

Nationalism for us is building a pucca house for every poor family Do Vote. Voting is also nationalism.



Bharatiya Janata Party, 6 A, Pandit Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Marg, New Del

Fani kills 8 in Odisha, loses steam into Bengal Strongest cyclone in 20 years barrelled at 175km/hr uprooting trees, damaging houses

PNS NEW DELHI

Cyclone Fani (also known as Phani, meaning "hood of the snake" in Bengali) rolled through Odisha's Puri on Friday, bringing rain and windstorm that gusted up to 175 kmph, leaving at least 8 people dead, and blowing away thatched houses, uproot-ing trees, electricity polls, cut-ting off power supply, and swamping towns and villages in the State. The strongest cyclone in vclone Fani (also known as

The strongest cyclone in India in 20 years made landfall around 8 am in Puri, with roaring winds flattening huts, enveloping the pilgrim town in sheets of rain, and submerging homes in residential areas. The extremely severe

cyclone Fani, a name given by Bangladesh, weakened from an "extremely severe" to "very severe", and is predicted to further weaken to a "severe cyclone" before moving to West Bengal.

In several videos doing rounds on social media showed the impact of the powerful gale and heavy rain. In videos post-ed by Sitangshu Kar, the

Director General of the Press to 140 kmph uprooted trees Information Bureau, the roof of an undergraduate hostel in the said. Bhubaneswar AIIMS was seen

being blown off. Later the wind speed of Fani came down to around 140-165 kmph. According to officials, large areas in Puri and other

places were submerged with water as heavy rain battered the entire coastal belt of the State. Several trees were uprooted and thatched structures destroyed at some places, including Bhubaneswar. All flights from Bhubaneswar have been cancelled since Thursday midnight, and Kolkata airport is shut from 3 pm on Friday till 8 am on Saturday. 140 trains,

including 83 passenger trains, have been cancelled so far. In Bhubaneswar, people took shelter under shades as the heavy rain lashed the city. They said their "homes were shaking". After crossing Odisha, cyclone Fani is likely to move towards West Bengal before tapering off. Cyclone Fani also triggered heavy rain in parts of north coastal Andhra Pradesh, where gusty winds with speed reaching up

and electricity poles, officials

The Odisha Government has evacuated over 11 lakh people, including at least 600 pregnant women, to camps on higher grounds.

"I assure the affected people that the nation and the centre are with them," Prime Minister Narendra Modi said at a rally in Rajasthan. He said over ₹1,000 crore had been released in advance for the

states affected by Fani. The Union Health Ministry has announced cancellation of Bhubaneswar as a centre for the AIIMS PG 2019 examination due to Fani.

"AIIMS PG exam is scheduled on May 5. Due to cyclone Fani, AIIMS Delhi is cancelling the exam centre in Bhubaneswar. Another exam will be conducted for students affected by this cancellation as soon as normalcy returns (sic)," Union Health Secretary Preeti Sudan tweeted.

KJ Ramesh, Director General of the India Meteorological Department (IMD), predicted light to mod-

Shah

PNS LUCKNOW

erate rain in northeastern States — Arunachal Pradesh, Assam & Meghalaya and Nagaland, Manipur, Mizoram and Tripura due to cyclone while heavy to very heavy rain predicted over Arunachal Pradesh and Assam on May 4 and 5.

"After making landfall this morning, cyclone Fani has started weakening and it's like-ly to enter Bangladesh by

Saturday evening," he said. No cyclone ever had such a long duration in April. The Home Ministry said an eye of cyclonic storm 'Fani' "com-pletely moved into land" by 10 am on Friday weakening its fury, but heavy rainfall is still predicted in Ódisha, Andhra Pradesh, West Bengal and Pradesh, West Bengal and parts of the northeastern States. The system is likely to weaken gradually and emerge into Gangetic West Bengal as a "severe cyclonic storm" by the early morning of May 4. Thereafter, it is expected to move further north-north-eastwards and emerge into eastwards and emerge into Bangladesh by May 4 evening as a cyclonic storm.

Continued on Page 7



Damaged structures and uprooted tress lie along a road in Puri after Cyclone Fani hit Odisha on Friday

confident of landslide win in UP

Burhan Wani's last 'Tiger', 2 other Hizbul

CAPSULE EC CLEAN CHIT TO MODI IN ALL COMPLAINTS New Delhi: The EC concluded

Cong candidate raps Shatrughan for campaign for

India have already decided that they want Narendra $B_{exuded \ confidence \ that}^{JP \ president \ Amit \ Shah} despite being opposed by the `mahamilavati' (adulterated)$ Modi again as Prime Minister after May 23," the BJP president said.

on Friday that Prime Minister Narendra Modi did not violate the model code or its advisory on armed forces in his speech in Varanasi. With this, the EC has decided on five complaints against Modi and gave him a clean chit in all matters.

AKSHAY SAYS HE HOLDS Canadian Passport Mumbai: Setting to rest

speculation about his citizenship, actor Akshay Kumar on Friday said his aim is to make India a stronger nation even though he holds a Canadian passport.

KEJRIWAL GETS NOTICE FROM POLL AUTHORITIES

New Delhi: Poll authorities in Delhi have issued a showcause notice to Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal, asking him to submit certificate obtained by a panel, after receiving a complaint that a recorded audio message was allegedly sent by the party to mobile phone users.

'Samajwadi' wife

AGENCY LUCKNOW

Samajwadi Party-Bahujan Samaj Party alliance, his party The Congress candidate from Lucknow on Friday took strong exception to party leader Shatrughan would win 74 Lok Sabha seats in Uttar Pradesh. Sinha canvassing for his wife, who is the "In 2014, along with our ally, the BJP won 73 Lok Sabha seats in Uttar Pradesh. Samajwadi Party candidate in the constituency.

Shatrughan was present during the filing of nomination papers by his wife, Poonam Sinha. He attended an election meeting on Thursday with Samajwadi

meeting on Thursday with Samajwadi Party president Akhilesh Yadav. "From the behaviour of Shatrughan Sinha, it appears that although he has joined the Congress, but has not yet resigned from the RSS," Acharya Pramod, the Congress' Lucknow can-didate twasted didate, tweeted.

election meeting here to solic-it support for BJP candidate Rajnath Singh. "The chant of Modi by Shatrughan Sinha quit the BJP recently and is the Congress candidate from the Patna Sahib constituency in Bihar. Poonam is the SP-BSP-RLD alliance candidate from Lucknow, who is contesting against Union Home

the people is not a mere poll slogan but the blessings of the common man to Prime Minister Rajnath Singh and Pramod. Polling will be held in Lucknow on

Counting of votes after the completion of seven phases Lok Sabha elections on May 19 will be taken up on May 23.

Referring to the strike by the Indian Air Force at the terror camp in Balakot deep inside the territory of I want to assure you that in 2019 the tally of our seats will Pakistan following the killing of 40 jawans in Pulwama, Shah said, "The entire counnot be 72, it will be 74. Since January this year, I have vis-ited 284 Lok Sabha contry celebrated the air strike nted 284 Lok Sabha Con-stituencies and in all four cor-ners of the country, I hear people chanting 'Modi, Modi," Amit Shah said on Friday while addressing an election meeting here to solicbut I am at my wits end why there was mourning in the offices of Samajwadi Party, Bahujan Samaj Party and Congress."

Shah said, "Earlier only two countries were known for surgical strikes — USA and Israel. The Narendra Modi country to this list — the India." ror strikes.

Minister Narendra Modi. Over 125 crore people of Listing the achievements of the Narendra Modi gov-



BJP president Amit Shah at a public rally in Lucknow on Friday

ernment, the BJP president said the list was endless. He said the NDA government not only improved the economic lot of 22 crore poor people of India, it also secured the nation from ter-"Narendra Modi is a

leader who has a 56-inch chest. During the Manmohan Singh government, the bod-

ies of jawans of the Indian Army were beheaded. After the terror strike at Pulwama in which 40 jawans of CRPF were martyred, the Indian Air Force hit back deep inside the Pakistan territory on the 'ter-ahvin' (the 13th day of mourning)," Shah said.

Exhorting people to give a decisive mandate to the BJP, Shah said "74 seats BJP ki of Rajnath Singh but the victory margin which should be

Pradesh will become the number one state of India. He said during the Manmohan Singh-led UPA government, Rs 3 lakh crore

iholi mein daal do' and Uttar

the state has achieved devel-

opment in all fields".

lakh crore.

terrorists shot MOHIT KANDHARI 🖬 JAMMU

were given to Uttar Pradesh by the Centre from 2009 to A joint team of security forces early on Friday morning dealt a body blow to 2014 while during the five years of Narendra Modi government, there was sharp top Hizbul Muhajideen (HM) hike in fund allocation to UP commanders active in Kashmir Valley by neutralising Lateef Ahmad Dar, alias Tiger of and it increased to over Rs 10 Lauding the leadership of Dogripora Pulwama, the lone Rajnath Singh, the BJP pres-ident said "the troika of Rajnath-Modi-Yogi has surviving member of Burhan Wani group, along with two other local terrorists in a fierce firefight in South Kashmir's Shopian district. proved to be very lucky for

UP as Lucknow and rest of Timing of the clinical oper-ation is set to boost the morale "Lucknow has the dis-tinction of electing Atal of the security forces deployed in the area to ensure peaceful polling in the final phase in Shopian and Pulwama districts Bihari Vajpayee for five consecutive terms. Rajnath Singh is the true inheritor of the

on May 6. After the killing of HM's poster boy Burhan Wani in July 2016, several other top comlegacy of Atalji. Right now the issue at stake is not the victory manders were neutralised by the security forces. Continued on Page 7

If Cong equations work, the die is 'caste' in Jaipur, Bharatpur

DEEPAK KUMAR JHA JAIPUR(RURAL)/ BHARATPUR

 $T^{
m he}$ Jaipur Rural Lok Sabha seat is all set to witness a very interesting contest between two Olympians sitting BJP MP Union Minister Rajyavardhan Singh Rathore and Congress' Krishna Poonia. An equally keen contest is on the cards in the neighbouring Bharatpur, a stronghold of Jats, between two Dalits — a retired bureaucrat and a daughter-inlaw of three times BJP MP Gangaram Koli. Both the seats

will go to polls on Monday. While Rathore is a Rajput

and an Olympic gold medalist, Poonia is a Jat from Haryana and married in Rajasthan. She is also a sitting MLA and inter-national gold medal-winner in discus throw and three times Olympic participant.

In 2014 Jaipur Rural Lok Sabha polls, Rathore defeated Congress veteran CP Joshi by

over three lakh votes. But in the November 2018 Assembly elec-

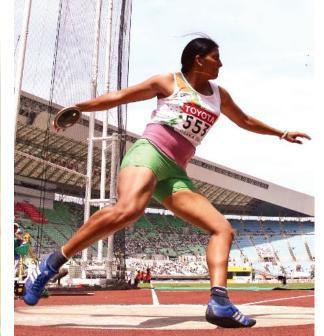
Monday.

tions for the eight Assembly seats in this Lok Sabha constituency, four were bagged by the Congress, three by the BJP and one by an Independent.

Punia has been working on a successful caste equation by banking on the support of Jats, and a combination of Ahirs (Yadavs), Dalit and Muslim. Faced with such challenging scenario, Rathore is relying on the charisma of Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

"While Modi magic can work on youths and middle class, a large section of voters here are upset with Rathore, claiming that he confined himself to inaugurating projects and remaining inaccessible. But Poonia worked at grass-roots with her husband (athlete Virender Poonia) and thus has a chance this time," said Sukhbir Chauhan of village Jomwar Ramgarh.





Battle ground

Given the caste equation of Bharatpur Lok Sabha seat, Congress candidate Abhijit Kumar Jatav, a retired bureaucrat, seems to have an edge over BJP's Ranjeeta Koli. In the recent Assembly elections, the Congress and its alliance partner RLD won six of the eight Assembly seats in Bharatpur the Parliamentary constituen-cy. While the BSP bagged the remaining two seats, the BJP failed to even open its account. Ranjeeta will also have to face the backlash from the supporters of sitting party MP Bahadur Singh Koli, who was denied the ticket.

Though the Congress has an upper hand in Bharatpur, it has to guard against BSP's Suraj Jatav. The Congress is working hard to end the enmity between Jatavs and the Jats arisen in the 1992 Kumher massacre when Jats set ablaze more than 100 houses of Jatavs. Erstwhile ruler of Bharatpur and a Minister in the Ashok Gehlot Government, Vishvendra Singh, has been deputed by the party to win over Jats for the purpose.

Once represented by tall leaders of the Congress such as Natwar Singh, Rajesh Pilot, Raj Bahadur and Vishvendra Singh, the Jat Kingdom was declared a reserved constituency for SC in 2008 delimitation. The Congress won in 2009, but lost to the BJP in 2014 in the heat of Modi wave.



city 02

Rahul's emotional appeal to voters of Amethi

Promises to speed up development projects 'blocked by BJP'

PNS LUCKNOW

Striking an emotional chord, Congress president Chord, Congress president Rahul Gandhi has written a letter to the people of his parliamentary constituency Amethi

Referring to the voters as his extended family, Rahul has assured them that once his party came to power at the Centre, all projects would be completed at a faster pace.

In his letter addressed to 'Mera Amethi parivar' (my Amethi family), Rahul has urged the voters of his constituency to vote him back as their MP.

He said that the projects which were stalled by the Bharatiya Janata Party intentionally, would be pushed for the region and expedited as soon as the Congress formed the government at the Centre.

Polling will be held in Amethi in the fifth phase on May 6. Rahul, who visited Amethi

frequently in recent times along with sister Priyanka Gandhi Vadra, further wrote, "On May 6, vote in large numbers to bring back this member of the Congress works for farmers,



family to represent you." Accusing the BJP of setting

up a 'factory of lies' and distributing 'rivers of cash' to lure voters, Rahul says in the letter that Amethi's strength lay is its 'honesty, integrity and simplicity', adding that the Amethi voters would not fall into the JP trap

Rahul says in the letter. "My Amethi family gives me courage to stand with the truth, and hear the pain of the poor and the weak and raise my voice for them and to ensure equal justice for all."

'There are two ideologies in the country. The

test from a second seat, Wayanad in Kerala, the BJF accused him of opting for another constituency for fear of losing Amethi.

Meanwhile, Congress leader Navjot Singh Sidhu hit out at Prime Minister Narendra Modi, saying he 'ditched' the people of the country by promising good days which are still elusive

Addressing a poll rally in Amethi on Thursday, the cricketer-turned-politician charged that no action was taken against scamsters like Nirav Modi and Mehul Choksi as they belonged to Gujarat and that good days had come only for them,.

With your love, I have tried to Sidhu further alleged, unite the country from north to south; east to west ... My "Modi used to brag about bringing back black money back. Where is it? Modi karmabhoomi Amethi's ideology is getting support from across the country," the promised two crore jobs every year but did not give jobs to Voters of Amethi have anyone.

He said the Congress carfavoured Rahul Gandhi since ried out a lot of development in his first election in 2004, but the party is worried by the Amethi and hence this time, reduced vote share in the 2014 the people of Amethi would not only elect a Member of general elections in which the BIP had fielded Smriti Irani Parliament but a prime minister also as Rahul would become the PM after polls. After Rahul chose to con-

Cong will perform extremely well in UP: Sushmita Dev

PNS LUCKNOW

Congress women's wing chief and MP Sushmita Dev claimed that the Congress would perform extremely well in this Lok Sabha polls in Uttar Pradesh.

Dev, however, slammed the Election Commission for delaying decisions on complaints made by her against Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Bharatiya Janata Party president Amit Shah.

"I am thankful to the Supreme Court for ordering the Election Commission to dispose of all election complaints by May 6," she said.



Dev, who campaigned for two days in the VIP constituencies of Amethi and Rae Bareli, spoke to media persons in Lucknow on Thursday.

Dev claimed that the Congress would win both the high profile seats with record margins and this time the party's performance in UP would be better compared to 2014.

The young leader also announced that Congress chief Rahul Gandhi would first meet with public and later address a workers meeting at Amethi on Saturday.

When asked about the conflicting approach of Congress in Lucknow Lok Sabha seat where party candidate from Patna Sahib, Shatrughan Sinha, was campaigning against its Lucknow candidate Acharya Pramod Krishnam, Dev said that Sinha was campaigning in his personal capacity for his wife Poonam Sinha, who is the

Samajwadi Party candidate. "The main enemy of the Congress is the BJP and anyone defeating them is welcomed by the party," Dev said.

QUICK TAKES

FIVE KILLED, 29 INJURED AS TRACTOR-TROLLEY **OVERTURNS**

Hardoi: Five people were killed and 29 injured when a tractor-trolley overturned in the Hariyawan area here, police said on Friday. The incident took place on Thursday evening when the villagers were returning in a tractor after attending a religious event, Additional Superintendent of Police Gyananjay Singh said, ose killed included four women and ling that among t

'Shehzadi' teaching children abuses: Adityanath on PGV

PTI FATEHPUR/RAE BARELI

instead of virtues.

Yogi Adityanath was referring to a video that had gone viral on social media in which children are seen using abusive language against Prime Minister Narendra Modi in front of Priyanka Gandhi Vadra while she was campaigning in Rae Bareli.

"In the age when the chil-dren need to be taught virtues, the shehzadi (princess) of the Congress is teaching them abuses. This is the real character of the Congress," Yogi said at a rally in Fatehpur.

Priyanka Gandhi Vadra, the Congress general secretary incharge of eastern Uttar Pradesh, said on Friday she had stopped children from raising wrong slogans and asked them to raise

The National Commission for Protection of Child Rights had sent a notice to Vadra over alleged use of children in election campaign.

Rae Bareli, the constituency of UPA chairperson Sonia Gandhi, Yogi Adityanath accused the Gandhi family of treating the country as their "kingdom" and doing "nothing" for the people in the constituency. "Those who had treated

the country as their legacy are piqued and have now stooped to using abuses," the Bharatiya Janata Party star campaigner said.

"The chatukar (yesmen) and dalal (brokers) of the Congress used to usurp what was meant for the poor people, because of which the poor did not get their rights," Yogi said.

On Jaish-e-Mohammed chief Masood Azhar being designated as a "global terrorist", Yogi claimed that there would be mourning in the houses of those

Yogi replies to EC

aulad' comment

PNS LUCKNOW



Calling Priyanka Gandhi Vadra a "*shehzadi*", Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath on Friday accused the Congress leader of teaching abusive words to children

on 'Babar ki

good slogans.

Replying to the notice by Election Commission for calling SP-BSP alliance candidates Shafiqur Rahman Barq as 'Babar ki aulad' during one of his poll meetings, Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath Addressing another rally in asked, "Do we go to the dais to sing devotional songs? We

go there to defeat opposition party and hit out at them." Yogi further said in his reply to the Election

Commission, "Our work is to highlight the opposition's weakness in front of the people. We do not mind it even when Congress or Samajwadi Party 'abuse' us during their poll campaign. If we retort, why are we held guilty?" On

May 2, the Election Commission had served a notice to the Chief Minister names of terrorists. "You all need

who used to attach "ji" after the

the poll panel barred him from campaigning for 72 hours for making comments that violated the Model Code of Conduct. ment of the country and when to ask this shahi (royal) family there are problems, they flee to as to what they have done in 55 Italy. He asked if anyone had seen Rahul Gandhi helping any-

over his 'Babar ki aulad'

remark made during a rally in

Sambhal on April 19. Yogi

pointed out that he once asked

SP's Sambhal candidate

Shafiqur Rahman Barq in

Parliament about his lineage,

to which he claimed that he

too had condemned it during

that time. To take action on a

conversation that happened

between two people does not

come under the purview of Election Commission. If I do

not quote such a thing in my

poll rallies, then what else do

I do?" Yogi asked. The 'Babar ki aulad' com-

ment kicked up a row as it

came in Yogi's first rally after

"The Lok Sabha Speaker

was 'Babar ki aulad'.

years," Yogi said. "The Congress has only forced the youth to joblessness one during the time of natural and migration, blocked developcalamity

Form No: 5 DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL AT LUCKNOW 600/1, University Road, Near Hanuman Setu Mandir, Lucknow-226007 (Area of Jurisdiction : Part of U.P) Summons for filing Reply & Appearance by Publication (Summons to defendant under Section 19(3), of the Recovery of Debts due to Banks and Financial Institutions Act 1993 read with Rules 12 and 13 of the Debts Recovery Tribunal Procedure Rules, 1993) Original Application No. 1467 of 2018 Date: 12/04/2019 HDFC BANK LTD. ...Applicant VERSUS Amit Kumar Shukla & OthersDefendant

Mayawati: Cong ignored interests of Dalits, OBCs and minorities

PNS LUCKNOW

 $B^{\rm ahujan\ Samaj\ Party\ chief}_{\rm Mayawati\ on\ Friday}$ launched a scathing attack on the Congress, saying that the party which ruled the country for six decades ignored the interests of Dalits, OBCs and minorities, compelling the disadvantaged sections to float their own party.

Mayawati said that her mentor Kanshiram founded the Bahujan Samaj Party for the emancipation of the depressed classes in 1984.

Addressing an election meeting in Sultanpur on Friday, Mayawati accused the having tacit understanding and unitedly working against the Samajwadi Party-Bahujan Samaj Party alliance. "Congressmen think it is not a problem if BJP candidates win but SP-BSP alliance candidates should not win election. I appeal to you that do not waste your vote by voting for Congress," the former chief minister of UP said. "The Congress wants to benefit the BJP. Like BJP, Congress has started talking absurd about the SP-BSP alliance. It is clear that both parties have a tacit understanding and are contesting against our alliance unitedly," Mayawati charged. Defending BSP candidate in Sultanpur and don-turnedpolitico Chandrabhadra Singh, Mayawati said, "Chandrabhadra never tormented the poor and downtrodden and fought valiantly against those who exploited Dalits and poor sections of society." "Dalits, OBCs, minorities and the poor among the upper caste were denied their due share in the power

structure and reservation in promotion was also not implemented during Congress rule. The BJP government also failed the disadvantaged sections and instead of working for the masses, the BJP government did 'chowkidari' only for the rich and industrialists," the BSP chief

alleged. 'For the BJP, 'achhe din' (good days) are over and 'bure din' (bad days) are ahead as it will be voted out of power for failing to honour promises made during 2014 Lok Sabha

elections," she said. Targeting BJP candidate from Sultanpur and Union minister Maneka Gandhi Bharatiya Janata Party and Mayawati said, "Power has gone to her head she is open ly threatening Muslims that she will work for them, only if they voted for her." Addressing an election meeting in Siddharthnagar district in favour the alliance Domariyaganj candidate Aftab Ahmad, the BSP chief appealed to the voters to "undo the wrongs" of Congress and BJP governments. She accused the Congress of failing to eliminate poverty. Referring to Congress' proposed minimum income guarantee scheme NYAY, she said, "If we form government at the Centre, we will focus on providing both government and private jobs to people instead of doling out ₹6,000. The SP-BSP alliance is angry with the Congress over the recent statements of Congress president Rahul Gandhi and his sister Privanka Gandhi Vadra, In the context of the next three phases in UP, where 41 seats will go to polls , the statements of Mayawati and Akhilesh are carefully drafted to prevent splitting of votes between the alliance and Congress.

Priyanka slams Modi's nationalism agenda

PNS LUCKNOW

ongress general secretary Land east UP in-charge, Priyanka Gandhi Vadra, on Friday slammed Prime Minister Narendra Modi on his agenda of nationalism, saying that solving of farmers, youths and other deprived sections of society was true nationalism. Addressing a gathering in

omen and small traders

while the ruling BJP works

only for 15-20 industrialists.

Congress chief wrote.

against the Congress chief.

Rae Bareli from where her mother Sonia Gandhi is in the poll fray, Priyanka advised Modi to protect the fields of farmer, saying, "You are pro-tecting people from Pakistan's aggression. This is a big achievement. Everyone is happy. But you should also protect the fields of farmers as that

too is nationalism." "Loving people also means pecting ing something, you (Prime Minister) should listen to them means you should hear the voice of the people? as they are the voice of democracy. What kind of nationalism Sonia Gandhi had always cared is this that you ignore farmers, for the people of Rae Bareli and youth and women?" the did whatever was required to Congress leader asked. "When one demonstrates be done in the constituency. our family and we treat the for his rights, his voice is suppressed. Why is this done? people of these constituency as Because the government is our family members," she said. afraid of the common man. The BJP knows that it has not issued to her by the National Commission for Protection of honoured any of its promises made ahead of 2014 polls. Child Rights (NCPCR) on a They had a majority governvideo in which children were ment but did nothing in the interest of people," the shouting slogans against the Prime Minister, Priyanka said, "I asked the children to stop Congress general secretary chanting wrong slogans. I will said. respond to the notice as I am "A person who calls himself a chowkidar of the country has not guilty in the matter. The forced all farmers to become video was conveniently edited where I am asking the children chowkidar of their own land due to the menace of stray aninot to raise such slogans." On trying her hand in charming snakes on Thursday, mals," she quipped. Accompanied by her son Privanka said that she was not Rehan in the campaign, Privanka said that the Prime afraid of snakes since her childhood and even her daughter Minister was lying every day even as farmers and common played with snakes. people were facing problems.

She also said that the people of Rae Bareli and Amethi were very cautious about their leader and vote and would not support any person who would ditch them.

"Congress has always worked for the nation without any vested interest and even the people of Rae Bareli and Amethi are witness to the commitment of the party. But the BJP is trying to rake up nationalism to insult the people. How can a person who is not supporting the BJP be anti-national?" she questioned.

Claiming that the government only focused on its own publicity, Priyanka said, "Wherever you go, you see his (Modi's) face. Half of his speech targets the opposition. Everyone is a nationalist. What does nationalism mean? I

Priyanka said her mother

"Rae Bareli and Amethi are

Commenting on the notice

The injured were admitted to a hospital

MAN ARRESTED AFTER MEMBERS OF A MARRIAGE PARTY CLASH

Muzaffarnagar: A man was arrested after a clash broke out between members of a marriage party in Chhacharpur village here, police said on Friday. The clash occurred over dance during a wedding function, they said, adding two persons sustained injuries in the scuffle. A police team rushed to the spot and brought the situation under control. One person, identified as Monti, was arrested, police said.

MAN HELD WITH `1.56 CR HEROIN

Maharajganj: One person was arrested with heroin worth ₹1.56 crore from Sonauli area on Indo-Nepal border here by a joint team of Sashastra Seema Bal (SSB) and police, a senior official said on Friday. The arrested person was identified as Paramjeet Singh, a native of Nautanwa in Maharajganj district. "He was on his way to Nepal and was nabbed from the Sonauli bus stand with 156-gm heroin worth ₹1.56 crore," SSB's Sonauli check-post inspector Amit Kumar said. The accused was handed over to police and a case was registered against him by Sonauli police.

MINORITY COMMUNITY MEMBERS THREATEN TO LEAVE VILLAGE OVER ABDUCTION OF GIRL

Muzaffarnagar: People belonging to minority communi-ty have threatened to leave their village here if a girl, allegedly abducted by youths of another community, is not recovered. A police officer said a case has been registered against the accused - Sachin and his two associates Mohit and Vipin Kumar — for allegedly abducting the girl from the village in Jansath town of the district. PTI

Amit Kumar Shukla S/o Amar Mohan Shukla 179KA Kamlahad Bathauli Anshil Shahpur Tehsil Bakshi Ka Talab, Lucknow - 227202, Mobile No. - 7843831798 Also At : 643 M/796, Mohalla -Sri Nagar, Lucknow-226020 Ram Kishore Shukla, S/o Amar Mohan Shukla, 643M/796, Mohalla -Sri Nagar, Lucknow

226020 ... Defendants

In the above noted application, you are required to file reply in Paper Book form in Two sets along with documents and affidavits (if any), personally or through yours duly authorized agent or legal practitioner in this Tribunal, after serving copy of the same on the applicant or his counsel/ duly authorized agent after publication of the summons, and thereafter to appear before the ribunal on 12.06.2019 at 10.30 A.M. failing which the application shall be heard and decided in your absence Registrar

Debts Recovery Tribun Lucknow

Form No : 5	
DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNA	L AT LUCKNOW
600/1, University Road, Near Hanuman Se	tu Mandir, Lucknow-226007
(Area of Jurisdiction : P	art of U.P)
Summons for filing Reply & Appea	rance by Publication
(Summons to defendant under Section 19(3), of the	Recovery of Debts due to Banks and
Financial Institutions Act, 1993 read with Rules 12 a	and 13 of the Debts Recovery Tribunal
(Procedure Rules, 1993)	1574
Original Application No. 1466 of 2018	Date : 12/04/2019
HDFC BANK LTD.	Applicant
VERSUS	
Summaiya Solutions & Others	Defendant
To,	
1. Summaiya Solutions, 145A, Sahara Bazar, Vib	huti Khand, Gomti Nagar, Lucknow-

226010 Also at : - Summaiva Solutions, 528 A. Insaf Nagar, Indra Nagar, Lucknow - 226016

Syed Sarwar Haider, S/o Late Razi Haider, 528 A, Insaf Nagar, Indra Nagar, Lucknow 226016 Mobile No - 9838176333 Defendant

In the above noted application, you are required to file reply in Paper Book form in Two set along with documents and affidavits (if any), personally or through yours duly authorized agent or legal practitioner in this Tribunal, after serving copy of the same on the applicant or his counsel/ duly authorized agent after publication of the summons, and thereafter to appear before the Tribunal on 12.06.2019 at 10.30 A.M. failing which the application shall be heard and decided in vour absence

	regional
Debts	Recovery Tribun
	Lucknow

Campaigning for fifth phase poll ends today

Former Union minister litin

PNS LUCKNOW

ampaigning for the fifth Cphase of Lok Sabha polls to 14 constituencies of central Uttar Pradesh will end on Saturday evening. Polling in these constituencies will be held on May 6.

Important seats going to poll in this phase are Nehru-Amethi-Rae Bareli and state capital Lucknow along with Kaushambi. Barabanki, eight each in Banda and

Faizabad, Bahraich, Kaiserganj Dhaurahra.

and Gonda. A total of 182 can-All major contenders didates are in the fray in this BJP, BSP-SP-RLD alliance and phase. As many as 2.47 crore Congress — carried out intense voters, including 1.14 crore campaigning in the 14 confemales, will cast their votes at stituencies going to polls in the 28,072 booths. fifth phase.

Amethi has the highest number of 27 candidates in the Minister Rajnath Singh fray followed by 15 each in (Lucknow), Congress chief Lucknow, Rae Bareli and Rahul Gandhi and Union Gandhi pocket borough of Gonda, 13 each in Barabanki Textiles Minister Smriti Irani and Faizabad, 12 each in (both from Amethi) along with Kaushambi, Kaiserganj and UPA chairperson Sonia Gandhi Dhaurahra, Sitapur, Mohanlalganj, 10 each in Mohanlalganj, Banda, Fatehpur, Bahraich and Fatehpur and (Rae Bareli), will be decided in this phase.

Prasada (Dhaurahra) and former UP Congress chief Nirmal Khatri (Faizabad) are also in the fray in the fifth phase.

Campaigning in the Nehru-Gandhi bastion of Rae Bareli-Amethi witnessed a roadshow The fate of Union Home and street corner meetings by Priyanka Gandhi Vadra, who is holding the fort for her mother and brother. Rahul and Sonia too are campaigning in their constituencies frequently.

Sonia has not campaigned anywhere in the country except for Rae Bareli, while Priyanka too is focusing in UP only.

Several other senior Congress leaders from across the country also made their presence felt in Amethi and Rae Bareli.

The BJP continued its campaigning in a big way in this

phase too and Prime Minister Narendra Modi, BJP chief Amit Shah, Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath and several Union ministers and leaders campaigned in almost all 14 constituencies. Modi addressed meetings

in Sitapur, Banda, Kaushambi, Bahraich and Barabanki in this phase while Shah addressed

meetings in Barabanki, Bahraich and Mohanlalganj and in Lucknow on Friday. Yogi also addressed meetings in almost all constituencies.

Form No : 5

The SP-BSP-RLD alliance held joint rallies in Barabanki and Sitapur while they campaigned in several constituencies separately. Campaigning in Lucknow constituency has been electrifying with several film actors seeking vote for SP candidate Poonam

Sinha. Her husband Shatrughan Sinha and daughter and cine star Sonakshi Sinha campaigned in Lucknow.

DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL AT LUCK	NOW
600/1, University Road, Near Hanuman Setu Mandir,	Lucknow-226007
(Area of Jurisdiction : Part of U.P.)	
Summons for filing Reply & Appearance by P	
(Summons to defendant under Section 19(3), of the Recovery	of Debts due to Banks and
Financial Institutions Act, 1993 read with Rules 12 and 13 of th	e Debts Recovery Tribunal
(Procedure Rules, 1993)	
	Data : 46/04/2040
Original Application No. 1456 of 2018	Date: 16/04/2019
HDFC BANK LTD.	Applicant
VERSUS	
New Soni Public School & Others	Defendant
To,	
1. New Soni Public School, Ram Nagar Mall, Malihabad, Luckn	ow-226104
 New Soni Montessori School Society, Village Ram Nagar, F Lucknow - 226104 	ost Mall, Tehsil Malihabad,
 Kishori Devi, W/o Gaya Prasad, H.No 185 Mal Anshik Mal 226104 	, Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh- Defendants
In the above noted application, you are required to file reply in	Paper Book form in Two sets
along with documents and affidavits (if any), personally or through y	
legal practitioner in this Tribunal, after serving copy of the same on	
duly authorized agent after publication of the summons, and the	reafter to appear before the
Tribunal on 29.07.2019 at 10.30 A.M. failing which the application :	shall be heard and decided in
your absence.	Registrar
	Debte Decement Tribuna

bebts Recovery Tr Lucknow

Although every possible care and caution has been taken to avoid errors or omissions, this publication is being sold on the condition and understanding that information given in this publication is merely for reference and must not be taken as having authority of or binding in any way on the writers, editors, publishers, and printers and sellers who do not owe any responsibility for any damage or loss to any person, a purchaser of this publication or not for the result of any action taken on the basis of this work. All disputes are subject to the exclusive jurisdiction of competent court and forums in Lucknow only. Readers are advised and requested to verify and seek appropriate advice to satisfy themselves about the veracity of any kind of advertis ing to any contents published in this newspaper. The printer, publisher, editor and any employee of the Pioneer Group's will not be held responsible for any kind of lass, consequences and further product-related damages on such advertisements

Printed and Published by Vijay Prakash Singh for and on behalf of CMYK Printech Ltd., 4th Floor, Sahara Shopping Centre, Faizabad Road, Lucknow-226016 and Printed at Tin Tin Printech Pvt Ltd., C-33 Amausi Industrial Area, Nadarganj, Lucknow. Editor: Chandan Mitra. Resident Editor: Vijay Prakash Singh. RNI No. 2016/57. Lucknow Telephones: EPABX: 4036600 Fax: 2345582. Allahabad Office: (0532) 2420818, 2421018, 3290460. Kanpur Office: (0512) 2304406, 2304416. Varanasi Office: (0542) 2414294, 2414295. Delhi Office: No. 6, Behind Gulab Bhawan, Bahadur Shah Zafar Marg, New Delhi-110 002, Phone: 011-40110455. Communication Office: F-31, Sector 6, NOIDA, Gautam Budh Nagar-201301, U.P. Phone: 0120-4879800 & 4879900



city 03

Sonakshi seeks votes for mom

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE LUCKNOW

Bollywood actress Sonakshi Sinha on Friday appealed to Lucknowites to vote for her mother Poonam Sinha, who has been fielded by the Samajwadi Party. She said she had come to Lucknow as a daughter and not as a heroine and she wanted the people of Lucknow to vote in large numbers for her mother to enure her victory.

her victory. Dressed in a light blue chikankari lehenga, the actress elicited a lot of excitement at GPO park from where the roadshow started. Huge crowd of people, including the Samajwadi Party workers, waited anxiously for the actress.

Loud cheers rented the air after it was announced that Sonakshi was going to address the gathering. The first word that she uttered was "khamosh" in her father's style. She then expressed happiness for the kind of support that she was witnessing for her mother.

"I am so happy to see such a huge crowd supporting my mother and for that, I wish to thank the people of Lucknow," she said. She said her mother, who used to call her ten times a day, had completely forgotten her ever since she started her poll campaign. "She is now devoted to you," Sonakshi said.



Poonam Sinha, Sonakshi Sinha and Dimple Yadav during the roadshow in Lucknow on Friday

ch "I can see that my mother ny is working very hard and I am to very proud of her. I want you all to vote for her," she added.

5, Speaking on the occasion, 5 Poonam said a government 6 which had not performed 7 could not be brought back to 7 power. She said that it was 8 important for the Samajwadi

y mother Party to win with the vision of and I am party chief and former Chief want you he added. "I assure you I will not let you down. I feel that I am one

vernment of you and we have to work hard to reach the number one position," she told the crowd. Dimple Yadav also amajwadi appealed to the voters to vote

for Poonam Sinha. She said the BJP had stopped all the developmental work carried out by the Samajwadi Party. "They stopped work at Agra Expressway, 1090 Women Power Line and other schemes. They are merely following the divisive politics and we have to stop them," Dimple said.

Interest-free Loan for Farmers

Nationalism for us is ensuring the prosperity of farmers

- IT Farmers will get interest free loans for upto 5 years
- I Aged and poor farmers will be given pension
- All farmers will be given benefits of the PM Kisan Samman Nidhi Yojana
- Every poor family in the country will have a pucca house by 2022

Do Vote. Voting is also nationalism.



the I have n. AR

Roadshow, awareness programmes result in traffic snarls



LAUNCH YOUR START UP NO PERMISSIONS NEEDED FOR 3 YEARS



(Top) Crowd of youths at voting carnival in Hazratganj, and (above) commuters stranded in traffic jam on Friday Pionee

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE LUCKNOW

Friday proved to be a day of traffic snarls at Hazratganj because of several programmes held in the area and due to VIP movement. The traffic diversions implemented because of the voting carnival at Hazratganj added to the trouble of commuters in and around Hazratganj.

The district administration organised a voting carnival on Friday to attract first-time voters. A portion of Hazratganj from GPO crossing up to St Francis' crossing was closed for traffic. District Magistrate Kaushal Raj Sharma said they were targeting the youths who would be voting for the first time. He said there were over one lakh new voters. A signature wall and selfie point were also set up. The roadshow of SP candidate Poonam Sinha, who was accompanied by daughter and actor Sonakshi Sinha, moved from GPO, Lal Bagh to Novelty and also the old parts of Lucknow, resulting in traffic snarls at various points.

Schools getting over in the afternoon only added to the problem. With the Hazratganj road closed due to the carnival the traffic was diverted towards the back side in Nazirabad, which created problems because of the traffic coming from Saharaganj. At GPO where the Samajwadi Party workers were collecting for the roadshow, there was a row of cars, creating bottlenecks for vehicles moving from here towards Ashok Marg or Vidhan Sabha Marg. The rush of crowd to have a glimpse of Sonakshi Sinha resulted in a logjam.

SP, Traffic, Purnenda Singh admitted that it was a chaotic and hectic day. "The portion of the Hazratganj street being closed, the traffic around it was impacted. Several other programmes were also being held in the area simultaneously and it also led to snarls," he said.

"We tried our best to ensure smooth traffic flow despite the diversions and we also used cranes to remove the vehicles not parked properly," he added.

Model code of conduct to hit Akshaya Tritiya sales

model code of conduct is sure to adversely affect the sales on the occasion of Akshaya Tritiya. Organising secretary, Lucknow Sarrafa Association, Adheesh Jain said Akshaya Tritiya was falling on May 7 and in view of the model code of conduct, people would not be able to carry big amount of cash with them, and therefore, the sales would be hit. He said most of the transactions were made through cash. "With even a thin chain costing not less than Rs 70,000, we do not expect the gold sales to be huge," he said.

Lucknow (PNS): The del code of conduct is sure dversely affect the sales on occasion of Akshaya iya. Organising secretary, know Satrafa Association,

As per figures vis-a-vis Akshaya Tritiya, provided by sarrafa market, 100 kg gold worth Rs 9.5 crore was sold in in 2007 while 75 kg gold worth Rs 9.38 crore in 2008, 70 kg gold worth Rs 10.43 crore in 2009, 50 kg gold worth Rs 9.20 crore in 2010, 65 kg gold worth Rs 13.65 crore in 2011, 75 kg gold worth Rs 25 crore in 2012, 45 kg gold worth Rs 13 crore in 2013, 42 kg gold in 2014, 36 kg in 2015, 41 kg in in 2016, 40 kg in 2017, and

Asked as to why people kg in in 2016, 40 kg in 2017 and preferred cash transactions 40 kg in 2018 were sold.

Every Indian must be free to dream and dreams need no permissions! If we are to solve our jobs crisis, we need young entrepreneurs across sectors to start lakhs of new business that employ crores of young job seekers. To encourage this, we must first free them from the yolk of excessive regulation and red tape.

Our promise is that no new business will need permission from the Government for the first 3 years of its existence. We will abolish the Angel Tax that has hurt the flow of funds to new ventures. We will ensure that bank credit and other financial incentives are available to all new businesses that generate employment.

We cannot have justice while our entrepreneurs struggle to bring their dreams to life.



Published by All India Congress Committee, 24 Akbar Road, New Delhi-110011



city 04

Woman succumbs to burns, father alleges dowry death

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE LUCKNOW

Ayoung woman, identified as Anjali Rani (20), died under mysterious circumstances at her in-laws' place in Daulatpur village under Malihabad police station late on Thursday evening. In a police complaint, her father Harish Rajvanshi alleged that his son-in-law Vimlesh Kumar, along with eight of his family members, thrashed his daughter and then set her ablaze over not bringing enough dowry.

However, Anjali's husband claimed she sustained severe burns while cooking on Thursday afternoon. She lived with her husband and other inlaws. Doctors who attended to her at the community health centre said she sustained 90 per cent burns. The police regis-

ई–निविदा संख्या 280–विपामंप्र.ल./2018–19

जो कि पूर्व निर्घारित दिनांक में किन्ही अपरिहार्य कारणों से परिवर्तन होने के कारण

अब दिनांक 09.05.2019 को 16.00 बजे तक

अपलोड की जायेंगी एवं दिनांव 10.05.2019 को 14.30 बजे खोली जायेंगी

ई-टेन्डरिंग निविदा की अन्य नियम व शत

पूर्ववत् रहेंगी। अधीक्षण अभियन्ता, विद्युत

पारेषण मण्डल – प्रथम, उ०प्र० पावर

ट्रान्समिशन कारपोरेशन लि0 कक्ष सं0 111 से

114, भू-तल पारेषण भवन, विभूति खण्ड-।

गोमती नगर, लखनऊ। पत्रांकः 854, दिनांव

सूचना इस कार्यालय

3.05.2019. "राष्ट्रहित में बिजली बचायें"

No. 633/7 A Tender/2019-20

03.05.2019, "राष्ट्रहित में बिजली बचायें"

tered a case in this connection and booked the accused under Dowry Act on Friday after-

noon The police said the couple got married in May last year. Anjali's father claimed he had given her in-laws cash and other valuables as per the demand of Vimlesh's father Juglesh. He told the police that Vimlesh and his father were demanding Rs 2.5 lakh in cash from his daughter ever since

the marriage was solemnised. Harish said Vimlesh wanted the cash to start his business. However, Vimlesh claimed that his relations with Anjali were cordial. He denied allegations of torture. He claimed that he never had any tiff with his wife ever since they got married. He said his wife sustained

investigating the case. No one was detained since last reports

severe burns while cooking and was rushed to the nearby community health centre from



where she was referred to KGMU Trauma Centre. She succumbed to burns there late in the evening. Circle officer, Malihabad,

vate nursing from where he was referred to KGMU Trauma Centre. His condition was said to be critical.

criminal case was registered against him at Hazratganj police station on Friday. As per house around 11:30 am on Friday. Police said Rahul reports, a raid was conducted Prajapati (19) and his friend at the newspaper office by the vigilance squad of Lucknow Awadhesh (17) were residents of Kashi Ram Colony under Electricity Supply Administration (LESA) fol-Chinhat police station. They lowing complaints of power were going for some work on a motorcycle when Rahul lost theft for the past several years. control of the vehicle and it The team found out that the entire establishment was rammed a road divider. He died on the spot while Awadhesh was taken to a pri-

has been assigned tasked with

A teenager was killed while

using pilfered power and there was no meter installed in the premises. A criminal was also registered against the accused for forcibly taking the sports bike from an acquaintance, identified as Imran, last month. Imran told the police only last month that the

Editor of

Hindi daily

booked for

power theft

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE LUCKNOW

The editor of a Hindi daily was booked for power theft

at his office in Hazratganj. A

accused had taken away his motorcycle and was reluctant to return it to him.



A voter awareness programme organised by Yuva Gorkha Samaj at Nepalganj, Telibagh, on Friday

Pionee

Doctor issues guidelines for diabetics

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE LUCKNOW

diabetes specialist of Diabetes Care ACentre, Dr AK Tewari, on Friday told the diabetes patients observing the Ramzan fast to follow certain fresh guidelines to avoid any complications. Dr Tewari, who is also the founder president of HIDA (Health Initiatives and Diabetes Care), launched an awareness initiative in this connection and said that proper care during fasting was vital for diabetics. Ramzan s commencing from May 7.

Addressing a press conference here, Dr Tewari said during Ramzan the patients intending to observe fast required counselling and assistance so that they could avoid any complication later. Pointing out the guidelines of the International Diabetes Federation and Diabetes and Ramadan Alliance (IDF-DAR), Dr Tewari said those medically fit could observe fasting

Dr Tewari said as per the IDF-DAR there were three categories of riskspatients with a very high risk category, which include those with a history of hypoglycaemia during the past three months, patients with high risk category and type two diabetes with poor control, type I well



controlled and patients with low risk category. Dr Tewari said fasting diabetics should regularly check their blood sugar level (BSL) and get the medicine dose adjusted by the doctor. Moreover 'pre -Ramzan assessment' was a must before fasting to avoid risks, Dr Tewari said and added "do not try to adjust medicines on your own and consult the doctor". He said taking 'Sahri meal' was necessary. He said all the patients should break their fast if the blood sugar is 70 mg/dl or low, blood sugar is 300 mg/dl and above and if there

are symptoms of hypoglycaemia, hyper-glycaemia, dehydration or acute illness. Dr Tewari said that since diabetes was

chronic the rules of fast for such patients were based on knowing the way of avail-able treatment. He said in case of any complication being felt by such patients dur-ing the fasting they could break it. The

dietitian, Amreen Qureshi, who was also present at the press conference, elaborated about the dietary management during Ramzan. She said that the daily recommended calories should be divided into three meals—Sahri, Iftar and dinner and one or two snacks, if necessary. She further said that the diet should be balanced, and should include plenty of low and medium glycemic fruits and vegetables. She said that patients observing a fast should keep themselves hydrated between sunset and sunrise by taking unsweetened beverages like coconut water, sattu, bael fruit juice without sugar, fresh juices with fibres and buttermilk which were some very good options during this scorching summer. Diabetics who were fasting should refrain from taking caffeinated beverages, tobacco and smoking, she

Fire breaks out at 3 places उ०प्र० पावर ट्रान्समिशन कारपोरेशन **गि** लिमिटेड, ई–निविदा तिथि विस्तार सचना इस कार्यालय

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE LUCKNOW

 $F_{\mathrm{ferent}}^{\mathrm{ire}}$ broke out at three difcapital in the past 24 hours. The first incident was reported in Naka on the intervening night of Thursday and Friday. Police said the fire broke out in a wood godown owned by one Naseem. They said the fire was caused by short circuit. As per reports, locals saw smoke emanating from the godown at 1 am and they informed the police. Three fire tenders reached the spot within 15 and it took them half-an-hour to

उ०प्र० पावर ट्रान्समिशन कारपोरेशन VP) लिमिटेड, ई—निविदा तिथि विस्तार douse the flames. No casualty was reported in the incident while the losses are being ई–निविदा संख्या **306–विपामंप्र.ल. / 2018–19** estimated. जो कि पूर्व निर्धारित दिनांक में किन्ही अपरिहार्य कारणों से परिवर्तन होने के कारण

अब दिनांक 09.05.2019 को 16.00 बजे तव अपलोड की जायेंगी एवं दिनांव 10.05.2019 को 14.00 बजे खोली जायेंगी ई-टेन्डरिंग निविदा की अन्य नियम व शर्त पूर्ववत रहेंगी। **अधीक्षण अभियन्ता, विद्युत** पारेषण मण्डल – प्रथम, उ०प्र० पावर टान्समिशन कारपोरेशन लि० कक्ष सं० 111 से 114, भू–तल, पारेषण भवन, विभूति खण्ड–। गोमती नगर. लखनऊ। पत्रांकः 853, दिनांव

Elsewhere, in Hussainganj, the fire broke out a power station on Friday afternoon. Sparking in a cable was said to be the cause of fire outbreak. Executive engineer AK Kaushal said the oil stored in drums caught the fire which spread in no time. Four fire tenders were pressed into service and it took them about an hour to extinguish the flames. The executive engineer said

quarters in Lalbagh. Civic that equipment and other goods worth Rs 5 lakh were authorities said the fire was caused by short circuit in the gutted but no causality was room used by staffers of the reported

In another incident, a fire chief engineer. Six fire tenders broke out at the Lucknow doused the flames in an an Municipal Corporation headhour-and-a-half.

Date : 02-05-2019

CISH scientists find Chausa wilting in Manikpur, Kunda entire tree has dried up,' said the they did not want to leave their had dried up during the past PIONEER NEWS SERVICE

The scientists of the Central

Chausa prime variety of mango of Manikpur and Kunda, was well known for its quality, taste and bulk availability in the contiguous area. "It is one of the important Chausa belts of India capable of catering to export requirements also. The life of Chausa farmers has become difficult due to the sudden drying up of a large number of mango trees. The plant may be very young and up to 60 years old. The sudden drying up of the plant which yielded more than a quintal of mangoes is a big setback to the farmers, said Rajan.

scientists. The Director said that cultivation. "A few years ago three years and the rate of morguava was the important crop of tality was increasing

Diabetic-friendly paddy variety

the percentage rate online bids from the eligible and approved Contractors(Class A,B,C,D) reg istered with UP PWD in class A as the can may be The Bidder may submit bids for any or al of the works. Bidders are advised to note the minimum Qualification Criteria specified in Clause 3 of the Instructions to Bidders to qualify for the award of the contract.

Office of the Executive Engineer, Construction

Division, P.W.D. Kaushambi (U.P.)

E-TENDER NOTICE

2-						
SI.	ict	Name of work	Estimated	Bid	Cost of Bid	Time of
No.	District		Cost (Rs.	Security	Documents (Rs.)	Completio
			in Lacs)	(Rs.)		(Month)
	2	3	4	5	6	7
		Renewal Work				
1	Kaushambi		22.20	2.30	Ten Cost 500 +	20 Days
		Paschim Shareera to Nagreha Kala		0.00	St. Ch. 300+GST = Rs. 836.00	
2	Kaushambi	Renewal with General Repair of Sarai	22.20	2.30	Ten Cost 500 +	20 Days
_	K	Akil Mahila Marg to Chhekawa Uparhar			St. Ch. 300+GST = Rs. 836.00	00.0
3	Kaushambi	Renewal with General Repair of	22.20	2.30	Ten Cost 500 +	20 Days
.	K	Bharwari Karari to Amura	40.57	1.00	St. Ch. 300+GST = Rs. 836.00	00 D
1	Kaushambi		18.57	1.90	Ten Cost 500 +	20 Days
	Kenshamhi	Link Road	45.54	4.00	St. Ch. 300+GST = Rs. 836.00	00 D
5	Kaushambi	Renewal with General Repair of	15.54	1.60	Ten Cost 500 +	20 Days
<u>,</u>	Keucheme!	Hasimpur Kinar Km 1 to Jathiya	44.00	4.50	St. Ch. 300+GST = Rs. 836.00	00 D
6	Kaushambi		14.80	1.50	Ten Cost 500 +	20 Days
		Poorabshareera Nahar Pul to Bhabhuti			St. Ch. 300+GST = Rs. 836.00	
-		ka Dera Special Repair Work				
,	Kaushambi		28.70	2.90	Ten Cost 500 +	20 Davia
'	Kaushambi	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	20.70	2.90		20 Days
3	Kaushambi	Shahpur to Danpur Parsia Renewal with Special Repair of	28.70	2.90	St. Ch. 300+GST = Rs. 836.00 Ten Cost 500 +	20 Days
°	Kaushambi	Chanderai Bakharganj Goraju	20.70	2.90	St. Ch. 300+GST = Rs. 836.00	20 Days
9	Kaushamhi	Renewal with Special Repair of Uno	24.60	2.50	Ten Cost 500 +	20 Days
"	Kaushambi	Link Road to Alai urf Bakshipar	24.00	2.50	St. Ch. 300+GST = Rs. 836.00	20 Days
10	Kaushambi		22.14	2.30	Ten Cost 500 +	20 Days
"	Naushannoi	Shahpur to Alwara	22.14	2.30	St. Ch. 300+GST = Rs. 836.00	20 Days
11	Kaushamhi	Renewal with Special Repair of	20.50	2.10	Ten Cost 500 +	20 Days
"	Ndustidiliui	Sandawa to Bidaon Nahar ki Patari	20.00	2.10	St. Ch. 300+GST = Rs. 836.00	20 Days
12	Kaushambi		20.50	2.10	Ten Cost 500 +	20 Days
"	Naushannoi	Baigawan to Bidaon	20.00	2.10	St. Ch. 300+GST = Rs. 836.00	20 Days
13	Kaushambi		20.50	2.10	Ten Cost 500 +	20 Days
~	1000101101	Poorabshareera Bainskati marg par	20100	2	St. Ch. 300+GST = Rs. 836.00	20 0 0,0
		Gram Barain ka pura to dugaula via				
		parai ugrasenour				
14	Kaushambi		16.40	1.70	Ten Cost 500 +	20 Davs
·		Sarai Akil to Pindara Sahawanpur			St. Ch. 300+GST = Rs. 836.00	
15	Kaushambi		24.00	2.40	Ten Cost 500 +	20 Days
		Shahpur Mawai			St. Ch. 300+GST = Rs. 836.00	
16	Kaushambi	Renewal with Special Repair of Gram	16.40	1.70	Ten Cost 500 +	20 Days
		Andhawa to Pasiyan ka purwa			St. Ch. 300+GST = Rs. 836.00	
		shivbaran kori ke ghar tak				
17	Kaushambi	Renewal with Special Repair of	16.40	1.70	Ten Cost 500 +	20 Days
		Rakshwara katra to rasoolpur Sukwara			St. Ch. 300+GST = Rs. 836.00	
18	Kaushambi		14.60	1.50	Ten Cost 500 +	20 Days
		Govindpur LinkRoad			St. Ch. 300+GST = Rs. 836.00	
19	Kaushambi	Renewal with Special Repair of	12.30	1.30	Ten Cost 500 +	20 Days
		pashimshareera Katari Ghat to berua			St. Ch. 300+GST = Rs. 836.00	
20	Kaushambi		12.30	1.30	Ten Cost 500 +	20 Days
		Karari Shahpur to Hisampur			St. Ch. 300+GST = Rs. 836.00	
21	Kaushambi		12.30	1.30	Ten Cost 500 +	20 Days
		purwa to Garauli			St. Ch. 300+GST = Rs. 836.00	
22	Kaushambi		25.70	2.60	Ten Cost 500 +	20 Days
-		Kaudiya	20.00	2.00	St. Ch. 300+GST = Rs. 836.00	20 2090
23	Kaushambi		12.30	1.30	Ten Cost 500 +	20 Davs
-*		Bandhawa Rajbar Mooratganj			St. Ch. 300+GST = Rs. 836.00	
:3	Kaushambi		12.30	1.30		20 Days
		banunawa Najbar Wooratyanj			ot. on. 300+031 - NS. 030.00	

Time allowed for completion of eachwork is as mentioned in column no. 7. including rainy sea

- Website http://etender.up.nic.in may be referred for detailed terms and conditions of the Invitatio for Bids (IFB) 4. Website http://etender.up.nic.in may be referred for detailed terms and con ditions of the Invitation for Bids (IFB)
- Bid document with detailed terms and conditions will be available online on website http://etender.up.nic.in from 13-05-2019 to 17-05-2019 upto 12:00 Hours. Bids must be submitted online only at e-tendering portal of http://etender.up.nic.in on or before 12:30 Hours or 17-05-2019. Technical Bid received online will be opened on 18-05-2019 at 12:30 Hours.

The prospective bidders who do not posses Digital Signature Certificate (DSC) must get th same issued from approved agencies before submission of bids

UP- 140067	Dt. 3.5.2019	
	www.upgov.nic.in पर ज	पलब्ध है

Institute of Subtropical Horticulture (CISH) visited Manikpur and Kunda due to the regular phone calls of the farmers and many officials found the mango, Chausa, being diseased. A visit made by the Director of the Institute, Dr Shailendra Rajan, and the plant pathologist, Dr P. Shukla, revealed that the trees in the region of Manikpur and Kunda were badly infected with mango wilt which was a

new disease in the area. "Several orchards were visited by the team and the mango wilt disease was found to be the cause of drying trees. In some cases a few big branches were infected and in some cases the

CITYBRIEFS

COUNSELLING CLASSES FOR ACID ATTACK SURVIVORS



Indira Gandhi National Open University organised counselling classes for its ten acid attack survivor students through 'mobile study centre' at a café in Gomti Nagar. Officials said they were determined to provide higher education at the doorsteps of the learners who were deprived and unable to reach the study centre due to other commitments. Assistant regional director Kirti Vikram Singh informed the acid attack survivors about the rules and processes related to IGNOU. In January earlier this year, the Lucknow centre sponsored 10 acid attack survivors and encouraged them to enrol in Certificate Programme in Food and Nutrition (CFN). He said IGNOU was running an FM radio channel called 'Gyanvani' through which it offers quality educational programme, Interactive Radio Counselling (IRC).

VOTER AWARENESS RALLY

(Ved Narayan

Kaushamb

Executive Engineer Const. Division PWD

St Joseph Inter College (Thakurganj) organised a voter awareness rally on Friday. The rally started from the new campus

He said that the farmers of the region had become accustomed to mango growing and

the region but due to the wilting of plants the farmers discontinued its cultivation. Chausa is very much related with the livelihood of the people of the region. The input dealers who have little knowledge of mango diseases of a critical nature advised different types of insecticides and pesticides as per their limited understanding," he said. Several farmers accompanied the team which moved from one orchard to another for learning more about the diseases and their management. In one of the orchards 98 per cent trees had dried up and the mortality was high because 17 per cent of

was very much disheartened because he took a lot of time and efforts to make the full-grown tree of 40 years' age. Since the fruits of this area were sold at a premium price the farmers had a greater attraction towards cultivation of mangoes, he said. Since this was not a common disease, Dr PK Shukla per-

sonally demonstrated step by step how to manage it and what were the precautions to be taken for controlling its spread in the orchard. The farmers participated in all these demonstrations to understand many additional things related to mango the trees of the surveyed orchard cultivation.

The owner, Nagesh Prasad,

given away to 350 farmers

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE LUCKNOW

During the seed distribution event at CSIR-Central Institute of Medicinal and Aromatic Plants (CSIR-CIMAP) of Improved Samba Mahsuri, a bacterial blight disease-resistant and diabeticfriendly rice variety was developed. The DG, CSIR, Dr Sekhar Mande, stressed that research activities and achievements of all the CSIR labs should be taken to the common people in an effective manner. The seeds of this improved paddy variety have been developed by the scientists of CSIR-Centre for Cellular and Molecular Biology (CCMB), Hyderabad, and the ICAR-Indian Institute of Rice Research (IIRR), Hyderabad. Today the seeds were distributed among the 350 farmers from Barabanki, Sitapur, Faizabad, Ambedkarnagar, Gorakhpur, Ghaziabad and other districts of the state at the CSIR-Central Institute of Medicinal and Aromatic Plants, Lucknow. Each farmer was provided 10 kgs of paddy seeds free of cost.

SCHOOLSCAN

OPEN DAY

Open Day' celebrations were held at City Montessori School, Anand Nagar, on Friday. The students showcased their talents in presentations of art & craft and science projects, music, English speaking, sports, computer etc. The celebrations were organised, especially to create a bond between home and school through which parents can know the efforts of school in ensuring holistic development of their wards. Earlier, the programme began with an all-religion and world peace prayer.



AWARENESS CAMPAIGN A team of students, along with other faculty members from the Legal Aid Clinic, BBAU's department of Law, organised a voter awareness campaign on board a Metro train and LMRC premises. The team trav-elled between Krishna Nagar and Hazratganj stations, spreading the message through placards, posters and slogans. They interacted



building and marched towards Hardoi road and neighbouring areas. The students also

took oath to motivate their neighbours and

family members. Chief development officer

Manish Bansal was present on the occasion and he asked the students to motivate their parents and neighbours to go out and vote.

ernance and development and not on the basis of cast or religion. Meanwhile, tiny-tots of The Hermitage School (Aliganj) enjoyed a Metro ride on Friday. They were also briefed about the ticket vending machines and special feature inside the trains.

WALKATHON



To raise awareness about a range of issues, such as importance of voting and healthy living, Vodafone Idea Limited organised a 'walkathon' in Lucknow on Friday. The walk for a cause was aimed at helping people realise the power of their vote and drive them to exercise their franchise when city goes to poll on May 6. District Magistrate Kaushal Raj Sharma flagged off the 5-km walkathon which started from Vodafone Idea's office in Vibhuti Khand.

IMPORTANCE OF CONTRACEPTION

Gynecologist Dr Pushpa Jaiswal, while addressing mediapersons at Shriram Memorial Hospital on Friday, emphasised that using contraception was important during the post-partum period (up to six weeks after delivery) in a woman's life. "New mothers need to be aware that the first year after childbirth is not only a time of transition, adjustment and adaptation but also from the perspective of planning and spacing the next pregnancy.



nation 05

Payment service will be launched only after

complying with RBI

norms: WhatsApp

New Delhi:

Instant messaging app WhatsApp on Friday told the

S u p r e m e Court that it is

conducting a

it said.

norms

trial run of its payment service

and will comply with RBI norms

on data localisation before

completed by July end this year,

The trial run is likely to be

A bench of Justices R F

launching the full service.

House fuels pollute outdoor air: Study

ARCHANA JYOTI NEW DELHI

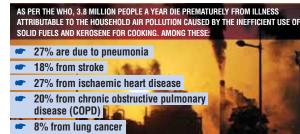
f India cuts down consump-Ltion of dirty household fuels such as wood, dung, coal and kerosene that produce high levels of household air pollution with a range of health-damaging pollutants, it can save as many as 2,70,000 lives every year, according to a joint study conducted by researchers from University of California, Berkeley and the India Institute of Technology (IIT), Delhi.

There are 3,000 chemicals that have been identified in wood smoke, and if taken at a macro level, it is very similar to tobacco smoke, they warned. "Household fuels are the sin-

gle biggest source of outdoor air pollution in India," said Kirk R Smith, professor of global environmental health at UC Berkeley and director of the Collaborative Clean Air Policy Centre. "We looked at what would happen if they only cleaned up households, and we came to this counterintuitive result that the whole country would reach national air pollution standards if they did that."

Smith is co-author of a paper describing the analysis that appeared this week in the journal Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences. Till early 2016, nearly half of

the Indian population was reliant on biomass for household fuel. In addition to generating greenhouse gases like carbon



dioxide and methane, these dirty fuels kick out chemicals and other fine particulate matter that can stick in the lungs and trigger a whole host of diseases, including pneumonia, heart disease, stroke, lung cancer and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease. In 2015, India's average annual air pollution level was 55

micrograms per cubic meter (ug m-3) of fine particulate matter. Complete mitigation of biomass as fuel — which could be achieved through widespread electrification and distribution of clean-burning propane to rural areas - would cut India's average annual air pollution to 38 ug m-3, just below the country's National Ambient Air Quality Standard of 40 ug m-3. While this is still far above the World Health Organisation (WHO) standard of 10 ug m-3, it could still have dramatic impacts on the health of the country's resi-

dents, Smith said. "You can't have a clean environment when about half the houses in India are burning dirty fuels every day," Smith said. "India has got to do other things



to fix air pollution — they've got to stop garbage burning, they've got to control the power plants, they've got to control vehicles and so forth. But they need to recognise the fact that households are very important contributors to outdoor air pollution, too. In 2016, India instituted a

national programme to distribute clean burning stoves and opane to 80 million impoverished households, or about 500 million people. The rationale behind this programme was to prevent illness due to cooking and heating smoke trapped within the home.

However, Smith hopes the study's findings will bolster support for reducing outdoor air pollution, as well. Similar programmes have been successful in China, where air pollution is now on the decline in 80 cities. "We've realised that pollution may start in the kitchen, but it doesn't stay there — it goes out-

side, it goes next door, it goes down the street and it becomes part of the general outdoor air pollution," Smith said.

FROM SUPREME COURT

Hearing on matching of VVPAT slips with EVMs next week

New Delhi: The Supreme Court on Friday agreed to hear next week a review plea filed by 21 Opposition leaders seeking further increase in random matching of VVPAT slips with EVMs in the ongoing general elections.

The apex court had on April 8 directed the Election Commission to increase random matching of Voter Verifiable Paper Audit Trail (VVPAT) slips with Electronic Voting Machines (EVMs) in five polling booths per Assembly segment from one booth.

The top court, however, had not agreed to the demand of 21 Opposition leaders for counting of at least 50 per cent of VVPAT slips with EVMs in every Assembly segment.

Opposition leaders led by Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu had sought the review of the apex court's order, saying the "increase from 1 to 5 is not a reasonable number and does not lead to satisfaction desired by this court".

The plea was mentioned for urgent hearing before a bench comprising Chief Justice Ranjan Gogoi and Justice Deepak Gupta.

