nic.in>

Assistant Engineer P.D., PWD, Hapur U.P. 141486, Date : 24.06.2019
 Executive Engineer P.D., PWD, Hapur विज्ञान वेबसाइट www.up.gov.nic.in पर उपलब्ध है।

Cong, Left snub Didi's unity...

From Page 1

Soon her party will obliterate from Bengal and the Left will get back its voters who have gone away to BJP because of the torture they faced at the hands of the TMC, added Chakrabarty.
 Congress Assembly party leader Abdul Mannan said, "First Mamata

Banerjee should publicly apologise for bringing BJP in Bengal and tell the people that she had done a great wrong by actively decimating the Left and the Congress and replacing them by the BJP. She should also accept her sin of living with the BJP for 9-10 years and then only we shall think over her suggestion."

India's interest to rule S-400 deal

From Page 1

"We have to tell our Governments to try harder," he added.
 India had imposed retaliatory tariffs on 28 US items earlier this month, after the Trump Administration ended trade concessions for India on June 1. Pompeo defended his Government's decision, stating that the US deserves greater market access.
 Jaishankar, however, made it clear that India would be guided by its own interests when it comes to purchasing defence systems from Russia. "We have relationships with several countries, many of which are of some standing. They have a history. We will do what is in our national interest," he said. "We had a discussion on defence cooperation. It is important to display trust and confidence in each other if we want this to grow."
 Pompeo also termed Iran as the "biggest sponsor of terror." However, India's official stand on it is not yet known but India and US discussed the situation in Iran in some detail. India raised its concerns on energy security and the regional situation. Jaishankar expressed "appreciation for US support" on terrorism-related issues. "We see zero tolerance to cross-border terrorism," he said.
 The US Secretary of State's visit comes ahead of a meeting between Modi and Trump on the sidelines of the G20 Summit in Osaka, Japan, later this week. In his meeting with Pompeo, Modi outlined his vision for the Indo-US strategic partnership in the new

tenure of his government.
 The Prime Minister expressed his strong commitment to achieve the full potential of bilateral relations in trade and economy, energy, defence, counter-terrorism and people-to-people contacts. The two leaders also discussed various aspects of the bilateral relationship to strengthen the India-US strategic partnership.
 "The Prime Minister reiterated the priority that he attaches to relations with the US and outlined his vision for the Strategic Partnership in the new tenure of the Government and beyond, building on strong foundation of trust and shared interest," a statement from the Prime Minister's Office said.
 Pompeo expressed the US Government's continued interest in building stronger relations with India and working together to realise the shared vision and goals, it said. He also conveyed greetings of Trump to the Prime Minister and congratulated him on his electoral victory.
 "Working together to further deepen our strategic partnership. Secretary Pompeo called on PM Narendra Modi to exchange views on various aspects of Indo-US relationship. PM will meet President Donald Trump on the sidelines of the upcoming G20 Osaka Summit," Ministry of External Affairs spokesperson Raveesh Kumar tweeted.
 Pompeo's talk here is the first high-level interaction between the two countries after return of the Modi Government to power last month.

कार्यालय सभागीय परियोजना यंत्री लोक निर्माण विभाग, परियोजना क्रियान्वयन इकाई, साउथ सिविल लाईन जबलपुर

निम्नलिखित कार्य हेतु ऑनलाईन निविदा यंत्रिकृत टेकेंदारों अथवा पंजीयन हेतु उपयुक्त पात्रता वाली प्रतिष्ठित फर्म से आमंत्रण की जाती है:-

स. क्र.	पोर्टल टेंडर क्र.	कार्य का नाम	जिला	टेंके की अनुमानित राशि (पीएसी) (रु. लाख में)	अमानत राशि (ईएमडी) (रु. में)	निविदा प्रपत्र का मूल्य (रु. में)	कार्य पूर्ण करने का समय (माह में वर्षाकाल सहित)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1	2018_PWP IU_33759	राज्य विधिक सेवा प्राधिकरण जबलपुर में सेमिनार हॉल का उन्नयन एवं नवीनीकरण कार्य (प्रथम आमंत्रण)	जबलपुर	82.34	82340.00	10000.00	3

1. निविदा से संबंधित बिड डॉक्यूमेंट वेबसाइट <http://mptenders.gov.in> पर बिना भुगतान के देखें एवं डाउनलोड किये जा सकेंगे।
 2. निविदा प्रपत्र का मूल्य ऑन-लाईन पोर्टल पर क्रेडिट/डेबिट/कैश/आईडीएन/ईएनई बैंकिंग के माध्यम से भुगतान कर निविदा प्रपत्र खरीदा जा सकेगा।
 3. निविदा प्रपत्र केवल ऑन-लाईन दिनांक 24.06.2019 समय 9.00 से दिनांक 04.07.2019 समय 17.30 तक खरीदा जा सकेगा। सूचना व अन्य जानकारी वेबसाइट पर देखी जा सकती है।
 4. निविदा से संबंधित सम्स्त आवश्यक संशोधन उपरोक्त वेबसाइट पर ही दर्ज किये जायेंगे, पृथक से समाचार पत्रों में प्रकाशन नहीं किया जावेगा।

सभागीय परियोजना यंत्री लोक निर्माण विभाग पी.आई.यू. जबलपुर

G-12866/19

चौ० चरण सिंह विश्वविद्यालय, मेरठ
बी०एड० (द्वि-वर्षीय) पाठ्यक्रम में अल्पसंख्यक संस्थानों के अल्पसंख्यक कोटे में प्रवेश सत्र 2019-21

चौधरी चरण सिंह विश्वविद्यालय, मेरठ से सम्बद्ध अल्पसंख्यक संस्थानों के अल्पसंख्यक कोटे में **बी.एड. पाठ्यक्रम में (सत्र 2019-21)** प्रवेश हेतु विश्वविद्यालय की वेबसाइट admission.csuweb.in पर निम्न कार्यक्रमानुसार पंजीकरण व प्रवेश प्रक्रिया सम्पन्न होगी :-
विश्वविद्यालय वेबसाइट पर पंजीकरण प्रारम्भ : 27 जून, 2019
होने की तिथि
पंजीकरण की अन्तिम की तिथि : 11 जुलाई, 2019
विश्वविद्यालय द्वारा पंजीकृत अभ्यर्थियों की मेरिट घोषित करने की तिथि : 12 जुलाई 2019
प्रवेश हेतु विश्वविद्यालय द्वारा अल्पसंख्यक सीटों के सापेक्ष जारी की गई मेरिट में सम्मिलित अभ्यर्थियों द्वारा सम्बन्धित संस्थानों में प्रवेश लेने एवं शुल्क जमा करने की तिथि : 13 जुलाई से 15 जुलाई, 2019
कालिज द्वारा प्रवेशित विद्यार्थियों की सूची
सोपट कापी वि०वि० में जमा करने की तिथि : 16 एवम् 17 जुलाई, 2019
 विस्तृत नियमावली वेबसाइट पर उपलब्ध है, कृपया पढ़ने के उपरान्त पंजीकरण कराये।
कुलसचिव

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Last date: 08.07.2019 (11.00 AM)
Note: For any corrigendum, in future, refer to our website.
Chief Manager (HR)

'1 poll, 1 face' not acceptable: Anand Sharma

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Congress on Wednesday said in the Rajya Sabha that the idea of "One election, One face, one ideology" and "forced majority" is not acceptable to a diverse country like India and asked the ruling dispensation to refrain from "dividing the country for votes."

The main Opposition party also urged the NDA Government to acknowledge the role played by former Prime Ministers including Jawaharlal Nehru in building a democratic and modern India.

Making this assertion during a debate on the Motion of Thanks to the President's address, senior Congress leader Anand Sharma also urged the ruling party to desist from politicisation of the armed forces. He also claimed violence against minorities had increased under the present regime and demanded the Government to spell out the steps taken to check this dangerous trend.

He said the President's address lacked imagination and was disappointing as it was far removed from the reality on the ground. Rejecting the idea of 'One nation, One election' mentioned in the President's address, Sharma said, "There is

federal polity in the country, there is diversity. Our experience speaks that when Governments have fallen and alternative ones have not been formed, mid-term elections have been held.

"You cannot have a forced majority, you cannot impose your decision. You cannot take away the rights of States on elections. When Governments fall in States and alternative Governments are not formed, will you impose President's Rule then? This will not happen. I understand your thought. There should be one country, but one election, one face, one name, one ideology is not acceptable to India," Sharma added.

Sharma, who is deputy leader of the Congress in the Upper House, alleged that no Prime Minister has ever fought elections on the victory of armed forces as Modi did. He recalled how Indira Gandhi after the victory of Indian forces in Bangladesh war of Independence said this was the victory of humanity and not hers, for which opposition leader Atal Bihari Vajpayee had lauded her.

"No Prime Minister has fought elections on the victory of armed forces. The Army does not belong to any party, as



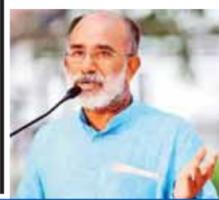
There is federal polity in the country, there is diversity. Our experience speaks that when Governments have fallen and alternative ones have not been formed, mid-term elections have

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This will not happen. I understand your thought. There should be one country, but one election, one face, one name, one ideology is not acceptable to India

ANAND SHARMA

Have you seen any Christian being beaten up or any church being burnt (since the BJP came to power)...Never has it been safer for minorities than under Modi



He said instead of whining, the country should be celebrating achievements such as 99.2 per cent of the population now having toilets, 35 crore people getting bank accounts, 7.5 crore getting gas connection, 19 crore getting loan under Mudra scheme, the jump in ease of doing business ranking and India striking at the heart of the enemy.

their victory is that of the country," Sharma said.

Asking the BJP to recognise the contributions made by previous Governments and Prime Ministers, Sharma said, "Don't think the country started after 2014 and not after 1947 when India achieved independence. Respect and accept India's diversity... The achievements made by India are by its scientists and why do you not recognise them," he asked.

He urged the ruling party not to make a "New India that has seen lynchings" and asked why the issue of lynching did not find a mention in the President's address.

Earlier, participating in the debate BJP leader KJ Alphons

said minorities have never been safer in the country than under Prime Minister Narendra Modi. He also said Modi is "more democratic" than anyone before him.

Five years back it was said Christians will be beaten up and churches will be burnt once the BJP comes to power, he said. "Have you seen any Christian being beaten up or any church being burnt (since the BJP came to power)," he asked. "Never has it been safer for minorities than under Modi," he said as some in the opposition jeered, making references to lynching of Muslims in some parts of the country.

Alphons claimed if the Congress wants to live in a

make believe world, history will write it off. "You shall have a new India," he said in an apparent jibe at Leader of the Opposition Ghulam Nabi Azad, who in his remarks during the debate, had called for giving back the 'old India' and Modi keeping his 'New India' with himself.

He said instead of whining, the country should be celebrating achievements such as 99.2 per cent of the population now having toilets, 35 crore people getting bank accounts, 7.5 crore getting gas connection, 19 crore getting loan under Mudra scheme, the jump in ease of doing business ranking and India striking at the heart of the enemy.

POLITICAL VIOLENCE IN BENGAL

TMC, BJP members exchange heated words

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Members of the TMC and the BJP on Wednesday exchanged heated words in the Lok Sabha after Locket Chatterjee of the BJP raised the issue of political violence in West Bengal even as TMC leader Saugata Roy referred to mob lynching of a youth in Jharkhand and said instead of implementation of the Goods and Services Tax (GST) regime, Wansuk Syiem (Cong) said the President's address did not have any mention of special package for the North East.

Participating in the debate, Abdul Wahab (IUML) asked how the Government is going to win the trust of the minorities and Dalits when they were being "subjected to atrocities" everyday. He also took a dig at Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Home Minister Amit Shah, saying they had invented a new branch of election engineering.

Saroj Pandey (BJP) in her maiden speech hit out at the leader of Ghulam Nabi Azad, saying he has insulted the mandate of the people by saying the Prime Minister won the elections riding on divisive politics whereas the fact remains that the people have voted for change. K Ravindra Kumar (TDP) said the BJP is all out to wipe the Opposition in order to exercise monopoly which was not a healthy sign.

Ansari was thrashed by a mob for alleged theft on June

18 and a video had emerged which purportedly showed that he was forced to chant 'Jai Shri Ram' and 'Jai Hanuman' in Jharkhand's Saraikela Kharsawan district.

Chatterjee who also spoke during the zero hour launched an attack on the West Bengal Government over the law and order situation in the state.

She claimed over 100 BJP workers have been killed in political violence after civic body polls and 15 after the Lok Sabha polls.

When Chatterjee blamed West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee for the political violence TMC MP Kalyan Banerjee and other party members countered her vociferously. Geeta Koda of the Congress also raised the issue of mob-lynching in Jharkhand.

Questioning the law and order situation in the State, she said Jharkhand witnessed four cases of mob lynching alone this year.

She also demanded justice for the youth killed in the lynching incident.

Govt suppressing media: Congress in Lok Sabha

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Leader of the Congress in the Lok Sabha Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury on Wednesday accused the Government of using "suppressive" tactics against the media.

He alleged during the Zero Hour that the Government was "undemocratic" and suffered from "megalomania", claiming that it used its advertisement measures to pressure the media.

His remarks drew protests from Treasury Benches.

Speaker Om Birla asked the next member to raise his issue during the Zero Hour, prompting Congress members to protest as Chowdhury wanted to speak further.

Among other issues, Manish Tewari of the Congress asked the Government to make its stand clear on the US decision to withdraw its waiver to import crude oil from Iran, saying it may have a far-reaching impact on India and lead to rise in prices of oil products. Will the Government continue to import oil from Iran or not, he asked.

Surjeet Singh Aujla of the Congress asked the Government to do away with the steep rise in duties on Pakistani products, saying it has led to joblessness in the border area in his constituency in Amritsar as over 5,000 families depended on trade with Pakistan for livelihood.

The duty was hiked after the Pulwama terror attack. BJP's Nihal Chand targeted the Congress Government



Leader of the Congress in the Lok Sabha Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury alleged during the Zero Hour that the Government was "undemocratic" and suffered from "megalomania", claiming that it used its advertisement measures to pressure the media

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in Rajasthan over suicide of a farmer in the State. In a video message, the farmer blamed the State Government for his decision.

BJP's Rajiv Pratap Rudy expressed concern over India's poor performance in Olympics and suggested that a parliamentary committee be formed as many members have also

been keen sportspersons. He also noted that the next global games are due next year.

BJP's Tapir Gao spoke about several political murders in Arunachal Pradesh.

He said one of the cases was handed over to the NIA but no arrest has been made yet. The Government should ensure action, he said.

Permanent membership at UNSC a priority: Govt

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Government said on Wednesday that it has accorded highest priority to getting permanent membership at the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) and is actively engaged in the ongoing intergovernmental negotiations on UNSC reform.

In a written response to a question in the Lok Sabha, Minister of State for External Affairs V Muraleedharan said India is working alongside other reform-oriented countries through its membership in the G-4 Group (India, Japan, Brazil and Germany) and the L-69 Group, a cross-regional grouping of developing countries of Asia, Africa and Latin America to build support among the UN member states for expansion of the UN Security Council.

"Government of India has accorded highest priority to get-

The Government informed the Lok Sabha that over 6.84 lakh posts were vacant in different departments under it. Of the total sanctioned strength of 38.02 lakh, 31.18 lakh were filled as on March 1, 2018, leaving 6.84 lakh posts vacant, according to a written reply by Minister of State for Personnel Jitendra Singh

The Indian Air Force lost 27 aircraft, including 15 fighter jets and helicopters, in crashes since 2016, Minister of State for Defence Shripad Naik said in the Lok Sabha. The quantum of provisional loss in 11 cases of crashes was approximately Rs 524.64 crore



ting permanent membership for India in an expanded United Nations Security Council. A series of initiatives, involving bilateral and multilateral platforms, have been undertaken by the Government in pursuance of this objective. India is actively engaged in the ongoing intergovernmental negotiations on UNSC reform at the UN," Muraleedharan said.

"Vacancies in Central Government are caused due to retirement, death, promotion, et cetera and the posts falling vacant are required to be filled as per recruitment rules by Ministries, Departments or Organisations concerned," he said.

In another reply, he said the Staff Selection Commission has planned to conduct examinations to fill up the 1,03,266 vacancies reported by various ministries during the years 2019 and 2020.

Railway Board has notified five centralised employment notifications in 2018-19 for new and future vacancies likely to arise in two years, covering 1,56,138 vacancies, the Minister said.

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The quantum of provisional loss in 11 cases of crashes was approximately Rs 524.64 crore, he said in a written reply in the Lok Sabha.

In 2016-17 fiscal, six IAF fighter jets, two helicopters, one transport aircraft and one trainer crashed. In 2017-18, the air force lost two fighter jets and one trainer aircraft in crashes.

The number rose sharply in 2018-19 with the IAF losing seven fighter jets, two helicopters and two trainers.

This included the crash of the MiG-21 fighter jet which was being piloted by Wing Commander Abhinandan Varthaman during a dog-fight with Pakistan Air Force planes on February 27.

On the same day, an Mi-17 helicopter also crashed killing six air force personnel. In 2019-20, so far, an AN-32 transport aircraft crashed in Arunachal Pradesh, killing 13 air force personnel earlier this month.

Lone INLD RS member joins BJP

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Ram Kumar Kashyap, the Lone Indian National Lok Dal (INLD) MP in the Rajya Sabha, joined the BJP on Wednesday in the presence of party working president JP Nadda.

With this, the BJP's strength in the Rajya Sabha has increased to 76.

Besides Kashyap, two-time former MP from Kannur in Kerala AP Abdullakutty, who

has been in the CPI(M) and the Congress, also joined the BJP on Wednesday.

He was expelled from the CPI(M) in 2009 for praising the then Gujarat Chief Minister Narendra Modi.

He then joined the Congress, which recently sacked him for praising Narendra Modi yet again.

On Tuesday, two INLD MLAs Zakir Hussain and Parminder Singh Dhul had also joined the BJP.

Gadkari: No growth possible unless villages empowered

PNS ■ QUTAB GARH (NEW DELHI)

Union Minister of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises Nitin Gadkari on Wednesday said time has come when people can turn the waste into wealth by its proper utilisation.

After kicking off the Sanitation and Water Conservation Drive of Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) here, Gadkari said eradicating the demons of poverty, hunger and unemployment will remain a mirage unless the villages are economically, socially and ecologically empowered.

The KVIC has adopted Qutab Garh under its Swachhata Abhiyaan. Besides maintaining the cleanliness of this village, the KVIC officials would also take care of the progress of deepening of ponds work there. Last year, the KVIC had adopted Jagatpur village of Eastern Delhi and cleanliness drive is still in operation there.

Laying stress on the need of proper water management system, he said, "Our country does not have the dearth of water, but we are lagging in managing the water," he said.

"Main aap sabse kheta hoon ki paani ka niyojan seekhiye. Daudne wale paani ko chalayije, chalne wale paani ko rokiye aur ruke huye paani ko jameen ke andar jaane dijiye (I request you all to learn the art of planning the water. Force the running water to walk, walking water to slow down and permit the stopped water to go into the earth)," he said.

Appealing the villagers to divert the agricultural yields into power and plastic sector, Gadkari said by selling toilet waste water to power generating companies, the Maharashtra Government had



Union Minister for Road Transport & Highways and Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises Nitin Gadkari as part of the Swachh Bharat Abhiyaan, organised by Khadi & Village Industries Commission (KVIC), at Village Qutab Garh in Delhi, on Wednesday

so far earned over Rs 2 crore. "One can produce one tonne of bio-CNG by burning five tonnes of parali (crop residues). Very soon five districts of Vidarbha region will be free from diesel," he said.

Applauding KVIC's efforts on Honey Mission Programme, the MSME Minister also appealed the villagers to give up using chemical fertilizers in their fields. "It will be an add-on to both farming and beekeeping," he added.

Minister of State for MSME Pratap Chandra Sarangi also appreciated the innovative efforts taken up by the KVIC in the recent past.

"Our Prime Minister Narendra Modi is the true conscience-keeper of Gandhian philosophy of self-discipline and self-reliance, unlike the previous governments using Gandhi as their political tool to

taste the fruit of power. That is why, what Khadi has done in last five years is much more than its achievement in 60-odd years before Modi," he said.

Earlier, KVIC Chairman Vinai Kumar Saxena welcomed the dignitaries and appraised them about different Khadi activities, including Honey Mission, Kumhar Sashaktikaran Mission and deepening of village ponds in Qutabgarh. He also said that in the current fiscal, all the State Offices of KVIC had been asked to adopt one village in their respective areas, where sanitation and water conservation drive could turn it into the model ones.

New Delhi MP Meenakshi Lekhi, her Shimla counterpart Suresh Kashyap and MSME secretary AK Panda were also present on this occasion.

Rural kids lack nutrition care: Study

ARCHANA JYOTI ■ NEW DELHI

With rural men migrating to urban areas for greener pastures leaving women back home to juggle between agricultural and household work, their kids are at the receiving end having left out of entitlements related to nutrition and care, according to a new study.

The lack of attention to women's time as a key factor in child nutrition outcomes is perhaps the main reason for the persistence of poor nutritional outcomes despite economic growth, said Indian-origin scientist Nitya Rao, professor of gender and development in the University of East Anglia's (UEA) School of International Development in Norwich, England in her study.

It notes that longer working hours for women or increased work intensity on agricultural fields can have adverse impact on their own health and, in turn, their ability to care for their children, leading to poor child- and household-level nutrition outcomes.

The study which has been published in the journal Feminist Economics, stressed



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The study which has been published in the journal Feminist Economics, stressed on policies to be context-specific taking into consideration factors such as caste and location in order to improve women's lives and household nutrition and health outcomes in rural India



with no appetite or desire to cook or eat, which has implications for the rest of the household.

In Koraput, located in the semi-humid tropics, literacy rates and other human development indicators are low. People in this region work, on an average, close to 13 hours a day — resulting in sleep deprivation especially during the peak agricultural seasons of planting and harvesting.

"We leave for our fields for transplantation early in the morning. There is no time to go to the forest to collect vegetables or greens, and no time to cook. We eat once a day - rice and ambli (sour gruel of rice flour and tamarind)," Professor Rao quotes Koraput participant Kamala Paroja in her study.

"Infrastructural support that can reduce the drudgery and effort/time intensity of tasks, especially cooking, as well as clean energy and drinking water, alongside strengthening child-care services, will help India move toward the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals of reducing hunger and stopping inter-generational nutritional deprivation," she added.

on policies to be context-specific taking into consideration factors such as caste and location in order to improve women's lives and household nutrition and health outcomes in rural India

force of the agriculture labour and 48 per cent of the self-employed farmers, according to OXFAM 2018. "Women's agricultural work could potentially have negative outcomes, especially for the young child whose nutrition depends more on the mother's time for breastfeeding and supplementary feeding. The double burden of work and care often leads to a time trade-off between the two," said Professor Rao.

The study examined the intersections of gender with

other forms of social identity and inequality.

The research drew on primary data from 12 villages in two districts, Wardha (Maharashtra) and Koraput (Odisha) between 2014-2016. Malnutrition is high in both areas, with near or more than 50 per cent of children underweight.

