

**WORLD 7**  
US ORDERS NEW TROOPS TO WEST ASIA TO COUNTER IRAN 'THREAT'

**MONEY 8**  
3 FIRMS TO BID FOR BUILDING 6 SUBMARINES

**SPORT 10**  
NZ BEAT INDIA IN WC WARM UP GAME



# sunday pioneer

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**USUAL SUSPECTS**  
SWAPAN DASGUPTA

## Anti-Modi intellectual elite fights for survival

It is bad form to focus on the losers after an election that has produced a clear winner. Yet, this election was rather strange in many respects. And it is the oddities that need some casual attention.

At one level there was the BJP, blessed by a leader that had all-round acceptance and enormous popularity, whose strengths were complemented by a well-oiled machinery manned by motivated people. The BJP won the battle quite resoundingly and emphatically. Nor was it a narrow victory. The margins of victory in northern and western India, not to mention Bihar, Karnataka and Assam made two things clear.

First, and most important, that the verdict constituted a popular uprising in favour of Modi and involved far more people than the BJP was capable of mobilising. How else is it possible to explain victories in constituencies — Kolar in Karnataka, Nagaur in Rajasthan and Hooghly in West Bengal come to mind — where the BJP presence is at best nominal?

Secondly, the only real fightback to the BJP (except in Kerala and Punjab) was courtesy the regional parties. The Telangana Rashtriya Samiti, the YSR Congress Party, the Trinamool Congress, the Biju Janata Dal and, to a lesser extent, the Samajwadi Party-Bahujan Samaj Party alliance were the only forces that had the capacity to withstand the Tsunami. However, even the TMC and BJD were adversely affected.

The real irony of this election was that the real competition to Modi was relegated to the background — in terms of exposure at least — by the Congress and its ecosystem. Last week's election was different from the 2014 vote that gave the BJP a clear majority for the first time. In 2014, the intellectual opposition to Modi was formidable. However, it operated as an autonomous force, not linked to the hugely discredited UPA Government. This election, there was a marked convergence between the intellectual

This election, there was a marked convergence between the intellectual opposition to Modi — the term 'liberal opposition' is an over-simplification since the group also consists of Marxists — and the Congress, led by Rahul Gandhi. The direct involvement of prominent non-resident intellectuals, Raghuram Rajan is just the most prominent, and a large section of the media in the Congress' attempted challenge to Modi, was one of the more interesting sidelights of the campaign. Then there were the retired bureaucrats who advised the Congress on facets of Government policy and dealings with the Election Commission. In hindsight, all these may appear irrelevant but it is important to remember that a sustained attempt was made in the months before the election and even during the campaign to paralyse the Government and make it look a lame-duck outfit. An attempt was made to fuel a Constitutional crisis and undermine important institutions such as the Election Commission and judiciary. An attempt was made to make a mockery of the very office of the CJI

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In hindsight, all these may appear irrelevant but it is important to remember that a sustained attempt was made in the months before the election and even during the campaign to paralyse the Government and make it look a lame-duck outfit. Politics always involves dealing with the Opposition but this was different. An attempt was made to fuel a

Constitutional crisis and undermine important institutions such as the Election Commission and judiciary. An attempt was made to make a mockery of the very office of the Chief Justice of India. These were not normal politics. An exceptional bid to paralyse governance was undertaken. It is a different matter that the conspiracy was thwarted by the resolve of the Prime Minister and his associates. It is also crucial to remember that a section of the media went beyond the call of professional duty or even normal partisanship and became central to this conspiracy.

Since the election results were declared, there have been agonised outpourings in the social media and the newspapers about how Indians led India down and how the country is now on an irreversible road to disaster. There are people who genuinely feel that Modi is another Hitler and that it is only a matter of time before all democratic rights are terminated. There are also angry outbursts against the Congress and particularly the ineptitude of Rahul Gandhi. It is now said that Rahul lacks fire in his belly and that dynasty is helping Modi destroy the very Idea of India.

Being wise after the event is also a democratic prerogative and one that the media habitually takes shelter behind. The weighty professors from distinguished US and European universities who confidently predicted the grand success of the mahagathabandhan on the basis of intricate calculations and alleged anecdotal evidence will possibly try and remove all traces of their blinkered partisanship from social media. But people will remember.

They will also remember that it is this intellectual elite that were hand in glove with the Congress establishment, sustained it and nurtured the illusion that Modi was in imminent danger of losing.

Will this subterfuge end now? Already there are whispers that Modi has been conferred too much authority by the elections and must be brought down a few notches. There are suggestions that in the absence of a proper parliamentary Opposition, institutions such as the media and the judiciary must constantly intervene so that an agenda blessed by the electorate will be subverted. The intellectual elite is defiant. They are confronted by its own irrelevance and will fight for survival.

The coming months and the next five years will be challenging to the Government. The challenge has to be confronted coolly and without losing sight of the main objective — the marginalisation of the unelected elite that doesn't respect democratic mandates.

## Modi aims to win minorities



Prime Minister Narendra Modi being greeted by Rajnath Singh upon his arrival at Parliament in New Delhi on Saturday PTI

DEEPAK K UPRETI ■ NEW DELHI

Making it clear that his second term would break many new grounds in governance, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Saturday vowed to demolish the web of deception, illusion and false fear created around minorities

by the 'traders of vote-bank politics' and usher in an era of Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas.

Elected unanimously as the leader of BJP Parliamentary Party and of National Democratic Alliance at the central hall of Parliament, Modi came up with his set of command-

ments to drive home his message to the MPs of the ruling coalition — the primary being that the Constitution of India, before which he bowed before beginning his address, is supreme and the only reference point of governance.

Maintaining that minorities were used in politics, Modi said "we need to win the confidence of the minorities" and sought to revive the spirit of 1857 when all communities together waged the war of Independence against the British. "We fought for Swaraj then, today we can together fight for Suraj," he said.

Modi also pointed out how his previous tenure had been

Seeks to revive the spirit of 1857 when all people together waged war of Independence

able to penetrate through the deceptive poverty eradication slogans and illusion perpetuated by the previous regimes. In his second term, he said he would strive to shed the tag of "developing country" associated with India.

In a stern warning to motormouths, Modi advised MPs not to be tempted by cameras and media and derail the government's vision, plan and policies. "Rashtra ke naam sandesh dene ki zaroorat nahin hain," he quipped referring to those who love to see their face on TV screens. He also advised them to check the facts before opening their mouths, if it was utmost necessary.

"Do not give time to media, inko 70 saal se aur logon ne pala hai," he said apparently charging past regimes of giving patronage to a section of the Press. Ahead of the Cabinet formation of his Government, the Prime Minister also warned MPs against trusting media reports on the probable Ministers. "It will be done according to norms," he maintained adding there are many who claim that they have knowledge as to who is being included in the Cabinet.

Cautioning that arrogance should be resisted, he said the MPs should be treating all those who voted for them and those who oppose equally. "You are representatives of all," he said and reminded them of the ubiquitous BJP "mantra" of Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas.

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## Rahul adamant to quit but CWC asks him to reshape party



Congress president Rahul Gandhi and UPA chairperson Sonia Gandhi at the Congress Working Committee meeting in New Delhi on Saturday PTI

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Rahul Gandhi is said to be insistent on resigning as the Congress president despite the Congress Working Committee (CWC) on Saturday unanimously rejecting his offer to put in his papers taking responsibility for the party's Lok Sabha poll debacle.

The CWC authorised him to carry out an overhauling and restructuring of the party at all levels but Rahul is learned to have asked the party to look for another chief.

This is the second time in five years that Rahul has offered to resign. Following the drubbing in 2014 Lok Sabha, Rahul, who was the Congress vice president then, along with party president Sonia Gandhi had offered to resign which too was rejected by the CWC.

AICC sources said Rahul was adamant on resigning and

also rejected a few suggestions that favoured his sibling, General Secretary Priyanka Gandhi, to take over as the chief of the grand old party.

When the name of his sister came up as an option, Rahul reportedly said, "Don't drag my sister into it. It is not necessary that the Congress president should be from the Gandhi family." Both Rahul and his sister Priyanka campaigned extensively across the country in this election.

If not Rahul, then who, this question rankled the minds of the Congressmen as Rahul remained unmoved with Priyanka and his mother Sonia's efforts to see him reason to stay.

Rahul informed 52-member CWC that he would like to exit as its top boss. He had taken over from Sonia a year and a half ago.

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### SWEARING-IN ON MAY 30

- Narendra Modi elected BJP and 353-MP-strong NDA Parliamentary Party leader; NDA allies like SAD, LJP, Shiv Sena back him as the Prime Minister; Modi's swearing-in likely on May 30
- NDA delegation, led by BJP president Amit Shah, met President Ram Nath Kovind. Handed over letter stating Modi has been elected leader of the BJP Parliamentary Party. Letters of support from NDA constituent parties also handed over to Kovind
- Delegation comprised of Parkash Singh Badal, Rajnath Singh, Nitish Kumar, Ram Vilas Paswan, Sushma Swaraj, Uddhav Thackeray, Nitin Gadkari, K Palaniswami, Conrad Sangma and Neiphiu Rio
- Subsequently, Modi met the President and staked claim to form Government. The President appointed Modi to the office of Prime Minister of India
- President requested him to advise him about the names of others to be appointed members of the Union Council of Ministers and to indicate the date and time of the swearing-in-ceremony to be held at Rashtrapati Bhavan
- On Sunday, Modi will make his first visit to his home State Gujarat after the poll results to seek blessings of his mother Hiraba Modi at her residence
- Modi and BJP president Shah will be felicitated by the Gujarat unit of the party in Ahmedabad
- Prior to his swearing-in, Modi will also visit his constituency Varanasi to thank voters
- Earlier, President had dissolved the 16th Lok Sabha



## 'Hurt' Didi offers to quit as Bengal CM, TMC says no

SAUGAR SENGUPTA ■ KOLKATA

Wounded by the electoral reverses suffered by the Trinamool Congress, West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee on Saturday offered to quit her office but "found myself hopelessly alone in trying to do so as all the leaders of my party forced me to continue as the CM."

Lashing out at the BJP for "squandering cash and creating a totally communal atmosphere to purchase votes," an apparently emotional Chief Minister said, "I loathe being the Chief Minister of an electorate where votes can be purchased and elections can be won by communal polarisation."

The TMC, which she built up bit by bit after coming out of the Congress in 1998, suffered a colossal defeat, biggest since 2006 conceding 18 out of 42 Lok Sabha seats to a surging BJP which reportedly capitalised on a huge chunk of shifting Left votes.

"I don't want to continue as

the Chief Minister of a State where the votes can be sold and purchased. I have information on how votes were purchased for ₹5,000 per head. Many families were approached with such offers," she said.

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### Naveen to take oath as CM on May 29 for 5th time in a row

**Bhubaneswar:** Biju Janata Dal (BJD) chief Naveen Patnaik will be sworn-in as Odisha Chief Minister on May 29 for a fifth consecutive term after a thumping win in the State Assembly elections, the party said on Saturday.

Naveen Patnaik has continued his grip over Odisha with his party, BJD, winning 112 Assembly seats in the 147-member House. PNS

## YSRCP chief Jaganmohan to meet Modi on Sunday before swearing-in as CM

PNS ■ HYDERABAD

Chief Minister-elect of Andhra Pradesh Jaganmohan Reddy had a hectic day spread over the two Telugu-speaking States on Saturday. After chairing two meetings with his newly elected Assembly and Lok Sabha members, Reddy flew to Hyderabad from Gannavaram in his private chopper.

Meanwhile, the CM-elect, along with Chief Secretary LV Subrahmanyam will head to New Delhi on Sunday to meet Prime Minister Narendra Modi and invite him to his swearing in ceremony. Sources said Jagan could also offer the YSRCP's issue-based support to the NDA.

The day culminated with ESL Narasimhan, Governor for both Andhra Pradesh and Telangana State, clearing the YSRCP-LP letter requesting to invite him (Jagan) to form the Government in Andhra Pradesh. He will be sworn-in at



YSRCP chief Y. Jaganmohan Reddy being offered sweets by K Chandrasekhar Rao in Hyderabad PTI

the refurbished Indira Gandhi Municipal Stadium in Vijayawada on May 30 at 12.23 pm, as per a Raj Bhavan communique.

Apart from his wife, party leaders Botsa Satyanarayana, Dharmana Prasad Rao and Adimulapu Suresh accompanied Reddy to Raj Bhavan.

They also met Telangana Chief Minister K Chandrasekhar Rao (KCR) in his camp office. KCR has agreed to be present at Reddy's swearing-in.

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## Naresh Goyal, wife denied permission to travel abroad

TN RAGHUNATHA ■ MUMBAI

Grounded Jet Airways' founder and former chairman Naresh Goyal and his wife Anita were offloaded from an Emirates flight on Saturday, after the immigration officials barred them from leaving India.

The authorities have issued a lookout circular against the Jet Airways founders. Official sources said Goyal and his wife had boarded an Emirates aircraft EK 507 at 3:30 pm. The aircraft was already on the taxiway and preparing for take-off from Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj International Airport.

The aircraft was called back by air traffic control. The two were off-loaded following an advice from the immigration authorities. The Airways, which temporarily suspended its flight operations on April 17, is trapped in a debt of more than ₹15,000 crore.

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### CAPSULE

**2 ASSAM RIFLES JAWANS MARTYRED IN GUNFIGHT**  
New Delhi: Two Assam Rifles jawans were martyred and four others injured during a gunfight with a group of terrorists in Mon area along the Indo-Myanmar border in Nagaland on Saturday, military sources said. P5

**PEACOCK RESCUED FROM IGI AIRPORT T-3**  
New Delhi: An injured peacock was rescued from Terminal-3 of the Indira Gandhi International Airport here, an NGO said. On Friday afternoon, a team of Wildlife SOS rushed to the airport after getting information that a peacock with battered wings was found near the arrivals area. P3

**SIX PAK MEN HELD FOR SMUGGLING NARCOTICS**  
New Delhi: Six Pakistani nationals have been arrested by the Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (DRI) for smuggling 218 kg of narcotics at Gujarat's Jakhau port, according to an official statement issued on Saturday.

**TWO THRASHED FOR CARRYING BEEF IN MP**  
Seoni/Bhopal: Suspected cow vigilantes thrashed two persons in Madhya Pradesh's Seoni with sticks, accusing them of carrying beef, following which five accused have been arrested, police said on Saturday.

**ALKA SLAMS KEJRIWAL FOR LS POLL DEBACLE**  
New Delhi: Disgruntled AAP MLA Alka Lamba launched a veiled attack on Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal over AAP's crushing loss in elections, asking shouldn't the person who took decisions in a closed room own the responsibility and quit.

**6 HELD FOR MANIPULATING BITS, PILANI ONLINE TEST**  
New Delhi: The CBI has arrested six people, including the managing director of a Delhi-based education consultancy firm, for allegedly manipulating an online entrance examination of BITS, Pilani, officials said on Saturday.

SHOW TIME

# Will Smith is charming



**ALADDIN**  
**\*ing: Will Smith, Mena Massoud, Naomi Scott, Marwan Kenzari, Navid Negahban, Nasim Pedrad, Billy Magnussen**  
**Rated:5.5/10**

Now we know why Will Smith decided to shake a leg for two seconds in *Student of the Year 2*. It was to prepare us for the dance sequence in *Aladdin*. Not that he is bad. But then it is a Disney movie. They know how to charm even those who don't like movies based on folk tales. And this one is from the tales in *The Book of One Thousand and One Nights*.

Those who were looking for something different or new will be disappointed. Director Guy Ritchie has stuck to the original story as much as possible with just a twist or two. What he has counted on is for Will Smith to create his magic and he delivers this with aplomb.

While the big blue top-knotted genie may only grant three wishes, the film delivers on a lot more platforms especially for the kids. They will love the action, the drama, the song, the dancing and most importantly a funny genie.

It has been years since Will Smith did something that was fun. *His Men In Black* series showed us glimpse of how he can be entertaining. *Aladdin* proves that he still has charm in place and can make you laugh with his one-liners and sarcasm.

The good is that the film talks about woman empowerment through Jasmine. The sad part is that the director has not been able to improve on the original animation film. Given what one can do with technology, the CGI could have been better. But this doesn't mean that the movie is not visually impressive.

Overall, it is a fun film that your kids will thoroughly enjoy.

—Shalini Saksena

Plan Your Day

**Mango Festival**

**Venue:** Multiple outlets of Cafe Delhi Heights  
**Date:** May 15 to June 15, 2019  
**Timings:** 10:30 pm to 12 am  
**Cost:** ₹2,000 plus taxes for two

The warm, young and vibrant All-day Neighbourhood café and diner Café Delhi Heights is celebrating a Mango month with its specially curated mango menu called Mangolicious 2019. From drinks like No hangover Mango Mojito to Homemade Avocado toasts with mango twist and Hummus with Mango Salsa and more. Enjoy Mango quesadillas, pizzas, and desserts like Mangomis and Mango cheesecake.



**Noor-e-Punjab**

**Venue:** Punjab Grill Janpath and Ambience Mall, Gurugram  
**Date:** Till June 15, 2019  
**Cost:** ₹2,000 for two (plus taxes)

It is time to delve deeper into the kitchens of Punjabi homes as Punjab Grill has curated a special menu for its guests. Savour the depth and diversity of Punjabi cuisine as the specially curated menu features never-heard-before dishes for a unique and wholesome culinary experience.

The restaurant is all set to welcome its guests with the appetisers such as *kala chana shorba*, *patialawale singhada tikke* and *barrah kebab*. Moving on to the main course, guests can indulge in a delicious affair such as *keema matar masala*, *mutton kharoda curry*, and *tawa keema parantha*.



# 'I look for challenging roles'

MUSBA HASHMI speaks with DEEPIKA SINGH about her transition from playing a cop to a devoted wife and how doing supernatural shows affect actors

■ **Tell us about your character in Kawach Mahashivratri.**

I play Sandhya, a Bharatnatyam dancer. She is a simple, loving and caring girl. She believes in true love and supports her family. She believes in God but not in the supernatural. She is a dignified woman and knows how to carry herself. On Mahashivratri, during an inauspicious hour something happens to her which creates a havoc in her love life. She is torn between who to be with, Angad (who she loves) or Kapil (who will enter her life at a later stage).

■ **Did you have to do a lot of preparations for the role?**

Yes. I am learning Marathi and working on my accent. I have to get the language right. For dance, I didn't have to do much because I am an Odissi dancer. But still I make sure to take some time out and practice my steps. I also do yoga because a lot of body work is involved in dance so we have to prepare our body for that.

■ **What prompted you to play Sandhya?**

This role is completely different from my previous work. I was patiently waiting for a long time for the right role to come and this was what attracted me and what I wanted. Also, it is a big show and a big production house — Balaji Telefilms. I am glad that I get to work with them.

■ **Are you affected personally because you are part of a supernatural show?**

No, not

exactly. But yes, if you are playing a character and shooting for 12 hours then you need a couple of hours to calm yourself. We can't just finish shooting and go back to sleep. It is not that easy. We need some time to calm our mind. This is what I love about my work. I love taking challenges and whenever I find myself in my comfort zone, I get bored of it. These challenges wake me up for the next day and bring in that motivation to reach the sets even before the call time and go through the script and find out what new or different I can do today.

■ **From Sandhya in Diya Aur Baati Hum to Sandhya in Kawach Mahashivratri, do you find any similarities in your roles except for the name?**

It is a mere co-incidence that I have got the character with the same name again. Other than this there are no similarities in my roles. Sandhya (Rathi) in *Diya Aur Baati Hum* was an independent and a career-oriented girl but Sandhya in *Kawach...* is loving and caring. She is more inclined towards her family while the previous Sandhya was not.

Sandhya is madly in love and will do anything to get the love of her life back while Sandhya (Rathi) was not fond of love. Both the roles are different from each other. While playing this Sandhya, every day comes as a challenge. I have to start afresh each day.

■ **How did acting happen?**

While I was in college, I saw a stage play and I got infatuated with acting. I used to imagine,

how people perform on stage and they get to perform different characters in one life. This idea always excited me. I wanted to experiment with different roles. I was doing B Com Honours at that time and my family was not in favour of me doing acting. But the idea of becoming an actor took root in me. I started doing events and got my portfolio. Then I won Miss Delhi title. This kept on adding to my career and I started getting calls for ads. I would say acting never left me. I was not interested in getting selected for any role but I just wanted to act. Then, I auditioned for *Diya Aur Baati Hum* and I was selected.

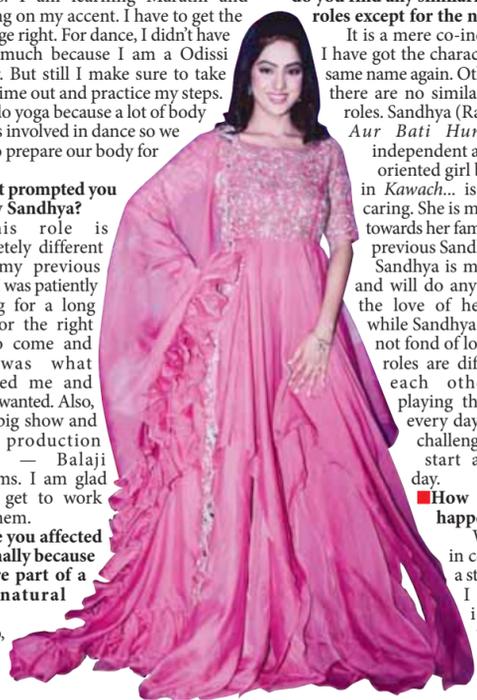
My family was in shock when they got to know that I have been selected. For them I was a shy person, who has not even held a mic in her hand, which definitely was the case, I used to get nervous on stage. When I used to get on stage to give speeches, my hands used to shake for the first five to 10 seconds while holding the mic. My family never saw me acting so they were worried that I was taking a risk in my career. They thought: *Iss ko kisi ney bol diya hai ki yeh sundar dikhti hai isliye isko acting karni hai*. When they saw the first episode of my show, my father immediately called to tell me that this is the right profession for me and this is where I belong.

■ **How has the journey been thus far? Were there more highs or more lows?**

The journey has been amazing. I am a positive person. I don't know what are downs. I can find positivity in the worst of situations. I trust God and I believe even if I am going through a bad phase in life, it is just a ladder to success. I see difficulties as a way to get prepared for the next level.

■ **Do you have a checklist when it comes to signing projects?**

Not at all. I see opportunities as God's blessings. I go with the first thought that I get after reading the scripts. If it appealed to me in the first go and I feel excited to do that work, I just go for it without giving it a second thought.



TELLYTALE



**REKHA GOES DOWN MEMORY LANE**

Sony Entertainment Television's kid dance reality show *Super Dancer Chapter 3* has reached a milestone where top 10 contestants are striving hard day and night to win next 'Dance ka Kal'. While the show is judged by Shilpa Shetty Kundra, Geeta Kapoor, and Anurag Basu the upcoming weekend episode will see celebrity guest judge Rekha encouraging the contestants in a Jashn-e-Rekha episode.

During the performance of a nine-year-old contestant, Tejas Verma and Tushar Shetty from Maharashtra on Rekha's popular song *Rang Barse* all the judges and the audiences enjoyed celebrating Holion the sets. The colorful performance of Tejas made Rekha go down the memory lane who shared some stories. Tejas's out of the world expressions made Rekha relate him to Shahrukh Khan. She mentioned: "Tejas reminds me of Shah Rukh Khan. The way he smiles exactly resembles Shahrukh's smile. Tejas has the same eyes and lips which makes him look like Shahrukh's twin." She further added that the way he dances is beyond her imagination. It will take her almost two-three lives to do *riyaz* and then perform in front of such perfectionist kids.

Appreciating the Guru Tushar Shetty Rekha mentioned, "While training Tejas you have come a long way in the entire Super Dancer journey. Tejas is your key to your future who will take you to milestones ahead."

**FAISAL TRANSFORMS INTO WARRIOR**

Sony Entertainment Television's historical show *Chandragupta Maurya* is all set to witness a five year leap where viewers will see Faisal Khan as the charismatic and charming, Chandragupta Maurya. After attaining love and fame from his fans and viewers in and as Maharana Pratap, the



young and talented actor is all set to take over the small screen with his strong and impactful performance as Chandragupta Maurya. To fit into the character, the actor is leaving no stone unturned to get the act right. He has been learning sword fighting under experienced trainers to refine his skill.

A source from the show revealed: "Faisal Khan has already started his prep for the role a month back and he was super excited to play another historical warrior character. Also, he has been asked to grow a stubble and shed some weight for the part and he is working hard to fit the role perfectly."

On the context Faisal Khan shares: "I am super excited playing another strong character like Chandragupta Maurya after essaying an iconic warrior Maharana Pratap. I feel very privileged to receive opportunities where I get to portray such impactful characters at an early stage of my career. Currently, I am learning sword fighting and soon audience will see me entering into the battle field."

**HARSH TAKES AWAY BHARTI'S RING**

Colors' *Khatra Khatra Khatra* has proved to be one of the most entertaining shows. In an upcoming episode, a couple special, TV's most renowned jodi — Abhinav and Rubina joined the cast for



some fun. Amidst all the dares and games, Aditya was the only contestant who was single. Harsh later advised him not to get married and rather should stay single and be happy. The statement made Bharti angry and then she did something which shocked everyone.

Bringing her quirkiness to the screen and controlling her anger, Bharti in a fit of rage told Harsh to get engaged to Aditya as both seemed to have bonded over Harsh's statement. Harsh seized the opportunity and removed Bharti's engagement ring from her hand and made Aditya wear it. Harsh's spontaneous act left Bharti appalled. The duo's rib-tickling comedy act made the audience laugh their guts out. How will Bharti react to this situation?

**CELEBRATION OF FRIENDSHIP**

B-town's newest BFFs and bonafide hotties Jacqueline Fernandez and Kartik Aaryan, appeared on the Colors Infinity chat — *BFFs with Vogue*. Indulging in a game segment on the show *Dunk and Dare* where the actors had to dunk the ball in the other's



cup. If they failed to do that, they'd have to do a dare that their BFF picks and the crazy fun that unfolded won our hearts.

Not only did Jacqueline teach the chocolate boy of B-town, a ballet routine and belly dancing, on a dare, Jacqueline she also revealed the celebs she'd like to date and block. She shared: "Ranveer Singh, I think he'd be really cool to date. And someone I'd like to block, KRK (Kamaal Rashid Khan)."

That's not it, Kartik was dared to play the game round with one hand on his head, and in another dare, he gave the gorgeous actress Jacqueline a piggyback ride with one hand on his head for full 30 seconds!

This is one BFFs Jodi we definitely are looking forward to watching in their most unfiltered and uncensored avatar.

**CELEBRATING DOUBLE CENTURY**

Sony SAB's magical fantasy show, *Aladdin: Naam Toh Suna Hoga*, has successfully reached the 200-episode milestone as it takes its viewers on a fascinating journey through the magical world of fictional Baghdad.

As the show completes 200 episodes of programming, the cast of the show marked this joyous occasion with a celebratory event, thanking viewers for their endless support and love.

Siddharth Nigam, essaying the role of Aladdin said: "I cannot thank our audience enough for showering so much love upon our show and loving each and every character. I can never get tired of performing all stunts being in the character of Aladdin, have loved every bit of it from the beginning. It feels amazing to have come so far along on this journey. This love and support from our viewers will keep us going, motivating us to give our best and creating more magical memories for our lovely viewers."





**DELHI POLICE**  
SHANTI SEWA NYAYA

## YOUR SWEET HOME

## KEEP IT SAFE & SECURE



Ensure that the windows and doors are well guarded by strong grills



Install a peep hole and safety door chain to avoid unwanted entry.





Don't let stranger and unidentified people in without identification.



Install security gadgets like security alarms & CCTVs.



Have your surrounding well lit.



Use good quality bolts and locks and secure valuables in a bank.

# MAKE SAFETY A HABIT

E-mail to CP, Delhi at: [cp.amulyapatnaik@delhipolice.gov.in](mailto:cp.amulyapatnaik@delhipolice.gov.in)  
 Write your grievance or any confidential information to CP, Delhi at P.O. Box No. 171, GPO, New Delhi

FOR IMMEDIATE POLICE HELP CALL 100

FOR HELPLINE SERVICES CALL 1090

DP/9108/19

PAMPHLET ROW

# Gambhir slams Kejriwal

SAPNA SINGH ■ NEW DELHI

In his first interaction after an impressive victory in the Lok Sabha polls, BJP leader and political debutant Gautam Gambhir has launched tirade against Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal.

Referring to pamphlet controversy, Gambhir hit out at Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) for stooping too low just to get one parliamentary seat.

In a joint conference with BJP Lok Sabha candidates and with Delhi BJP president Manoj Tiwari, Gambhir attacked Kejriwal and said, "Main CM sahab ko bolna chahunga ki chunaav aenge-jaenge. Jis din aap apna zameer aur imaan haar jaenge us din sab haar jaenge. Ek seat jeetne ke liye agar aap aisa ghinonara arop laga sakte hain to mere pas zyada shabd nahi hain un ke baare main baat karne ke liye. (I want to tell the CM that elections will come



and go, but the day you lose your conscience and morality, that day, you will lose everything. If he can level such disgusting allegations for mere one seat then I don't have words for him)."

Showing brotherhood spirit, Tiwari, who defeated Congress candidate and former Delhi Chief Minister Sheila Dikshit by over 3.66

lakh votes, said, "The party candidates participated in the elections with positivity which they derived from their leader and Prime Minister Narendra Modi."

Showing gratitude towards Dikshit, Tiwari said, "I was scared from inside while facing a three-time Delhi chief minister and Congress veteran as my opponent."

"Party chief Amit Shah extended courage and told me that I will win from North East Delhi," said Tiwari while addressing media first time after winning the general elections.

Meenakshi Lekhi and Ramesh Bhiduri, re-elected from New Delhi and South Delhi seat respectively were absent due to health issues.

# Spirited BJP eyes Assembly win

SAPNA SINGH ■ NEW DELHI

The Bharatiya Janata Party's stupendous victory in seven Lok Sabha seats in Delhi with over 56 per cent votes has raised great hopes for the party which is out of power in the State for the last 21 years.

With the incumbent AAP sliding down to the third position and the Congress seeking to revive itself, BJP leaders see better poll prospects in the Delhi Assembly polls scheduled in eight months from now.