Senior advocate Abhishek Manu Singhvi, appearing for petitioners, told the bench that the review plea be listed for hearing next week.

The bench accepted Singhvi's submis-sion and said the matter will be heard next week.

The plea said: "The petitioners submit that the aforesaid increase to a mere 2 per cent is not sufficient and will not make any substantial difference to the situation that existed prior to the passing of the impugned ΡTI order.

Justice AK Sikri appointed to look into Haryana Judicial Service recruitment issue

New Delhi: The Supreme Court on Friday appointed former apex court judge Justice AK Sikri to look into the evaluation process of the main exam for the post of Civil Judge (Junior Division) in Haryana, in which only nine people were shortlisted out of more than 1,100 candidates. The exam was conducted to fill 107 vacancies.

A Bench headed by Chief Justice Ranjan Gogoi said more than 1,100 candidates appeared for the main exam and only nine have qualified.

The Bench said Justice (retd) Sikri will look into whether the evaluation was acceptable or not and will submit the report to the apex court.

The Bench, also comprising Justice Deepak Gupta, directed the Punjab and Haryana High Court to submit answer sheets to Justice Sikri.

The top court's order came on a plea filed by 92 aspirants to the post of Civil Judge (Junior Division) in Haryana, seeking quashing of the result of its Main (Written) Examination which was declared on April 11. The apex court had on April 29 directed the Punjab and Haryana High Court Registry not to appoint any civil judge in Haryana without its nod.

The petition challenged the selection process and evaluation method adopted in the examination on the grounds of being "unreasonable, arbitrary and mala fide". It alleged that if the examination's selection process was not stayed, it would cause irreparable damage to the petitioners and other un-successful candidates. The petitioners have alleged that var-



Nariman and Vineet Saran was ious RTI applications were filed immedihearing a plea filed by an NGO, Centre for Accountability and ately after the result of the main examination seeking disclosure of marks, copies Systemic Change (CASC), of answer scripts, model answers and which has claimed that marking criteria, but to no avail and the WhatsApp has not fully cominterview tests were scheduled on the basis plied with RBI's circular which of the already declared results. prescribed data localisation

The petitioners have also alleged that there was a "serious problem" with the evaluation method being conducted for selecting judicial officers in Haryana.

A total 14,301 students took the preliminary examination held on December 22, 2018 for total 107 vacancies.

"1,282 students, out of 14,301, who were declared successful in preliminary examination, took the main examination held on March 15 and 17, 2019," it said.

The plea further said that it was "surprising" and "invited disbelief" that at least 20-30 candidates, who had appeared for

the main exam but were not selected for the interview are those who have already cleared judicial examinations of other states or are sitting judges in their respec-tive States. *PTI*

Senior advocates Kapil Sibal and Arvind Datar, appearing for the messenger app owned by US-based Facebook, told the bench that they are only having a trial run which is likely to be completed by July and it will not launch payments services without fully complying with RBI norms.

"We cannot launch the product without complying with the norms," Sibal said.

Advocate Virag Gupta, appearing for the NGO, said that WhatsApp was allowed to run the trial of its payments services with one million users. PTI

excavated and a bundle of

bones were recovered from

the spot," CBI said in the affi-

davit filed on an application

which had alleged that it had

not conducted a proper probe

hearing on Friday before a

bench comprising Chief Justice

Ranjan Gogoi and Justice

The matter came up for

in the case.

Irani winning from Amethi: Goyal

PNS NEW DELHI

s Amethi goes to poll on As Ametni goes to point a Monday, BJP on Friday claimed that its candidate Smriti Irani has an upper hand in the seat and Congress president Rahul Gandhi was "losing steam" in his home constituency.

Addressing a Press conference here, BJP leader and Union Minister Piyush Goyal maintained that the US Gallup polls survey report has given credit to Modi-Government for making people "secure" and 'safe" during its tenure.

Hitting out at the Congress,

GLOBAL TERRORIST

Goyal claimed that the way party was going it may touch a lower figure than what it got in

last Lok Sabha poll. He, however, did not elaborate on his analysis. The BJP leader insisted that BJP's nominee Irani was winning from Amethi and

pointed to Rahul's move to contest from a second Lok Sabha constituency in Kerala. Goyal said Congress leader did good by not selecting a seat in Karnataka as he claimed that the Congress was on a losing tracking in the southern state governed by Congress-JD(S) coalition.

Goyal said Rahul had won

Amethi by the margin of three lakh vote in 2009 which declined to one lakh in 2014 He said Irani would have trounced Rahul in 2014 itself but for "our delay in announcing her name". "This time round our sister will win", he said.

Amethi votes in the fourthphase of polling on Monday. Rahul's sister and Congress General Secretary-in-charge of Eastern Uttar Pradesh has been campaigning in Amethi as Irani alleged that Rahul was a "missing MP". Rahul has held Amethi for three consecutive times.

MUZAFFARPUR SHELTER HOME CASE 11 girls allegedly murdered by Brajesh, others: CBI

New Delhi: In a sensational revelation by CBI in the Supreme Court on Friday, 11 girls were allegedly murdered by key accused Brajesh Thakur and his accomplices and "bundle of bones" recovered from a burial ground in the Muzaffarpur shelter home sexual abuse case.

In its affidavit filed in the top court, CBI stated that from the statement of victims recorded during the probe, names of 11 girls have emerged, who were said to be allegedly mur-dered by Thakur and his



The agency said that on the pointing out of one of the

accused, a particular spot in a from the statement of burial ground was excavated victims recorded by IOs (invesfrom where a bundle of bones was recovered.

Several girls were allegedly raped and sexually abused at an NGO-run shelter home at Muzaffarpur in Bihar and the issue had come to light following a report by the Tata Institute of Social Sciences (TISS).

The probe into the case was transferred to CBI and the agency has chargesheeted 21 people, including Thakur. During investigation,

tigating officers) and NIMHANS (National Institute of Mental Health and Neuro-Sciences) team, names of 11 girls emerged who were said to be allegedly murdered by the accused Brajesh Thakur and his accomplices," the CBI said. "Based on the facts

Deepak Gupta. revealed by one accused, name-The bench said that it would ly Guddu Patel during his issue a formal notice to the CBI on the application and the interrogation, a particular spot in burial ground as identified by accused Guddu Patel was agency would file its response within four weeks.



France welcomes Azhar listing

PNS NEW DELHI

Hailing the listing of Jaish-e-Mohammad(JeM)chief Masood Azhar as a "global terrorist" by the United Nations Sanctions Committee two days back, France on Friday said for the first time, a consensus has emerged in the world and all the members of the United Nations Security Council(UNSC) stood firmly on the issue. Moreover, France took the lead in getting him declared as a "global terrorist" in the European Union(EU) and it may also get through.

Making this assertion here, French ambassador to India, Alexandre Zeigler, said France played a vital role in getting Azhar designated as a global terrorist though the process was long. Highlighting his country's support in this effort, the envoy said France backed India in 2001 when there was an attack on Parliament of India and earlier on the Jammu



& Kashmir Assembly. All efforts to impose sanctions against JeM had earlier failed. Then France took the lead and moved the UN body in 2017 for getting Azhar listed as a global terrorist but the attempt did not succeed. However, after the Pulwama attack, France took the initiative and last

year, put Azhar on its ban list. France, the UK and the US had moved a fresh proposal to declare Azhar as global terrorist by the UN in the wake of the February 14 Pulwama terror attack.

Stressing on the point about consensus, the ambassador said it was for the first time that the UNSC condemned the Pulwama attack in

a statement soon after the incident on February 14. Forty Central Reserve Police Force(CRPF)personnel were killed in a suicide attack in Pulwama and the JeM had claimed responsibility for the

act. Zeigler said France can appreciate and gauge the significance of this the UN decision on Tuesday last and said listing Azhar as a global terrorist has "concrete consequences." These entailed freezing of all his assets and restriction on getting finances and international travel.

On efforts to fight terrorism, he said India has been invited to attend the G-7 meeting in France later this year and one of the topics will be cyber space terrorism. "The fight against terrorism is one of the

pillars of our strategic partnership with India. Our two leaders had recalled this during the State visit of President Macron and I can tell you that

we are moving very closely and very fast with India," he said. Macron had visited New Delhi In March last year.

Meanwhile, diplomatic sources said providing more hard credible evidence to UN Sanctions Committee finally led to the listing of Azhar which China also backing it. Evidence by several countries was given after China on March 13 put on hold the listing, they said adding the proposal to designate Azhar has to stand stringent legal scrutiny.

Moreover, the evidence given to the UN clearly highlighted link between Azhar and the JeM and terrorist activities, sources said adding not mentioning Pulwama and Kashmir in the final proposal was more technical but the larger objective of listing the JeM succeeded. They also said the UNSC condemnation of Pulwama incident helped in the final process of getting the JeM listed.

CBI books ESIC doctors for taking ₹1 cr bribe from medicine supplier

PNS NEW DELHI

The CBI has booked two doctors of ESIC for allegedly taking a bribe of ₹1 crore from a medicine supplier with the assurance of getting him listed as an agent of a noted pharmaceutical manufacturer under Central rate contract. Vikas Gupta and Kajal

Goldar, both medical officers of Employees' State Insurance Corporation (ESIC), now posted at its hospitals in Tirunelveli and Kolhapur respectively, have been booked by the CBI for alleged criminal conspiracy, cheating and under the relevant provisions of the Prevention of Corruption Act. The action has been initi-

ated on a complaint from the ESIC which conducted a vigilance probe against the two on a complaint from a Delhibased medicine supplier.

During 2016-17 Gupta,

then working as medical officer, and Goldar as Director (medical), Delhi, had allegedv induced the supplier to pay ₹1 crore as bribe for awarding a contract in Central Rate Contract (CRC) of ESIC for supply of medicine and dressings by engaging him a agent of a reputed manufacturer during the process of ensuing tender for CRC, according to the FIR.

Basant Goel, the supplier, allegedly paid ₹1 crore to Gupta — ₹38 lakh in his Gupta — ₹38 lakh in his account, ₹10 lakh in his wife's account and another ₹52 lakh in cash on various dates to be delivered to Goldar.

On receiving complaint from Goel, the ESIC conducted a vigilance inquiry which confirmed payment of ₹48 lakh to Vikas Gupta and his wife Geeta Gera, the complaint from ESIC said.

"It has also been established that Kajal Goldar and him.

Vikas Gupta had official dealings with Goel Medicos and Basant Goel, an empanelled chemist for supply of day to day medicines and drugs and dressings to various hospitals and dispensaries of Delhi and NCR. The said chemist was allocated and was supplying medicines to VK Nagar dispensary of which Vikas Gupta was the IMO. Therefore, New Delhi: Taking a dig at Rahul

Gandhi, Finance Minister Arun Basant Goel has business inter-Jaitley on Friday wondered how est and dealings as well as acquaintance with both the the Congress president could officers," said the complaint, damage the image of Prime which now part of the FIR. Minister Narendra Modi who is Goel also furnished video riding on the peak of his evidence of the negotiations popularity. The dynasts have self-illusionary opinion about with the two doctors who

received the bribe from him. themselves and tend to become The ESIC also alleged susmegalomaniacs, he said adding "Rahul Gandhi is no exception". picious high-value transac-Jaitley was referring to Rahul's tions in Gupta's accounts and statement quoted by a media property dealings by him during 2013 and onwards for organisation that "I have dismantled Modi's image... I will which no satisfactory expladamage his image". nation could be provided by

SC TO HEAR PLEA OF AIADMK MLA ON MAY 6

New Delhi: The Supreme Court agreed to hear on May 6, a plea of an AIADMK MLA VT Kalaiselvan who has been served a notice by Tamil Nadu Assembly speaker for indulging in "antiparty activities" under the Antidefection law.

CONG ATTACKS MODI OVER **BANKING SYSTEM FAILURE**



New Delhi: The Congress on Friday said the banking system was in tatters as the number of wilful defaulters had doubled during the last five years of the Narendra Modi Government. Congress spokesperson Randeep Singh Surjewala tweeted, " 5,090 creditors have increased to 11,000 creditors."

Boost to Unnat Bharat Abhiyan

PNS NEW DELHI

SC e-Governance Services India Limited, a Special Purpose Vehicle under the Ministry of Electronics & IT, has tied up with Indian Institute of Technology (IIT)-Kanpur to upscale Unnat Bharat Abhiyan', the HRD Ministry's programme which is spearheading to evolve solutions for accelerating sustainable growth in rural India.

Under the Unnat Bharat Abhiyan, IIT-Kanpur has brought together 15 leading higher education institutions from UP who have now agreed to work with CSC for the development of villages under the scheme. IIT Kanpur has already adopted five villages -Hridayapur, Baikanthpur, Ishwariganj, Pratappur Hari and Saxupurva - situated on the outskirts of Kanpur for its overall development.

"As many as 15 affiliated educa-



tional institutions under Unnat Bharat ventions of IIT Kanpur," said Dr. Reeta Singh from IIT Kanpur who is heading Abhiyan will adopt gram panchayats and equip them with all citizen-centric Unnat Bharat Abhiyan project. "All the participating institutions services through CSCs. These institu-

tions will train village level entreprehave been informed about various serneurs (VLEs) who run CSCs as part of vices being delivered through CSC to citthe village development plan. The izens and further potential which CSCs VLEs will also be skilled about the use offer in empowering communities and of solar energy, cleanliness, and use of overall village development. We hope modern technologies through inter- that this relationship of IIT-Kanpur and

other leading institutions with CSCs will further strengthen the government's vision of Digital India. It will also improve the technical skills of our VLEs and make CSCs future-ready to implement more government schemes," said CSC CEO Dr. Dinesh Tyagi.

The 15 higher education institutions which have been associated with CSC are IIT-Kanpur; School of Management Sciences, Lucknow; Bundelkhand University, Jhansi; Allahabad College of Engineering & Management; Pranveer Singh Institute of Technology, Kanpur; Kiranlata Singh Mahavidyalaya, Fatehpur; Seth Badri Prasad Smriti College, Jalaun; SRSSD College, Auraiya; Virendra Singh Group of Institutions, Unnav; Allen House Institutions; Rama University; National Post Graduate College, Lucknow; Lucknow Polytechnic, Lucknow; Dayanand Girl's PG College and CSM Degree College, Chitrakoot.

New Delhi: The BJP on Friday attacked the Congress over unaccounted money being traced from "close associates" of Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Kamal Nath, saying the State has become a "new ATM" for the grand old party.

Addressing a Press conference at the party office, BJP spokesperson GVL Narasimha Rao alleged that the Congress dispensation in the state is "minting money and diverting government funds. Rs 281 crore unaccounted cash was traced from his close associates".

new ATM for Cong, says BJP

Madhya Pradesh

from this unaccounted cash.

The Congress dismissed the charge, saying it was a sign of desperation of the ruling party. Senior party leader Anand Sharma said that raising these issues at this stage shows the mindset of the BJP and the ruling Government which were panicking. PTI

Describing Madhya Pradesh as a new ATM of Congress, Rao alleged that as per entries in a diary traced by Income Tax Department, senior Congress leaders Digvijay Singh and Randeep Surjewala also got a cut

New Delhi: Responding to the written request of the Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu, the Election Commission (EC) has lifted code

EC RELAXES POLL CODE

IN 4 ANDHRA DISTRICTS

of conduct in four districts Srikakulam, Vizianagaram, East Godavari and Visakhapatnam. This will enable the State Government to take up relief operations without going to EC for permissions. PM'S IMAGE REMARK: JAITLEY MOCKS RaGa



Mala, Helen, Nargis: How are cyclones named?

PNS NEW DELHI

Mala, Helen, Nargis and Nilofer may sound like the names of yesteryear Bollywood actors, but they are, in fact, lethal cyclones that have brought violent winds, heavy rains and wreaked destruc-tion. As Cyclone Fani pounded the Odisha coast on Friday, the name 'Phoni", which was suggested by Bangladesh, also evoked curiosity. How the Cyclones named?

Mritunjay Mohapatra, the Additional Director General of the India Meteorological Department (IMD), said Fani, pronounced as 'Foni', means a snake's hood

The World Meteorological Organisation/Economic and Social Commission for Asia

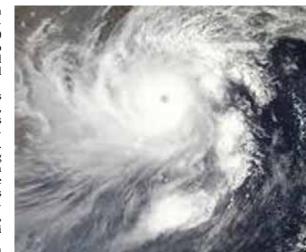
Pictures: PT

and the Pacific Panel on Tropical Cyclones, at its twenty-seventh session held in 2000 in Muscat, Oman, agreed to assign names to the tropical cyclones in the Bay of Bengal and Arabian Sea.

After long deliberations among the member countries, the naming of tropical cyclones over north Indian Ocean commenced from September 2004. The eight countries along the Bay of Bengal and Arabian

Sea suggest names that are sequentially listed. The nations suggest names alphabetically -- Bangladesh, India, Maldives, Myanmar, Oman, Pakistan, Sri Lanka and Thailand.

The Regional Specialised Meteorological Centre (RSMC) based here gives a tropical cyclone an identification from



the names list. The identifica-Bengal. So, for instance, Bangladesh suggested 'Onil' tion system covers both the the first in the list. Onil origi-Arabian Sea and the Bay of

nated in Arabian Sea, off the Gujarat coast between September to October 2004. It made landfall in the state, but impacted both India and Pakistan.

Cyclone Phetai, suggested by Thailand, originated in the Bay of Bengal and made land-fall in Andhra Pradesh, rav-aging the coastal districts in December lost year December last year. The next cyclone, when-

ever it originates, will be named Vayu', suggested by India. Of the 64 names suggested

by these eight countries, 57 have been utilised. Some of the names suggested by India are Agni, Jali, Bijli, Akash, while Mala, Helen and Nilofar were suggested by Sri Lanka, Bangladesh and Pakistan respectively.

These lists are used sequentially and they are not rotated every few years, unlike the Atlantic and Eastern Pacific lists.

"A storm causes so much death and destruction that its name is considered for retirement and hence is not used repeatedly.

"If the public wants to sug-gest the name of a cyclone to be included in the list, the proposed name must meet some fundamental criteria," a circular on naming the cyclones over the North Indian Ocean said.

The name should be short and readily understood when broadcast. Further, the names must not be culturally sensitive decided to identify storms using names from a list arranged alphabetically," the and must not convey some unintended and potentially inflammatory meaning," it IMD said explaining the gen-The name can be esis of the naming process. added.

communicated to the director general of the IMD.

According to the IMD, in names for those forming in the the beginning, storms were named arbitrarily. Laxman Singh Rathore, a former direc-tor general of the IMD, said the Southern Hemisphere. Since 1953, Atlantic tropical storms have been named from lists practice of naming the storm first started in the United States. This helped identify it and also aided the researchers. Earlier, the storm was

nave been named from lists originated by the National Hurricane Centre. They are now maintained and updated by an international committee of the World Meteorological Organisation," the IMD added. named after the coast it hit, Storms over South Pacific and Indian Ocean are known as Rathore added. "Then the mid-1900s saw the start of practice cyclones. In the North Atlantic, of using feminine names for central North Pacific, and eaststorms. In the pursuit of a more ern North Pacific, the term hurricane is used. organised and efficient naming The same type of distursystem, meteorologists later

bance in the Northwest Pacific is called a typhoon, according to the National Ocean Service of the US' National Oceanic Atmospheric Administration.

"Before the end of 1900s,

forecasters started using male

SIDELIGHTS

COASTAL ANDHRA ESCAPES 'FANI' FURY

Coastal Andhra Pradesh escaped the fury of extremely severe cyclonic storm 'Fani', which hit Odisha coast near Puri on Friday, officials said. Though the cyclone had an impact on 700 villages in north coastal Andhra, the calamity passed off without causing any loss of life or major property damage. The cyclone triggered heavy rain in parts of Srikakulam, Vizianagaram and Visakhapatnam districts. Srikakulam district bordering Odisha witnessed the maximum impact. The gusty winds speeding up to 140 km per hour uprooted trees and electricity poles, affecting power supply and road transport. Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu told reporters after a review meeting in the state capital Amaravati that 733 villages were affected and restoration works were completed in 408 villages by Friday evening.

ASSAM ON ALERT AS FANI LIKELY TO HIT TODAY

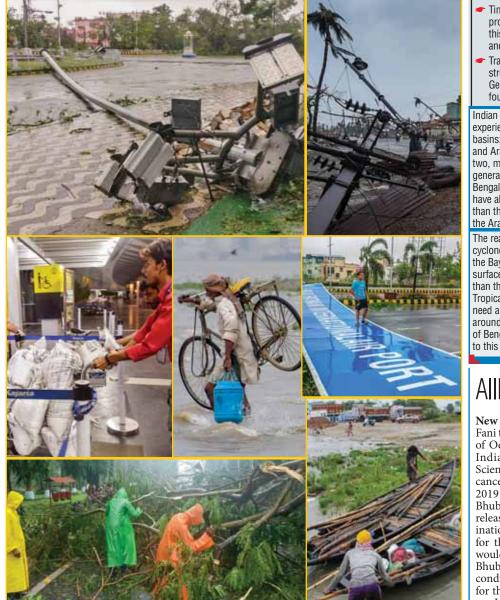
The Assam Government has sounded an alert in all districts of the state following a warning that Cyclone Fani will lash Assam and other parts of the northeastern region for two days starting Saturday early hours. The Regional Meteorological Centre (RMC) at Guwahati said that there will be heavy to very heavy rains in most of the northeastern states including Assam on April 4 and 5 and strong surface winds with speeds of up to 40 km per hour. "Extremely severe cyclonic storm, Fani (pronounced as 'Foni') over west central Bay of Bengal has already hit coastal region of Odisha. It is very likely to impact Assam and other northeastern states on late Friday night or Saturday early morning. There will be heavy to very heavy rain accompanied by strong winds," said Sanjay O'Neill Shaw, Deputy Director General of the Indian Meteorological Department (IMD) based in Guwahati.

BOLLYWOOD CELEBS PRAY FOR SAFETY OF PEOPLE

A slew of Bollywood celebrities including Abhishek Bachchan, Tamannaah Bhatia and Riteish Deshmukh have prayed for the safety of those who have been affected by the cyclonic storm Fani. The extremely severe cyclonic storm Fani with wind speed touching nearly 200 kmph that made landfall earlier on Friday on the eastern coast wreaking havoc in Odisha, will cross several districts in the state before advancing to neighbouring West Bengal.

EC RELAXES MODEL CODE OF CONDUCT IN ANDHRA

The Election Commission on Friday relaxed the model code of conduct (MCC) in four districts of Andhra Pradesh to facilitate rescue and rehabilitation works in the wake of the extremely severe cyclonic orm, Fani. Chief Electoral Officer of Andhra Pr the EC to relax the provisions of MCC in East Godavari, Visakhapatnam, Vizianagaram and Srikakulam districts



WHAT MAKES FANI SPECIAL

- Timing and strength are two factors that make Cyclone Fani, pronounced as Foni, different from most other tropical cyclones in this time of the year. Cyclone Fani started developing around April 25 and has made a landfall this morning in Odisha on the east coast
- Traversing for nearly 10 days over the sea allowed Fani to gather such strength that it is now classified as an extremely severe cyclone. Generally, tropical cyclones over the Bay of Bengal have a lifespan of four-seven days. But Cyclone Fani is different

ndian subcontinent experiences cyclones from 2 basins: Bay of Bengal basin and Arabian Sea basin. Of the two, more cyclones are generated in the Bay of Bengal and cyclones here have also been more severe than the one generated over he Arabian Sea

The reason why tropical cyclones are more prone to the Bay of Bengal is that its surface temperature is more than that of the Arabian Sea. Tropical cyclones generally need a temperature of around 28 d Celsius. The Bav

of Bengal is more conducive to this than the Arabian Sea

AIIMS cancels exam in Bhubaneswar

New Delhi: Due to Cyclone Fani that hit hard eastern coast of Odisha on Friday, the All India Institute of Medical Sciences, (AIIMS), Delhi has canceled the AIIMS PG Exam 2019 examination centre at Bhubaneswar. In the notice eleased by AIIMS the exam-

will be conducted for students affected by this cancellation as soon as normalcy returns".

cancelled for the candidates allotted who were Bhubaneswar exam centres.

The examination at the er centres, however, would

was hit by 145 cyclonic storms that were classified as severe, very severe, extremely severe and super cyclonic storm. Of these, only 7 were in April and 27 in May Most of these cyclones (90 i.e.

Between 1965 and 2017, India

62%) were generated between October and December

One of India's strongest cyclones was the one that affected Andhra Pradesh in 1977. With the lowest pressure of about 919 mbar, the cyclone claimed the lives of as many as 50,000 people

The 1999 Orissa (now Odisha) super-cyclone claimed the lives of over 15,000 people. Winds reached the speed of 260 kmph

claimed the lives of over 950 people The lowest pressure of the cyclone was about 920 mbar

Cyclone Hudhud in 2014, which hit major parts of eastern India and neighbouring Nepal, originated from a

Centre with people hit by Fani: PM

Jaipur: Prime Minister Narendra Modi said on Fridav

that the Centre stood with the The examination is only people in states hit by cyclone Fani. Modi said, "I want to

assure the families affected by the cyclone that we are with hem at this point of hour

7 DEADLIEST CYCLONES HAVE HIT INDIA SINCE 1970s low-pressure system in the Andaman Sea. Over 124 deaths were reported during the time

The Gujarat cyclone in 2015 claimed the lives of over 84 people when it hit the western regions of India

Cyclone Thane in 2011 was a strongest tropical cyclone, which majorly affected Tamil Nadu and

The Machilipatnam cyclone in 1990 Andhra Pradesh. The cyclone left at least 33 people dead Cyclone Phailin in 2013 caused the

deaths of over 23 people. It affected mostly the regions of Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Andhra Pradesh, Odisha and Jharkhand

BENGAL ON ALERT CM postpones poll programme

SAUGAR SENGUPTA KOLKATA

With super-cyclonic storm Fani ravaging Odisha coastal belt and appearing in no mood to spare Bengal the State Government went on maximum alert state with Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee cancelling her election rallies for

the coming 48 hours. The Chief Minister who was currently camping at Kharagpur some 50 miles from the sea was personally monitoring the situation even as the state administration evacuated several lakh people from the coastal regions.

Tourists had been evacuated from beach joints of Digha, Mandarmani, Shankarpur, Tajpur, Home Ministry sources said adding hotels at the mouth of Bay of Bengal in Bak Khali, Ganga Sagar, Namkhana, Sajne Khali

in Sundarbans had been evacuated and local villagers had

been shifted to those places. 'Taking lesson from Aila," that struck Bengal causing extensive damages in 2009 the Government had taken unprecedented measures, a senior official said.

alert, take care and stay safe for the next two days but don't panic. I am personally supervising the situation on war footing. All the election-related programmes have been postponed for the next 48 hours."

people from shanties and hut-Kolkata

storm is likely fade into a 'severe cyclonic depression" by the time it would enter Bengal

sometime in the wee hours of Saturday, weather office said advising "chances should not be maximum alert."

The Chief Minister said "be In Kolkata Mayor Firhad Hakim ordered evacuation of

ments. "Several thousand people have been shifted to community halls and roadside shops have been closed," a senior Metropolitan Corporation official said adding. The "extremely severe

taken and people should be on The State Government had directed owners of 'The 42' the tallest building in India to remove the tall crane affixed to it. While the Railways cancelled a number of local trains moving down south to Sunderban regions of Diamond Harbour, Canning, Namkhana causing massive passenger snarl at

Sealdah Railway Station. Trains are being run sparingly considering the entry time of the storm," an Eastern Railway official said. Flights out of Netaji Subhas International Airport had also been suspended for several hours till Saturday causing great inconvenience to the North-East bound passengers sources said.

"Our flights have been cancelled and we are stranded in Kolkata without any boarding facility being provided by the airline authorities," said a Rakesh Sinharoy a passenger appealing to the authorities to make arrangements for the trapped passengers. Meanwhile, the with electoral code of conduct lifted from the affected zones political parties found a great opportunity of do pre-electoral service to the masses even as many of them jumped into action as hordes of mini trucks loaded with activists and relief materials rushed coastwards.

be conducted as per the schedination, which is scheduled for this Sunday May 5, 2019 would not be conducted in Bhubaneswar. Exam would be conducted on a different date for the affected candidates.

Union Health and Welfare Secretary Preeti Sudan tweeted that, "AIIMS PG exam is scheduled on 5th May. Due to cyclone Fani, AIIMS Delhi is cancelling the exam centre in Bhubaneswar. Another exam Ministry.

ule. The revised dates for Bhubaneshwar centre would be released by AIIMS New Delhi at a later date. As for the AIIMS MBBS 2019 examination, there is no update. AIIMS would be releasing the admit cards for the MBBS

examination on May 15 on aiimsexams.org, said a senior official from the Health PNS

have collected fresh updates from the officials and had released a fund of Rs 1,000 crore for relief work on Thursday.

"Rescue teams have been operationalised. The National Disaster Response Force (NDRF), Indian Coast Guard, Indian Navy and Indian Army all have been working with the administration. Coming together to combat bad times is the spirit of India." IANS

CYCLONE FANI TO AFFECT WEATHER IN NEPAL

Extremely severe cyclonic storm Fani which made landfall in the Indian state of Odisha on Friday, is expected to affect the regular pattern of weather conditions in some parts of Nepal, weather officials said here. Although the cyclone is not likely to make its way to Nepal, light to moderate rain coupled with lightning and strong winds will occur in some parts of the Himalayan nation's eastern and central regions on Friday and Saturday, according to the Nepal Weather Forecast.

CYCLONE FANI TO HAVE NO MAJOR IMPACT ON LANKA

Tropical cyclone Fani will not have a major impact on Sri Lanka in the coming days, Sri Lanka's Disaster Management Centre (DMC) said here on Friday. The powerful cyclone slammed into India's eastern coastline on Friday, bringing torrential rain and winds of up to 200 km/h. It is one of the most severe storms to hit the region in recent years. Assistant Director of DMC Pradeep Kodippili said that cyclone Fani was expected to increase wind speeds up to 200 km per hour and although there was no major threat to Sri Lanka, officials were deployed in several districts in case of an emergency.

EC TAKES ALL MEASURES TO PROTECT EVMS, VVPATS

With Cyclone Fani barreling its way to West Bengal from Odisha, the Election Commission has taken all measures to protect strongrooms where EVMs and VVPATs have been stored, a senior EC official said on Friday. The EVMs and VVPATs are for use in the seven parliamentary constituencies going to the polls in the fifth phase in the state on Monday, he said. EC officers in the state held video conferences with district magistrates and telephonic meetings during the day with senior officials on precautionary measures needed to be taken for the VVPATs and the EVMs.

RLYS TO TRANSPORT RELIEF MATERIAL AT NO COST

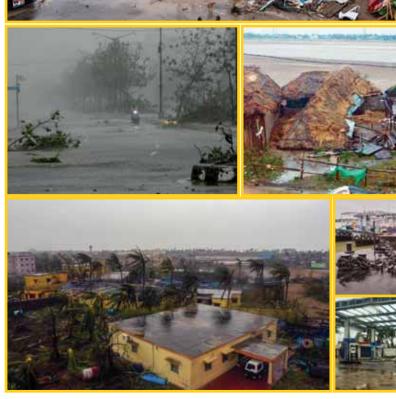
The railways will transport aid and relief materials free of cost to cyclone 'Fani' affected Odisha, West Bengal and Andhra Pradesh, the national transporter said on Friday, in the wake of large-scale devastation by cyclonic storm.

MEGHALAYA BRACES FOR CYCLONE FANI

The Meghalaya Government has sought deployment of a platoon of the National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) in the state in view of Cyclone Fani, officials said on Friday.



'BABY FANI' BORN IN ODISHA RLY HOSPITAL A baby was born in an Odisha railway hospital as the extremely severe storm wreaked its havoc on Friday and her name came to officials in a flash - she could only be Lady Fani for them. The baby was born at 11.03 am in the railway hospital in Mancheswar, barely five km from the Odisha capital Bhubaneswar, officials said.



nation 07



Burhan Wani's aide 'Tiger' shot

MOHIT KANDHARI 🗖 JAMMU

A joint team of security forces early on Friday morning dealt a body blow to top Hizbul Muhajideen (HM) commanders, active in Kashmir Valley, by neutralising Lateef Ahmad Dar, alias Tiger of Dogripora, Pulwama, one of lone surviving members of Burhan Wani group, along with two other local terrorists in a fierce firefight in South Kashmir's Shopian district.

Timing of the clinical operation is set to boost the morale of the security forces deployed in the area to ensure peaceful polling in the final phase in Shopian and Pulwama districts on May 6.

After the killing of Hizbul Mujahideen's poster boy, Burhan Wani, in July 2016, several other top commanders too were neutralised during sustained operations by the security forces.

Lateef Ahmad Dar, killed in Shopian, was lone surviving member of the group who was still active in the area.

'Tiger' was reportedly involved in grooming young recruits for pro-Pakistan Hizbul Mujahideen terror outfit. He was active in the

area since 2014 and was a close confidant of Burhan Wani. The killing of three local terrorists also sparked off protests in the area. Local residents tried to assemble near the encounter site provoking the security forces to use tear

smoke shells to disperse the unruly mob. The authorities immediately snapped mobile Internet services in south Kashmir whereas train services through the area also remained suspended.