In Wardha, women harvest cotton manually, but the semi-arid region has reported severe agrarian distress over the past decade. Moreover, the smell of cotton and cotton dust causes headaches and leaves workers

Between the lines

Modi is still playing comparatives in his speeches when the expectation from him is much more post-verdict



Now that Prime Minister Narendra Modi has a massive mandate for governance and has successfully reduced the Congress to an existential crisis, he certainly needs to get the bugbear of anti-Congressism off his back. There is no doubt that India has vociferously voted against dynastic entitlement and for deserved empowerment. If he has indeed managed to convince voters of his leadership capabilities, frankly, there is no need for him to justify it again and again. Which is why the takedown of the Congress during his first speech in the 17th Lok Sabha and even in the Rajya Sabha was more like rubbing salt into the Congress' wounds than addressing the people who voted him back and are looking for new directions in stressed times. The Congress is already pounded. Doing more of the same won't affect it but it could make Modi look obsessive about a party and keeping it relevant as an excuse with his sarcasm and negative projection. Rather, moribund as it is, he should let it collapse under its own weight. Besides, elections are over now. Perhaps it was the anniversary of the Emergency that did it but Modi tore into the Congress leadership for being out on bail while imprisoning others during its own tenures in history. Then he demolished Congress leader Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury's argument that Modi could not diminish the party's "high" stature, saying the party was so "high" that it was cut off from the grassroots and he would rather it stay there while he connected to the people. Then there was the familiar trope of crediting non-family Congressmen whose contribution went unacknowledged — Pranab Mukherjee, Narasimha Rao and Manmohan Singh — and how the NDA regime had no issue about acknowledging the work of all past Prime Ministers, beginning with Jawaharlal Nehru. In fact, the reference to Nehru stood apart as he has not been charitable to the Congress' dynastic fountainhead through the heat and dust of campaigning but urged lawmakers to learn from his sense of duty to society. Of course, the smart jab at his descendants was unmistakable. And not that the Congress would change its stance on the Triple Talaq Bill in Parliament, but by recalling its position on the Uniform Civil Code and the Shah Bano case, Modi exposed its votebank mentality of minority appeasement than welfare. Knowing full well that the Bill wouldn't get enough support in the Rajya Sabha, Modi wants to show that he tried but was stalled by the Congress. Apportioning blames and competitive comparisons have been a part of our politics but when it comes to Modi and the way he has crafted his journey, the expectations are not sundry. Nobody likes oversold clichés.

Which is why there needed to be more emphasis on his development work. He did touch upon three areas succinctly that need attention. Although "Make in India" was not showcased much during the campaign, it being considered the NDA's Achilles' heel, it was bold of Modi to rescue his pet project and restate its primacy in his development vision. He even linked it to the "collective endeavour to make India a five trillion dollar economy." The country really needed to hear more of his economic blueprint at a time when growth rates are sputtering, there are challenges of boosting investment while giving tax breaks and incentives and there is pressure to be people-friendly immediately after such a massive mandate. Sensing the anxieties about climate change and resources, Modi rightly emphasised that water conservation was everybody's responsibility and though he had created Jal Shakti ministry to manage resources and ensure potable water to all, he implied a mass awareness, even with the help of NGOs. By recalling his days of sitting in protest against the delay in the Sardar Sarovar Dam project and how it helped farmers, Modi clearly hinted that this could be bigger than his Swachh mission and it could well be a populist pitch that would link the poor, the farmers, the underprivileged and privileged together. So far, his commitment to climate change has not matched his performance when it came to relieve for thermal plants and underwhelming renewable energy goals. Besides, though he addressed the "sabka vishwas" plank by expressing grief over the Jharkhand mob lynching, he asked that the State be spared of the "lynching hub" tag and perpetrators identified. Would he have said the same about Bengal?

Exciting at the end

The fear of a rash of dead games in the cricket World Cup's league stage has dissipated with some stunning feats



The problem, some might argue, with mega international sporting events is that quite often they take far too long to come to the 'business end' or the 'sharp end', where the favoured teams all rise to the top and compete with each other. You could avoid watching the first week of a grand slam tennis tournament, even stay away from the World Cup of football until the quarter-finals. Every championship tries to resolve this issue through various means while trying ostensibly to be fair. So in tennis you have the seeding system, where top players avoid each other until the second week. In football, too, groups are chosen to avoid pitting too many top teams against each other. But nothing is perfect. Sometimes a rising star can emerge and take out the top seeds in tennis and in football matches, you often end up with the fabled "group of death" where a favourite can be dumped out in the early rounds.

The International Cricket Council (ICC), therefore, moved back to an earlier format where all the teams in the World Cup play each other once in the league stage. This angered some people because it made cricket a rather insular club of the major test-playing nations, although Scotland did come within a hair's breadth of the tournament. But because the top four teams in One-Day cricket — England, India, New Zealand and Australia in that order — were so far ahead of the rest, everyone expected that other than some marquee marketing games such as India-Pakistan during the league phase, the first few weeks of the ongoing World Cup would be a damp squib after the first 15-off games. But as England's implosion, Pakistan's resurgence, Sri Lanka rediscovering its mojo and Bangladesh finally playing to its potential have slightly upset the apple-cart for the hosts, they highlight that one big thing that every international tournament should be about, unpredictability. Nobody expected Germany to be bundled out in the football World Cup at Russia last year and England was the unquestioned favourite for the cricket version as hosts. But some unexpected losses have shaken things up. However, sports administrators will continue toying with new league formats. While the ICC version is fairer than most, it is rather exclusive and if cricket's popularity is to grow globally, more teams will have to be a part of the tournament. But that will invariably lead to calls of league fixing and what not. The challenges of making a tournament fair will remain but let us enjoy this edition till then for all the surprises it is throwing up.

Iran is no pushover

The nation today is very different from what it was in 1991 or 2003. Societally, militarily, diplomatically and even morally, it is a very strong country



BHOPINDER SINGH

In a speech in January 1991, the then Iraqi President Saddam Hussein had invoked a popular idiomatic expression, exhorting his military and simultaneously warning the US against intervening in his invasion of Kuwait by threatening a "mother of all battles." Hussein had under his command supposedly the world's fourth largest Army with over a million and a half in uniform and reserves — a number larger than the US Army and Marine Corps combined. Iraqi forces were also battle veterans of the decade-long Iran-Iraq war and had displayed complex helicopter-borne assault-like command capability in seizing the Kuwait Emir's palace much before Iraqi armour columns rolled in. However, there were clear chinks in the Iraqi narrative beyond the presidential bravado. The sheer numbers of the Iraqi forces, who were subjected to an unchallenged pummeling of a 30-day air bombardment that broke the country's infrastructure and spirit, are testimony. Ultimately, it took less than 100 hours of ground assault for the complete capitulation, destruction and humiliation of the Iraqi retreat from Kuwait. The Second Gulf War in 2003, entailing a more expanded mandate to oust Hussein, lasted only 21 days before the "end of major combat operations" was announced. However, the strategic aim of "containment" was not achieved in either of the Gulf Wars, yet the mainstream Americans believe in their ability to bulldoze any military opposition in the Middle East.

Today, Iran faces a potential military action from the US following the latest escalation of tensions with the shooting down of a \$130 million worth 'Global Hawk BAM-D' surveillance drone over the Strait of Hormuz. The ratcheting of mutual distrust has been in the making for sometime, with the Iranians and their proxy forces holding sway in the multiple battles in the Iraqi-Syrian swathes, Yemen and Lebanon to even in the Iran-beholden, modern Iraq nation. The sectarian divide in the Middle East is increasingly tilting in favour of the numerically lesser Shia forces, much to the consternation of the US-supported Gulf sheikhdoms and Israel. The decimation of the Islamic State (IS) landmass and its conventional capabilities has shifted the US' focus onto Iran in order to contain what it calls "the leading state sponsor of terror." Towards the same, the US has unilaterally reneged on the path-breaking Iran nuclear deal and reinforced crippling economic sanctions, even though the international community remains a mute spectator despite the global nuclear watchdog organisation, the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), giving Iran a clean chit in abiding with the terms of the nuclear deal, which Trump accuses Iran of violating.

But Iran has not undertaken any military intervention as done by the US (all inconclusively) in the last 30 years in the Middle East.



It has simply put a lot more challenges. First, unlike Iraq, Syria, Lebanon, Yemen or even Afghanistan — which were deeply divided and polarised societies from within — Iran is relatively homogenous and united in its animus towards the US aggression. Unsurprisingly, the US-led sanctions have had a "catastrophic humanitarian consequence" on the Iranian civil society and has had no support from any of the Iranian Opposition leadership, inside or outside of Iran.

This is starkly a different situation from Hussein's Iraq which had well over 65 per cent of its population composed of persecuted Shias and Kurds, who were happy to see Hussein fall. Likewise, a theoretical US intervention in Syria may just be welcomed by the approximate 90 per cent of the Sunni population, who are ruled by the Shia-Alawite Assad Government.

Similarly, any action against the Shia-Hezbollah forces in Lebanon may be acceptable to other competing stakeholders like the Sunnis, Christians or Druze. Not so in Iran, which has over 90 per cent Shias. Even other minorities like the Kurds, Achomis, Turkmens (barring the Baluch) are also reasonably integrated into the Iranian soci-

WITH 20 PER CENT OF THE GLOBAL OIL TRADED THROUGH THE NARROW STRAIT OF HORMUZ, IRAN COULD POSE UNIMAGINABLE ASYMMETRIC THREATS TO THE US INTERESTS EVEN IF ITS CONSIDERABLE NAVAL FLEET OF AN ESTIMATED 15 SUBMARINES AND ANTI-SHIP SYSTEMS WERE TO BE NEUTRALISED

ety with no major discrimination. This puts a rock solid block of at least 110 million — 85 million in Iran and at least 25 million co-sectarian Shias in the contiguous western border with Iraq — in direct confrontation with the US. This is demographically an impregnable minefield for the US to potentially penetrate and try to hold ground. Thus, physical land occupation of Iranian soil is absolutely ruled out as can be seen from the parallel fate of the American military, in the face of rag-tag militias in Afghanistan. With 20 per cent of the global oil traded through the narrow Strait of Hormuz (24 miles wide at one point), Iran could pose unimaginable asymmetric threats to the US interests even if its considerable naval fleet of an estimated 15 submarines and anti-ship systems were to be neutralised.

Third, as the emotional flag-bearer of Shias globally, Iran commands considerable clout and loyalty via its powerful proxies across the world to inflict severe damage on US interests that could be thousands of miles away from the principal battleground. Some of these Iran-supported militias have simply out-performed the Saudi-US supported forces and retained the upper hand, even where outnumbered. Even diplomatically

and geopolitically, Iran today is not like Iraq in the previous two Gulf wars ie, internationally isolated, condemned and subjected to multi-lateral sanctions — the recent US moves against Iran have not been met with enthusiasm in the European Union and Donald Trump's unilateralism may not lead to an effective "coalition" against Iran as was the case in 1991 or 2003.

US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo dashed to Saudi Arabia and the UAE to muster support, who along with Israel remain in the forefront of the very limited anti-Iran sentiment. Unlike the UN-approved sanctions that preceded the US moves in 1991 and 2003, approval of other nations against Iran in the UN Security Council is extremely unlikely. The possible realisation of the cost of misadventure against Iran may have led to the last-minute cancellation of US military operations despite being in "cocked and loaded" status. Perhaps electoral considerations may still lead to a very limited military action, but only that as Iran is no pushover societally, militarily, diplomatically or in the present case, even morally.

(The writer, a military veteran, is a former Lt Governor of Andaman & Nicobar Islands and Puducherry)

SOUNDBITE

I understand your (BJP's) thought. There should be one country, but one election, one face, one name, one ideology is not acceptable.



Congress leader — Anand Sharma

I won't get younger roles because of fashionable clothes. I am glad that God has given me a good body. I am fashion conscious and love to experiment.



Actor — Neena Gupta

The Government has accorded highest priority to getting permanent UNSC membership. It is actively engaged in the inter-governmental negotiations on UNSC reform.



MoS External Affairs — V Muralidharan

What is wrong if I try to discipline my party workers? What is wrong if I ask my party workers to ensure that there is no misuse of Government schemes?



West Bengal CM — Mamata Banerjee

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Clean your backyard

Sir — This refers to the editorial, "Report most foul" (June 26). It is an irony that the Modi Government's return to power with the *aam aadmi's* overwhelming support almost coincided with the timing of the release of the US State Department's 2018 *Report on International Religious Freedom*, which accused the BJP office-bearers for hate speech. It also criticised the Government for reportedly protecting cow vigilante groups. One wonders that before taking a look at other countries, why doesn't the US ensure equal rights for the Blacks and poor in its own country?

Why do the Whites still consider themselves a supreme race and shoot to kill Indian and their other citizens? Naturally, the ruling BJP has termed the report as being biased against the Government of Prime Minister Narendra Modi but even its own response reeks of double-speak. One has to agree that the BJP has a habit of cherry-picking international reports. Whenever there is a favourable report from any country, media or world organisation, immediately electronic

The danger of one-party rule

The Prime Minister's idea of 'one nation, one poll' is all about structuring the Indian electoral cycle in a way that voting to the Lok Sabha and State Assemblies are synchronised. The proposal does merit some careful thought but needs to be discussed and debated threadbare before arriving at a definite decision. As a democratic nation, India remains in election mode almost throughout the year. A lot of time and public money is wasted to conduct the elections. Besides, political *tamashas* that necessitate elections to be held intermittently have become a regular affair now.

If a nation engages itself in elections all round the year, one can only imagine how difficult it will be for Governments — both Central and State — to pursue their agenda of governance. The general administration, too, is badly affected. But considering the traditions and conventions in a parliamentary system, will the Modi regime be able to surmount the challenges to make the dream of "one nation, one poll" a reality?

More than the vision of having a radical change in the pattern of elections in the country, it is the prospect of having a "one nation, one party" that is amusing to the public these days. The overwhelming majority with which the BJP won the 2019 Lok Sabha election has in



its wake brought a lot of suppositions and probabilities. With the Modi-Shah juggernaut having had a free run so far, fears that the duo may now attempt the impossible are not misplaced either. Engineering defections in the Opposition ranks, the BJP has virtually threatened the existence of all other political parties in the country. If this trend continues, the BJP, will stand tall amidst the ruins. Does this bode well for a democracy?

Pachu Menon
Margao

and print media advertise it as an achievement of Modi but when there is an adverse remark from any of such organisation, it becomes "clear bias." True, the US report on "religious freedom" is *dadagiri* against us and is a direct

attack on our internal matters. But that is as true as Modi's Kerala election speech where he passed the "where the minority is in the majority" remark.
Bidyut Kumar Chatterjee
Faridabad

Country comes first

Sir — This refers to the editorial, "Report most foul" (June 26). All such international reports, articles and any other writings,

which talk ill about India, should be taken with a pinch of salt.

In 2012, when the *Time* magazine dubbed the then Prime Minister Manmohan Singh as "underachiever", the BJP, which was in the Opposition then, proclaimed that the entire country has been thinking on the same line since long. Present Law Minister Ravi Shankar Prasad even demanded Singh's resignation.

In 2015, the same magazine published another article titled, "Why Modi Matters." The penned words of the article were soothing to the BJP. But only recently before the 2019 Lok Sabha election, the same magazine called the Prime Minister "India's divider-in-chief."

Whether political parties stand united on sensitive issues within the country or not, they must be on the same page when the foreign media talks ill about our country. At the same time, Governments must be extra careful to not give any chance to the world community to point fingers at us.

N Nagarajan
Via email

Send your feedback to: letterstopioneer@gmail.com

FIRST COLUMN

New threat in our backyard

India and Bangladesh have to make every effort to squelch the Neo-JMB and other such terrorist organisations, especially the IS, which is trying to base its operations in South Asia



HIRANMAY KARLEKAR

The arrest of four terrorists of the Neo Jamaat-ul Mujahideen Bangladesh (JMB) by a Special Task Force (STF) of Kolkata Police on June 25 once again underlines the organisation's continued activities on Indian soil. The Union Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA), which had banned the organisation on May 24, 2019, under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act of 1967, had stated in a gazette notification that the outfit was planning to set up permanent bases within 10 kilometres of India's borders with Bangladesh in several districts of West Bengal, Assam and Tripura and that it planned to extend its network in South India to establish a Caliphate in the Indian sub-continent. According to the notification, "The involvement of JMB cadres has been established in the Burdwan bomb blast and Both Gaya blast. Assam Police has found involvement of JMB in five cases registered by them and a total of 56 accused belonging to the JMB have been arrested." The MHA also said, "Jamaat-ul Mujahideen was engaged in recruitment and raising funds for terrorist activities, procurement of explosives/chemicals and assembling of IEDs."

The JMB's activities, which had largely remained behind the scenes until then, came into public attention after nine blasts had rocked the pilgrim city of Both Gaya on July 7, 2013, injuring a Tibetan monk and a tourist. While the Students' Islamic Movement of India (SIMI) has been held primarily responsible, the MHA's gazette notification indicates that the JMB was also involved. The latter's hand has also been detected in the blasts that occurred on October 23, 2013, while Narendra Modi, then a prime ministerial candidate, was addressing a rally in Patna's Gandhi Maidan. The five persons sentenced to life for involvement in the Both Gaya blasts were also suspects in the Patna explosions.

The JMB attracted further notice after a bomb had exploded in a house in West Bengal's Burdwan district on October 2, 2014, killing two people. Investigations revealed what was virtually a Bangladeshi-run arms and explosives network in West Bengal, Assam and Jharkhand. According to the National Investigative Agency's (NIA) chargesheet in the case, submitted in March, 2015, terrorists were using territories in the three States to overthrow Bangladesh's democratic Government and put a hardline Islamic regime in its place.

The organisation's South Indian reach was underlined on June 24, 2019, when the NIA arrested Habeebullah Rehman, a suspected JMB militant from Doddaballapur in the outskirts of Bengaluru. He was wanted in connection with the Burdwan and Both Gaya blasts. According to the NIA, five other JMB terrorists may be hiding in Doddaballapur.

The organisation's presence has been increasing in India mainly because it has been under tremendous pressure in Bangladesh where Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has zero tolerance for terrorism. According to a paper, *The threat of a revitalised JMB to India's security*, by Nikhil Raj Aggarwal, "Between 2014 and 2017, more than 3,000 militants belonging to terrorist groups JMB and HUI-B entered India through West Bengal, Assam and Tripura." The pressure has been particularly heavy after the savage terrorist strike on Dhaka's Holy Artisan Bakery in Gulshan, Dhaka, on the night of July 1-2, 2016, which killed 22 people, including 17 foreigners, and in which one of its factions was involved. A number of terrorists have been killed since then including two in a clash with security forces who raided their hideout in Dhaka on April 29, 2019.

While the JMB, which has split into three different factions, is on the run in Bangladesh, complacency is hardly warranted. It has a chequered history. Reportedly established in Bangladesh in April, 1998, it was first noted on May 20, 2002, when, according to *South Asia Terrorism Portal*, eight Islamist terrorists were arrested in Parbatipur in Dinajpur District along with 25 petrol bombs and documents relating to its activities. It had close links with fundamentalist Islamist organisations like the Jagrata Muslim Janata Bangladesh, which had unleashed savage violence in north-western Bangladesh under the guise of combatting extremist communist violence, and the Ahle Haadith Andolan Bangladesh (AHAB), and had supporters and shelters in India almost since the beginning. The Operations Commander of the JMJB, Siddiqui Islam, widely known as "Bangla Bhai" often crossed over to the border districts of West Bengal.

The JMB perpetrated a large number of terrorist attacks in Bangladesh before international pressure compelled that country's Government to ban it along with the JMJB and the AHAB on February 23, 2005. Follow-up action, however, was half-hearted because the Jamaat-e-Islami Bangladesh, a partner in the Bangladesh Nationalist Party-led coalition Government headed by Begum Khaleda Zia, and the fountainhead of Islamic terrorism in Bangladesh, sabotaged strong action.

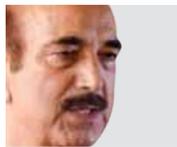
The JMB suffered a major blow on March 30, 2007, when six of its top terrorists, including its "supreme commander" Maulana Abdur Rahman and second-in-command, Bangla Bhai, were executed in Bangladesh. By 2010, it was thought to have been completely eradicated. That, however, was not the case. A section has emerged as Neo-JMB. India and Bangladesh have to make concerted efforts to squelch it and other Islamist terrorist organisations, particularly since the Islamic State, routed in Syria and Iraq, is trying to base its operations in South Asia and has already established contact with a section of the JMB.

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

POINTCOUNTERPOINT

I REQUEST YOU (PRIME MINISTER MODI) TO KEEP NEW INDIA TO YOURSELF AND GIVE US OUR OLD INDIA WHERE THERE WAS LOVE AND CULTURE.

—CONGRESS LEADER
GHULAM NABI AZAD



I THINK AZAD SAHIB IS HAVING A BLURRED VISION. MAYBE HE IS SEEING EVERYTHING THROUGH POLITICAL SPECTACLES.

—PRIME MINISTER
NARENDRA MODI

Half-baked reforms

Unless we address the core issues, no amount of modern infrastructure will be able to bring in fundamental changes towards the working methodology of the police



KK PAUL

Having gone through media reports about the recent incident at Mukherjee Nagar in North-West Delhi, where some policemen "thrashed" a tempo driver after he allegedly attacked a cop, one is compelled to wonder whether the usual talk of police reforms is yet another oxymoron? Normally, after training, a police officer is supposed to behave with a certain amount of discretion and sensitivity as he may be quite raw and not as experienced and hardened as some of his colleagues.

In the instant case, however, some policemen were reported to have conducted themselves in a very unprofessional manner, drawing adverse comment from all sections of society. This takes us to the quality of training and attitude of police officers who graduate from training schools. It appears that one of the fundamental schisms, which has continued since independence, is whether the police is a service or a force?

The conflict arises from the fact that the society has high expectations and considers the police to be a public service organisation, while the State continues to think of it not only as a service organisation for the society but also as an instrument of its sovereign functions like law and order, public order and internal security. Despite numerous commissions and recommendations, the police organisation has remained as it is. Sometimes it appears strange that despite the police being a State subject and each State having its own set of rules, there is something that binds the police into a homogenous entity as far as the methodology of work and attitude towards the public are concerned.

In this context, the Union Home Ministry's renewed efforts at giving a push to police reforms must be welcomed. To begin with, a country-wide competition to adjudge the best police station was initiated. Police stations competed with each other on the basis of seven parameters, which included among other things, crime prevention, pro-active policing along with public perception and feedback. Some of these have, perhaps, been included for the first time and give impetus to the policemen to take into account the attitude of the public towards the police and policing in general. Topping the Union Home Ministry's list was the Kalu police station in Rajasthan's Bikaner district. The second in rank was Campbell Bay in Nicobar district. Farakka police station in West Bengal's Murshidabad district ranked third. It is to be hoped that such competitions will generate a lot of enthusiasm and bring in the much-needed fresh air into the police stations besides leading to the much-desired course-correction.

Undoubtedly, some of these parameters are extremely important and may even be fundamental to providing good governance to the public. In today's media-driven world, public perception is vital for credibility of any organisation. The police in particular — as even a small incident like the one mentioned — can be stigmatised and spoil years of hard-earned reputation. At the same time, we must



also give a deeper thought to reforms, as despite orders from the Supreme Court, there appears to be an inherent reluctance in implementing them in a meaningful manner.

While the array of police reforms implemented so far — to modernise the communication networks, mobility, IT applications and weaponry among others — has only touched the metropolitan areas and the more fortunate among the district headquarters, large segments of our population continue to be under-policed with the department unable to provide even some of the basics in certain areas. Visible implementation of such infrastructural reforms, even though in a limited manner, besides giving a modern and contemporary look, have resulted in a quantum jump towards efficiency of the police besides leading to a positive perception among the public of being progressive. But unless we address the core issues, no amount of modern infrastructure will be able to bring in fundamental changes towards the working methodology of the police all over the country.