The Delhi BJP is buoyed by the fact that even the Congress and AAP vote shares put together fell short of the BJP's vote share.

"The election result has certainly ruled out the AAP narrative that their alliance with the Congress could defeat the BJP. The two parties coming together cannot challenge the BJP," said a beaming Delhi BJP president Manoj Tiwari after defeating his rival Sheila Dikshit of the Congress with a record margin of 3.60 lakh votes.

come as a huge setback for the Arvind Kejriwal-led AAP whose vote here decline to a meager 18.1 per cent as compared to 54 per cent votes in 2015 Assembly polls where it bagged 67 of the 70 Assembly seats. Four AAP candidates ended up losing their security deposits.

The Congress, on the other hand, secured 22.5 per cent votes in Lok Sabha polls and finished second in five of the seven seats in Delhi.

Political observers claimed that ever since the AAP came to power in 2015, their popularity has been on a gradual decline. In the 2013 Assembly election, when AAP was just about a year old, it got a vote share of 29.5 per cent which rose to 54 per cent in 2015. But what indicated towards its decline was party's poor performance in the 2017 Municipal polls where it could poll merely 26 per cent votes. The AAP lost to the BJP which won all three municipal corporations.

But while the AAP suffered humiliating defeat, the Congress, which was decimat-

ed in the 2015 assembly polls, appeared to be regaining its lost ground. The party won significant share of votes in Muslim dominated areas and slum clusters that are considered its core vote bank but had shifted loyalty to the AAP. Riding on the Muslim votes, Congress candidate Sheila Dikshit won over 4 lakh votes in North East Delhi. Similarly, Congress' Jai Prakash Agarwal bagged close to 3 lakh votes in Chandni Chowk, another Muslim dominated seat, and contained the vote margin below three lakh mark.

The BJP, which swept all the seven seats in Delhi, set new records in five constituencies where its candidates defeated their opponents with the highest margins ever. Parvesh Verma, the sitting MP from the West Delhi constituency, won a second term with a record-breaking margin of 5.78 lakh votes. Verma broke his own record for the highest victory margin in Delhi. In 2014, he had trounced his closest rival, Jarnail Singh of the AAP, by a margin of 2.68 lakh votes.

Northwest Delhi (reserved) seat, Hans Raj Hans, clobbered his closest rival, Gagan Singh of the AAP, with an emphatic margin of 5.53 lakh votes, a record in the constituency. Cricketer-turned-politician and BJP candidate from East Delhi, Gautam Gambhir, trounced Arvinder Singh Lovely of the Congress by a record margin of 3.91 lakh votes. BJP's South Delhi candidate, Ramesh Bidhuri, defeated first-timer Raghav Chadha of the AAP by 3.67 lakh votes.

BJP's Delhi unit chief Manoj Tiwari clinched the Northeast Delhi seat, defeating three-time chief minister Sheila Dikshit by a record margin of 3.66 lakh votes. Only Union minister Harsh Vardhan and BJP leader Meenakshi Lekhi won their respective seats by a margin lesser than the 2014 record. While Lekhi won the second term defeating Ajay Maken of Congress by 2.56 lakh votes, union minister Harsh Vardhan had the lowest winning margin in the city at just 2.28 lakh votes in Chandni Chowk.

# Capital may see cloudy skies, light rain till May 30

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

Sky conditions will remain cloudy over entire Delhi till May 30. According to Indian Meteorological Department (IMD), the national Capital may witness light rain and thundershower activities on May 31.

As per MeT observation, the extreme northern parts of the national capital Delhi were affected by dust storm and thundershower activities accompanied with strong winds. While other parts were experiencing dry weather conditions with dust raising winds.

Private weather forecast organization Skymet mentioned that due to clouding and thundershower in adjoining areas of Delhi, there was a

sudden drop in the day temperature, which settled between 34 to 35 degrees Celsius. "These weather conditions were due to the Western Disturbance in Jammu & Kashmir and an induced Cyclonic Circulation in Northwest Rajasthan. Now as both the systems have moved away East-northeastwards, dry weather is expected to prevail in Delhi and NCR for the next 24 to 36 hours," Skymet weather expert said.

Importantly, Due to dust in suspension, the pollution levels are likely to increase in Delhi and NCR area.

IMD in weekly weather forecast mentioned that Mercury will touch 45 degree Celsius and minimum temperature will oscillate between 35 and 38 degree Celsius.



# Tiwari pays courtesy visit to Sheila

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

Delhi BJP president Manoj Tiwari on Saturday paid a courtesy visit to his Congress counterpart Sheila Dikshit, whom he defeated on the North East Delhi seat in the general election, at her residence here.

Tiwari visited the 81-year-old Dikshit at her East Nizamuddin residence after learning about her ill-health, said Delhi BJP media co-convenor Neelkant Bakshi.

During the 20-minute meeting, he enquired Dikshit about her health.

"The two leaders acknowledged that political rivals can have friendly and harmonious relations and Tiwari told Dikshit he treated her like his mother,"



Bakshi said. Dikshit was defeated by 3.66 lakh votes by Tiwari from North East Delhi seat.

During a press conference, Tiwari had admitted he was "scared internally" to face the three-time Delhi chief minister and Congress veteran in the poll.

Dikshit took charge of Delhi Congress president in January and led the party in the gener-

al election.

Under her leadership, Congress candidates managed to get more votes and replaced AAP candidates on five of the seven Lok Sabha seats as nearest rivals to winning BJP candidates. The party, however, failed to win even a single seat as the BJP under Tiwari's leadership did a clean sweep winning all the seven seats by huge margins.

# 2 held for stabbing youth to death

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

The Delhi Police on Saturday arrested two men for allegedly stabbing a man to death after he kept asking for the money he had lent them. The incident was reported on Wednesday.

The accused have been identified as Sheikh Rahim (28) a resident of the same colony and Sheikh Ramjan (35), a resident of Rajeev Nagar, Bhaslwa Dairy.

Ramjan is a junk dealer while Rahim is a rag picker and they do not have any previous crime cases registered against them, police said, adding that they killed Muhammad Mukteen alias Akash of Swami Shardhanand Colony on Wednesday.

According to Gaurav Sharma, the Deputy Commissioner of Police (DCP), Outer North district, police received information regarding the killing of a man in Gali No-1, near landfill site, Bhaslwa Dairy on Wednesday at around 1.15 pm following which a police team rushed to the spot.

"After reaching the spot, the blood-drenched body of a male with multiple stab injuries over neck, face and stomach was found. The deceased was



identified and it surfaced that he too had a criminal background," said the DCP.

"During investigation, police got a tip-off that Ramjan and Rahim were seen together just before the incident. They were arrested and during interrogation, the accused revealed that Mukteen had lent some money to the accused and nowadays, he was asking for his money," said the DCP.

"The accused also had a brawl over the issue with Mukteen. On Wednesday afternoon, Mukteen entered an abandoned place where the accused persons overpowered him and stabbed him multiple times due to which he died," said the DCP.

"Police have recovered blood-stained clothes and a dagger used in crime from possession of the accused," said the DCP adding that further investigation is going on.

# Injured peacock rescued at IGIA

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI



An injured peacock was rescued by the Wildlife SOS from Terminal-3 of the Indira Gandhi International Airport (IGIA), New Delhi on Friday.

According to NGO SOS, the bird was kept under observation for a few hours and later released back into its natural habitat. The peacock had sustained minor dog bite wounds on its wings and was highly stressed.

"On Friday afternoon, patrol officers on duty had stumbled upon an injured peacock with battered wings, near the arrival area. Seeing that it needed immediate medical attention, they contacted Wildlife SOS for help," said rescue team member.

Fazru Khan, Patrol Unit Officer said, "We found the peacock lying on the side of the road during our rounds. The bird appeared to be in considerable amount of pain, so I

immediately contacted Wildlife SOS. Their team was very quick and efficient."

Wasim Akram, Deputy Director-Special Projects, Wildlife SOS, said, "Peacocks and other birds are a common sight in the airport area. They often venture into the green covers around the airport in search of water and shelter. The peacock had sustained minor dog bite wounds on its wings and was highly stressed. We are extremely grateful to the airport authorities for an early intimation that helped save the bird's life. Wildlife SOS has in the past received rescue calls from the Indira Gandhi International Airport and works closely with the patrol unit to help wildlife caught in peril."

The peacock was kept under mandated observation for a few hours and later released back into the wild. The peacock (Pavocristatus) is protected under Schedule I of the Wildlife Protection Act, 1972.

# Robbery cases solved with arrest of 2 women: Cops

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

With the arrest of two women from Bihar's Bhagalpur district, The Delhi Police on Saturday claimed to have solved several cases of robbery registered across the national Capital. Police said that the women, after posing as housemaids, used to steal valuables from the homes and flee.

The accused have been identified as Seema (32) and Bunty (32), residents of Bhagalpur.

According to Monika Bhardawaj, the Deputy Commissioner of Police (DCP), West district, on May 17, a resident of East Punjabi Bagh Pankaj Arora lodged a



police complaint in which he stated that at around 8 am, two women came to his house and offered to work as maids.

"They worked for some time and later, the women left the house saying they will come on May 23. After the duo left their house, the complainant and his family members realised that around Rs 15 lakh in cash, diamond and

gold jewellery were missing from almirah and drawers," said the DCP.

"During investigation, police analysed CCTV footage of the area and through their sources, the accused maid were identified as Seema and Bunty of Bhagalpur. Raids were conducted at their suspected hideouts in Delhi but it was revealed that they have left for Bihar," said the DCP.

"Thereafter, a police team was sent to Bihar and the accused were arrested from their native village on Friday. Police has also recovered the ₹15 lakh and jewellery worth ₹14.8 lakh from their possession which was hidden in under their house floor," said the DCP.

Delhi on Saturday and during interrogation, the accused disclosed that they did not take any house on rent here. They used to visit Delhi at a regular interval of time and after committing crime, they left the national capital for their native place Bhagalpur," the DCP said.

"It was also revealed that in 2010, 2013 and 201, both of them were involved in several cases of theft and burglary in Delhi, including Mianwali Nagar, Greater Kailash, New Friends Colony, Karol Bagh and Hauz Khas police stations," said the DCP.

"Police are also checking whether they are involved in other cases outside Delhi," said the DCP adding that further investigation is going on.

## Powering prosperity... sustainably

Annual Group Generation Crossed 300 BUs

Total Group Operational Income 8.69%

Group Profit After Tax 20.30%

(₹ Crore)

Sl. No.	Particulars	Standalone				Consolidated		
		Quarter ended 31.03.2019 (Unaudited)	Quarter ended 31.12.2018 (Unaudited)	Quarter ended 31.03.2018* (Unaudited)	Year ended 31.03.2019 (Audited)	Year ended 31.03.2018* (Audited)	Year ended 31.03.2019 (Audited)	Year ended 31.03.2018* (Audited)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1	Total income from operations	21222.39	24120.36	23100.26	90307.43	83452.70	95742.03	88083.31
2	Net profit before tax (before exceptional items)	3537.17	3489.54	3388.57	12672.52	12339.46	13627.94	12529.27
3	Net profit before tax (after exceptional items)	3537.17	3489.54	3388.57	12672.52	12339.46	13627.94	12529.27
4	Profit after tax	4350.32	2385.41	2925.59	11749.89	10343.17	12633.45	10501.50
5	Profit after tax attributable to owners of the parent						12640.02	10543.95
6	Total comprehensive income after tax	4134.36	2419.36	2961.21	11548.02	10328.69	12442.18	10480.81
7	Paid-up equity share capital (Face value of share ₹10/- each)	9894.56	8245.46	8245.46	9894.56	8245.46	9894.56	8245.46
8	Reserves excluding revaluation reserve as per balance sheet				97513.61	93532.31	100142.43	95318.01
9	Net worth**				106771.54	101146.56	109396.49	102932.02
10	Paid up debt capital				127430.48	115104.29	145723.29	123368.18
11	Debt redemption reserve				7902.43	7274.56	7902.43	7274.56
12	Earnings per share (of ₹10/- each) - (not annualised) (including regulatory deferral account balances): Basic and Diluted (in ₹)	4.40	2.41	2.96	11.88	10.45	12.77	10.66
13	Earnings per share (of ₹10/- each) - (not annualised) (excluding regulatory deferral account balances): Basic and Diluted (in ₹)	10.84	1.94	2.43	15.76	7.16	17.02	6.99
14	Debt Equity Ratio				1.19	1.14	1.33	1.20
15	Debt service coverage ratio				2.21	2.14	2.23	2.15
16	Interest service coverage ratio				5.26	5.93	5.09	5.56

\* Restated  
\*\* Excluding Fly ash utilization reserve and Corporate social responsibility reserve

Notes:  
1 The above is an extract of the detailed format of financial results filed with the Stock Exchanges under Regulation 33 of the SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015. The full format of the financial results of the Company are available on the investor section of our website <https://www.ntpc.co.in> and under Corporate Section of BSE Limited and National Stock Exchange of India Limited at <https://www.bseindia.com> & <https://www.nseindia.com>.  
2 The Board of Directors, in their meeting held on 25 May 2019, has recommended final dividend of ₹2.50 per equity share of ₹10 each for the financial year 2018-19.  
3 Previous periods figures have been reclassified wherever considered necessary.

**NTPC Limited**  
(A Government of India Enterprise)  
**Leading the Power Sector**

For and on behalf of Board of Directors  
Sd/-  
**(K. Sreekant)**  
Director (Finance)

Place : New Delhi  
Date : 25 May, 2019

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# Avoid making loose remarks: Modi to newly-elected MPs

New Delhi: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Saturday asked newly-elected MPs of the NDA to avoid making loose remarks for publicity and to shun VIP culture, as he rolled out a list of do's and don'ts for them.

Underlining that the people have given the BJP-led NDA a mandate due to their 'seva bhav' (willingness to serve), he said the parliamentarians should remember that "we are here for those who trusted us today and we are here for those also whose trust we are yet to win".

"People have accepted us due to our 'seva bhav'. One has to prepare oneself to be always ready to help people even when you move through the lanes of politics and power," Modi said while addressing the NDA parliamentary party meeting at the Central Hall of Parliament building.

He said it was not Modi but the people who made the lawmakers victorious and added that Mahatma Gandhi, Deendayal Upadhyay, Ram Manohar Lohia and BR Ambedkar should be their examples. Underlining that people hate VIP culture, the prime minister said parliamentarians should shun it and the hall-



Prime Minister Narendra Modi addresses NDA parliamentary board meeting at Parliament House in New Delhi on Saturday. PTI

mark of a New India is the absence of this culture.

"The country hates VIP culture. Why shouldn't we stand in line for security check at the airport? We have set this trend and are determined to pursue it in the times to come. It didn't cost us much to remove Lal Batts (red beads), but it sent a good message to the country," he said. Suggesting that MPs of the

ruling should restrain themselves from talking to media and stroking controversies, Modi said, "No matter how hard we work, one bad remark will undo all."

Without naming anyone, Modi said some people have tendency to "address the nation" every morning. "Stay away from chapaas (being written about in print) and dikhaas (being on televi-

sion). If you can avoid it, then you can avoid a lot of problems," he said.

Advising members not to fall for media speculation on possible ministers and portfolios, Modi said, "Many Narendra Modis have risen in this country and formed cabinets," he quipped, adding, "ministers are not made on the pages of a newspaper, nor are they removed." PTI

# Hope Gambhir meets people on dusty roads, not cheat them by using duplicate: AAP

New Delhi: The AAP on Saturday took a dig at newly-elected East Delhi MP Gautam Gambhir, saying he should meet the people on the dusty roads and not "cheat them" by sending his duplicate as he did during the campaigning period.

In a statement, Aam Aadmi Party spokesperson Saurabh Bharadwaj said, "We offer our best wishes to all seven BJP MPs and expect them to work on Delhi Police, DDA (Delhi Development Authority) and MCD (Municipal Corporation of Delhi). All of these departments are directly under their central government and lot needs to be done in them."

"Gambhir was cheating (the) public (by) using his duplicate to campaign in (the) hot afternoon while he was sitting in air-conditioned car. Public will forgive him if he himself meets people on dusty and sunny roads of Delhi."

During campaigning for the Lok Sabha polls, Delhi Deputy chief minister Manish Sisodia had alleged Gambhir was using a "duplicate" to campaign for him in order to avoid the heat.

The Aam Aadmi Party leader had shared pictures of the alleged impersonator on

**Ahead of the polls, the AAP had accused Gambhir of distributing "obscene and derogatory" pamphlets about Marlena, an Oxford University alumnus**

Twitter, claiming the man was actually a Congress leader.

BJP's Gambhir won the East Delhi seat, beating nearest rival Arvinder Singh Lovely from the Congress by a margin of over 3.91 lakh votes.

The AAP's candidate Atishi Marlena stood third.

Ahead of the polls, the AAP had accused Gambhir of distributing "obscene and derogatory" pamphlets about Marlena, an Oxford University alumnus.

The former cricketer-turned politician had retorted saying, "I do not have any words for him (Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal) if he can level such allegation just to win a seat. You can lose an election and move ahead but how can one face himself after losing his conscience." PTI

# Fire Dept to conduct audit of coaching institutes in Delhi

New Delhi: The Delhi Fire service is planning to conduct audit of all coaching institutes running in the national Capital from Monday to avert Surat-like fire tragedy in which at least 22 students died, officials said.

However, small coaching institutes, which are functioning in buildings below 15 metres, do not come directly under the fire department's jurisdiction, a senior official.

"Small coaching institutes do not come directly under our jurisdiction, but still we will start from Monday inspections of coaching institutes which are functioning in buildings above 15 metres and facts will be checked whether they have applied for license and if not, notice will be issued against them," Delhi chief Fire officer Atul Garg said.

The process has been initiated and the department will issue a public notice soon and buildings which are found to be violating norms will be checked, a senior fire officer said.

It will take some time, but the department will not spare those who are found to be flouting the norms and appropriate action will be taken against them, the officer said.

"The fire department called a meeting on Saturday of all the senior officers to discuss the issue and the department is searching how to deal with small coaching institutes, and if required, we will approach the government as well," he said.

"The Delhi Fire Department is prepared for any tragedy like Surat. As far as preparedness is concerned, the department is ready to tackle any tragedy and Delhi is much more safer," Garg said.

"On Thursday, the department rescued 30 people safely after a major fire broke out on the fifth floor of a building in Nehru Place here. No casualties were reported in the incident, he said. A senior SDMC official, when contacted, said, "Municipal authorities are not authorised to issue fire licence for any building."

"Whether a building is large or small, we just clear building plans. The process to apply for plan clearance is online and applicants have to submit fire safety NOC within a stipulated time, otherwise application is deemed incomplete and hence rejected," he said. PTI

# YSRCP chief...

**From Page 1**  
The meeting also assumes importance as the YSRCP chief during the election campaign had said his party would support whoever promises Andhra Pradesh the Special Category Status. Earlier, the day began with a meeting of the YSRCP Legislature Party in which all the newly elected 151 members participated. They unanimously elected party chief Jagannathan Reddy as their leader.

It was followed by an interaction with the newly-elected 22 Lok Sabha members.

In a virtual indication of how he intends to run the government, he urged the party members to be transparent and honest in their functioning. He cautioned them that it was because of corrupt practices that N Chandrababu Naidu was punished by God and he was ousted from power.

"TDP got only 23 seats and the results also came on May 23. God has written a beautiful script with 23," he said.

# Naresh Goyal...

**From Page 1**  
It owes money to suppliers, pilots and oil companies. Lenders of the now-grounded Jet Airways have taken a controlling stake in the airline, and are currently in the process of selling a stake to recover their dues.

The Enforcement Directorate (ED) and the Ministry of Corporate Affairs (MCA) are currently examining the books of the debt-trapped Jet Airways and its wing Jet Privilege. The MCA is examining the books for any alleged fund diversion.

There was a vehement demand in certain quarters recently that the Mumbai Police impound the passports of Goyal and other senior officials of the beleaguered airlines to prevent them from leaving the country.

# CBI arrests six men for 'manipulating' BITS, Pilani online entrance exam

New Delhi: The CBI has arrested six people, including the managing director of a Delhi-based education consultancy firm, for allegedly manipulating an online entrance examination of BITS, Pilani, officials said on Saturday.

Besides Bhaskar Choudhary, the managing director of Pathway Education Service having office at Bhikaji Kama place here, other arrested are— Ketan Barot of Ahmedabad-based Disha Education, cyber experts Sheth Mohammed Usama and Virag Ahrendra Kumar Shah, owner of Harendraabad examination centre Nishikant Sinha and its manager Darpan Shirish Pathak, they said. It is alleged that Choudhary in connivance with others was demanding around ₹10 lakh from parents of a candidate for helping in BITSAT (the entrance exam) through unfair means,

they said. The exam was held between May 17 to 22, according to an FIR filed by the CBI.

The CBI has alleged that these accused entice the parents of candidates aspiring to join Birla Institute of Technology and Science (BITS), Pilani.

"The accused had resources to allegedly manage the online examination of BITS, Pilani, wherein the experts arranged by the accused persons provided answers by using Remote Desktop Technology from an unknown destination for an amount ranging from ₹10-12 lakh (approx.)," a CBI spokesperson said. The accused had allegedly connived with the examination centres where they had computers installed with dubious softwares which allowed solvers to take its control from a remote location during examination thereby ensuring admission, the agency said. PTI

# Heavy rain in Tripura, 700 people take shelter in relief camps

Agartala: At least 739 people were rendered homeless and forced to take shelter in relief camps across Tripura due to heavy rain and thunderstorms since Friday, an official said.

However, there was no report of any casualty.

"North Tripura, Unakoti and Dhalai districts have been affected," the head of the State Disaster Management Authority, Sarat Das, told PTI.

The State Emergency Operations Centre (SEOC) in a report said, out of the 739 people, who are sheltered in various relief camps, 358 people are from Unakoti district and 381 from North Tripura district.

A total of 1,039 houses were damaged due to heavy rainfall.

A total of 40 rescue boats were pressed into service by the state revenue department to evacuate the people from affected areas, he said. PTI

# Lamba wants Kejriwal to quit for LS poll drubbing

New Delhi: Disgruntled AAP MLA Alka Lamba launched a veiled attack on Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal over AAP's crushing loss in Lok Sabha elections, asking shouldn't the person who took all the decisions in a closed room own the responsibility and quit.

She lashed out at her party after she was again removed from AAP's MLA WhatsApp group, which includes Kejriwal.

Without naming him, Lamba said that at a time when the party came third in the CM's constituency, lost in all 70 assembly segments and lost its security deposit, shouldn't the person, who sat in a closed room and took all decisions on alliance and candidates, quit.

"Kejriwal ji, you are yourself admitting that you made very big mistakes due to which the party fared badly in the Lok Sabha polls. Without looking at the mistakes made by the party you have asked us to apologise to people. We should introspect



on the mistakes," she said.

AAP spokesperson Saurabh Bharadwaj said that the party did not want to comment on her.

"She is an attention-seeker. Some MLAs had raised a point that some people are unhappy about a few local works in their area. To that the chief minister had asked them to meet such people with humility, assure them of speedy work and apologise for inconvenience," he said.

Sharing screenshots of the WhatsApp group on Twitter, which purportedly shows that she was removed by AAP's

North East Delhi candidate Dilip Pandey, Lamba asked why was she being held responsible for the party's crushing loss in the Lok Sabha elections.

Pandey did not respond on the matter.

"I have always been telling the party what you (Kejriwal) are telling them now. I am sometimes added to the group, sometimes removed. It would have been better if a meeting was held to introspect, look at the shortcomings and move ahead," she said.

Lamba claimed that she had raised questions about the party performance in the Lok Sabha polls which did not go down well with the AAP.

The MLA from Chandni Chowk also claimed that some legislators had told her that her tweet praising Naveen Patnaik, for winning the fifth term as chief minister of Odisha, was not appreciated by party leaders.

The AAP suffered a crushing defeat in the polls and lost on all seven seats in Delhi with a margin of lakhs of votes.

This is the second time that Lamba has been dropped from the group. She was earlier dropped in December last year when she raised objection over the party's resolution to revoke Rajiv Gandhi's Bharat Ratna.

However, she was added before poll campaigning and was expected to campaign for the party. But Lamba refused and even refrained from participating in Kejriwal's roadshow after she was asked to walk behind his car during the show.

In April, Lamba engaged in a bitter Twitter spat with Bharadwaj, who had taunted her to resign from the party.

Following the spat, she addressed a large crowd outside Jama Masjid and said the party was repeatedly demanding her resignation.

She had alleged that the party leadership was "weakening" her and said she was being accused of attempting to switch over to the Congress.

Before joining the AAP, Lamba was part of the Congress women's wing.

# Modi aims to win...

**From Page 1**  
He also cautioned them against being carried away by hanger-ons who would seek to come close to them in the national Capital. "Choose your assistants whom you know and trust," he stressed.

Stating that the time for a change has come, the Prime Minister asked MPs to shirk the VIP culture and pointed to incidences of some security pricy when stopped security checks at the airports. "Checking has to be there, why should it not be," he asked. The end of "Lal baati cul-

ture" by his government, he said, gave a message to people and sought lawmakers to develop "Seva Bhaav". Moreover, he said MPs should not restrict themselves to their states only but must develop a national vision.

Modi gave a call to revive the spirit of the 1857 freedom struggle to usher in Swaraj by taking all sections of society along in the task of making India strong and prosperous.

He said the ideas of Mahatma Gandhi, Deen Dayal Upadhyay, Ram Manohar Lohia and BR Ambedkar, who wrote the Constitution, which in one way or the other influence different shades of Indian parties, should be guiding the thoughts and actions of elected

MPs.

He said it is not Modi who got MPs elected but the people who make them winners and "we are directed by people to serve". He reminded MPs that in the Modi-2 regime "hum kuch karne nahi aaye hain, bahut kuch karne aaye hain".

Modi said a strong NDA is a must for the future of India and he would work towards this end even though BJP on its own is 300-plus strong. The future of India would have run on regional aspirations and national ambition and the neglect of the former would negatively impact on the latter. And thus he coined the term of 'NA-RA' - National Aspirations and Regional Aspirations saying "we will move forward with this".

# 'Hurt' Didi offers to quit as Bengal CM, TMC says no

**From Page 1**  
She, however, added she would "now concentrate more on party affairs and its organisational side," because "I have already done more than I promised as the Chief Minister. Now I will do some work for the party."

Apart from lambasting the saffron outfit for communalising the electoral atmosphere, manipulating the Central forces and other institutions to win the election, Mamata mounted a no-holds-barred attack on the Commission for playing a partisan game.

"They listened only to the ruling party. They listened to no objections from the Opposition parties," she said adding "the EC was influenced in such a manner that its own officials' protests were not recorded."

Mamata said, "I have realised that development is not the sole factor to catch votes. There are other things like money power, communalisation of the electorate" and manipulation of the EC and the EVMs which impact polling pattern as it did this time round, apparently pointing fingers at some kind of "setting" between the Central Government and the ECI.

"What else can explain the EC's silence on the communal statements made by the BJP leaders despite clear Supreme Court rulings against it, whereas the Opposition parties were repeatedly booked on same reasons," Mamata wondered adding "not only the EC, but the Central forces and all other institutions and a large section of the media were sold

out."

Meanwhile, violence continued in large parts of the State this time the TMC was at the receiving end of the most of the attacks, allegedly mounted by the BJP, sources said.

There was one case of death from Chakdah in Nadia district where a BJP supporter who had recently left TMC to join the saffron outfit was allegedly shot dead leading the BJP workers to block roads and rail traffic for hours.

In other places BJP workers allegedly attacked the TMC workers and their houses and party offices in West Midnapore, Coochbehar, Jhargram, Burdwan leaving many injured sources said adding in many cases like Garbeta and Ghatol over 200 TMC men on Saturday joined the BJP.

The TMC tended to taste the same bitter pill --- it prepared once for the CPI(M) --- even as its party offices were occupied by the BJP in Barrackpore, Jhargram, Coochbehar and other places, sources said.

Pointing out at the unusual situation of the Opposition parties getting wiped out in large parts of the country, Mamata said, "It is difficult to accept how Opposition was wiped out in large swathes of India. I wonder whether it was possible with faultless EVMs."

or share a dais with some of them during a cricket match we are leveled as Pakistanis."

Interestingly, the Chief Minister also reminded that she would "definitely attend the Iftaar parties" if invited by the Muslim leaders "because though I come from a Hindu family I believe in unity of religions. I am against discrimination."

She added "people may accuse me" of molycodding the Muslims but "still I will join them in their festival because I will have to take care of the cow that gives milk to me."

On whether she predicted an early State election she said, "Let them try to dismiss my Government and then they will see the consequence," Mamata said.

In a bid to revamp the TMC's organisational set up, the Chief Minister changed a whole lot of district party presidents particularly from the places where the BJP had won. Among the districts where now presidents were inducted were Jhargram, Bankura, South Dinajpur, North Dinajpur, Hooghly, Ranaghat, Krishnagar, Asansol, Malda and Murshidabad.

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
My Client Mohit Yadav S/o R.B. Yadav R/o Flat No-109 HIG Ground Floor block 0 Sector 29 Rohini New Delhi 110085 are availing loan from cholanmandalam investment & finance company limited. We declare that our mother late shanti yadav W/o R.B. Yadav have living member are Mr. R.B. Yadav (Ram Briksh Yadav) S/o Late Sh. Ram Dev Yadav Mr. Mohit Yadav S/o R.B. Yadav, Smt. Reena W/o Sh. N. Parell (D/o Sh. R.B. Yadav) Only I hereby confirm that Living Relatives of late smt. Shanti Yadav W/o R.B. Yadav are Same as mentioned above.