According to police spokesman, "The operation was launched on the basis of a credible input about the presence of terrorists at Adkhara Village in Imam Sahab area of district Shopian early on Friday morning." "During searches, the hiding terrorists fired upon the search party. The fire was retaliated leading to an encounter. Initially, with the efforts of police and security forces, the

civilians trapped around the According to police, Lateef encounter site were evacuated to



safer places". During the operation, one Army jawan Yugendar Kumar also sustained gunshot injuries. He was evacuated to hospital and is undergoing medical treatment," the olice spokesman said.

"In the ensuing encounter, three terrorists were killed and the bodies were retrieved from the site of encounter. The three killed terrorists have been identified as Lateef Ahmad Dar alias Tiger of Dogripora Pulwama, Tariq Ahmad Sheikh alias Mufti Waqas of Moolu Chitragam Shopian and Shariq Ahmad Nengroo of Chotigam

Shopian," the spokesperson said. According to the police records, all the three terrorists were affiliated with the proscribed terror outfit HM and were wanted by law for their complicity in a series of terror crimes including attacks on security establishments and

civilian atrocities. As per police records, Lateef had a long history of terror crime records since 2014 and was involved in planning and executing several terror attacks in the area. Several terror crime cases were registered against him

Similarly, Tariq also had a long history of terror crime records and was involved in several terror attacks. Several terror crime cases were registered against him. He was part of groups involved in planning and executing terror attacks on the security establishments in the area. He was instrumental in luring youth to join terror organisations. Moreover, he was also involved in several weapon snatching cases reported from the area. Shariq was also involved in several terror attacks. Incriminating material

including arms and ammunition were recovered from the site of encounter. Police has registered a case. All these incriminating materials have been taken in case records to probe their complicity in other terror crimes.

Police also appealed to citizens not to venture inside encounter zone since such an area can prove dangerous due to stray explosive materials. 'People are requested to cooperate with police till area is completely sanitised and cleared of all explosive materials if any," said a detailed police advisory.

BANK FRAUD CASE Life term for one, four get RI, ₹3.13 crore fine

Surve alias Majeed Naik,

TN RAGHUNATHA MUMBAI

A special CBI court on Friday sentenced one person to life imprisonment and imposed a fine of Rs 3.13 crore and awarded rigorous imprisonment to four persons, including a former branch manager of Andhra Bank, for periods ranging from three years to ten years and levied fines collect-ing amounting to Rs 3.70 lakh in a bank fraud case.

The CBI court handed out life imprisonment to one Rajendra Marutrao Patil, a private individual, and imposed a fine of Rs. 3.13 crore.

The court sentenced Bandalmudi Mahipal, then Branch Manager, Andhra Bank, Ghodbundar Road Branch, 10 years' rigorous imprisonment with fine of Rs. 3.40 lakh and awarded three years' rigorous imprisonment each to Nizamuddin Ismail

Reshma Kunte @ Śmt. Reshma Rajendra Patil and Premnath Atmaram Nikumbhe, all private individuals and imposed fines of Rs 18,000, Rs 12,000 and Rs 12,000 respectively on them for allegedly causing a huge loss to the Andhra Bank. The CBI had registered a

case on 30.01.2010 on a com-plaint from General Manager, Andhra Bank, Andheri, Mumbai against Rajendra Patil, Bandalmudi Mahipal, then Branch Manager, Andhra Bank, Ghodbundar Road Branch, Thane (Maharashtra) and three others. The Prosecution's case was

that the accused persons had availed a term Îoan of Rs. 203.35 lakh for purchase of 15 Skoda Laura Cars. However, they purchased only one car, while they allegedly siphoned off rest of of the money was siphoned off for other purpos-

es by the borrower.

The accused also availed another facility of Secured Overdraft of Rs.139.95 lakh against term deposit worth Rs.155.50 lakh which was also not cleared and thereby Andhra Bank was put to a total loss to the tune of approximately Rs. 2.30 crore.

After its investigation, the CBI filed a charge sheet in the special court against the accused under 120-B (conspiracy), 420 (cheating), 465 (punishment for forgery), 467 (forgery of valuable security, will etc) 468 (forgery for the purpose of cheating), 471 (using forged document as genuine one) & 511 (punishment for attempting to commit offences punishable with imprisonment for life or other imprisonment) of IPC and Section 13(2) r/w 13(1) (d) of Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988 and substantive offences.

false allegations.... The debate

TN Addl CS files complaint against top PMO official, CVC

KUMAR CHELLAPPAN CHENNAL

Despite Prime Minister Narendra Modi pitching in with his moral support to the Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Backward Communities, a cartel of bureaucrats are working round-the- clock to victimise, disgrace and humiliate Government officials belonging to the SC/ST and BC sections. This has been brought to light by a Chief Secretary grade IAS officer in Tamil Nadu.

The 13-pages long com-plaint filed by Jagmohan Singh Raju, Commissioner of Land Reforms (additional chief secretary) Government of Tamil Nadu, and which the Tamil Nadu Police refused to accept reveals shocking developments and happenings in the country's civil service.

The Pioneer had brought out the news that Raju, a tional secre tary/secretary to the Government of India because of his status as a member of the SC Raju, who began his er in the civil service at the age of 22 has been honoured internationally and nationally for the meritorious and exemplary services rendered by him for the upliftment of the society. He was due for empanelment as additional secretary /secretary to the Government of India in 2016. But certain people in the corridors of power cannot digest the fact that an officer from the SC community

would occupy the post of cabinet secretary, the topmost post a civil servant could aspire.

A group of officials ganged up and devised strategies to derail the progress of Raju's career by foisting false fake and frivolous cases on him.

Though all cases were found to be fake by the investigating agencies of the Government of India and judiciary, the people responsible for removing the blots on the career of the officer ganged up and retained the charges with more vigour.

Police complaint accessed by The Pioneer threw out shocking goings on in India's bureaucracy.

'My career has nosedived because of caste based discrimination at the hands of senior government functionaries and others. I have been in particular victimised by Kabindra Joshi, G Srinivasan, KV Chowdary (CVC), PK Punjab-born IAS officer Mishra (additional principal belonging to the SC communi- secretary to the Prime ty is being denied promotion to Minister). With the sole motive of harming my current and happened despite the Prime future professional/employment prospects and social Minister's assurance to the standing they have been ruinmembers of the SC, ST and ing my impeccable reputation OBC sections that this was as an honest officer by giving going to be their century," said a senior civil service officer false information against me to public servants, instituting privy to the goings on in false and malicious inquiries India's corridors of power. against me contrary to estab-People who cry from lished norms and practices rooftops for any alleged violaand creating an atmosphere of tion of the rights of the distrust and prejudice to disoppressed classes have not criminate against me. Thereby uttered a single word in support

in his complaint which the Tamil Nadu police refused to accept. Joshi and Srinivasan are under secretaries in the central Government with unlimited wer at their disposal.

Raju's complaint is replete with the modus operandi followed by the quartet of Joshi, Srinivasan, Mishra and Chowdary, the last named being the chief vigilance commissioner of the country.

Despite Raju being cleared in all the inquiries held by the vigilance department of the government of India, these officials succeeded in retaining the charges against him by tampering the Vigilance Information System of the Department o Personnel and Training (DOPT) of the

Government of India. The National Commission for Scheduled Castes (NCSC) which went into the woes of Raju expressed its anguish and shock over the way the officer has been subjected to the worst kind of treatment.

"What is shocking is the ual of justice to F

Hans: I'm not Muslim, will sue Kejriwal for maligning my image



BJP candidate from North-West Delhi Hans Raj Hans, with Delhi BJP MLA Vijender Gupta, addresses media in New Delhi on Friday Ranian Dimri I Pioneer

STAFF REPORTER NEW DELHI

Aday after the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) claimed BJP candidate from North West Delhi Hans Raj Hans converted to Islam in 2014 and therefore can't fight from a Lok Sabha seat reserved for the Scheduled Caste, Hans on Friday said he would file a defamation case against Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal and other AAP leaders for

"maligning" his image. veet on Kejriwal had claimed that Hans would be declared ineligible to contest the election for fighting on a reserved seat.

said, "I am deeply hurt. I have a passport in the name of Hans Raj Hans. I will file a defamation case against Kejriwal and other AAP leaders?

At a Press conference on Thursday, Kejriwal's Cabinet colleague Rajendra Pal Gautam cited news reports claiming that Hans had converted to Islam and that the BJP candidate did not disclose this information in his nomination papers. Hans said by accusing him of converting to Islam, Keiriwal and other AP lead

AAP MLA joins SHAH CONFIDENT... **BJP**, says party has strayed from past ideals STAFF REPORTER NEW DELHI

Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) MLA from Gandhi Nagar Anil Bajpai quit his party and joined the BJP on Friday.

"I worked with the AAP for many years. I was hurt by the lack of respect and the peculiar functioning of the party. AAP has deviated from its original path," Bajpai said.

The move comes at a time when AAP leaders, including Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal, have accused the BJP leader has ever made such of indulging in horse trading. Bajpai joined the BJP in

the presence of party national vice-president and Delhi BJP in-charge Shyam Jaju and Union Minister Vijay Goel at the Delhi unit office here.

Earlier Kejriwal had hit out at Vijay Goel for saying that 14 AAP lawmakers were in touch with the BJP and ready to switch loyalty. On Wednesday, Manish Sisodia had claimed seven AAP MLAs had been offered ₹10 crore each to join the BJP. "Modi ji, will you topple every Government run by an Opposition party by buying lawmakers? Is this your definition of democracy? And from where do you bring so much money to buy MLAs? You have tried to buy our MLAs many times. Buying AAP leaders is not easy," the Delhi Chief Minister said in a tweet. Vijay Goel had refuted Sisodia's allegation of the BJP offering Rs 10 crore to lawmakers to switch and said AAP lawmakers wanted to quit their party out of "frustration and humiliation", so the BJP "did not need to buy them".

should always be on issues of From Page 1 as per his political stature," Shah said. Addressing the gath-ering, Union Home Minister and BJP candidate from the people and the nation," Singh said. "The Narendra Modi government in the last five years made stellar achievements in all fields, be it diplo-Lucknow, Rajnath Singh, lashed macy and international relation, out at Congress chief Rahul economy, strategic affairs or Gandhi for his "indecent" remarks and "unsubstantiateconomy. Except the Lok Sabha elections in 2004, galloping inflation had always been a big

ed" allegations against Prime Minister Narendra Modi and BJP president Amit Shah. ^dThe comments made by the Congress chief against Prime Minister Narendra Modi and BJP president Amit Shah are unprecedented in the parliamentary history of India. Violation of dignity and decorum weakens democracy and it is the duty of all political parties to maintain decorum of democracy. No other political

indecent comments about the Prime Minister as the Congress president," Singh said. "Rahul Gandhi was hauled before the Supreme Court for his unparliamentary remarks against the Prime Minister. He only expressed regrets for the remarks and he had to tender unconditional apology on the directions of the Supreme and in a short period of six years from 2008 to 2014, pub-Court," Rainath Singh said, and lic sector banks disbursed added, "Narendra Modi was the chief minister of Gujarat for loans worth Rs 52 lakh crore over a decade with spotless that led to huge bad debts or record During his t rm as Prime Minister, he accomplished what even the common man endorsed, as he took the country to new heights." "I appeal to every BJP worker to never utter any undignified word against our political rivals, be they from the Samajwadi Party, Bahujan Samaj Party or Congress. In a healthy democracy there is no place for abusive language and

issue in all previous elections. This issue is missing in this election and no political party has dared to make an issue out of inflation. This feat has been achieved due to the fine management of the economy by Prime Minister Narendra Modi," Singh said. Listing the measures taken by the NDA government to curb corruption, Singh said "besides bringing legislation to confiscate benami property, the government brought Fugitive Economic Offenders Act to nab economic offenders who fled the nation following the tough enforcement of laws by the Narendra Modi government. "From 1947 to 2008, Indian banks disbursed Rs 18 lakh crore as loans and advances to corporate sector

they have committed atrocities of Raju. on me which are an offences They may be indifferent because Raju does not cominter alia under Section 3 of the SC/ST (Prohibition of mand any vote bank in Tamil Atrocities Act) 1989," Raju said Nadu.

Rejecting Kejriwal's allegation as canard, Hans asked at a Press conference, "I am used to speaking Urdu but that does not mean I am a Muslim. Does a Muslim speaking Hindi becomes a Hindu? I was born in a Valmiki family and my mother worships Valmiki."

Hans said, "My mother would have killed me had I converted to Islam."

Accusing the AAP chief of spreading fake news, Hans

ers had also hurt the sentiments of the Valmiki community. "I pity his (Kejriwal's) intelligence. He seems to be scared that the Valmiki community will not vote for him," he said.

Leader of Opposition in the Delhi Assembly Vijender Gupta said Kejriwal and his party were "losing credibility" by levelling baseless allegations on their opponents and then seeking apologies. BJP had denied a poll ticket to Udit Raj, the sitting MP from North West Delhi, and fielded Hans from the seat. Raj joined the Congress subsequently.

non performi Modi government tightened the noose around the defaulters, resulting in many businessmen fleeing the country. All fugitive economic offenders will not only be brought back to India, they will also be brought to justice," Rajnath Singh said. He also listed the development works carried out in Lucknow during the last five years.

NORTHERN RAILWAY E-TENDER NOTICE

Dy, Chief Engineer/Construction-V/Northern Railway, Lucknow for & on behalf of President of India invites open e-tender under Single-Packet system for the following works:- (1) Name of work: Construction of 2 lane Road Over bridge span 1x74.004 meter (Bow string steel girder in Railway Portion) in lieu of LC no. 200/B1/E2 at Railway chainage 1040/425.000 between Utratia and Bakkas of Utratia-Zafrabad section of Lucknow division. (3) Completion period of work: 10 (Ten) Months (3) Approx. cost of the work: Rs. 9.97 Crore. (4) Earnest money an deposited online): Rs. 6,48,600/-. (5) Date & Time for submission of E-tender and opening of tender: Tenders may be uploaded upto 11:30 hrs. on 27.05.2019 on IREPS website i.e. www.ireps.gov.in. The bidders can participate in the e-tender, the tender will be opened at 11:30 hrs. on 27.05.2019. (6) Detailed Tender Notice & Tender Document: The detailed e-tender notice and tender document is available on <u>www.ireps.gov.in</u> w.e.f. 06.05.2019. Above tender document will be available for submission of offer on IREPS website i.e. www.ireps.gov.in from 12.05.2019 to 27.05.2019. All other terms and conditions in respect of above tenders are given in tender document. The detailed tender notice also can be seen on the Notice Board of the office CPM/NR/Lucknow. No.: 2-Tender/Dy.CE/C-V/LKO Dated: 01.05.2019. 1317/2019

Serving Customers with a Smile

NORTHERN RAILWAY E-TENDER NOTICE

No. 109-Mech-CW-PMTCFDLKO18-3 Dated : 02.05.2019

Sr. DME/C&W/NR/LKO acting for and on behalf of The President of India invites E-Tender against Tender No. 109-Mech-CW-PMTCFDLKO18-3 closing Date/Time

24.05.2019 up to 15:00 hrs. and to be opened at 15:30 hrs. on same day. Bidders vill be able to submit their original/revised bids upto closing date and time only. Manual offers are not allowed against this tender, and any such manual offer received shall be ignored. Information regarding this tender is available on web site www.ireps.gov.in on internet & can be seen/ download. The tenderers/bidders will have to make payment towards Tender document cost and Earnest Money against this tender through online payment modes like Net Banking, debit/ Credit cards etc. available on IREPS portal. Manual / offline mode of payment through Demand Draft, Banker's cheque, Cash Deposit receipts etc. are not permitted.

Name of work	Mechanized cleaning of coaches of 14206/14205 (FD-DLI)					
	and 14221/14222 CNB-Anwarganj Exp. of FD depot &					
	Mechanized cleaning and garbage removal of Sick line,					
	Washing line, Pit drain, Sewer line, Catwalk, Pathways, Manhole & 3STL & dumping in main dustbin at C&W depot					
	Faizabad for 04 years.					
Tender Type	Open Bidding system Double Bid system					
Tender closing Date & Time	24.05.2019 15:00 hrs.	Date & time of Uploading Tender	Upto 04.05.2019			
Pre-Bid (Yes/No)	No	Pre-Bid Query Date Time	Not Applicable			
Advertised Value (in Rs.)	2,78,58,942.74 (Including @ 18% GST)	Tendering Section	Tender CW			
Bidding Style	Single Rate for each schedule item	Bidding Unit	%Above/Below /At par			
Earnest Money (in Rs.)	2,89,300.00	Validity of offer (Days)	60			
Tender Doc. cost (in Rs.)	10,000.00	Period of Completion	48 Months			
Bidding start date	10.05.2019		1314/19			
SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE						

Gutted RK Studios sold to Godrej 2 die in sewer tank cleaners

New owner to develop swanky residential-cum-shopping plaza on landmark property

TN RAGHUNATHA MUMBAI

Mumbai's landmark prop-erty RK Studios, which had been up for sale ever since a massive fire gutted the premises in September 2017, has finally changed hands. Its new owner is: realty major Godrej Properties Ltd (GPL), which is now planning to develop a swanky residential complex-cum-shopping plaza on the premises.

Confirming that it had inked a deal with Kapoors, GPL said in a statement here on Friday that 2.2 acre RK studio property, located at Chembur in north-east Mumbai, would offer to the new owner an approximately 3,50,000 sq ft (33,000 square meters) of saleable area comprising modern residential apartments of various configurations as well as a luxury retail experience.

Located on the main Sion-Panvel Road, the property offers an extremely well developed social and civic infrastructure with multiple schools, hospitals, retail malls, residential, and commercial spaces in close proximity.

Not surprisingly, GPL has not disclosed the amount at which it purchased RK Studios, history".

According to informed sources in the real estate market, the estimated valued of the prized property is anywhere from Rs 500 crore to 600 crore. The ongoing rates of Developed residential-cumcommercial rates in Chembur is any where Rs 25,000 to Rs 30,000 per sq feet,

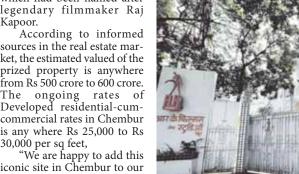
which had been named after

Kapoor.

"We are happy to add this iconic site in Chembur to our development portfolio. This fits well with our strategy of deepening our presence in key locations across India's leading cities. We will seek to ensure we celebrate the remarkable legacy of this site with the goal of delivering an outstanding lifestyle for its residents," Godrej Properties' Executive Chairman Pirojsha Godrej said.

Filmmaker and late Rai Kapoor's son Randhir Kapoor of RK Studios said, "This property in Chembur has been of tremendous significance to my family over the many decades that RK Studios has operated from there. We are excited to have chosen Godrej Properties

to script a new chapter for this location and build upon its rich



enough, Significantly Kapoors have sold the property more than six months after the late Raj Kapoor's widow, Krishna, passed away at the age of 87, on October 1, 2018 last year.

The Kapoor family had been looking out to sell the famous property ever since a huge fire broke out on the premises on September 16, 2017. After the fire reduced the studio and also precious memorabilia and costumes from the RK Films & Studios banner films to ashes, Kapoors had expressed their inability to

revamp and restart the studio. So much so that after the fire mishap, senior actor Rishi apoor had gone on record that it had become economically unviable for his family to renovate and maintain the place. "Even before the fire, for years RK Studio had become a huge white elephant, toting up losses," Rishi Kapoor was quoted as saying. Constructed in 1948, RK

Studios contributed a great deal to the Indian cinema. After the first film Aag made at this studio bombed at the box office in 1948, the Studios - which made films under the RK Films - tasted first success with Barsaat (1949). The banner went on to make successful films like Awaara, Boot Polish, Jagte Raho and Shree 420.

Many RK Films movies featured Kapoor opposite actress Nargis. Raj Kapoor appeared in 15 RK films with Nargis and travelled around the world with her to promote the studio's films. The music director duo-Shankar Jaikishan also worked frequently on RK Films productions during this period In the following decades RK

Films produced many films, including Jis Desh Men Ganga Behti Hai (1960), Mera Naam Joker (1970), Bobby (1973), Satyam Shivam Sundaram (1978), Prem Rog (1982) and Ram Teri Ganga Maili (1985), which was Raj Kapoor's last film.

Noida (PNS): Two sewer NDRF, said an official of the - residents of disaster response force. "We reached the spot at

Janakpuri in West Delhi and engaged by the Noida 3.15 am and began operations Authority via a contractor died in a sewer tank in Salarpur in Noida on Friday, officials said. Though police are ascertaining the cause of the death of Hamid and Aslam late on Thursday, preliminary investi-

focated to death inside the sewer tank. Police, the Fire

Department, and the National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) were called in for rescue, officials said. The bodies of the workers were retrieved after nearly four-hour rescue operation by a team of the

Fani kills 8 in...

From Page 1

Earlier on Friday morning, Fani had crossed the Odisha coast close to Puri with sustained wind speed of 175- to 185 km/hr gusting to 205 km/hr between 8 am and 10 am and weakened into a very severe cyclone.

The IMD said it would continue to move North-North-East over land and weaken further into a severe cyclonic storm over a period of nine hours. The severe cyclone

the contractor. "The JE has been dismissed and a complaint is being made against the contractor with police to register an FIR over the lapses that led to the death of the two workers," Noida Authority's Officer on Special Duty Rajesh Kumar Singh said.

would then emerge into the plains of Bengal with wind speeds reaching up to 100 kilometres/hour (km/hr) gusting to 115 km/hr by Saturday morning. Further movement towards the North-North-East

would take Fani as a cyclone into Bangladesh by Saturday evening with wind speeds of up to 70 km/hr gusting to 80 km/hr. Apart from Odisha coast, Fani is expected to affect West Bengal, Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu.

at 3.20 am. The first body was recovered at 6.25 am and the second at 7.20 am," said Jeetender Yadav, who led the nine-member NDRF team. The Noida Authority has dismissed a contractual Junior gation suggests that they suf-Engineer (JE) from job and proposed police action against



www.dailypioneer.com facebook.com/dailypioneer | @TheDailyPioneer | instagram.com/dailypioneer/

– PAPER WITH PASSION –

Genuine scores?

The high percentages in CBSE raise questions on marks moderation policies and testing standards in our schools



hould we celebrate the high scores of the CBSE's Class XII results or worry about Uimposing unrealistic performance pressure on the younger generation, considering that only a skimming layer of five to 10 per cent students will get into good colleges? Or should we stop to wonder if we are building an unfair expectation of deservedness among our young and not preparing them for a failure in a realistic competitive scenario that's not based on marks or grades but application of imbibed knowledge? These are questions we

must seek answers to considering that with the results hitting almost 100 per cent accuracy, the pressure is upon the universities to keep the cutoff percentages high. This year, a total of 17,690 candidates scored 95 per cent and above in aggregate, up 39 per cent from 12,737 in 2018. A staggering 94,299 scored 90 per cent and above, an all-time high for the CBSE. And with greater excellence showed by students in Delhi/NCR, many from other boards are worrying that their chances of making it to prestigious national colleges are next to nil.

While there is much debate going on about CBSE's marks moderation policy, which allows grace space to students and sets a grammar for a more equitable assessment code, question is of the status of the average students who may not have breached the 90s' barrier but aren't too bad either. Also, what of those who have not peaked the expectation levels that keep cresting year after year? Clearly, standardisation of marking protocols is building up more complexities in the system of higher education. Testing methods are being simplified and made more objective without factoring into account analytical ability or subjective assessment, the last being the preserve of humanities. Isn't it extraordinary that tests for non-quantitative subjects such as English or History can yield perfect scores? St Stephen's, one of the country's premier arts colleges, had a cut-off that went up to 99.25 per cent in one of the recent years! The problem with such a testing format is that it encourages learning by rote rather than priming creative thinking or challenging teaching quality. In the process, merit, too, is being compromised as two students with different real capacities, maybe one 80 per cent and the other higher, are being flat-planed on a performance graph. This formula is also setting off an unhealthy competition among boards which are inflating the marks of the students to get better results. In this androidish rush, all we are producing is overhyped talent and attempting an artificial bridging of divides. Something that has consistently been reflected in the series of Annual Status of Education Reports (ASERs), which show how students fail in simple language and mathematical ability when tested outside the format. Improving scorelines does not necessarily mean achieving high outcomes in actual learning. The solution clearly lies in a more realistic evaluation mechanism in our school system. While it is good to know that we have a high percentage of young people with a competitive edge, it is imperative that we make our higher institutions of learning as competitive when it comes to teaching standards and create more berths for students at the state level rather than have them flock to Delhi or known hubs. At the same time, more disciplines need to be developed so that students can stream into their chosen vocation with a specific qualifier entry test matching their skills. Till we arm every student with an opportunity to make good, the larger purpose of education in developing potential will be unmet.



wearing *niqab* is about right interpretation of texts

opinion 08

An evolving democracy

Despite the Constitution being a comprehensively written document, ambiguities remain, which have been resolved by smart interpretations



KK PAUL

he selection of a Prime Minister is a relatively smooth affair in case the results of a general election are decisive. In such cases, the Prime Minister virtually selects himself. But this is not always the case. There have been instances post a general election, as also a mid-term poll, where Presidents have had to undertake strenuous exercises before making the final selection. Some such cases – where the decision-making was not so smooth and conventions were not followed will be recalled in this column.

India's Constitution is one of the longest in the world. Its drafting took almost three years and was debated extensively before being finalised. Despite being a comprehensively written document, ambiguities remain, resulting in varying interpretations, sometimes leading to controversies. Article 74 of the Constitution is mod-

elled on Section 9 of the Government of India Act, 1935, which lavs down the basis of a Cabinet system (Council of Ministers) with the Prime Minister as the head of the Cabinet to aid and advise the President. Article 75 lays down that the Prime Minister shall be appointed by the President. Obviously, it is left to the latter to take a decision and appoint the former. As per the Constitution, the Prime Minister and the Council of Ministers are responsible to the House of the People. Article 75(3) says such a person chosen as the Prime Minister has to have the confidence of the House. Though not mentioned explicitly in the Constitution, ultimately, it becomes the weightiest factor in the selection process with the President.

In the case of a single political party or a pre-poll alliance having majority, who have chosen a leader, the decision-making is uncomplicated and smooth. Complications arise in cases where claims of relative strengths conflict and overlap. For such situations, too, over a period of time, conventions and precedents have evolved, facilitating the decision-making process.

Presidents have adopted varying yardsticks for different situations, which are now part of our Constitutional history. After the sixth general election in March 1977, Morarji Desai of the Janata Party had become the Prime Minister. He had to resign mid-term on July 15, 1979, on account of certain intra-party stress factors, even though he continued to be the leader of the Party The next day the then Prime Minister Ch Charan Singh broke away from the Janata Party and formed his own party. As per the convention, the then President Neelam Sanjeev Reddy invited Leader of the Opposition YB Chavan to form the Government. Expressing his inability, Chavan suggested to the President that a combination of parties had emerged led by Ch Charan Singh, which could form the Government. The President at this stage set a precedent when he asked for lists of



supporting MPs, both from Morarji Desai as well as Ch Charan Singh. Ultimately supported by the Congress, Charan Singh was sworn in as the Prime Minister on July 28, almost two weeks after Morarji Desai's resignation. He was supposed to prove his majority during the Monsoon Session of Parliament but had to resign on August 20 for want of support from the Congress.

While resigning, he had advised the President to dissolve the House for a fresh election. Strictly following the convention, the advice of a Prime Minister, who had failed to win the confidence of the House, was not binding on the President. In this case, President Neelam Sanjiva Reddy, instead of making an offer to Jagjivan Ram, then Leader of Opposition, dissolved the House and Ch Charan Singh continued as the care-taker Prime Minister for almost five months till th

KR Narayanan, when one of the claimants was unable to furnish the requisite numbers, leading to the post-Kargil war general elections in September 1999.

Earlier in November 1989, after the ninth general election, as no party had secured an absolute majority, President R Venkataraman invited Rajiv Gandhi in his capacity as the leader of the largest party in Parliament to form the Government. After his refusal, VP Singh, with letters of support from the Left Front as well as the BJP, formed the Government. As the latter withdrew their support on October 23, 1990, VP Singh was asked to prove his majority in the House. Having lost the vote 142 to 346, he had to resign on November 7, 1990. The Congress was once again asked to form the Government, but they instead supported Chandrasekhar's breakaway group. Accordingly, Chandras the Prime Minister. Later, in March 1991, after the withdrawal of support from the Congress, he resigned, advising dissolution of the Lok Sabha, which was

President Shankar Dayal Sharma had invited Atal Bihari Vajpayee to form the Government, as the BJP was the largest party with 161 seats, its allies having 34, thus mak-ing it a total of 195.

On the other hand, the United Front had a total of 318, including the Congress' support. Embarrassingly, also for the President, Vajpayee failed to secure the vote of confidence and had to resign within 13 days of being sworn as the Prime Minister. Obviously, while extending the invitation to Vajpayee, his capacity to win confidence of the House had not been considered.

Ultimately, what matters is the satisfaction of the President that his choice would be able to win the confidence of the House. Based on this principle, after Indira Gandhi's assassination, Giani Zail Singh as President had invited Rajiv Gandhi to be the Prime Mir er in 1984 evei though at that time, he had not despite our initial lack of been formally elected as the leader of the party. In 2004, the difference

the Congress to form the

Government not only because it

was the largest party but also

because it had the largest pre-poll support (UPA) in numbers.

The modalities of the selection process were looked upon in detail by the Sarkaria Commission, which had recommended that the President should invite the leaders of the parties in the following order, (i) Leader of the largest prepoll alliance of parties, (ii) Leader of the single largest party, (iii) Leader of the postpoll alliance.

Later, the Commission, to review the working of the Constitution chaired by former Chief Justice of India MN Venkatachaliah, had suggested that in certain ambiguous situations, the President could send a message to the Lok Sabha to choose a leader, who would then be appointed the Prime Minister. Such a procedure would do away with the requirement of a vote of confidence in the House. Ever our independ



he decision by the Kerala-based Muslim Educational Society (MES), prohibiting female students from wearing veils in its institutions across the country, is not only about keeping to its reformist legacy but more about challenging the theological discourse set by powerful revisionist groups, who control mosques and madrasas. It is a brave attempt to uphold the true spirit of the holy texts and the Prophet amid a sea of interpretations by variant scholars, some of which have set the rigid template of Islam in our perception. It is

about reinstating the position of women in Islam as it was intended and not circumscribing them by patriarchal interventions and culture constructs of the later years. At a time when Islamophobia has overpowered a true understanding of the religion, such voices are needed to dispel mistruths and begin where it is needed most, in education. The group runs 35 colleges, 72 schools and has around one lakh students, the future generation which MES president PA Fazal Ghafoor believes should be mainstreamed rather than feared, feel respected rather than reviled. In its circular, the MES even quoted a Kerala High Court order from December 2018, which dismissed a plea filed by two female students of Christ Nagar Senior Secondary School in Thiruvananthapuram, seeking to wear headscarves. The rationale being that the disadvantages of being marked out narrow down the advantages of maintaining parity. Although it would appear that the ISoperated blasts in Sri Lanka and the resultant swoop in South India may have set a precautionary context, Ghafoor has been consistent in his stand against veiling for far longer, saying it was un-Islamic and a cultural import. He had also said that wearing the niqab continuously can cause Vitamin D deficiency in Muslim women. Most importantly, such a move would actually uphold the identity of women as the misuse of the veil as a subterfuge has cost the community, the latest suicide bombers turning what should be a matter of choice to a matter of concern. Many purist scholars, too, maintain that the Quran does not specifically mention the *burga* or tell women to wear confining clothes and cover their faces. Instead, it instructs men and women to dress and behave modestly in society and lower their gaze when interacting with each other. Much of the legitimacy of the *burga* is drawn from the *Hadith* or traditions of life in the days of Prophet Muhammad and are, therefore, attributed to him. These have been conflated to embody the very idea of religiosity. However, he himself had always professed followers to go by the Quran. Besides, women in his times were progressive, were allowed to work unveiled and even today, they are not allowed to cover their faces during Haj, the idea being there should be no barrier between the devotee and her experience of divinity.

Of course, one must understand that in the backdrop of a growing Islamophobia, the veil has returned as an identity marker of the revivalist fervour of the times. This has resulted in the veil being politicised and tokenised as a tool for impact. Little wonder then that the extreme rightists at home raised the issue of banning the veil given its misuse by terrorists in Lanka. So long as it continues to be a power tool to perpetuate the politics of religion, the veil can only generate controversies and be used for point-scoring. Real victory is when women themselves are comfortable about choosing or shunning it.

enth general elections were held in December 1979. It has been often observed that this decision was propelled by the previous history of the President and Jagjivan Ram from their days together in the Congress at the time of its split in 1969.