The police and the public enjoy an ambivalent relationship with each other. Even when the police personnel are very friendly — having a positive attitude and police stations with a modern look — people become apprehensive the moment they hear of the police procedures and the courts. Police being integral to the criminal justice system, almost all its actions have to be ultimately placed before the judicial officers, as required by the code of criminal procedure and the various State police rules.

As the number of cases goes up, not only the work load of investigating officers increases, it also adds to delays and pendency in the courts, resulting in an increase in the overall time spent on each case before its final disposal. Such increasing work load and delays deny justice to the people on the one hand and

on the other, it propels the stressed out and overworked police officer towards rudeness and offensive behavior.

In the process, the common man suffers, for justice delayed is justice denied. The Code of Criminal Procedure currently in vogue is basically a document of 1898 vintage. Some amendments have been made from time-to-time but the basic structure remains more or less the same. In fact, most of the aberrations in the working of the police find their origin from this Code.

As such, besides improving and modernising the training and other infrastructural needs as per current and future projections, the real reform will take effect only when such administrative changes are coupled with changes in the requisite police and court procedures. Today, a person is more concerned with the police scriptory work and the court procedures as he may have to make several visits to the police station and later to the courts. Such time-consuming and complicated procedures bring a lot of negativity in the police public relations. Besides, these have almost no bearing on establishment-related reforms of fixity of tenures and the constitution of Security Commissions at the State or national levels. In the current dispensation of procedures, hardly any emphasis has been laid on expediting the delivery of justice to the common man, which in fact should be the top priority.

In order to address all such issues in a comprehensive manner, roughly 20 years ago, the Ministry of Home Affairs had constituted a committee to go into various aspects of the criminal justice system. This committee had submitted a very comprehensive and a meaningful report. The recommendations were not only to expedite the delivery of justice, but also emphasised upon greater involvement of judicial officers at the time of

trial to ascertain the truth.

At present we follow the adversarial system, which no doubt gives a very fair trial. In the inquisitorial system, which is followed in most of the European countries including France and Germany, the supervision of the investigation is done more closely by the judicial officers. It had been recommended that in our prevailing social conditions, an adversarial system with certain good features of inquisitorial system could still be adopted. Changes in the basic approach to investigation were also suggested. An important recommendation was to introduce a provision in the Code where any court shall at any stage of inquiry or trial, would have such powers as to issue directions to the investigating officer to make further investigation or to direct the supervisory officer to take appropriate action for more pointed investigation so as to assist the court in search of truth. Some changes in the nature of the burden of proof beyond reasonable doubt were also suggested. For some reason, this very useful report was shelved after the change of government in 2004.

Ultimately for the benefit of the common man, it would be of utmost importance to deal with the criminals effectively and speedily by expeditious delivery of justice. Accordingly, the police reforms have to be two-tiered. One at the level of the organisation and the establishment besides training and second at the procedural level, entailing a comprehensive review of the code of criminal procedure and state police rules. In the current scenario simply increasing the number of investigators or the number of courts may not suffice as the need of the hour is to introduce comprehensive reforms in the criminal justice system.

(The writer is a retired Delhi Police Commissioner and former Uttarakhand Governor)

Brace up to the new normal

Term it climate change or global warming, the fact is that India and the rest of the world are at the receiving end of natural disasters and extreme weather events. Map sensitive geographical areas and codify a step-by-step action plan



KOTA SRIRAJ

Natural disasters, primarily extreme weather events, triggered the displacement of nearly 17.2 million worldwide in 2018. At 2.678 million, India recorded the maximum number of people displaced — that's more than double the 1.3 million displaced in 2017. About 1.5 million or nearly 54 per cent of the new displacements in India in 2018 were in Kerala, which was hit by the worst floods in a century.

Cyclones Titli and Gaja, which struck Odisha, Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu respectively in October and November 2018, triggered close to 649,000 displacements. These sad developments are a grim reminder of how a deteriorating environment is

coming full circle and impacting us adversely.

The depth of the issue can be gauged by the fact that natural disasters forced almost 17.2 million people out of their homes across the world in 2018. Ninety four per cent of them left due to weather-related natural calamities — cyclones, floods and drought. About 84 per cent of these affected people were from urban and peri-urban areas. To understand this in a detailed manner, nearly 1,600 disaster events triggered new displacements during 2018. Among weather-related hazards, storms, especially tropical cyclones, were a majority. Geophysical disasters such as earthquakes, tsunamis and volcanic eruptions led to 1.1 million new displacements in 2018, up from 758,000 in 2017 — a 45.12 per cent jump.

Displacements associated with disasters affected mainly East Asia and Pacific and South Asia. Both regions are heavily populated and are highly vulnerable to hazards. Sub-Saharan Africa and the Americas were relatively affected lightly but floods and storms still triggered millions of new



displacements. Around 9.6 million new displacements were recorded in East Asia and the Pacific and 3.8 million in South. Sixty per cent of the internal displacements occurred in China, India and the Philippines. In these three countries, 10.3 million were displaced by extreme weather events. Such massive movement of people affects the economy, too. Asia-Pacific's cumulative economic losses due to natural disasters exceeded \$89 billion in 2018 — slightly higher than the 21st century average of \$87 billion.

In just a year, the number of people displaced due to extreme weather events increased by 108 per cent.

Undoubtedly, the displacement burden due to extreme weather events in the country has doubled. India is the 14th most climate-vulnerable country in the world. With 29 per cent increase in deaths from last year due to extreme climate events and the 108 per cent increase in displacements in a year, the burden of displacement and deaths due to such extremes is rising. This year India will be much more prone to cyclones and floods, according to the Inform Risk Index.

Rapid changes in environmental behaviour and weather-related developments have been long expected since anthropogenic interventions

have altered weather patterns and impacted daily lives. India, with diverse climate conditions, is positioned to be deeply affected due to extreme weather events. In fact, a slight change in the rainfall patterns is enough to derail rural economies and send food prices soaring. These conditions have already prompted an exodus in northern Himalayan States where traditional farming families are forced to leave their long-inhabited villages as either drought one year or flood the next year promise to play havoc with their prosperity and personal finances, exposing them to potential poverty if they choose to stay.

On the other hand, untenable agricultural practices have added to the problem. Take the example of Chennai in Tamil Nadu. The State is reeling under yet another extreme weather condition of drought and yet, the farmers in semi-urban and rural areas are still practising the flood irrigation system, which uses a lot of water for relatively low yields of crop productivity. These small yet significant deficiencies are overlooked by the district administration, which in turn

assume forbidding proportions on the state level and cause enormous wastage of precious water resources.

India being the most affected in people displacements due to extreme weather events must take some immediate steps to prevent the situation from getting out of hand. Sensitive geographical areas must first be mapped and this needs to be followed by a step-by-step action plan that builds on past events and the precipitating factors that have played a decisive role in exacerbating the environmental conditions to the extent that the disastrous weather events are triggered. Unless innovative measures are put in place, India cannot escape the penalties of a worsening environment. The world is already experiencing the aftershocks of climate change and India, too, is increasingly finding itself at the receiving end of worsening conditions. How does it overcome the odds and script a turnaround will be crucial. The Government has a pivotal role to play and so does the common man.

(The writer is an environmental journalist)



FOREIGN EYE



THE REALITY

The Trump administration's grand talk of "the deal of the century" in the Middle East, the launch of its first, economic aspect has been both absurd and pathetic. The Palestinian refusal to attend has meant that Israel is also absent. This is a play missing its stars and half the cast as well; the Arab states involved have sent lower-tier officials. Even its instigator, Donald Trump's son-in-law Jared Kushner, talked of a workshop rather than a conference; of a vision rather than a plan. (The Guardian editorial)

Data related to payments to be stored only in India: RBI



PTI ■ MUMBAI
The Reserve Bank on Wednesday said all data related to payments must be stored only in India and data processed abroad will have to be brought back to the country within 24 hours.

The entire payment data shall be stored in systems located only in India... the RBI said in its FAQs on certain implementation issues raised by the Payment System Operators (PSOs).
The RBI had issued a directive in April 2018 on 'Storage of Payment System Data'. It had advised all system providers to ensure that within a period of six months, the entire data relating to payment systems operated by them is stored in a system only in India.

The FAQs further said there is no bar on processing of payment transactions outside India if so desired by the PSOs.
"However, the data shall be stored only in India after the processing. The complete end-to-end transaction details should be part of the data," the RBI said.
In case the processing is done abroad, "the data should be deleted from the systems abroad and brought back to India not later than the one business day or 24 hours from payment processing, whichever is earlier."
Last week, the issue of data localisation was raised by several e-commerce firms during their meetings with Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal.

₹ settles 21 paise higher at 69.15 against US dollar

PTI ■ MUMBAI
The Indian rupee on Wednesday advanced by 21 paise to close at 69.15 against the US currency in line with uptrend in domestic equities.

At the interbank foreign exchange market, the rupee opened at 69.40 a dollar and advanced to a high of 69.07 during the day. It finally settled at 69.15, up 21 paise against its previous close of 69.36.
Forex dealers said a positive sentiment built up ahead of a scheduled meeting at G20 between US President Donald Trump and his Chinese counterpart Xi Jinping, later this week.
Meanwhile, US Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin's comments eased concern over the trade impasse with China to some extent.
Besides, traders said, gains in domestic equities, foreign fund inflows and latest news on monsoon progress also helped in reviving domestic currency market sentiment.
However, rising crude oil prices and strengthening of the US dollar vis-a-vis other major currencies overseas capped the gains for the rupee.
Brent crude futures, the

global oil benchmark, rose 1.38 per cent to \$ 65.95 per barrel.
The dollar index, which gauges the greenback's strength against a basket of six currencies, rose 0.11 per cent to 96.24.
Meanwhile, Financial Benchmark India Private Ltd (FBIL) set the reference rate for the rupee/dollar at 69.3398 and for rupee/euro at 79.0525. The reference rate for rupee/British pound was fixed at 69.15, up 21 paise against its previous close of 69.36.
V K Sharma, Head-PCG & Capital Market Strategy, HDFC securities, said, "For last two days, overseas investors have been pouring money in domestic equity and debt markets also helped rupee to remain strong during Wednesday's trade."
"Statement released by US Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin saying that 'US-China trade deal is 90 per cent complete', has improved the sentiment in emerging market currencies," he said.
Meanwhile, the 10-year Government bond yield was at 6.93 per cent on Wednesday.
Foreign institutional investors (FIIs) remained net buyers in the capital markets, putting in ₹1,157.87 crore Tuesday, provisional data showed.

Sensex builds on gains ahead of F&O expiry; metal, power stocks rally

PTI ■ MUMBAI
The BSE Sensex marched higher for the second straight day Wednesday on robust buying in metal, power and financial stocks ahead of June derivatives expiry.
Overcoming a choppy start, the 30-share index finished 157.14 points, or 0.40 per cent, higher at 39,592.08. Similarly, the broader NSE Nifty jumped 51.10 points, or 0.43 per cent, to 11,847.55.
Buying interest was seen in metal, power, healthcare, capital goods and financial counters ahead of the expiry of June futures and options (F&O) contracts scheduled for Thursday, traders said.
Sentiment also received a boost after the US administration said a trade deal with China is "about 90 per cent" complete.
Besides, domestic investors are hoping for positive news on the US-India trade front in the backdrop of US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo holding talks with Prime Minister Narendra Modi in New Delhi, traders added. Modi and US President Donald Trump are scheduled to meet on the sidelines of the G20 Summit in Osaka, Japan, later this week.
The progress of monsoon

and a strengthening rupee added to the buying momentum.
Vedanta was the biggest gainer in the Sensex pack, spurring 4.40 per cent. PowerGrid, Sun Pharma, Yes Bank, Tata Steel, HDFC Bank, Bajaj Finance, ICICI Bank and Bajaj Auto too ended up to 4.12 per cent higher.
On the other hand, Infosys, IndusInd Bank, Tech Mahindra, Bharti Airtel, Maruti, TCS and HDFC were among the top losers, shedding up to 1.12 per cent.
"Indian market bounced higher led by pharma and banking sector due to positive view for Q1 FY20 result given a low base and improvement in business outlook. Metals also inched higher due to ease in trade war tensions.
"Expectation over Budget and Q1 FY20 (results) will control the trend of the market," said Vinod Nair, Head of Research, Geojit Financial Services.
Sectorally, BSE metal, power, utilities, basic materials, realty, healthcare, bankex and finance ended up to 2.88 per cent higher.
IT, teck, telecom and

FMCG shed up to 0.65 per cent.
The broader BSE midcap and smallcap indices outperformed the benchmarks, rising up to 0.85 per cent.
On the currency front, the Indian rupee appreciated 22 paise to 69.13 against the US dollar intra-day.
On a net basis, foreign institutional investors bought equities worth ₹1,157.87 crore Tuesday, and domestic institutional investors purchased shares to the tune of ₹377.22 crore, provisional data available with stock exchanges showed.
Brent crude futures, the global oil benchmark, rose 1.17 per cent to \$65.03 per barrel.
Globally, while bourses in Shanghai, Hong Kong, Tokyo and Seoul ended on a mixed note, equity markets in Europe were trading in the green in early deals.

G20 nations imposed 20 new trade-restrictive measures in last 8 months: WTO

PTI ■ NEW DELHI
The G20 countries have imposed as many as 20 new trade-restrictive measures such as high customs duties and import bans between October 2018 and May this year, according to a WTO report.
G20 members include Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, China, France, Germany, India, Japan, Russia, the UK, the US, among others.
"In terms of numbers, G20 economies implemented 20 new trade-restrictive measures between mid-October 2018 and mid-May 2019, including tariff increases, import bans and new customs procedures for exports," the report said.
WTO's 21st Monitoring Report on trade measures of the bloc was issued on June 24 and comes days ahead of the G20 summit in Japan.
These measures impact both exports and imports of the member countries including India.

Commenting on the report, WTO Director-General Roberto Azevêdo said these findings should be of "serious concern" for the whole international community.
"We urgently need to see leadership from the G20 to ease trade tensions and follow through on their commitment to trade and to the rules-based international trading system," he said.
Further, the report said a total of 29 new measures aimed at facilitating trade, including eliminating or reducing import tariffs, export duties and eliminating or simplifying customs procedures for exports were also implemented by the G20 economies.

CAPSI ties up with Assocham to promote star ratings for private security agencies

PTI ■ NEW DELHI
The Central Association of Private Security Industry (CAPSI) said Wednesday that it has partnered with the Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industry of India (Assocham) to establish collaborative relations between the two bodies for the propagation of the 'Security sTar Agencies Rating' (STAR) scheme.
The scheme aims to standardise private security agencies based on internationally accepted ISO standards. The STAR scheme was launched on February 8 in Mumbai during the Special Standards Conclave organised by the Ministry of Commerce.
CAPSI Chairman Kunwar Vikram Singh said in a statement, "The 'Security sTar Agencies Rating' (STAR) scheme has been conceptualised by CAPSI with the help and support of the Quality Council of India (QCI), the country's apex quality facilitation and national accreditation body."

RBI panel on MSME suggests ₹15,000-cr fund to support industry

PTI ■ MUMBAI
The U K Sinha Committee, set up by the RBI on micro, small and medium enterprises, has recommended a financial support of ₹15,000 crore to the MSME sector, which contributes significantly to employment generation and has as a hefty share of over 40 per cent in exports.
The contribution of the sector in the economy is currently constrained due to several challenges affecting growth in the sector, said the report submitted by the nine-member committee to the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) Tuesday.
The committee recommended setting up of a government-sponsored 'fund of funds' (FoF) of ₹10,000 crore to support the venture capital and private equity firms investing in the MSME sector that will support crowd funding from venture capital and private equity firms, which focus on investing in the MSME segment on modified

terms sheets developed by SIDBI.
"This would encourage innovation in term sheets and product structures," the committee said in its recommendations.
The panel also recommended that a ₹5,000-crore distressed asset fund be structured to assist units in clusters where a change in external environment, such as a ban on plastics or dumping, has led to a large number of MSMEs becoming non-performing assets (NPAs).
This fund could operate on the lines of the Textile Upgradation Fund Scheme (TUF), which has been in existence for many years. This would be of significant size which makes equity investments that help unlock debt or help revive sick units, it said.
The committee also recommended introduction of voluntary certification of MSMEs that comply with prescribed internal governance standards.

Lowering GST on automobiles would help the economy: Anand Mahindra

New Delhi: Mahindra Group Chairman Anand Mahindra Wednesday said lowering GST on automobiles would help the economy, stating that the auto industry has a huge multiplier effect on small companies and employment.
In a tweet, Mahindra echoed calls from the auto industry to reduce goods and services tax (GST) on vehicles amid a prolonged sales slump, with passenger vehicle sales recording the steepest decline in nearly 18 years in May when it dropped by over 20 per cent.
"What we're all searching for is the 'Mt. Mandara' which can start the 'Manthan' of the economy & get it spinning faster. I'm biased, of course, but the auto industry is one such 'Mandara'. It has a huge multiplier effect on small companies & on employment. Lowering GST would help," he said.
Earlier this month, the Society of Automobile Industry (SIAM) had sought reduction of GST on all vehicles to 18 per cent from the current rate of 28 per cent in the upcoming Budget, third-largest employer in the country.

India's trade agreements pushing import of cheap paper into country: IPMA

PNS ■ NEW DELHI
Government's policy of extending preferential tariff treatment to paper and paperboard under the free trade agreements (FTAs) has led to large quantities of paper being imported in the country at significantly lower costs to the disadvantage of domestic industry.
In its pre-budget submission, Indian Paper Manufacturers Association (IPMA) has stated that both under India-ASEAN FTA and India-Korea CEPA, basic customs duty on paper and paperboard has been progressively reduced, and currently stands at 0%.

Over 150 employees of Healthians donated blood at a recent blood donation camp organised as part of World Blood Donor Day at its Office in Gurgaon



SEARCH FOR MISSING

General public is hereby informed that a female namely **Sakshi, D/o Sh. Praveen R/o D-63 j Colony Khanpur, New Delhi** has been missing since 24.05.2019. In this regard a case **DD No. 110A, dated 27.05.19, has been registered at P.S. Ned Sarai, New Delhi.** Sincere efforts have been made by the local police to trace out the missing girl but no clue has come to light so far. The description of the missing female is as under:

Name: Sakshi, **Gender:** Female, **Age:** 22 years, **Height:** 5'1", **Complexion:** Fair, **Built:** Medium, **Face:** Round, **Wearing:** Yellow colour suit, sky blue colour pajami with black colour shoes in her feet.

If anyone has any information regarding this missing girl, kindly inform the SHO/ Ned Sarai, New Delhi.

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

SHO
P.S. Ned Sarai, New Delhi.
Ph. No. : 011-2955159, 08750870835

DP/5508/SD/19

SEARCH FOR MISSING

General public is hereby informed that a man namely **Pankaj Kumar Singh S/o Sh. Nawal Kisor Singh, R/o HN-A, 32 Flat No-7, Surrender Appt. Asola Village, New Delhi** has been missing since 09.05.2019 from the area of P.S. Maidan Garhi, New Delhi. In this regard a report vide **GD No. 34A dated 16.05.2019, has been lodged at P.S. Maidan Garhi, New Delhi.** Sincere efforts have been made by the local police to trace out the missing man but no clue has come to light so far. The description of the missing man is as under:

Name: Pankaj Kumar Singh, **Gender:** Male, **Age:** 36 years, **Height:** 5'7", **Complexion:** Fair, **Face:** Round, **Built:** Fat

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

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

SHO
P.S. Maidan Garhi, New Delhi.
Ph. No. : 08750870825

DP/5490/SD/19

SEARCH FOR MISSING/KIDNAPPED

General public is hereby informed that a boy namely **Atul Dubey @ Sameer, S/o Upender Dubey R/o H.No.-B-63, Hari Enclave, Kirari Suleman Nagar, Delhi** has been missing/kidnapped since 06.06.2019 from the area of P.S. Aman Vihar, Delhi. In this regard a case vide **FIR No. 255/19 dated 08.06.2019, has been lodged at P.S. Aman Vihar, Delhi.** Sincere efforts have been made by the local police to trace out the missing/kidnapped boy but no clue has come to light so far. The description of the missing/kidnapped boy is as under:

Name: Atul Dubey @ Sameer, **Gender:** Male, **Age:** 15 years, **Height:** 5', **Complexion:** Fair, **Face:** Round, **Wearing:** Green colour T-Shirt, Grey colour Half Pant and Hawai Slippers in Feet.

If anyone has any information regarding this missing/kidnapped boy, kindly inform SHO/ Aman Vihar, Delhi.

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

SHO
P.S. Aman Vihar, Delhi
Ph. No. : 011-23014046, 23015218

DP/3007/RD/19

SEARCH FOR MISSING

General public is hereby informed that one girl namely **Sangeeta @ Aarti, D/o Raj Kumar, R/o: B-35, Rajeev Nagar, Begumpur, Delhi** **Age:** 18 years 5 Months, **Height:** 5'4", **Complexion:** Wheatish, **Face:** Oval, **wearing** Yellow Colour Top & Blue Colour Jeans, has been missing/kidnapped from the area of P.S. Begumpur, since 07.06.2019. In this regard a **DD No. 21-A, dated 09.06.2019 has been registered at P.S. Begumpur, Delhi.** Sincere efforts have been made by the local police to trace out the girl but no clue has come to light so far. If any one having any information about her please inform undersigned.

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

SHO
P.S. Begumpur, Delhi
Ph. : 011-27581118, 27581128

DP/3009/RD/19

SEARCH FOR MISSING

General public is hereby informed that a girl (depicted in the photo), namely : **Kumkum D/o Vinod Kumar R/o H.No. S-253/61, Gulack Wali Masjid, Corner Market, Malviya Nagar, New Delhi** has been missing since 17.12.2018 from her house. In this regard a case vide **FIR No. 432/18 u/s 363 IPC dated 18.12.2018** has been registered at P.S. Malviya Nagar, New Delhi. Her physical description is as under :-

Age : 15½ years, **Height:** 5'1", **Complexion :** Shallow, **Built :** Normal, **Hair :** Black, **Eyes :** Black, **Wearing :** Checkard shirt and brown colour salwar and shoes in feet.

Any person is having any information/clue about this missing girl, may inform SHO, Malviya Nagar, Delhi at E-mail : cic@cbi.gov.in or Website : <http://cbi.nic.in>.

SHO
Phone: 011-24368638, 24368641
Fax No. 011-24368639

P.S. Malviya Nagar, Delhi
South Distt. Delhi
Ph. No. 011-26691861, 26691862

DP/5511/SD/19

PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF A PERSON ACCUSED

SEE SECTION U/S 82 Cr. P.c.

Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused **Pawan, S/o Ram Chander, R/o H.No. 265/5, Gali No. 5, Bhag Kare Khan, Kishan Ganj, S. Rohila, Delhi** is involved in case **FIR No. 85/19 u/s 363 IPC, at P.S. Keshav Puram, Delhi** and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest thereupon issued that the said accused **Pawan** cannot be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said accused **Pawan** has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant) . Processing U/s 82 Cr. P.C. has been initiated in the case. Proclamation is hereby made that the said accused **Pawan, FIR No. 85/19 u/s 363 IPC, at P.S. Keshav Puram, Delhi** is required to appear in this Court to answer the said complaint on or before **31.07.2019.**

By Order
Ms. Pooja Aggarwal
MM, Rohini Courts,
Delhi

DP/9054/NW/19-(Court Matter). Room No. 112, Rohini Courts, Delhi

UJVN LIMITED

(An Uttarakhand Govt. Enterprise)

H.O. : "UJVN" Maharanji Bagh, G.M.S. Road, Dehradun - 248006
Telephones : 0135-273500, 273500, Fax No. : 0135-273507
CIN No. : U49101UR2001SGC025866, Website : www.uttarakhandjalvidyut.com

Tender Notice

The office of Executive Engineer (Maintenance), Maneri Bhal Stage-II, Chinyalisaur (Uttarkashi) invites sealed tenders from interested parties for following work:

NIT - 06/EE (M)/MB-II/19-20: Polypropy Coating of Cooling Water Pipelines of Unit # 1,2,3,4 at Dharasu Power House M.B. - II, Uttarkashi.

NIT - 07/EE (M)/MB-II/19-20: Supply Installation Testing Commissioning of AB Cables at Shaktipuram Colony MB-II, Dharasu Power House, Chinyalisaur.

Approx value of Tender : Rs 930000/-, Rs. 2494000/- (Taxes Extra respectively)

Earnest Money: Rs 28000/-, Rs 75000/- only respectively

Tender Cost: Rs 1180/- only for each tender

Last date of downloading the tender - 18.07.2019

Last date of submitting the tender - 19.07.2019 up to 15:30 Hrs.

Due date for opening the tender - 22.07.2019 at 11:00 and 12:00 Hrs. Respectively

For Eligibility Criteria and full details kindly visit our website **"www.uttarakhandjalvidyut.com"** Bidders are advised to regularly visit our website for tender notice. Tender can only be downloaded from our website & their cost has to be paid at the time of submission.

Executive Engineer (Maintenance)

316 नूतनीयन तिम/विभा/रि-नाम : 25.06.2019

"Save electricity in the interest of Nation"

MISSING

General public is hereby informed that one person, namely: **Shashi Ranjan Prasad, R/o: H. No. 2702/31, Asthal Mandir, Sangam Vihar, New Delhi**, has been missing since 31.05.2019 from the area of PS Neb Sarai, New Delhi. In this regard, a **Case Vide DD No. 78A, Dated 31.05.2019 has been lodged at P.S. Neb Sarai, New Delhi.** Investigations has been carried out but despite best efforts, the person could not be traced. The description of the missing person is as under:

Name: Shashi Ranjan Prasad, **R/o:** H. No. 2702/31, Asthal Mandir, Sangam Vihar, New Delhi, **Age:** 66 years, **Height:** 5'5" Feet, **Face:** Round, **Built:** Thin, **Complexion:** Shallow, **Wearing:** White Colour Kurta Payjama and Chappal in his feet. If anyone has any information about the missing boy, then please inform P.S. Neb Sarai, New Delhi.

email: cic@cbi.gov.in
Fax: 011-24368639

SHO
P.S. Neb Sarai, New Delhi
Ph. : 011-24368638, 24368641

DP/5515/SD/19. Ph. 011-29551326, 29551597, 8750870825

1L out in Assam addl NRC draft

IAN S ■ GUWAHATI

The Assam Government has found an additional 1,02,462 people ineligible to be included in the National Register of Citizens (NRC), which is being updated in the State under the Supreme Court's monitoring.

The Assam Government on Wednesday published an additional draft exclusion list of the NRC comprising the names of 1,02,462 persons, who were included in the draft NRC published on July 30, 2018, but have been subsequently found ineligible due to different reasons.

According to a statement issued by the State coordinator of NRC, the additional draft exclusion list was published as per the provisions contained in Clause 5 of the Schedule of the Citizenship (Registration of Citizens and issue of National Identity Cards) Rules, 2003.

"The persons whose names figured in the additional draft exclusion list published today include those who were found to be DF (declared foreigner), DV (doubtful voter) or PFT (persons with cases pending at foreigners tribunals) or their descendants, as applicable, discovered after the publication of the draft NRC," said a senior



official of the NRC authority.

"Persons who were found to be ineligible while appearing as witness in hearings held for disposal of claims and objections, persons who were found to be ineligible during the process of verification carried out by the Local Registrar of Citizen Registration (LRCR) under the provisions of Clause 4(3) after the publication of the complete draft NRC on July 30, 2018, were also included in the list," the official said.

He said the additional draft exclusion list didn't contain the results of claimants and objects appearing for hearings held for disposal of claims and objections, which were held recently.

Dhinakaran's outfit in crisis as party strongman dissents

KUMAR CHELLAPPAN ■ CHENNAI

The Amma Makkal Munnetra Kazhagam (AMMK) formed by VK Sasikala, the former aide to late J Jayalalithaa, and her nephew TTV Dhinakaran is in a State of crisis as Thanga Tamilvelan, the propaganda secretary of the outfit finding himself as a persona non grata in the party.

Tamilvelan, who was the public face of the faction headed by Dhinakaran and Sasikala, has been removed from the posts he held in AMMK following the former's outbursts against Dhinakaran. Though Dhinakaran has not issued any statements till Wednesday evening, sources close to him told *The Pioneer* that Tamilvelan is as good as axed from the party.

"He described Dhinakaran as a mean and petty-minded person. What else we should tell you about a person who uses such language against our party leader?" asked an AMMK functionary on conditions of anonymity.

But CR Saraswathi, spokesperson, AMMK said Thanga Tamilvelan has himself paved the way for his ouster from the party. "I don't think he would come back to the party



as he was holding discussions with leaders of other parties. His career with the AMMK is over," said Saraswathi.

The AMMK which was formed by Dhinakaran following the easing out of the Mannargudi clam from the AIADMK, has been facing crisis after crisis following the setback suffered by it in the recent elections. The party which was expected to take away a major chunk of the AIADMK votes had to content with just 5.2 per cent votes which has put a question mark on the future of the outfit.

Thanga Tamilvelan has been welcomed to AIADMK, his mother organisation by senior minister D Jayakumar. It is widely believed that he may make a come back to the AIADMK as immediately after

the announcement of the General Election results he had said that though the DMK-Congress alliance had won the election in Tamil Nadu, it was not a vote for the DMK. "People felt that it would be ideal if they vote for the DMK-led alliance in the parliament election. That was all," he had said.

It also reminded the media recently that he was not after power or position. "I was the one who resigned from Andippatti assembly constituency in 2001 to facilitate the election of Amma (Jayalalithaa) and I reminded content with doing campaign works for her," said Tamilvelan.

It was Tamilvelan who led the 18 AIADMK MLAs to the then Governor of Tamil Nadu stating that they were withdrawing support to the Edappadi Palaniswamy government which led to the disqualification of all the MLAs including himself. Though he had contested to the Lok Sabha from Theni, he was defeated by AIADMK's Raveendrakumar, son of Deputy Chief Minister O Panneerselvam. Tamil Nadu is in for another bout of political drama as the State would see biennial election to six Rajya Sabha seats from the State on July 18.

Amit Shah holds high-level meet in J&K ahead of Yatra

MOHIT KANDHARI ■ JAMMU

Union Home Minister Amit Shah, accompanied by a high-level delegation of Government officials, chaired a high-level security review meeting ahead of Amarnath yatra, during his two-day long maiden visit to Srinagar on Wednesday.

The State Government was represented by Governor Satya Pal Malik, his adviser incharge Home Affairs K Vijay Kumar, state Chief Secretary BVR Subrahmanyam, Northern Command Army Commander Lt-Gen Ranbir Singh, DGP Dilbagh Singh and divisional commissioners from the Kashmir & Jammu divisions.

Union Home secretary Rajiv Gauba and top brass of the central/state intelligence agencies also remained present during the meeting. Earlier, Governor defied convention and arrived at the Srinagar airport to personally accord warm welcome to the Union Home Minister.

Though no bandh/hartal call was given by any separatist or militant outfit on account of visit of Union Home Minister, tight security arrangements remained in place in different parts of Srinagar. High alert was also sounded in the region



Union Home Minister Amit Shah chairs a meeting to review the security arrangements for the Amarnath Yatra, in Srinagar, on Wednesday

to prevent any terrorist strike on security personnel.

According to official sources, "the home minister was briefed about the overall security situation in the state, especially in the aftermath of the Pulwama terror attack in which 44 CRPF personnel had sacrificed their lives".

Senior security officials had prepared comprehensive power point presentations and briefed Home Minister about ongoing anti-terrorist operations leading to elimination of top commanders since January 2019. Over 120 terrorists have been killed by the security forces this year in different operations.

Shah was also briefed about

the steps taken for ensuring smooth and safe conduct of the annual Amarnath Yatra, which is due to commence on July 1. Union Home Minister, is learnt to have instructed senior officials to ensure safety of Amarnath bound pilgrims especially during their movement along the National Highway and in and around base/transit camps setup at several places during the yatra period.

Adequate paramilitary troops have been deployed on area domination and patrol duties to guard the entire yatra route from Lakhampur (in Jammu region) to base camps in Pahalgam and Baltal in Kashmir region.

PSPCL Punjab State Power Corporation Limited

(O/o CE/TS, B-1, Shakti Vihar, Patiala)
 Regd. Office: PSEB Head Office, The Mall Patiala-147001
 Phone No. 0175-2301537, Fax No. 0175-2220143,
 Email: addlsecell2@gmail.com
 Corporate Identity Number U40109PB2010SGC033813
 Website: www.pspcl.in

Online Tenders are invited for the supply of the following material as per tender specification No. 187/2019 of PSPCL:-

Item No.	Description	Qty.	Enquiry No./Year	Last date & time for downloading of tenders	Last date & time for bid submission	Date & time of opening of bids
1.	15 KV NCTs of assorted ratios	202	1877/2019	11-07-19 11.30 A.M.	12-07-19 11.00 A.M.	12-07-19 11.30 A.M.

EMD: 79,030/-
 Minimum EMD 19,758/-
 Detailed NIT and specification may be down-loaded from PSPCL e-tendering website <https://pspcil.abcprocure.com>
 It is informed that in case tender process is not completed due to any reason, No CORRIGENDUM will be published in newspapers. Details regarding corrigendum may be seen on PSPCL website www.pspcl.in and www.pspcl.abcprocure.com

By: CE/ Sub-Station Design, PSPCL, Patiala
 C-250/19
 DPR/25JUN/C5949 Dt. 25-06-2019 Contact No. 96461-22185

Modi Govt spent ₹5,909 cr on ads in its 1st term: RTI Incurs max of ₹2,172 cr on radio spots, spends ₹2,109 cr on display ads, ₹612 cr on outdoor publicity

TN RAGHUNATHA ■ MUMBAI

With a penchant for reaching out to its achievements to the people in a big way, the BJP-led NDA Government has incurred an expenditure of staggering Rs 5,909.39 crore on various types of advertisements during its first term in office from 2014-15 to 2018-19, according to reply to an RTI query.

Responding to a query by RTI activist Anil Galgali, Ministry of Information & Broadcasting's wing Bureau of

Outreach and Communication has — in its reply dated June 16, 2019 — stated that the Narendra Modi Government incurred Rs 5,909,39,5100 for publicising its policies and achievements through advertisements in print media, electronic media and outdoor media between 2014-15 and 2018-19.

Interestingly, the Government spent a maximum of Rs 2,172.07 crore on radio spots between 2014-15 and 2018-19, while it incurred an expenditure of Rs 2,109.30

crore on display classification during the five year period. The Government spent Rs 612.18 crore on outdoor publicity during the period.

The reply furnished to RTI activist Anil Galgali shows that the Modi Government spent ₹979 crore in 2014-15, ₹1,162 crore in 2015-16, ₹1,258 crore in 2016-17, ₹1,313 in 2015-16, ₹1,195 in 2018-19 and the total figure in all these five fiscal year stood at ₹5,909.39 crore

The I & B Ministry has furnished the reply showing all the expenditure in four heads such as Plan, Non-plan, Client Department and Advance Department. Interestingly, a maximum expenditure has been incurred on the head of the Client department

as Plan, Non-plan, Client Department and Advance Department.

Interestingly, a maximum expenditure has been incurred on the head of the Client department.

"After several concerns were raised against the lavish expenditure incurred by the NDA Government to glorify Prime Minister Narendra Modi's image, it put a break and therefore in the last year of its dispensation, it spent relatively less money on advertisements," Galgali said.

NEW DELHI MUNICIPAL COUNCIL
 ELECTRICITY DEPARTMENT
 VIDYUT BHAWAN, DR. A.P.J. ABDUL KALAM ROAD, NEW DELHI-110011

e-Procurement Tender Notice

Name of Work: Purchase of Energy Efficient LED Street Light fittings of 120 Watt ±2%.

Estimated Cost : ₹6,77,480/-

Date of release of tender through e-procurement solution : 25.06.2019

Last date/time for receipt of tenders through e-procurement solution : 03.07.2019 at 03:00 PM

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

Note: To participate in e-tender in NDMC registration with e-tendering system Government of NCT of Delhi is mandatory. Sd/-
 Tender ID No. 2019_NDMC_174941_1 Executive Engineer (E) S-II
 To be The Global Benchmark for a Capital City

SEARCH FOR MISSING



General public is hereby informed that a boy (depicted in the photo), **Name:** Samir Anish Ansari S/o Anish Ansari R/o R-564, J.J. Colony, Raghuraj Nagar, Delhi has been missing since 15.06.2019 from his house. In this regard a case vide FIR No. 193/19 dated 16.06.2019 has been registered at PS Khyala, Delhi. His physical description is as under:-

Age: 14 Years, **Height:** 5'4", **Complexion:** Fair, **Built:** Thin, **Face:** Round, **Wearing:** Badami colour kurta & pajama and red colour chappal in feet.

Any person is having any information/clue about this missing boy, may inform SHO, Khyala, Delhi at E-mail : cic@cbi.gov.in or website: <http://cbi.nic.in>

SHO
 Phone: 011-24368638, 24368641 P.S. Khyala, Delhi
 Fax No. 011-24368639 West Distt., Delhi
 DP/8304/WD/19 Ph. No. 011-28335686, 28335696

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

NOTICE INVITING E-TENDER

The Executive Engineer, University Works Division, GGSIPU, Sector 16 C, Dwarka invites on behalf of Guru Gobind Singh Indraprastha University online item rate tenders for following work(s):

Name of Work : A/A GGSIPU University, Dwarka Campus, New Delhi
Sub Head : Drinking Water arrangement at GGSIPU Dwarka Campus
NIT No. : 08/EE/UWD/Elect/2019-20
Estimated Cost : Rs. 23,36,886/-, Time of completion : 30 days
EMD : Rs 46,738/-

The tender forms and other details can be obtained from website <http://govtprocurement.delhi.gov.in> and www.ipu.ac.in. Last date of submission of bids is 02/07/2019. EE/UWD

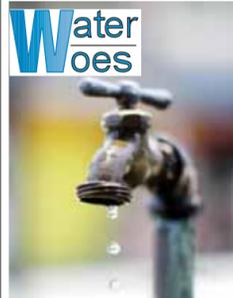
NORTHERN RAILWAY E-TENDER NOTICE

Dy. CSTE/P/SW, DIVISIONAL RAILWAY MANAGER OFFICE, 2ND FLOOR, ROOM No. 203, State Entry Road, New Delhi - 110055 for & on behalf of "President of India" invites online OPEN E-tender in single packet system from the experienced & established contractors having sufficient experience in similar work and satisfying minimum eligibility criteria on the prescribed form for the under noted work:

1	Name of work	Provision of OFC & associated equipments in ASR-ATT, ASR-PAX, PAX-KEMK, ASR-DBNK, BAT-QDN, BEAS/GWD/BEAS-TTO Sections of FZR Division.
2	Approximate cost of the work	Rs. 6,91,21,590.43 (Six Crores Ninety One Lakh Twenty One Thousand Five Hundred Ninety and Forty Three only).
3	Cost of tender form	Nil.
4	Address from where tender document can be downloaded.	Indian Railways website www.ireps.gov.in from 27.06.2019 from 11:00 hrs.
5	Earnest money	Rs. 4,95,600.00 (Four Lakh Ninety Five Thousand Six Hundred only).
6	Completion period	11 (Eleven) months.
7	Date and time of submission of tender and opening of tender	Tender to be submitted online on Indian Railways website www.ireps.gov.in from 08.07.2019 up to 11:00 hrs of 22.07.2019.
8	Date of tender opening	22.07.2019 at 11:30 hrs.
9	Detailed Tender Notice	Available at Indian Railways website www.ireps.gov.in .

No. 172-SIG/SI/WIR/RT-187 Dated : 26.06.2019 2050/19
 SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

GPS, sensors to check pilferage of water



KUMAR CHELLAPPAN ■ CHENNAI

A water war in Tamil Nadu has spilled out to the streets with the ruling AIADMK and the Opposition DMK blaming each other for the present scarcity, water has become the most precious commodity in the State.

For the first time in the history of Tamil Nadu, authorities have been forced to take pre-



Women push a cart containing vessels filled with water from a tanker following an acute water shortage, in Chennai, on Wednesday

cautions while transporting drinking water for supplying in Madurai Municipal Corporation limits.

Water lorries and tractors operated by the Madurai Municipal Corporation are being installed with GPS devices and sensors to prevent pilferage and illegal sale by lorry drivers. According to S Visakan, commissioner, Madurai Municipal Corporation, 34 tankers and 25 tractors have been pressed into service to supply 5.4 million litres per day water within the Corporation limits to meet the water scarcity.

"This is the first time any city corporation has equipped every water carrier it operates with GPS based devices. Our control room will receive an alert if any water carrier deviates from the path. The sensors attached to them would make use of the water pressure to furnish the quantity. This will help

the officials to keep check on the quantity of water being distributed to specific locations," said Visakan. Corporation authorities also disclosed that the GPS devices would help them to find out the time the lorries and tractors spend at each distribution spot.

The drought like situation has taken a heavy toll on the school attendance of girl students in the State which may derail the Prime Minister's Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao Yojana. Many girl students studying in classes 8 to 10 are being used by their parents to fetch water for the households. Dharsini (9) and Priya (11) staying at Vysarpadi area are forced by their mothers to walk 2 km to fetch water from the Metro Water Dispensing Units. Priya, a class 8 student, said that since her father leaves home for

work early in the morning, she has to help her mother in carrying water from the dispensing spot. "I go to school only in alternate days. I have company as many girls in the area are compelled to skip classes," said Priya.

There are reports from the Vysarpadi suburb that instances of jaundice have seen a jump as a fall out of the supply of contaminated water. While government officials are tight lipped about the report, residents said cases of water-borne diseases are in the increase. The State government is yet to come out with an action programme to counter the emergency situation except the statements by some of the ministers that there was no water scarcity as it has been made out by the Opposition and the media.

SEARCH FOR MISSING



General Public is hereby informed that one girl **Name:** Ishika, **D/o:** Data Ram @ Ajay, **R/o:** B-262, J.J. Colony, Sawada, Delhi, **Age:** 05 Years, **Height:** 2'10", **Face:** Long, **Complexion:** Shallow, **Wearing:** Pink Frock has been missing since

ISHIKA 22.04.2018 from the area of P.S. Kanjhawala. In this regard **FIR No. 192/10 dated 21.05.2019** has been lodged at **PS. Kanjhawala, Delhi**. Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out the missing girl but no clue has come to light so far. If anyone have any information about this missing girl please inform the undersigned.

E-Mail ID: cic@cbi.gov.in SHO
 Fax: 011-29551597 P.S. Kanjhawala, Delhi
 DP/2998/RD/19 Ph: 011-25951486, 25951485

MISSING

General public is hereby informed that one person, **Name:** Deepak, **S/o:** Sh. Chini, **R/o:** N17C/312, JJ Colony, Wazirpur, Delhi, has been missing since 16.04.2019. In this regard, a report vide **DD No. 34-A, Dated 02.05.2019, has been lodged at P.S. Bharat Nagar, Delhi**. Investigations have been carried out but despite best efforts, the person could not be traced. The description of the missing person is as under:



Deepak
Name: Deepak, **S/o:** Sh. Chini, **Address:** N17C/312, JJ Colony, Wazirpur, Delhi, **Age:** 30 years, **Height:** 5' Feet, **Face:** Long, **Complexion:** Fair, **Built:** Medium, **Hair:** Black, **Wearing:** Grey Auto Uniform and Chappal in Feet. If anyone has any information about the missing person, then please inform P.S. Bharat Nagar, Delhi

email: cic@cbi.gov.in S.H.O
 Fax: No.011-24368639 P.S. Bharat Nagar, Delhi
 Ph. No.: 011-24368638, 24368641
 DP/9036/NW/19 Ph: 011-27301800, 27801400

BSES Yamuna Power Limited, New Delhi
 ... A joint venture with Govt. of NCT of Delhi

NOTICE INVITING TENDER Date: 27.06.2019

Sealed tenders under two Bid System (Unpriced & Priced) are invited for following jobs:

NIT No.	Brief Work Description	Estimated Cost (₹)	Cost of EMD (₹)	Due Date & Time of Submission	Date & Time of Opening
CMC/BY/19-20/RB/MD/32	SUPPLY, INSTALLATION, TESTING & COMMISSIONING OF 11KV SWITCHGEAR PANELS	2,65,00,000	5,30,000	11.07.2019, 14:30 HRS	11.07.2019, 15:00 HRS

Cost of each Tender Documents: ₹ 1180/-
 For details in respect of Equipment/BOM/Services, Qualifying requirements, Terms & conditions, purchase/submission of tender documents, corrigendum etc. please visit our website www.bsesdelhi.com → Tenders → BSES YAMUNA POWER LTD → Open Tenders

Regd. Off: BSES Yamuna Power Ltd, Shakti Kiran Building, Karkardooma, Delhi-110032 | CIN: U40109DL2001PLC11525
 TEL: 011-39997111 | Fax: 011-39992076 | Website: www.bsesdelhi.com

Trend Slazer

Why Ayushmann did Article 15?

Actor **AYUSHMANN KHURRANA** says that the intent to bring about social change by starting a conversation is what compelled him to back a film like *Article 15*, which is centred around caste discrimination in the society. It was important for him to show India a very significant social film.

"As an artist, you sometimes get a film that demands you to back it wholeheartedly because it is trying to make a strong statement, it is trying to affect social change by starting a conversation."

This compelled me to put my voice behind it because it is cinema that needs to be made and seen. It is cinema for the entire country, for the youth to notice," says Ayushmann.



'I am trying to get onto the YouTube world by launching my channel, after exploring the Instagram and Twitter world. As a person, I have been super expressive. Somewhere, I have become more private after becoming an actor. Let's see how it goes.'

—Alia Bhatt

Director **ALI ABBAS ZAFAR** is known for his huge scale movies and his penchant to deliver wholesome entertainers that the entire nation can enjoy.



He says, "It's humbling to get so much love from audiences. When I set out to make a film, I don't think about records. That's never my approach. It could be a hugely limiting, pressurising proposition for any filmmaker especially me. I always set out to tell a story of audiences have empowered me to tell heartfelt and entertaining stories that the entire nation could go to the theatres and enjoy it."

I live the most regular life: Tom

It has been a crazy ride to fame for **TOM HOLLAND**, who is winning hearts all around the world as the new Spider-Man. But, he does not want to get lost in the glitz and glamour of the industry.

The actor thinks he has done a great job at evading the spotlight, and says he lives the most normal and regular life ever.

"I don't get paparazzied. I don't go to fancy parties," Holland said.

He added, "When I am not on the press tour or red carpet, I live the most regular life ever. I have done a good job at keeping out of the spotlight. It is very important because you can get lost in it. No one will ever say no (to you) and no one will ever tell you anything bad. That is why I keep my brothers, my family very close because they will tell me that 'I am being an idiot.'"