Jai Kumar Ambavala Advocate  
En Roll : P(822/2014)  
SS Block Chamber No. 136 Dist & Session Court Gurugram, Haryana

**THE PIONEER CLASSIFIEDS**

**LOST & FOUND**

It is notified for the information that my original marksheet of High School (Xth Class) Year: 2014, Roll No: 8798614 issue by CBSE has been actually lost. Name of Candidate: Vishal Tiwari B/267, Sector-2, Vaishali, Ghaziabad PD(8511)A

**North Central Railway, Allahabad**  
No.-NCRPU-TDL-VEHICLE-2-2019  
Date-21.05.2019  
Dy.CSTE/CTC/NCRPU/Tundla, North Central Railway, for and behalf of President of India invites sealed "Open Tender" through on Line (E-Tendering) for the following work :- E-Tender No.-NCRPU-TDL-VEHICLE-2-2019 dated-21.05.2019  
Description of Work- Hiring of Three Nos. (02 nos. at Tundla & 01 no at Aligarh) Non A.C. Vehicle i.e. Jeep/ Gypsy/ Sumo or similar in perfectly good condition for supervision/inspection of various ongoing works in jurisdiction of Dy.CSTE/CTC/TDL,NCRPU, TUNDLA unit. Approx Cost(₹) : ₹ 1655158.00/- Earnest Money (₹) : 33100/- Cost of Tender Form- 0.00 Date of closing Tender -17.06.2019, 11.30 hrs. Date of completion/period from issue acceptance letter- 12 Months Validity of Tender - 45 Days. Note- 1. The complete information along with Tender document of above E-Works Tender will be available on Website on www.ireps.gov.in. up to 11.30 hrs on the due date of Tender opening. 2. Bids other than in the form of E-Bids shall not be accepted against above Tenders. For this purpose Vendors are required to get themselves registered with IREPS website along with Class III Digital signature certificate issued by CCA under IT Act 2000. 3. Rates entered into financial rate page and duly signed digitally shall only be considered. Rates and any other financial entry in any other form/letter head if attached by Tenderer shall be straight way ignored & shall not be considered. 4. Document being attached should be signed by the Tenderer on its body. 5. For full details and submission of bid please see the Indian Railways website www.ireps.gov.in. 687199 Ad 24x7 Passenger Helpline No :- 138

**NOTICE INVITING e-TENDER**  
U.P RAJKIYA NIRMAN NIGAM LTD  
(U.P Govt. Undertaking)  
02/NIT/PQ/GMSZ-BLR/RNN/2018-19 dt 05/10/2018  
On behalf of Managing Director, UPPNN, e-tender is invited from eligible Contractors/Agencies for following work(s).  
SI.No. Name of Work Cost of Work (in Lacs)  
1 Construction of Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya (Phase-A) at Ramnagar, Karnataka. 2847.51  
Further details regarding participation in the tender(s) can be obtained by logging into website www.etender.up.nic.in All corrigendum shall be published only on website.  
General Manager (SZ)

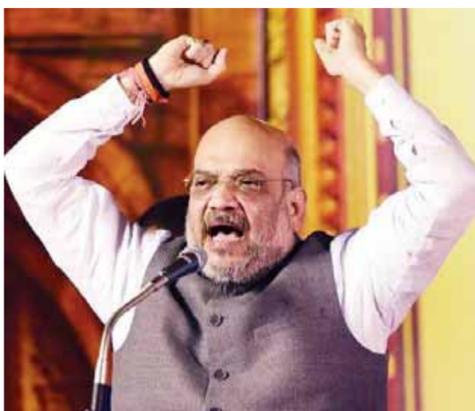
# Voters rejected dynastic politics: Shah

PNS/AGENCY ■ NEW DELHI

Listing out the biggest take-aways from the just-concluded Lok Sabha election, where the BJP and NDA inflicted a humiliating loss on the Opposition, BJP chief Amit Shah on Saturday said one of them was that the electorate voted out dynastic, casteist and appeasement politics.

Addressing the NDA MPs, who elected Narendra Modi as their leader, he also pointed out that it was after 1971 that for the first time a PM is returning to power again after serving a five-year term and that this time round, the voters elected a 'leader', who happens to have taken not single day's off in the last 20 years he has seen of him.

He further said that people's mandate in the 2019 Lok Sabha elections underlined that Governments will be elected on the basis of their performance, not dynasty, caste politics or appeasement politics.



He said when Modi became the Prime Minister for the first time in 2014, ordinary citizens were filled with hope that a person from a modest background could be elected to the highest office. "With that hope, the people have trusted Modi. The suc-

cess of the extension of Gujarat model to the whole country was an experiment and people have blessed Modi once again. What Modi promised, he has been able to deliver, and this trust has been shown by the people in him," he said. Shah added that the 22

crore poor who have been the beneficiaries of the Prime Minister's welfare schemes have shown their faith in him.

Shah added that he has toured the country from Kashmir to Kanyaumari and Kamarkhya to Kutch, and people in all parts of the country have unanimously voted in favour of Modi. "There has been a Modi Tsunami in the country," he said.

"Without any taint, he (Modi) has been elected as the country's Prime Minister for the second term. This has been possible because he governed the country by rising above vote bank politics. In the last five years, he took many tough decisions, but none that did not benefit the country," the BJP President said.

"The citizens I have spoken to want the country to become a global super power and 'Bharat Mata' be accorded her proper place on an international scale. I wish that Modiji

is able to take forward the strong foundation of a 'New Bharat' that he has placed and is able to fulfil the dreams of a successful democracy that the whole world will admire," Shah concluded.

Shah also pointed to the air strike in Pakistan's Balakot in response to the Pulwama terror attack as a reply to those who had dismissed the cross-LoC surgical strike of September 2016 as fluke.

Shah said the surgical strike and the Balakot air strike proved that India had a leader who could target the terrorists in their den.

"During the 90s, when terrorism raised its head and shook the country, people felt that the then Governments were not serious about the safety and security of the country. For the first time under the Modi government, people have confidence that here is a leader who can hit the terrorists in their den," he said.

# EC submits newly-elected MPs' list to Prez Kovind

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

A couple of days after the Election results, the Election Commission on Saturday submitted a list of newly-elected MPs to President Ram Nath Kovind, setting in motion the process for constituting the 17th Lok Sabha.

The full Election Commission — comprising Chief Election Commissioner Sunil Arora and Election Commissioners Ashok Lavasa and Sushil Chandra — called on the President and submitted a copy of the notification issued by the EC containing names of the members, a Rashtrapati Bhavan communique said.

While the EC notification sets in motion the constitution of a new Lok Sabha, the list given to the President enables

him to formally initiate the Government formation process.

Earlier in the day, the President dissolved the 16th Lok Sabha on the recommendation of the Union Cabinet. On Saturday evening, the newly-elected MPs of the BJP-led National Democratic Alliance are likely to elect Narendra Modi as the alliance's leader.

After this, a delegation of leaders of the BJP and its allies is expected to call on the President and convey to him their choice of Modi as Prime Minister, following which he will be invited to form the Government.

The counting of votes in elections to the 17th Lok Sabha was taken up on May 23 and the BJP scored a resounding victory, winning 303 seats in the 543-member House. Its

arch rival, Congress, managed on 52 seats.

Elections were held for 542 of the 543 seats. The election in Vellore Lok Sabha seat was cancelled by the EC citing abuse of money power. A fresh date is yet to be announced.

The President congratulated the Chief Election Commissioner and the other Election Commissioners on the successful completion of the electoral process in the largest democratic exercise in the human history.

On behalf of the entire country, the President lauded the efforts of the EC, public officials and security personnel in successfully completing a free and fair election, the statement said.

The President also commended hundreds of millions of voters who participated in the election process.

# IAS officer set to spread 'Swachchh Ganga' message from Mount Everest

PNS ■ NEW DELHI/LUCKNOW

Having already conquered the Mt. Everest in 2013, Ravindra Kumar, an IAS officer of Uttar Pradesh cadre, will undertake yet another mission to scale the peak this summer with the aim to spread awareness amongst people towards the urgent need of controlling water pollution, saving rivers and Ground Water Acquirers besides ensuring availability of Clean Water to All.

Kumar told *The Pioneer* he has termed his expedition as "Swachchh Ganga Swachchh Bharat Everest Abhiyaan 2019" with Ganga symbolising all rivers of India as one of the main sources of water.

Kumar is the first and only IAS officer of India who has climbed Mt. Everest. Ravindra Kumar is presently on a Central deputation Minister of Drinking Water and Sanitation, Begusarai (Bihar) born Ravindra Kumar has also authored two motivational books on his previous journey. His first scaling of the



Everest was inspired by the Sikkim Earthquake of 2011, where mountaineers were called for search and rescue mission post earthquake in the State.

His second Everest Expedition in 2015 could not be completed due to the earthquake in Nepal. That mission to spread awareness about importance of Sanitation in India through 'Swachchh Bharat Abhiyaan' was flagged off by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

"In the present scenario,

focus on water sector, especially drinking water, is need of the hour. As per World Bank estimates 21 per cent of communicable diseases in India are linked to unsafe water. Rivers are nearly dying due to discharge of pollutants and lack of continuity due insufficient water. Ground water table is declining and creating ground for future water crisis. Therefore, this sector needs immediate through people's involvement in addition to Government's effort," said Kumar.

## LS POLLS

# Majority of candidates lost deposit in J&K

Jammu: Barring the Ladakh parliamentary constituency, majority of the contesting candidates lost their security deposit in five other Lok Sabha constituencies in Jammu & Kashmir where 51 of them even failed to get one per cent of the valid votes.

The BJP retained three parliamentary seats of Jammu, Udhampur and Ladakh, while the National Conference swept the polls in the Kashmir valley, winning all the three seats of Srinagar, Anantnag and Baramulla.

A total of 79 candidates were in the fray for the six parliamentary seats, but 63 of them lost their security deposit of Rs 25,000 and Rs 12,500 (for schedule tribe and scheduled caste candidates) as they failed to get the minimum required one-sixth (16.67 per cent) of the total polled valid votes, according to official data by the Election Commission of India.

The Ladakh parliamentary seat which was won by 33-year-old BJP leader Jamyang Tsering Namgyal -- the youngest among the six

winners from the state -- was the only constituency where rest of the three candidates managed to save their deposits.

Namgyal got 42,914 votes (33.94 per cent) and defeated his nearest rival and independent candidate Sajjad Hussain who secured 31,984 votes (25.3 per cent).

Congress rebel candidate Asgar Ali Karbalai came third with 29,365 votes (23.23 per cent) followed by Congress' official candidate Rigzin Spalbar who polled 21,241 votes (16.8 per cent).

The Ladakh Lok Sabha constituency is the largest in India in terms of area but has the lowest number of over 1.71 lakh voters in the state. A total of over 1.26 lakh voters had exercised their franchise with 922 of them preferring None Of The Above (NOTA), which was 0.73 per cent of the total voting.

The voting trend in the Jammu parliamentary constituency, where the highest 24 candidates were in the fray, revealed a direct contest between BJP's Jugal Kishore

and senior Congress leader and former minister Raman Bhalla.

While Kishore retained the seat for the party by getting 8,58,066 votes (58.02 per cent), Bhalla got 5,55,191 votes (37.54 per cent).

The rest of the 22 candidates, including patron of Jammu and Kashmir National Panthers Party Bhim Singh, Dogra Swabhinan Sangathan (DSS) founder and former BJP minister Lal Singh and BSP leader Badri Nath got below one per cent votes.

The constituency had recorded the highest 72.16 per cent polling in the state and only 2,618 among 14,78,795 voters pushed the NOTA button.

Similarly, the Udhampur parliamentary constituency, which was retained by union minister Jitendra Singh by a huge margin of 3.57 lakh votes defeating Dogra scion and Congress leader Vikramaditya Singh, saw 10 candidates losing their security deposit.

The BJP's candidate got 7,24,311 votes (61.38 per cent)

against the Congress candidate who polled 3,67,659 votes (31.1 per cent).

Two other Rajputs in the fray -- JKNPP chairman and former minister Harsh Dev Singh and DSS founder (Lal Singh) -- got 2.06 and 1.61 per cent votes, respectively.

In Srinagar, where only 14.1 per cent of over 12.94 lakh electorate exercised their right, 10 of the 12 candidates lost their deposits with eight even failing to reach one per cent mark.

National Conference president Farooq Abdullah retained the seat by getting 1,06,750 votes (57.14 per cent), defeating Aga Syed Mohsin of the PDP, who got 36,700 votes (19.64 per cent).

People's Conference candidate Irfan Raza Ansari was the only other candidate who managed double figures with 15.4 per cent (28,773 votes).

The Anantnag parliamentary constituency, where the second highest 18 candidates, including former chief minister Mehbooba Mufti, were locked in a multi-cornered contest, saw 15 candi-

dates losing their security deposits.

The seat, where election was held in three phases due to security concerns, registered the lowest voter turnout of only 8.76 per cent in the state. It was won by National Conference candidate and former judge Hasnain Masoodi. Mufti, who had won the seat in 2014 before resigning to become the first women chief minister in 2016, polled only 30,524 votes (24.44 per cent).

The Baramulla parliamentary constituency was won by senior NC leader Mohammad Akbar Lone after securing 1,33,426 (29.29 per cent) votes, defeating Raja Aijaz Ali of the Peoples' Conference, who got 1,03,193 (22.65 per cent). Engineer Rashid managed 1,02,168 votes (22.43 per cent).

The constituency has recorded the highest 34.71 per cent voting in the Valley. Six of the candidates, including from the PDP, the Congress and the BJP, got only 11.75 (53,530), 7.58 (34,532) and 1.73 per cent (7,894 votes), respectively. **PTI**

# BJP mocks Mamata's offer to quit CM post as 'drama'

Kolkata: The BJP on Saturday described TMC chief Mamata Banerjee's offer to quit as West Bengal Chief Minister as "drama" and claimed her Government will fall on its own and the saffron party will not need to topple it.

Banerjee offered to quit as chief minister following her party's drubbing in the Lok Sabha polls, but the TMC rejected it.

"It is good that at least she has accepted defeat. But her offer to quit is nothing but a drama to garner sympathy," BJP national general secretary Kailash Vijayvargiya told PTI.

Reacting to Banerjee's comment that BJP will commit a mistake if it tries to topple her

Government, Vijayvargiya said it will fall on its own.

He said, "We will not topple it. It will fall on its own. TMC leaders have lost confidence in her. They are fed up. If they come to us and crib about her misrule and authoritarian approach, what can we do?"

Bengal witnessed a saffron surge in the Lok Sabha polls as the BJP inflicted a blow to ruling TMC by winning 18 of total 42 Lok Sabha seats in the state. The TMC won 22 seats, down from 34 in 2014. Addressing her first press conference after the election results were declared, she on Saturday accused the BJP of polarising people on religious lines to garner votes in West Bengal. **PTI**

# Jaganmohan Reddy invites KCR to attend swearing-in ceremony

Hyderabad: YSR Congress president Jaganmohan Reddy, who was invited to form the next Government in Andhra Pradesh by the Governor, on Saturday called on Telangana Chief Minister K Chandrababhan Naidu here and invited him for the swearing-in ceremony at Vijayawada on May 30.

A release from the CM's office said Reddy extended his personal invitation to Rao to attend the ceremony.

There was no official word on Raos response, but TRS sources indicated that it was likely to be positive.

After he was elected leader of the YSRC legislature party, Reddy met the Governor of Andhra Pradesh and Telangana, ESL Narasimhan at the Raj

Bhavan in Hyderabad and staked claim to form the government.

The swearing-in ceremony would be held at Indira Gandhi Municipal Corporation stadium, Vijayawada, on May 30 at 12.23 PM, a Raj Bhavan communique said.

Reddy called on Rao after meeting the governor.

During the meeting, Rao told Reddy that his government would like to have cordial relations with Andhra Pradesh, the release said.

"Chief Minister K Chandrababhan Naidu made it clear that the policy of Telangana is to maintain cordial relations with neighbouring States in a give and take manner, and same would be followed in case of

Andhra Pradesh State also," the release said.

Rao said he visited Maharashtra to meet Chief Minister Devendra Fadnis to sort out water disputes between undivided Andhra Pradesh and Maharashtra.

The disputes reportedly held up irrigation projects in Telangana.

Maharashtra cooperated after the initiative and this has led to Telangana being able to construct irrigation projects like Kaleshwaram, Rao told Reddy.

"Our policy would be to maintain similar relations with the present Andhra Pradesh state also. Let us act in such a manner so that both the states are benefitted," the release quoted Rao as saying. **PTI**



Prime Minister Narendra Modi addresses at the NDA parliamentary board meeting at the Central Hall in Parliament House, New Delhi on Saturday **PTI**

# Nothing worse than being alone: Polio victim

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Having missed her polio vaccine in her childhood, Nimmi is crippled for life. Her disability restricted her to the four walls of her home as well on the wheel-chair, gradually pushing her into depression. "After my mother died, I felt all alone. There is nothing worse in the world than being lonely," she says.

With the timely intervention of Delhi-based 'Yes, We Can' NGO, the 35-year-old today actively participates in range of social activities like watching movies to quizzes conducted by the organisation throughout the year, particularly during special occasions like festivals.

Meenu Arora Mani, a wheelchair-user herself and head of the 'Yes, We Can', notes: "Usually, specially-abled people don't interact with a lot of others. Neither do they have enough exposure to the outside world. So they barely meet new people. We want it to be changed and try to provide a platform to people with intellectual and developmental disabilities besides physical disabilities to let them enjoy the



sense of freedom and mingle with others.

"With the help of philanthropists and volunteers, we also organise workshops to focus on their financial empowerment so that they can lead a dignified life."

In fact, Meenu's is just one of the NGOs in the sector which are trying to give the 'wings' to the specially-abled

people. For instance, Bengaluru-based Anuprayaas is trying to making India a blind-friendly nation. Founded by Pancham Cajla, the NGO has installed Braille signage at Mysuru, Mumbai and Bengaluru railway stations.

Says Cajla, "In India, accessibility at public places is still a distant dream for people with disabilities. Hence, travelling becomes difficult. We are here

to change all this."

Similarly, Chennai based Vidya Sagar has started a project called 'Get Going' to enable people with disabilities to travel and feel empowered whenever they need to. Larsen & Toubro (L&T), has donated two wheelchair-friendly vehicles to help the NGO to reach out to people with disabilities.

The transport will make travel for disabled people easier and will be available to people with intellectual as well as physical disabilities, said S N Subrahmanyam, CEO - Managing Director, L&T.

Planet Aabled NGO is engaged in providing accessible travel solutions and leisure excursions for people with different disabilities. With a tagline — "Together let us make the planet accessible for everyone to travel, one trip at a time", the organisation run by Neha Arora — whose parents are differently-abled — has developed more than 35 destinations including Leh-Ladakh across the country around various themes. It is almost a hit among the people who love travelling despite their disabilities.

# Two Assam Rifles jawans killed in ambush by terrorists in Nagaland

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Two Assam Rifles personnel were killed and four others injured on Saturday in an ambush by insurgents in Mon area of Nagaland near the India-Myanmar border. The injured were given medical treatment immediately and their condition was stable. Efforts were on to identify the terrorist group responsible for the attack and combing operation was launched to track them down.

Giving details of the incident here, military sources said it took place at about 1.30 pm when a patrol of the Assam Rifles in two vehicles was subjected to an improvised explosive device (IED) blast. The militants then opened fire and in the ensuing gun fight a junior commissioned



officer (JCO) and a soldier were killed while four others were wounded. The attack took place near border pillars 147 and 148 in Mon area of Nagaland along the India-Myanmar border. This attack comes days after Arunachal Pradesh MLA Tirong Aboh and his son besides eight others were killed in an ambush by suspected

National Socialist Council of Nagaland (IM) insurgents on Tuesday last in Tirap district of the State. The Indian Army along with the State police has launched a massive operation to hunt down the perpetrators of this incident which saw a group of more than 15 to 20 insurgents waylaying the four-vehicle convoy of the MLA.

# DMK's win outcome of anti-Modi wave? SP-BSP alliance may not survive

KUMAR CHELLAPPAN ■ CHENNAI

The landslide win scored by the DMK-led Secular Progressive Alliance in Tamil Nadu is being projected as the outcome of the strong anti-Narendra Modi wave prevailing in the State and the failure of the BJP to counter this narrative.

Though there were expectations all over Tamil Nadu that the split in the ruling AIADMK would jeopardise the dreams of Chief Minister Edappadi Palaniswamy and his deputy O Panneerselvam, a cursory glance at the Lok Sabha results show that TTV Dhinakaran, nephew of the jailed VK Sasikala (former close aide to J Jayalalithaa) has not made any impact in the polls.

All the candidates fielded by Dhinakaran under the AMMK banner forfeited their security deposits as they could garner the minimum vote share of 16.66 per cent of the total votes polled in any the constituency. Dhinakaran's candidates could poll just 5.2 per cent of the votes in this Lok



DMK president MK Stalin, along with party's newly-elected MPs, pays tribute to party's former chief M Karunanidhi at his memorial in Chennai on Saturday PTI

Sabha election.

"The results prove that the AIADMK has not been weakened because of the exit of Dhinakaran and Sasikala from the party. We are confident that the cadre who followed Dhinakaran would come back to the AIADMK," S Semmalai, founding leader of the AIADMK and former minister told The Pioneer on Saturday.

He said the DMK-led front won through negative campaigning. "M K Stalin gave an impression that Rahul Gandhi would soon be appointed as the Prime Minister. The people of Tamil Nadu were carried away by the promise of Rs 6,000 per month financial package offered by the Congress. The DMK in its election manifesto declared that it would write off all edu-

cational loans and agriculture loans," pointed out Semmalai. Thanga Tamilselvam, deputy to Dhinakaran, said that the results were not in tune with the ground realities. "People in the State felt that it would be better if they voted for the DMK-Congress alliance. This is not a vote for the Congress," said Tamilselvan.

Along with Dhinakaran, future of two more 'budding' parties too were sealed in this election. Makkal Neethi Meiam, launched by film actor-turned-politician Kamal Haasan ended up polling 3.72 per cent of the votes and forfeiting security deposits in all the constituencies it contested. "I am not disappointed with the results. We are the

winners of tomorrow," said the actor while speaking to reporters after the results were announced. Kamal Haasan is yet to publicize the ideology of his party.

But C Rajasekhara, former Congress leader and one of the founding members of MNM, who left the party soon after it was launched told this newspaper that Haasan would be a failure as a politician.

Semmalai blamed the open interference of religious leaders, particularly those belonging to the minority communities, in the election campaign. "The spread the news that minority communities were not safe under the BJP. This led to the consolidation of the minority sections," said Semmalai.

Meanwhile, Saturday saw the DMK candidates who got elected to the Lok Sabha polls and by-polls paying obeisance at the mausoleum of late M Karunanidhi at the Marina Beach. Stalin led the newly elected MPs and MLAs in paying floral tributes at the memorial where some of the MPs broke down and started sobbing uncontrollably.

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

Samajwadi Party and Bahujan Samaj Party are likely to be back to being rivals in Uttar Pradesh again.

The alliance formed by these two major Opposition parties in UP along with Ajit Singh-led Rashtriya Lok Dal has failed to achieve the desired objective of consolidating Dalit-OBC-Muslim-Jat vote bank and more importantly, the transfer of votes to each other in the just-concluded Lok Sabha elections.

Besides, SP chief Akhilesh Yadav's wife Dimple Yadav and his two cousins Dharmendra Yadav from Budau and Akshay Yadav from Firozabad have lost the election. Rashtriya Lok Dal chief Ajit Singh and his son Jayant Chaudhary have also been defeated in Muzaffarnagar and Baghpat, respectively.

On May 23, the day the Lok Sabha results were announced, SP chief Akhilesh Yadav asked party cadre to start preparing for the 2022 UP Assembly polls. The same day,

Akhilesh presided over a meeting of officer-bearers of his party for starting a door-to-door campaign across the state.

"The SP-BSP coalition of Akhilesh Yadav and Mayawati will not survive now. The next big goal for both parties is the 2022 Assembly election, in which they could be back to being fierce rivals. The Lok Sabha poll results in UP were not a surprise as transfer of votes between alliance partners was going to be difficult and it ultimately did not happen," said a SP leader, who unsuccessfully contested the recent election.

UP witnessed triangular contests in 2019 elections and friendly fights between Congress and alliance candidates benefited the Bharatiya Janata Party. Had it been a duel between SP-BSP alliance and Congress on one side and the BJP on the other, things could have been tougher for the ruling party. But going by the huge victory margins of BJP winners in UP, the results would not have been different even then.

## ANSAL PHALAK INFRASTRUCTURE PRIVATE LIMITED

(CIN : U70100DL2010PTC208167)

115, Ansal Bhawan, 16 Kasturba Gandhi Marg, New Delhi - 110001

FINANCIAL RESULTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2019

(Regulation 52(8), read with Regulation 52(4), of the SEBI (LODR) Regulations, 2015)

S. No.	Particulars	Standalone				Consolidated			
		6 months ended (31/03/2019) (Un Audited)	Corresponding 6 months ended in the previous year (31/03/2018) (Un Audited)	Year ended (31/03/2019) (Audited)	Year ended (31/03/2018) (Audited)	6 months ended (31/03/2019) (Un Audited)	Corresponding 6 months ended in the previous year (31/03/2018) (Un Audited)	Year ended (31/03/2019) (Audited)	Year ended (31/03/2018) (Audited)
1	Total Income from Operations	(826.88)	251.16	2,081.81	620.50	(826.88)	251.16	2,081.81	620.50
2	Net Profit / (Loss) for the period (before Tax, Exceptional and/or Extraordinary items#)	(570.94)	5.73	(163.60)	63.57	(570.94)	5.73	(163.60)	63.57
3	Net Profit / (Loss) for the period before tax (after Exceptional and/or Extraordinary items#)	(570.94)	5.73	(163.60)	63.57	(570.94)	5.73	(163.60)	63.57
4	Net Profit / (Loss) for the period after tax (after Exceptional and/or Extraordinary items#)	(752.62)	(141.80)	(296.60)	(121.93)	(752.62)	(141.80)	(296.60)	(121.93)
5	Total Comprehensive Income for the period [Comprising Profit / (Loss) for the period (after tax) and Other Comprehensive Income (after tax)]	(752.62)	(141.80)	(296.60)	(121.93)	(752.62)	(141.80)	(296.60)	(121.93)
6	Paid up Equity Share Capital	1.45	1.45	1.45	1.45	1.45	1.45	1.45	1.45
7	Reserves (excluding Revaluation Reserve)	1,701.50	714.37	13,312.09	12,297.20	1,701.50	714.37	13,312.09	12,297.20
8	Net worth	1,702.95	715.82	13,313.54	12,298.65	1,702.95	715.82	13,313.54	12,298.65
9	Paid up Debt Capital / Outstanding Debt	Nil	Nil	NIL	NIL	Nil	Nil	NIL	NIL
10	Outstanding Redeemable Preference Shares	Nil	Nil	NIL	NIL	Nil	Nil	NIL	NIL
11	Debt Equity Ratio	(0.20)	1.50	2.85	3.10	(0.20)	1.50	2.85	3.10
12	Earnings Per Share (of Rs. 10/- each) (for continuing and discontinued operations) -								
	1. Basic:	(5,185.47)	(976.97)	(2,043.57)	(840.10)	(5,185.47)	(976.97)	(2,043.57)	(840.10)
	2. Diluted:	(508.76)	(95.85)	(200.50)	(82.42)	(508.76)	(95.85)	(200.50)	(82.42)
13	Capital Redemption Reserve	Nil	Nil	-	-	Nil	Nil	-	-
14	Debt Redemption Reserve	1,502.45	1,502.45	1,502.45	1,502.45	1,502.45	1,502.45	1,502.45	1,502.45
15	Debt Service Coverage Ratio	(6.24)	0.04	(1.38)	0.34	(6.25)	0.03	(1.39)	0.33
16	Interest Service Coverage Ratio	(4.94)	0.04	(1.02)	0.34	(4.95)	0.03	(1.03)	0.33

**Note:**  
 (a) The above audited yearly/ half yearly financial results were reviewed by the Audit Committee and approved by the Board of Directors at their respective meetings held on Saturday, the 25th May, 2019.  
 (b) The above is an extract of the detailed format of yearly/ half yearly financial results filed with the Stock Exchanges under Regulation 52 of the SEBI (Listing and Other Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015 and in terms of SEBI Circular (CIR/IMD/DF1/69/2016) dated August 10, 2016. The full financial results are available on the websites of the Bombay Stock Exchange at www.bseindia.com and also on Company's website at http://www.ansalpi.com.  
 (c) For the items referred in sub-clauses (a), (b), (d) and (e) of the Regulation 52 (4) of the SEBI (Listing and Other Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015, the pertinent disclosures have been made to the Stock Exchange. BSE Limited and can be accessed on the URL http://www.ansalpi.com.  
 (d) The above results of the Company have been Audited by the Statutory Auditors and they have issued an unqualified audit opinion on the same.

For and on behalf of the Board of Directors  
**For Ansal Phalak Infrastructure Private Ltd**  
 Sd/-  
**Rajeev Kumar Arora**  
 Director  
 DIN: 07893514

## Sportking INDIA LTD.

Regd. Off: 5/69, Guru Mansion, First Floor, Padam Singh Road, Karol Bagh, New Delhi - 110005.