The precedent of obtaining lists of MPs in support was later repeated in 1999 by President

accepted by the President. At least on one occasion, the principle of making the first offer to the largest party appeared to be embarrassingly impractical. In 1996, the then

experience in running democratic institutions, it is heartening that we have, as the between the Congress (145) world's largest democracy, and the BJP (138) was very evolved in a manner to set an small, but the then President, example to the rest. APJ Abdul Kalam had invited

(The writer is a former Governor of Meghalaya and Uttarakhand and a former Commissioner of Police, Delhi)



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Keep up the momentum

I was member of Lok

Sabha for three decades. I am getting a

feedback that Lok

Sabha will miss me.

Lok Sabha Speaker

—Sumitra Mahajan

Sir — This refers to the editorial, "Azhar nailed, finally" (May 3). The Pulwama terror attack on February 14 was, perhaps, the deadliest that occurred in the Valley in the past three decades of militant activity in Kashmir. This Pakistan based-terror outfit, the Jaish-e-Mohammad (JeM), claimed responsibility for the attack and was also responsible for many other attacks in India, including on the Parliament, Pathankot and Uri among others.

For the last 10 years, India had relentlessly tried to put him on the terror list but China's opposition was the thorn in India's side. It was only after Pulwama that the US, the UK and France moved a fresh proposal in the UN Security Council on February 27 to designate JeM chief Masood Azhar as a global terrorist. The efforts put by these countries as also by the Modi Government, which raised the costs for Pakistan's sponsorship of terrorism, led to this diplomatic victory. Times are becoming harder for Pakistan day by day. It stands isolated and

Gambhir cannot play down debates

lections in Delhi, which are scheduled for May 12, are all set to witness high-octane contests. One among them is the East Delhi seat where BJP's Gautam Gambhir is taking on Atishi Marlena of the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP). Gambhir, a former cricketer, was handed the ticket as soon as he joined the BJP. His popularity in this constituency is a mystery. Most know him as a temperamental player with a history of brawls on the field. On the other hand, Atishi is credited with "transforming" the face of Government schools in the constituency in her capacity as an advisor to Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia. Meanwhile, Gambhir turned down a "debate" offer by Atishi

By refusing to take up the gauntlet, he played down the seriousness of the debate and ridiculed the role of discussions in politics. Gambhir was an intense cricketer, who played his game with a grim face and spoke little; though he refused to take sledges and intimidations of the opposition lying down. Gambhir, on a debating level, is no match for Atishi, whose alma mater includes Oxford University and he may come a poor sec-

if the ISI and Pakistani Army continue harbouring terrorists and using terror as a tool of state policy, international sanctions may be slapped on it.

Meanwhile, the Indian Government must build the momentum hereon. It must also continue working with the West. MC Ioshi

Lucknow



ond. Debates and discussions are essential for parliamentary democracy. An exemplary orator has always excelled in Parliament. Questions of importance have to be taken up with due diligence. If Gautam wins the seat, he may have to learn the intricacies of debates in the literal minefield that politics is.

Ganapathi Bhat Akola

BJP leader Subramanian Swamy. The Congress says such doubts had been clarified in 2016 itself and this charge was monious controversy over the old wine in a new bottle. Now that the Supreme Court has Indian citizenship of Congress chief Rahul Gandhi. The agreed to hear the case in the Ministry of Home Affairs has coming week, matters should be sought for clarification from resolved once and for all

Nimai Charan Swain Bhubaneswar

Half-baked action

Sir — This refers to the editorial, "Azhar nailed, finally" (May 3). Kudos to the European countries, the US and the UK, who played an important role in pressuring China to toe the line. New Delhi should now mount pressure on the UN as also those nations who are a witness to terrorism like India, to fight collectively and ensure that the most wanted terrorists are extradited to face trial in Indian courts.

Abhinav Kumar Via email

Irresponsible conduct

Sir - Congress chief Rahul Gandhi should have put the matter to rest by admitting his mistake for attributing the phrase 'chowkidar chor hai' to the Supreme Court. The top court's stand, asking him for an apology, will act as a deterrent against being irresponsible.

Anish Via web

Send your feedback to: letterstopioneer@gmail.com

Citizenship row

Sir — There seems to be an acri-

Gandhi on the basis of allega-

tions made by none other than



analysis

POINTCOUNTERPOINT

MULTIPLE SURGICAL STRIKES WERE CONDUCTED DURING UPA'S TENURE BUT THE THEN GOVERNMENT DID NOT NEED TO RIDE ON THE ARMY'S ACHIEVEMENTS. —FORMER PRIME MINISTER **MANMOHAN SINGH**



CONGRESS SPEAKING LIES. I THINK SUCH LEADERS PLAY VIDEO GAMES AND PERHAPS ENJOY SURGICAL STRIKES THINKING IT OF SOME GAME. -PRIME MINISTER **NARENDRA MODI**

A long haul lies ahead

The listing of Masood Azhar as a global terrorist is a notable diplomatic victory for India. But the coming months are going to be very critical for us not only diplomatically but militarily as well



ANIL GUPTA

ndia has secured a big diplomatic victory with the listing of Masood Azhar, Pakistan-based Jaish-e-Mohammad (JeM) chief, as a global terrorist by the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) after China decided to lift its earlier imposed technical hold. It has been a long strugimposed technical hold. It has been a long strug-gle for the Indian diplomatic corps since the issue had been hanging fire for almost a decade now. Incidentally, the JeM had already been listed as a global terror organisation by the UN since 2002. However, Azhar continued to avoid the listing due to Chinese patronage. The decision from the UN Security Council's 1267 Al Qaeda Sanctions Committee came after China lifted its technical hold imposed on March 13 on a proposel made hold, imposed on March 13, on a proposal made by the US, the UK and France to this end. Even by the US, the UK and France to this end. Even before that, China, a permanent member of the UNSC, had been blocking India's attempts to secure designation of Azhar for almost a decade. Certainly, India's consistency has paid off. It was not an easy task to propel China to change its mind appacially when it had clarified after the

its mind, especially when it had clarified after the Brics summit declaration that it was "for banning terrorist organisations but not individuals." China still had three months to lift the technical hold but stretched it to the last limit. Now that it has given in, it is definitely a victory of the Modi Government. The declaration, coming as it does in the midst of the electoral battle, indicates the respect the Chinese leadership has for the current leadership in India with Modi at the helm. It is a spin-off of the Wuhan spirit and definitely a winwin for India.

In diplomacy, there are no clear cut winners or losers until a decisive victory in a war has already declared the winners. In the instant case, both India and China had been pursuing their national interests. The latter was also treading the path very carefully. Chinese national interests were under attack from America as a result of the ongoing trade war between the two countries that had begun much before Pulwama. China's GDP was on a decline. Many companies are contemplating shifting their manufacturing units to India. China, which considers itself as an emerging global power, can illafford a declining economy. Also, China's image as a responsible member of the global community was



Kashmir and Pulwama, a face-saving gimmick for Pakistan, in the Sanction Committee's declaration listing Azhar as global terrorist. "On this listing issue, China has been com-

municating with relevant parties in a constructive and responsible fashion. Recently, relevant countries revised and re-submitted the materials for the listing proposal to the 1267 Committee. After careful study of the revised materials and taking into consideration the opinions of relevant parties concerned, China does not have objection to the listing proposal," Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman Geng Shuang said in a press statement. "The proper settlement of the above-men-

tioned issue again shows that in international counter-terrorism cooperation, we have to uphold the rules and procedures of relevant UN body, follow the principle of mutual respe ferences and build consensus through dialogue, and prevent politicising technical issues," he added.

declared as a global terrorist and that has been achieved. With the JeM already on the ban list and now its chief also meeting the same fate, it would be a Herculean task for Pakistan to defy the Sanctions. It will have to act, and act swiftly.

A word of caution: The deep state in Pakistan has mastered the art of circumventing international sanctions as is evident from its past behaviour. The banned organisations appear in a new avtar or with a different name and their leaders assume charge again though ostensibly of a different outfit, generally portrayed as a philanthropic organisation. But the watchful eye of FATF may make the task difficult for Pakistan this time.

Undoubtedly, India has secured a huge diplomatic victory but this should not be the end. India has to tread its path carefully to ensure that this v is not turned into def eat through a Sing Pakistan collusion. India also has to be prepared for the immediate consequences of this decision. The JeM sympathisers in Kashmir may carry out a sensational attack to show their solidarity with Azhar and as a protest to his listing. Pakistan is already singing a different tune. It says that by not naming Kashmir and Pulwama in the declaration, the global community has accepted their contention that what is happening inside Kashmir is an internal resistance movement. Indirectly, both China and Pakistan have continued to support their consistent policy of "good" and "bad" terrorists. Pakistan has also made its intentions clear that there would be no laxity as far as Kashmir is concerned and that it will continue to follow its policy of "thousand cuts." India will have to ensure that Pakistan and China are compelled to give up their policy of classifying terrorists to suit their convenience. As far as China is concerned, India has to keep its counter-narrative active and play the 'Tibet card' tactfully. In view of the ensuing summer, when passes in the Himalayas are open, India will have

to be vigilant and guard against any Sino-Pakistan collusion militarily. After the Balakot strikes, both India and Pakistan continue to maintain the stand-off. It is the conventional edge that the Indian armed forces enjoy over their counterparts in Pakistan and the international pressure that has kept Pakistan reined in so far. A misadventure from Pakistan to avenge Balakot with the collusion of the People's Liberation Army (PLA) is a possibility that cannot be ruled out straight way. A lot would also depend on the electoral results on May 23 that would determine the new Government in New Delhi. Before resorting to any misadventure, Pakistan will like to determine the thresholds of the new regime. In a nutshell, the coming months are going to be very critical for India not only diplomatically but militarily as well. Pakistan's mindset against India will change

FIRSTCOLUMN Riding rough seas of book piracy

UNESCO's 'Open Access' policy is promoting a flow of ideas and helping narrow the knowledge gap between industrialised and other nations



n recent years, publishers, authors and booksellers have been plagued by piracy, copyright infringements and resulting sales losses. Book pirates directly threaten publishers by running websites that offer quick and free downloads of e-versions of the books. Thus, online book piracy poses the same threat to legitimately produced and distributed books that pirates and buccaneers pose to lawfully registered boats on the high seas.

The Association of American Publishers claims that the book publishing industry in the United States alone loses \$80 to \$100 million to online piracy every year. Other art forms such as films and music have also fallen prey to piracy. According to the UK-based piracy tracking company MUSO, members of the illegal downloading community paid more than 300 billion visits to pirate websites in 2017.

As internet connectivity and bandwidth have continued to grow, so has online piracy. Recently, in a decisive step, publishing giants, including Penguin Random House and HarperCollins, took legal action against OceanofPDF, an ebook piracy website, which led to its deactivation. However, OceanofPDF is just one of thousands of websites that mushroom every day and sprout back under different domain names when discovered.

Online piracy has both technical and socio-economic implications. While the rapid proliferation of creative products online often makes it almost impossible to check their authenticity, or to distinguish between the real and the fake, pirated books may understandably have a certain appeal for those keen to obtain books at cheaper prices or for free. Unsurprisingly, more than four million e-books — or 17 per cent of all e-books - are pirated.

Unfortunately, piracy of popular books is rampant in India, too. Best-selling author Jeffrey Archer was once famously approached by a vendor at a traffic light who tried to sell him a pirated version of one of his own books. Indeed, reproducing a book along with its jacket is one of the most common forms of piracy in India, and often dupes readers into buying pirated books.

Piracy in the education sector is also widespread. As recently as March, over 30,000 pirated National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) books worth ₹5 million were seized by the Delhi Police. Despite their low prices, piracy of school and college textbooks in India tends to be alarmingly high. The delayed availability of books cre-

ates an artificial scarcity that pirates capitalise on. UNESCO lauds the Government of India's efforts to protect the book trade through successive amendments to the Indian Copyright Act (1957). These amendments have sought to make the infringement of copyright a punishable offence. However, there have also been occasional setbacks relating to the recognition of copyright in the country.

For instance, a prominent case in 2016, involving a leading academic publisher and a photocopy service provider, saw the Delhi High Court rule, "Educational institutions do not require a licence or permission from publishers for making and distributing course packs to students if the copyrighted materials included in them [are for] instructional use." With escalating demand for educational resources in India it is imperative that we build a robust culture of honouring copyright and appreciating its importance. At UNESCO, we have chosen to make all our electronic publications freely accessible and downloadable. We are proud that our adoption of an 'Open Access' policy is legitimately promoting the unrestricted flow of ideas and helping narrow the knowledge gap between industrialised and other countries. Besides, since 2010, UNESCO has maintained the World Anti-Piracy Observatory (WAPO), a free online platform to raise awareness on copyright legislation, news and announcements of events related to the fight against piracy worldwide. Going forward, sustained advocacy campaigns targetting students and teachers at various levels can contribute effectively to the ethical consumption of creative and educational content.

In a world where the internet is uber-present, copyright infringements have become rife and the lines between the authentic and inauthentic are often blurred. let us arm ourselves against book pirates and expose piracy for the crime it is.

(The writer is Director, UNESCO and a representative to Bhutan, India, Maldives and Sri Lanka)

being dented due to its continuous support to Azhar, thus labelling it as pro-terror. The recently held second summit of the Belt Road Initiatives (BRI) also forced China for a re-think. India's persistence to stay away from the initiative and not very encouraging response from those who attended, including Pakistan Prime Minister Imran Khan, made the Chinese think-tank a bit nervous.

China was feeling the heat of international isolation with majority nations not aligning with it in the matter of terrorism. America's threat to take the matter to the UNSC further weakened China's insistence because it was hardly left with any allies. The fear of losing a huge market like India — one of the major trading partners of China — also weighed heavily in the minds of the Chinese leadership. It was, therefore, perceived by China that in its national interest, it can no longer afford to be seen as a pro-terrorist nation. However, it also did not want to offend its only ally, Pakistan, with whom it pronounces its friendship as stronger than the Himalayas. Hence, China ensured that no reference was made to

In his statement, Geng pointed out that Pakistan has made "enormous contributions to fighting terrorism", which should be recognised by the international fraternity. Thus, it is a winwin situation as far as China is concerned. It is a win-win situation for France, the US, Britain and other members of 1267 Committee as well.

Pakistan is also claiming a win-win situation on the pretext that no mention has been made of Kashmir and Pulwama since India has been blaming Azhar as the mastermind and JeM as the executor of the dastardly Pulwama terror attack. Let Pakistan rejoice but the bare fact remains that it has been recognised and designated globally as a fountainhead of terror. The Damocles' Sword in the form of Financial Action Task Force (FATF) continues to hang on its head. A fragile and failing economy is an issue, which cannot allow this rejoicing to be a long lasting pleasant experience. India should also not particularly worry about the fine print because the intent was to have Azhar

only if its Army changes its attitude towards India and stops projecting us as a quintessential threat. That can only happen when Pakistan's economy cannot be saved from a collapse. Fear of FATF sanctions may also, to some extent, force the Army to concede a bit. When IMF's bailout package becomes almost a certainty, the Pakistan Army will have no option but to relent. Islamabad will be forced to denounce terrorism as the instrument state policy.

India has a long haul ahead. It has to ensure that it further tightens its grip against Pakistan through diplomatic, economic and military means. It also has to ensure that the global watch over Pakistan does not slacken. With all indications that Modi may return to power and India continuing with its tough policy against Pakistan, there is a hope that coming years may see a decline in cross-border terrorism. However, the universal fight against global jihadi terror will continue relentlessly.

(The writer is a Jammu-based political commentator, columnist and strategic analyst)

Ukraine has nothing left to lose

What is Zelensky going to do for Ukraine now that he has been swept into office with a landslide majority? Nobody actually knows and this may include Zelensky himself. But Ukrainian voters are no fools



GWYNNE DYER

-kraine has a new President and he's a comedian. Oh, wait a minute, that's not such a big deal. Guatemala was the first country to elect a comedian as President: Jimmy Morales in 2015. Although Morales turned sort of serious once he took office: He's a Right-wing nationalist, who supports death penalty and opposes abortion. Whereas Volodymyr Zelensky hasn't turned.

Right through the presidential election campaign in Ukraine, Zelensky avoided speeches. Mostly, he just toured the country with a comedy troupe, performed in skits and did stand-up. And he's not just a comedian, he's a Jewish comedian — the very best kind. His style is south Ukrainian,

Jewish inflection and people love it. Congratulations to Ukraine, by the way, for having Jews as both President and Prime Minister (Volodymyr Groysman) at the same time in the heart of traditionally anti-semitic Eastern Europe and not even making a fuss about it. But what is Zelensky going to do for Ukraine now that he has been swept into office with a landslide majority (73 per cent)? Nobody actually knows and this may include Zelensky himself.

When Zelensky did offer more than jokes, in the short videos he released from time to time during the campaign, it still wasn't policies. More like mood music, really.

"He's from a family of Jewish Soviet intellectuals from a Russianspeaking industrial region (in eastern Ukraine," Vvacheslav Likhachev of the National Minorities' Rights Monitoring Group in Kyiv told the Haaretz newspaper. "He has repeatedly made fun of over-the-top (Ukrainian) national patriotic discourse."

"Zelensky might make some symbolic gestures toward nationalist sen-



timent to fend off accusations that he'll sell us out to Russia," Likhachev continued, "but that seems unlikely to me. He probably realises that it'll be hard for him to win over the most nationalist-oriented part of society, so he'll wash his hands of them so as not to alienate the majority." That will be a welcome change after

five years of the pompous nationalist bilge of billionaire Petro Poroshenko, who won the presidency in 2014 after a popular revolt overthrew the pro-Russian stooge Viktor Yanukovych. In a video Poroshenko released just

before the sole presidential debate in Kiev's huge Olympic Stadium last Friday, he tried to play the patriotic card: "There's no room for jokes here. Being a President and supreme commander is not a game... it means being responsible for the people, for the country." It would have sounded more persuasive if Poroshenko had done something about the corruption that has made oligarchs like him rich.

Zelensky's response was lethal: "I'm not your opponent. I'm a verdict on you. I am the result of your mistakes." And by a majority of almost their future in his hands. Although, to be frank, most of them doubt that he can really deliver the future of peace and prosperity that they hope for.

The only evidence they have of Zelensky's industry, honesty and wisdom is the television series he writes and stars in, Servant of the People. It's a heart-warming story of a humble high school history teacher, whose rant about the dreadful state of the country is secretly recorded by his students and goes viral when they upload it to You Tube. So he is elected President of Ukraine.

Zelensky is not a high school teacher; he is a show business millionaire with his own production company. He may be just as warm and sincere in person as Vasyl Petrovych Holoborodko, the former teacher and accidental President, whom he plays in Servant of the People. (It's one of Ukraine's most popular series and is now nearing 50 episodes). Or he may not be.

Journalists are now working their way through all the box sets of Servant of the People, trying to glean some clues

three-to-one, Ukrainians voted to put about what the new President has in mind. But that's a thankless task because a lot of the show is sheer fantasy (like the sequence where the frustrated Holoborodko machine-guns the entire Parliament).

Ukrainian voters are not fools. They know they are buying a pig in an poke. But they calculate that things might change if Zelensky becomes President, whereas they certainly wouldn't change if any of the usual suspects won the presidency. And things are certainly not good now.

Ukraine has become the poorest country in Europe — far poorer than Russia. Millions of Ukrainians have left the country seeking work in Poland or Russia and the low-intensity war against the Russian-backed separatists in the east drags on endlessly. No post-Soviet leader of Ukraine has made even a dent in the corrupt rule of the oligarchs. Indeed, most of them have been oligarchs themselves. So why not vote for Zelensky? Most Ukrainians feel that they have nothing left to lose.

(The writer's new book is Growing Pains: The Future of Democracy and Work)



NET-ZERO CARBON EMISSIONS

If we have to avoid the dangerous consequences of a warmer world, we must find ways not only to limit and mitigate the risks of physical changes; but also to make political ones. The kind of long-termism that climate change requires is not a good fit with modern electoral cycles — or 24hour news. Finding ways to counter this is a challenge not just for politicians, environmentalists and civil society groups, but for human civilisation as a whole (The Guardian editorial)

money 10



Markets end marginally lower; IT stocks drag

PTI MUMBAI

arket benchmarks surrendered early gains to end with mod-est losses on Friday, led by selling in IT bluechips, as investors awaited fresh buying triggers amid frothy valuations.

After trading on a positive note through the day, the BSE Sensex ended 18.17 points, or 0.05%, lower at 38,963.26.

In similar movement, the broader NSE Nifty slipped 12.50 points, or 0.11%, to close at 11,712.25. During the holiday-truncated week, the Sensex fell 104.07 points, or 0.26%, while the Nifty shed 42.40%, or 0.36 per cent.

IT stocks came under pressure after tech giant Cognizant slashed its fullyear revenue growth outlook. A strong rupee also weighed on the counters.

The US-headquartered Cognizant, which has a significant portion of its employees based in India, revised its full-year 2019 revenue growth outlook to 3.6-5.1% in constant currency terms, significantly less than 7-9% projected just months ago.

In the Sensex pack, losers included TCS, HUL, Tata Steel, HCL Tech, Infosys, Bajaj Finance, HDFC, IndusInd Bank, Asian Paints, ITC and Vedanta, shedding up to 3.70%

HUL too ended in the red ahead of its quarterly results.

On the other hand, Bharti Airtel, ICICI Bank, NTPC, Yes Bank, Tata Motors, ONGC, Bajaj Auto, M&M, Maruti, Hero MotoCorp and Kotak Bank rose up to 3.11%.

"Market started on a positive note



supported by strong rupee and fall in oil prices. However, gains are capped due to the premium valuation.

"Fall in 10-year yield led the bank index to outperform. Market is likely to stay range bound due to weak global cues while better quarter results may provide opportunity to accumulate," said Vinod Nair, head of research, Geojit Financial Services.

Sectorally, BSE IT, teck, healthcare and FMCG indices fell the most, dropping up to 1.91%. However, telecom, realty, auto and

bankex rose up to 1.56%. The broader BSE midcap and

smallcap indices followed the benchmarks to end up to 0.31% lower.

Meanwhile, foreign institutional investors (FIIs) bought equity worth ₹597.54 crore on Thursday, while domestic institutional investors (DIIs) sold shares to the tune of ₹791.69 crore, provisional data available with stock exchanges showed.

Elsewhere in Asia, Korea's Kospi and Hong Kong's Hang Seng ended on a mixed note, while other major bourses in China and Japan were shut for holidays. European equites started off on a firm footing.

The rupee, meanwhile, appreciat-ed to 69.34 against the US dollar intraday. Global oil benchmark Brent crude was trading 0.62% lower at USD 70.31 per barrel

India produces 32.11 million tonnes sugar in Oct-Apr

PTI NEW DELHI

Sugar output in India has reached 32.11 mil-lion tonnes in the first seven months of the ongoing marketing year that started October 2018, and the total production could touch a new record of 33 million tonnes, the industry body ISMA said on Friday. Much of the sugar has already been manufactured and only a few mills

are in operation at present, it said. The country's sugar output during the 2017-18 marketing year (October-September) was a record 32.5 million tonnes. The annual domestic requirement of India, which is the world's second largest producer, is only 26 million tonnes.

According to the Indian Sugar Mills Association (ISMA), mills have manufactured 32.11 million tonnes of sugar between October 2018 and April this year. Only 100 mills were in operation as on April 30. The country's top three sugar producing states — Uttar Pradesh, Maharashtra and Karnataka — have produced 11.26 million tonnes, 10.7 million tonnes and 4.32 million tonnes, respectively, during the October-April period of the 2018-19 marketing year.

"Even though the quantum of sugarcane crushing in the current year is less than that in the last year, the sugar production in 2018-19 will be marginally more than last year," it said in a statement.

Sugar recovery in northern India has been substantially better than last year. In the other parts of the country, including Maharashtra and Karnataka also, the sugar recovery is better than last year, though not as high as it achieved in north India. "Therefore, the sugar production in the current year for the whole country is expected to be around 33 million tonnes, about 5,00,000 tonnes more than last year," the ISMA predicted

Cognizant slashes full-year growth outlook; Q1 net income tumbles 15%

PTI NEW DELHI

T company Cognizant has reported over 15% drop in net income for the quarter ended March, and slashed its fullyear revenue growth outlook.

The US-headquartered company, which has a significant portion of its employees based in India, revised its fullvear 2019 revenue growth outlook to 3.6-5.1% in constant currency, significantly less than 7-9v projected just months ago.

Cognizant follows January-December as financial year. It cited "first quarter underperformance" and likelihood

of slower growth in financial services and healthcare as reasons for the massive cut in fullyear outlook. The first quarter net income

at USD 441 million was 15% lower than USD 520 million clocked in the year-ago period. The quarterly revenue rose to USD 4.11 billion, up 5.1% (6.8% in constant currency) from the year-ago period , the company's

own estimates. "Cognizant's growth and performance in the quarter leave room for improvement," Brian Humphries, chief executive officer of Cognizant, said in a statement.

Humphries, who took over the baton from the Francisco D'Souza on April 1, admitted

that the company, despite its client centricity and innovative spirit, was not yet delivering against the market opportunity. "While I am encouraged by

our client centricity, our employees' winning spirit and our innovation, we are not yet delivering against the market

opportunity. We are committed to strengthening our execution to invest in growth and drive shareholder value," Humphries added.

Cognizant said its second quarter 2019 year-over-year revenue growth was estimated to be in the range of 3.9-4.9% in constant currency. In the coming quarters, the company intends to bring cost structure closer in line with the revised revenue expectations but will continue to invest in growth, talent, and innovation, McLoughlin said. Also, the strong balance sheet enables Cognizant to maintain financial flexibility while returning capcrore. It was ₹993.32 crore in the ital to shareholders.

HUL Q4 NET PROFIT RISES 13.8 % TO ₹1,538 CRORE

FMCG major Hindustan Unilever (HUL) on Thursday reported a 13.84% increase in its net profit to ₹1,538 crore for the quarter ended March 31. The company had posted a net profit of ₹1,351 crore in the

The CTIL board has recom-January-March quarter of the mended a dividend of ₹7.50 per Sales during the quarter share of ₹10 each equivalent to under review stood at ₹9,809 75% on paid-up equity share crore, up 8.95%, as against capital of the company for the year ended March 31, compared

₹9,003 crore in the corresponding period a year ago, HUL said in a regulatory filing. HUL's total expenses for the said period were ₹7,765 crore compared to ₹7,181 crore,

CENTURY TEXTILES AND

INDUSTRIES 04 NET PROFIT ₹227.62 CRORE

Industries Ltd (CTIL) on Friday

reported a standalone net prof-

it of ₹227.62 crore for the fourth

quarter ended March 2019. It

had posted a net profit of

₹108.69 crore in the January-

March quarter a year ago,

Century Textiles said in a BSE

during the quarter was ₹1,008.54

corresponding quarter of the

Filament Yarn business, part of

the textile segment, to Grasim

Industries for 15 years from

February 1, 2018, which has paid

an upfront royalty of ₹600 crore.

The company's total income

previous fiscal.

up 8.13%.

filing.

with 65% paid for the previous year for the year. GCPL NET PROFIT RISES 51.5% IN MARCH QUARTER

Homegrown FMCG major Godrej Consumer Products Ltd (GCPL) on Friday reported a 51.53% increase in consolidated net profit to ₹935.24 Century Textiles and crore in the fourth quarter ended March 31.

The company had posted a consolidated net profit of ₹617.19 crore in the corresponding period last fiscal, GCPL said in a BSE filing.

However, its total revenue from operations during the quarter fell 3.06% to ₹2,481.72 crore, compared with ₹2,560.14 crore in the corresponding quarter of the previous fiscal

previous fiscal. CTIL's total expenses stood at ₹765.38 crore. The firm's total expense Meanwhile, the company stood at ₹1,974.73 crore, said its results were not compaagainst ₹2,016.65 crore, a drop rable as it had granted right to of 2.07%. manage and operate its Viscose

During the quarter, GCPL's India sales were marginally down 0.9% to \$1,356.09 crore, compared with ₹1,369.76 crore in the year-ago period.