THESE JEWELS BRIGHT I WEAR!

If you are a Tintin fan, you know of singer Bianca Castafiore and her love for trinkets. Now they are a reality. A report shows that coloured gemstones outperform traditional choices in the jewellery market. By TEAM VIVA

It is time to invest in and own coloured gemstones compared to traditional gold and platinum, if a latest lifestyle study is to be believed. And around seven per cent of Indian UHNWIs (ultra high net worth individuals) are collecting coloured diamonds as a passion-led investment. India already has a well-established wedding jewellery tradition that celebrates stones embedded in gold and silver, so the traction here is but expected.

Thanks to transparent valuation standards, the establishment of institutional gemology labs and active market transactions, gemstones have come of age. Knight Frank, a global property consultancy, launched its luxury investment index (KFLII), which cited that in coloured gemstones, a 17.43 carat Kashmir sapphire ring was the top performer at Bonhams' London sale at the end of April. Formerly owned by a European noble family, this Kashmir sapphire ring fetched ₹7,23,063, far exceeding its ₹3,00,000 to ₹4,00,000 guide price.

The report focussed on the increasing value of coloured gemstones, seen to be outperforming the wider jewellery market and, therefore, increasingly popular with investors and collectors worldwide. The index series provides data on investments of passion, such as whisky, cars, jewellery and others, tracking each over time.



Experts say that consumers are preferring high-quality gemstones which are rare and unique in designs. Shishir Bajjal, chairman and managing director, Knight Frank India, said, "More than 100 per cent incremental value of the gemstones and jewellery over a decade have made them lucrative asset investment classes, than just

purchase it for its aesthetic value. Indian UHNWIs are increasingly making passion-led investments in gems and jewellery. Much of the rising popularity of coloured gemstones is due to growing awareness and developments that have boosted consumer confidence, such as widespread certification, more industry trans-

parency and gemological analysis." Talking about how coloured gemstones are outperforming the wider jewellery market and therefore increasingly getting popular among investors, Milind Mathur, partner, Kohinoor Jewellers, Agra, said, "Precious coloured gemstones are gaining prominence in the market of late owing to their everlasting charm and emerging trends among the customers. The market for coloured gemstones has flourished notably owing to their

increasing demand. Their rarity and undeniable allure are what makes them truly stand out. It is the colour, cut, clarity and carat that play a pivotal role in deciding their value and making them desirable. On the other hand, we have witnessed royals adorning coloured gemstones in the recent past and I think that has also influenced the buying pattern of the customers."

Varda Goenka of Fine Jewels by DIAGLOD has observed a spike in demand for natural gemstones like rubies, emeralds, blue and yellow sapphires. Blue sapphire and emerald are considered top quality and are seen as highly desirable acquisitions. Besides, such stones in India have an auspicious aspect, which makes for a value-added choice."

Andrew Shirley, Head of Luxury Research at Knight Frank, said, "The interesting story here is that coloured gemstones are outperforming the wider jewellery market with some significant sales taking place already in 2019."

Jean Ghika, global head of jewellery at Bonhams, cited, "The rarity factor is an undeniable pull," she says. "Potential buyers are looking to expand their collections beyond colourless diamonds. They're keen to seek out the very best examples of highly desirable and rare specimens, whether that be Kashmir sapphires, Burma rubies or no-oil emeralds, the likes of which they may never find again."



'Pataudi palace is special'

Actor Saif Ali Khan says his ancestral home Pataudi Palace holds a lot of emotional value for him.

Saif's brand House of Pataudi has come out with its latest collection inspired by the Pataudi Palace. He co-owns the brand with Myntna and Exceed Entertainment.

"The palace is an architectural marvel for many, but for me its home and holds a lot of emotional value," Saif said.

"It is interesting for me to see a collection inspired by the hues of the palace gardens. The floral patterns and designs used in the collection intertwine with elements of the nature that surround Pataudi Palace," he added.

The Summer Palace Collection brings alive the ornate beauty and grandeur of the palace. It comprises everyday Indian wear conceptualised as Firdaus, festive with royal charm, Noor and Riwayat for classic Indian weddings.

Amar Nagaram, Head, Myntna Jabong, said, "The collection is a reflection of the opulence and grandeur surrounding the Pataudi palace and is a royal treat for patrons of ethnic wear."

—IANS

ATTENTION PLEASE

Actor **LEONARDO DICAPRIO** draws eyeballs to Chennai water crisis



Oscar winning actor Leonardo DiCaprio, known for his environmental activism, has raised awareness about the ongoing water crisis in Chennai. He shared a photograph of a dry well on social media.

Caprio wrote, "Only rain can save Chennai from this situation. A well, completely empty and a city without water. The southern Indian city of Chennai is in crisis, after the four main water reservoirs ran dry."

The acute water shortage has forced the city to scramble for urgent solutions and residents have to stand in line for hours to get water from government tankers. As the water levels depleted, hotels and restaurants started to shut temporarily and the air con was turned off in the city's metro.

Officials in the city continue to try and find alternative sources of water but the community continues to pray for rain."

Chennai has been facing a severe water crisis. While Cholvaram (full capacity 1,081 mcf), Redhills (full capacity 3,300 mcf) and Chembarambakkam (3,645 mcf) lakes that supply water to Chennai have gone dry, there is only 19 mcf water left in the Poondi reservoir (full capacity of 3,231 mcf), according to the Chennai Metropolitan Water Supply and Sewerage Board.

DiCaprio, who works extensively as a climate champion, had visited India in 2015 to film a segment for his 2016 documentary film, 'Beyond the Flood'. He also visited the Taj Mahal during his trip.

—IANS

To demolish or conserve?

The tourism industry wants old structures preserved to attract visitors but the public demand for better civic amenities calls for mass demolition

Agra, a city that is home to three world heritage monuments, including Taj Mahal, is caught in a dilemma between development and conservation. The tourism industry wants old structures preserved to attract visitors but the public demand for better civic amenities calls for mass demolition.

To develop, you have to demolish but heritage conservation requires maintaining the status quo. When every corner of the city has a monument or two, raising its tourism potential, carving out of open spaces for modern projects is neither easy nor permissible under the stringent provisions of the Ancient Monuments Protection Act.

The state government has announced plans to introduce Metro rail to facilitate mobility within the city. "When the work will start after extensive surveys of two corridors, we expect large-scale demolition in the old city," said Surendra Sharma, president of the Braj Mandal Heritage Conservation Society.

"Whether the departments concerned will allow or give no-objection certificate for the project, and what measures would be taken to keep the dust level, already touching alarming level, from rising further remains to be seen," he adds.

The ecological fears are real as thousands of trees could be chopped for the project. They are planning the Metro rail depot at the PAC ground, dangerously close to Taj Mahal, says Shruvan Kumar Singh, an activist.

So much environment conservation work is claimed to have been done in the



past three decades due to lawyer MC Mehta's activism, but the results are not visible. The ground reality paints a dismal picture as both nature and people conspire to hasten the process of decay in this premier Mughal metropolis.

River Yamuna is too sick with toxic pollutants and is virtually dead. The air quality continues to remain alarming as an increasing number of vehicles spit noxious gases, fumes and harmful emissions. The suspended particulate matter in the ambient air remains higher than the standard for the eco-sensitive Taj Trapezium Zone, spread over 10,400 sq km. The green cover in the district has come down to a pathetic 6.71 per cent. Compare this with Delhi's 45 per cent and Chandigarh's 45 per cent.

Of the 400 odd community ponds, only a few survive. The irrigation network, an extensive canal system that the British left behind, is mostly encroached upon. The three tributaries of Yamuna in the district remain choked with garbage and sludge round the year.

Lucknow Expressway has resulted in reduction of the green cover and increased road traffic.

City planners are confused whether Agra has to be conserved as a heritage city or to graduate it to a higher level as a smart city.

Many people have suggested that the central government work out some institutional arrangement to prevent conflicting perspectives and action plans.

At present, there is the Mission Management Board, the Taj Trapezium Zone Authority, the central and state pollution control boards, the municipal corporation, the district board and the Agra Development Authority, each with its own set of priorities and levels of accountability. Though no one can claim a clear vision for the city, a hastily compiled voluminous document, the Agra Heritage Vision has been submitted to the Supreme Court and is likely to be adopted soon.

—IANS

NORTHERN RAILWAY
TENDER NOTICE (Through e-tendering)
 Name of work with its location: Provision of interlocking at L-xing no. 109 & 133 in section of ADSTE/ROK of DLI Division. App. Cost of the work: Rs. 50,85,862.38/- only. Tender Document Fee: Rs. 5,900/- only. Earnest Money Deposit: Rs. 1,01,700/- only. Address of the office: Senior Divisional Signal & Telecom Engineer-I, Northern Railway, 3rd Floor, Annex-1, DRM office, New Delhi-110055. Date & Time for upload the tender/closing of tender: Tender upload/closing date & time-17.07.2019 up to 15:00 hrs. Website particular & notice board location where complete details of the tender can be seen etc.: See the Northern Railway website www.ireps.gov.in & Notice board at S&T branch, 3rd Floor, DRM office, State Entry Road, New Delhi-110055. No.: 558-Sig-16-M-Tender-1282 Dated: 26.06.2019. 2055/2019

Serving Customers with a Smile

PUBLIC NOTICE
 Kindly take notice that my client Nokia India Private Limited (CIN: U74899DL1995PTC068904) having Registered Office at Flat No. 1213, 12th Floor Kailash Building 26, Kasturba Gandhi Marg, Delhi-110001 has during the course of its business lost/misplaced the following Form F (SOF Forms in Total) original, duplicate and counter foil, issued by the Uttar Pradesh Commercial Tax Department, Govt. of U.P. during (mention the period). The same are not traceable and lost/misplaced. Necessary intimation in this regard is duly being given before the Gurugram Police Station, wide reference number 13227/09/190295/2019. Any person who may find it is hereby requested to return the same either to the Company at its aforementioned Registered Office or to the address given below. List of missing forms are provided below at the end of this notice.

The Public at large is for bidden by virtue of this notice to use the Forms and return the same to the Company at its Registered Office or the address given below.

S.Rajwanshi & Co. Advocates & Solicitors
 C-10, First Floor, Ashoka Enclave, Peeragarhi, New Delhi-110087
 Tel. No. 011-25270734, 4514-1099

List of lost Form F issued by U.P. Department

S. No.	Form F number	Issued Year	Remarks	S. No.	Form F number	Issued Year	Remarks
1	0081965	2014-15	Form lost: 26	0081990	2014-15	Form lost	
2	0081966	2014-15	Form lost: 27	0081991	2014-15	Form lost	
3	0081967	2014-15	Form lost: 28	0081992	2014-15	Form lost	
4	0081968	2014-15	Form lost: 29	0081993	2014-15	Form lost	
5	0081969	2014-15	Form lost: 30	0081994	2014-15	Form lost	
6	0081970	2014-15	Form lost: 31	0081995	2014-15	Form lost	
7	0081971	2014-15	Form lost: 32	0081996	2014-15	Form lost	
8	0081972	2014-15	Form lost: 33	0081997	2014-15	Form lost	
9	0081973	2014-15	Form lost: 34	0081998	2014-15	Form lost	
10	0081974	2014-15	Form lost: 35	0081999	2014-15	Form lost	
11	0081975	2014-15	Form lost: 36	0082000	2014-15	Form lost	
12	0081976	2014-15	Form lost: 37	0082001	2014-15	Form lost	
13	0081977	2014-15	Form lost: 38	0082002	2014-15	Form lost	
14	0081978	2014-15	Form lost: 39	0082003	2014-15	Form lost	
15	0081979	2014-15	Form lost: 40	0082004	2014-15	Form lost	
16	0081980	2014-15	Form lost: 41	0082005	2014-15	Form lost	
17	0081981	2014-15	Form lost: 42	0082006	2014-15	Form lost	
18	0081982	2014-15	Form lost: 43	0082007	2014-15	Form lost	
19	0081983	2014-15	Form lost: 44	0082008	2014-15	Form lost	
20	0081984	2014-15	Form lost: 45	0082009	2014-15	Form lost	
21	0081985	2014-15	Form lost: 46	0082010	2014-15	Form lost	
22	0081986	2014-15	Form lost: 47	0082011	2014-15	Form lost	
23	0081987	2014-15	Form lost: 48	0082012	2014-15	Form lost	
24	0081988	2014-15	Form lost: 49	0082013	2014-15	Form lost	
25	0081989	2014-15	Form lost: 50	0082014	2014-15	Form lost	

NORTHERN RAILWAY
E-Tender Notice
 Dy. CSTE/P/SW, DIVISIONAL RAILWAY MANAGER OFFICE, 2ND FLOOR, ROOM No. 203, State Entry Road, New Delhi - 110055 & on behalf of 'President of India' invites online OPEN E-tender in single packet system from the experienced & established contractors having sufficient experience in similar work and satisfying minimum eligibility criteria on the prescribed form for the under noted work:

- Name of work: "Provision of OFC & associated equipments in JUC-HSX, PGW-NSS, PHR-LNK, JUC-NRO, NSS-JJJ & NSS-RHU Sections of FZR Division."
- Approximate cost of the work: Rs. 7,79,19,860.79 (SEVEN Crore Seventy Nine Lakh Nineteen Thousand Eight Hundred Sixty and Paise Seventy Nine only).
- Cost of tender form: Nil
- Address from where tender document can be downloaded: Indian Railways website www.ireps.gov.in from 27.06.2019 from 11:00 hrs.
- Earnest money: Rs. 5,39,600.00 (Five Lakh Thirty Nine Thousand Six Hundred only).
- Completion period: 11 (Eleven) months.
- Date and time of submission of tender and opening of tender: Tender to be submitted online on Indian Railways website www.ireps.gov.in from 08.07.2019 up to 11:00 hrs. of 22.07.2019. Date of tender opening: 22.07.2019 at 11:30 hrs.
- Detailed Tender Notice: Available at Indian Railways website www.ireps.gov.in. No. 172-SIG/P/SW/NRT-186 DATE: 26.06.2019 2051/2019

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

WESTERN RAILWAY

Sr. No.	e-Tender Notice No. & Date	Work and Location	First Year Reserve Price Rs.	Approx. Cost of Work in Rs.	EMD Rs.	Website where Tender form available	Date & Time of closing of online submission	Date & Time of opening of e-tender
1.	CA11-NFROOH-MIRA-BYR-19-11 dated 22.06.2019	Bulk advertising rights at circulating area of or at Mira Road & Bhayandar stations for display of advertisements on existing hoarding structures by dismantling & replacing with new structure or modifying, repairing, strengthening and painting of existing structures as well as erection & display of new hoarding structures for a period of five years.	₹ 45,13,600/- (excluding taxes etc.)	₹ 2,39,79,582/- (excluding taxes etc.)	₹ 4,79,600/-	www.ireps.gov.in	upto 15:00 hrs on 15.07.2019	At 15:30 hrs on 15.07.2019
2.	CA11-NFROOH-BAROB-I-19-12 dated 22.06.2019	Bulk advertising rights at Bandra ROB-North Location (Group-I) for display of advertisements by dismantling existing hoarding structures & replacing with erection of new hoarding structure of size 120' x 40' (3).i.e. Triple dacker facing west for a period of five years.	₹ 11,17,72,800/- (excluding taxes etc.)	₹ 59,38,19,795/- (excluding taxes etc.)	₹ 1,18,76,400/-	www.ireps.gov.in	upto 15:00 hrs on 16.07.2019	At 15:30 hrs on 16.07.2019

HOW TO COMBAT DRUG MENACE

Alcohol continues to be the most common psychoactive substance used in India though its prevalence varies across the states, says SB SHASHANK



Drug menace is so alarming worldwide that the special session of UN General Assembly on drug policy, which was scheduled to take place this year was brought forward to take place in year 2016. There are three international conventions, namely, Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs, 1961, Convention on Psychotropic Substances, 1971 and Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drug and Psychotropic Substances, 1988 to which India is a signatory. It covers India's commitment to the international community in combating the use and abuse of psychotropic substances. At home, there is a policy document which was brought out in 2012 by the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment to guide ministries, state governments, NGOs, international organisations on gamut of issues related to reduction in demand and supply, relief and rehabilitation. Recently, the ministry released findings of a nationwide comprehensive survey, which was undertaken last year to know magnitude, spread and extent of substance use in the country. This document provides data across all the states, for the first time, about the extent of problem and will enable poli-



cy makers and planners in determining the target of demand reduction and further in identifying focus areas which are to be prioritised. The survey report will prove to be milestone in our fight against the substance use and problem. When compared to the previous survey, which was conducted in 2001 with turn of the millennium, though with limited sample size, the trend in use and abuse shows rise over last eighteen years. To reverse the trend requires more focus on policy gap and implementation strategy.

As the survey report shows, alcohol continues to be the most common psychoactive substance used in India though its prevalence varies across the states. In contrast to the common perception that

Uttar Pradesh is the numero uno, what is surprising is that Chhattisgarh occupies top position both in prevalence of use and dependence followed closely by Tripura and Punjab in that order. The national average is that every seventh person is current user of Alcohol and out of that, every fifth person requires medical intervention for being alcohol dependent. On gender classification on use, men constitute 27.3 per cent of population whereas women constitute just 1.6 per cent. This also gives strong reason to support why women should be involved in combating alcohol abuse as some states have also shown by example. Delhi with 21.3 per cent of population as current user of alcohol is much above the national average of 14.6

per cent and use disorder at 6.2 per cent is also much above the national average of 5.2 per cent. Cannabis and Opioids occupy the second and third position in prevalence of substance use. On national level 3.1 crore people 2.8 per cent use cannabis which includes *bhong*, hashish (*charas*) and weed (*ganja*), which is more harmful than the former. Every fourth user is either suffering from harmful use or from dependence requiring intervention. The states of Uttar Pradesh, Punjab, Sikkim, Chhattisgarh and Delhi top the list and have prevalence more than the national average. Sikkim and Punjab have much higher cannabis use disorder than other states. The most common opioid used are

heroin, pharmaceutical opioid and opium coming in same order in use prevalence showing that heroin is now the predominant opioid which is a major shift in use pattern. But in southern states pharmaceutical opioids are predominantly used. On national level 2.06 per cent of population come under the category of current users and around one third of them are problem users requiring intervention. Among the states Mizoram, closely followed by Nagaland, tops the chart of use where the prevalence is more than 12 times the national average. Punjab (9.69 per cent) and Delhi (7.79 per cent) also have much higher user load, with significant proportion requiring corrective interventions, than national average of 2.06 per cent. Sedatives and inhalants are also used as psychoactive substances. About 1.18 crore people (1.08 per cent) use sedatives which are non medical and non prescribed. North eastern states Sikkim, Nagaland, Mizoram, Manipur top the chart in maximum prevalence in use of sedatives. Among all the substances, inhalants are the only substance for which prevalence of use among children and adolescents are more than adults. At national level 4.6 lakh children and 18 lakh adults require intervention for being problem users of inhalants. With this survey report, the states have their tasks cut out to accelerate the action to combat the menace of substance abuse. June 26 is observed as the International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking. The states joined the world community in creating more awareness about the gigantic problem. To many, such symbolism may not impress but it is significant so long as it goes beyond symbolism per se with resolve. (The writer is an IAS officer and director of Department of Women and Child Development, GNCTD dealing with the matter of Prohibition.)



Max Bupa partners with MobiKwik for health insurance products

Max Bupa, on Wednesday, announced a strategic partnership with MobiKwik, a Fintech platform, to promote affordable and convenient bite-sized group health insurance products for MobiKwik's customers across the country. Bite-sized insurance offerings, which are essentially easier to buy over the counter health insurance products, primarily targeted towards working professionals and millennials, are fast picking up pace in the country and gaining huge interest from customers who are always on the go and are looking for convenient, low price and accessible health plans for their specific health needs. It is for those customers who are looking for quick, simple and affordable health insurance propositions to take care of their specific health needs. No paperwork or medical will be required. An immediate policy issuance at affordable premium will be available. It will be digitally enabled, which will involve buying health insurance in just two clicks. Max Bupa is also offering a cancer cover at nominal premium and a HospiCash product, in order to make health insurance purchase simple, instant and affordable for MobiKwik's vast customer base. The HospiCash product offers a perfect solution for their evolving health needs. It provides for a pre-defined daily allowance basis the number of days of hospitalisation irrespective of the actual expense incurred by the customer. Priced at an annual premium as low as ₹135, it will offer ₹500 per day hospital allowance for up to 30 days in a year to a customer. If admitted to an ICU, the amount receivable by the policy holder is twice the daily hospitalisation cash benefit. In addition to this, customers will also get additional security against accidents wherein the family would receive ₹1 lakh in case of accidental death of the customer. The organisation will also offer a new proposition for Vector-Borne diseases like dengue, chikungunya, malaria, Japanese encephalitis, lymphatic filariasis, for those who are interested in further safeguarding themselves. A lumpsum of ₹10,000 against these conditions will help the customer to not only take care of hospitalisation expenses but also work leave losses. Such proposition would soon be available on the MobiKwik platform at a nominal premium of ₹49. Further, customers will also get an accidental death cover for ₹1 lakh as an additional security. Cancer being one of the most dreaded diseases with over 1 million patients getting registered every year, the battle against cancer has a severe financial drain which leads to families of patients to borrow from friends or family or even sell their assets. To provide solution to these challenges, Max Bupa will be offering a fixed benefit cancer plan for MobiKwik's customers which would provide the required protection to the customers and support them in such tough times, with a lumpsum payout to not just take care of their medical expenses but also support the financial needs of their family. Upasana Taku, co-founder, said, "Our mission is to build affordable and accessible financial services for billions. Bharat needs a truly disruptive approach to ensure health cover is available to every citizen at a low premium, with instant issuance and without fear of medical exams and piles of paperwork. A single hospital stay without any insurance cover becomes a long lasting financial burden on many lower and middle class families. We are committed to enabling our customers with smart insurance products that are affordable and simple to understand with lightning fast purchase experiences. With this partnership, we are bringing together the power of protection and digital to provide affordable health insurance to millions of Indian families." Speaking on the announcement, Ashish Mehrotra, managing director and CEO, Max Bupa Health Insurance, said, "The customer is at the center of everything we do and it is our constant endeavour to design products and solutions that fulfill their growing requirements. Today's customers demand simple, affordable and digitally enabled on the go products which provide coverage for lifestyle illnesses as well as basic hospitalisation cover. In line with this, we foresee bite-sized insurance products driving the insurance sector in the near future, eventually bringing more and more new customers into the ambit of health insurance. We are enabling financial inclusion by making pocket size health insurance solutions available and plan to acquire one million MobiKwik customers over the next three to four years."

A spiritual practice

Lalit Kala Akademi, an institution for the promotion of art and culture organised "Yoga, Yantra and Tantra" on the occasion of International Yoga Day. Adesh Gupta, mayor, North Delhi, was the chief guest on this occasion. Dr Uttam Pacharne, chairman of the institute was also present. Welcoming chief guest and participants, Dr Pacharne mentioned about his recent visit to Poland and shared his experience of the popularity of yoga among people over there. He said, "NRI as well as local people were excited and proud of the yoga tradition of India. Our Prime Minister Narendra Modi has done commendable efforts in establishing the identity of yoga internationally. Adesh said, "Yoga as a spiritual practice originated in the ancient Indian civilisation and to keep hold of it, the great *yogis* and *rishis*, sages have been the highest role models and have recommended this practice since millennia. Likewise, Swami Ramdev, Shri Shri Ravi Shankar have taken the repertoire of yoga to new heights. The framework of yoga provides one guidance as to how to gain mastery over the mind and on spiritual growth. We can practice yoga anytime of the day not necessarily in morning."