CIN NO.: L17122DL1989PLC035050, Email: cs@sportking.co.in, website: www.sportking.co.in, Ph. (11) 25754885, 25747028

EXTRACT OF STANDALONE AUDITED FINANCIAL RESULTS FOR THE QUARTER AND YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2019

PARTICULARS	(Rs. in Lacs)			
	Quarter ended 31.03.2019 (Audited)	Quarter ended 31.03.2018 (Audited)	Year ended 31.03.2019 (Audited)	Year ended 31.03.2018 (Audited)
Total Income From Operations (Net)	31718.84	25727.54	116250.45	106755.25
Net Profit (+)/ Loss(-) for the Period (before tax, Exceptional and/or Extraordinary Items)	577.78	1635.56	3781.80	2888.04
Net Profit (+)/ Loss(-) for the Period before tax (after Exceptional and/or Extraordinary Items)	577.78	1635.56	3781.80	2888.04
Net Profit (+)/ Loss(-) for the Period after tax (after Exceptional and/or Extraordinary Items)	400.04	1047.44	2402.03	1915.84
Other Comprehensive income (Net of tax)	20.82	16.69	20.82	16.69
Total Comprehensive income for the period [Comprising Profit/(Loss) for the period (after tax) and other Comprehensive income (after tax)]	420.86	1064.13	2422.85	1932.53
Equity Share Capital (Face value of Rs. 10/- each)	356.10	356.10	356.10	356.10
Reserve (excluding Revaluation Reserves as shown in the Balance Sheet of previous year)	-	-	23661.65	19788.16
Earning Per Share (of Rs. 10/- each) (for continuing and discontinued operations) Basic & Diluted	11.23	29.41	67.45	53.80

**Notes:**  
 1. These financial results have been prepared in accordance with the recognition and measurement principles of applicable Indian Accounting Standards ('Ind AS') notified under the companies (Indian Accounting Standards) Rules, 2015, as amended, as specified in section 133 of the Companies Act, 2013.  
 2. The company is single segment company. Therefore the provisions of Ind AS 108 'Operating Segments' are not applicable to the Company.  
 3. Consequent to the introduction of Goods and Service Tax w.e.f. 1st July 2017, revenue from operations is required to be shown net of Goods and Service Tax. Revenue from operations for the period prior to 1st July 2017 was reported inclusive of excise duty. Accordingly, the revenue for the year ended 31st March 2019 is not comparable with the amounts reported in the corresponding previous year.  
 4. The company has adopted Ind AS 115 'Revenue from Contracts with customers' which is mandatory for reporting period beginning on or after 1st April, 2018. Adoption of such standard did not have any impact on the results of the company.  
 5. The figures of the quarter ended 31st March, 2019 and 31st March, 2018 are the balancing figures between the audited figures in respect to the full financial year and the published unaudited figures upto nine months ended 31st December, 2018 and 31st, December, 2017 respectively, which have been subject to limited review by the Statutory Auditors.  
 6. The figures of the corresponding previous period / year have been regrouped/reclassified wherever considered necessary to correspond to current period / year classification/ disclosures.  
 7. The above Audited financial results for the quarter/ year ended 31st March 2019 had reviewed by the Audit Committee at their meeting held on 25th May 2019 and approved by the Board of Directors at their meeting held on 25th May 2019. The Statutory auditors had expressed an unmodified opinion on the aforesaid results.  
 8. The above is an extract of the detailed format of Quarterly/Year Ended Financial Results filed with the Stock Exchange under Regulation 33 of the SEBI (Listing and Other Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015. The full format of the Quarterly/Yearly Financial Results are available on BSE website i.e. www.bseindia.com and on the Company's website i.e. www.sportking.co.in.

FOR SPORTKING INDIA LIMITED  
 Sd/-  
**MUNISH AVASTHI**  
 MANAGING DIRECTOR  
 DIN: 00442425

Date: 25-05-2019  
 Place: Ludhiana

## CBI arrests two more Hindutva activists in Dabholkar murder case

TN RAGHUNATHA ■ MUMBAI

In a belated but a major breakthrough, the CBI on Saturday arrested two more Hindu right-wing activists Sanjiv Punalekar and Vikram Bhawe, in connection with the Narendra Dabholkar murder case.

With the latest arrests, the total number of accused taken into custody in the Dabholkar murder case has gone up to five. Punalekar, who is a practising advocate and national Secretary of Hindu Vidhidnya Parishad, has been charged with the destroying the evidence and guiding the accused in the case, while Bhawe, an RTI activist owing allegiance to the Parishad, has been booked for identifying Dabholkar to the assailants and helping the killers do the reconnaissance of the crime site.

The two arrested accused will be taken to Pune and produced before a designated court at which the accused in the sensational case are being tried.

The CBI had earlier filed charge sheet against Dr Virendra Tawade, Sharad Kalaskar and Sachin Andure for their alleged involvement in the murder of Dabholkar. Sixty-nine-year-old Dabholkar was shot dead from a point blank range by two motor-bicycle riding gunmen - aged

between 25 and 30 years, while he was taking a morning walk on the Omkareshwar bridge located in the heart of Pune, on August 20, 2013.

The brutal gunning down of Dabholkar - who had long been crusading for the passage of anti-superstition and black magic bill in the Maharashtra Legislature - had caused a major furore in the State. The Maharashtra government had faced criticism from various quarters for months on end.

The CBI had earlier invoked Unlawful Activities Prevention Act (UAPA) against two sharp shooters Sharad Kalaskar and Sachin Andure and charged them under relevant Indian Penal Code sections for criminal conspiracy and murder and provisions of Arms Act and UAPA.

Andure is said to be one of the two persons who shot 69-year-old rationalist and anti-superstition activist Dabholkar was shot dead from a point blank range on the Omkareshwar bridge located in the heart of Pune, on August 20, 2013.

Andure's arrest had come in August last year after one of the accused in a terror conspiracy case Sharad Kalaskar, a resident of Nalaspura near Mumbai revealed his name during the interrogation by the State ATS investigating a plot to engineer blasts in five cities of Maharashtra includ-

ing Mumbai, Pune, Solapur and Satara.

The investigations by the CBI have revealed that it was Kalaskar who had accompanied Andure in a motorcycle and gunned down Dr Dabholkar. "We are trying to trace the motorcycle used in Dabholkar's murder by Andhure and Kalaskar who is another sharpshooter in the case," the CB had told the court.

Among other things that the CBI had disclosed in its remand application that one of the arrested accused in the Gauri Lankesh murder case, had handed over one 7.65 mm country made pistol and three bullets with magazine to Andhure.

Ahead of his arrest from Aurangabad on August 18, Andhure had passed on the pistol and three bullets to his brother-in-law Subham Surale in Aurangabad on August 11.

"As soon as Andhure was interrogated by the CBI in connection with the Dabholkar murder case, Surale passed on the country-made pistol, three bullets and magazine his friend Rohit Rajesh Regu," the CBI had earlier told the Pune court.

The CBI recovered the incriminating "black-coloured country made pistol with magazine and three 7.65 mm live cartridges of KF-make", during a raid conducted on the Shrimanth Galli residence of Regu in Aurangabad on August 21, 2018.

## Horrified to see cow vigilantes thrashing innocent men in MP: Mehbooba

PTI ■ SRINAGAR

Former Jammu and Kashmir chief minister Mehbooba Mufti Saturday hoped that the Madhya Pradesh government will take swift action against suspected cow vigilantes for allegedly thrashing two persons.

Suspected cow vigilantes allegedly thrashed two persons in Madhya Pradesh's Seoni with sticks, accusing them of carrying beef, following which five accused have been arrested, police said Saturday.

In a purported video clip of the incident, which has been widely circulated on social media, the five accused can be seen beating up the two men.

"Horrified to see cow vigilantes thrash an innocent muslim with such impunity in MP. Hope @OfficeOfKNath takes swift action against these goons," Mehbooba said in a tweet.

Another former Jammu and Kashmir chief minister, Omar Abdullah of the National Conference, said it was just the beginning and expressed fear that worse was in the store. "Ibtadae ishq hai rota hai kya, Aage Aage dekhiye hota hai kya (This is just the beginning of the affair why are you crying, you will see what is coming as we move ahead)," Abdullah, quoting the 18th century Urdu poet Mir Taqi Mir's couplet, wrote on his Twitter handle.

The group of five 'gau rakshaks' also allegedly forced one of the victims to beat up a woman accompanying them with chappals, a police officer said.

Police also said that the three person who were beaten up have been arrested as possession and sale of beef is illegal in Madhya Pradesh.

MEYER APPAREL LIMITED						
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TEL: 91-9953696916, EMAIL: info@meyerapparel.com, WEBSITE: www.meyerapparel.com						
EXTRACT OF THE AUDITED FINANCIAL RESULTS FOR THE QUARTER AND YEAR ENDED 31 <sup>ST</sup> MARCH, 2019						
Sl. No.	Particulars	Quarter Ended			Year Ended	
		March 31, 2019 Audited	December 31, 2018 Unaudited	March 31, 2018 Audited	March 31, 2019 Audited	March 31, 2018 Audited
1	Total income from operations	369.17	195.30	125.19	913.65	1,228.39
2	Net Profit / (Loss) for the period (before tax, Exceptional and/or Extraordinary items)	(125.83)	(21.81)	(112.54)	(231.05)	(486.83)
3	Net Profit / (Loss) for the period before tax (after Exceptional and/or Extraordinary items)	(125.82)	(29.30)	166.52	(238.54)	(207.77)
4	Net Profit / (Loss) for the period after tax (after Exceptional and/or Extraordinary items)	(125.82)	(29.30)	166.52	(238.54)	(207.77)
5	Total Comprehensive Income for the period [Comprising Profit/(Loss) for the period (after tax) and other Comprehensive income (after tax)]	(125.79)	(32.15)	142.70	(236.11)	(186.85)
6	Paid up Equity share capital (Face Value of Rs. 3/- each)	2,426.67	2,426.67	2,426.67	2,426.67	2,426.67
7	Other Equity	-	-	-	(4,084.12)	(3,847.99)
8	Earnings Per Share (of Re. 3/- each) (for continuing and discontinued operations) -					
	Basic	(0.156)	(0.036)	0.207	(0.296)	(0.258)
	Diluted	(0.156)	(0.036)	0.207	(0.296)	(0.258)

**NOTES:**  
 1. The above audited financial results of the Company for the quarter and year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March, 2019 as reviewed by the Audit Committee were approved by the Board of Directors at their meeting held on May 25, 2019.  
 2. The above is an extract of the detailed format of audited quarterly financial results filed with the Stock Exchange under Regulation 33 of the SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015. The Full format of the Quarterly Financial Result is available on the Stock Exchange website www.bseindia.com and on Company's website www.meyerapparel.com.  
 For and on behalf of the Board  
 Sd/-  
 (Gajender Kumar Sharma)  
 Whole Time Director  
 DIN-08073521

Date : 25<sup>th</sup> May, 2019  
 Place : Gurugram

## SUPRANEET FINANCE AND CONSULTANTS LIMITED

Regd. Office: C-55/2, Wazirpur Industrial Area, Delhi-110 052

Ph: 011-42952500, Fax: 011-27377373

E-Mail: info@sfclindia.com, Website: www.sfclindia.com

CIN: L65921DL1989PLC035261

EXTRACT FROM STANDALONE AUDITED FINANCIAL RESULT FOR THE QUARTER AND YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> MARCH, 2019

PARTICULARS	(Rs. in Lacs)			
	Quarter ended 31.03.2019 (Audited)	Quarter ended 31.03.2018 (Audited)	Year ended 31.03.2019 (Audited)	Year ended 31.03.2018 (Audited)
Total income from operations (net)	7.75	7.86	32.20	32.49
Net Profit/(Loss) from ordinary activities after tax	5.67	0.59	0.30	2.12
Net Profit/(Loss) for the period after tax (after Extraordinary items)	5.67	0.59	0.30	2.12
Equity Share Capital	287.67	287.67	287.67	287.67
Reserves (excluding revaluation reserve as shown in the balance sheet of previous year)	-	-	-	-
Earnings per share (before extraordinary items) (of Rs. 10/- each)				
Basic & Diluted :	0.20	0.02	0.01	0.07
Earnings per share (after extraordinary items) (of Rs. 10/- each)				
Basic & Diluted :	0.20	0.02	0.01	0.07

**Note:**  
 1. The above financial results have reviewed and recommended by the audit committee and approved by the Board of Directors at its meeting held on 25.05.2019.  
 2. The Company has not received any complaint from investors during the quarter ended on 31.03.2019.  
 3. As the source of income comes from single segment of finance and investment, hence the segment reporting as under AS-17 is not applicable.  
 4. This Statement is as per Regulation 33 of the SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulation, 2015.  
 5. Figure of previous period are re-grouped/re-classified/re-arranged, wherever necessary to corresponded with current period.  
 For and on behalf of the Board  
 Sd/-  
**Ajay Kumar Garg**  
 (Director)  
 DIN: 0038

# US orders new troops to West Asia to counter Iran 'threat'

AFP ■ WASHINGTON

The United States said it was deploying 1,500 additional troops to the West Asia to counter "credible threats" from Iran in a move denounced by Tehran on Saturday as "a threat to international peace".

"Increased US presence in our region is very dangerous and a threat to international peace and security and must be confronted," Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif told the official IRNA news agency.

The escalation of the US military presence follows a decision in early May to send an aircraft carrier strike force and B-52 bombers in a show of force against what Washington's leaders believed was an im-

nent Iranian plan to attack US assets.

And it comes as the Trump administration is planning to bypass congressional restrictions to sell arms to Saudi Arabia, a close US ally and Iran's arch-enemy in the region.

"This is a prudent response to credible threats from Iran," acting Defense Secretary Patrick Shanahan said Friday.

President Donald Trump, who approved the deployment, called it "protective." "We want to have protection in the Middle East," Trump told reporters as he prepared to set off on a trip to Japan.

"We're going to be sending a relatively small number of troops, mostly protective," Trump added. "It'll be about 1,500 people."

The new deployment includes reconnaissance aircraft, fighter jets and engineers. Six hundred of the personnel belong to a Patriot missile defense battalion that had its deployment in the region extended.

Pentagon officials said the move was necessary after multiple threatening actions and several small-in-scope attacks in May by Iranian forces, the Iranian Revolutionary Guard Corps, and "proxy" forces.

Those include a rocket launched into the Green Zone in Baghdad, explosive devices that damaged four tankers in the Gulf, and a Houthi drone attack against a Saudi oil installation.

Iran has denied involve-

**The escalation of the US military presence follows a decision in early May to send an aircraft carrier strike force and B-52 bombers in a show of force against what Washington's leaders believed was an imminent Iranian plan to attack US assets**



ment in any of the attacks.

"Americans make such claims to justify their hostile policies and to create tension in the Persian Gulf," Zarif said.

The initial threat came at the beginning of May, according to Rear Admiral Michael Gilday, director of the Pentagon's Joint Staff.

The US caught the IRGC attempting to covertly deploy "modified dhows capable of launching cruise missiles," he said, referring to small traditional boats. "We view this as a campaign," Gilday told reporters.

The moves "are all part of a dangerous and escalatory

strategy by Iran to threaten global trade and to destabilize the region."

"We believe with a high degree of confidence that this stems back to the leadership of Iran at the highest levels, and that all of the attacks... Have been attributed to Iran through their proxies or their forces," Gilday said, citing still-secret US intelligence.

US officials said the aim of the deployment was both to extend greater protection to the 70,000 US forces in the Middle East and Afghanistan, and to deliver a message to Iran to refrain from attacks.

"We think that through a combination of a very measured deployment of assets as well as public messaging, we are again trying to underscore that

we are not seeking hostilities with Iran," he said.

Gilday said the US moves have had some impact. When Washington first learned of Tehran's alleged intent to launch attacks, it delivered a stern warning to Tehran "with-in hours" through an unnamed third party.

Since then, the threat of the missile-bearing dhows appears to have subsided.

However, the Trump administration continues to draw criticism that it has not clearly shown the need for an escalation.

Members of Congress were also angered that Trump was overriding their block on delivery of lethal weapons to the Saudis.

"More tactics with

absolutely no strategy," tweeted Democratic Senator Chris Murphy.

"All that is happening now is escalatory move after escalatory move. Trump has ZERO plan for how this ends, and that should scare the hell out of everyone." But Pentagon officials stressed that the US does not seek war with Iran.

"We do not see these additional capabilities as encouraging hostilities. We see them as defensive in nature," said acting Assistant Secretary of Defense Katie Wheelbarger.

"Our policy remains an economic and diplomatic effort to bring Iran back to the negotiating table to encourage a comprehensive deal that addresses the range of their destabilizing behavior in the region."

## Zarif arrives in Baghdad to meet with Iraq officials

AP ■ TEHRAN

Iranian media are reporting that the country's Foreign Minister has arrived in Baghdad to meet his Iraqi counterpart and other officials.

The official IRNA news agency reported Saturday that Mohammad Javad Zarif will meet with Iraqi Foreign Minister Mohamed al-Hakim, Iraqi President Barham Salih, and Prime Minister Mohammed al-Halbousi during his two-day visit.

Iraq's Foreign Ministry spokesman says Zarif will discuss the situation and ways of finding common ground. On Friday, Zarif was in Pakistan and met officials there as tensions



Iraqi Foreign Minister Mohamed al-Hakim, right, shakes hands with his Iranian counterpart Mohammad Javad Zarif at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Building in Baghdad, Iraq. AP | File

have ratcheted up in the region. The White House earlier this month sent an aircraft

carrier and B-52 bombers to the region in response to a still-unexplained threat from Iran.

The US Plans to send 1,500 additional troops to the West Asia amid heightened tensions.

## US troop boost 'threat to international peace': Iran

AFP ■ TEHRAN

Iranian Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif said Saturday a US decision to deploy 1,500 additional troops to the Middle East is a "threat to international peace," state media reported.

"Increased US presence in our region is very dangerous and a threat to international peace and security and must be confronted," Zarif told the official IRNA news agency before heading home from a visit to Pakistan.

Washington says the reinforcements, which come after the deployment earlier this month of an aircraft carrier task force, B-52 bombers, an amphibious assault ship and a

missile defence system, are in response to "campaign" of recent attacks approved by Iran's top leadership.

"Americans make such claims to justify their hostile policies and to create tension in the Persian Gulf," Zarif said.

The United States this month ended the last exemptions it had granted from sweeping unilateral sanctions it reimposed after abandoning a landmark 2015 nuclear agreement between major powers and Iran in May last year.

The move dealt a heavy new blow to Iran's already reeling economy as even vocal critics of the renewed sanctions, like Turkey, announced they had stopped buying Iranian oil.

## UK leadership hopefuls vow to succeed where May failed on Brexit

AFP ■ LONDON

The race to become Britain's next premier opened Saturday with an array of hopefuls promising to succeed where Theresa May failed and finally pull the divided country out of the EU.

But European leaders insisted they had made their final offer during months or acrimonious negotiations that resulted in an unpopular compromise for which May ended up paying with her job.

The British prime minister's voice broke on the steps of her Downing Street office when she told Britons on Friday that she was quitting on June 7.

May is bowing out with her legacy in tatters and the coun-

try in agony over what to do about voters' decision in 2016 to abandon the European integration project after nearly 50 years.

The markets view the risk of Britain crashing out of the bloc when the twice-delayed departure date arrives on October 31 as uncomfortably high.

The pound has been steadily losing value since May 6 and British business lobbies are raising the alarm. Their main concern is that current frontrunners to head May's Conservative Party say they will get Brexit done at any cost.

"We will leave the EU on October 31, deal or no deal," said former foreign minister Boris Johnson in a speech delivered Friday in Switzerland.

### PUBLIC NOTICE

Mrs. Mandep Kaur, age about 46, D/o late Davinder pal Singh, W/o Mr. Kamaljit Singh, R/o: 63, Ashoka Crescent, DLF Phase I, Gurgaon, Haryana 122002, do here by solemnly declare as under..

- I have lost the original Title deed documents of Ownership and Builder Agreement etc. of Plot no-127/B/5, Area 171 Sq. Feet at Somdatt Chamber-1, Bhikaji Kama Place, New Delhi-110066 in the name of my father Late Davinder Pal Singh
- Those documents could not be traced out of the best of my knowledge.
- Those documents are not impounded by any authority / Department.

DEPONENT



From left, Betty Hilderbrand, and her daughters Sandy Cover, center, and Dixie Meredith, of Bremerton, Washington, visit the grave of Hilderbrand's late husband, Alfred Hilderbrand Jr., who served in World War II in the US Navy, at Tahoma National Cemetery on Friday in Kent, Washington. Monday is Memorial Day, a US federal holiday to honor those who died while serving in the military. AP

### S. E. Railway Tender

Tender No. : (1) E-KGP-BRIDGE-07-2019; (2) E-KGP-BRIDGE-06-2019, dated 20.05.2019, e-Tender invited by the Divisional Railway Manager (Engg.), South Eastern Railway, Kharagpur-721301 for and on behalf of the President of India for the following works before 15.00 hrs. on the date mentioned against items and will be opened at 15.30 hrs. **Sl. No., Description of work, Tender Value, Earnest Money, Completion period of the work** are as follows : (1) Strengthening/replacement of cracked worn out and corroded members of 300' span of Br No. 57 UP (2x100'+7x300') at KM 54/3-37 in between station DTE-KIG of HWH-KGP section (6th call), ₹ 1,20,65,458.31, ₹ 2,10,400/-, 12 (twelve) months. (2) Rehabilitation by providing new steel member with metalizing of FOB-MRGM, SRC-Station and SRC Yard, BSBP, Portal frame of EOT crane at ELS/SRC and TPKR, metalizing of welded girder at ULB station yard under SSE/BR/KIG and strengthening of FOB/MCA SSE/BR/KGP-1 under AXEN/BLR of Kharagpur Division (4th Call), ₹ 57,58,401.84, ₹ 1,15,200/-, 08 (eight) months. **Cost of Tender documents:** ₹ 5,000/- for each work. **Date of opening:** 27.06.2019 for each work. **Date of submission:** from 13.06.2019 and up to 15.00 hrs. on 27.06.2019. Interested tenders may visit website [www.ireps.gov.in](http://www.ireps.gov.in) for full details/description of the tenders and submit their bids online. In no case manual tenders for these works will be accepted. **NB:** Prospective Bidders may participate visit [www.ireps.gov.in](http://www.ireps.gov.in) to register in all other tenders. PR-199

### NORTH KOREA MISSILE TESTS VIOLATED UN RESOLUTIONS: BOLTON

Tokyo: US national security adviser John Bolton on Saturday called a series of short-range missile tests by North Korea earlier this month a violation of UN Security Council resolutions and said sanctions must be kept in place.

Washington's position on the North's denuclearisation is consistent and a repeated pattern of failures to rid North Korea of nuclear weapons should be stopped, Bolton said, defending the recent U.S. Seizure of a North Korean cargo ship. The US, however, is willing to resume talks with North Korea at any time, Bolton said.

Bolton was speaking to reporters in Tokyo ahead of President Donald Trump's arrival for a four-day visit to Japan.

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Telephone: 0135-2763808, Fax No. 0135-2763508  
CIN No. U40101UR2001SGC025866, Website: [www.uttarakhandjalvidyut.com](http://www.uttarakhandjalvidyut.com)

**EXPRESSION OF INTEREST Time Extension-03**  
(EIA/EMP Study)

Notice No. : 12/EE(Civil-I)/LMP/2018-19

UJVNL Limited invites "Expression of Interest" from firms accredited by NABET/QCI for River valley projects for collection of 3 season baseline data as per EIA notification 2006 to be used in "Carrying out Environmental Impact Assessment and Environmental Management Plan (EIA-EMP) Study of Lakhwar MPP" in the state of Uttarakhand. The Terms and Conditions of invited Notice modified 5(ii) as: "Bidder should have prepared EIA/EMP study report for at least one no. of project Hydro-electric Power Projects/Irrigation project in India, for which Environmental Clearance is received (copy of Environmental Clearance received and order of developer) during last 7 years ending last day of month previous to the one in which this bid is invited". All Other Terms and Conditions shall remain same.

**Last Date/Time for receipt of bid: 03.06.2019 upto 16:00 Hrs.** in the Office of E-C, Lakhwar Project, Dakpathar, Dehradun.

**Date of opening of bid: 04.06.2019 at 15:30 Hrs.** in the Office of EE (C-I), Lakhwar Project, Dakpathar, Dehradun.

Bidder are advised to regularly visit UJVNL website [www.uttarakhandjalvidyut.com](http://www.uttarakhandjalvidyut.com). **Executive Engineer(Civil-I)**  
239/UJVNL/AdvT/ Dated 24-05-2019 Lakhwar MPP UJVNL, Dakpathar  
"Avoid wasteful use of Electricity"

### NORTHERN RAILWAY Tender Notice

No. CID/SLR/Tender/2017 Date : 24.05.2019  
The Senior Divisional Commercial Manager/Freight, Northern Railway, New Delhi invites E-tender for the contract of leasing of SLR/SLRD space in the following trains originating from various stations over Delhi Division :-

Tender Opening Date : 26.06.2019										
S. No.	Train	Station From	Station To	Comptt (SLR/SLRD)	CC (Tonnes)	Days of operation	R.P. (Rs.)	EMD (in Rs.)	Tender Cost including GST @18% (in Rs.)	Tender No.
1	54413	Delhi	Rewari Jn.	4	F-I	Daily	528	100000/-	1180	SLR-FI-54413-May19
2	54413	Delhi	Rewari Jn.	4	F-II	Daily	528	100000/-	1180	SLR-FII-54413-May19
3	54413	Delhi	Rewari Jn.	4	R-I	Daily	528	100000/-	1180	SLR-RI-54413-May19
4	54309	Delhi	Rewari Jn.	4	F-I	Daily	528	100000/-	1180	SLR-FI-54309-May19
5	54309	Delhi	Rewari Jn.	4	F-II	Daily	528	100000/-	1180	SLR-FII-54309-May19
6	54309	Delhi	Rewari Jn.	4	R-I	Daily	528	100000/-	1180	SLR-RI-54309-May19
7	54085	Delhi	Rewari Jn.	4	F-I	Daily	528	100000/-	1180	SLR-FI-54085-May19
8	54085	Delhi	Rewari Jn.	4	F-II	Daily	528	100000/-	1180	SLR-FII-54085-May19
9	54085	Delhi	Rewari Jn.	4	R-I	Daily	528	100000/-	1180	SLR-RI-54085-May19
10	54035	Delhi	Jakhai Jn.	4	F-I	Daily	840	100000/-	1180	SLR-FI-54035-May19
11	54035	Delhi	Jakhai Jn.	4	F-II	Daily	840	100000/-	1180	SLR-FII-54035-May19
12	54035	Delhi	Jakhai Jn.	4	R-I	Daily	840	100000/-	1180	SLR-RI-54035-May19
13	54033	Delhi	Narwana	4	F-I	Daily	756	100000/-	1180	SLR-FI-54033-May19
14	54033	Delhi	Narwana	4	F-II	Daily	756	100000/-	1180	SLR-FII-54033-May19
15	54033	Delhi	Narwana	4	R-I	Daily	756	100000/-	1180	SLR-RI-54033-May19
16	54005	Delhi	Bhiwani	4	F-I	Daily	1227	100000/-	1180	SLR-FI-54005-May19
17	54005	Delhi	Bhiwani	4	F-II	Daily	1227	100000/-	1180	SLR-FII-54005-May19
18	54005	Delhi	Bhiwani	4	R-I	Daily	1227	100000/-	1180	SLR-RI-54005-May19
19	14731	Delhi	Fazilka Jn.	4	F-I	Daily	5675	100000/-	1180	SLR-FI-14731-May19
20	14731	Delhi	Fazilka Jn.	4	F-II	Daily	5675	100000/-	1180	SLR-FII-14731-May19
21	14731	Delhi	Fazilka Jn.	4	R-I	Daily	5675	100000/-	1180	SLR-RI-14731-May19
22	14164	Meerut City	Allahabad Jn.	4	F-I	Daily	6632	100000/-	1180	SLR-FI-14164-May19
23	14164	Meerut City	Allahabad Jn.	4	F-II	Daily	6632	100000/-	1180	SLR-FII-14164-May19
24	14164	Meerut City	Allahabad Jn.	4	R-I	Daily	6632	100000/-	1180	SLR-RI-14164-May19
25	54303	Delhi	Kalka Jn.	4	F-I	Daily	5619	100000/-	1180	SLR-FI-54303-May19
26	54303	Delhi	Kalka Jn.	4	F-II	Daily	5619	100000/-	1180	SLR-FII-54303-May19
27	54303	Delhi	Kalka Jn.	4	R-I	Daily	5619	100000/-	1180	SLR-RI-54303-May19
28	12013	New Delhi	Amritsar Jn.	3.9	F-I	Daily	6154	100000/-	1180	SLR-FI-12013-May19
29	51909	Delhi	Saharanpur	4	F-I	Daily	3856	100000/-	1180	SLR-FI-51909-May19
30	51909	Delhi	Saharanpur	4	F-II	Daily	3856	100000/-	1180	SLR-FII-51909-May19
31	51909	Delhi	Saharanpur	4	R-I	Daily	3856	100000/-	1180	SLR-RI-51909-May19
32	51913	Delhi	Saharanpur	4	F-I	Daily	3856	100000/-	1180	SLR-FI-51913-May19
33	51913	Delhi	Saharanpur	4	F-II	Daily	3856	100000/-	1180	SLR-FII-51913-May19
34	51913	Delhi	Saharanpur	4	R-I	Daily	3856	100000/-	1180	SLR-RI-51913-May19
35	12481	Delhi	Shri Ganganagar	4	F-I	Daily	6944	100000/-	1180	SLR-FI-12481-May19
36	12481	Delhi	Shri Ganganagar	4	F-II	Daily	6944	100000/-	1180	SLR-FII-12481-May19
37	12481	Delhi	Shri Ganganagar	4	R-I	Daily	6944	100000/-	1180	SLR-RI-12481-May19
38	54471	Delhi	Rishikesh	4	F-I	Daily	5390	100000/-	1180	SLR-FI-54471-May19
39	54471	Delhi	Rishikesh	4	R-I	Daily	5390	100000/-	1180	SLR-RI-54471-May19
40	54475	Delhi	Haridwar	4	F-I	Daily	4902	100000/-	1180	SLR-FI-54475-May19
41	54475	Delhi	Haridwar	4	R-I	Daily	4902	100000/-	1180	SLR-RI-54475-May19
42	22454	Meerut City	Lucknow NE	4	F-I	Daily	5133	100000/-	1180	SLR-FI-22454-May19
43	51911	Delhi	Saharanpur	4	F-I	Daily	2722	100000/-	1180	SLR-FI-51911-May19
44	51911	Delhi	Saharanpur	4	F-II	Daily	2722	100000/-	1180	SLR-FII-51911-May19
45	51911	Delhi	Saharanpur	4	R-I	Daily	2722	100000/-	1180	SLR-RI-51911-May19
46	22110	Hazrat Nizamuddin	Lokmanya Tilak T.	3.9	F-I	Wednesday	13767	100000/-	1180	SLR-FI-22110-May19
47	12457	Delhi Sarai Rohilla	Bikaner	4	F-I	Daily	7272	100000/-	1180	SLR-FI-12457-May19
48	12457	Delhi Sarai Rohilla	Bikaner	4	F-II	Daily	7272	100000/-	1180	SLR-FII-12457-May19
49	12457	Delhi Sarai Rohilla	Bikaner	4	R-I	Daily	7272	100000/-	1180	SLR-RI-12457-May19
50	12455	Delhi Sarai Rohilla	Bikaner	4	F-I	Daily	8312	100000/-	1180	SLR-FI-12455-May19
51	12455	Delhi Sarai Rohilla	Bikaner	4	R-I	Daily	8312	100000/-	1180	SLR-RI-12455-May19
52	12981	Delhi Sarai Rohilla	Udaipur City	4	F-I	Daily	6990	100000/-	1180	SLR-FI-12981-May19
53	12981	Delhi Sarai Rohilla	Udaipur City	4	F-II	Daily	6990	100000/-	1180	SLR-FII-12981-May19
54	12981	Delhi Sarai Rohilla	Udaipur City	4	R-I	Daily	6990	100000/-	1180	SLR-RI-12981-May19
55	12459	New Delhi	Amritsar	4	F-I	Daily	5049	100000/-	1180	SLR-FI-12459-May19
56	12459	New Delhi	Amritsar	4	F-II	Daily	5049	100000/-	1180	SLR-FII-12459-May19
57	12459	New Delhi	Amritsar	4	R-I	Daily	5049	100000/-	1180	SLR-RI-12459-May19
58	12047	New Delhi	Firozpur Cantt	3.9	F-I	Monday, Friday	5588	100000/-	1180	SLR-FI-12047-May19
59	12011	New Delhi	Kalka	3.9	F-I	Daily	4834	100000/-	1180	SLR-FI-12011-May19
60	12005	New Delhi	Kalka	3.9	F-I	Daily	4834	100000/-	1180	SLR-FI-12005-May19
61	54417	Delhi	Rewari Jn.	4	F-I	Daily	528	100000/-	1180	SLR-FI-54417-May19
62	54417	Delhi	Rewari Jn.	4	F-II	Daily	528	100000/-	1180	SLR-FII-54417-May19
63	54417	Delhi	Rewari Jn.	4	R-I	Daily	528	100000/-	1180	SLR-RI-54417-May19
64	54031	Delhi	JIND Jn.	4	F-I	Daily	645	100000/-	1180	SLR-FI-54031-May19
65	54031	Delhi	JIND Jn.	4	F-II	Daily	645	100000/-	1180	SLR-FII-54031-May19
66	54031	Delhi	JIND Jn.	4	R-I	Daily	645	100000/-	1180	SLR-RI-54031-May19
67	14095	Delhi Sarai Rohilla	Kalka Jn.	4	F-I	Daily	3966	100000/-	1180	SLR-FI-14095-May19
68	14095	Delhi Sarai Rohilla	Kalka Jn.	4	F-II	Daily	3966</			

# 3 firms to bid for building 6 submarines

PTI ■ VISAKHAPATNAM

Hindustan Shipyard Limited (HSL) and two other public sector undertakings have come together to float a consortium for building submarines.