NIFTY 50	Ros coo					
SCRIP OPEN High LOW LTP CHANGE NIFTY 50 11722.60 11770.90 11699.35 11712.25 -12.50	BSE 500	<u>h Low LTP</u> M&MFIN	396.40 405.80 396.40 402.10 MCX	850.20 864.00 845.00 849.65 TEJASNE	r 194.95 194.95 189.90 191.03	5
IBULHSGFIN 681.00 710.00 671.80 707.85 28.20 BHARTIARTL 324.45 333.85 324.45 332.75 8.55	Script Open Hig YESBANK 176.80 177. RPOWER 5.48 6.	00 169.95 175.60 COLPAL	1198.95 1198.95 1164.00 1169.50 GODFRYF 341.80 344.60 330.75 333.30 CUMMIN	HLP 1104.40 1109.90 1058.80 1064.95 KSCL	456.10 456.40 439.00 448.1	5 BSE Sensex and 3 NSE Nifty and 3
NTPC 133.10 136.65 133.00 135.85 2.75 ICICIBANK 397.15 405.20 394.70 402.75 7.20	JETAIRWAYS 125.10 137. RELIANCE 1407.00 1417.		480.00 485.00 470.05 482.00 ORIENTB. 140.70 142.00 139.10 141.45 INDHOTE		641.95 643.30 626.15 633.70 ABAT 658.00 674.00 655.15 657.75	internet in the second s
YESBANK 177.00 177.80 169.70 175.80 2.05 TATAMOTORS 205.00 213.65 203.05 209.55 2.25	DHFL 135.00 142. TATAMOTORS 204.90 213.	70 203.20 209.50 RAIN	88.30 89.25 86.85 88.35 KEC 119.95 119.95 114.80 115.55 LAURUSL		264.35 265.00 262.00 262.70	
ONGC 168.85 171.90 168.70 170.70 1.80 INFRATEL 272.55 278.55 272.10 273.75 2.90	SPICEJET 129.80 131. RELCAPITAL 133.00 139. IBULUSCEDI 625.65 710.	35 132.25 136.50 CIPLA	2030.00 2038.85 2006.00 2010.00 INDIANB 564.95 572.45 561.65 564.40 CASTROL		PPER 47.00 47.00 45.70 45.85	5
BAJAJ-AUTO 3028.00 3066.00 3020.00 3059.80 29.25 KOTAKBANK 1406.40 1435.75 1400.20 1416.95 10.60	IBULHSGFIN 685.65 710. PCJEWELLER 113.75 115. TCS 2191.00 2191.	40 108.70 109.60 RAYMOND	490.05 495.30 480.00 485.10 MINDTRE 740.00 764.95 735.85 759.30 MEGH 111.95 114.55 107.05 108.25 PRESTIGE	E 983.95 983.95 966.50 972.00 NATCOP 66.30 67.20 65.00 65.00 COROMA 262.00 272.15 262.00 264.20 VBL		0 v-18.17 V-12.50
JSWSTEEL 308.00 310.45 305.10 308.90 2.25 TITAN 1145.00 1154.80 1135.05 1145.00 6.85 BPCL 384.95 386.50 378.55 380.60 2.15	IBREALEST 116.30 119. BOMDYEING 134.00 134.	20 114.00 117.30 VOLTAS	609.25 620.85 601.20 604.20 CEATLTD 97.95 98.90 95.70 96.80 NMDC	1058.70 1060.70 1043.95 1052.00 FCONSUL 100.85 102.15 99.55 99.95 MINDAIN	AER 42.80 42.80 42.15 42.60	TOP GAINERS TOP LOSERS TOP GAINERS TOP LOSERS
BPCL 384.95 386.50 378.55 380.60 2.15 SBIN 309.00 311.80 308.80 309.70 1.55 HEROMOTOCO 2550.00 2587.00 2537.40 2563.20 11.50	INFY* 723.75 730. HDFCLIFE 402.00 418.	30 402.00 413.60 RBLBANK	341.80 342.80 333.35 334.40 PETRONE 664.95 673.90 663.60 671.20 DRREDDY	2920.00 2932.65 2890.45 2904.00 PARAGM	LK 238.10 240.15 237.00 237.70	0 KOCI Bank 1.84 HUL -2.04 Bharti Aintel 2.64 Britannia -2.89
BAJAJFINSV 7595.00 7669.90 7590.00 7610.00 31.15 HDFCBANK 2364.20 2378.00 2356.50 2365.00 9.20	SUZLON 6.85 6. RELINFRA 111.15 112. SBIN 308.10 311.	20 108.25 110.00 INDIACEM	254.00 255.75 251.05 251.80 POWERGI 106.30 108.20 105.00 106.40 AVANTI 1105.00 1119.20 1082.35 1082.35 CONCOR	ID 190.00 192.90 190.00 190.70 GODREJA 373.00 374.50 366.30 370.70 MARICO 513.50 525.00 500.55 504.50 EIHOTEL	GRO 514.00 520.75 514.00 516.70 354.95 357.60 351.50 355.50 188.50 189.35 184.80 186.20	0 Tata Motors 1.13 Tata Steel -1.31 KOCI Bank 1.82 Adami Ports -2.02
UPL 961.20 974.00 959.05 967.65 3.75 POWERGRID 190.90 192.95 190.20 190.95 0.75	MARUTI 6669.15 6780. ICICIBANK 397.45 405.	00 6669.15 6710.90 ZENSARTECH	246.00 257.00 240.50 246.50 NESTLEIN 89.10 90.65 89.00 89.65 CARBORU	D 10601.00 10636.10 10389.00 10501.90 PFIZER	3130.40 3150.00 3110.25 3125.00 86.45 87.45 85.60 86.00	0 PESSARK LOA INDONS -0.04 PESSARK LIB HOL -1.91
RELIANCE 1407.95 1417.50 1402.65 1409.90 4.85 AXISBANK 754.15 763.80 753.45 754.90 2.55	ASHOKLEY 90.00 90. HEG 1736.05 1801.	00 1710.00 1770.05 LUPIN	900.00 909.70 881.85 899.00 ABFRL 879.60 880.00 865.40 870.00 NHPC	210.10 210.10 205.00 208.00 TIMETEC 23.10 23.70 23.10 23.50 MOTILA	OFS 733.00 734.30 709.45 712.50	0 SHREECEM 19850.00 20100.00 19794.95 19893.15
MARUTI 6675.00 6780.00 6675.00 6705.50 22.25 LT 1362.00 1373.20 1360.00 1362.50 3.75 HINDALCO 206.00 206.00 202.65 205.00 0.30	BIOCON 560.90 563. BRITANNIA 2785.50 2801. MFSL 422.00 424.	05 2688.20 2706.00 JUBLFOOD	145.10 145.60 142.25 142.55 GLENMAI 1346.00 1361.30 1321.00 1329.00 TATAGLO 225.25 228.55 216.55 217.65 VIPIND		DME 420.00 425.95 415.05 416.10	0 BAYERCROP 4090.35 4150.00 4080.50 4140.00
HINDALCO 206.00 206.00 202.65 205.00 0.30 SUNPHARMA 455.00 456.20 448.85 452.45 0.25 ASIANPAINT 1443.80 1456.00 1432.20 1436.00 -0.60	INDIGO 1550.00 1604. WIPRO 293.55 293.	25 1549.75 1570.10 DEEPAKNI	269.05 274.90 266.75 273.50 ADANIGR 4623.40 4628.70 4557.50 4566.00 ADANITR	EEN 42.40 43.60 41.45 41.85 COCHIN	HIP 382.30 384.45 376.85 379.95	5 IOB 14.00 14.29 14.00 14.04
M&M 645.05 652.50 642.85 645.00 -0.90 ITC 304.25 307.45 303.30 304.55 -0.45	KOTAKBANK 1409.00 1435. L&TFH 130.10 131.	25 126.30 127.25 DISHTV	1290.00 1290.00 1248.20 1268.15 TRIDENT 35.85 36.55 35.45 35.85 SPARC	66.55 67.00 66.05 66.45 SCI 169.45 169.45 165.30 168.00 MMTC	34.1034.4533.5033.8125.9025.9525.5525.61	5 NIACL 180.50 182.90 180.05 182.90
GRASIM 900.00 909.95 881.55 897.00 -2.30 COALINDIA 253.05 256.00 251.30 251.70 -0.65	AXISBANK 754.95 763. BANKBARODA 117.00 121. CENTURYTEX 934.00 954.	00 116.55 118.95 EDELWEISS	406.50 410.80 402.70 407.00 MANPASA 140.00 144.30 139.00 142.25 SIEMENS 1765.00 1781.20 1676.50 1680.00 ACC	ND 122.90 122.90 107.00 107.00 NAVINFI 1150.00 1177.65 1146.00 1172.50 GODREJI 1614.35 1638.65 1612.10 1630.00 MAGMA		5 ATUL 3416.20 3465.95 3409.00 3435.00
VEDL 168.70 169.00 165.80 167.70 -0.60 INDUSINDBK 1565.00 1579.00 1546.80 1554.15 -7.15	TATASTEEL 552.50 555. HINDUNILVR 1720.00 1727.	30 545.85 547.60 AJANTPHARM	1063.55 1080.00 1040.80 1055.80 HFCL 1616.00 1635.50 1595.00 1600.65 ECLERX	22.50 22.75 22.45 22.55 SHARDAU 1154.90 1154.90 1136.85 1141.75 SYMPHO	CROP 410.00 410.00 393.55 398.90	0 FORTIS 137.20 138.45 137.10 137.20
DRREDDY 2910.10 2932.75 2890.70 2906.10 -13.80 CIPLA 568.00 573.00 561.65 562.95 -2.65 GAIL 346.80 350.90 342.40 345.80 -1.75	PERSISTENT* 628.00 629. HDFCBANK 2361.20 2376.	00 2360.00 2368.80 TITAN	52.90 53.40 51.80 52.15 KTKBANK 1139.00 1153.65 1136.00 1145.55 SYNGENE	126.00 129.40 126.00 128.90 RELAXO 610.00 615.00 588.70 600.45 JYOTHYI		5 GHCL 252.85 252.85 247.70 249.20
BAJFINANCE 3130.10 3165.00 3102.30 3110.90 -20.85 WIPRO 293.50 293.70 288.55 291.65 -2.00	GRAPHITE 403.00 405. DLF 172.05 178. GODREJCP 652.70 653.	95 172.00 177.90 RNAM	84.90 85.75 84.30 85.20 OMAXE 198.15 199.15 190.00 193.35 PIIND 203.10 204.50 201.10 201.55 BERGEPA	208.80 208.80 207.15 207.45 COFFEEI 1039.25 1081.00 1039.25 1052.50 GLAXO NT 315.00 317.00 310.20 311.55 ASHOKA	AY 262.65 267.90 259.70 261.44 1276.55 1290.00 1275.00 1280.00 121.25 121.25 118.65 119.15	0 SUPPETRO 202.05 204.20 200.00 200.00
HDFC 2017.50 2037.60 2000.00 2002.80 -14.60 INFY 722.90 731.00 718.20 723.65 -7.15	BHARATFORG 465.00 490." BANDHANBNK 624.00 635.	90 460.00 486.00 PVR	1809.85 1814.75 1793.80 1809.05 RCF 465.00 479.00 452.00 463.25 MANAPPU	56.50 57.20 56.40 56.85 SUDARSO		0 NILKAMAL 1315.00 1338.00 1300.35 1309.55
EICHERMOT 20571.00 20600.00 20340.00 20356.00 -209.10 ULTRACEMCO 4620.50 4628.00 4552.00 4559.80 -56.50	JINDALSTEL 181.00 182. PNB 86.95 87.	75 86.30 87.20 GNFC	589.00 592.35 583.05 585.25 DCBBANH 315.25 316.60 309.00 310.50 IDFC	39.50 39.85 38.75 39.00 SOMANY	CERA 450.00 450.00 415.00 422.00	0 HERITGFOOD 502.05 504.30 490.00 490.00
TATASTEEL 554.00 556.00 546.60 547.70 -7.25 IOC 159.95 160.00 155.70 155.90 -2.20 HCLTECH 1144.00 1149.15 1126.25 1142.00 -18.05	BAJFINANCE 3133.70 3162. ITC 304.00 307. ADANIPOWER 44.70 45.	35 302.90 303.60 HINDALCO	1758.00 1786.85 1702.80 1755.35 UJJIVAN 203.10 205.85 202.70 205.10 MRF 1441.00 1455.00 1433.40 1434.70 HSCL	324.80 327.00 319.50 322.70 HUDCO 52450.00 53500.00 52450.00 53307.70 OFSS 108.40 113.00 107.60 109.25 CROMPT	41.60 41.70 41.00 41.33 3440.00 3466.80 3415.00 3450.00 ON 230.65 233.95 229.10 231.40	0 SHK 148.30 149.55 147.15 148.75
ZEEL 418.90 422.40 410.10 411.55 -6.90 HINDUNILVR 1720.00 1727.00 1682.00 1690.65 -32.90	INDUSINDBK 1561.30 1580. VEDL 167.10 168.	00 1549.05 1559.00 SUNTV	562.00 562.00 551.40 555.70 VENKYS 483.00 485.60 476.30 482.30 MPHASIS	1988.00 2014.00 1960.00 1964.90 APLAPOI 979.05 979.05 963.50 972.05 PRSMJOF	LO 1567.95 1575.00 1536.20 1550.00	0 JAGRAN 111.10 113.65 110.55 111.95 0 ITDC 257.90 258.95 253.70 257.60
ADANIPORTS 393.00 398.40 385.05 387.30 -8.00 TECHM 830.00 834.45 813.00 815.15 -21.85	BHARTIARTL 324.70 334. HINDPETRO 284.90 290. FEDERALBNK 94.50 98.	25 281.60 285.75 UPL	575.00 581.00 542.55 550.05 EICHERM 970.00 974.75 959.00 970.00 JUBILANI 700.85 700.85 670.55 681.80 GUJGAS	655.10 657.00 647.20 650.50 SJVN	23.95 24.40 23.95 24.33	5 AEGISLOG 195.90 197.00 194.00 194.75
BRITANNIA 2782.95 2803.85 2690.00 2702.50 -80.55 TCS 2185.00 2186.05 2125.00 2137.00 -78.40	FEDERALBNK 94.50 98. JPASSOCIAT 5.25 5. TATAMTRDVR 97.90 102.'	40 5.22 5.27 BEML	700.85 700.85 670.55 681.80 GUJGAS 874.95 881.35 869.00 875.40 HINDZIN 114.85 115.65 112.20 112.70 ABB		DRP 125.50 126.00 120.00 122.00	0 CHAMBLFERT 152.10 156.50 152.00 154.35
NIFTY NEXT 50	NTPC 133.00 136. STRTECH 191.00 196.	00 189.90 191.85 APOLLOHOSP	154.95 159.00 150.50 151.45 SWANENI 1190.25 1211.60 1184.65 1192.00 SYNDIBA	VK 37.20 37.95 37.20 37.35 KEI	411.25 414.20 402.60 406.00	0 THERMAX 970.00 985.00 961.55 968.00
SCRIP OPEN High LOW LTP CHANGE NIFTY NEXT 50 27656.30 27732.25 27486.05 27537.75 -121.35	KANSAINER 415.00 438. DABUR 382.00 385. GUJALKALI 496.00 535.	50 377.70 382.00 IRB	403.00 405.90 390.60 393.35 TV18BRD 120.75 124.90 120.70 122.00 IBULISL 86.60 88.10 84.20 85.30 MAXINDI	298.00 303.15 287.10 291.00 LALPATH		0 TRITURBINE 105.00 106.80 105.00 105.00
DLF 172.95 179.20 171.95 177.90 6.05 BANKBARODA 117.05 120.45 116.50 119.10 3.20	TATAPOWER 65.75 68. JSWSTEEL 307.50 310.	10 65.50 67.15 DELTACORP	241.00 244.35 239.75 241.45 GPPL 3032.45 3068.00 3032.45 3060.00 INOXLEIS	87.00 87.00 84.00 84.50 TNPL	196.00 196.95 189.65 190.90 69.65 70.00 69.05 69.51	0 SADBHAV 237.45 237.45 235.00 236.80
SBILIFE 650.00 666.00 648.95 665.00 14.50 NHPC 23.10 23.75 23.05 23.60 0.50 SIEMENS 1153.95 1179.25 1145.00 1174.00 24.40	IOC 160.00 160. BHEL 69.65 70.	65 68.40 68.55 SRTRANSFIN	394.30 398.10 384.60 385.80 RAMCOC 1090.10 1094.55 1071.00 1081.50 ISEC	216.00 225.00 216.00 218.25 BAJAJELE		0 BOSCHLTD 17950.00 18089.85 17931.50 17940.00
INDIGO 1550.00 1604.30 1546.05 1570.10 29.65 MRF 52500.00 53400.00 52500.00 875.15	BLUESTARCO 699.00 711. DBL 491.15 513. ZEEL 418.45 422.	00 472.05 479.85 GRUH	111.50 112.00 110.05 110.20 GMRINFR 317.05 327.20 317.05 319.00 GREAVES 1879.00 1935.00 1879.00 1897.05 CENTURY	COT 150.00 150.00 145.70 147.50 CUB	R 394.85 397.40 387.30 391.70 199.00 201.40 193.50 197.00 184.00 185.10 179.00 183.63	0 CARERATING 980.00 988.25 980.00 985.00
HINDPETRO 287.00 290.45 281.70 286.30 4.35 SAIL 56.45 57.20 55.75 57.05 0.80	LT 1364.70 1373. BPCL 383.20 386.	20 1358.30 1361.00	I Last 7 Days	TRO 259.00 259.00 250.20 251.00 JKCEMEN		5 UNITEDBNK 11.01 11.05 10.95 11.00
ACC 1619.90 1637.85 1610.65 1635.00 21.90 MOTHERSUMI 140.00 142.00 139.00 141.60 1.30 ASHOKLEY 90.00 91.00 88.60 90.30 0.75	SUNTECK 467.95 470. SUNPHARMA 455.20 456.	00 449.40 453.00		973.70 982.05 967.45 971.10 SUPREMI	IND 1116.95 1116.95 1088.00 1088.00	0 KALPATPOWR 490.00 490.00 471.05 472.65
HINDZINC 266.50 275.55 266.50 274.00 2.10 ABB 1476.00 1517.80 1472.50 1487.00 10.15	TATAELXSI 888.70 890. ABCAPITAL 100.00 102. TATACHEM 578.00 578.0	50 99.10 101.65 38,750 38	B,700 38,525 0 0 EQUITAS	129.95 130.10 127.15 128.55 VGUARD 1411.90 1413.60 1378.85 1382.10 LUXIND 147.65 150.00 143.85 144.00 GESHIP	217.75 218.20 215.10 216.5 1331.40 1340.00 1286.15 1339.0 284.60 291.35 280.60 280.60	0 PGHH 10260.00 10448.45 10227.90 10361.00
PGHH 10136.00 10400.00 10136.00 10330.10 69.70 OFSS 3445.00 3470.60 3413.65 3459.80 20.65	GODREJPROP 830.00 863.1 INFRATEL 274.65 278.1	00 816.00 821.10	38,500 JKTYRE PAGEIND	85.60 87.85 85.50 87.00 DCAL 22550.00 22685.65 22010.75 22157.35 HEIDELB	220.25 223.70 218.55 221.75	5 TIMKEN 565.00 565.55 560.50 562.00 0 TVTODAY 301.50 302.00 292.55 294.55
NIACL 180.50 181.25 179.35 180.75 0.25 AMBUJACEM 221.50 223.30 220.15 221.30 0.25 MARICO 355.00 357.15 350.45 355.50 0.30	TRENT 366.15 392.1 INFIBEAM 42.55 44.1	00 361.40 384.05 70 42.05 43.25	ORIENTC	TW 329.00 332.20 323.10 328.70 REDINGT	ON 96.35 98.70 94.50 94.60	0 CHOLAHLDNG 508.00 515.00 496.00 510.00
BOSCHITD 18099.25 1809.25 17874.15 18000.05 14.10 HAVELLS 766.25 774.35 765.55 771.00 0.00	AUROPHARMA 799.00 799. TECHM 831.00 832. IDEA 16.60 16.	55 014.20 010.55	8,000 32,945 37,700 SRF OBEROIR ALBK	2580.00 2590.90 2560.00 2570.10 KPRMILL TY 520.00 526.50 516.25 523.90 BAJAJHLJ 47.45 48.05 46.95 47.00 SCHNEII		5 VTL 1120.00 1130.90 1106.60 1125.00
IDEA 16.25 16.50 15.90 16.20 0.00 DABUR 382.15 385.90 377.30 382.00 -0.15	MGL 959.95 963. BLISSGVS 168.20 174.	75 939.75 945.70 00 160.35 162.10	32,870 SOBHA WABAG	488.00 498.00 480.25 485.85 GUJFLUC 276.35 295.50 269.00 270.70 NH	RO 1030.55 1060.00 1030.00 1039.8 205.80 205.80 195.00 200.50	5 BLUEDART 3381.95 3381.95 3130.10 3155.25 0 MAHLIFE 385.00 385.00 376.20 377.60
BAJAJHLDNG 3200.35 3240.20 3175.05 3200.00 -4.55 BANDHANBNK 625.25 635.90 619.00 623.50 -1.20 DMART 1271.00 1282.70 1257.20 1262.00 -3.20	GAIL 347.40 350.3 LEMONTREE 74.00 77.3 HOUTECH 1150.00 1150.00	35 74.00 74.55	32,020 TATAMET		275.05 283.05 275.05 278.00	0 FDC 177.00 177.00 171.35 171.35
SHREECEM 19776.00 2010.00 19776.00 19850.00 -49.90 GICRE 241.35 242.85 239.15 239.25 -1.80	HCLTECH 1150.90 1150. ESCORTS 680.00 685. LTI 1713.95 1714.	005.50 005.20	(₹/10 gms) 32,470 UFLEX QUESS 29 30 1 2 3 AARTIINI	222.00 230.00 211.60 222.70 BIRLACC 694.15 696.60 674.00 676.70 ITDCEM 1589.25 1609.00 1578.00 1590.35 AKZOINI	118.50 125.00 118.20 122.00	GILLETTE 7500.00 7520.00 7450.00 7480.00
ICICIPRULI 376.00 377.25 371.00 371.80 -3.15 HDFCLIFE 402.00 419.80 401.10 413.30 -3.90 DUPULIFE 402.00 419.80 401.10 413.30 -3.90	DMART 1273.00 1280. ONGC 169.50 171.	0 1256.00 1260.15	PHICS MAY WELCORI	132.15 133.65 129.20 129.95 HAL 3681.35 3695.25 3651.20 3672.50 INOXWIN	661.30 670.00 653.00 670.00 ID 63.70 63.70 59.85 63.11	0 SUPRAJIT 229.00 229.00 226.50 226.50 5 TEAMLEASE 3050.00 3054.00 2952.00 3004.75
DIVISLAB 1718.00 1725.00 1696.25 1698.00 -16.30 PAGEIND 22430.00 22690.00 22100.50 22185.20 -252.30 NMDC 101.00 102.25 99.85 100.00 -1.15	M&M 653.00 653. SBILIFE 650.00 666. CADILAHC 314.00 318.	00 650.00 664.15 TORNTPOWER	IGL 257.00 260.45 253.00 255.30 LINDEINI 16.00 16.20 15.90 16.00 KRBL	312.30 312.30 307.25 308.05 JKLAKSH IA 480.55 500.65 473.00 493.30 JBCHEPE 331.20 334.20 320.00 321.25 ALLCAR(ARM 342.25 348.00 342.00 346.80	0 TTKPRESTIG 8146.20 8146.20 8035.10 8070.00
BIOCON 558.00 563.00 549.20 551.40 -6.45 SRTRANSFIN 1096.50 1099.00 1068.55 1079.70 -13.10	CGPOWER 36.20 38. PNBHOUSING 681.00 704.	00 36.20 36.75 NATIONALUM	51.70 52.35 51.45 52.20 EMAMILT 16.80 16.95 16.10 16.35 KAJARIAC	D 385.55 385.55 377.00 377.10 NBVENT	JRES 100.20 102.40 98.35 98.40	0 VMART 2770.05 2788.50 2748.60 2766.50
LUPIN 880.00 880.80 864.80 866.35 -10.85 ICICIGI 1106.00 1119.00 1082.05 1087.00 -17.20 BHFL 68.70 70.60 68.40 68.50 -11.0	RADICO 360.00 364. BATAINDIA 1455.00 1478.	50 350.75 361.40 SHRIRAMCIT 40 1436.55 1441.25 ICICIPRULI	1600.05 1670.00 1560.80 1600.00 DIVISLAB 377.95 379.00 369.90 371.55 ITI	1714.05 1723.50 1695.90 1696.20 JSL 92.50 92.50 89.70 90.20 MAHLOO	36.15 36.60 35.60 35.8 524.95 528.45 501.00 509.1	5 ASAHIINDIA 235.65 241.60 234.90 235.05 5 STARCEMENT 105.40 107.20 105.40 107.05
BHEL 69.70 70.60 68.40 68.50 -1.10 CONCOR 514.85 516.00 501.50 505.00 -8.55 UBL 1411.40 1418.00 1381.05 1386.00 -25.40	SAIL 56.40 57. IDFCFIRSTB 50.80 51. CANBK 264.20 269.	10 50.35 50.65 GSPL	595.00 595.00 583.15 583.35 LAKSHVII 195.55 196.15 183.10 189.30 HAVELLS 1337.30 1352.70 1310.00 1315.25 BALKRISI	768.90 775.00 765.60 769.00 SUNDRM	551.15 558.70 545.05 550.00 FAST 541.35 556.00 540.30 540.30 1224.80 1224.80 1186.85 1186.85	0 SCHAEFFLER 5400.00 5480.00 5257.00 5280.00
COLPAL 1188.00 1193.50 1163.30 1170.00 -22.45 GODREJCP 650.00 652.70 626.50 642.00 -12.30	CANBK 264.20 269. PEL 2363.00 2363. EXIDEIND 212.60 217.	00 2300.60 2319.30 BAJAJFINSV	1537.30 1532.70 1510.00 1315.25 BALKRISL 7600.05 7650.00 7596.95 7618.00 MRPL 183.35 185.00 182.65 183.05 J&KBANK	71.20 72.00 70.35 70.65 UCOBAN 60.90 61.00 60.15 60.50 FINOLEX	K 18.00 18.10 17.85 17.95	5 GALAXYSURF 1003.15 1015.10 1001.10 1006.35
HDFCAMC 1701.10 1715.00 1650.00 1660.00 -37.55 PIDILITIND 1238.45 1238.45 1193.55 1200.85 -27.95 INTEL 139.10 131.70 136.10 137.60 300	PFC 114.05 115. FSL 50.70 50.	00 113.35 114.45 AMBUJACEM 70 48.00 48.95 NOCIL	221.15 223.50 220.40 221.40 RALLIS 131.00 132.20 127.00 127.65 SREINFRA	146.00 147.00 145.30 146.75 WABCOE 24.65 25.45 24.15 24.55 SHILPAM	NDIA 6251.95 6312.00 6251.95 6312.00 ED 376.25 380.20 375.55 378.00	0 GULFOILLUB 837.00 840.00 832.25 837.00 0 ZYDUSWELL 1305.20 1305.20 1300.25 1302.90
L&TFH 129.10 131.70 126.10 127.60 -3.00 MCDOWELL-N 544.50 546.35 529.35 530.10 -13.60 PEL 2373.00 2373.00 2302.40 2305.25 -61.35	WELSPUNIND 52.55 54. PIDILITIND 1263.90 1263. IBVENTURES 303.90 307.	00 1195.05 1204.85 JINDALSAW	96.65 97.90 96.65 97.30 HIMATSE 81.65 82.90 80.85 81.15 TIINDIA 10.10 10.27 9.70 10.00 NAUKRI	DE 215.15 216.40 210.15 215.00 GET&D 379.15 381.40 370.00 372.95 GREENPI 1952.05 1998.00 1952.05 1998.00 FLFL	254.95 255.00 250.00 250.00 Y 161.95 163.35 157.25 158.30 482.10 494.80 482.10 492.83	0 ELGIEQUIP 262.10 278.00 262.05 274.45
AUROPHARMA 798.80 799.30 777.35 778.60 -20.70 PETRONET 239.60 240.70 232.70 232.90 -6.55	HSIL 260.10 268. HEROMOTOCO 2565.00 2587.	70 256.10 257.45 IDBI	10.10 10.27 9.70 10.00 NAUKI 40.40 40.55 39.55 39.95 FRETAIL 54.20 54.35 53.50 53.75 BHARATF	423.55 423.55 415.20 417.30 BAJAJCO		5 DHANUKA 377.00 380.00 374.50 380.00 0 GEPIL 901.65 901.65 892.00 892.00
CADILAHC 312.50 318.80 300.05 301.00 -13.90	NBCC 59.10 59.	50 57.70 58.10 SHANKARA	528.20 542.00 521.75 528.65 ANDHRA	ANK 25.45 25.45 24.75 24.90 WHIRLPO	OOL 1394.40 1414.00 1387.20 1388.70	0 SFL 1335.00 1353.05 1335.00 1350.00

world 11



Pak issues order to freeze assets Pakistan uses 'terrorism as tool' of Azhar, impose travel ban

PTI ISLAMABAD

Pakistan has issued an official order to freeze the assets of and impose a travel ban on JeM chief Masood Azhar after the UN declared him a "global terrorist".Pakistan-based Azhar is also banned from selling or purchasing arms and ammuni-tion.The UN sanctions committee on the Islamic State and Al-Qaeda on Wednesday announced the designation of Azhar, leader of Jaish-e-Mohammed (JeM), over its ties to Al-Qaeda. The JeM has claimed

responsibility for the Pulwama suicide attack that killed 40 CRPF soldiers and led to a spike in military tensions between India and Pakistan. The Security and Exchange Commission of Pakistan (SECP) ordered all non-banking financial institutions and regulating authorities on Thursday to block all

investment accounts of Azhar. The SECP ordered that all companies should scan their data and inform the SECP within three days about the



necessary action being taken against the accounts of Azhar. An official of interior ministry said that Azhar was already on the Fourth Schedule of the Anti-Terrorist Act (ATA) and could not travel without permission of the police.

He was also barred from having any weapons due to the listing under the ATA. His name was also already on the list of proscribed persons maintained by the National AntiTerrorist Authority (NACTA). According to Foreign

Office spokesman Mohammad Faisal, Pakistan would fully cooperate with the international community. Pakistan's foreign ministry,

in a notification issued Wednesday said: "the Federal Government is pleased to order that the Resolution 2368 (2017) be fully implemented" against Azhar. The government directed officials to take actions "as

appropriate for the implementation of sanctions" against the JeM chief, according to the notification. The UN designated Azhar as a "global terrorist" after China lifted its hold on a proposal by the US, the UK and France to blacklist him.

The US, the UK and France had moved the proposal to designate Azhar as a "global ter-rorist" in the UN Security Council's 1267 Al Qaeda Sanctions Committee in February, just days after the deadly Pulwama terror attack carried out by the JeM in Jammu and Kashmir.

Pakistan foreign office spokesman Mohammad Faisal on Wednesday said that Pakistan would "immediately enforce the sanctions' imposed on Azhar.

A veto-wielding permanent member of the UNSC, China was the sole hold-out in the 15-nation body on the bid to blacklist Azhar, blocking attempts by placing a "tech-nical hold" and asking for "more time to examine" the proposal.

against India: Ex-CIA director

PTI WASHINGTON

Pakistan, obsessed with India as a perceived existential threat, has "created terrorist groups to be a tool" in its struggle against India, a former top American spymaster has said. Former CIA acting director Michael Morell, in a podcast discussion with Kurt Campbell and Rich Verma on Thursday, alleged that Pakistan is one of

the most dangerous countries in the world. Pakistan has "created terrorist groups to be a tool" in their struggle against India, Morell said. Campbell, the former Assistant Secretary of State for East Asian Affairs and Verma, the former US Ambassador to India, now regularly host 'The Tealeaves' Podcast of the Asia Group.

"What they don't realise is that it's impossible to keep those terrorist groups under control. And that eventually comes back to bite you. You know, I believe that Pakistan, at the end of the day, maybe the most dangerous country in



the world," Morell said. Morell who played a key role in the Abbottabad raid that killed Osama bin Laden — the al-Qaeda chief and mastermind behind the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks in the United States — in a safe house in Pakistan, said that the population of this South Asian country is exploding, and the demographics are awful.

"The economy's going nowhere. It simply can't provide the jobs that need to be provided for the young people who are entering the labour force. term was to get the Pakistanis to see their strategic environ-The education system is literment in a real way."They still see India and, I think, for foreally broken. I went to Pakistan more often than I went to any seeable future, will see India as

an existential threat to the other country when I was state of Pakistan. It's not, it's just deputy director," he said, referring to his impression about Pakistan when he was the deputy head in the CIA during the Obama administration. There's no wonder that

many Pakistani parents send

their kids to madrasa and one

there. "The extremism is grow-

ing from a societal perspective.

It's growing within the military.

So, it is not impossible, not

tomorrow, not next week, not

next year, but five years from

now, 10 years from now that

you could have a color revolu-

tion, Arab spring style move-

ment in the streets of Islamabad

that ends up with an extremist

government there with nuclear

weapons. That's what so scary,"

president Barack Obama's

Pakistan policy in his first

According to Morell, then

Morell said.

not. India stopped focusing on Pakistan a long time ago. They're focusing on their economic future," he argued. But because the Pakistanis are so obsessed with this per-

ceived existential threat, they've both organised their society in order to protect themselves from that threat. So, they've given an immense amount of power to the military, and much less power to the civilian government, he said.

"The government therefore makes choices that I don't believe, and many people don't believe are in the best long term interest of Pakistan. Pakistan has spent more money on nuclear weapons than they do in education.

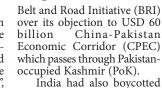
"And they use terrorism as a tool against the Indians ... and then also in Afghanistan, because they fear Indian influence in Afghanistan. So they've created terrorist groups, right to be a tool of theirs in the struggle against India," Morell

'India's boycott of BRI not to affect trade ties with China: Indian envoy

PTI BEIJING

India's decision to not join China's Belt and Road Initiative over sovereignty concerns related to the CPEC has not affected the bilateral trade ties which have seen an "exponential growth", India's Ambassador to China Vikram Misri has said.

India skipped China's 2nd Belt and Road Forum (BRF) held from April 25 to 27 aimed at showcasing its trillion dollar the infrastructure connectivi-



India had also boycotted the first BRF held in 2017. New Delhi's reluctance to join the BRI has become a major irritant in the relations between the two countries. "We feel that



ty should be aligned with national priorities and should respect and follow certain well respected or broadly accepted (norms) in the world, which include the elements of transparency openness, level playing field, social, environmental and financial sustainability," Misri said.

"These are the principles we follow in our own initiatives. The most important thing is that (they) must be aligned with national priorities. That is one basket. The other basket is that

these initiatives can be sustainable and successful only in so far as they respect issues related to sovereignty and territorial integrity," he said in an interview to China's state-run CGTN. In an interview to the state-

run Global Times in March, Misri signalled India's plans to stay out the conference which was attended by 37 heads of state and governments, including Pakistan Prime Minister Imran

Khan.

Though the latest interview was recorded well ahead of the 2nd BRF meet, parts of it were telecast on May 1, according to a post on the CGTN website. In the full interview accessed by PTI, Misri said India had its own infrastructure connectivity projects in the neighbourhood and New Delhi's view is that all such projects should be aligned with national priorities.

"With regard to trade and BRI, despite the fact that we are not part of the BRI, there has been no impact on the bilateral trade between India and China. We have seen an exponential growth in bilateral trade with China," he said. "So, we don't necessarily need to look at India-China trade, or indeed the larger economic and commercial relationship through the prism of BRI. I think we can very well

progress on that front," Misri

said The bilateral trade has grown to about USD 95.5 billion, inching towards the USD 100 billion mark, a target set by Chinese President Xi Jinping and Prime Minister Narendra Modi to be achieved by 2020. Misri said India has had its concerns over the way the BRI has been put out and New Delhi's views are not unknown or a secret.

Afghanistan 'loya jirga' demands 'immediate, permanent' ceasefire

AFP KABUL

A historic "loya jirga" peace summit in Kabul ended Friday with delegates from across Afghanistan demanding an immediate and permanent ceasefire, and President Ashraf Ghani saying he was conditionally prepared to implement the call. This week's loya jirga, or grand assembly, saw about 3,200 religious and tribal leaders, politicians and representatives try to find a breakthrough in Afol anistan's gruelling flict, which is now in its 18th year."The government of the Íslamic Republic of Afghanistan and the Taliban movement should declare and implement an immediate and permanent ceasefire," delegates said in a declaration at the end of the jirga They said the ceasefire should start at the beginning of the holy month of Ramadan, which gets underway in the coming days. Afghan President Ashraf Ghani said he was "prepared to implement the fair and legitimate demand" for a ceasefire but stressed it "cannot be onesided". "If the Taliban are fully ready for a ceasefire, then we can talk about the technical



Nepal Army officer dismisses Indian Army's Yeti claim

PTI 📕 KATHMANDU

The Nepal Army and a wildlife expert have dismissed the Indian Army's claim that its soldiers have spotted footprints of Yeti, the mythical beast found in the Himalayas, near the Makalu Base Camp, saying they were likely that of a bear. On Monday, the Army claimed its mountaineering expedition team in Nepal found mysterious large footprints in the snow that they elong to Yeti, or t

Yeti's footprints

dition team had reported a similar sighting of giant footprints.

At that time it was reported that the unusual footprints were seen in the mountain. When the wildlife experts were contacted for verification, they said that the Makalu Barun region is home to large snow bears and the footprints might belonged to them, the officer said. An Indian Army team of 18 personnel led by Major Manoi Ioshi embarked on a



Delegates attend the last day of the Afghan Loya Jirga meeting in Kabul Afghanistan. on Friday

details," Ghani said in a speech. onciliation and jubilation in Kabul and across the country.