Ramkrishna Vedala, secretary, mentioned the contribution of yoga guru BKS Aiyangar and gave vote of thanks to the chief guest, artists and participants. After the inaugural address, the chairman alongwith staff, artists and art lovers practiced yoga under guidance of yoga guru, Rahul Singh Chauhan and Rajat Sharma from Morarji Desai National Institute of Yoga. This event's highlight was an art demonstration segment on 'yoga, yantra and tantra' followed by five senior artists. Eight college students also worked in sync with senior artists. Practitioners of these arts spoke on this connection through their own experience. A children workshop also illuminated the event wherein 20 children made pictures and paintings. Colour kits and gifts were also distributed among children.



On the occasion of Sant Kabir Jayanti, the founder of Swami Vivekananda Subharti University, Dr Atul Krishna Baudh was awarded as Eminent professor by Bhartiya Dalit Sahitya Academy. GR Banjara, provincial head, said that Atul has been felicitated with this award because of his selfless contribution to the field of education and social service. "A personality like him has always tried to unite people and curb the caste system," said Dr Champalal Mandrele.



SCOPE organised a meeting of its think tank on Wednesday to deliberate on the PSU Economic Summit and its consultancy wing. Rakesh Kumar, chairman and CMD, NLC India Ltd, professor NR Bhanumurthy of the National Institute of Public Finance and Policy and Dr UD Choubey, director general addressed the meeting. Among others, CMD and directors and senior management executives of public sector enterprises were also present.



NHPC Limited has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Ministry of Power for the year 2019-20. The memorandum was signed by Ajay Kumar Bhatta, secretary, Ministry of Power and Balraj Joshi, chairman and managing director, NHPC. As per the MoU, the generation target has been set as 26,000 MU as compared to the last year's target of 25,400 MU. Targets for revenue from operations has been kept as ₹8,200 crore. Furthermore, targets regarding plant availability factor, trade receivables and reduction in claims against the company not acknowledged as debt, etc., have also been included in the MoU.



The SSB Wives Welfare Association (SWWA), Sandiksha organised and celebrated the 5th International Yoga Day. The event was addressed by the president Seema Prasad, who laid down the importance of practice of yoga and its role in promoting a healthy lifestyle. The programme was also attended by other dignitaries including its secretary Ameeta Negi, treasurer Vinita Upreti, Smita Agarwal, Rita Misra and Swarna Sajwan.

The department of Women and Child Development celebrated the International Day against Drug Abuse and illicit trafficking by participating in 'The Run' organised at the Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium on Wednesday. This annual event to raise awareness amongst the masses is being organised since the last 16 years. All the stakeholders including Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, National Institute of Social Defense (NISD), Narcotics Control Bureau, Directorate of Prohibition, UN Agencies and corporate partners like ONGC, GAIL, Indian Oil, IGL, Petronet, NDMC, ITS, LPU put their efforts to involve the masses, especially the youth in sports and physical activities to keep children and youth away from drugs and channelise their energy into positive mode. The morning routine included the one kilometre race, thematic cultural show, theme poster making, *Shapath* by all 5,000 participants. The Union Minister of Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment Thaarwar Chand Gehlot, assured the gathering that his ministry has framed a national action plan to educate the public and pro-

LISTEN FIRST



viding them counselling and management of drug-related problems. This year's theme 'Listen First' is an initiative started in 2016 to increase support for prevention of drug use that is based on science and is thus an effective investment in the well-being of children and youth, their families and their communities. Speaking on the occasion, SB Shashank, director of department of Women and Child Development, mentioned that the department is

coordinating with all the stakeholders such as health and education, Institute of Human Behaviour and Allied Sciences, Delhi Police, Delhi State AIDS control society, etc., to combat drug abuse. For the past 16 years, the campaign has seen more than 1,00,000 participants or families. All the activities were planned keeping the drug abuse preventive measures in the focus and educating the youth to stay away from the drugs.

Tailik Sahu Mahasabha felicitates its ministers

The Delhi Chapter of Akhil Bhartiya Tailik Sahu Mahasabha organised a felicitation ceremony for elected around 100 MPs, ministers and MLAs of the community at MP Club, North Avenue. Gauri Shankar Sahu, president, said that the efforts will be made for the welfare and

betterment of this community through the help of dignitaries. A bhavan for this organisation will be set up to further facilitate it. Surendra Prasad, convenor, informed that the membership drive has been initiated to strengthen the organisation further.

NMDC, in association with Chhattisgarh government, runs an education initiative named *Choo Lo Asman* to support the students of Bastar region of Chhattisgarh for preparing them academically to pursue higher studies in different disciplines like engineering and medical courses. To encourage the candidates in the entrance examinations like IIT-JEE and AIIMS, NMDC has started a scheme for sponsoring their education

Nurturing talents

with an amount of ₹5 lakh per student. The amount will be provided to the students during the entire course in equal annual installments. For the present year, it is going to sponsor four students of Bastar, who have cleared JEE, advance entrance recently. These students are — Santhuram Kunjam, Kiran Baghel, Harish Baghel, Ved Prakash Som. NMDC has always been in

the forefront to improve educational facilities under various educational schemes such as establishment of education city, Siksha Sahyog Yojana, Balika Siksha Yojana, Mid-Day meal scheme etc. NMDC's focus areas under CSR activities are education, health and sanitation, infrastructure, integrated village development, skill development for gainful employment.

Northern Railway organises beneficiary identification and awareness drive

National Health Agency in collaboration with Northern Railway was organised a 'beneficiary identification and awareness drive' was organised at New Delhi Railway Station, Old Delhi railway station, Anand Vihar railway station and Hazrat Nizamuddin railway station. A single day drive was launched in the presence of member staff. Among members from



more than 1,100 contractual staff, SN Agrawal, director general (Railway Health Services), Dr Pradeep Kumar, assistant general manager, Archana Joshi, chief medical director, Dr Vinay Kumar, divisional railway manager, SC Jain and other officials from Northern Railway, along with Dr Indu Bhushan, CEO, National Health Agency, also attended the event.

Seven railway hospitals have been empanelled for implementation of Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana. The union government has launched this programme to provide a cover of ₹5 lakh per family annually for secondary and tertiary care hospitalisation and cashless access to healthcare services at the point of service to eligible individuals.

Iran conflict won't last long: Trump

REUTERS ■ WASHINGTON/GENEVA

US President Donald Trump said on Wednesday he was "not talking boots on the ground" should military action be necessary against Iran, and said any conflict would not last long.

Asked if a war was brewing, Trump told Fox Business Network: "I hope we don't but we're in a very strong position if something should happen." "I'm not talking boots on the ground," Trump said. "I'm just saying if something would happen, it wouldn't last very long."

The comments come just days after Trump canceled air strikes minutes before impact, with allies warning that the increase in tensions since the United States pulled out of a nuclear pact with Iran last year could accidentally lead to war.

Iran suggested it was just one day from breaching a threshold in the agreement that limited its stockpile of uranium, a move that would put pressure on European countries that have tried to remain neutral to pick sides.

The fate of the 2015



File photo

nuclear deal, under which Iran agreed to curbs on its nuclear program in return for access to international trade, has been at the heart of the dispute which has escalated and taken on a military dimension in recent weeks.

Washington sharply tightened sanctions last month, aiming to bar all international sales of Iranian oil. It accuses Iran of being behind bomb attacks on ships in the Gulf, which it denies.

Last week, Iran shot down a U.S. drone it said was in its air space, which Washington

denied. Trump ordered retaliatory air strikes but called them off at the last minute, later saying too many people would have died.

Although the United States and Iran both say they do not want war, last week's aborted U.S. strikes have been followed by menacing rhetoric on both sides. On Tuesday Trump threatened the "obliteration" of parts of Iran if it struck U.S. interests. President Hassan Rouhani, who normally presents Tehran's mild-mannered face, called White House policy "mentally retarded".

Iran unbowed by US insults: supreme leader Khamenei

AFP ■ TEHRAN

Iran's supreme leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei said on Wednesday that his country remains unbowed by pressure exerted by the United States and its "insults" against the Islamic republic.

"The Iranian nation seeks dignity, independence and progress; that's why pressures by cruel enemies do not affect Iranians," Khamenei said in a speech to a crowd in Tehran. "The graceful Iranian nation has been accused and insulted by the world's most vicious regime, the US, which is a source of wars, conflicts and plunder," he said, quoted by his office. "The Iranian nation won't give up over such insults," said Khamenei.

Tehran and Washington have engaged in an escalating war of words following Iran's shooting down of a US drone last week. Pressure mounted this week with US President Donald Trump announcing sanctions on Khamenei and other top Iranian officials.

The new measures are the latest against Tehran since Trump last year pulled out of a landmark nuclear accord between Iran and world powers.

Won't surrender to US-led sanctions, says North Korea

AP ■ SEOUL

North Korea said Wednesday it won't surrender to US-led sanctions and accused Washington of trying to "bring us to our knees."

The statement is yet another reminder that North Korea keeps mistrust of the US. Though its leader Kim Jong Un and President Donald Trump recently exchanged letters.

Their second summit in Hanoi in February ended without any agreement due to disputes over the extent of sanctions relief North Korea should win in return for a limited denuclearization step.

The North's Foreign Ministry said it "will not hesitate to pull a muscle-flexing trigger in order to defend ourselves" if anyone dares to trample over its sovereignty.

It accused the U.S. Of



File photo

maintaining hostility toward North Korea. It cited recent U.S. Reports on alleged human trafficking and religious crackdowns in North Korea, and comments by Secretary of State Mike Pompeo that some 80-plus percent of the North Korean economy is sanctioned.

Pompeo "let loose a sophistry as if the sanctions are

rendering the bilateral talks possible," said the statement, carried by the official Korean Central News Agency.

The statement said all these developments show the "wild dream of the U.S. To bring us to our knees by means of sanctions and pressure has not changed at all but grows even more undisguised."

Lebanese town bans Muslims from buying, renting property

AP ■ BEIRUT

Mohammed Awwad and his fiancée, both Muslims, recently found an affordable apartment for rent online in a town in Lebanon, southeast of Beirut.

The 27-year-old journalist called the number and asked the owner when they could drop by to take a look.

He was stunned by her response: Muslims are not allowed to settle in the town, she said.

The apartment owner apologised to Awwad, saying she wouldn't mind renting to people of any sect but officials in the town of Hadat issued orders years ago that only Christians be allowed to buy and rent property from the town's Christian residents.

Iran 'never seeks war' with US: Rouhani

AFP ■ TEHRAN

President Hassan Rouhani said Iran "never seeks war" with the US, state media reported Wednesday amid a spike in tensions between the two countries.

"Iran has no interest to increase tension in the region and it never seeks war with any country, including (the) US,"

the president said, quoted by state news agency IRNA.

Rouhani was speaking by phone to his French counterpart Emmanuel Macron, as Tehran and Washington engaged in an escalating war of words following Iran shooting down a US drone last week.

"We have always been committed to regional peace and stability and will make

efforts in this respect," the Iranian president told Macron.

US President Donald Trump said he pulled back from retaliatory strikes on Iran at the last minute, rejecting Tehran's claim that the aircraft was in its airspace.

But pressure mounted this week with Trump announcing sanctions on Iran's supreme leader and top officials.

The new measures are the latest against Tehran since Trump pulled out of a landmark nuclear accord between Iran and world powers.

Rouhani blamed the United States for regional tensions Wednesday and said if Washington had stuck to the deal "we would have witnessed positive developments in the region."

WESTERN RAILWAY
VARIOUS WORKS
Sr. No. 01. Tender Notice No. & Date: BCT/19-20/162 dt. 20.06.2019.
Work and location: Udhna-Jaigaon section: Ukai Songhad Depot: Supply of 50 mm size M/Crushed stone ballast in connection with track works on Udhna-Jaigaon section (Qty: 102144 Cum). Approx. cost of work: ₹ 4,71,20,048.64. EMD: ₹ 3,85,600/-
Sr. No. 02. Tender Notice No. & Date: BCT/19-20/163 dt. 20.06.2019.
Work and location: Udhna-Jaigaon section: PALDHI Depot: Supply of 50 mm size M/Crushed stone ballast in connection with track works on Udhna-Jaigaon section (Qty: 72643 Cum). Approx. cost of work: ₹ 5,11,87,889.95. EMD: ₹ 4,05,900/-
Date & Time of submission of both Tenders: On 18.07.2019 at 15.00 hrs.
Date & Time of Opening of both Tenders: On 18.07.2019 at 15.30 hrs.
Regarding detailed tender condition please visit www.ireps.gov.in. Manual offers will not be considered.
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Ex-Hong Kong leader Tsang cleared of misconduct conviction

AFP ■ HONG KONG

Former Hong Kong leader Donald Tsang saw his misconduct conviction quashed by the city's top court on Wednesday, the final twist to one of the financial hub's most high-profile corruption cases.

Tsang was jailed in 2017 after being found guilty of failing to disclose his plans to lease a luxury flat from a major

investor in a broadcaster, which was later granted a licence from the government while he was leader. The 74-year-old, who held the leadership post of chief executive for seven years from 2005, was the most senior city official ever to be convicted in a criminal trial and the highest-ranking one to be put behind bars. But on Wednesday he was exonerated by the Court of Final Appeal which quashed his mis-

conduct in public office conviction, ending a seven-year legal ordeal. Tsang, who was released from jail in January on health grounds, was not present in court for Wednesday's verdict.

The unanimous decision overturned two lower court rulings which found that his failure to make a declaration of interest over the flat deserved steep punishment because of the high office he held. The acquittal revolved around improper directions given by the trial judge to the jury over the misconduct charge, given jurors had cleared Tsang of a more serious bribery offence.

Protesters urge discussion of Hong Kong issues at G-20

AP ■ HONG KONG

Hong Kong activists opposed to contentious extradition legislation on Wednesday called on leaders of the US, the European Union and others to raise the issue with Chinese President Xi Jinping at this week's G-20 summit in Japan.

Beijing has strongly opposed such a development, saying Hong Kong matters are strictly an internal Chinese affair. Groups of protesters gathered outside the U.S. and EU consulates Wednesday morning to deliver petitions stating their requests.

A spokesman said changes to the Chinese territory's legislation could expose citizens of all nationalities to being extradited to China for unfair trials and possible torture, reducing Hong

Kong's judicial independence and the civil liberties it retained after the handover from British rule in 1997.

Activists planned to present petitions at 19 consulates in total and planned further protest actions for Wednesday evening following an expected vote of no-confidence in the local legislature on the administration of Hong Kong's Chief Executive Carrie Lam. Government supporters have a solid majority in the assembly and the measure is not expected to pass.

Lam's push to pass the extradition bills has prompted hundreds of thousands of people to fill Hong Kong's streets in protest marches, while smaller groups have surrounded government offices, the legislature and police headquarters.



Protesters gather near the US Consulate as they stage a protest in Hong Kong on Wednesday

WESTERN RAILWAY
VARIOUS WORK OF SIDE DRAIN
Executive: DEN(Central)/BCT Tender No: BCT/19-20/167 dt. 25.06.2019. Work and location: Udhna-Jaigaon section: (i) USD - Providing side drain at North side of track at Km USD/2021-2023 and Km GEB/09 to Ukai GEB gate in USD yard under ADEN-Vyara section, (ii) Providing side drain and central drain at Km 3/14 to 4/02 and 36/30 to 37/4 under ADEN-Vyara section (iii) Providing central drain UP & DN Main Line at Km 49-50 at LOTARVA yard under ADEN-Vyara section (iv) Providing side drain at North side of track near DN Main line at Km 58/6 to 58/22 under ADEN-Vyara (v) Repairs to existing side drain and central drain at Km 119/16 to 120/10 and 122/12 to 122/20 under ADEN-Vyara section, (vi) Repairs to side drain and central at Km 136/2 to 136/30 and 141/22 to 142/22 under ADEN-Vyara section. Approx cost of work: Rs. 6,53,83,193.48/- EMD: Rs. 4,76,900/- Date & Time of submission: 22.07.2019 at 15.00hrs. Date & Time of opening: 22.07.2019 at 15.30hrs. For Detailed tender conditions, Please visit www.ireps.gov.in
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The Executive Engineer, Santirbazar Division, PWD(R&B), Santirbazar, South Tripura invites e-tender against press PNIT No 06/EE/PWD(R&B)/STB/2019-20 dated 17-06-2019 For "Construction of 3 cell R.C.C Box cell culvert (5.00 x 5.00 mtr) clear span each including approach at Ch. 0.70 Km on the road from NH 44 (Betaga) to Basudeb das Para (L0- 36) (L= 4.977Km). Under RIDF-XXIV(2nd Call)."
DNITNo: 51/NIT/SE-III/R/2018-19

With
• Estimated cost: Rs.93,13,871.00
• Earnest Money : Rs.93,139.00
• Time of Completion - 06 (Six) months
"Replacement of existing bailey bridge by RCC Bridge over ThakuraCherra on the road from Jolaibari to Hrishyamuak at Ch. 2.70 Km, sanctioned for implementation under NABARD (RIDF-XX), Job No TP/COM/23/2014-15."
DNIT No : 03/NIT/SE-III/R/2019-20
With
• Estimated cost: Rs. 1,33,77,998.00
• Earnest Money : Rs.1,33,780.00
• Time of Completion - 24 (Twenty Four) months
• Last Date of bidding for bids — 15-07-2019 upto 15.00Hrs.
For more details kindly visit: <https://tripuratenders.gov.in>
For and on behalf of the Governor of Tripura, Sd/ (Er. Tapas Marak) Executive Engineer, Santirbazar Division, PWD(R&B) Santirbazar, South Tripura ICA/C-549/2019-20

Ethiopia: 37 killed in another region after coup attempt

AP ■ ADDIS ABABA

An Ethiopian governor says 37 people were killed in an attack on Sunday in Ethiopia's Benishangul-Gumuz region.

Benishangul-Gumuz borders the Amhara region, where authorities foiled a deadly attempt to oust the regional government on Saturday.

Ashadli Hassen, governor of Benishangul-Gumuz, said Wednesday that the attack on villages in Metakal zone was carried out before dawn Sunday by armed men believed to be followers of the army general who attempted a coup in Amhara.

POLICE HEADQUARTERS J&K SRINAGAR
Phone/Fax No.: 0194-2443031/2443032 (Sgr), 0191-2459029/2459255 (JMU) Website : www.jkpolice.gov.in, E-mail : phqj@nic.in
Extension Notice
Due to administrative reasons, the last date for submission of on-line bids & opening of Technical bids against NIT No: 24 of 2019 dated 11.05.2019 floated by this Hqrs for the installation of Inventory Management System is re-scheduled as under:-
1. Last date of receipt of tenders = 04.07.2019 up to 1800 hours.
2. Date of opening of technical bids = 06.07.2019 at 1100 hours.
The other terms and conditions of the NIT shall remain the same.
Sd/- Mubassir Latifi (JKPS) AIG (Provision & Transport), For Director General of Police, J&K- Srinagar
No: DIPK-NB-1402/19 Dated: 26.06.2019

DISTRICT POLICE HEADQUARTERS SRINAGAR
Balgarden, Srinagar, Jammu & Kashmir 190010
E-mail: dpsrinagar@jkpolice.gov.in, Tele: 2455047, Fax: 2453897
Subject: Corrigendum
In reference to e-NIT No. 7485 of 2019 dated 17.06.2019 issued under endstt. No. GB/ eTender-2019/7486-92 dated 17.06.2019 regarding procurement of goods. The bid submission closing and opening dates are amended as per the request from various bidders and new schedules of dates is as under:
1. Date of re-publishing of e-NIT :- 25.06.2019
2. Period of downloading of e-tender documents :- 07 days
3. Tender submission start date :- 25.06.2019
4. Tender submission end date :- 01.07.2019
5. Date of opening of Tenders :- 02.07.2019
Other contents of the tender shall remain unchanged.
Sd/- [Dr. Muhammad Haseeb Mughal-JKPS] Senior Superintendent of Police, District Srinagar
No: DIPK-NB-1404/19 Dated: 26.06.2019

WESTERN RAILWAY
CONSTRUCTION WORKS
Dy. Chief Engineer (Construction) II, Western Railway, Pratnagar, Vadodara - 390 004, invites e-tender as per the details given below: e-Tender No.: Dy.CE/C/II/B/C/M/Y/G-DB-SMLA/19. Name of the work: Construction of Station building, platforms, platform wall, water tank staging, approach road, fencing, water supply arrangements, RCC overhead tank, pump house, toilet blocks, water huts, etc. with other ancillary works at Miyagam (B-class) Garpal pura (D-class) & Kandarai (D-class) between MYG-Dabhoi section of gauge conversion project between Miyagam-Dabhoi-Samalaya. Approximate Cost: ₹ 2,037.87 Lakhs. Availability of online Tender for bidding: From 03.07.2019 at 10.00 hrs. to 17.07.2019 upto 15.00 hrs. Date of opening & time: 17.07.2019 at 15.30 hrs. Regarding detailed tender conditions, please visit www.ireps.gov.in. Manual offers will not be considered.
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COLLEGE OF ART
GOVERNMENT OF NCT OF DELHI
(Affiliated to University of Delhi)
20-22, TILAK MARG, NEW DELHI-110 001
Phone Nos.: 23833612, 2387485, 2387571
Website: <http://colart.delhigovt.nic.in>
E-Mail: prcoa.delhi@nic.in
Corrigendum
This is with reference to release of Admission Notice/ Advertisement dated 02 June 2019, published in various newspapers and uploaded Admission prospectus data of BFA and MFA on college website.
It is informed to all applicants that due to the implementation of 10% reservation for Economically Weaker Section (EWS) vide order No. F. DHEI (119) Estt./2018-19/2548-76 dated 17.06.2019, issued by the competent authority, the revised seat matrix of BFA & MFA Intake Capacity for Admission 2019-20 is uploaded and applicants may visit or download for their reference from the college website "<http://colart.delhigovt.nic.in>".
Hence, the following schedule may please be noted by all applicants.
1. Admission in EWS (Economically Weaker Section) category in MFA (Master of Fine Arts): The date for submission of Application Form by hand has been extended upto Wednesday, 10 July, 2019 4.00pm and by Registered/Speed Post/Courier on or before Thursday, 11 July, 2019 4.00pm, only for applicants belonging to EWS category. Eligibility list of EWS category will be displayed on Friday, 12 July, 2019 4.00pm.
NOTE: There is NO CHANGE in Dates of Interviews/Viva for all streams of MFA. Admission will be held as per schedule, as mentioned earlier.
2. Admission in EWS (Economically Weaker Section) category in BFA (Bachelor of Fine Arts): Application form for BFA along with requisite fees, supporting documents, duly completed, should be submitted by hand, from Wednesday, 10 July, 2019 4.00pm to Wednesday, 24 July, 2019 4.00pm and by Registered/Speed Post/Courier on or before, Friday, 26 July, 2019 4.00 pm, only for applicants belonging to EWS category. Eligibility list of EWS will be displayed on Tuesday, 30 July, 2019 4.00pm.
NOTE: Entrance Test for applicants of EWS category will be held on Sunday, 04 August, 2019. Result of EWS Category will be declared and uploaded on college website on Tuesday, 13 August, 2019 4.00pm.
The Applicants are advised to check the college website for all details. No separate intimation/circulars will be sent for the above purpose. Sd/ (Prof. B.S.Chauhan) Officiating Principal
DIP/Shabdarth/0281/19-20

WESTERN RAILWAY
VARIOUS TYPE OF WORK
E-Tender No: BFG-43-6-2(ISS)-Tele-WA(R) dt. 24.06.2019. Executive: Sr. DSTE(Co.) / BCT. Name of Work: Supply, Installation, Testing and Commissioning of Video Surveillance system in connection with implementation of Integrated Security system (ISS) on Mumbai Suburban Section of Mumbai Division, Western Railway. Approx cost of work: Rs. 36,59,70,329/-. Particular office where E-tender open: Senior Divisional Signal & Telecom Engineer (South), 2nd Floor, DRM's Office, Mumbai Central, Mumbai-400008. EMD: Rs. 19,79,900/- Time & Date for Pre Bid conference: 09:07/2019 at 10.30hrs. Date & Time of submission: 13.08.2019 at 15.00Hrs. Date & Time of opening: 13.08.2019 at 15.30Hrs. For Detailed tender conditions, Please visit www.ireps.gov.in
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WESTERN RAILWAY
Divisional Railway Manager (WA), Western Railway, 6th floor, Engg. Deptt., Mumbai Central, Mumbai-400 008 invites E-tender as per details given as follows.