The two other PSUs are Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited (BHEL) and Mishra Dhatu Nigam Ltd (Midhani).

Indigenous construction of six conventional submarines is envisaged by Ministry of Defence, a Press release from HSL said here on Saturday.



**Indigenous construction of six conventional submarines is envisaged by Ministry of Defence, a Press release from HSL said here on Saturday**

Representatives of HSL, BHEL and Midhani signed an MoU on Friday in the presence of HSL chairman and managing director Rear Admiral LV Sarat Babu, the release said. The MoU is a step to keep in line with the Make In India initiative of the Government in the Defence

sector, it said.

The agreement aims to harness the complementary expertise of the three companies and provide the country with a credible, domestic alternative for construction of the submarines. The consortium would jointly stake claim with the Ministry for being considered as a prospective bidder for the proposed project of the Navy in partnership with OEM (foreign technology provider) for building six submarines at the Hindustan Shipyard Ltd, the release added.

## Business Corner

**NTPC Q4 PROFIT JUMPS**

**New Delhi:** The Country's largest power generator — NTPC Ltd. which along with its group companies, has an installed capacity of 55,126 MW, declared its audited annual financial results for FY19 along with the unaudited financial results for Q4 FY19 on 25 May 2019. The Gross Generation of NTPC Group for FY19 was 305.90 billion units as against 294.27 billion units during the previous year. On consolidated basis, in FY19, the Total income was ₹97,537.34 crore as against the Total income of ₹89,641.59 crore during previous year, registering an increase of 8.81%. For NTPC Group, Profit After Tax for FY19 was ₹12,633.45 crore as compared to ₹10,501.50 crore in the previous year, registering an increase of 20.3%. On Standalone basis, The Gross Generation of NTPC for FY19 was 274.45 Billion units as against 265.80 Billion units in the previous year thereby registering an increase of 3.26%.

**NIIT LTD Q4 NET PROFIT UP 18 PC TO RS 23 CR**

**New Delhi:** NIIT Ltd on Saturday said its consolidated net profit rose 18 per cent to ₹23.2 crore in the March quarter, helped by increased productivity and turnaround in its skills and careers (SNC) business. The skills and talent development firm had posted a net profit of ₹19.7 crore in the year-ago period. Its revenue grew 8 per cent to ₹239.7 crore in the quarter under review from ₹222.8 crore in the year-ago period, NIIT said in a statement. NIIT Ltd, which had announced selling its shares in NIIT Technologies in April this year, said the company received gross proceeds of ₹2,020.4 crore in cash from the transaction. "The Board constituted a committee to make recommendations for utilisation of proceeds for rewarding shareholders in the most efficient and judicious manner, subject to statutory limits and necessary approvals, and after providing for transaction related costs, taxes, retirement of debt, growth capital and a prudent indemnity reserve. The committee shall provide its recommendations to the Board prior to the declaration of audited results for Q1," it added.

## Adani Solar aims at 50% marketshare

PTI ■ COIMBATORE

Adani Groups solar manufacturing arm Adani Solar is expecting to get 50 per cent marketshare in two years, a top company official said on Saturday.

As 80 per cent of solar panels available in the country were made in China, the company was manufacturing module and panels, which were cheaper and durable, for Indian markets, general manager (business development) of Adani Solar Cecil Augustine told reporters here.

With a marketshare of 10 per cent and expected growth, the company was sure to capture 50 per cent marketshare in

another two years, Augustine said.

The company official was here to announce the launch of its retail distribution business in Tamil Nadu with K Powers Solar, an exclusive channel partner for the region.

In a span of three months, Adani Solar has expanded the retail distribution of its solar panels in seven regions, helping over 500 cities across the country meet their renewable energy requirement, he said.

The partnership with K Powers is a stride towards facilitating the switch to sustainable solar power, across consumers, SMEs, MSMEs and institutions in the state at the lowest capex costs, he added.

## India should cut interest rates to help exporters take advantage of US-China trade war: Ficci chief

PTI ■ BEIJING

India should cut interest rates further and adopt consistent policies for the export of agricultural produce to enable Indian exporters to take advantage of the current US-China trade war, industry body Ficci's President Sandip Somany said Saturday.

Currently on a business trip to China, Somany also said the NDA government in its second term should focus on getting big ticket investments from China, specially in the capital goods sector, and motivate Chinese machinery manufacturers to set up plants in India.

The bruising US-China trade war, under which both countries have slapped billions of dollars worth of tariffs on each other's exports, offers a big opportunity for some category of Indian exports to make a dent in both the US and Chinese markets, Somany told PTI here.

Somany, who is the vice chairman and managing director of HSIL Limited, the second largest glass manufacturer in India, also met the Indian Ambassador to China Vikram Misri and the Secretary of China's Boao Forum for Asia, Li Baodong.

If the US-China trade war continues, it offers good opportunities for Indian exports in certain areas, he said.

## Manpasand Beverages' top executives arrested for GST fraud

**IANS n Vadodara (Gujarat):** The entire top deck of Gujarat-based Manpasand Beverages including the company's Managing Director have been arrested on allegations of GST fraud.

According to a BSE filing by the company, the Commissioner of Central GST and Customs carried out search and seizure proceedings at various premises of the company on May 23 and further inquiry was conducted on May 24 at the GST Bhavan office here.

## WhatsApp confirms Status Ads coming in 2020

**San Francisco:** Ads are coming to WhatsApp, finally, and the intrusion into the popular ad-free mobile messaging platform would begin from Status page.

At a Facebook Marketing Summit in the Netherlands, Facebook revealed a 2020 launch date for WhatsApp Status ads. "WhatsApp will bring Stories Ads in its status product in 2020," tweeted Olivier Ponteville who attended the conference this week.

The news first came in October when media reported that the Facebook-owned messaging app is planning to allow advertisements to be displayed in the "Status" section of the app.

## Air Asia India drops plan to take Jet's grounded B737s

**IANS ■ NEW DELHI**

Low-cost carrier Air Asia India has dropped its plan to lease B737 aircraft of grounded Jet Airways as the Tata group venture carrier wants to continue with one type of aircraft.

"Air Asia India had informed the aviation regulator about their plan to lease some of the B737 airplanes that were operated by Jet Airways. But later it did not follow up. Now, the idea has finally been dropped," said an industry source.

CHARISMATIC INFRA TECH PRIVATE LIMITED (CIN : U70109DL2012PTC237668) 115, Ansal Bhawan, 16 Kasturba Gandhi Marg, New Delhi Delhi - 110001					
FINANCIAL RESULTS FOR THE YEAR/HALF YEAR ENDED ON THE 31ST MARCH 2019 [Regulation 52(8), read with Regulation 52(4), of the SEBI (LODR) Regulations, 2015]					
Rs. In Lakhs					
S. No.	PARTICULARS	Standalone			
		6 months ended (31/03/2019) (Un Audited)	Corresponding 6 months ended in the previous year (31/03/2018) (Un Audited)	Year ended (31/03/2019) (Audited)	Year ended (31/03/2018) (Audited)
1	Total Income from Operations	403.46	723.95	971.78	1,595.33
2	Net Profit / (Loss) for the period (before Tax, Exceptional and/or Extraordinary items#)	(91.13)	(50.59)	(139.05)	(222.88)
3	Net Profit / (Loss) for the period before tax (after Exceptional and/or Extraordinary items#)	(303.37)	(50.59)	(351.29)	(222.88)
4	Net Profit / (Loss) for the period after tax (after Exceptional and/or Extraordinary items#)	(303.37)	(50.59)	(351.29)	(222.88)
5	Total Comprehensive Income for the period [Comprising Profit / (Loss) for the period (after tax) and Other Comprehensive Income (after tax)]	(303.37)	(50.59)	(351.29)	(222.88)
6	Paid up Equity Share Capital	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00
7	Reserves (excluding Revaluation Reserve)	(303.37)	(758.72)	(1,160.59)	(809.31)
8	Net worth	(298.37)	(753.72)	(1,155.59)	(804.31)
9	Paid up Debt Capital / Outstanding Debt	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
10	Outstanding Redeemable Preference Shares	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
11	Debt Equity Ratio	16.12	1.90	(0.50)	(9.20)
12	Earnings Per Share (of Rs. 10/- each) (for continuing and discontinued operations) -				
	1. Basic:	(606.73)	(101.17)	(702.57)	(445.77)
	2. Diluted:	(606.73)	(101.17)	(702.57)	(445.77)
13	Capital Redemption Reserve	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
14	Debtenture Redemption Reserve	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
15	Debt Service Coverage Ratio	0.31	0.93	0.66	0.87
16	Interest Service Coverage Ratio	0.31	0.93	0.66	0.87

**Notes:**

(a) The above Half yearly financial results / Annual financial results have been reviewed and recommended by the Audit Committee and approved by the Board of Directors at their meeting held on Saturday, 25th May, 2019.

(b) The above is an extract of the detailed format of yearly/half yearly financial results filed with the Stock Exchanges under Regulation 52 of the SEBI (Listing and Other Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015 and in terms of SEBI Circular (CIR/IMD/DF1/69/2016) dated August 10, 2016. The full format of the yearly/half yearly financial results are available on the websites of the Stock Exchange at www.bseindia.com and also on Company's website at http://www.ansalapi.com

(c) For the items referred in sub-clauses (a), (b), (d) and (e) of the Regulation 52 (4) of the SEBI (Listing and Other Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015, the pertinent disclosures have been made to the Stock Exchange, BSE Limited and can be accessed on the URL http://www.ansalapi.com

**For and on behalf of the Board of Directors For Charismatic Infra Tech Pvt. Limited**

**Sd/-**  
**Rajeev Kumar Arora**  
**Director**  
**DIN: 0789514**

**Place: New Delhi**  
**Date: 25/05/2019**

**Office of the Chief Engineer, Electric Maintenance & Rural Electrification Wing, Jammu Power Development Department**  
Tel No. 0191-2554426 / Fax No. 0191-2505708  
Email: cemrejjammu2@gmail.com

e-NIT No: CEMREJMU/STREET LIGHT/04 of 2019 Dated: 23-05-2019

**1. INVITATION:-**

For and on behalf of the Governor Jammu and Kashmir State, Chief Engineer EM&RE Wing, Jammu invites online e-bids from reputed companies or Class 'A' registered contractors for "SUPPLY, INSTALLATION, TESTING AND COMMISSIONING OF HIGH MAST LIGHTS AND ELECTRICAL INFRASTRUCTURE FOR STREET LIGHT IN JAMMU MUNICIPAL AREA" under the jurisdiction of Chief Engineer EM&RE Wing, Jammu.

1. Bidders are advised to study the Bidding Document carefully, Submission of e-Bid against this SBD shall be deemed to have been done after careful study and examination of the procedures, terms and conditions of the Standard Bidding Document with full understanding of its implications.

2. The tender document is available at website <http://jktenders.gov.in>. Interested Bidders may view, download the e-Bid document, seek clarification and submit their e-Bid online up to the date and time mentioned in the table below:

**A. Tender Document Sale/Download Start Date :- 23.05.2019;**  
**B. Tender Document Sale/Download End Date :- 03.06.2019; 04:00 PM**  
**C. e-Bid submission (start) date & time :- 24.05.2019; 10:00 AM**  
**D. e-Bid submission (end) date & time :- 03.06.2019; 04:00 PM**

**Sd/- (Er. Sudhir Kr. Gupta)**  
Chief Engineer Electric M&RE Wing  
Jammu

**No. DIP/J-700-P/2019**  
**Dated : 24-05-2019**

**PASUPATI ACRYLON LIMITED**  
(CIN : L50102UP1982PLC015532)  
Regd. Office: Kashipur Road, Thakurdwara, Distt. Moradabad (U.P.)  
Corp. Office: M-14, Connaught Circus (Middle Circle), New Delhi- 110 001  
Tel.No. 91-11-47627400. Fax No. 91-11-47627497; Email: delhi@pasupatiacrylon.com  
Website: www.pasupatiacrylon.com

**STATEMENT OF AUDITED FINANCIAL RESULTS FOR THE QUARTER AND YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2019 (Rs. In Cores)**

S. No.	Particulars	Quarter Ended (Audited)		Year Ended (Audited)	
		31.03.2019	31.03.2018	31.03.2019	31.03.2018
1.	Total Income from operations	215.54	177.45	834.66	578.84
2.	Net Profit for the period (before Tax, Exceptional and/or Extraordinary items)	10.03	16.36	43.12	50.19
3.	Net Profit for the period before tax (after Exceptional and/or Extraordinary items)	10.03	9.85	43.12	43.68
4.	Net Profit for the period after tax (after Exceptional and/or Extraordinary items)	5.98	6.34	27.38	28.01
5.	Total comprehensive income for the period (Comprising Profit for the period (after tax) and other comprehensive income (after tax))	5.93	6.26	27.14	27.81
6.	Paid up Equity Share Capital (Face Value Rs.10/-)	89.14	89.14	89.14	89.14
7.	Other Equity (excluding Revaluation Reserve)			87.56	60.42
8.	Earnings Per Share (of Rs.10 each)				
	Basic:	0.67	0.71	3.07	3.14
	Diluted:	0.67	0.71	3.07	3.14

**NOTE:** The above is an extract of the detailed format of quarterly Financial Results filed with the Stock Exchanges under Regulation 33 of the SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015. The full format of the Quarterly Financial Results are available on the Company's Website (www.pasupatiacrylon.com) and BSE Limited (www.bseindia.com).

**For Pasupati Acrylon Limited**  
**Sd/-**  
**Vineet Jain**  
**Managing Director**  
**Dated : 25 May, 2019**  
**Place : New Delhi**

**ANSAL CONDOMINIUM LIMITED**  
(CIN U45200DL2006PLC155235)  
115, Ansal Bhawan, 16 Kasturba Gandhi Marg, New Delhi Delhi - 110001  
FINANCIAL RESULTS FOR THE YEAR/HALF YEAR ENDED ON THE 31ST MARCH 2019  
[Regulation 52(8), read with Regulation 52(4), of the SEBI (LODR) Regulations, 2015]

**(Rs. In Lakhs)**

S. No.	Particulars	Standalone				Consolidated			
		6 months ended (31/03/2019) (Un Audited)	Corresponding 6 months ended in the previous year (31/03/2018) (Un Audited)	Previous Year ended (31/03/2019) (Audited)	Previous Year ended (31/03/2018) (Audited)	6 months ended (31/03/2019) (Un Audited)	Corresponding 6 months ended in the previous year (31/03/2018) (Un Audited)	Previous Year ended (31/03/2019) (Audited)	Previous Year ended (31/03/2018) (Audited)
1	Total Income from Operations	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2	Net Profit / (Loss) for the period (before Tax, Exceptional and/or Extraordinary items#)	(158.90)	(169.33)	(323.42)	(335.50)	(158.90)	(64.84)	(323.42)	(335.50)
3	Net Profit / (Loss) for the period before tax (after Exceptional and/or Extraordinary items#)	(158.90)	(169.33)	(323.42)	(335.50)	(158.90)	(64.84)	(323.42)	(335.50)
4	Net Profit / (Loss) for the period after tax (after Exceptional and/or Extraordinary items#)	(158.90)	(169.33)	(323.42)	(335.50)	(158.90)	(64.84)	(323.42)	(335.50)
5	Total Comprehensive Income for the period [Comprising Profit / (Loss) for the period (after tax) and Other Comprehensive Income (after tax)]	(105.37)	(1,350.07)	(105.37)	(1,352.05)	(105.37)	(1,350.07)	(105.37)	(1,352.05)
6	Paid up Equity Share Capital	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00
7	Reserves (excluding Revaluation Reserve)	(2,119.59)	(1,690.79)	(2,119.59)	(1,690.79)	(2,119.59)	(1,690.79)	(2,119.59)	(1,690.79)
8	Net worth	(2,114.59)	(1,685.79)	(2,114.59)	(1,685.79)	(2,114.59)	(1,685.79)	(2,114.59)	(1,685.79)
9	Paid up Debt Capital / Outstanding Debt	(90.33)	(28.39)	1,352.92	1,457.53	(90.33)	(28.39)	1,352.92	1,457.53
10	Outstanding Redeemable Preference Shares	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
11	Debt Equity Ratio	(0.23)	0.15	(0.43)	(0.72)	(0.65)	0.17	(0.43)	(0.72)
12	Earnings Per Share (of Rs. 10/- each) (for continuing and discontinued operations) -								
	1. Basic:	(317.80)	(338.67)	(646.85)	(670.99)	(317.80)	(129.68)	(646.85)	(670.99)
	2. Diluted:	(317.80)	(338.67)	(646.85)	(670.99)	(317.80)	(129.68)	(646.85)	(670.99)
13	Capital Redemption Reserve	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
14	Debtenture Redemption Reserve	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
15	Debt Service Coverage Ratio	(0.00)	(0.00)	(0.01)	(0.00)	(0.00)	(0.00)	(0.01)	(0.00)
16	Interest Service Coverage Ratio	(0.00)	(0.00)	(0.04)	(0.00)	(0.00)	(0.00)	(0.04)	(0.00)

**Note:**

(a) The above audited financial results (Standalone and Consolidated) were reviewed by the Audit Committee and approved by the Board of Directors at their respective meetings held on Saturday, the 25th May, 2019.

(b) The above is an extract of the detailed format of Yearly/half yearly financial results filed with the Stock Exchanges under Regulation 52 of the SEBI (Listing and Other Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015 and in terms of SEBI Circular (CIR/IMD/DF1/69/2016) dated August 10, 2016. The full financial results are available on the websites of the Bombay Stock Exchange at www.bseindia.com and also on Company's website at http://www.ansalapi.com/.

(c) For the items referred in sub-clauses (a), (b), (d) and (e) of the Regulation 52 (4) of the SEBI (Listing and Other Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015, the pertinent disclosures have been made to the Stock Exchange, BSE Limited and can be accessed on the URL http://www.ansalapi.com/.

(d) The Above results of the Company have been Audited by the Statutory Auditors and they have issued an unqualified audit opinion on the same.

**For and on behalf of the Board of Directors For Ansal Condominium Limited**

**Sd/-**  
**Sumit Bansal**  
**Director**  
**DIN:07415139**

**Date: 25th May, 2019**  
**Place: New Delhi**

**OK PLAY INDIA LIMITED**  
(CIN No. L28219HR1988PLC030347)  
Regd. Office: Plot No. 17-18, Roz-Ka-Meo Industrial Estate, Tehsil Nuh, District Mevat, (Haryana)-122103

**NOTICE OF LOSS OF SHARE CERTIFICATE**

NOTICE is hereby given that the following Share Certificates issued by the Company are applied to have been lost or misplaced or stolen and registered shareholders / the legal heir(s) thereof have stated to the Company for issuance of Duplicate Share Certificates:

Shareholder Name	Folio No.	Certificate No.	Distinctive No.
Nitin Nahar	9029	19874	3841901 - 42000

The public is hereby warned against purchase or dealing in any way, with the above mentioned Share Certificates. Any person (s) who has/have any claim in respect of the said Share Certificates should lodge such claim with the Company at its registered office within 15 days of the publication of this notice, after which no claim will be entertained and the Company will proceed to issue Duplicate Share Certificates.

**for OK PLAY INDIA LIMITED**  
**Sd/-**  
**Rajan Handa**  
**Managing Director**  
**Date : 25.05.2019**  
**Place : New Delhi**

**M/S BHARAT BHUSHAN FINANCE & COMMODITY BROKERS LIMITED**  
(CIN-L67120DL1992PLC049036), Tel No. 011-49800900, Fax: 011-49800933  
E-mail: commodities@bharatbhushan.com, Website: www.bbinvestments.in  
Regd. Office : 503, Rohit House, 3 Tolstoy Marg, Connaught Place, New Delhi-110001  
AUDITED FINANCIAL RESULTS FOR THE QUARTER / YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2019 (Rs. In Lakhs)

Particulars	For quarter ended 31.03.2019	For Year Ended 31.03.2019	For Year Ended 31.03.2018	For quarter ended 31.03.2018
	UNAUDITED	AUDITED	AUDITED	UNAUDITED
1. Total Income from operations	30.16	106.65	103.33	29.87
2. Net Profit for the period (before Tax, Exceptional and/or Extraordinary items)	21.92	77.04	74.79	22.36
3. Net Profit for the period before tax (after Exceptional and/or Extraordinary items)	21.92	77.04	74.79	22.36
4. Net Profit for the period after tax (after Exceptional and/or Extraordinary items)	17.65	62.16	59.51	17.07
5. Equity Share Capital	338.04	338.04	338.04	338.04
6. Reserves (excluding Revaluation Reserve) (as shown in the Audited Balance Sheet of the previous year)	NA	575.72	558.38	N.A
7. Earnings Per Share (of Rs. 10/- each) (for continuing and discontinued operations) -				
- Basic	0.52	1.84	1.76	0.50
- Diluted	0.52	1.84	1.76	0.50

**Notes:**

1. The above is an extract of the detailed format of Audited Financial Results vide Regulation 33 of the SEBI (Listing and Other Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015. The full format of the Audited Financial Results are available on the website of the stock exchange (www.bseindia.com) and on Company's website (www.bbinvestments.in).

2. The above Unaudited Financial Results for the quarter and Audited Financial Results for the year ended March 31st, 2019 have been reviewed by the Audit Committee and approved by the Board of Directors in its meeting held on May 24, 2019.

3. The Board of Directors have recommended a dividend of 6% i.e. Rs. 0.60/- paise per equity share of Rs. 10 each for the Financial Year 2018-19.

4. The figures for the last quarter are the balancing figures between audited figures in respect of the full financial year and published year to date figures up to the third quarter of the respective year.

**ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS**  
**Sd/-**  
**Nisha Anuja**  
**Director**  
**DIN : 0001875**

**Place : New Delhi**  
**Date : 24.05.2019**

**R.K.S.D.(PG) COLLEGE, KATHAL**  
'A' Grade NAAC Accredited  
Affiliated to Kurukshetra University, Kurukshetra

Applications are invited for the posts of Assistant Professor in Commerce-3, English-1, Economics-2, Computer Science-2, Music (Vocal)-1 and Mathematics-2 under Self-Finance Scheme. All the posts are in General Category. Apply within 21 days from the date of publication on prescribed application form available from the College Website i.e. www.rkscollege.com and attach a Bank DD of Rs. 500/- Send a copy of the application to the Dean of Colleges, Kurukshetra University, Kurukshetra. Enclose attested copies of all the Certificates.

Qualification/Pay Scale/Terms and Conditions of appointment/ Relaxation in Age /Criteria for Selection etc. as per latest DGHE/KUK/UGC norms/rules (Under Self Finance Scheme).

**Saket Mangal, Advocate**  
President, Governing Body 01746-222368

**Dr. S.K. Goyal**  
Principal

**CENTRAL RAILWAY**  
**MATERIALS MANAGEMENT DEPARTMENT**  
**NOTICE FOR DISCONTINUATION OF NIT IN NEWSPAPER**

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# CHANGE OF BRAVE HEART

ANSHIKA KATHURIA talks to the wife of slain terrorist-turned-Armyman Nazir Ahmad Wani who won the nation's highest honour this Republic Day, to bring you a report on a Kashmiri family that fought against all odds in its journey from being with the separatists to fighting for the country

**Y**eh desh hai veer jawaano ka (this is a country of brave soldiers) holds true when we witness extraordinary acts of valor by bravehearts like Lance Naik Nazir Ahmad Wani. The first Kashmiri soldier to receive Ashok Chakra, nation's highest peacetime gallantry award posthumously. What makes this award even more special is that Wani was a terrorist and made the greatest sacrifice of life for the nation he originally fought against. The story of this valiant martyr is not only filled with courage and fearlessness, but also a 360 degree change of identity and mind.

On the 70th Republic Day celebration, Mehjabeen, Wani's wife received the honour by President Ram Nath Kovind, as a proud, grateful nation watched with respect. Prime Minister Narendra Modi paid his respects and interacted with the family, encouraging Mehjabeen to have faith.

"When I was walking up to the dias to receive the nation's highest peacetime gallantry award, there was only one thought in my mind: Is this award at par with my husband's life? Yes, I was receiving this award because of my husband's bravery but I would have preferred not to have made this walk. I would want my husband by my side. This award is nothing compared to my husband's life. I wish I could trade it for his life," Mehjabeen tells you.

However, she is resigned to her fate and says that whatever that has happened is because it was fated.

"I consider it my fate. I was destined to marry a soldier. I got whatever *Khuda* (God) wrote for me," Mehjabeen says, who is a mother of two, Athar (20) and Shaid (18). She now journeys between the Valley and Kota where her two children are studying.

"My life's only motive now is to educate my children and watch them make something of themselves. I only want to stay alive for them," she tells you.

Mehjabeen is a teacher with the Government school in Kulgam in J&K where she has been teaching Kashmiri and Urdu for the past 15 years. However, right now she is on a long leave.

"I always wanted to teach and pursued my studies to become one. There is so much knowledge that one can impart to children today. They are hungry for knowledge, not necessarily textual. I teach classes I to VIII. They are so enthusiastic and want to learn stuff. They want to party as well. Sometimes they tell me that they want to contribute ₹5 each so that they can have a class party. That is when I take them sweets and sometimes cake. They love this break. It also means that I am more of a friend to them than a teacher. They are more open with me," Mehjabeen says and recounts a student's choice.

One day, while discussing what they wanted to become when they grew up, a

Class III student said he wanted to be a militant. "He doesn't understand what it means. He was just repeating what he hears the elders talking around him. I explained to the class what it means to be a militant. They listened to me with rapt attention. I don't know how much of an impact this talk would have on him in the long run but for now, at least, he wants to be an officer. I am happy that I was able to convince him, for now, that he has decided to be a good human being and make a life for himself," Mehjabeen says.

Her aim is to create good, responsible citizens who are dedicated to their nation. "I want to direct them into the right direction, and for that I take inspiration from my beloved husband, my hero," she shares.

She also tells them that they need to acknowledge the effort that their parents are making to send them to school. "I tell them that their parents toil the whole day to earn money so that they can enjoy life and eat good food. This needs to be appreciated," Mehjabeen says.

Her own two boys — one has just cleared Class XII exam and aspires to be an engineer. The younger one is in Class X and wants to be a doctor. They are studying in Kota, though her elder son is in the Valley with her preparing for the entrance exam for engineering.

She tells you that her husband, Wani was at the forefront of an anti-terror operation on November 25, 2018, against six militants in Hirapur village near Batagund, in which he lost his life. Proving the motto of his battalion (162 Infantry Battalion (TA) JAKLI) Balidanam Vir Lakshanam (sacrifice is a characteristic of the brave) till his last breath, Wani killed the district commander of the

militant organization Lashkar-e-Taiba along with another foreign terrorist.

In a statement, his fellow soldiers revealed that despite multiple hits on his body including his head, Wani attacked and injured a third militant. "Lance Naik Wani epitomised qualities of a fine soldier. He always volunteered for challenging missions, displaying great courage under adverse conditions, exposing himself to grave danger on numerous occasions in the line of duty," a Rashtrapati Bhawan notification said.

Wani, a former terrorist, turned counter terrorist and finally a soldier in the Indian Army, belonged to a group of men called Ikhwan (meaning brotherhood). They began as terrorists, many of them travelled to the Afghanistan-Pakistan border for training, motivation and transportation of arms and equipment by the ISI. This group of local Kashmiris, led by Mohammad Yusuf Parray (popular as Kuka Parray) initially resisted the Indian Army but subsequently came over ground and joined the security forces in the counter-insurgency operations.

By 1994, these fighters were divided into three groups on the basis of the districts the cadres hailed from. The three divisions were — Yusuf Parray in the Bandipora area, Liaquat Khan in South Kashmir and Javed Ahmad Shah operating with the J&K Police's (JKP) Special Operations Group (SOG). Their knowledge about the local language and culture, their efficiency with handling equipment, the experience they gathered over the years fighting the Indian Army and their intelligence and skill proved of great worth to the Indian Army.