There was no immediate response from the Taliban, who currently are negotiating in separate talks with a US peace envoy in Qatar. The insurgent group has so far refused to even speak with Ghani, who they view as an American stooge.However, last year the Taliban announced a three-day ceasefire at the end of Ramadan after Ghani declared a unilateral

ceasefire for eight days earlier in the month. It was first formal nationwide ceasefire since the US-led invasion of 2001 and saw

unprecedented scenes of rec-

abominable snowman. ΔP In Nepali folklore, Yeti is

a mythical ape-like creature taller than an average human that is said to inhabit the This week's jirga was a Himalayas, Siberia, Central remarkable gathering of and East Asia.

Afghans from many walks of "For the first time, an life. Emotions rode high with Indian Army attendees sharing tears, recrim-Mountaineering Expedition Team has sited (sic) inations and at least one fist fight as they revisited the horrors of Mysterious Footprints of Afghanistan's recent past.The mythical beast 'Yeti' meatalks between the Taliban and suring 32x15 inches close to Makalu Base Camp on 09 US peace envoy Zalmay Khalilzad this week focus on a April 2019. This elusive snowman has only been potential deal that would see the withdrawal of foreign forces sighted at Makalu-Barun from Afghanistan in return for National Park in the past," the Indian Army tweeted on Monday night. The Army also released photos showing the Taliban guaranteeing terrorist groups could no longer

large footprints in the snow which they claim belong to the creature. However, Director General of the Department of Wildlife and National Parks Man Bahadur Khadka has dismissed the Indian Army's claim,

"According to our

experts, it may be the footprint of a bear found in the Himalayas," he was quoted as saying by the Kantipur Daily.According to Nepal Army spokesperson Bigyan Dev Pandey, a liaison officer of the Nepal Army, who accompanied the Indian Army expedition team, had not directly seen the footprint.Pandey said some 3 to 4 years ago, a French expethe Yeti as a legend.

expedition to Mount Makalu in Nepal on April 2. On April 9, the team spotted "mysterious footprints" measuring 32 X 15 inches to close to the Makalu base camp. Makalu is the fifth highest mountain in the world at 8,485 metres.

It is located in the Mahalangur Himalayas, some 19 kilometres southeast of Mount Everest, on the border between Nepal and Tibet, China. Stories of the Yeti first emerged as a facet of Western popular culture in the 19th century. Given the lack of evidence of its existence, the scientific community has generally regarded

Actress Kathryn Newton arrives at the premiere of "Pokemon Detective Pikachu" at Military Island in Times Square on Thursday,

Actor Peter Mayhew, Chewbacca in 'Star Wars' saga, dead at 74

operate in the country.

(Harrison Ford) in the origi-

in "The Empire Strikes Back,"

He would go on to appear

in 1977.

AFP LOS ANGELES

ctor Peter Mayhew, who Awon over fans worldwide as the Wookiee warrior Chewbacca in the blockbuster "Star Wars" movies, has died at the age of 74, his family announced on Thursday. Mayhew died on Tuesday at his home in Texas, surrounded by loved ones, the family said in a statement released on the actor's Twitter account "He put his heart and soul into the role of Chewbacca and it showed in every frame of the films from his knockkneed running, firing his bowcaster from the hip, his bright blue eyes, down to each subtle movement of his head and mouth," the statement said.

"But, to him, the Star Wars family meant so much more than a role in a film. The relationships that began then grew into the friends and family that he would love for decades to come."

The towering Britishborn actor, the son of a



Peter Mayhew,

seven feet three inches (2.21 meters), was working as a his career — as the co-pilot hospital attendant in London and best friend of Han Solo when he was discovered by film producer Charles Schneer. He was first cast in

the film "Sinbad and the Eye of the Tiger," in an uncreditpoliceman who measured ed role. But he then was cast "Revenge of the Sith." The family said he had "fought his way back from being wheelchair-bound to stand tall and portray Chewbacca once more in 'Star Wars: The Force Awakens?

He then worked to coach his successor in the role, Joonas Suotamo, the family statement said.

Co-star Mark Hamill who portrayed Luke Skywalker in the iconic films, was quick to pay tribute to the "gentlest of giants — A big man with an even bigger heart who never failed to make me smile & a loyal friend who I loved dearly." "I'm grateful for the memories we shared & I'm a better man for just having known him," Hamill wrote on Twitter.

Mayhew is survived by his wife Angie and three chilin the role that would define dren.

The family said a memorial service would be held on nal "Star Wars" film released June 29 and a memorial for fans would take place in early December in Los Angeles at Empire Con, an event for "Return of the Jedi" and "Star Wars" fans.

People love coffee, beer for buzz, not taste

PTI WASHINGTON

Our preference for coffee or beer is not based on the way the beverages taste, but how they make us feel, according to a study. Scientists from Northwestern University in the US searched for variations in our taste genes that could explain our beverage preferences, because understanding them could indicate ways to intervene in people's diets.

They counted the number of servings of bitter and sweet beverages consumed by about 336,000 individuals in the UK Biobank. The researchers did a genome-wide association study of bitter beverage consumption and of sweet bever-

The study, published in the journal Human Molecular Genetics, showed taste preferences for bitter or sweet beverages are not based on variations in our taste genes, but rather genes related to the psychoactive properties of these beverages."The genetics underlying our preferences

components of these drinks,"

It is not the taste," Cornelis said in a statement. The study highlights important behaviour-reward components to beverage choice and adds to our understanding of the link between are related to the psychoactive genetics and beverage con-



ple's diets, she said. Sugary assistant professor at beverages are linked to many Northwestern University of Feinberg School of Medicine."People like the way School disease and health conditions, researchers said. coffee and alcohol make them Alcohol intake is relat-

feel. That is why they drink it. ed to more than 200 diseases and accounts for about 6 percent of deaths globally, they said. Cornelis did find one variant in a gene, called FTO, linked to sugar-sweetened drinks. People who had a variant in the FTO gene — the same variant sumption — and the potential previously related to lower said Marilyn Cornelis, an barriers to intervening in peorisk of obesity — surpris-

ingly preferred sugar-sweet-ened beverages. "It is coun-terintuitive. FTO has been something of a mystery gene, and we don't know exactly how it is linked to obesity," Cornelis said.

"It likely plays a role in behaviour, which would be linked to weight management," she said. "To our knowledge, this is the first genome-wide association study of beverage consumption based on taste perspective," said Victor Zhong, a postdoctoral fellow at Northwestern University.

"It is also the most comprehensive genome-wide association study of beverage consumption to date," he said. Beverages were categorised into a bitter-tasting group and a sweet-tasting group. Bitter included coffee, tea, grapefruit juice, beer, red wine and liquor.

Sweet included sugarsweetened beverages, artificially sweetened beverages and non-grapefruit juices. This taste classification has been previously validated. Beverage intake was collected using 24-hour dietary recalls or questionnaires.

age consumption.

world 12



Trump admn urged not to end GSP benefits to India

PTI WASHINGTON

 $T_{nate \ the \ GSP \ programme}^{he \ US \ should \ not \ terminate \ the \ GSP \ programme}_{with \ India \ after \ the \ expiry \ of}$ the 60-day notice period on Friday, a group of 25 influential American lawmakers has urged the US Trade Representative, warning that companies seeking to expand their exports to India could be hit. The Generalised System of Preference (GSP) is the largest and oldest US trade preference programme and is designed to promote economic development by allowing duty-free entry for thousands of products from designated beneficiary countries. On March 4, President

Donald Trump announced that the US intends to terminate India's designations as a beneficiary developing coun-try under the GSP programme. The 60-day notice period ends on May 3.On the eve of the end of the notice period, the 25 US lawmakers made a last-ditch effort to convince the Trump administration from going ahead with its decision.

The 25 members of the US House of Representatives in a passionate letter urged US Trade Representative Robert Lighthizer to continue negotiating a deal that protects and promotes jobs that rely on trade – both imports and exports – with India.They argued that terminating GSP for India would hurt American companies seeking to expand their exports to India.

vide the United States with assess

Government of India is providing equitable and reasonable access to its markets, in accordance with the GSP eligibility criteria," he wrote.

ple notification in federal register can formally terminate GSP benefits to India. Expressing concern over such a move, the lawmakers said that no party — in the United "India's termination from States or India — would ben-GSP follows its failure to pro- efit from terminating GSP

that rely on duty-free treat-

ment for India under the GSP

will pay hundreds of millions

of dollars annually in new

taxes. In the past, even tem-

porary lapses in such benefits

have caused companies to lay

off workers, cut salaries and

benefits, and delay or cancel

job-creating investments in

the United States. Terminating

the GSP for India similarly

would hurt, not help, compa-

nies seeking to expand their

exports to India. Any progress

tiations seems unlikely to take

benefits. "American companies assurances that it will provide equitable and reasonable access to its markets in numerous sectors," Trump had said in a letter to Congress, providing a notice of his intent to terminate the designation of India as a beneficiary developing country under GSP programme.In his letter, Trump said that he was determined that New Delhi had "not assured" the US that it would "provide equitable and reasonable access" to the markets made toward resolving issues over the last year of GSP negoof India."I will continue to whether the

The USTR through a sim-

negotiations is the only way to gain new market access for US exports to India," said the letter written by these lawmakers. Reaching a comprehensive solution that benefits both the US import and export interests is further complicated by the upcoming elections

in India, they said. Noting that the 60-day notice period expires in the middle of Indian elections that run from mid-April to late-May, the Congressmen said that it will be up to India's next govern-ment to resolve outstanding issues with the US, but seating that government and restarting negotiations also requires time.

"A decision to terminate GSP in the midst of the elec-tions risks politicising the issues further, with potentially negative consequences for broader relations with an important ally," the Congressmen wrote.

The Congressmen urged Lighthizer not to terminate any GSP benefits until there is an opportunity to negotiate with India's next government."The alternative is higher trade barriers all around, which would hurt American companies and workers that depend on strong two-way trade between the US and India," they warned.India's exports to the US in 2017-18 stood at USD 47.9 billion, while imports amounted to USD 26.7 billion, leaving a trade balance of USD 21.2 billion in favour of India.

effect if India is removed from India is pressing for exemption from the high duty the programme," the lawmakers said."It would be a step back, not forward. Continuing imposed by the US on certain steel and aluminium prod ucts, resumption of export benefits to certain domestic products under the GSP programme, greater market access for its products from agriculture, automobile, automobile components and engineering sectors

Islamist extremists, who carried out the country's worst terror bombings on Easter Sunday could be planning more attacks in the capital Colombo.

The security has been further beefed up following another leakage of a police internal circular which warned that some of the entry bridges to the city of Colombo and an overhead bridge north Colombo would be blasted by around May 6 by the same terror group which carried out the Easter Sunday attacks.

"Extensive cordon and search operations of the army and sister services across the country with assistance of the police are continuing in search of terrorists, hideouts, explosives, weapons and other warlike items... with the deployment of more and more troops as required," the Sri Lanka Army said in a statement.

Sri Lankan authorities have admitted that there was a failure to act on advance intelligence warnings of the deadly Easter Sunday attacks against churches and luxury hotels that killed 253 people and injured nearly 500 others. President Sirisena said a

friendly neighbour provided additional information but senior officials did not share the intelligence with him. Prime Minister Ranil Wickremesinghe also said

the he was not privy to the intelligence reports. Authorities earlier said they believed a little-known local militant Islamist group known as National Tawheed Jamath (NTJ) was behind the

attack. However, the NTJ has not claimed responsibility for the attacks, Sri Lanka's worst. The Islamic State terror group said it had carried out the attacks, and released video of men it says were the bombers. The security have been conducting raids on radical Islamist groups and individuals with links to the bomb-

India-based photo journalist of Reuters given bail An India-based photo journalist of Reuters news

the National Assembly presi-

dent tried to incite a military

uprising against Venezuelan

sought refuge in the Chilean

embassy with his wife and daughter before moving to the

Spanish embassy.Lopez was

first arrested in 2014 and

accused of inciting violent

protests against the govern-

ment. He was handed a nearly

14-year sentence in 2015 and

then transferred to house arrest

Later that day, Lopez

President Nicolas Maduro.

nearly 500 others. The western coastal town He was later remanded

of Negombo was rocked by a suicide attack at the St Sebastian's Church, in which over 93 people were killed.

Maduro exhorts Venezuela military to fight 'coup plotter'

AFP CARACAS/ MADRID

Venezuelan President Nicolas Maduro on Thursday called on the armed forces to oppose "any coup plotter" after a military uprising in support of opposition leader Juan Guaido fizzled out, and subsequent street clashes left four protesters dead.

On Tuesday, Guaido who has been recognized by more than 50 countries as the crisis-wracked country's inter- supreme court ordered the reim president - urged the arrest of influential opposiarmed forces to rise up against tion figure Leopoldo Lopez the embattled leader small group heeded the call, but the movement failed to ignite the military leadership ratified their support for the government, and Maduro is standing his ground despite international pressure. "Yes, we are in combat keep morale high in this fight to disarm any traitor, any coup plotter," Maduro said Thursday at a televised event with the military high command, at which he was surrounded by soldiers.

General Vladimir Padrino said: "We've come to ratify our loyalty ... to the supreme commander of the armed forces, who is our only president, President Nicolas Maduro." The failed uprising

sparked two days of protests against the government in which four people were killed, including two teenagers who died of their injuries on Thursday

Meanwhile, Venezuela's e a dramatic annear who n ance alongside Guaido on Tuesday after he was freed from house arrest. Lopez has since taken refuge at the

crack ... that will end up break-Opposition lawmakers and family members announced ing the dam," said Lopez.

Thursday that two teenage Madrid said it would not protesters had succumbed to hand over Lopez to Venezuelan authorities, nor would it ask injuries sustained in the antihim to leave. Tensions in Yoifre Hernandez, 14, was Venezuela have soared since hit by gunfire during Guaido, who heads the nation-Wednesday's clashes in Caracas, while 16-year-old al legislature, invoked the constitution to declare himself acting president on January 23, Yosner Graterol suffered a gunshot wound during unrest in claiming Maduro's re-election the northern town of La last year was illegitimate. The country has suffered

Victoria on Tuesday, lawmakfive years of recession marked Jurubith Rausseo, 27, died by shortages of basic necessities Wednesday after being shot in as well as failing public services, including wate rnmen ectricity and

the streets until we achieve freedom for the Venezuelan people," Guaido told his supporters in Caracas on Wednesday. Pro-Maduro groups also marched through the capital on May Day. Padrino has described Guaido's moves as "child's play." The International Contact Group of 13 countries — including Britain, France, Germany and Maduro's ally Bolivia — announced a meeting in Costa Rica on Monday and Tuesday to discuss the latest flare-up in

in 2017 Madrid published the Venezuela's simmering crisis.



peak to its authorities.

by the Negombo magistrate

till May 15, police said.

Through a special motion



No one can be afraid — it is the hour to defend our right to peace," he said at a ceremony attended by 4,500 military personnel, according to the government. Defense Minister

Spanish embassy. The 48-year-old Lopez was a prominent opposition leader in 2014 when he was imprisoned after calling for protests

against Maduro. He was transferred to house arrest in 2017. In Washington, US President Donald Trump offered prayers at a White House service for "the people

of Venezuela in their righteous struggle for freedom." "The brutal repression of the Venezuelan people must end, and it must end soon," he warned.

Social Conflict said on Twitter. Another person was killed in the northern state of Aragua on Tuesday. Human rights organizations and health services reported that dozens of people

government protests.

ers and relatives said.

the head the non-go

were hurt on both Tuesday and lednesday. The government said more than 150 people were arrested on Tuesday.So far, 25 rebel soldiers have sought asylum at

the Brazilian embassy.Speaking from the Spanish ambassador's residence, Lopez said the small rebellion on Tuesday would eventually lead to the end of Maduro's "dictatorship." "It's a crack that will become a bigger

tal Venezuelan Observatory of transport.

On both Tuesday and Wednesday, security forces fired tear gas and rubber bullets at stone-throwing protesters. UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres warned Venezuela's authorities not to use deadly force against demonstrators, while the US and Russia accused each other of making the crisis worse, evoking their Cold War-era confrontations.

US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo and Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov are to discuss Venezuela when they meet in Finland next week, a US official said.

"We're going to remain in

SPAIN REFUSES TO HAND OVER OPP FIGURE

The Spanish government said Thursday it would not hand over Venezuelan opposition figure Leopoldo Lopez, who is wanted by authorities in Caracas but has taken refuge in Madrid's embassy in Caracas.

The government "does not envisage in any circumstances handing over Leopoldo Lopez to the Venezuelan authorities nor asking him to leave the ambassador's residence", the Spanish foreign ministry said in a statement.

Lopez emerged on Tuesday from two years of house arrest to join opposition leader Juan Guaido at a demonstration as

between the Spanish ambassador and Venezuela's Foreign Minister Jorge Arreaza.It said that Spain wanted to "find a solution as quickly as possible" but stressed that, under international law, diplomatic residences were inviolable.

Lopez's wife Lilian Tintori

claimed on Twitter on Wednesday that their house had been robbed and ransacked while they were away.In statements made at the Spanish ambassador's residence on Thursday, Lopez said that the attempted upris-

ing was "part of a process — it's a crack that will become a bigger crack... that will end up breaking the dam."

Lebanese foreign minister Gebran Bassil, left, receives his Spanish counterpart Josep Borrell, at the Lebanese foreign ministry in Beirut, Lebanon

Vietnamese woman held in Kim Jong Nam murder case freed

Kuala Lumpur (AFP): A Vietnamese woman who stood trial for the assassination of the North Korean leader's half-brother was freed from prison Friday, bringing down the final legal curtain on a dramatic and often bizarre two-year murder mystery. Kim Jong Nam, the estranged relative of Kim Jong Un and once seen as heir apparent to the North's leadership, died in agony after having his face smeared with a banned nerve agent as he waited at Kuala Lumpur airport in February, 2017.

The sensational killing made headlines around the world, and sparked a furious diplomatic row as Seoul accused Pyongyang of an elaborate plot to murder a figure who had spent years in exile and been critical of his family's rule.

Doan Thi Huong from Vietnam and Indonesian Siti Aisyah were arrested after being spotted on CCTV approaching Kim but always denied murder. The women insisted they were tricked into carrying out the hit by North Korean agents who said it was a reality TV show prank and fled Malaysia after the killing.



released.

She was expected to head to

an immigration office in admin-

istrative capital Putrajaya to sort

out documentation, before flying

ly to ever be punished.

AFP. Journalists waiting outside March prosecutors dropped the murder charge against Aisyah the jail saw a van and a car with after diplomatic pressure and she tinted windows race past, and a court official at the scene also flew home. confirmed Huong had been Then last month they with-

drew murder charges against Huong, who pleaded guilty to a reduced count of "causing injury" and was told she would be released in May at the end of her sentence.

More than two years after her arrest, the 30-year-old former hair salon worker was freed from prison outside the Malaysian capital at about 7:20 am (2320 GMT Thursday), her They went on trial, but in lawyer Hisyam Teh Poh Teik told

Indian-origin man found guilty of bribing doctors to prescribe opioids

pharmaceutical major has become the first top executive of a drugmaker to be convicted of bribing doctors in America to prescribe addictive painkillers, fuelling a national opioid crisis which has claimed the lives of tens of thousands of people over two decades. John Nath Kapoor, the founder of Insys Therapeutics pharma ceutical company based in Arizona state's Chandler city, was found guilty of crim-inal conspiracy by a jury in Boston, Washington-based

National Public Radio reported. Kapoor, a onetime billionaire, was convicted on Wednesday along with four other former

to Vietnam in the evening. "She's very happy," Hisyam said. "She's executives of the company. They face up to 20 years in definitely looking forward to going home." While there is prison. Kapoor and his co-defendants were accused by the federrelief for the women, no one else al government of running a is in custody over the murder and nationwide bribery scheme. those behind the plot are unlike-India-born Kapoor founded Insys Therapeutics in 1990. Between

New York (PTI): A 76-year-old Indian-origin head of a US 2012 and 2015, Insys allegedly paid doctors to prescribe its potent opioid medication and then lied to insurance companies to ensure that the expensive fentanyl-based painkiller would be covered,

the report said. The prosecutors claimed that doctors, who were bribed, often precribed Subsys approved in 2012 by the US Food and Drug Administration only for

use in treating severe cancer - to patients even without cancer. This practice increased the sales for Kapoor's firm.Kapoor is among the highest-ranking pharmaceutical executives to face trial amidst a national opioid epidemic. He was arrested on the same day US President Donald Trump in 2017 declared the opioid crisis a national public health emergency that has caused tens of thousands of overdose deaths annually.



Britain's newly appointed Secretary of State for Defence Penny Mordaunt, foreground centre, and Prince William, Duke o Cambridge, behind, leave after attending a service to recognise fifty years of continuous deterrent at sea, at Westminster Abbey in London, Friday, May 3, 2019. Royalty, politicians and military chiefs are gathering at Westminster Abbey to mark half a century of Britain's sea-borne nuclear arms program _ though organizers insist they are not thanking God for atomic weapons.



GALLERIA 45 MINUTES

αιι τηατ υαζζ This cruise line rivals Broadway and London's West End combined with 134 shows, 50 theatres

n a non-descript building in North Miami, two dozen dancers in bouncing yellow skirts are high kicking the can-can, aerialists are spinning perilously high from silk cords and frantic seamstresses are hemming outfits in a 20,000 square-foot costume shop. They are all part of a company that puts on more live productions a year than Broadway and London's West End combined.

Royal Caribbean International's cruise line directs 134 shows in 50 theatres on 26 ships around the world, including seven Broadwayoriginating shows, eight aqua shows, 18 ice shows and dozens of original musicals

"We have a nightly audience of about 100,000. It is by scale a very, very large operation. Probably under one roof, the biggest in the world," said Nick Weir, senior vice president of entertainment. "At any one time, there's 1,500 to 1,800 cast members employed to make this all come to life

It takes two to four weeks for an army of dancers, singers and aerialists to learn a show before they're dispatched to ports as far away as Australia and China.

On a recent afternoon, dancers roamed the halls in crop tops and buns. One stretched into a wide split on the floor. There are 14 dance studios, 15 rehearsal rooms, a recording studio, gymnasiums and auditorium. Exercise equipment lines some hallways. Nearby are living accommodations for 470 of the performers

Often dismissed in the past as second-tier, cruise entertainment has evolved to a genre that Royal Caribbean says commands some of the best talent and technology around.

Several of the main characters in Mama Mia are from the Broadway version of the show. While New York theatre has struggled to turn profits with its small, intimate venues, fickle crowds and finite real estate, the cruise industry's onboard audience is growing exponentially.

Royal Caribbean is building five ships in the coming years, each with a custom-built theatre with sophisticated stages and high-tech effects. A few years ago, they built a small plane with a 22-foot wingspan that now flies over the audience in every production of *FLIGHT: Dare to Dream*.



Graham, who was the resident choreographer for Billy Elliot on Broadway before coming to the cruise line to choreograph Hairspray

Roughly 3,000 hopefulls showed up to recent auditions for Hairspray New York and London. Weir said the casting operation

is massive, culling talent from 75 cities a year auditioning nearly 25,000 performers last year alone. "At my audition, there were

hundreds of girls ... it's very competitive. There are so many people who want to be doing this," said Taryn Borman, a 21-year-old Australian dancer, who's performing on a ship for the first time in a new show with aerialists and contortionists. She'll head to Asia with the cast in a few

Singer and dancer Oli Reynolds, 26, wrapped up a starring role in London's West End production of Mama Mia and came back to Roval Caribbean where he's reprising the same role.

put the focus on the performing, it was more about the destinations," said Reynolds, who stressed that's changed. "People come from Cirque du Soleil, they come from Vegas, they come from London, they come from Broadway and it is a progression in my career for me?

John Kenrick, a musical theatre historian and adjunct professor at New York University, says the evolution was inevitable as more sophisticated cruise audiences accustomed to seeing shows in spots like Vegas and Atlantic City are demanding better entertainment.

"It's certainly upped the game. (Cruise theatre) used to be a little better perhaps than summer stock just with better costumes," said Kenrick, adding "it's definitely improved. I can't say it's Broadway."

Each performance on every ship worldwide is rehearsed at the roughly 1,33,000 sq ft facility where alive with the alls are literal



hall, six singers are harmonizing a a seamstress works on a gold glitter number from Once Upon a Time. In costume competes with the hiss of a recording studio next door, the a steam iron. One of the head rate with what sounds. walls reve like theme music from an adventure movie

seamstresses i busy com white sequin ballroom dress, with flowing feathers and a rhinestonestudded bodice. The cruise line makes its own costumes and must



coordinate fittings for dozens of shows.

The cast on each ship performs not one, but three shows a Broadway musical like Hairspray or Grease, a ballroom style show and a pop show. The shows are upbeat and family-oriented and chosen to appeal to a wide audience - nothing too sexual or intellectual.

Scheduling all the rehearsals is more precise than the choreography. The new casts arrive, rehearse and depart to sea at a dizzying pace every few weeks. It takes exactly 26 days to train a new cast to perform the musical Cats.

Typical theatre productions will rotate in new cast members periodically, but Royal Caribbean prefers to sign performers to roughly ninemonth contracts. They spend a few weeks learning three shows from scratch and then head to sea. When it's over, the cruise line casts a new set of performers and begins again.

Staging a show at sea has its own challenges and quirks. Performers need extra core strength to adapt to rough waves and pitching ships. If a costume is ripped, there's no one to run to the store.

There are also perks that even the most legendary theatres on land can't compete with - picturesque ports, free meals, room and board, the chance to interact with the audience and the sense of onboard community not found at other venues where performers simply go home each night.

You definitely become more of a family," said Mya Carpenter, a 22year-old dancer who performed in Paris before joining Roya Caribbean. "You come to know people inside and out. They're friends for life."

EACH SHIP PERFORMS NOT **ONE, BUT THREE** SHOWS — A **BROADWAY MUSICAL LIKE** HAIRSPRAY OR GREASE, A BALLROOM STYLE SHOW AND A POP SHOW. THESE ARE UPBEAT AND **FAMILY-ORIENTED** AND CHOSEN TO APPEAL TO A WIDE AUDIENCE

THE CAST ON

"The stages that they have on

the ships, the technology is far better than it ever was on a Broadway stage, even 10 years ago," said Greg

"I think there's still a stigma about cruise ship performing ... historically, a lot of cruise lines didn't

sounds of music. In one room, dancers with

black top hats are perfecting choreography to All That Jazz. Across the the hum of a sewing machine where

CELEB TALK 30 MINUTES

At the massive costume shop,

Wearing it like armour An obvious choice

weeks.

Game of Thrones is not just breaking the social media but also world records

exceeded the global premiere

demand of every other TV series for any season across all

platforms and markets under

measurement, as per the

Parrot Analytics, a TV

reports.



 the global demand for
 the premiere of the eighth and final season of Game of Thrones exceeded the global premiere demand of every other TV series — setting a new Guinness World Record.

The last season premiered internationally on April 14.

The global demand on the day of the premiere Records to chart the demand

and declare it officially -'Most in-demand' TV premiere.

The Parrot methodology claims to use global, real-time and platform-agnostic TV demand measurements. Guinness and Parrot charted worldwide demand for all series premieres from April 2015 to the day of *Game of Thrones season eight* premiere to determine the measurement.

'The fantasy series amassed a per capita global audience demand of 25.46 on the premiere day. Compared to its per capita global demand of 24.74 on the day of its season seven premiere, the latest and final season has premiered 2.9 per cent higher globally. Premiere day demand has been particularstrong in the US, United Kingdom and France," said Samuel Stadler, Vice President marketing, Parrot Analytics.

Ćraig Glenday, editor-inchief at Guinness, said, "GoT looks like it's going to continue breaking records right up to the final, undoubtedly devastating episode."

a mission to protect a person. The film, sequel to the global hit *The Dog's Purpose*, is direct-ed by two times Emmay award-winning director Gail *Game of Thrones*, based on George R.R. Martin's novels, is about the quest to claim the Iron Throne. But it also stands for complicated political gambits, scheming and the backstabbing nature of people and finding love in troubled

content analytics firm specialtimes. The final season will ising in global audience demand measurement, partwrap up on May 19. It is aired in India on Star World. nered with Guinness World

-IANS

Some friendships transcend lifetimes.



Based on the eponymous novel by W. Bruce Cameron, A. Dog's

Journey is about a dog being on

Producer Gavin Polone

feels that since the film

involved protecting a young

girl it was most appropriate to

have a female director for the

film. Polone says, "The first

Mancuso.

'The film A Dog's

dog being on a

Journey is about a

mission to protect

a person. Since it

involved protecting

a young girl, it was

appropriate to have

Gail Mancuso as

its director'

film was about our dog going from person to person to get back to Ethan. But with this film, our dog is on a mission to protect one per-son: a girl who becomes a woman. Of course, the dynamics of issues with young girls and their mothers is a differ-

ent perspective." Since the makers of the film were, in particular, looking for a director with great deal of experience with comedy, Gail was an obvious choice. A women's perspective was key for the makers. Polan further adds, "I had worked with Gail Mancuso on *Gilmore Girls*, and there are things tonally and comedically that are reminiscent of that show with this movie"

An animal lover herself, director Gail says, "I loved the first film and when the opportunity was given to me to direct this one, it was a blessing. I have five dogs and truly love animals."

This heartwarming adventure of Bailey (dog) through multiple lives filled with love, friendship and devotion music and laughter is set to release in India on May 17 by Reliance Entertainment.

Don't understand the negativity around my citizenship: Akshay

ctor Akshay Kumar on Friday issued a statement regarding the controversy over his cit-Aizenship. He says he has never hidden or denied that he holds a Canadian passport and that he doesn't understand the unwarranted interest and negativity about it.

"I really don't understand the unwarranted interest and negativity about my citizenship. I have never hidden or denied that I hold a Canadian passport. It is also equally true that I have not visited Canada in

the last seven years," Akshay tweeted. "I work in India, and pay all my taxes in India. While all these years, I have never needed to prove my love for India to anyone, I find it disappointing that my citizenship issue is constantly dragged into needless controversy, a matter that is personal, legal, non-political, and of no consequence to others," he added in the statement.

He concluded by saying, "Lastly, I would like to continue contributing in my small way to the causes that I believe in and make India stronger and stronger."

His absence from the polling booth made netizens think that it was due to his alleged Canadian citizenship.

In 2017, Akshay had said that he has been bestowed with an honorary citizenship by the Canadian Government, and hence, he carries the Canadian citizenship.

Akshay, who recently grabbed headlines for his "non-political" interview with Prime Minister Narendra Modi, was widely trolled for not casting his vote this year.

year. "Chaliye, chaliye (let's go, let's go)" is how Akshay responded when at a spe-cial screening of the film *Blank*, a mediaperson asked him about giving voting a miss. He then walked away. The actor has featured in many films like *Kesari*, *Baby*, *Holiday - A Soldier Is Never Off Duty* and *Airlift*, with patriotism as a theme patriotism as a theme.

—IANS



LUCKNOW | SATURDAY | MAY 4, 2019

vivacity {48 hours} 14

BHUMI PEDNEKAR

Nowadays, there is space for every type of actor. Today. we are doing very good work and there is no scope for unhealthy competition. We all are supporting each others' work and want that our films should do well and get appreciation. All my colleagues are competent and brilliant so. I get inspired when I look at their work.

HORT S

ADNAN SAMI Whatever I am today and whatever I will be, it will be all because of her (singer Asha Bhonsle). I cannot thank her enough for supporting me during the tough phase of my career. I want to thank her for giving me a roof during my struggle as it is all because of her blessings it is where I have reached today.

VERVE 45 MINUTES

ANANYA PANDAY My father didn't give me any

advice before my Bollywood venture because he knows that his time was really different as compared to mine. So he thinks that I cannot apply the things which he applied during his acting stint. But I have learnt a lot from his behaviour. He never changed because of his successes and failures, I want to be like that



SANYA MALHOTRA

I like dressing up. At the same time, I know that I can't be perfect all the time. Actors don't have to be conscious all the time or up their game when it comes to fashion. I am a very lazy and a moody person. I'll only dress up if I'm in a mood. If not, I don't care if people iudge me on social media. Everyone has an opinion. You can choose to not listen

NICOLE KIDMAN

The greatest thing our family priest told us in our marriage was, 'Always kiss hello and goodbye.' It just keeps you connected. And when I got divorced, Hugh (Jackman) and Deb (Deborra-Lee Furness) were so much a part of my healing. They were some of my best friends through that period.



Years after the Formula 1 failed at the Indian racing circuits, car racers **ARMAAN EBRAHIM and** ADITYA PATEL announce the X1 League, which will bring the thrill back to the tracks. CHAHAK MITTAL discovers the key moves made to

implement the plan **GETS A**

so hard that I could hear it above

the din of the cars that were

screeching past. But before I could

uper cars, classic sports cars, motors, single-seater racing cars, immeasurable race tracks — I had only witnessed them in dreams or while scrolling through my social media feed, until today. Even before I entered inside the main campus of the Buddh International Circuit at Greater Noida-Yamuna Expressway, the whizz of the racing cars as they ran through the tracks was audible. As I stepped into Pit 5 to attend the X1 Racing League Summit, the tracks were what immediately caught my attention. But the best was vet to be for we could experience life in the fast lane in a racing car alongside the driver. Even from far, I could hear the whizz of the car which made my spine tingle. The speed

change my mind (not that I had any intention to), we took off! The first few moments were the scariest but so was the thrill which was out of this world. All I could imagine was a huge audience cheering for us and the checkedwhite and black waving flag to announce that we had cleared the finish line in record time. The lap ended. Too soon, too fast. But it was certainly the experience of a lifetime. It was back from terra firma and to reality.