Sr. No.	Tender Notice No. & Date	Work and Location	Approx. Cost of Work in Rs.	EMD in Rs.
1.	BCT/19-20/170 dt. 25.06.2019	Bhayander - Virar Section: Annual Maintenance of drainage system (Sewerage & Storm water) of new colony at Bhayander, Vasai Road, Nallasopara, Virar & relay room, running room, substation etc. under the jurisdiction of SSE(W)BVI for a period of 02 years.	17,70,384.00/-	35,400.00/-
2.	BCT/19-20/171 dt. 25.06.2019	Rehabilitation of Dadar Rly colony-Type-II (54-units), Type (IV) (2-units), Type III (1-units) along with Road, Drainage line, Toilets, Garden, Boundary wall and Providing Dy.CE (Bridge) office, yard master office, store and signal cabin-social welfare centre, underground tank, over head tank and pump room at Dadar Colony, in connection with Rehabilitation of western railway south colony in connection with relocation of infringing structure and proposed new STR in connection with 5 th and 6 th line at Dadar station.	16,74,64,482.77/-	9,87,300/-

Date & Time of Submission : Sr. No. 1: 23.07.2019 at 15.00 hrs., Sr. No. 2: 31.07.2019 at 15.00 hrs., Date & Time of Opening of tender: Sr. No. 1: 23.07.2019 at 15.30 hrs., Sr. No. 2: 31.07.2019 at 15.30 hrs.,
NOTE: Please visit our website www.ireps.gov.in to download the tender document, corrigendum and further details.
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nacaste ENGLAND

MAHMUDULLAH HAS SUSTAINED A LOW GRADE CALF INJURY. WE WILL MONITOR HIS PROGRESS OVER THE NEXT FEW DAYS WITH REGARDS TO HIS AVAILABILITY FOR THE NEXT WORLD CUP MATCH
— THIHAN CHANDRAMOHAN

CRICKETCRADLE

TODAY LIVE



West Indies vs India
3:00 pm IST
VENUE: Old Trafford, Manchester



Mohammad Amir's fan holds a poster to show her love and support for the Pakistani bowler during Pakistan-New Zealand game at Edgbaston in Birmingham on Wednesday

Ganguly supports MS

Former Indian skipper Sourav Ganguly has come in support of veteran wicketkeeper-batsman MS Dhoni who had to face criticism for his slow knock against Afghanistan in India's World Cup game in Southampton. However, Ganguly feels that his performance against Afghanistan was a one-off situation and he will prove that he is a great asset to the Indian team in the remaining matches of the tournament. "At the end of the day, MSD is a very good batsman and he will definitely prove that in this year's World Cup 2019 as well despite his sticky form against Afghanistan. It's just one match," Ganguly was quoted as saying by DNA.

Fit and fine

Brian Lara was on Wednesday discharged from a hospital here in Mumbai, declared "fit and fine" a day after he complained of chest pain. The 50-year old from Trinidad, considered one of the greatest batsmen to have played the game, was admitted to the Global Hospital in Parel after complaining of chest pain during a gym workout session. "He (Lara) has been discharged at 12:20 from the hospital," a source told PTI. "He is fit and fine," he added without divulging any further details. In a late evening message on Tuesday, Lara had allayed concerns over his health. "I may have just extended myself in the gym this morning. I was getting a pain in my chest and I just thought that it was best to see a doctor," he had said.

Remembering Malcolm

He arrived as a raw talent, became a world beater, made friends for life and suddenly left them with moistened eyes and a void that they have never been able to fill. That's Malcolm Marshall for you. He is forever embedded in the soul of Hampshire cricket and in the memory of those who saw him run in from the ridge at the Old Northlands Road ground. The imposing new stadium which is off city limits became operational in the early 2000 and probably doesn't give an idea what the 'Bajan' meant for the club for whom he took 1000 wickets in the Championship. "Malcolm and I were very close and it was wonderful. He was the best friend I had in cricket," said Mark Nicholas, now a renowned commentator and back then Marshall's captain at the Hampshire county. Nicholas sported an indulgent smile as he termed a young Marshall "splendidly naive". In a space of four to five years, he became the best fast bowler of his time with every skill in his armoury. "He began by bowling sort of awesomely fast with a whippy action. He then developed his skills. Once he had perfected the outswinger, he moved to perfect the inswinger. By about 1984-85, he had about everything - stamina, pace, control, movement, fantastic bowling brain." "He had deep knowledge, almost frenzied in his investigations for opposition players, he shared with us. He was the best ally that a captain could dream of. It's always good for a skipper if the fast bowler is on your side," Nicholas recalls.

PRELIMINARY STAGE

Pos	Team	P	W	L	N/R	Net RR	Pts
1	AUS (Q)	7	6	1	0	+0.906	12
2	NZ	7	5	1	1	+1.028	11
3	IND	5	4	0	1	+0.809	9
4	ENG	7	4	3	0	+1.051	8
5	B'DESH	7	3	3	1	-0.133	7
6	PAK	7	3	3	1	-0.976	7
7	SL	6	2	2	2	-1.119	6
8	WI	6	1	4	1	+0.190	3
9	RSA	7	1	5	1	-0.324	3
10	AFG	6	0	6	0	-1.712	0

Self-belief meets self-doubt

Men in Blue look to cement semis berth as Windies play for pride

PNS ■ MANCHESTER

It will be, by and large, a for-the-record match at Manchester today with India bidding to cement their semi-final positioning and the West Indies trying to take one back home.

The Caribbeans have already lost a lot in the tournament besides defeats to Australia, England, Bangladesh and New Zealand on a trot, not to mention one wasted game against South Africa as rain called day.

They have 3 point from six games and have lost the fire power of big-hitter Andre Russell who is out of the tournament with a knee injury which they fervently hoped would heal; their prime striker Chris Gayle has been comparatively windless, unable to kick up a storm with his run-getting abilities and their outage from the Cup despite a brilliant warm-up run (they defeated New Zealand) has dented their morale and the famous Caribbean magic they are traditionally rated for.

India is in red hot form and unbeaten, having won all their outings, four so far if you discount the washed away match against New Zealand. Directly contravening this, the Windies have lost all they have played for so far since after thrashing Pakistan in their tournament opener and would be meeting India to proverbially play for pride or whatever is left of it in this competition.

In another manner of speaking, self-belief will meet self-doubt but since it is cricket, gloriously uncertain underdogs can emerge triumphant, a feat one almost saw in the clash against Afghanistan where the famed Indian batting line-up was stymied and the bigger team won only on a late burst by its pacers feeding on Afghan inexperience.

West Indies would be looking at that closely to draw some strength for themselves. Also, Chris Gayle is known to tear into the scene when there is nothing much to play for, so this one could be the one for the road back home for him and consequently the Windies.

Over the ifs and buts, over all the speculation, fact is that India have so far played professionally sound, convincing cricket, hiding their middle order niggles and the impactful loss of Shikhar Dhawan, to injury on the arm of their bowlers.

Kohli's team work chant has been at play even though the talk of a struggling Mahendra Singh Dhoni, more so after the Afghanistan match, has found momentum, what with the great Sachin Tendulkar talking about his disappointment with the Dhoni-Jadhav partnership against Afghanistan.



Bhuvneshwar Kumar, right, watches fellow bowler Mohammed Shami bowl during a training session ahead of India's World Cup match against West Indies at Old Trafford in Manchester



Rohit Sharma bats in the nets during a training session

Bhuvni full stride, Dhoni sweeps show

PTI ■ MANCHESTER

Bhuvneshwar Kumar seemed to have attained full fitness as he did single wicket bowling for a considerable time with chairman of selectors MSK Prasad keeping wickets during India's training session on the eve of their World Cup clash against West Indies at Old Trafford.

At the batting nets, it was wicket keeper Mahendra Singh Dhoni, not a natural sweeper of the cricket ball, trying the stroke against slow bowlers. Sweep is always considered to be an effective shot against spinners when the conventional shots don't fetch runs.

Prasad later also collected powerful throws from the deep as the reserve keeper Rishabh Pant got an extended run at the nets and also practiced outfielding, taking a few aerial catches.

While it's any indication or not can't be ascertained as Vijay Shankar has been Indian team management's first choice and they haven't shown any intent of changing it.

Thursday was the first time when Bhuvneshwar wore

bowling spikes and bowled from full run-up as Prasad, a former India keeper, wore the big gloves.

The seamer, who had sustained an injury during India's victory over Pakistan at the same ground, seemed upbeat as he spoke to physio Patrick Farhart and bowling coach Bharath Arun.

In fact, Arun made it clear that if Bhuvneshwar is deemed fully match-fit, he will replace Mohammed Shami despite his last-over hat-trick against Afghanistan.

However there may be a possibility that India give him rest for one more game.

"Bhuvneshwar's injury is not of any great concern. It is just a niggler for which we didn't want to take a chance. And it was also an opportunity for us to plug Shami into the games. But the fact he's done exceptionally well all goes well for us; it's an embarrassment of riches," Arun said.

"And we would take a call as per the conditions, but Bhuvni has done exceptionally well, so I think it's a pretty good headache to have," he dropped a hint as to what he thought.

HEAD TO HEAD

	Played	WI	Ind	Tied/NR
Matches	126	62	59	2/3
Day matches	93	53	37	-/3
In World Cup	8	3	5	-
Last 5 matches	5	1	3	1/-

HIGHEST TOTALS

India	418-5 in 50 overs at Indore	08-12-2011
West Indies	333-8 in 45 overs at Jamshedpur	07-12-1983

PERFORMANCE IN WC

Team	P	W	L	T	N/R	Success%
India	79	50	27	1	1	63.92
West Indies	77	42	33	-	2	55.84

FAISEL FEATURES

Sachin bats for Bhuvni

PTI ■ MUMBAI

Cricket icon Sachin Tendulkar on Wednesday picked pacer Bhuvneshwar Kumar over fellow speedster Mohammed Shami, who took a sensational last over hat-trick against Afghanistan, when an unbeaten India take on West Indies in their World Cup game at Manchester today.

The Master Blaster picked 'Bhuvni', as pacer is commonly known, for his sheer ability to trouble swashbuckling West Indies batsman Chris Gayle.

"It's a great news for India that Bhuvneshwar Kumar is fit. I have seen his body language which showed that he is really confident," Tendulkar told Star Sports.

Kumar (29) had sustained an injury against Pakistan and missed the game against Afghanistan, which India won by 11 runs on June 22.

Shami (29), who was drafted in the team in place of Kumar, took a hat-trick in the 50th over of

Afghanistan's innings, becoming just the second Indian, after pacer Chetan Sharma, to achieve the feat in a World Cup match.

"For the upcoming match between India and West Indies, if I had to choose between Bhuvneshwar Kumar and Mohammed Shami, I would definitely pick Bhuvneshwar Kumar."

"The only reason being, Bhuvneshwar Kumar can bowl to Chris Gayle at the outer angle and that is what makes Chris Gayle uncomfortable."

"I still remember how uncomfortable Chris Gayle was when Bhuvneshwar Kumar was bowling at him in the last Test I played," added Tendulkar, who holds numerous records to his name.

The 46-year-old batting legend played his last of 200th Test, a world record, at Mumbai in 2013.

"I know it will be a little unfortunate for Mohammed Shami but I believe for this game, Bhuvneshwar Kumar should be picked," Tendulkar signed off.

Dhoni, who is playing his last World Cup, has not been among the runs right from the start. Trying to pace up the scoreboard, he went in a flash against Pakistan and failed to emerge against South Africa and Australia earlier in the tournament. Dhoni being crucial for middle order momentum tends to come under quick scrutiny. He did not take the optional nets at Manchester on Wednesday.

Like its middle order performance, it is also crucial for India to win against the West Indies this Friday, to not just put a seal on their semi-final qualification, but more importantly get the spot they want in the knockout match on the basis of run-rate and number of wins.

Among the unbeaten teams, India figures alongside New Zealand, vying for the top slot in the semi-finals where the No 1 team plays No 4.

coach speak

BHARAT ARUN, IND



■ Bhuvneshwar Kumar was the first choice pacer ahead of Shami. Now with Shami coming in and doing well and Bhuvneshwar injured, does that change? And how is he now in terms of fitness?

Bhuvneshwar's injury is not of any great concern. It is just a niggler, which we didn't want to take a chance. And it was also an opportunity for us to plug Shami into the games. But the fact he's done exceptionally well all goes well for us; it's an embarrassment of riches. And we would take a call as per the conditions, but Bhuvni has done exceptionally well, so I think it's a pretty good headache to have.

■ What's the message that you're giving your bowlers?

Here in the World Cup where every match we're playing a different team. For the bowlers to do well, they need to be aware of the batsmen's strength and their shortcomings. So I think what they really focus on, they have enough breaks between the games, and as you rightly said the workloads have also been managed. What they really work on is the mindset and the strength and weaknesses of the opponents.

■ Both fast bowlers and spinners have done well. How have you managed the spinners and the fast bowlers simultaneously?

If you don't the role of a coach, you should be adept with the skill of spin and fast bowling. It's about understanding both that gives you the best chance to manage them. As for the spinners, again, as I answered the earlier question, the more you're aware and the more you understand what you're capable of doing, these two factors would ensure that you have the best platform for you to perform.

■ How do you look at the West Indies batting challenge?

They're an outstanding side and they play real positive cricket. We are aware of the challenges that exist in this game. And I think our plans are pretty much in place and we are up for the challenge.

■ WI has the likes of Chris Gayle and Brathwaite. Do you have to change your approach at all against a such a positive batting lineup?

Yes, of course. It's a big challenge for the bowlers too - especially when they come after you. But whenever batsmen come after you, if you're willing to look at it deeply, there is a chance for it - in it for the bowlers, and I think that's what the bowlers would be looking to do.

Courtesy: © ICC Business Corporation FZ LLC 2018



MS Dhoni bats in the nets during India's training session at Old Trafford in Manchester on Wednesday

'I am there with greats'

PTI ■ MANCHESTER

Chris Gayle's swagger is unmatched and the 'Universe Boss' shows no modesty or pretension when asked where he sees himself among the pantheons of legends in West Indies cricket.

"I'm definitely up there. I'm definitely up there with the greats without a doubt," Gayle, who came for an interaction after a request from the travelling Indian media contingent, answered it in two straight sentences.

Gayle, who was supposed to retire after the World Cup, has reversed his original decision and will hang his boots after playing a home series against India, a country where he enjoys manic fan following.

"Like I say, I enjoy each and every moment of West Indies, playing for West Indies. Like I said, it's still not the end. I still have a few games to go. Maybe another series to go who knows we'll see what happens," said the soon-to-be 40 Jamaican.

Gayle has had a roller-coaster ride in the last two decades for West Indies cricket when the performance of the assortment of islands reached an all-time nadir.

"But like I say, it's been a lot of ups and downs. I have got to say I really enjoy each and every moment. But we share some quality moments with some quality players as well," he said when asked to reflect back on his career in which he has scored more than 18,000 international runs.

He took a trip down the memory lane having started way back in 1999.

"I started my career with the likes of Courtney Walsh, Curtly Ambrose, you watch them on TV and you realise they're in the dressing room, it's just a bunch of guys. And Brian Lara, the first captain as well, Carl Hooper. So it's some quality moments when you look back on it," he fondly recollected.

"I'll have to analyse it and give you full details, a better exclusive interview on that particular moment, and then you can take it further," he laughed.

"But like I said I could not have had a better career as a player representing the West Indies," he added.

Call it irony, his limited overs jersey number is 333, which again is his highest Test score. The two triple centuries were absolute highs along with a double hundred in the 2015 ODI World Cup.

"Two triple centuries in Test cricket. Those two will definitely be on top. A double century in the World Cup as well. But there's a lot more to



Chris Gayle bats in the nets during a training session ahead of their match against India at Old Trafford in Manchester. AP

It's not the end

PTI ■ MANCHESTER

Dashing West Indies batsman Chris Gayle will retire from international cricket after the home ODI and Test series against India scheduled in August-September, revising his earlier plan to call it quits after the ongoing World Cup.

Among the high profile players in the last two decades, Gayle will follow the in footsteps of Steve Waugh (2004) and Jacques Kallis (2013), who announced their international retirement after playing against India.

It is expected that Gayle will play his final international game, a Test against India, at his home ground Kingston in Jamaica starting August 30.

The 39-year-old had last month stated that he would retire after the World Cup but speaking to the media on the eve of the game against India here, the left-hander said he has had a change of mind.

"It's still not the end. I still have a few games to go. Maybe another series to go, as well. Who knows, we will

see what happens," Gayle said when asked about his career which was supposed to end after the World Cup.

When he was asked a specific questions on his plans post World Cup, he did spill the beans.

"My plans after World Cup? I may play a Test match against India and then I will definitely play the ODIs against India. I won't play the T20s for sure. That's my plan after the World Cup," Gayle said.

West Indies media manager Philip Spooner later confirmed that the assignment against India will be Gayle's last in national colours.

"Yes, Chris will play his last series against India," Spooner said.

It has been learnt that Gayle's participation in the India series was necessary keeping the commercial aspects in mind as it is scheduled right after the World Cup.

Also a Test match in Jamaica and good friend and former IPL teammate Virat Kohli in the opposition ranks will be seen as a fitting farewell for cricket's

greatest modern day entertainers.

India's tour of West Indies comprises three T20 Internationals, three ODIs followed by a couple of Test matches.

There will be two T20 games in Florida on August 3 and 4, followed by a third in Guyana.

The three-match ODI will start in Guyana from August 8, followed by a couple of games in Trinidad. The Tests will take place from August 22 to September 3.

Gayle has appeared in 103 Tests, accumulating 7215 runs at an average of 42.19. In 294 ODI appearances, Gayle put together 10345 runs, while in 58 T20 Internationals, he has 1627 runs.

He has two triple hundreds in Test matches, a double hundred in ODIs and also has the distinction of scoring the first hundred in a World T20 game.

The man who calls himself the 'Universe Boss' is a fan favourite for his flamboyant stroke-play and is considered a game-changing batsman.

GAYLE, WHO WAS SUPPOSED TO RETIRE AFTER THE WORLD CUP, HAS REVERSED HIS ORIGINAL DECISION AND WILL HANG HIS BOOTS AFTER PLAYING A HOME SERIES AGAINST INDIA, A COUNTRY WHERE HE ENJOYS MANIC FAN FOLLOWING

actually talk about. But if I get into detail it will be a long list, to be honest with you. But I'll stick with those for now," Gayle said.

As he prepares to bid adieu in the next couple of months, Gayle finds Nicholas Pooran as a "savage youngster" who could potentially be a 'mini Universe Boss'.

"Mini-universe boss, that's a serious name. Nicholas Pooran is going to be a savage youngster, trust me on that one. I must commend Pooran's work ethic. It's fantastic for a youngster to actually just come into the team. And he's going to be a world record breaker," he didn't say but declared.

He sees a future leader in

Shai Hope.

"And Shai Hope as well. Definitely, he will have a big part to play in West Indies cricket. He's a guy who actually may be a future captain as well."

Gayle is confident that with the likes of Pooran, Hope and Shimron Hetmyer in the ranks, the future is bright for West Indies.

"Definitely, the future is bright for West Indies cricket, without a doubt. The likes of Nicholas Pooran and Hetmyer, his name has been calling in all forms of the game so far, for these guys to actually believe and build on start. Trust me, it will be much, much better for them within their career going forward," said Gayle.

Time to fight

AFP ■ MANCHESTER

West Indies captain Jason Holder says he is proud of his players but wants them to put everything together in a "perfect" World Cup performance against India.

The two-time champions opened their campaign with a convincing victory against Pakistan but have not won since and, barring an unlikely sequence of results, will be heading home after the group phase.

Batsmen Shai Hope, Shimron

Hetmyer, Nicholas Pooran and Carlos Brathwaite have shown glimpses of what they can offer but have failed to win games for the team.

Brathwaite hit his maiden one-day international century in West Indies' ultimately fruitless chase of a target of 292 against New Zealand on Saturday.

Holder urged his team to show fight on Thursday against Virat Kohli's unbeaten side, who look certain to reach the semi-finals.

"We've shown glimpses here and there of what we can produce. And as a



West Indies' captain Jason Holder, center, and teammates attend a training session. AP

side we just haven't brought it together collectively more often than not," Holder said at Old Trafford on Wednesday.

"And it hurt us in games before. So tomorrow (Thursday) is another opportunity for us to bring it all together and play a perfect game."

The West Indies' World Cup hopes were hit by injuries to Evin Lewis and Andre Russell, who has been replaced by Sunil Ambris in the squad, but Holder said the batsmen should step up despite the problems.

"Injuries have definitely plagued us. But I've been proud of them so far. I think for them it's just a matter for them to grasp batting on the international circuit," said Holder.

"And I think Shai has done a reasonable job so far. Hety (Hetmyer) has shown

glimpses of brilliance, as well as Nicholas. It's up to them to take it deeper. They've got to be the rock and soul for our team."

"And they've got to set up games and learn to close them out. And a guy who has done that over the tournament is (New Zealand captain) Kane Williamson."

West Indies are languishing in eighth spot in the 10-team table with just three points as the group stage nears its conclusion.

"In terms of the squad, I think everybody's upbeat for the occasion. Playing India is always a big game for West Indies, and we're looking forward to it," said Holder.

"First we need to finish the campaign as best as we can. And our objective is to win all three games."

TIGERTALK



By ABDUR RAZZAK Bangladesh spinner

It's amazing what Shakib Al Hasan is doing, it's just unbelievable batting.

Shakib has improved a lot because he was dropped in the Indian Premier League and had to practise really hard.

Importantly, he knew what needed to improve — and he did it.

As well as being a fantastic all-rounder, Shakib also has the potential to be one of the best batsmen in the world.

When he started, he was a batting all-rounder, but after that he steadily started to improve his bowling as well.

His partnership with Mushfiqur Rahim has been particularly strong in this ICC Men's Cricket World Cup.

A good understanding is really important when building partnerships, and they've been playing for

such a long time together that they now know each other inside-out.

Both are fighters, mentally strong and also smart cricketers too. It's a partnership that works well.

It was obviously a wonderful performance by the team against Afghanistan, but especially Shakib.

The boys want to play in the semi-finals and to do that there is no other option than to win games like this.

Watching the game, and indeed other matches in the competition, it's clear to see some similarities between this Afghanistan team and Bangladesh when they were starting out.