"My husband belonged to the Liaquat Khan group, which focused on Anantnag and Kulgam areas. The Liaquat Khan group's



Lance Naik Nazir Ahmad Wani

“HE JOINED THE ARMY BECAUSE HE WANTED TO IMPROVE OUR SONS' LIVES. ALSO, HE SAW THAT THERE WAS NO OTHER CHOICE FOR HIM TO BETTER HIS LOT. HE WAS A GOOD HUSBAND, A GOOD FATHER AND A HELPFUL PERSON”

HQ was the Janglat Mandi in Anantnag town," Mehjabeen tells you that says that she got married to Wani in 1998.

"I knew that what my husband did before I got married to him. I took it as my fate. I felt that whatever *Khuda* does may have some good in store for me. I was not scared. Back in the late 90s all the youth was joining the group. My husband was no different. He too joined. It was not as if he had a choice," she shares.

Thanks to the intelligence support provided by this group, the Indian forces could detect and clamp down hard on terror, leading to a smooth and successful election process in 1996 and beyond. This collaboration with the Indian State earned Ikhwan the twin hatred of Pakistan and Kashmiri separatists. These men faced a lot of threats and neglect, but never surrendered to the hardships that came their way. Perhaps that's why, they proved to be a great asset to the security forces.

Wani enrolled in 162 Infantry Battalion TA JAK LI (H&H) in 2004, one of the eight units comprised entirely of Ikhwan cadres. Soldiers from the 162 TA play a very crucial role in Jammu and Kashmir. Their skill, knowledge and intelligence is of supreme importance when it comes to tracking down terrorists and obtaining important information. This regiment has served with honour in numerous theaters, like Siachen Conflict, Kargil War, UN Peacekeeping in Somalia etc. Bharat Mata Ki Jai (Victory to Mother India) is the war cry of this valorous regiment. Wani was attached to 34 Rashtriya Rifles in South Kashmir. Native of ChekiAshmuji in Kulgam District, Wani was earlier decorated with Sena Medal (Gallantry) twice.

"He joined the Indian Army because he wanted to improve our sons' lives. Also, he saw that there was no other choice for him to better his lot. He was a good husband, a good father and a helpful person. People liked him, he had a helping nature. Even today, our neighbours remember his kindness," Mehjabeen says who lives way from her in-laws who are in a village.

"We had shifted to Kulgam many years back. We bought a house of our own. This is where I stay today. My in-laws are in the village. Though they had come with me to Delhi when I was there to receive the Ashok Chakra," Mehjabeen tells you.

Wani was given a 21-gun salute and was draped in tricolor when the Army brought his body to his village and handed it over to his family. His funeral was attended by masses, 500-600 people gathered to pay their respects to the brave soldier.

"He worked for the benefit of the underprivileged section in his village and surrounding area, he always kept everyone happy and tried to resolve people's problems. He wanted to live for others and for his nation. I am proud of my husband," Mehjabeen says.

The Government's policies and initiatives for the Indian Army has helped Mehjabeen.

"There is a lot that the Government has done for us. I am just a teacher. I don't know what solution there is for the Valley. I do my work — to teach the kids that they need to become good human and not do anything that will cause harm to others," Mehjabeen says.

Uzair Ali Ahmad, a Kashmiri resident who is now pursuing B Com from Delhi University agrees with Mehjabeen and says: "The Government does a lot for us. I am satisfied with its policies. I am grateful for all the efforts done by it for the soldiers and their families. I migrated to Delhi from Kashmir because of the constant state of terror and fear in the valley. Nowadays, people recognise Kashmir more as a controversial, terrorism-ridden State than for its scenic beauty. I sincerely hope this scenario changes soon and peace is restored."

The story of Nazir Ahmad Wani, a brave soldier, a good human being and a true hero, is proof that despite an unpleasant past, the nation will always recognise, remember and respect true sacrifice and valor. It is never too late to do what's right, even if it is the toughest choice to make. Wani turned his life upside down and the nation salutes the braveheart. *Tu rakht mein ubaal hai, tu zinda ek misaal hai* (you are the boil in blood, you are a living example of bravery). May your soul rest in peace, soldier. The nation shall never forget your sacrifice.

## THE SURRENDER POLICY

**T**here are a number of militants in J&K who have taken up residence in the Valley. To counter this and to encourage defections from militant ranks, the Government has come up with a draft surrender policy in order to decrease their numbers in the State.

The policy says that those who will surrender will be called as 'renouncers' and that the renouncer will surrender only in front of Divisional Commissioners, District Magistrates, top police officers and heads of operational units not below the rank of Commandant.

The renouncers will be eli-

### LAYING DOWN ARMS

- An unidentified militant in the Valley shunned the path of violence and returned back to live with his family. He surrendered on July 24, 2018 in front of the security forces.
- A former Sharda University student, Ehtisham Bilal Sofi, surrendered before the police on December 2, 2018.

gible for a fixed deposit of ₹5-6 lakh which will be available to them after a lock-in period of three years. In addition, they will

also receive a monthly stipend of ₹5,000 or ₹6,000. However, this initiative will not cover militants found to have been involved in heinous crimes.

"The objective is to offer an opportunity to militants who eschew the path of violence. The policy is particularly aimed at economic rehabilitation, enabling them to lead a normal life and contribute towards society's progress," read the draft policy by the Home Department under the directions of K Vijay Kumar, Advisor to Governor.

Also, as per the draft policy, the renouncer can enrol under Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana to seek self-employment.



# SWINGING SHAKE UP

Boult-led Kiwi attack exploit friendly conditions to expose Indian batting woes as Men in Blue face humiliating 6-wicket defeat in first warm-up game

PTI ■ LONDON

Indian batting line-up's soft underbelly lay exposed in slightly favourable bowling conditions as New Zealand gave a rude wake-up call, winning the first warm-up game ahead of the ICC World Cup by six wickets here on Saturday.

Under overcast conditions, Trent Boult's (4/33 in 6.2 overs) incisive swing bowling was a test of technique for the Indian top-order batsmen and the Men In Blue never recovered from an early collapse, being bowled out for 179 in 39.2 overs.

It was a walk in the park for the 'Black Caps' as they reached the target in only 37.1 overs with Kane Williamson (67) and Ross Taylor (71) helping themselves to half-centuries.

While it was a warm-up game and the outcome of the result isn't something that India would be bothered too much but what certainly would keep them worried is the failure to find a solution to their problems.

KL Rahul failed at No 4, Dinesh Karthik's poor IPL form continued while Vijay Shankar and Kedar Jadhav's respective injuries in all likelihood would prevent the team management from checking them out against Bangladesh in the second warm-up game at Cardiff.

The two wrist spinners — Kuldeep Yadav (0/44 in 8.1 overs) and Yuzvendra Chahal (1/37 in 6 overs), who have gone off the boil in the past few months — also didn't make much of an impact.

A sub-200 total meant that Williamson and Taylor, during their 114-run stand, hardly took risk against the duo, getting run-a-ball with minimum fuss.

For India, Ravindra Jadeja's decent show (54 off 50 balls and 1/27 in 7 overs) was the only silver lining.

There was a possibility that after IPL, played on pitches devoid of any lateral movement and conditions that didn't aid swing bowling, the footwork would remain a touch liffy for Indian batsmen.

It was Boult's first spell which saw openers Rohit Sharma (2) and Shikhar Dhawan (2) along with No. 4 KL Rahul (6) being dismissed that proved to be decisive in overcast conditions.

The lack of footwork was evident as Boult trapped Rohit with a delivery that darted in while Dhawan had an inside edge to a delivery that had a shade more bounce. Rahul was



played on when Boult got one to rear up. On all three occasions, there was distinct lack of footwork.

Skipper Virat Kohli (18 off 24 balls) found his defence breached by Colin de Grandhomme's off-cutter trying to play across the line.

Jadeja's half-century ensured a 175-plus score for the 'Men In Blue' after being reduced to 115 for 8 at one stage. His 62-run ninth-wicket stand with Kuldeep Yadav (19) was the only saving grace for India in an otherwise disappointing batting performance.

Before Jadeja, it was Hardik Pandya (30 off 37 balls), who added 38 runs with Mahendra Singh Dhoni (17 off 42 balls) for the fifth wicket.

Dhoni's painful stay at the crease was cut short by Tim Southee when he was caught at short mid-wicket while trying to give the bowler charge.

Dhoni, who takes time to settle down, not for once looked comfortable and failed to rotate the strike during the partnership, consuming a lot of deliveries.

It was Jimmy Neesham (3/26 in 3 overs), who dismissed Hardik with a cross-seam delivery that moved a shade, inducing an outside edge.

Hardik was promoted ahead of Dhoni in adverse conditions and he showed positive intent with six boundaries.

Dinesh Karthik was gone in the same over, flicking a half-volley straight to fine leg and it was Jadeja, who resurrected the innings with Kuldeep for company.

When New Zealand batted, Jasprit Bumrah (4-2-2-1) bowled a testing first spell and Mohammed Shami (4-0-16-0) also found the right length, which will be a positive that Kohli and Co. can take from this game.



## Boos no bother for ton-up Smith

AFP ■ SOUTHAMPTON

Steve Smith said he had no problems being jeered by spectators as he marked his first match against England following a year-long ban for ball-tampering with a hundred at Southampton on Saturday.

Smith's 116 was the centrepiece of Australia's 297 for nine against England in a World Cup warm-up fixture.

"I'm pretty chilled, everyone's entitled to their opinion," Smith told Sky Sports during the innings break when asked about the crowd's taunts.

"I'm just happy to be back playing. Fortunately, I was able to contribute today and hopefully I can take this form into the World Cup."

If the sound of Smith and team-mate David Warner being booed was a sign of things to come, England will hope the former Australia captain's innings is not an omen for a season that includes both the World Cup and a five-Test Ashes series.

Smith and Warner only returned to international duty earlier this month after they both completed 12-month suspensions.

Warner was booed first by spectators on Saturday when he walked out to open the innings with captain Aaron Finch after Australia lost the toss.

**'GET 'EM STEVIE!'**  
And when the left-hander arrived at the crease, one fan shouted: "Get off Warner you cheat."  
Warner's dismissal for 43,

caught in the deep by Jonny Bairstow off Liam Plunkett, was greeted by immediate cheers from England fans.

But there were more boos as he returned to the pavilion to be replaced by Smith, coming in with Australia 82 for two in the 17th over.

The BBC reported there were a few chants of "cheat, cheat, cheat", although a lone Australia fan shouted "Get 'em Stevie!"

There was, however, the customary round of applause from the crowd for a batsman reaching his fifty when Smith got to the landmark.

Long a thorn in England's side, Smith went to 99 with a superb carved six over third man off Ben Stokes.

The next ball delivery saw Smith complete a 94-ball hundred, including eight fours, prompting yet more boos as well as clapping to acknowledge his century.

Smith's innings ended in bizarre fashion when, off the penultimate ball of the innings, third umpire Joel Wilson ruled he'd been caught and bowled by Tom Curran off what looked to be a bump ball.

Earlier, injury-prone England fast bowler Mark Wood could only manage 3.1 overs before going off with what a team spokesman said was "left foot discomfort".

The Durham quick then went to hospital for a scan.

Meanwhile Liam Dawson split the skin on his right finger, with England saying the spinner would not bat on his Hampshire home ground.

## No Fracture detected in Shankar's scan reports

PTI ■ LONDON

The Indian team heaved a sigh of relief after scan reports revealed that all-rounder Vijay Shankar hasn't sustained a fracture on his right forearm after being hit by net bowler Khaleel Ahmed during a training session on Friday.

Shankar had left the field and was taken for a

precautionary scan, the reports of which came on Saturday.

"Vijay Shankar was hit on his right forearm during practice on Friday. He underwent scans and no fracture has been detected. BCCI Medical Team is aiding him in his recovery, BCCI posted on their twitter handle.

However, the Tamil Nadu all-rounder didn't

take part in the first warm-up game and is also unlikely to play in the second practice match against Bangladesh at Cardiff on Tuesday as there is a bit of bruise, which will take time to heal.

Shankar on Saturday took some throwdowns batting 'single-handed' during the net session prior to the New Zealand game.



## Pak seek recovery after Afghan defeat

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Pakistan, who suffered a three-wicket loss to Afghanistan in their first warm-up game on Friday, will look to find winning ways against Bangladesh, before the real action unfolds at the Men's World Cup.

Things aren't looking great for Pakistan ahead of the World Cup as they've remained winless in their last 11 ODIs. Their three-wicket loss to Afghanistan in their first warm-up match only deepened concerns. At 203/4 in the 38th over, they were on course for getting an above par first innings total. But the lower middle-order collapse restricted their innings to 262 all-out in the 48th over.

Their bowling unit seemed much the same like it was in the recently concluded ODI series against England, failing to produce wickets for most part of the innings. Mohammad Amir went wicket-less in his six overs, bowling at an average speed of 82.6 mph, markedly slower than his normal pace. Wahab Riaz's late burst was the only significant positive but the game was far

gone by then. The Sarfaraz Ahmed-led side will look to capitalise their final chance to make amends, before they take warm-up on West Indies on 31 May in Nottingham in the tournament proper.

Bangladesh come fresh from a tri-series win in Ireland, after they beat West Indies in a rain-affected final. After being clean-swept in New Zealand earlier in the year, the series saw great results for them with significant contributions from their senior players like Shakib Al Hasan, Soumya Sarkar, Tamim Iqbal and Mushfiqur Rahim. New comer Abu Jayed, whose spot was uncertain in the final World Cup squad earlier, too produced a match winning spell of 5/58 against Ireland.

Bangladesh, who had caused the biggest upset at the World Cup 2015, knocking the current hosts England out of the competition, will look to maintain their good form and try to get a settled combination before their campaign gets underway against South Africa on 2 June.  
(Venue: Sophia Gardens, Cardiff)

## WI look to announce themselves in style

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

West Indies' recent one-day international form isn't anything to swoon over, but with a full strength team at their disposal, they will hope to send a message as they take on South Africa in their first World Cup warm-up game on Sunday.

Windies come into their first official warm-up on back of mixed fortunes. While they trounced hosts Ireland in each of their two games in the tri-series, they were outclassed on all three occasions by Bangladesh, including in the final.

However, they were not playing their full strength side in that series and stalwarts like Chris Gayle, Andre Russell and Nicholas Pooran among others, were absent. With them back in the fold, Windies look a lot more well-rounded outfit although they were beaten rather convincingly by Australia in an unofficial warm-up fixture two days ago.

The Windies batting has a pretty robust feel about it. The likes of Gayle, Russell, Pooran, Shimron Hetmyer and Evin Lewis are able



to play big shots for breakfast, while Darren Bravo and Shai Hope are capable of holding things down.

It is their bowling that looks a touch off-colour. Skipper Jason Holder's recent rise in Test cricket hasn't reflected in his ODI numbers. Kumar Roach picked a whole bunch of wickets in the tri-series and while Shannon Gabriel was also among the wickets, not

too many of those came against Bangladesh.

They will be up against a confident South Africa, who come into the game on back of a resounding 87-run win against Sri Lanka in their first warm-up. The Proteas seem to have covered all bases, but will want their batsmen to get some more runs.  
(Venue: Bristol County Ground)

## Collingwood takes field during warm-up game

PTI ■ SOUTHAMPTON

Former skipper and current assistant coach Paul Collingwood on Saturday was forced to take the ground as a substitute fielder after England pacers Mark Wood and Jofra Archer suffered injury scares in a warm-up game against Australia.

The 42-year-old, who had led England to 2010 T20 World Cup title, walked out to field after Mark Wood and his replacement Jofra Archer left the ground following injuries.

While Wood walked off the field after suffering a hamstring injury in his fourth over, Archer also left soon after injuring himself while fielding at the deep.

Collingwood, England's fielding coach, was then seen running around on the ground wearing Wood's World Cup jersey, giving ample display of his fitness.

Joe Root, who was rested for Saturday's warm-up match, was also asked to take the field.

England captain Eoin Morgan was missing in action Saturday due to a finger injury suffered during a training session, while spinner Adil Rashid skipped the warm-up game due to a shoulder injury, leaving the hosts with no option but to bring Collingwood onto the field.



## Steyn's fitness will decide SA composition

IANIS ■ CARDIFF

It was a cakewalk for South Africa as they registered a 87-run victory against Sri Lanka in a World Cup warm-up game on Friday, but more importantly it was their depth in squad that came to the fore.

Andile Phehlukwayo (35), Dinesh Pretorius (25 not out) and Chwis Morris (26 not out) got important runs while Phehlukwayo (4/36) and Pretorius (1/34) bagged wickets too, strengthening their case for a spot in the starting XI.

Phehlukwayo was particularly impressive with the ball, as Hashim Amla (65) and skipper Faf Du Plessis (88) also got runs.

"I think there is quite good competition and good depth within the squad," Phehlukwayo was quoted as saying by www.cricketworldcup.com. "Personally, I am not looking in terms of those competitions. I just want to contribute for the team, whoever is playing in that all-rounder position is obviously the person in form and hopefully they can do the job for the team. Aside from that I don't think personally I have any agenda in terms of the all-rounder."

Skipper Du Plessis said that at least one of those three players would have to sit out.

"There is definitely not space for three of them," he said. "Depending on fitness, Dale Steyn is progressing. So, if he doesn't progress the way that he wants to then two all-rounders come into the equation. If our fast bowlers are all fit, we love that diversity in our attack."

## Former players urge Sarfaraz to bat higher up the order

PTI ■ KARACHI

Former Pakistan cricketers have urged skipper Sarfaraz Ahmed to bat higher up the order so that the team could post big totals in the upcoming World Cup, starting May 30.

"Sarfaraz does not have the big shots to justify his batting at number 5, 6 or 7. He needs to bat higher up so that he can build his innings and help Pakistan get big totals," former captain Shahid Afridi said.

"He is wasting himself coming lower than four and this doesn't help the team. If Pakistan is to do well in the World Cup, Sarfaraz has a big role to play as captain and player. He has to be the leader on and off the field," he added.  
(Venue: Sophia Gardens, Cardiff)

Sarfaraz's batting position has become a matter of debate as he has batted mostly lower down the order but moved up a couple of times in the recent ODI series against England but on Friday in the warm-up game against Afghanistan, he again came late at number six.

"He has to realise that his worth for the team is at number four or five. He is the sort of player who can change the momentum of the game with his rotation of strike and ability to keep the scoreboard moving," Pakistan's most successful Test captain Misbah-ul-Haq said.

Misbah noted that Sarfaraz coming up the order will allow the team to utilise the two senior most

players — Muhammad Hafeez and Shoaib Malik — properly.

Former wicketkeeper-batsman Moin Khan said he had suggested Sarfaraz before the team left for England to open the innings if necessary.

"In the last World Cup I was the chief selector and I tried him out as an opener and he did well. He is someone who needs overs to pace his innings."

With openers Fakhar Zaman, Inam-ul-Haq and one down Babar Zaman having batting averages of 50 plus, number four is the best position for Sarfaraz followed by Hafeez, Malik, Asif, felt Moin.

Some of his critics have used Sarfaraz's reluctance to bat higher up in the order

as an excuse to blame him for letting the team down.

"A captain has to lead by example and if he comes at number four, the other batsmen will also respond and play sensibly," Test wicketkeeper-batsman Kamran Akmal said.

Enigmatic fast bowler Shoaib Akhtar also urged Sarfaraz to bat higher up the order and be more authoritative as captain on the field and in the dressing room.

"He has to marshal the innings and he has to play the team he wants not the eleven the chief selector and the head coach want. Only then will he be able to do well in the World Cup."



Akhtar felt Sarfaraz needed to be more assertive as a captain like India's Virat Kohli.

# ROGER, RAFA THREATEN DJOKER'S HISTORIC BID

Eying 4th successive Slam, World No 1 Novak faces tough Federer, Nadal challenge at Roland Garros

AFP ■ PARIS  
Novak Djokovic can become only the second man in history to have twice held all four Grand Slam titles at the same time with victory at the French Open.



However, a returning Roger Federer and rejuvenated Rafael Nadal will once again stand in his way. World number one Djokovic completed his first private stranglehold of all four Slams with victory at Roland Garros in 2016.

Having clinched the 2018 Wimbledon and US Open titles and then a seventh Australian Open crown in January this year, the Serb is tantalisingly close to another 'Djoko Slam'.

Federer and Nadal, with 20 and 17 career Grand Slam titles each respectively, may be ahead of 15-time major winner Djokovic in total hauls.

However, they have never managed to hold all four of the sport's greatest prizes at the same time.

It is such a rare feat that only Don Budge (1938) and Rod Laver (1962 and 1969) — all calendar Grand Slams — have pulled off the sweep in the sport's history.

Djokovic, who turned 32 on Wednesday, is playing down his potential date with destiny.

After losing to Nadal in the Italian Open final last weekend, the Serb was in no doubt that it was the Spaniard who would likely be celebrating a 12th Roland Garros title in a little over two weeks' time.

"Nadal, number one favourite, without a doubt —

then everyone else," he said.

However, he admits his Paris triumph of 2016 which gave him his first sweep, is fuelling his bid for more history.

"There is an extra motivation and incentive to win Roland Garros because of the opportunity to hold all four Slams, something I did three years ago, and that gives me obviously enough reason to believe I can do it again."

Twelve months ago, such confidence would have appeared reckless when he was shocked by Italian journeyman Marco Cecchinato in the quarter-finals, a defeat which sent him crashing out of the top 20 for the first time in over a decade.

This time around he starts his campaign against Poland's Hubert Hurkacz, the world number 43 with a potential quarter-final against Germany's Alexander Zverev who has still to get past the last eight at a Slam.

Federer is returning to Roland Garros for the first time since 2015 having turned his back on clay court tennis to focus on Wimbledon.

**10TH ANNIVERSARY**

This year marks the 10th anniversary of his one and only Paris triumph and should



the 37-year-old defy the odds and clinch the 2019 title he would become the oldest Grand Slam champion of all time.

However, Federer admits his hopes of seeing off Nadal and Djokovic are slim.

"I feel like I'm playing good tennis, but is it enough against the absolute top guys when it really comes to the crunch? I'm not sure if it's in my racquet," he said Friday.

The Swiss star faces Italy's Lorenzo Sonego, ranked at 73 in the first round on Sunday and could meet Nadal in the semi-finals.

Nadal, whose record at Roland Garros stands at a staggering 11 titles and a win-loss record of 86-2, claimed a ninth Italian Open title and a record 34th Masters last week.

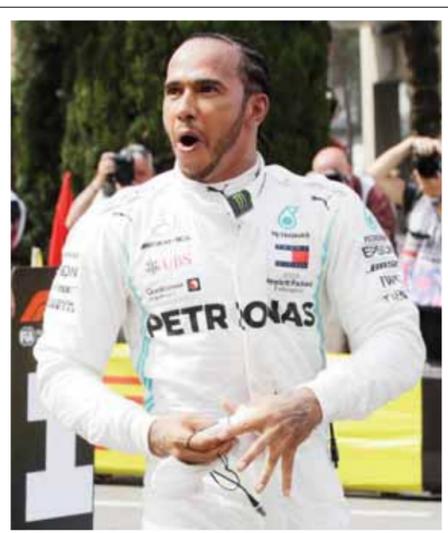
"I don't care if I'm the favourite," said Nadal who starts against German qualifier Yannick Hanfmann, the world 184 who has never won a Grand Slam match.

"I care about feeling well and playing well." Nadal's three-set win over Djokovic in Rome was timely as it was his first title of 2019 and had followed three successive semi-final losses at Monte Carlo, Barcelona and Madrid.

The last two of those were against Dominic Thiem and Stefanos Tsitsipas, both of whom play with a one-handed backhand, just like Federer.

Thiem, the 2018 runner-up to Nadal at Roland Garros, has defeated the Spaniard four times on clay.

"There is a new wave coming through with the one-handed backhand that can counter some of Rafa's spins and lefty play," said Federer.



## Hamilton snatches pole with record lap

MONACO: Lewis Hamilton snatched a dramatic pole position for Sunday's Monaco Grand Prix with an all-time circuit record lap in the final seconds to outpace Mercedes team-mate Valtteri Bottas by 0.086 seconds.

The defending five-time champion and series leader clocked an unprecedented lap in 1 min 10.166 sec to end Bottas' run of three successive poles as Mercedes, mourning the death this week of non-executive chairman Niki Lauda, produced a record-equalling 62nd front row lockout.

It was an emotional Hamilton's second pole in Monaco and the 84th of his career as he dug deep in the final seconds to find the speed required to grab the prime grid position from his team-mate.

"Whooh!" shouted Hamilton on team radio. "That's what I am talking about..."

Max Verstappen was third for Red Bull ahead of four-time champion Sebastian Vettel of Ferrari, Pierre Gasly in the second

Red Bull and Kevin Magnussen for Haas.

Last year's race winner Daniel Ricciardo was seventh for Renault ahead of Daniel Kyat of Toro Rosso, Carlos Sainz of McLaren and Alex Albon in the second Toro Rosso.

"This is the race that every driver dreams of, even as a kid," said Hamilton.

"We've arrived with a great car, a great battle with Valtteri and I think the desire and the will to get this pole. I've had to dig deeper than ever before."

"We all take our cars, fast or slow, to the limit and here, at the limit, it's like wrestling a bull. I had an oversteer moment in the Rascasse and I just held on."

Bottas said: "I'm disappointed. I felt after the first lap there were plenty of places to improve, but I had traffic and couldn't get the tyres up to temperature."

Luckless local hero Charles Leclerc qualified 16th after a strategic muddle by Ferrari in the opening part of qualifying. AFP



## Japan face China in Sudirman Cup decider

AFP ■ NANNING

Japan will have to defy the home crowd and the weight of history if they are to win the Sudirman Cup against China on Sunday.

Japan have never lifted the mixed-team world championship since it began in 1989.

In contrast, the hosts have won it a record 10 times and go into the final as slight favourites despite Japan being top seeds in Nanning.

World number one Kento Momota, Japan's talisman, must beat second-ranked Shi Yuqi if they are to stand any chance.

Momota, 24, did just that in the final of the world championships, also in China, last year.

Japan on Saturday lost their opening match to Indonesia, in men's doubles, before winning 3-1 while China dismantled Thailand 3-0 to set up a meeting between badminton's two pre-eminent powers.

The usually cool Momota celebrated wildly, pumping his fists and bellowing after seeing off Anthony Ginting 21-17, 21-19 to put Japan up 2-1 in the semi-final tie.

The doubles pairing of Mayu Matsumoto and Wakana Nagahara, the top-ranked women's duo in the world, sealed Japan's place in the final.

China were even more clinical as they made the Sudirman Cup final for the 13th time in a row. They were stunned by South Korea in the last edition, in Australia in 2017, but they look in ominous form on home turf.

The Chinese went 2-0 ahead against Thailand in just 94 minutes thanks to their world number one mixed doubles pair Zheng Siwei and Huang Yaqing, and Shi in the men's singles.

The tie was over when the men's doubles world champions Li Junhui and Liu Yuchen triumphed.

## Tuchel extends PSG stay

AFP ■ PARIS

Paris Saint-Germain coach Thomas Tuchel has extended his deal with the French Ligue 1 champions through to June 2021, the club announced on Saturday.

The 45-year-old German took over in June 2018 and despite winning Ligue 1 has come under scrutiny after the Parisian club's defeat to Manchester United in the Champions League last 16.

The news cuts short speculation that PSG's Qatari owners would fire Tuchel and hire outgoing Juventus coach Massimiliano Allegri.

"I'm delighted to extend my contract and commitment to Paris Saint-Germain," Tuchel said.

"I'd like to thank the chairman and the whole club for their trust in me and my staff. This only reinforces my ambition to bring this team to the very top through hard work," he told the club website.

"I'm also very touched by the backing of our supporters, and I'm sure that the best is yet to come for our club."

Nasser al-Khelaifi, Paris Saint-Germain chairman and CEO, praised Tuchel's energy and modus operandi.

"For a year now, Thomas has been bringing fantastic energy to the daily life of the club, not only for the players, but for the whole of Paris Saint-Germain," the Qatari said.

"We are delighted to be able to rely on his qualities on a long-term basis."

Tuchel was appointed last year on a two-year deal to succeed Unai Emery. He had been widely praised for his work at the Parc des Princes, but another elimination from the Champions League in the first knockout round had raised questions.

PSG had been desperate to make progress in Europe after being knocked out of the Champions League last 16 in back-to-back seasons under Emery.

They looked on course to reach the quarter-finals after a 2-0 win away to United in the first leg, but a 3-1 home loss at the Parc des Princes knocked them out on away goals.

The nature of their defeat, especially coming two years after their capitulation against Barcelona at the same stage, has seen PSG widely labelled as bottlers, incapable of dealing with the tension on the big stage.



## Indian shooters vie for top honours

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Indian shooters Apurvi Chandela, Ianjum Moudgil and Elavenil Valarivan will be vying for top honours at the year's third International Shooting Sport Federation (ISSF) World Cup Rifle/Pistol in Munich, Germany, starting on Sunday.

The opening day of the competition will see women's 10m Air Rifle final.

A total of 919 athletes from 98 countries, some in the non-competition Minimum Qualifying Score (MQS) section, will be competing for the 17 Tokyo Olympics quota places available, besides a coveted ISSF World Cup medal.

India has entered a 35-member squad, 23 of them competing for medals in the 10 events lined up over the next five days.

India already has five quota places in Rifle and Pistol competitions.

As a result they would be forfeiting their right to quotas in the women's air rifle and men's 10m air pistol competitions, given they have already secured the maximum possible two quotas in these events.

India's other quota is in the men's 10m air rifle and thus the shooters would be eligible for only one quota.

Apurvi, Anjum, Saurabh Chaudhary, Abhishek Verma and Divyansh Singh Panwar have secured quotas for the country so far.

India can therefore pick up a maximum of 12 further quota places from Munich.

## Kohli, Morgan, Finch are 3 skippers to watch out for: AB

PTI ■ MELBOURNE

Cricket legend Allan Border has handpicked Virat Kohli, Eoin Morgan and Aaron Finch as the three skippers to watch out for in the ICC ODI World Cup, starting May 30.

Border, who led Australia to World Cup triumph in 1987, said Kohli's aggressive and "in-your-face" style of captaincy makes him a different kind of a leader than Morgan and Finch.

"Virat Kohli, I think he's a different type of captain. He's a bit more of a boisterous-type player and wears his heart on his sleeve," Border told *cricket.com.au*.

"So the players know if they've stuffed up because he's one of those really in-your-face-type players."

Border, who captained Australia in 178 ODIs, however refused to rank the trio in any order but is mighty impressed with Morgan under whose leadership England have reached the pinnacle of ODI cricket.

"England, I think they're doing exceptionally well. They've brought a different game plan to the table which is going to be interesting to see how it pans out in the World Cup. They're a dangerous side because of it and you know as the bowling



## Monaco stay up despite Nice defeat



AFP ■ PARIS

Monaco retained its top-flight status despite losing 2-0 at Riviera rival Nice on the final day of the French league campaign.

Two years after making it to the Champions League semifinals, the Principality team slumped to an 18th defeat in 38 matches on Friday to end up fourth from bottom.

Monaco, champions in 2017, finished two points above Dijon, which needs to win a playoff to remain among the elite next season after beating Toulouse 2-1.

**Monaco, champions in 2017, finished two points above Dijon, which needs to win a playoff to remain among the elite next season after beating Toulouse 2-1**

Caen's slim hopes of staying up were dashed by a goal from Younousse Sankhare, who sealed a 1-0 win for visiting Bordeaux. Caen is relegated alongside bottom club Guingamp, which was already down and lost 2-1 at Amiens.

Runner-up to Paris Saint-Germain last term, Monaco suffered a woeful season highlighted by the firing and re-hiring of coach Leonardo Jardim, who returned after Thierry Henry failed in his first managerial post.

"The most important thing was to stay up," striker Radamel Falcao said. "Unfortunately we did not win, but we created many chances." PSG LOSES

Already crowned champion, Paris Saint-Germain finished with a 3-1 defeat at Reims despite a goal from Kylian Mbappe, the league's top scorer with 33.

PSG sealed a sixth league title in seven years but failed to retain its French Cup and League Cup crowns this season. The Qatari-backed club was also eliminated in the Champions League last-16 for the third straight year.

The capital club finished with five league defeats, its worst total since 2012-13. Runner-up Lille will join PSG in the Champions League group stages next season.

Third-place Lyon should start the competition in the qualifying round but will go directly into the groups if Chelsea, which has already qualified, wins the Europa League final against Arsenal on Wednesday.

Saint-Etienne finished fourth and will play in the Europa League.



**Talktime**  
HIDAYAT HUSAIN KHAN  
He is an accomplished sitar player and vocalist well-versed in the gayaki ang and carries a lineage spanning seven generations. The youngest son of Ustad Vilayat Khan speaks with Shalini Saxena about his collaboration with the likes of Jay Z and Will.I.Am, among other

# 'A good music day defines my mood'

**■What is keeping you busy these days?**

I have my hands full. Lots of concerts coming up. I head up to the US in June. I also have a Bollywood background score but unfortunately I can't talk about it at this point in time. I also have to work on an album and release it by September. I have a couple of concerts here in India. Then I go back to the US in August for a 10-city tour. I run a foundation for which I have an event coming up. So my calendar is pretty much full.

**■How did you manage to have so many collaborations including the one with Jay Z and Will.I.Am?**

To be honest, it was pure luck. I have had concerts come up from nowhere. These are great artists. In February I did a concert with Yo-Yo Ma (cellist) in Mumbai. He is such a leg-

end. I am of no caliber to have performed with these great artists. They have come up from nowhere and I have had the opportunity to have collaborated with them.

**■What are the challenges when you have to go back and forth from doing a film and then classical music? Or are you a pro at it?**

I don't feel like a pro in any field. I am a student and it is a learning experience. I don't say this as fake humility. When you are working on a film, the role of the music is to support or enhance a scene or a dialogue. Films are a different discipline and one has to imbibe the moment and the music has to play a supporting role. In a classical concert, the discipline is different (I am an instrumentalist). The style that I play is vocal. What I am doing with my instrument (*sitar*) is to paint a picture where I am telling a story without the lyrics. During collaborations of different genres of music one must listen to fellow musicians. This inspires you to create and harmonise musically and not just mentally.

**■What made you train as a vocalist even though you are a sitarist?**

My father was an accomplished

MY FATHER SAID THAT MUSIC IS A CAREER THAT I HAD TO MAKE ON MY OWN AND NOT FROM HIS SHOULDERS. HE ALSO SAID THAT I SHOULD PURSUE MUSIC BECAUSE OF THE LOVE OF IT AND NOT BECAUSE I WANT TO BE A CELEB

vocalist. That is how the *gayaki ang* started. My brother is a *sitarist*, so my father wanted me to become a singer. I gave my first concert when I was nine. My foundation was so strong as a vocalist that I would first imagine the music through my voice before I played the *sitar* which I started playing seriously after I was 14. I can count the number of lessons that I got from my father playing the instrument. Even then he would insist that he teach me vocally before I would play the *sitar*. The pauses and the timeline changes very subtly when you do this.

**■How tough was it to make a mark for yourself, your father being so great?**

It was extremely tough. Forget the pressure others put, it is the pressure you put on yourself. From day one, I was surrounded by music that was not just my father's but all the other maestros of the world. My father exposed us to all kinds of music which was of very high quality. So whenever I played I would compare myself with that level. This was there till very recently. Also, the society has a persona of how a classical musician should be — who our

friends should be and how we should dress. It is only now, I am becoming more confident and growing in my skin. This also reflects in my music.

**■How would you define music?**

I would like to give an example of my father. When I was growing up, we were going on an Alaskan cruise on a vacation. We were so excited but *Abba* was semi-excited. So I asked why he was not excited. He said: 'It is good to go on a vacation but I will be away from my music'. I didn't understand him then, but today I do. A good music day defines my mood. It is food for my soul.

**■Life lessons from your father.**

He instilled that music is a career that I had to make on my own and not from his shoulders. He also said that I should pursue music for the love of it and not because I want to be a celeb. To surround oneself with humility and be grounded was the next lesson. Another lesson — contrary to the music world — to have diverse interests. Don't be single focused. The more information you have, the more diverse your music will be, he told me.

# A gourmet affair

RAGHAVI JHANJEE brings you a report on how The Gourmet Club of Agra is changing the city's appetite



The club made a record for preparing the biggest thali displaying 233 dishes and cuisines from 29 States



Renuka Dang  
Founder, The Gourmet Club of Agra

Renuka (Dang) has been a pillar of strength for me. She has helped me in boosting my confidence and gave me opportunities. She encouraged me every step of the way and also corrected me whenever I was going wrong. Whatever I am now, the credit goes to her," Luthra tells you.

Richa Ralli, another club enthusiast tells you how she was never into cooking. When The Gourmet Club came, I developed a keen interest in food and now cooking is my passion. The club has empow-

ered not only me but all the other members as well." She tells you how her journey with the club became. "It all started when she got a contract to cater for around 35-40 people. With the club's support she managed the order from her home kitchen.

Since the club's inception, many an article have been written and Dang expresses her happiness when she talks about the club's publications. "It was not about me, it was about the club," she tells you.

She also tells you that the club's it is not surprising that the club has received such overwhelming response from the

city. "It was expected. When I was interacting with the women I knew that a problem existed. I realised that the club was the solution," Dang tells you. From picnics to workshops, each member is happy to attend the events and the club never diverted from food. Our vision was clear from day-1 and all the members are keen foodies, sharing a common interest.

"I believe that opportunity does not come knocking but presents itself. When I had this thought of starting a club I didn't look back, just grabbed the opportunity and made it into a reality," Dang says.

messages focusing on the affected areas. The oils used help to relieve any stress or pressure on the nerves and the muscles. It is done for 15 to 20 minutes. The whole process takes almost an hour," Naseema tells you.

The *hamam* demands renovation and repair, every year since the bath house is so old. The upkeep is expensive. It costs Naseema Bi between ₹25,000 to 30,000. She prefers to do the repair work herself since she feels it is her duty and responsibility to take care of the *hamam*. Also, no mason can do the work according to her satisfaction.

The *hamam* does not work on any newage methods. It follows the traditional practice generating steam through burning wood.

"We have a cemented room below which we fire woods which thereby generates steam. The wood has to burn continuously no matter whether the *hamam* is working or not, in order to generate enough steam for the customers. We start at 8 am to 2 pm for females, and 2 pm to 8 pm for males," Naseema Bi says.

# A hamam for all ills



Now, both women and men come to the place. We are pleased to serve the public and cure their diseases, naturally," she tells you.

A bath here costs ₹1,100 and people from all over India and sometime abroad too visit the bath. "The footfall increases in the winter season. Because it is the time when everyone wants to come and enjoy a hot steam bath, even if they don't suffer from any disease. It is good for relieving stress and relaxing too," she says.

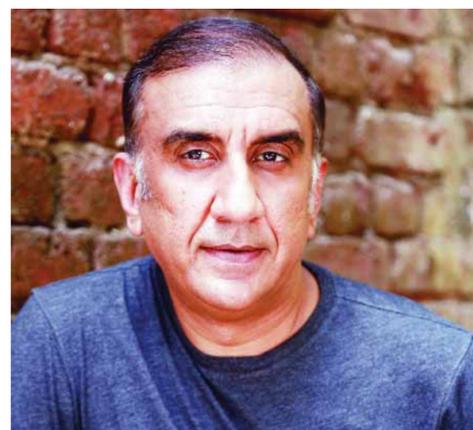
Homemade special Ayurvedic oils and a special *mitti ka paththar* which is made in Ajmer on special orders, is used in the process.

"First, we give steam bath to the person for 10 to 15 minutes. Second, comes the scrub part, which is done with the *mitti ka paththar* for another 10 to 15 minutes. Third, we give

nally meant for the *nawabs* and the *begums*.

"Earlier it was only meant for the royal family but then the *nawabs*

were impressed by the service of our forefathers. They were gifted this *hamam*. Since then it has been opened for the general public as well.



# 'Important to stay relevant'

MILAN LUTHRIA, who has films like *The Dirty Picture* to his credit, speaks with SHALINI SAKSENA about his latest project, among other things

**■What is your latest project RX 100 about?**

Sajid Nadiadwala and I came together to look for a project to launch Ahan Shetty. We were looking for ideas that would excite us. We came across *RX 100* (Telugu) that released last year. It became a cult status with the youth. We saw the movie and liked it. We didn't want typical film since my taste is rather dramatic. This film has everything — drama, emotions, romance, humour and aggression. It is a well-written production. We bought the rights and adapted it.

**■Why choose Ahan Shetty?**

He was signed up with Sajid (Nadiadwala). They wanted a director to come on board and collaborate and come up with an idea. That was the brief that was given to me.

**■You have been in the industry for two decades. What are you doing different today?**

There have been many changes. Technologically, a lot of things have changed. Storytelling has evolved. We have access to a lot more things like books and buying rights. There has been a positive evolution. Most of the films today are well-executed, marketing plays a wider role. A few big stars would control people's choices. Today, a whole new generation has come in and doing well. Actors are far more prepared. There are workshops. A lot of professionalism has come in. Earlier, an actor would do 10 films. Now, an actor does one movie.

**■Where does RX 100 stand today?**

We are at prep stage. We are doing location recce. We are doing costume and make-up trials. Performance and action training. We are holding workshops. We have to guide them correctly as the actors are young. We need to get them to understand the medium, how to perform, how to speak. It is different since they are young. We have to teach them tricks of the trade. We should start filming by July.

**■Is it easier to work with newcomers?**

I can't say whether it is easier or tougher. Working with them is refreshing. You get more time with them since they are not shooting for another project. I like to do things that I have not done before — whether it is a new genre or a new location or leading actors. The idea is to remain fresh, reinvent myself and be relevant.

**■The audience wants new content. How does that impact you as a director?**

I take this positively. It helps me search new ideas and concepts. The audience is quick to grasp which is been there done than as opposed to something that is fresh. You don't have to be different just for the sake of it. The newness can come in small ways.

**■How do you go about make a film that works?**

You keep a watch on other films being made. Go with your gut. The project should excite you. You should follow the voice inside you and don't listen to anything else.

**■What are the challenges that directors face today?**

The challenges have always been the same. You have to have the script down pat. You have to tell the story well. Look for good locations. You have to have good music. Making a movie that works with the audience. Marketing has to be perfect. Get your basics right. You have to be open to things around you.

**■How do you overcome the comments on remakes?**

There is no point in picking up a project and tinkering with the basics. You buy a film to adapt as it worked. When you adapt, you bring your own version to it — how you approach the music. You should respect the original and yet not be bound by it. Remakes have become a part of our lives.

MUSBA HASHMI ■ BHOPAL

Ever heard of a bath that can cure diseases? A *hamam* (a Turkish word that means bath) in Bhopal offers you hot spa and massages that can cure a number of diseases. This 300-year-old spa, situated in Kamla Park is the only running *hamam* in India.

A small lane leads you to the home where this bath is situated. A board at the gate reads '*Kadimi royal hamam garam ho gaya hai*'. Another one reads '*Dipawali se Holi tak*'. This means that the *hamam* runs round the year.

The moment you step inside you feel the warmth because of the steam that releases from the *hamam*. The warmth in itself relaxes you.

Naseema Bi who works there tells you that their family has been serving at this *hamam* for generations.

"This *hamam* has been passed down to us by our forefathers. We are the fifth generation," she says and tells you that the *hamam* was origi-



FROM THE INSIDE

## Krishna's imprints on Jainism

Despite their rich theological tradition, the Jains assigned Lord Krishna equal status next to that of the Tirthankara



## Organise the mind for success

It is a fact that a relaxed mind is more productive. This offers ground to remain focused, which in turn, leads to success

I went through this realisation that acting, at its heart, is the ability to manipulate your own emotions  
Scarlett Johansson



# A KALEIDOSCOPE OF HERITAGES



*Socioliterary Cultures in South Asia* studies five nations — Afghanistan, Bangladesh, India, Pakistan, and Sri Lanka — which share not just national boundaries but also a history of diverse literary and linguistic practices, many of which have at different points in history overlapped, interacted or informed each other, writes AVANTIKA POKHRIYAL

That India is a land of diverse literary and cultural traditions has been used so often as to have become a truism. However, similar attention to the variegated nature of the socio-cultural as well as the literary landscape of the larger region of South Asia is missing. In fact, in the popular narratives of the self-congratulatory brand of nationalism, one tends to juxtapose the fluidity and multiplicity of India with the apparently static literary and social life of the nations in its immediate vicinity. Additionally, the use of markers such as 'South Asia' denotes a sense of homogeneity and uniformity which leaves little room for conceptualisation of a unique national identity, let alone of innovations and differences of each nation within the said area. It is only through an analysis of the entire region with an acute awareness simultaneously of what unites and also what gives each constituent country its distinctive identity can one truly begin to challenge the imposition of labels of Western origin. In spite of what they might suggest, labels are never wholly organic and they always create as much as they name a reality.

*Socioliterary Cultures in South Asia* by Anisur Rahman is an attempt towards understanding the "...self-evolved centrality of each location [in South Asia]" so that when "all of them [are] taken together", they "impart uniqueness to a broader South Asian identity". The book has a twofold aim, which is to celebrate the individual socioliterary identity of the nations comprising South Asia and to also understand that this microcosmic focus does not necessarily unravel the collective political identity. In other words, the book manages to maintain a fine balance between the local and the global.

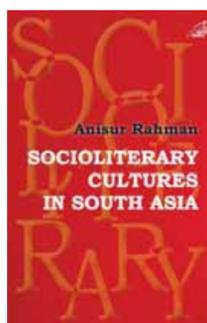
Rahman, a former professor at the department of English in Jamia Millia Islamia University, is an author, poet, and translator and has various publications as well as edited/co-edited works to his credit, including *Hazaron Khawashen Aisi: The Wonderful World of Urdu Ghazals* (2018) and *In Translation: Positions and Paradigms* (2019). His latest book, *Socioliterary Cultures in South Asia*, is an ambitious literary enterprise which, as the name suggests, covers the rather expansive geo-literary territory of South Asia. The aim of undertaking this challenge is prompted by, as the author writes in the preface of the

book, the desire to resist the homogeneity imposed on the region through the use of the term 'South Asia'. *Socioliterary Cultures* studies five nations — Afghanistan, Bangladesh, India, Pakistan, and Sri Lanka — which share not just national boundaries but also a history of diverse literary and linguistic practices many of which have at different points in history overlapped, interacted or informed each other. Through its nuanced analysis, the book stresses on the distinctive character of each of these countries without contesting or undermining the sense of a collective South Asian identity. There is a clear sense of co-sharing and co-development, which does not take away from an appreciation of the distinctiveness of each literary culture. In the author's own words, "In addition to their social, cultural, economic, and political variables, South Asian nations have had a shared history of underdevelopment... they have always impacted each other either directly and indirectly, but even while they have done so, they have maintained their intrinsic differences."

The book covers a wide expanse of time from the medieval period of the Sufi poet Rumi (1207-1273) and the Bhakti poet, Sant Kabir (c 1338-1448) to the contemporary era. It has a clear postcolonial emphasis in the ways it identifies the writers and texts as well as in its acknowledgement of the distinctive literary history of each region.

*Socioliterary Cultures* is divided into three thematically arranged sections: 'Secular Traditions', 'Imaginary Landscapes', and 'Realistic Configurations', each of which moves across spatial/national boundaries. The book will certainly be an asset for anyone interested in literature, particularly because of the lucid writing style. The ideas have been explained well and the arguments are clear and devoid of any pedantic jargon which make it an engaging read for people across a wide spectrum. The thematic variety that the book explores — from Premchand to the cinematic representation of Muslims in India, and from the Sufi poet Rumi to contemporary women poets of Pakistan — ensures that there is something for all kinds of readers.

Through its 17 chapters, the book fulfills its promise of offering a broad and expansive layout of the literary landscape of the five nations under consideration. Chapters such as 'An Evolving Text: Tahmima Anam's A



“ THE BOOK STRESSES ON THE DISTINCTIVE CHARACTER OF EACH COUNTRY WITHOUT CONTESTING OR UNDERMINING THE SENSE OF A COLLECTIVE SOUTH ASIAN IDENTITY. THERE IS A CLEAR SENSE OF CO-SHARING AND CO-DEVELOPMENT, WHICH DOES NOT TAKE AWAY FROM AN APPRECIATION OF THE DISTINCTIVENESS OF EACH LITERARY CULTURE

*Golden Age* focus on the literary scenario of Bangladesh — an otherwise severely neglected area in South Asian studies — through the analysis of Anam's debut novel released in 2007. The novel depicts the struggles of a widowed woman, Rehana Haque, trying to raise her family in a country struggling to create its national identity. Anam's work is noteworthy for the way it weaves together the personal and the public, but also how it underlines a shared history of the subcontinent all the while maintaining its commitment to delineating the war for the liberation of Bangladesh.

As the author notes: "It has been generally argued that *A Golden Age* is a novel that draws essentially upon the experiences of war and liberation. To develop a larger and more Catholic view, I should like to posit that apart from drawing upon the idea and experience of war and liberation, this novel operates at two particular levels of time and space as it moves through the meandering motions of a historical period and the shifting locations in a given space. Even while it engages directly with Bangladesh, it also refers back and forth to two neighbours — India and Pakistan — that act as causes to many effects at the personal level of the characters involved and the political levels of the countries in question... This saga, which projects Bangladesh in a direct-indirect relationship with India and Pakistan, with all their parities and disparities, represents a major aspect of contemporary history of the Indian subcontinent."

Keeping in tune with its broad thematic focus, the book covers a wide variety of genres from poetry to films. This, in turn, attests to the rich diversity of socioliterary output of the region under consideration. The author draws upon the printed text as well as the tradition of oral recitation, as in the case of Kajri. It is "a verbal and performance text", which was sung primarily when rain-bearing clouds were heavy in the sky. Traditionally, a harbinger of the rains, the singing of Kajri is not limited to the monsoon season. It is a highly flexible form of poetry, which can incorporate issues that are political/public in nature. For instance, Kajri has been employed by some poets, like Ustad Bismillah Khan, to suggest an environment of political turmoil and pressure. The Ustad, once invited to a musical gathering in Jammu, sang the Kajri in

spite of there being no indication of rains. For him, at that point in time, the clouds evoked in Kajri represented the atmosphere of political intrigue in contemporary Jammu. According to Prof Rahman, "The Ustad's offering may be taken as a folklorist interlude of hope, faith, and redemption that his music might bring to listeners."

Since this poetic form of expression is rare, it is pertinent to note what the author has to say about it, in greater detail: "Kajri may be read as eminent examples of secular poetry rooted in history, culture, region, spirituality, and patriotism. Apart from other constituents, nature and women remain at the centre of this composition. Kajri is an emotional and dramatic representation of village life... It represents individual history as forcefully as it does the history and geography of a people, its sociology, and its philosophy of existence... Kajri has had various forms since its origin at some point of time in the past and has passed through several variations in techniques of composition and styles of rendition... There are regional variations in the style of singing that may clearly be noticed in the way Kajris are sung in Ramnagar (Kashi) and Mirzapur. In this respect, Kajris may also be read as manifestation of the tones and tunes characteristic of a community of people living in two areas of the same region."

The book is a treasure trove of information for people who are interested in South Asian studies and who want a book that is simultaneously engaging and informative without being reductive. The writer's expertise in translation also comes to bear upon the chapters where he uses his own translation of Urdu verse as well as vernacular poetry. Other texts and writers discussed in the book include Sarojini Naidu, Faiz Ahmed Faiz, and Agha Ali Shah. It is clear that a great amount of research has gone on the part of the writer in the making of this book, which is never belied by the tone of effortless ease maintained by the writer. The book is a must-read for anyone interested in the social and literary traditions of South Asia, whether for academic purposes or otherwise.

*Socioliterary Cultures in South Asia* has been written by Anisur Rahman and published by Niyogi Books, ₹650



**HIDDEN SOULS**  
PRAMOD PATHAK

## When the dust settles



The long-drawn seven-phase elections are over and the results have come. Needless to say that the elections this time were fought on emotive rather than rational plank. For some observers, though, elections are always based on emotional rather than real issues. But the Indian experience may prove otherwise on many occasions. Nevertheless, there is a need to focus on the core issues which were largely glossed over in the cacophony of noise largely created by motivated media campaigns that were premised on the "heavens will fall doctrine". So the two sides of the divide were both trumpeting the same sound — if not we, the heavens will fall. But the fact remains that heavens will not fall, because heavens cannot fall. Anyway, it is time to get on to the brass tacks right away. Interestingly, everyone is aware of what needs to be done. But immediate gains become important. So, there is a supplementary question that comes in the way: What is there for me? It is this question that makes all and sundry deviate from the issues as people are driven by the logic that in the long run, everyone is dead. Well, that does make sense for the present generation, but there is a need to think of the generations to come. History is replete with examples that suggest that even monarchs thought of the future and made plans that were strategic and long term in nature. Sher Shah Suri planted trees on both sides of the Grand Trunk Road, though he knew it would take years before they grow full length. The unfortunate part is that people, in their craving for power, occupy themselves with next elections rather than the next generation. There is an urgent need for statesmanship in the political dispensation that can address issues of realpolitik rather than abstractions that charge people for a short while, but do precious little to address the ground realities. As the new Government takes over, there is a need to broach over the basics, the real agenda. As many politics-watchers rightly pointed out, the most serious issue of our times — climate change — hardly found a mention in the electoral debate. The problem is serious and concerns all of us. It is the environment, the ecosystem, which sustains life. In the primary class geography books, we used to read about its critical nature. Unfortunately, no one is bothered about ecology these days. But the rate at which the mean temperatures are rising and pollutants choking the atmosphere, all those investments in technology may be rendered ineffective. Nature's disapproval of human ways are already loud and clear, only we need to read the writing on the wall. Addressing the sustainability of the ecosystem must then be the topmost item on the agenda of the Government. But it must also be understood that the physical ecosystem is too intricately connected with the social ecosystem. The trees, rivers, land all provide lifeline to the poor also. The plight of the underprivileged class which, despite the statistical jugglery, comprises a large section of the populace and is not less responsible for the damage to the environment than the big industries. It is equally important to think of income generation schemes for the poor and deprived. The rich man's greed and the poor man's need are both equally responsible. The physical environment and the socio-economic environment are parts of the same whole.

Pathak is a professor of management, writer, and an acclaimed public speaker. He can be reached at ppathak.ism@gmail.com

# KRISHNA'S IMPRINTS ON JAINISM

Despite their rich theological tradition, Jains could not overlook Krishna's grand persona and assigned him equal status next to that of the Tirthankara, writes Dr ASHA GOSWAMI

Shri Krishna cast a magic spell over the minds of innumerable people from all parts of the world, belonging to many creeds and castes, who find themselves impressed with one or the other feature of his magnificent persona and character. In the same strain, the Jains in India were fascinated with Krishna's grand persona, so much so that they recast the Pauranic account of Krishna saga in their own way, as befitting their ideologies. In this context, it seems pertinent to note that in India, religious tradition flows through three major streams of thought — the Vedic or Pauranic, Buddhist, and Jainism.

The latter two streams of thought, however, originated and developed in India outside the pale of Pauranic tradition, but their main aim was confined to delineating and elaborating the theology and mythology surrounding popular Indian deities, such as Shri Krishna or Shri Ram, with the help of assigning different features in their personae character as suitable to their ideals. While pointing out three point of views on Krishna and His interaction with the Jains, let's not lose sight of the fact that from the very beginning, in India they emerged as an important section of Indian society and 8th century BC onwards have contributed a good deal of thought material of Indian civilisation, which is considered a substantial and genuine tradition of the Indian nation.

Similarly, the Jain tradition on Krishna holds great importance for understanding the arch-type of Krishna concept. It is found that the Jains not only included the Krishna concept within their religious fold, but also some other cults and beliefs in their own sect. According to some, the Jains were averse to the encounters of pastoral Krishna, for they hardly talk about it, rather, they relish talking about the oldest tradition on Krishna, which hails him as the Lord of Dwarka and not Gopala Krishna. Further for knowing the Jain tradition on Krishna, the Jain work such as *Jaina Hariyansha* and other Puranic works have to be traversed. These Jain works describe in detail the achievements of Krishna and name him not Krishna but Vasudeva, as is common practice with the Bhagavats.

Similarly, the Jains' other descriptions of Krishna's forefathers, Yadavas, and his last days on Earth are in agreement with those of the Puranas, likewise, most of the childhood encounters of Krishna almost find similar versions in the Jain sources. For instance, the Jains also treat Baladeva or Balaram as Krishna's brother and helpmate. The Jains,



however, preserve different lists of Krishna's ancestors and descendants. Besides this, even distorted version of Krishna's exploits as given in the *Mahabharata* and the *Puranas* is traceable in the Jain sources. According to the Jains, Jarasandha's killer is Krishna and not the Pandava brother Bhima; Krishna used to remain disgusted with the Pandavas and for that reason they were forced by him to leave Hastinapore and made to settle far off in south. The Jain sources similarly speak differently about Krishna's killer, who was an anonymous fowler according to the *Puranas*, but according to the Jains, he was Jarakumar or Jarakumar and happened to be Krishna's half brother and a Yadava prince like him. Here it seems that the idea of an anonymous hunter killing a God could not be acceptable to the Jains, so they invented an idea of the killer of Krishna of equal royal rank and status as that of Krishna. Besides Balarama, Krishna's other nine brothers are referred to by the Jains along with their father, who is named as *Andhaka-Vrishni*.

With this general note on the transference and innovations in Krishna's personae by the Jains, it may be added that the Jains have provided us a peculiar type of informa-

AS A PREACHER OF GITA, KRISHNA FINDS A CHERISHED POSITION IN THE JAIN TRADITION. AMONG OTHER FEATURES OF THE JAIN TRADITION ON KRISHNA, HIS ROLE AS THE LORD OF DWARKA OR RAIVATAKA IS MOST ENDEARING TO THE JAINS

tion on Krishna tradition with which they became conversant and fascinated. So much so that they could not desist themselves from including Krishna and his brother among their 63 great personages of the era whom they cherish with great respect and honour. Shri Krishna finds the last position in their list of great personages, whom they call "*Shalaka Purushas*". They know him as Vasudeva Keshava, the son of Vasudeva. Besides, in Jain tradition, Krishna's 10 forms or incarnations are also popular along with the notions of cowherd Krishna in passing. Moreover, it is interesting to note that the Jains not only agree upon treating their first Tirthankara as Lord Vishnu's great *avatara*, but even recast the biography of the 22nd Tirthankara Arishtanemi on the pattern of Krishna Saga and declared him as the famous prince of Krishna's Yadava clan and as being related to him as his cousin. The Jains also treat Krishna's Preceptor Ghorangirasa as in the Bhagvata tradition on Krishna.

As a preacher of *Gita*, Krishna finds a cherished position in the Jain tradition. Among other features of the Jain tradition on Krishna, His role as the Lord of Dwarka or Raivataka is most endearing to the Jains. They abstain from associating Krishna

with Mathura and Vrindavan and neither cherish him as Bala Krishna or Gopala Krishna, rather are fond of calling him by the title "destroyer of the vanity of many powerful and proud ones like the wrestlers Charura and Kamsa". The Jains also admire Krishna as the destroyer of Putana, Shakuni bird, vicious bull, and Kaliya.

With regard to the other features of Jain ideology and notion on Krishna, it may be also stated that as they have included Shri Krishna among their 63 personages of high honour, it proves that they look upon him as the great and noble Kshatriya prince, who according to them, was a representative of the ninth black Vasudeva and always accompanied with white Vasudeva who was Baladeva. The Vasudevas, in alliance with the Baladevas, who are also held by the Jains to succeed overpowering the Vishnudvishas who in Krishna's case is Jarasandha and not Kansa. The Jains also know Krishna as having multitude wives numbering 16,000. The Jains also know Krishna as the son of Vasudeva, who had two wives Devaki and Rohini. Besides Baladeva or Balarama Krishna is said to have another younger brother, Gajasukumar.

Summing up the Jain tradition on Krishna, it can be ascertained that assigning him the role of the ninth Vasudeva and one of the 63 Shalaka Purushas, the Jains — although having their rich theological tradition — could not overlook Shri Krishna's manifold personae-features so much so that they included him among their great persons who were worthy of their worship and honour, and also assigned him equal status next to that of the Tirthankara. This Jain contribution towards Krishna concept goes to prove that Krishna's appeal was not only confined to the followers of the Vedic-Brahmanic tradition, but spread beyond among the non-Brahmanic believers and devotees belonging to other schools of thought and discipline like the Jains or others.