Like us, their strong point is spin, while the level of performance is also similar to Bangladesh from the past.

Everyone was saying before the game that Afghanistan had superior



Shakib Al Hasan celebrates with Liton Das after completing his five-wicket haul. ICC/Twitter

SHAKIB HAS IMPROVED A LOT BECAUSE HE WAS DROPPED IN THE INDIAN PREMIER LEAGUE AND HAD TO PRACTISE REALLY HARD. HE KNEW WHAT NEEDED TO IMPROVE - AND HE DID IT

bowlers to us, but I didn't particularly agree.

In truth, I was expecting a performance like this from the Bangladeshi spinners. Everyone knows that if the pitch is turning, Shakib and Mehidy are dangerous, and so it proved.

Bangladesh play Asian rivals India and Pakistan next, but I have to say no cricketer thinks about facing their neighbours in any different way to normal; they're just another opponent.

India have been a very good in the World Cup so far and came into the competition as one of the favourites.

Everyone is talking about them, but that creates an opportunity for our players. I'm sure they'll be up for the challenge.

Bangladesh can definitely take some lessons from Afghanistan's performance against India where

they ran them close, but everyone has different ways of playing.

On that day, Afghanistan's bowling and fielding was amazing, but if we bat well and focus on our strengths, we can do well too.

It depends on the wicket and the situation on the day but you have to play what is in front of you.

India's batting line-up is so strong that Bangladesh will have to be at their very best with the ball if they want to stand a chance of winning.

That said, I believe they can do it.

The team is playing really well at this moment. I still think that it will be very difficult to qualify for the semi-finals, but they've created a great chance for themselves.

nacabaste ENGLAND

I'M LOVING BATTING AT THE MOMENT. TRYING TO KEEP IT REALLY SIMPLE. AND THEN JUST HAVING THE OPPORTUNITY TO BAT THE LAST 10 OVERS WHEN THE FIELD'S OUT — AARON FINCH



Old fashioned Aussie punch

WaughEye



By STEVE WAUGH
Former captain, Australia

Without doubt this was a commanding performance by a team that is gathering confidence and momentum at exactly the right time.

Australia played an old fashioned ODI game based around a solid platform with the bat from the rock-solid Aaron Finch and David Warner, allowing the rest of the order to capitalise and construct a challenging total on a pitch that more represented a Test match than a one-day game.

Coming against a quality attack on the biggest stage in world cricket, Finch's century was his best in the green and gold.

He is at the top of his game right now; mentally tough, technically sound, focussed and trusting in his judgement of line and length. He is leading the charge and allowing others the freedom to relax and play their own way.

Together with Warner, they continue to ensure Australia is ultra-competitive in every match by either posting an imposing total or chasing



Ben Stokes kicks his bat away as he reacts in frustration after being bowled out by a yorker from Australia's Mitchell Starc

down any target. Another to impress has been Alex Carey who is a hybrid of Michael Hussey and Michael Bevan. Carey plays with the perfect mixture of calmness and intent, assessing the situation and pouncing on any opportunities that present themselves in the frenetic pressure of the final overs.

He shapes as a potential match-winner for Australia in the back end of the competition.

The Australian selectors must be congratulated for the bold selection of Jason Behrendorff and the faith they showed in presenting him with the new ball.

It had an immediate impact, with Behrendorff producing one of the deliveries of the tournament — an unplayable late in swinger that sent a bewildered James Vince back to the pavilion and destabilised England's chase.

His five-wicket haul was not only significant for its impact on the match, but his ability to swing it in conjunction with Mitchell Starc will

have put all future batsman on notice that their techniques will be forensically examined.

England will feel deflated by their underwhelming effort in a match where they had a chance to flex their muscle and show why they were the pre-tournament favourites.

Perhaps this loss will focus them as they now have no choice but to win all remaining matches much in the same way we did back in the 1999 World Cup.

They are capable but they must locate the intensity and free-spirited style that has defined their cricket of recent times.

It was a match that showcased skill and composure over brute strength and power largely because of a pitch that was fair to both bat and ball.

It was a genuine contest won by a team that knows its game plan and believes it can go all the way.

England must now respond or face elimination.

Courtesy: © ICC Business Corporation FZ LLC 2019

Power turns left



Jason Behrendorff celebrates after taking the wicket of England's James Vince clean bowled

PTI ■ LONDON

Jason Behrendorff doesn't see an issue if left-arm pacers like him and Mitchell Starc feature in the Australian playing 11 more often, especially after the duo's match winning performances against England in the World Cup here on Tuesday.

Behrendorff was brought into the side for just his eighth ODI due to England's historic struggles against left-arm pacemen and that decision proved a masterstroke at Lord's.

The 29-year-old took his maiden international five-for thanks to figures of 5/44, while Starc ended with 4/43 as England were skittled for 221 in pursuit of 286 - a 64-run defeat.

Although this was just the second ODI in which they have appeared together, Behrendorff is now keen to continue his burgeoning new-ball combination with Starc.

"We don't often see it but I don't see why we can't play together," he said.

"Sometimes you play three right-armers, so why can't we play two lefties? Mitch and I have different roles throughout the team, so it's really good that we could partner together. It's something we thought was going to work well against England and then we picked up nine wickets between the two of us, so it potentially worked quite well!"

Behrendorff hopes to play alongside Starc more often.

"Mitch and I are really happy to be able to play on the same team together and to have two lefties, hopefully we could see more of it. That would be great. One of those things you dream of as a kid is to play cricket for Australia and then to come here and play at Lord's for the first time was something special."

"You don't play cricket for the accolades but to play at Lord's and to take five wickets was really special."

Victory means Australia are the first side to rubber-stamp their place in the knockout stages, with six wins from seven.

England's hopes though are on a

SOMETIMES YOU PLAY THREE RIGHT-ARMERS, SO WHY CAN'T WE PLAY TWO LEFTIES? MITCH AND I HAVE DIFFERENT ROLES THROUGHOUT THE TEAM, SO IT'S REALLY GOOD THAT WE COULD PARTNER TOGETHER

knife-edge with must win games to come against India and New Zealand after they suffered their first back-to-back ODI defeat on home soil in four years.

Even though their semi-final place is secure Behrendorff is eager to keep building momentum in the remaining group-stage fixtures and also doesn't believe Australia should be considered favourites to lift the trophy.

"I don't think we're the team to beat," he said ahead of concluding group stage matches with New Zealand and South Africa.

"The competition is still very open. England are still a great side and they are probably still favourites, with it being in their home country."

"We aspire to continue just playing good cricket but I don't think we're favourites, that's for sure."

We missed basics: Eoin

PTI ■ LONDON

England captain Eoin Morgan feels not sticking to their "batting mantra" has cost them back-to-back defeats against Sri Lanka and Australia in the World Cup, making the road to semifinals much tougher for the pre-tournament favourites.

England had not lost back-to-back ODIs on home soil since 2015, yet they followed a loss to Sri Lanka at Headingley, where they failed to chase down 233, with a 64-run reverse against their oldest rivals at Lord's.

It was once again an unsuccessful chase that proved their undoing as Australia's 285/7 was more than enough when left-arm seamers Jason Behrendorff and Mitchell Starc took nine wickets between them.

"Both this game and the last, we struggled with the basics of what we call our batting mantra," said the England captain after the loss here on Tuesday.

"Strong intent, building partnerships, and doing it in our own way — we haven't done those for long enough periods of the game in order to either chase down 230 or chase down 280, and that's disappointing."

"Our mantra is always evolving — if you've watched the last two years of the way we've played, it has evolved a lot."

Starc and Behrendorff ripped through England's deep batting line-up while the home team's pacers failed to find the



right length on a helping pitch after Morgan opted to field.

"Early on they bowled well. Being 20/3 obviously creates a bigger challenge, especially chasing 280. To make those inroads — I thought they bowled well. Normally when we lose games of cricket, we go back to what we do well. We'll still strive to do that for Sunday's game against India."

England's chances of reaching the semi-finals have taken a hit in the last two matches but their path to qualification is still in their own hands — with victories in their final two group games guaranteeing a knock-out spot.

Those contests are against two sides also currently ensconced in the top four — India and New Zealand — and Morgan is hoping to set an example that his squad can follow.

"They (hopes of reaching the semi-finals) are still strong. The chances are in our hands. Everything is within our control. We just need to produce a performance worthy of winning either one or both of the next two games."

"Ideally, I'd like to lead from the front. I think majority of the captains have success with a team when they lead from the front. Contributions from myself over the next two games might have an impact on the changing room, so hopefully I can make a difference."

England will hope to have in-form opener Jason Roy available for the India game as his replacement James Vince has failed to make a mark in the two games he played.

PTI ■ LONDON

Big Ben Stokes hope

England all-rounder Ben Stokes insists that back-to-back losses have not hampered their hopes of winning a maiden World Cup trophy.

After a relatively promising start to their World Cup campaign, England suffered consecutive losses Sri Lanka (by 20 runs) and Australia (64 runs) to find themselves in a precarious position.

England have slid to the fourth position in the 10-team standings with eight points from seven games. The hosts now have two tough games remaining against India on June 30 and New Zealand on July 3.

"This is our World Cup. We've had great support over the last four years and we know how much the World Cup means to fans and we know that as players as well. It's one of the biggest times and greatest times to be a cricketer, which is to represent your country at a World Cup," Stokes said after the defeat against Australia on Tuesday.

"But we are not going to take a backwards step and, as I've said, this is our World Cup and we are going to go about it how we want to," he added.

In both the defeats against Sri Lanka and Australia, Stokes played a fine hand and very nearly got England home with knocks of unbeaten 82 and 89 respectively.



Ben Stokes reacts after getting dismissed

"I think it's just disappointing, losing. Everyone tries to go out there and play knocks to get over the line for the team. It always feels nice getting runs and stuff like that, but it counts for nothing when you can't get over the line," said Stokes.

"But normally we have two or three guys in the order who can do that. We have to really dig deep in these last couple of games here, not go back on how we know we play well."

Incidentally the losses against Sri Lanka and Australia were England's first back-to-back defeats in ODIs on home soil since 2015.

England now face a daunting task of upstaging India in their penultimate league game to keep their semifinal hopes alive.

"I think we just need to take these last two games as they come. It could be completely different conditions to what we faced here. We know what we are going to do going in with our plans and then it's all about adjusting once the game starts," Stokes said.

"We've got a great record against India in England, but we'll just have to wait and see what conditions we're faced with, but they are another team who are in good form, so hopefully we can bring our best game."

PTI ■ LONDON

Starc professional

Australia became the first side to book a semifinal berth in the World Cup but team's pace spearhead Mitchell Starc said the defending champions can't afford to take their foot off the gas ahead of the knock-out stage.

"There's a lot of cricket to come before semifinal time. We've got two really important games but playing here at Lord's where the final is going to be has given us confidence," Starc said.

"We've got another game here against New Zealand, which is going to be tough. They're playing some fantastic cricket and they're really gone under the radar. Nobody's really spoken too much about them and they keep winning games."

Starc, who returned with impressive figures of 8.4-1-43-4, showered accolades on left-arm pace colleague Jason Behrendorff (5/44), who took a five-for in only his second World Cup match.

"Dorff bowled awesome, beautifully, and deserved his five wickets — and it's great to see him do so well here at Lord's against England. I've bowled a fair bit with Mitchell Johnson in the past and this showed again day before yesterday that there's no reason why you can't play two left-armers when the pitch and



Mitchell Starc celebrates after dismissing Joe Root lbw during World Cup game at Lord's

match-ups suit," he said.

"Dorff actually asked me if there was anything of note about the wicket here and, to be honest, I didn't have much for him as I haven't been here for about four years."

Starc removed the well-settled Ben Stokes (89) with an unplayable reverse swing yorker, just when the English all-rounder looked threatening. "He's (Stokes) a fantastic player, one of their key batters. He nearly got them home against Sri Lanka and so we knew while he was batting that we couldn't rest up. Fortunately, I got one through the gate," said Starc.

"I've got a pretty simple one-day plan and for me it's all about execution. To execute that ball exactly how I wanted and for it to result the way it did was pleasing for me — but it was pleasing to contribute to the whole group."

Starc also laughed off a confrontation with an English fan, who tried to sledge him at the breakfast in his team hotel.

"He had a bit of a click at me — all good fun. I was still half-asleep, didn't think much of it. It's all been good fun around the tour, it's all part and parcel of a World Cup!"

Pak wins, move up the table

Babar Azam's unbeaten 101 help Sarfaraz's men beat Black Caps by 6 wickets to keep semis hope alive

PTI ■ BIRMINGHAM

Babar Azam produced a sublime unbeaten century under pressure as Pakistan continued its revival in the World Cup by halting New Zealand's unbeaten run with a six-wicket victory, here on Wednesday.

Chasing 238 on a tricky Edgbaston pitch which offered vicious turn, Azam (101) and Sohail (68) showed intent, temperament and resolve while batting in Pakistan's must-win game.

They raised a 126-run stand for the fourth wicket after Mohammed Hafeez's dismissal off a part-time spinner, yet again, raised eyebrows and Mitchell Santner looked almost unplayable.

The situation demanded restraint and Hafeez was set but he threw away his wicket while trying to attack Kane Williamson.

This was after Fakhar Zaman (9) was done in by Trent Boult and Imam ul Haq (19) became a victim of Lockie Ferguson.

Taking the attack by the scruff of its neck, Azam shifted the gears after completing his half-century and hit some glorious shots off Williamson and Boult to keep the required run-rate under check.

The 24-year-old completed his century, 10th in ODIs, with a single of Lockie Ferguson off. His knock, coming off 127 balls, was embellished with 11 shots to the fence.

Sohail provided superb support



Babar Azam, right, raises his fist to celebrate scoring a century against New Zealand

from the other end before running himself out. Only two runs were required at that time. Williamson tried all the tricks in his bag but Pakistan overhauled the target with five balls to spare.

With this win, Pakistan have now moved up to number six in the table with seven points from as many games. They now need to win their last two games against Afghanistan (June 29) and Bangladesh (July 5) to hope for semifinal qualification.

The win-lose sequence in first seven matches for Pakistan is exactly the same what they had in their victorious campaign in the 1992 World Cup.

New Zealand, who lost their first game of the tournament, stayed on number two with 11 points, behind Australia (12).

Earlier, Pakistan pacer Shaheen Afridi rattled the top and middle order in a fiery spell but James Neesham (97 not out) and Colin de Grandhomme (64) helped New Zealand post 237 for six.

Reduced to 83 for five after electing to bat, New Zealand looked up to Williamson for yet another rescue act but it was Neesham and de Grandhomme, who revived the Kiwi innings with their 132-run partnership.

De Grandhomme's run out ended the fighting stand but Neesham stayed till the end and finished the innings in style

by hitting a six off Wahab Riaz. He missed out on getting his maiden ODI century but his crucial knock, which came off 112 balls with five fours and three sixes, helped New Zealand stay in the game.

Pakistan were off to a cracking start as Mohammed Amir (1/63) struck with his first delivery. Martin Guptill (5) played that ball on to his stumps.

Left-arm Afridi then swung into action, ripping apart the middle order. He began by dismissing Colin Munro (12), who was caught by Haris Sohail in slips and then returned to send back dangerous Ross Taylor (3).

Pakistan skipper Sarfaraz Ahmed, who was called a pig by a fan, took a one-handed blinder, diving full-stretched on his right to hold an edge from Taylor.

The combo of Sarfaraz and Afridi was at it again and this time Tom Latham (1) was consumed.

Williamson (41) and Neesham added 37 runs for the fifth wicket before leg-spinner Shadab Khan (1/43) beat the Kiwi skipper and his edge was smartly taken by Sarfaraz.

Nothing seemed to work for Pakistan after that with Neesham and de Grandhomme building the innings bit by bit.

They worked the ball around, stayed patient until it was time to accelerate.

'It hurts but we're helpless'

PTI ■ BIRMINGHAM

Pakistan captain Sarfaraz Ahmed says incidents like the one in which he was compared to a "pig" by a fan are hurtful but there is nothing he can do to prevent them and can only plead for civility in criticism.

Pakistani fans have severely criticised the national team after its 89-run loss to arch-rivals India in a World Cup encounter in Manchester.

In a recent video that went viral on social media, Sarfaraz, walking in a mall in England with his son, was stopped by a fan, who asked him why he looked like a fat pig. The fan eventually apologised for his conduct after drawing flak from all corners for targeting the player during a private moment.

"I can't say anything on this. It's not in our hands to control what people say about us. Winning and losing is part of the game and it's not that we are the first team to have lost a match; previous teams also have faced defeats," Sarfaraz said.

Pakistan have kept alive their semifinal hopes with the win over South Africa in London.

"Had earlier teams faced the kind of criticism that we are facing, they would have realised how much these things hurt us. Now,



Sarfaraz Ahmed in a file picture

there is social media. People write, comment and say whatever they like. These incidents affect the psychology of the players," he added.

Sarfaraz is not the only Pakistani cricketer to have expressed his displeasure over abusive criticism. Senior all-rounder Shoaib Malik and pacer Mohammed Amir too had urged the fans not to indulge in personal attacks.

"While criticising, one must not abuse. Criticise us on our cricket but don't get abusive with us," Sarfaraz said.

OTHER SPORTS

Oranje fever



Lieke Martens, center, celebrates after scoring Netherlands' second goal from the penalty spot against Japan

AFP ■ RENNES

Last-minute Lieke Martens penalty took the Netherlands through to the women's World Cup quarter-finals as they joined Italy in the last eight, confirming Europe's supremacy at the tournament and ending Asian interest already.

The Dutch on Tuesday scraped past Japan 2-1 to set up a quarter-final on Saturday in Valenciennes against the Italians, who had beaten China 2-0 earlier in the day thanks to goals from Valentina Giacinti and Aurora Galli.

Those results mean seven of the eight quarter-finalists in France are European, with holders and favourites the United States the sole exception. There had never previously been more than five European sides in the last eight of a women's World Cup.

Such an early exit is particularly painful for Japan, who won the World Cup in 2011 and were beaten finalists four years ago in Canada.

The Nadeshiko had their hearts broken in Rennes as

Barcelona star Martens converted a 90th-minute spot-kick awarded after a Vivianne Miedema shot had struck the arm of captain Saki Kumagai in the box.

The European champions, who lost by the same scoreline to Japan at the same last-16 stage in 2015, are through to the quarter-finals for the first time.

"It is history that we have made. We are really proud about that but we are not done yet here. We are really looking forward to the next game and we hope we can surprise more," said Martens.

She had given the Netherlands a 17th-minute lead with a superb backheel flick into the net from a Sherida Spitse corner, but Japan equalised just prior to half-time when Mana Iwabuchi supplied Yui Hasegawa to fire high into the net.

Japan had hit the post before that through Yuika Sugawara, and Hina Sugita smashed a shot off the underside of the crossbar during a second half in which Japan

AFP ■ LONDON

Spanish midfielder David Silva has confirmed he will leave Manchester City at the end of next season when his contract expires.

Silva is one of City's most decorated players of all-time having won four Premier League titles, two FA Cups and four League Cups since joining from Valencia in 2010.

He scored his 71st goal in 396 appearances so far for the English champions in the FA Cup final last month as City completed a first ever domestic treble in English football.

However, the 33-year-old believes completing a decade in Manchester is the perfect time to step away.

"This is the last one," Silva told reporters in his native Gran Canaria. "Ten years for me is enough. It's the perfect time for me."

"Initially, City were talking

10 years later

David Silva to leave Manchester City at the end of 2019-20 season

about two years, but I decided to sign another one, so I finished at 10 years.

"It completes the cycle. It's a nice round figure. I can never see myself playing against City for another team. So 10 years — that's it."

Silva missed chunks of City's title-winning 2017/18 season to return to Spain where his pre-mature born son Mateo was being treated in hospital.

Mateo has since recovered and was in attendance for City's first home game of this season in August, when Silva scored in a 6-1 rout of Huddersfield.

However, Silva has previously spoken of his desire to return to Spain for family rea-



David Silva in a file picture

Can Federer defy age to lift 9th title?

AFP ■ PARIS

Twenty years after his debut, Roger Federer will take aim at a ninth Wimbledon title and a place in history as the oldest man to capture a Grand Slam singles crown.

Federer, who turns 38 in August, is already the oldest player to win the Wimbledon men's title in the modern era, a feat achieved in 2017 when he was 35.

Australia's Ken Rosewall was only just past 37 when he won the 1972 Australian Open, an age barrier Federer hopes to smash when Wimbledon starts Monday.

"I love being around here. It's a good vibe. I have great memories. My heroes all won here," said 20-time major winner Federer.

"Every time I come back here, I try to be like them." However, despite his lifetime affection for the All England Club, the tussle to add to his London silverware has become increasingly fraught.

His eighth and most recent Wimbledon title came off a straight-sets demolition of an injury-hit and tearful Marin Cilic in the 2017 final.

Federer was a force of nature that year, not dropping a set in the entire fortnight as title rivals fell by the wayside.

Novak Djokovic retired with an elbow injury in the last-eight against Tomas Berdych while Rafael Nadal was stunned by



Roger Federer poses for photo after arriving for Wimbledon Championship

Gilles Muller 15-13 in the final set of his last-16 engagement.

Federer's seventh Wimbledon title had come five years earlier with a final win over Andy Murray.

His first six arrived in 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007 and 2009.

But 2017 aside, recent trips to London have proved disappointing for the Swiss star whose first experience of Wimbledon was an opening-round loss to Jiri Novak of the Czech Republic in 1999.

In 2013, he was shocked in the second round by Ukrainian serve-and-volleying journeyman Sergei Stakhovsky.

The next two seasons saw runners-up finishes to Djokovic

Ramkumar bows out of Qualifiers

PTI ■ LONDON

India's Ramkumar Ramanathan yet again failed to crack a Grand Slam main draw, losing the second round of the men's singles qualifying event at the Wimbledon championships to Poland's Kamil Majchrzak.

The unseeded Indian lost 6-7 (5), 3-6 to 11th seed and world number 111 in one hour and 19 minutes.

Ramkumar, who possesses a big serve and a lethal

inside out forehand, did not get a single breakpoint in the match while his opponent converted two of the seven chances.

The 24-year-old from Chennai, ranked 154, has been trying to qualify for the main draw of a Grand Slam since 2015 but has not succeeded so far.

The closest he came to make the main draw was in 2018 when he reached the third and final qualifying round at the Australian Open.

while the 2016 campaign ended with a five-set loss in the semi-finals, blown away by the heavy artillery of Milos Raonic.

Last year was particularly painful for Federer, beaten by Kevin Anderson in the quarter-finals in a 13-11 final set.

"The losses hurt more, that you don't want to be on the loser's side. It motivates me to do extremely well here because I don't want to sit here and explain my loss."

"That's the worst feeling you can have as a tennis player," he said in the aftermath of that loss to the giant South African in a tie where he held match points in the fourth set.

Despite that shattering loss 12 months ago, Federer will still go into this year's Wimbledon as one of the favourites alongside four-time champion Djokovic.

Having seen Nadal win a 12th Roland Garros to move within two majors of Federer's record 20 for the first time, the Swiss headed to Halle where he won a 10th title at the grass court event.

"To win 10 times in one place is a very special moment in my career," said Federer who now has 102 career titles, just seven off the all-time record held by Jimmy Connors.

It also made him the oldest tour-level champion since 43-year-old Rosewall won at Hong Kong in 1977.

"Every time I've won in Halle, I went on to play really well at Wimbledon," added Federer.

"It's never a guarantee of course, but I've been on the Tour for long enough to know what it means."