Besides accepting Krishna as one of the nine Vasudevas, the Jains liberally extend their support to the view which accepts Krishna as belonging to the status of the great chieftains of the age, and one who had obtained supreme glory and was very kind-hearted. Concluding the discussion on Krishna's interaction with the Jains, let us repeat verbatim their belief that "Shri Krishna would appear in the form of future 12th Tirthankara of the next world-period along with other members of his family like his parents, brothers who will also achieve similar position".

The writer is a noted Indologist and authority on Krishnaitic Studies

## Hurdles in democracy and how spirituality can help us

Spiritual people won't seek temporary populist measures, but ensure long-term good for all, writes RADHANATH SWAMI

India recently witnessed the quinquennial festival of democracy — the General Elections. Democracy has empowered people with choice. It is the right and responsibility of each citizen to vote. Almost all systems come with inherent faults, and it is our duty to reduce the faults and increase the efficiency of the system.

**So-called equality:** The common people vote to elect the next Government. Every vote counts and adds or subtracts chances of winning or losing the election. Candidates who receive maximum votes come to power. The votes of learned and ignorant are given equal preference. In a society where along with the innocent population, there are people like criminals, hate-mongers, addicts, abusers, debauchees, how can we expect them to cast their vote for the Government which will act in a direction they may not like? It is like an insincere student wishing to have a strict class teacher. Generally, this category of people will try to find a leader who matches their narrative of life. Spirituality teaches people to sober up in life and helps them overcome their negative habits. Such trained populace can definitely give better candidates, who can represent them and do better for society.

**Populist measures:** People go by what is good for their immediate future than long-term benefits. The populist measures corrode the economy in terms of investment in wrong things, burden on financial institutions like banks, degrades the attitude of people who always want to take from the state than



making contributions, make them lazy and always waiting for such kind of largesse. Spirituality teaches us to look beyond the immediate good. Austerity, which is an integral part of spirituality, is about voluntarily giving up certain pleasurable things for better spiritual prospects. Spirituality teaches that we are eternal beings, *atman*, and spiritual happiness comes when we disengage our senses from flickering pleasures of this world to the service of God. In this way, people experience higher inner bliss and they are able to develop distaste for immediate pleasures, which often rob people of their valuable health, wealth, and character. Such people won't go for temporary populist measures, but will see the greater, long-term good for all.

**Casteism:** Parties place their candidates based on the caste arithmetic,

considering where they can have winning candidates based on the caste of the mass population in that region. In such attempts and in the heat of elections, unnecessary communal tensions are aroused by provocative speeches of the leaders, which contribute to building fault lines between various castes and communities. *Atman* is beyond any physical conceptions of body like caste, religion, or nationality. Spiritual people identity unity among this external diversity on the spiritual platform. This unity helps them give up external differences.

**Winning chances than performance:** While selecting candidates, many times, the winning ability is prioritised over performance capability and character assessments. Even criminals get tickets to fight elections if they have a higher chance of winning. Scriptures are torchlights which highlight what the desirable traits are and what aren't. The torchbearer of truth can't be deceived by criminals hiding within the system.

**Shifts in ideologies:** Opportunism trumps ideological integrity. People shift their ideologies for desirable perks. Voters get deceived if after the elections, elected candidates switch to or align with the parties with opposite ideology. Spiritual people don't have egoistic hollow attachments to their ideologies, but they have reasons for things they value as sacred. In this way, spirituality can definitely help strengthen the democratic system for the benefit of the people in general.

The writer is a spiritual guru at International Society for Krishna Consciousness (ISKCON)

## The many benefits of *sadhana*

As we begin to experience the benefits of *sadhana*, done by meditation or chanting, we will fall in love with God but that will only happen gradually, says AJIT KUMAR BISHNOI

I am using the word *sadhana* because I did not find a suitable word for it in English. This Sanskrit word means worshipping an idol or an image of God like a photo. It also means wanting to please God by our sincere efforts. *Sadhana* can be done in many ways, like meditation, chanting, just feeling the presence of God, looking at a *murti* of God or even a photo. There are no restrictions placed on how you do it as long as it helps in becoming God-conscious. Some people regularly read spiritual texts.

Such *sadhana* has enormous benefits. I am detailing many of them herein, some of them I have experienced; these benefits accrue only gradually. What is our experience? That superior benefit takes time in coming. Once we get started, momentum will build slowly. As we begin to experience the benefits of doing *sadhana*, we will fall in love with God but that will take time. Life will become smoother. Not that one will be freed from all troubles, because that never happens in this impermanent place of miseries. (*Gita* 8.15) Most importantly, one will begin to enjoy life in various ways. God helps us realise that ultimately life is meant to be enjoyed only.

Initially, *sadhana* may appear difficult to do but it doesn't have to be. One should customise for self because doing *sadhana* is important, not how it is done. God has given us multiple options. We can choose our posture, sitting down or even lying down. The idea is to be able to



do *sadhana* not how, because being able to do regular *sadhana* qualifies us for God's grace.

I begin with the great benefit of being freed from negative emotions. Of course, this happens gradually only but one can never underestimate this boon. One is freed from debilitating fears related to one's body, near and dear ones, material possessions, etc. Even a habitual worrier can hope to be rid of this painful habit. One can sleep better as anxiety will not affect that much. Living in the material world in material bodies, it is impossible to be completely rid of anxiety, but it becomes manageable. And the mental faculty of such practitioners remains sound till the end of life. What a boon this is when mental health is becoming a very seri-

ous problem worldwide.

One realises spiritual truths. Personally, I have been very fortunate in this regard. The cosmic design begins to be revealed to us. This is a great boon; we know how we are placed vis-à-vis the creation. We learn about what we need to do to get all that God has to offer like guidance, help, *shakti/bala*, security, peace, happiness, support, etc. All we need to do is take God's shelter in all respects. Not only is the next birth guaranteed to be superior but the possibility of the present life ending badly is also eliminated. (6.40)

Connected with God, physical health becomes a beneficiary, because one comes under Lord's care. Even family members, ie the near and dear ones, get the ripple effect. One toler-

ates better. Remember no one is exempt from suffering. One must tolerate what cannot be avoided. (2.14) If someone comes to God consciousness, somehow, anyhow, God will give the strength to be able to continue to do so. Steady *sadhana* will ensure it. I can vouch for it. Faith will become stronger steadily.

In conclusion, I will state that we, small souls, are programmed to be highly self-centered, but most people don't realise where their self-interest lies. It is in Vasudeva, who is everything. (7.19) We must realise that we are small and, in the ultimate sense, quite helpless, and it is in our best interest to surrender to God. Regular *sadhana* will take us there.

Bishnoi is a spiritual writer and can be reached at spiritual@ajitbishnoi.com

# America's Indian perspective on terror

The United States of America is a liberal nation par excellence and with the Trump regime, there has been an awesome impetus given to the Global War on Terror (GWOT). It was then President George Bush, who initiated the now extant terminology with the flock of the neo-conservatives, and the PNAC (Project on New America) GWOT group.

In academia, there are twin terminologies which hold much water in the context of both the global terror and the South Asian and West Asian visage of cross-border terrorism. The formulation comprises the idea of the suppressor state which aids, abet and imposes terror modules on a recipient suppressed state. Another facet includes the canny nomenclature of super terrorism which includes a deft utilisation of the nodes and internodes of the suppressed state. This terror methodology refers to the idiom that nodes can be construed as the urban centres, shopping malls along with the energy depots in any receptacle nation. On the other hand, the internodes are the vast swathes of highways, railways and air routes which connect these sequestered nodes of population and attendant infrastructure.

Thus, terrorists world over now utilise the state infrastructure to randomise the life and support systems of civilisational hubs and Defense facilities in India and South Asia, both being the staple targets of jihadi terrorism.

The manner in which the United States, the United Kingdom and France have ably sustained India's impetus to enlist Jaish-e-Mohammad chief Maulana Masood Azhar as a global terrorist speaks volumes about the success of New Delhi's counter-terror diplomacy with the recently constituted United Nations Security Council Resolution No. 1267



Committee at the United Nations. Thus, the long French leave of the terror mongers has been curtailed by the United Nations. Even peacenik nations have to absolve themselves of the globally infused guilt of being hard nosed with the terror mongers in their infested terrains and populations. The United States issued a much needed warning to Pakistan Prime Minister Imran Khan during the Pulwama incident which enervated Rawalpindi and Islamabad and secured blink quick release of Wing Commander Abhinandan in the throes of a dogfight.

There was a time in the early nineties that then US Assistant Secretary of State for South Asia Robin Raphael would ask India while visiting New Delhi about the imagined theme of human rights abuses by the Indian security forces in South Asia. Since the advent of the present world politics, the tide has turned the other way. Now, President Trump calls the Indo-US relationship as the

most prized and special relationship and both the nations are moving towards full-fledged alliance. Specially in the context of counter-terror cooperation, both the nations have attempted a clearly delineated definition of terrorism and sought recourse to the United Nations mechanism.

The UN mechanism comprises aiding the less resourced and developing nations in technology and training in the war against terror. As an attendant fact, in the aftermath of the September 11 attacks, nations are required to submit an annual report to the UN Security Council in order to monitor the still evolving global mechanism of countering terror and its global machination. The recent decision in the heady portals of the UN Security Council to list Masood Azhar as a global terrorist is one of the initial mechanisms of the UN body aided by American support to ameliorate the concerns of New Delhi, especially in the aftermath of

the Mumbai terror attacks and the recent outrage on Uri and Pulwama, and the Indian response in Balakot in Pakistan. The impunity with which terror leaders such as Hafiz Sayeed and Masood Azhar roam around Pakistan mobilising jihad against the imagined Indian excesses has already been commented upon by scholars and media alike. Pakistan's deep state has always contested that its territory and resources are the hotbeds of terror training. But facts speak otherwise. The US has been pro-active with US Marines attacking terrorist hotbeds in the Af-Pak region with heavy bombs termed as MOAB, the mother of all bombs. The US has delayed the selling of weaponry to Pakistan on the charges of sponsoring terror and has always been following the diplomatic line of seeking and demanding qualified evidence from Islamabad that it has not aided the terror drag-net in the region and in India. The American legislation

COMCAST is another instance of placing unprecedented pressure on Islamabad to dismantle its terror infrastructure, primarily directed at India. Also, the US has initiated a move to invite India to play a more active role in the insurgency ridden Afghanistan and what is required is a heady response by the Indian interlocutors. Thus, countering terror in a manner reflects the American gumption and the Indian capacity to spread its arms to the region with New Delhi playing a global role in taking to task the terror machination directed against India, in the name of jihad for the State of Jammu & Kashmir.

Thus, the US also through its new immigration policy has outlawed illegal entry from nations such as Pakistan to its homeland, that is, American territory; it is more than a symbolic impetus and a filip to the Indian stance on countering and targeting cross-border and other phoenix like ideas of terrorism. There is a whole body



**PULWAMA FIDAYEEN'S LAST MESSAGE BEFORE HE BLEW UP CRPF CONVOY:** "By the time this video reaches you, I will be enjoying in heaven... This is my last message for the people of Kashmir... Jaish has kept the flame alive and stayed put in adverse circumstances.. Come, join the group and prepare for one last fight"

of counter-terrorism jurisprudence which has been created by the UNSC.

The entire counter-terror jurisprudence involves the ambit of the following few United Nations Security Council Resolutions comprising the following UNSC Resolutions: 1267(1999), 1989(2011) and 2253(2015).

The United Nations Sanctions Committee has declared, "The entry specified below includes ISIL (Daesh) and Al Qaida Sanctions among the list of individuals and entities subject to the assets freeze, travel ban and arms embargo set out in paragraph 1 of Security Council resolution 2368 (2017), and adopted under Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations." This is what the United Nations official web release declares in its May 1, 2019 release.

The United Nations Security Council Resolution no. 1267 passed in 2019 explains its concerns as, "Recalling the relevant international counter-terrorism conventions and in particular the obligations of parties to those conventions to extradite or prosecute terrorists, strongly condemning the continuing use of Afghan territory, especially areas controlled by the Taliban, for the sheltering and training of terrorists and plan-

ning of terrorist acts, and reaffirming its conviction that the suppression of international terrorism is essential for the maintenance of international peace and security."

Thus, the feel of the UN charter reverberates throughout the nomenclature and the language of the UNSC Resolution No. 1267. Afghanistan might be the centre of the sanctions regime but the extended overreach of counter-terror mechanisms comprise the terror spectacle spread across the Indian and South Asian region. Early on, the United States sought irreversible action on the scourge of terror in South Asia and India. The US office of Foreign Assets control has included the name of a few terror financial facilitators which reflects the political will on the part of the US to initiate a doughty mode of combat against the global terror infrastructure. The argument that India is provoking a war by isolating Pakistan is a dysfunctional approach, which only reflects the sympathy and empathy for the ministrations of global terror and nothing more.

(The writer teaches International Relations at Indian Institute of Public Administration, Delhi)

The manner in which the US, the UK and France convinced China to back India's impetus to enlist Jaish-e-Mohammad chief Maulana Masood Azhar as a global terrorist speaks volumes about the success of New Delhi's counter-terror diplomacy



MANAN DWIVEDI

## PERSPECTIVE

# Catalan separatist vows EU Parliament fight

When not attending trial as a defendant, Junqueras, a historian, says he spends his time at the Soto del Real prison writing a collection of stories for his son and daughter, who he estimates he has seen 'a total of 50 hours' since he was put behind bars in November 2017. "I tell (my children) that unfortunately we live in a country where I can be put in jail... My job consists precisely in ensuring that this doesn't happen again and that my children don't have to go through what their father has," says Junqueras

Blocked from pursuing his political crusade in Spain's parliament, the most prominent jailed leader of Catalonia's separatist movement is vowing to take his fight to the European Parliament.

The lower chamber of Spain's Parliament on Friday suspended Oriol Junqueras and three colleagues from their recently gained seats as national lawmakers because they are currently in jail during an ongoing trial at Spain's Supreme Court. They face up to 25 years in prison for rebellion charges that stem from a banned referendum and an independence declaration made by the separatist-controlled Catalan government in late 2017.

But Junqueras is also running for the European Parliament in elections that take place on Sunday, and polls say that he and his former boss, Carles Puigdemont, who unlike Junqueras fled the country to avoid arrest, have a high chance of being elected.

Even so, the Catalan separatists face several legal hurdles to be sworn in as European lawmakers.

"The sole fact that a European lawmaker and a candidate to the presidency of the European Commission is a political prisoner of one of the European Union's member states is a very powerful message in favour of democracy, fundamental rights and freedoms not only in Catalonia but in all Europe," Junqueras told The Associated Press on Friday.

The Spanish Government has



The leader of the Catalanian ERC party Oriol Junqueras, centre, leaves after collecting his credentials at the Spanish parliament in Madrid on May 20, 2019. Junqueras and three other high-profile separatists won seats in the Lower Chamber, while Raul Romeva won a seat in the Senate. The five, along with other defendants, are being held in pre-trial jail. They face several years in prison if found guilty of rebellion AP

repeatedly rejected the term "political prisoner" to refer to the prosecuted Catalan separatists, pointing out that they were jailed by independent courts according to legal

provisions in the country.

The Government also often reiterates that political parties openly advocating for secession are legal in the country, but the only way to

achieve independence for a region like northeastern Catalonia is by reforming the country's 1978 constitution, which currently prohibits the secession of a region unless all

Spaniards vote on it.

Junqueras spoke via video conference from a jail on the outskirts of Madrid shortly before the widely expected announcement that he would be suspended as a Spanish lawmaker.

Speaker Meritxell Batet announced that the governing body of the Congress of Deputies had ruled for the suspension in line with the country's criminal code, which bans those indicted for rebellion or terrorism-related charges and in preventive custody from holding public office.

But the 50-year-old former number 2 of the Catalan regional Government, who was previously a European lawmaker between 2009 and 2012, told AP that the suspension in Spain doesn't affect him because he was planning to give up his seat anyway: Members of the European Parliament can't hold certain public offices in their home countries.

Junqueras is the lead candidate in the European elections of Ahora Republicans, a coalition of a Catalan and other small regionalist parties in Spain. Polls give it enough votes for him to claim one of the 751 seats in the chamber, but his possibilities to be sworn in are unclear given his legal situation.

Junqueras said he hopes Spain's Supreme Court will allow him to travel to the European Parliament in Strasbourg, France, for the opening session in July. "For me, it will be a pleasure to return to the European

Parliament," he said, because that would allow him to rejoin former colleagues in the bloc's assembly and "explain to them firsthand the deep injustice that innocent people are in prison."

If he succeeds in becoming a parliament member, Junqueras plans to launch a largely symbolic candidacy to become European Commission president as the contender for the European Free Alliance, a grouping of small regional and separatist parties from across Europe, including Scottish, Flemish and Corsican nationalists.

While Junqueras said that if his attempt to become a European lawmaker is blocked he will appeal it in court, Puigdemont faces even greater potential challenges to join him in the continental legislature.

According to an internal report by the European Parliament's legal services that the AP has had access to, Puigdemont would have to return to Spain to be officially included in the list of its elected European lawmakers and thereby face arrest.

Despite the chaos caused by the Brexit referendum in the UK, Junqueras is not wavering in his belief that the solution to the Catalan question is a regional vote on independence.

Election results and polls indicate that the 7.5 million residents of the Catalonia region are roughly split down the middle by the secession question. Junqueras and three fellow separatists from Puigdemont's

conservative JxCat party were elected last month to a new, fragmented Spanish lower house, along with another colleague who won a seat in the Spanish Senate.

Spain's Supreme Court granted them permission earlier this week to attend — escorted by police — the opening parliamentary sessions of the new legislative term. While Junqueras has made clear that he wants to give up his seat to another member of his left-wing separatist ERC party, all eyes in Spain are on what the three JxCat politicians will do.

Deciding to accept the suspension but not giving up their seats and leaving them empty would alter the number of deputies needed to form the next Spanish government. Caretaker Prime Minister Pedro Sánchez's Socialist party won April 28 national elections but fell short of a majority and will need support to form a government.

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"I tell (my children) that unfortunately we live in a country where I can be put in jail," Junqueras said. "My job consists precisely in ensuring that this doesn't happen again and that my children don't have to go through what their father has."

Courtesy: AP



TWO OUT OF EVERY FIVE PEOPLE IN AMERICA ARE INTO TAROT READING AND VISIT A PSYCHIC READER FOR AN AVERAGE OF THREE TIMES EVERY YEAR



**YOUR WEEK AHEAD**

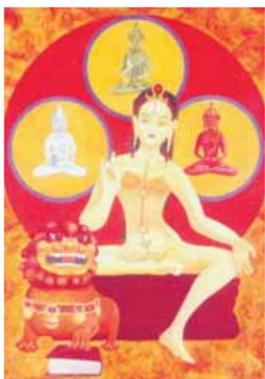
MADHU KOTIYA



**ARIES** March 21-April 19

This week health looks good. Those of you who are dealing with any health problems are likely to recover soon. This week brings quick thinking and a persuasive communication style. Hence, it is an apt time for debating and public speaking. You can expect approving reactions and valuable assistance. The nature of your communication makes it a perfect time to defend yourself. Those in academics, this is a good time for studying and appearing for exams. Good concentration and attention to detail mean fewer chances of making mistakes. This is also a good time for taking important decisions and business dealings. Your relationship will be a little disturbed this week. You should maintain two-way communication with your partner to avoid any misunderstandings.

**Lucky number 21**  
**Lucky colour Pink**  
**Lucky day Wednesday**



**LEO** July 23-Aug 22

This week your health looks good. You are in a psychic and intuitive phase more than usual, so it's important for you to trust your instincts. On the career front, your mind will be very active, so express what is on your mind to your peers and colleagues. Fine-tune your goals and make clear plans and strategy to attain your goals. This is a good time to discuss your plans with others because you will get good feedback and support. You are likely to become a victim of confusion that will lead to insecurity, but the bad time shall pass. Romance is blooming this week. This is right time to take your relationship to the next level. Singles may have to wait for some more time, though.

**Lucky number 25**  
**Lucky colour Brown**  
**Lucky day Sunday**



**SAGITTARIUS** Nov 22-Dec 21

This week your health will be at its best. Despite your hectic schedule, you will take out time to relax and enjoy. Those suffering from health issues are likely to find a way to recovery. People will notice your quality work and appreciate your efforts at your workplace. Continue with your work as you are on the right track. For investments, luck will be in your favour. Property dealings are likely to be resolved. On the personal front, this is a great time to relax with loved ones or party with friends. Your loving mood will make you more sexually attractive than usual. Studies and exams should go well, especially in technical areas like the sciences, computers, and mathematics. Some of you may take your partner to an exotic location.

**Lucky number 18**  
**Lucky colour Black**  
**Lucky day Saturday**



**TAURUS** April 20-May 20

You are likely to have good health, but be careful while exercising as some injuries are indicated. On the career front, you'll be very professional and will follow the company policy. Travel due to business commitments is on the cards. On this trip, you are likely to make new friends and admirers. Dedication towards the task is important, but oversteering yourself may prove counterproductive. Do not hesitate to reach out to someone and ask for help. In your love life, the week indicates love, harmony, and friendship. This is a good time to relax and have fun with loved ones. Your loving and receptive mood will make you popular. This is a good time for dating because your charm and beauty will attract genuine and honest love.

**Lucky number 19**  
**Lucky colour Purple**  
**Lucky day Tuesday**



**VIRGO** Aug 23-Sep 22

Your emotional well-being will decide your health condition this week. Therefore, it is important to assess how you are feeling about things/others. It is important to channelise your energy in the right direction and you will find yourself in the pink of health. In your professional life, you are fairly clear of what your goals are and what you have to do to achieve them. A stimulating time with heaps of opportunities puts your determination and ambition at a higher level. Business dealings and negotiations are favoured, especially for long-term investments and real estate. Relationship wise, a sharp focus in your intimate relationship is indicated. It is highly advisable to be sensitive and passionate towards your partner. Singles may enjoy this time with a ray of hope.

**Lucky number 10**  
**Lucky colour Mustard**  
**Lucky day Tuesday**



**CAPRICORN** Dec 22-Jan 19

This week your health will be satisfactory. It's highly advisable to follow your daily exercise or yoga routine; if you have not yet started, then start now. You will feel driven to succeed at something with your strong sense of purpose. With the immense amount of courage, you will face all the challenges. Career-wise, this week you are able to finish a lot of work in a short time. Financial situations are not good, so you should avoid overspending. Personally, you will be more emotional and sensitive than normal. This is the time to talk about relationship issues because you will be in touch with your true feelings. You will generally know how people are feeling and will be more sympathetic and nurturing than usual. Listen to your inner voice.

**Lucky number 12**  
**Lucky colour Maroon**  
**Lucky day Wednesday**



**GEMINI** May 21-June 20

Your health is likely to remain good this week. You will be able to revive the inner childlike energy and will be active throughout. Things are looking good on your professional front as well. Luck will be in your favour and you will be able to fulfill your long-term ambition. Whatever you put your mind to should lead to lasting results and achievements. Therefore, people around are looking up to you for sound advice. With all these, you need to have a profound vision and a careful analysis of all the plans and strategies which will help you move towards success. Your love life will benefit from extra charisma and intellectual attractiveness. You may find yourself taking care of family matters, such as insurances and wills.

**Lucky number 30**  
**Lucky colour Peach**  
**Lucky day Saturday**



**LIBRA** Sep 23-Oct 22

Your health will be good this week. It is good if you continue your meditation and yoga routine as it will keep your mind fresh and connected to your inner soul. People who are dealing with health problems are advised to take things seriously and take proper medication. Your ability of quick thinking will make this week an apt time to prepare a long-term plan on the career front. Networking with some promising contacts will allow you to grow professionally. You will have increased mental energy and concentration, which will help you succeed in studies or researches. This week, luck is in your favour, so don't worry about taking risks. Your relationship life will be satisfactory and you may expect some exciting news. Try spending some quality time with your family.

**Lucky number 13**  
**Lucky colour Yellow**  
**Lucky day Thursday**



**AQUARIUS** Jan 20-Feb 18

Your health looks good, but still you need to be careful. If you are facing some health issues, don't worry as things will get a lot better. On the career front, your innovative spirit will help you widen your horizons and reach new goals. You can expect exciting news and stimulating conversations with senior authorities, which will lead to a wise business deal. Some of you are expected to face competition at work. Maintain a healthy work environment. Try to keep a close eye as someone will try to frame you at work. This is a good time for relationships. You may have an enjoyable time going to parties, places of relaxation and entertainment. New friends can be made or a significant new romance may begin.

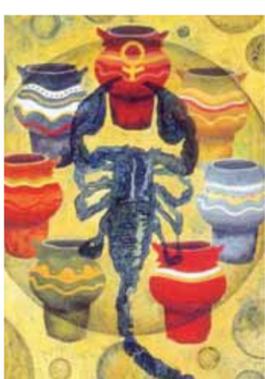
**Lucky number 11**  
**Lucky colour Silver**  
**Lucky day Monday**



**CANCER** June 21-July 22

This week your health is expected to be good. It is advisable to avoid ego conflicts and retreat to a safe place where you can develop your creative and spiritual nature. You will be smart and optimistic at work and will be able to complete all your pending tasks. Some interesting opportunities are on the cards. The task of waiting for some news on the domestic front will make you feel frustrated. The week, relationship life looks satisfying. You will maintain harmony in your relationships and will have a greater ability to express your love and affection towards your partner. Travelling to far off destination to meet someone is on the cards. Those thinking for investments, think and discuss with experts before taking any decision.

**Lucky number 28**  
**Lucky colour Sky blue**  
**Lucky day Saturday**



**SCORPIO** Oct 23-Nov 21

This week your health is satisfactory. Those dealing with some health problems have to check the root cause as it needs to be treated. Ignoring your health can lead to some serious issues. Talk about your health conditions with others; you may find some solution to it. It is a very positive new beginning in your career. Those who had a difficult time lately know that things will get better very soon. The new possibilities will increase your chance of making new discoveries and making new admirers. In a relationship, you will probably want to nurture and protect your partner. Most of all, you will want to express your love and affection towards your partner. Stay positive and maintain an open communication with your partner. Bonding with family is on the cards.

**Lucky number 15**  
**Lucky colour Grey**  
**Lucky day Tuesday**



**PISCES** Feb 19-March 20

This week your health will be good, but still, be careful with physical activities. Those suffering from health problems will recover soon. Keep a positive mindset and things will surely come easily to you. In professional life, your flair will help you distance yourself from negativities and you'll feel more optimistic than usual. You will obtain the confidence you've always dreamt of. New opportunities are on the cards. A few of you will choose to leave a job that is no longer productive for you. Those looking for promotion may get good news. It is a great time for socialising because of increased popularity and charisma. You are likely to have open and honest communication with your partner. The discussions you have now will be beneficial for the future.

**Lucky number 20**  
**Lucky colour White**  
**Lucky day Friday**

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**ASTROTURF**

BHARAT BHUSHAN PADMADEO

# Organised mind ensures success

A young man, not being able to get through the qualifying examination for admission into a business school, grudgingly came asking me: "Why did you raise my hope when I was not destined to make it?" "My friend, when I talked about your potential, I also suggested a lesson in how to organise your mind. It would have helped improve your focus, which you lacked badly. Also, I aided you in bringing down your mental aberration that often disoriented your mind. Did you follow it in the right earnest," I countered. "Your process could have cost me at least half an hour every day. My focus was on covering the subject matter as much as I could. I put in eight to nine hours a day. Yet, if I could not score, would it not mean that I was not destined for it," he responded.

Remember, destiny plays a definite role in one's life, but it doesn't necessarily define in finite terms how it may exactly play out, as it can't involuntarily bear fruits. Bear in mind: Destiny indicators are there as an indwelling potential, just like a small seed carries within the essence of a fully grown tree. Keep the seed on your table, it will remain there in a still form. If, however, you

sow it in earth mass in a season favourable to its fruition, and nurse it, the seed will first sprout and then grow into a full-fledged tree. As per the established norms of Astrology, three factors need to be accounted for while looking at destiny pointers — *kala*, *patra*, and *samaya*. *Kala* is the overall environmental condition, which is available in equal proportion to all those competing with you. *Samaya* offers the timeline when your individualistic destiny pointers could bear fruits. *Patra* is about your individual worthiness and vulnerabilities, which matter the most in realising your potential. That defines how qualitative or otherwise would be your efforts. Invariably, unlike the negatives that play out involuntarily from the front, the positives need to be identified, acknowledged, honed and then backed by quality effort. Just physical effort would not suffice, which you did not in. Here, a brief run into the chemistry of mind becomes imperative. More the physical labour you put in tilling the land, larger area you may cover. On the contrary, a relaxed mind becomes more productive. That may, in the first place, offer ground to remain focused. You may



then be able to have a clear understanding of the subject matter. Second, it provides space necessary to absorb educative inputs. Third, it ensures proper coordination between conscious and sub-conscious levels of mind. Remember, all that you learn, their impressions get parked at the sub-conscious level. If conscious and sub-conscious coordinate well, you may be able to recall all the memory inputs in store of the latter in quick flashes, enabling you to correctly answer questions at hand.

In the above context, let me put forth the mirror image of your potentials and vulnerabilities in the astrological frame. The Sun conjunct Mercury speaks of your high intelligence and very good memory power. Higher education (beyond graduation) is identified with the 9th house. The 9th sign and cusp sub-lord Saturn occupies the 8th house, in the *nakshatra* owned by Mars, the 4th sub-lord posited in the 10th house, meaning professional education. Linkage of the 4th and 9th house promises higher education. Incidentally, Mars happens to be the lord of the 6th house identified with success in competition and 11th house signifying fulfillment of desires. So, in astrological terms, you carry the potential of pursuing professional course. More so,

because Karmic Saturn has a harmonious relation with Mars identified with efforts. Saturn being in the 8th house, your efforts may begin on a low note, but as you gain momentum, you may finally succeed in your endeavour. Now, towards negatives, the first marker is the Gemini *lagna* with Moon therein, conjunct Ketu and opposite mischievous Neptune as well as erratic Uranus. That speaks of a fertile but vacillating mind, continuously breeding imaginary thoughts, more often distanced from ground realities, and also an erratic behaviour.

Mars crossing path with Uranus makes you temperamental. Venus conjunct the Sun makes you emotionally touchy whereby you get over-exercised even on trivial matters. The energies lost thus, and with your cluttered mind space, you are not left with enough to put in your best towards the desired destination. And the result is there to see. Organise your mind, and I am sure you will make it.

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