Indian car racers and young enthusiasts and aspirants lost their hopes of ever witnessing a Formula 1 Indian Grand Prix at the Buddh International Circuit after it was leved with financial problems

'LOOKING BACK, F1 WAS NOT INDIA-CENTRIC, HAD

NO CONNECTION WITH THE INDIAN PUBLIC, **NO GOVERNMENT BACKING OR INTERNATIONAL** SUPPORT. THESE HAVE BEEN KEPT IN MIND TO **KEEP THIS ONE**

COMPETITIVE'

Indian car racer Aditya Patel, at the Summit. Talking about what we

ments, more people becoming aware, involved, and interested as well as with more brand sponsors and investors, the racing industry has definitely evolved over the years.

The racing league, he said, would be the world's first professional franchise-based motorsport league, which will include a mix of track and street races. Racer Armaan Ebrahim, who is colaunching the racing league, said, "This will be a new face of car-racing in the country. India has never had a history of racing but this will initiate a legacy which will last for years to come. You learn from history." Looking back, he goes on to add, "F1 was not India-centric, had no connection with the Indian public, no government backing or

international support These

competitive?

been kept in mind to keep this one

which includes participation by 32 drivers including both national and

international, males and females,

had been worked to keep in focus

the factors which would "sustain in

India and be suitable for it. We have

gone in-depth to find such things

The league, he informed us,

will go on for 12 weekends, have 24

He added that the league,

race days and 40 races. "There was a need to revive this culture in India and encourage its interest in people in order that the the charm of this sport is not lost. It's an unconventional sport choice which not many opt for freely in this country. To encourage more participation, this was very important. We couldn't have relied on F1 to come back after years. The young talents and aspirants need proper training and exposure and a platform which is specific to India. Also, such an Is specific to findia. Also, such an initiative will bring people from the grassroot level," said Armaan. There are still a few training centres in India, he claimed, and they 'need to grow."

For someone who has been following the evolution of racing culture as a part of the circuit for 5 vears he said "It's heer

evolving. There are certain com-

panies who do host championships

on small scales. The only need now

is to take them to the next level

The rationale has been great since

India has had so many internation-

al car racers as well over the past

will be of 45 minutes, will take

place at the Buddh International

Circuit and the MMRT in

Well, the races, each of which

few years."

Chennai.



'Glad Nandita made a film on Manto'

Actor SHEKHAR SUMAN will soon essay the Urdu writer's role in a play

f Nandita had not made this film on Manto, probably he (would have) L died in the memories of people... A play, movie or a series is the best way to reintroduce these great figures back to the society," said actor Shekhar Suman who will be essaying the role of late Urdu writer Saadat Hasan Manto in Randhir Ranjan Roy's play *Ek Haan.* Manto, who died in 1955 at the age

of 43, penned an impressive body of work touching various genres. He churned out about 22 collections of stories comprising a novel, essays, personal sketches and movie scripts. His work also gained attention for weaving stories around the ordeal of partition as well as sexuality.

Actor Nawazuddin Siddiqui brought the character to life in Nandita Das' Manto, which follows the most tumultuous years in the life of the writer and those of India and Pakistan which Manto inhabited and chronicled

to digest." Shekhar also played role of poet and lyricist Sahir Ludhianvi for a play *Ek* Mulaqat alongside Deepti Naval who essayed the role of novelist-poet Amrita Pritam.

"I enjoyed playing Sahir saab thoroughly and have followed Manto's work closely. It would be interesting to play him on stage," said the actor, who will begin readings and rehearsals with Suchitra Krishnamoorthi later this week.

Suchitra will play a journalist in the play who navigates the life of the writer. he has started preparing for the role.

"My character of an Indian journalist visits him in Pakistan, just around the time of partition and through his stories, is trying to understand both the countries, the socio-political and emotional situation. She is also trying to understand herself through their conversation.

There is a lot of imagery from that era of how women dressed, how would people speak among a lot of other things. So while I have a few references in mind I would like to explore some more as we proceed with the rehearsals. We would also be speaking a lot of Urdu and I am going to work very hard on my dialogues get them right," said the actress.



thrilling But le ras equall me confess, that my legs trembled at the thought of sitting inside the mean machine ... yet I was extremely tempted to do so.

The next moment I was signing a declaration which said that the racing authorities wouldn't be responsible for any injury or death, if a mishap took place while I am on the track premises. As I sat in the car, with the harness strapped on and the helmet tightly fitted on my head, my heart was pounding including a tax dispute with the wrong and how it could have had government.

been encouraged after 2011-2013 However, all that is set to (the first Grand Prix in India), Patel said, "F1 indeed had a lot of probchange. The Summit saw the announcement of the X1 Racing lems and unfortunately, even the League that begins from October government did not back it 2019, the biggest feature of which enough. So they themselves weren't is, "that it is backed by government willing to come back. I feel that if and the Federation of Motor Sports the government would have sup-Club of India (FMSCI) assuring ported it financially, it would have certainly worked." long-term partnership rights for city-based 4W racing events and competitions in league format," said

However, he said that with growing technological advance-

STUDIO CHAT 30 MINUTES

Shekhar is glad that Nandita made the film

But he has not seen it. "I haven't seen Manto though, which in a way is good as I want to have my own interpretation of the play and not get influenced by anything that I have seen before." Talking about Manto, Shekhar said, "Everybody knows who Manto was and now we are making it simpler to understand who Manto was. An intense writer who presented the world during the time when the reality was so harsh

SOLO

Roy said "We will be in theatres in June this year." The production is by Panache Media, screenplay and direction is by Roy.

-IANS

ay the 4th is here to be with Myou, which means it's that you, which means it's that time of the year when you must leave everything aside to cel-ebrate the iconic space saga by George Lucas, *Star Wars* and embrace the force within you. While it all started in a galaxy, far away, we can celebrate Star Wars in a galaxy, which is not so far away. Jatin Varma, founder of Comic Con India suggests five different ways to celebrate the day.

Talk like Yoda with your col-leagues and friends the entire day

There can be no better way to celebrate the day than starting with the oldest, wisest and the most powerful Jedi from that universe. His peculiar language, Yodish is similar to English but in a disordered sentence structure where the object comes first followed by the subject and the verb instead of the usual subject-verb-object order used in English sentences. So, 'Yoda, talk like the entire day with friends/colleagues or throw a Star Wars-themed party and' 'Yodish language at the party interact in.

Invest in a Star Wars Lego Set and spend the day building it

Lego has introduced a new line of a 279-piece building set based on *Star Wars* to celebrate the classic saga's 20th anniversary this year. The set comes with three miniature figures of Anakin Skywalker, Luke Skywalker, and Padme Amidala.

The brand also has plenty of other building sets from the chronicle already on the shelves. So, invest in one and spend the day building your own model of Anakin

May the Fourth be with you Today is Star Wars day and here is a list of things fans could do to celebrate the saga created by George Lucas

6), The Force Awakens (Ep: 7), The last Jedi (Ep: 8) and The Rise of Skywalker (Ep: 9).

Save up for a once-in-a-life-time trip to the new Star Wars land at Disney World Your fandom for Star Wars

will not be complete if you don't visit the much-anticipated Disneyland's new Star Wars-themed Galaxy's Edge land, which will open on May 31. Imagine getting a chance to fly the Millennium Falcon, join the Resistance, build a custom lightsaber and design a droid. Start saving up for this a once-in-a-lifetime trip to Disney World in Orlando.

Prepare for the Revenge Of The Fifth (of May)

This unofficial fan holiday celebrated on May 5, the day after Star Wars Day marks the louder side of the film. Rhyming with the Star Wars: Episode III — Revenge of the Sith, this day covers the dark side of the force universe, with all things silly and funny, which is not neces-sarily a part of the original trilogy.

Lastly, the nostalgia will not be complete without remembering Late Carrie Fisher who portrayed the role of the popular self-rescuing Princess Leia and made her last appearance in Star Wars: The Last Iedi.

Another legend lost

the lovable Wookiee Chewbacca in the Star Wars galaxy of films, has died. He was 74. The actor died on Tuesday in his North Texas home with his family by his side. His official Twitter account shared the news on Thursday, as per the reports. Mayhew had undergone spinal surgery in July in an effort to

improve his mobility. The actor had done some minor acting — he played a minotaur in the Ray Harryhausen fantasy Sinbad and the Eye of the Tiger (1977) — and was working as a hospital orderly when he tried out for the part of Chewbacca. He got the role based on his physique, as writerdirector George Lucas was in des-perate need of someone who would be able to play taller than Darth Vader.

Lucas mourned the death of the actor, saying, "Peter was a wonderful man. He was the clos-

Peter Mayhew, who became known to fans worldwide as the lovable Wookiee and Lloarnad to the nature... and I learned to always let him win. He was a good friend and I'm saddened by his passing."

Star Wars veteran Mark Hamill tweeted, "He was the gentlest of giants. A big man with an even bigger heart who never failed to make me smile and a loyal friend who I loved dearly. I'm grateful for the memories we shared and I'm a better man for just having known him."

Harrison Ford, who played the Han Solo also expressed his condolences.

"Chewbacca was an important part of the success of the films we made together. He knew how important the fans of the franchise were to its continued success and he was devoted to them. I and millions of others will never forget Peter and what he gave us all. Rest easy, my dear friend," Ford said. Mayhew is survived by his wife Angie, and three children. —IANS

Do a Star Wars movie marathon

With all the events, Cosplay, merchandise, and other celebrations taking place everywhere, it's easy for them fans to miss out the crucial Skywalker's custom-built podracer. part of Star Wars Day, the movies. you in the movie marathon. Watch

The celebrations will not be complete without revisiting all the films that have made this series so beloved. And, make sure you get someone from your team, who has never watched the series before, join

all of them in the mentioned order: Prequel - The Phantom Menace (Ep: 1), Attack of the Clones (Ep: 2), *Revenge of the Sith (Ep: 3); Rogue One (Spin-Off); Sequel - A New Hope (Ep: 4), The Empire Strikes* Back (Ep: 5), Return of the Jedi (Ep:



sport 15



Arsenal's Alexandre Lacazette, center, controls the ball between Valencia's Gabriel, left, his teammate Mesut Ozil and Valencia's Cristiano Piccini, right, during the Europa League semifinal first leg match between Arsenal and

ADVANTAGE ARSENAL

Gunners overcome goal deficit to beat Valencia 3-1 in Europa League 1st leg semis

AFP LONDON

rsenal manager Unai Emery insisted his side's Europa League semi-final against Valencia is still "50-50"

despite the Gunners taking a 3-1 first leg lead to Spain. Valencia's bright start at the Emirates on Thursday was rewarded with Mouctar Diakhaby's away goal.

But Alexandre Lacazette quickly turned the game around with two goals in eight first-half minutes before Pierre-Emerick Aubameyang's late strike gave Arsenal a two-goal advantage to defend at the Mestalla on May 9.

However, Emery, who managed Valencia between 2008 and 2012, knows the tie is far from over due to Arsenal's terrible away record this season.

"It is a good result at home, but the second leg is going to be very difficult and maybe different. I consider for both teams it

is 50-50," said Emery.

Arsenal are desperate not just for silverware in Emery's first season but the guarantee of Champions League qualification for next season that winning the Europa League would bring. A run of three straight Premier League defeats has left

Emery's men needing more favours from Chelsea or Tottenham to stand any chance of Champions League qualification via a top-four Premier League finish.

The Gunners had conceded three times in all three of those defeats to Crystal Palace, Wolves and Leicester and the same defensive deficiencies cost them again early on.

Valencia had already missed a glorious chance to take the lead when Ezequiel Garay blazed over before Diakhaby forced the ball home at the back post for the vital away goal on 11 minutes. Emery has been reticent to

"WE CAN BE PROUD OF THE PLAYERS. IT IS NOT EASY TO **BE CALM AND COME BACK** WITH THAT RESULT AGAINST THIS TEAM."

EUROPA LEAGUE TO GO STRAIGHT TO THE CHAMPIONS LEAGUE BUT ALSO TO WIN A TROPHY."

"WE PLAYED AGAINST TWO STRIKERS THAT ARE VERY GOOD WHICH IS WHY THEY

PUNISH YOU." —Marcelino Garcia Toral start Lacazette and Aubameyang together up front, but the game turned on one moment of magic from Arsenal's two prolific strik-

Lacazette played in Aubameyang and the Gabon international left his marker and Valencia goalkeeper Neto on the ground before squaring for his strike partner to roll into an empty net.

Seven minutes later, Arsenal led as terrible defending allowed Lacazette a free header

from Granit Xhaka's cross and a weak hand from Neto could not prevent the ball **LEAGUE** 1-1 draw away at crossing the line.

"We had the game completely in control until their first goal," lamented Valencia coach Marcelino Garcia Toral. Lacazette missed two glorious

opportunities to complete his

hat-trick as he firstly failed to connect with an inch-perfect Aubameyang cross before Neto made a brilliant save at his near post to keep the Spanish side in the tie

At the other end Petr Cech also had to make a smart stop as he raced from his goal to deny substitute Kevin Gameiro.

The veteran stopper has announced he will retire at the end of the season

And Cech's final game could well be against his former club Chelsea in A next month's final as the Blues secured a Eintracht Frankfurt in the first leg of the other semi-final.

Arsenal still have work to do, but they moved much closer to booking their trip to Baku when Aubameyang turned home at the back post in the final minute.

'In no-man's land': Federer taking baby steps on clay return



AFP PARIS

 $R^{\rm oger\,Federer\,returns}$ to clay court tennis for the first time in three years at Madrid next week, admitting it feels like a journey into "no-man's land". The 37-year-old last tested his abil-

ity on European dirt at the Rome Masters in 2016, before opting to concentrate on the world's hard surfaces and grass courts which have yielded the majority of his 101 titles.

But with his career in its twilight, the Swiss has decided to re-enter a realm of tennis for so long dominated by rival Rafael Nadal — and Madrid seems the logical venue.

Federer has won two of his 11 clay titles in the Spanish capital where the high altitude helps him negate the traditionally pedestrian pace of the dusty surface.

"I'm very excited. It's a good challenge, a good test. Confidence, I don't know, it's in no-man's land. I have to start from scratch," said Federer after winning his most recent title in Miami.

His long-term aim this spring is Roland Garros where he was champion in 2009 and where he has been a fourtime runner-up in 2006, 2007, 2008 and 2011, losing on every occasion to Nadal. However, with 11-time French Open

winner Nadal in something of a claycourt slump, having been deposed as Barcelona

and Monte Carlo champion in recent weeks, Federer saw a glimmer of hope.

That shaft of light brightened when world number one Novak Djokovic exited Monte Carlo in the quarterfinals.

"Roger is still very hungry," Federer's coach Ivan Ljubicic told *Sky Sports Italia.* "And he has got used to playing on

clay again pretty quickly." Federer's last clay title was in Istanbul in 2015, the same year which saw his last Roland Garros appearance end with a quarter-final exit at the hands of close friend Stan Wawrinka.

Rome in 2016 witnessed the Swiss star's most recent competitive outing on clay, a straight sets loss to Dominic Thiem in the third round seemingly convincing him that his dirt court career was done.

"I'm not very confident going into this clay court season, I can tell you that - I don't even remember how to slide anymore," said Federer.

"You know, I'm taking baby steps at this point. To be honest, I didn't play one point — not one shot on clay last year. Two years ago I played two days.

"Three years ago I played not feeling great in Monaco and Rome and all that. So it's been so little that I really don't know what to expect." Despite his caution, his longtime rivals are wary of under-estimating the 20-time Grand Slam champion next week.

You will do special things in | SMITH, WARNER BACK **MBAPPE SLAPPED WITH 3 MATCH BAN** World Cup: Yuvraj to Hardik IN AUSSIE COLOURS PARIS: French World Cup winner Kylian Mbappe

ers. -Unai Emery

"WE WANT TO WIN THE

Alexandre Lacazette

COST THE MILLIONS THAT THEY DID. WITH THE SLIGHTEST ERROR THEY

PTI MUMBAI

Yuvraj Singh, hero of India's vic-torious campaign in the 2011 World Cup, is expecting "special performances" from all-rounder Hardik Pandya in the 2019 edition, beginning May 30.

Pandya is back to his best, at least with the bat, following testing times which saw him serve an interim suspension.

The 25-year-old has been in remarkable form this IPL and his Mumbai Indians teammate Yuvraj hopes that he extends his explosive run to the 50-over mega event.

"I was actually having this conversation with him (Hardik) yesterday where I told him that 'you have a great chance of performing real-ly well with the ball and bat', the kind of form he is in at the moment.

"Definitely, the way he is batting at the moment, it is phenomenal and I hope he carries that form (into the World Cup). He has been bowling well in patches but as I said it is all about how you handle the pressure," said Yuvraj.

Pandya has been in the form of his life and Yuvraj said that his 91 against the Kolkata Knight Riders was the best IPL innings he has seen.



"It is probably the best shape as a batsman to get in. I have been watching since the practice games, he was hitting the ball really well. I had told him it is going to be a special tournament for you, the way you are hitting the ball'," said the southpaw. 'Ôver the years, as an experienced player you know if someone

is hitting the ball well, he is in great shape. He got 91 from 34 balls against KKR, probably that is the best innings I have seen in the IPL ahead of the World Cup.

just because he hit four quality bowlers he was batting against. "When you are doing that, you know that someone is batting very well," added Yuvraj, who is known for hitting six sixes in the 2007 edition of WorldT20 in South Africa. The man of the tournament of

the 2011 World Cup also backed Virat Kohli-led India, hosts England and Australia to do well in the mega event

"My first two teams are England and India. Obviously with (David) Warner and (Steve) Smith coming back, Australia will be in contention. West Indies also looked a very power-packed side. You can't say much at this stage. I think it would be India and England first, third would be Australia. Fourth I don't know," said Yuvrai.

He also backed chinaman Kuldeep Yadav to do well in the World Cup.

"I don't asses T20 cricket (form) over 50 over (cricket). I think Kuldeep has been a fantastic bolwer for India and I'm sure he will bounce back quickly. He has been very effective against England, South Africa, Australia," said Yuvraj when asked whether Kuldeep's current form in the IPL was a concern

'Gambhir has no great records, just lot of attitude'

AFP BRISBANE

C teve Smith and David Warner Shave been welcomed back to the Australian team with "no tension", coach Justin Langer said on Friday, with the World Cup offering another opportunity for redemption.

The duo returned to the national side for a World Cup training camp on Friday in Brisbane after serving year-long bans for their part in the "sandpapergate" scandal in Cape Town.

"There is no tension," a smiling Langer told reporters. "They're back in the team now. They've been selected, which is brilliant."

The duo have enjoyed a solid comeback in IPL, with Warner in blistering form, top-ping the batting rankings with

692 runs from 12 innings. Langer acknowledged there would need to be some adjustments for the former team leaders, but said the team would be boosted by their experience.

"When you come from the titled position of captain then there is going to be a certain degree of humility that comes with that," he said.



"One of our really strong values is humility, so there will be great opportunity to develop

the selection dilemma Smith and Warner added to the top order, joining Aaron Finch, Usman Khawja and Shaun Marsh, made it ^{exciting} to have those five 100-makers at our disposal"

that.

Australia are the reigning World Cup champions and have been in recent red-hot form win-

ning eight one-day internationals on the trot, against India and Pakistan

in the past. While we celebrate that, it means nothing on how we play this (World Cup),"

use every tournament on the calendar to "make Australians proud of us again". "We must make the most of every opportunity that comes up, including this World Cup," he said.

was hanned for three matches on Friday following his sending-off for a reckless tackle during Paris Saint-Germain's French Cup final debacle against Rennes. The French football Federation (FFF) said they had also opened disciplinary proceedings against Mbappe's teammate Neymar for striking a Rennes fan following the shock defeat on penalties after extra time. Mbappe lunged with his studs into the knee of Rennes defender Damien Da Silva near the close of extra time on Sunday. Having already missed one game, Mbappe will miss Saturday's match against Nice and the trip to Angers the following week but will be available for the last two games of the season.

NABY KEITA OUT FOR THE SEASON

LIVERPOOL: Liverpool midfielder Naby Keita will miss the rest of the season with an adductor injury that is set to sideline the Guinea international for two months, manager Jurgen Klopp said on Friday. Keita limped off midway through the first half of Liverpool's 3-0 loss to Barcelona at the Camp Nou during Wednesday's Champions League semi-final first leg. "Bad news, a high-grade adductor injury with the tendon rupture so it keeps him out for at least two months," said Klopp of Keita, who will now miss Saturday's trip to Newcastle, as well as home games against Barcelona and Wolves --Liverpool's last match of the Premier League season. "Bad news for us and for Guinea with the Africa Cup of Nations coming up. Not nice," German boss Klopp added.

PRANNOY CRASHES OUT FROM NZ OPEN

AUCKLAND: H S Prannoy fought valiantly before losing to fifth seed Kanta Tsuneyama of Japan in the men's singles guarterfinal, drawing curtains on India's campaign at the New Zealand Open badminton tournament, here on Friday. Unseeded Prannoy squandered a one-game advantage before losing 21-17, 15-21, 14-21 to world number 11 Japanese shuttler in a marathon last-eight round match which lasted an hour and 13 minutes. The two shuttlers now enjoy a 1-1 head-to-head record against each other. Tsuneyama will play third seed and Jakarta Asian Games Gold medallist Jonathan Christie in the last-four round

PTI NEW DELHI

 $T^{
m hey\,have\,never\,shared\,a\,great}_{
m rapport\,\,on\,\,and\,\,off\mbox{-the-field}}$ and now former Pakistan captain Shahid Afridi has gone a step further terming former India opener Gautam Gambhir as someone with "no great records and just a lot of attitude".

In his just released autobiography 'Game Changer', Afridi launched a scathing attack on Gambhir, some of which termed out to be factually incorrect.

"Some rivalries were personal, some professional. First the curious case of Gambhir. Oh

problem. He who has no personality. He who is barely a character in the great scheme of cricket. He who has no great records just a lot of attitude," writes Afridi. Gambhir played 58 Tests, 147 ODIs and 37 T20 Internationals scoring more than 10,000 international runs across formats. Afridi played 398 ODIs for Pakistan with a lot of matches as opener but the average despite 8000 plus runs stand at less than 24 com-

pared to Gambhir close to 40. In Tests, Gambhir has an average of close to 42 compared to Afridi's 27 plus.

In fact, Gambhir was the top poor Gautam. He & his attitude scorer with 75 against Pakistan in

the 2007 World T20 final. He retired from all forms of cricket in December last year.

However that didn't stop Afridi from taking a sarcastic dig at Gambhir.

"Gambhir behaves like he's a cross between Don Bradman & James Bond. In Karachi, we call guvs like him saryal (grumpy). It's simple, I like happy, positive people. Doesn't matter if they are aggressive or competitive, but you have to be positive & Gambhir wasn't," he writes.

Afridi, who also reveals his real age in the book making him five years older than what the official records state, recollected the



infamous heated exchange with Gambhir during an Asia Cup game when they nearly came to blows.

"I remember the run-in with Gambhir during the 2007 Asia Cup, when he completed his single while running straight into me. The umpires had to finish it off or I would have. Clearly we had a frank bilateral discussion about each other's female relatives,' Afridi recalled the uncharitable verbal exchange.

Afridi featured in 27 Tests, 398 ODIs and 99 T20 Internationals. He retired from international cricket after the 2016 World T20 in India.

GHOSAL, JOSHNA ENTER ASIAN SEMIS

KUALA LUMPUR: India's Saurav Ghosal and Joshna Chinappa moved into the semifinals with convincing victories over their respective opponents in the Asian Squash Championship here on Friday. Ghosal's was the last match of the day and the Indian had hardly anything extra to take care as he disposed of Malaysia's sixth seed Mohd Nafizwan Adnan in straight games for an 11-4, 11-4, 11-3 win. Joshna on the other hand had a task in hand suppressing compatriot Tanvi Khanna before prevailing 12-10, 13-11, 11-7. Tanvi, who had made impressive strides in the championship and played with lots of motivation, continued in that vein against her senior. Unforced errors undid much of her spirited fight but it must be said to her credit. Tanvi stretched Joshna in the first two games before losing them over tie-break points. AGENCIES

Langer said.

He said the team needed to

The Aussie coach welcomed

"We have had great success



Shubman shines as KKR knock **Kings XI Punjab out of IPL**



Shubman Gill showed maturity beyond years as Kolkata Knight Riders knocked out Kings XI Punjab by seven wickets on Friday to stay afloat in the Indian Premier League.

Chasing a target of 184, the 19-year-old Gill showed his range on his 'home turf' with an attractive 65 not out off 49 balls balls, anchoring the chase after Chris Lynn (46 off 22 balls) set the pace with some big hits in the Powerplay overs. Not only did KKR reach the target in 18 overs but they also improved the net run-rate as they now have 12 points with a mustwin away game against Mumbai Indians left.

The opening duo added 62 in 6 overs before Lynn was dismissed havingh hit five fours and two sixes. Robin Uthappa (22, 14 ablls)

looked good but didn't stay long enough even as Gill, who hit five fours and two sixes carried on with minimum fuss. Andre Russell (24 off 14 balls)

hit a couple of sixes in the 50-run stand in only 4.2 overs to cut the chase short.

However Gill's batting was a treat for the eyes as he literally toyed with KXIP skipper Ravichandran Ashwin hitting ĥim for 18 runs in an over. There was a six over long on where he came down the track and another slog sweep behind square. The half-century came with a deft late cut which prompted his happy father to break into a bhangra.

In the end, skipper Dinesh Karthik (21 off 9 balls) finished the match with a flourish



Gayle (14 off 14 balls) and KL

Rahul (2 off 7 balls) in quick suc-

his big-hitting prowess, hitting

four sixes apart from three bound-

aries as he found an able partner in

out on a fifty as he was holed out

in the deep mid-wicket region try-

ing to hit a Nitish Rana half-track-

However Pooran again showed

Pooran was unlucky to miss

cession.

Agarwal.

Earlier, Youngsters Sam Curran and Nicholas Pooran displayed belligerence as Kings XI Punjab put on a respectable 183 for 6 against Kolkata Knight Riders after being pt into bat.

While West Indies' Pooran smashed 48 off 27 balls to give the innings initial impetus as he added 69 runs for the third wicket with Mayank Agarwal (36 off 26 balls), Englishman Curran walloped KKR bowlers to smash an unbeaten 55 off 24 balls to take the score past 180-run mark. For KKR, fast bowler Sandeep Warrier (2/31) er for six. was the most impressive as he removed the opening pair of Chris

Once Agarwal and later Mandeep Singh (25) got out, it seemed that KXIP will have to settle for less than 170 but Curran had other ideas as 32 runs came off the last two overs.

In the 19th over, Curran hit Andre Russell for a couple of boundaries, before launching into countrymate Harry Gurney, hitting him for 22 runs, which included three fours and a big six. In all, Curran hit seven fours and two sixes



Royals face DC to keep hopes alive

HEAD

HEAD

M 19

DC 8

RR 1

Live on Star Sports 1& 2

DC VS RR

NEW DELHI

SATURDAY 4:00 PM

washed away.

They need to win against

But a win against Delhi

With Steve Smith having

The departure of Smith,

team's bowling unit would be

pumped up after the leg-spin-

ner Shreyas Gopal's hat-trick in the rain-truncated match

PTI NEW DELHI

Their play-off berth sealed, Delhi Capitals will aim for a big win against Rajasthan Royals to enhance their chances for a second-place finish when the two teams clash in their final league match here on Saturday.

Delhi and hope for favourable results from other A big win on Saturday will not only will boost Delhi's morale after the 80remaining games to secure a play-off berth as the fourth run hammering at the hands team. of CSK but it could also promight just not be enough for Rajasthan as it will take them pel the side to the second position in the eight-team to 13 points, after their last

standings. Delhi are currently sitting game against Royal Challengers Bangalore was third with 16 points from 13 games, just behind Mumbai Indians (16 points) and table

toppers CSK (18 points). departed home for World Cup preparations, Ajinkya A win against Rajasthan will enhance Delhi's chances Rahane will return to capof featuring in Qualifier 1, taincy duties. Ashton Turner giving them two shots at the is expected to replace Smith May 12 final. in the playing eleven.

In the absence of Rabada, Delhi's bowling attack looked Jos Buttler and Ben Stokes miserable, but it is the shodhas weakened Rajasthan's dy performance of the batting batting, putting more responunit which would be a cause sibility on the shoulders of of concern for skipper Rahane, Sanju Samson and Shreyas Iyer. Liam Livingstone but the

The likes of Prithvi Shaw, Shikhar Dhawan, Rishabh Pant and Colin Ingram would like to forget the disastrous outing against CSK and come out afresh in

In the last encounter Delhi's last home game. between the two sides last Rajasthan, on the other month, it was Delhi Capitals hand, are mathematically still who came out on top in Jaipur by six wickets in a alive in the tournament with

against RCB.

11 points from 13 games. high-scoring affair.

Will work harder to earn Indian team spot: Samson

PTI NEW DELHI

Sanju Samson has always been considered as a bright prospect but he has not been able to break into the Indian team and the Kerala wicketkeeper batsman on Friday said instead of feeling frustrated he



To enter the Indian team you need to know how to make a comeback, you need to be strong enough and you only get strong when you fail. I failed a lot of times and now I am strong enough to play for India," he said.

Steve Smith has flown back to stralia to prepare for the Worl

CSA call back Rabada, to miss remainder of IPL



been a tremendous season for me with the Delhi Capitals, both on and off the field, and I truly believe that our team can win the trophy."

Proteas team manager Mohammed Moosajee said Rabada's ecall was precautionary based on his

work harder to earn a spot for himself.

Samson, who has played just one T20 International for India against Zimbabwe in 2015, has been one of consistent performers with the bat in this IPL with 337 runs from 11 games that included a century and a halfcentury.

Legends like Brian Lara have found it difficult to understand why a talented player like Samson has not even been considered in India's World Cup probables.

"It feels really great when legends like Lara talk highly of you. It boosts your confidence. I am very confident and happy the way I have been playing. But I am excitingly waiting for my opportunity to play for India," the Rajasthan Royals player said.

There is no point in getting frustrated. You can use it as a motivation and push more. It's not easy to get into the Indian team. You need to work hard and earn that spot."

Insisting that failure is the secret of success, Šamson said he has gone through many tough phases in his career which only made him a better, determined cricketer.

"If you talk about my career or anyone's career, there are definitely ups and downs. Going through such phases I feel is very lucky because when you go down then only you will know how to climb up.

"I am lucky that I have gone down many times in my career. I'm happy to have all these experiences.

Cup but Samson said his team has good bench strength.

"Definitely, it (Smith's departure) is a great loss. First Jos Buttler, Ben Stokes and now Smith but we knew this before the tournament. We have enough bench strength to cover the losses," Samson said.

The Royals are mathematically still in the play-off hunt with 11 points from 13 games but to progress any further they will first have to win against Delhi Capitals and then hope for favourable results from the other remaining league games.

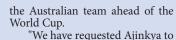
Rahane re-appointed RR captain following Smith's departure

NEW DELHI: Ajinkya Rahane was on Friday re-appointed captain of Rajasthan Royals following the

departure of Australian Steve Smith. Rahane returns to lead Royals for the game against Delhi Capitals on Saturday after Smith replaced him as captain in the middle of the season following the team's disappointing run which saw it lose six out of their first eight games.

However, there was a revival of fortunes of the side under Smith which led Royals to winning three out of the last four games, giving them a slender hope of making the

play-offs with a game to go.



take on the captaincy of the team; as a true Royal he has shown great courage and character in graciously accepting the responsibility, which accompanies this role, whilst it would have been easier for him to take a back seat and focus solely on his batting," said Zubin Bharucha, Head of Cricket at

Rajasthan Royals. 'A true team man and a true Royal, we are extremely fortunate to have characters like him playing this y-offs with a game to go. ______sport and even prouder he is part of Smith has returned home to join Rajasthan Royals franchise." *PTI*



PTI NEW DELHI

Injured Kagiso Rabada was on Friday ruled of the rest of the IPL after South Africa decided to call the pacer back as a precautionary measure ahead of the World Cup. Rabada had missed Delhi

Capitals' last match against Chennai Super Kings due to stiff back and his unavailability is a severe blow to Delhi Capitals, who are striving to win their maiden title.

According to a statement from the Delhi Capitals, Rabada, the current Purple Cap holder, has been advised to return home by CSA.

"It is indeed very hard for me to leave the Delhi Capitals at this stage of the tournament," said the 23year-old Rabada, who took 25 wickets from 12 matches that he played this season.

"But with the World Cup just a month away, a collective decision has been made for me in this regard. It's for the loss of Rabada quite well.'

history.

"Kagiso experienced stiffness in his lower back a few days ago and was taken for scans for further investigation. The scan results, combined with further assessment by our physiotherapist Craig Govender who is fortunately in Delhi, led the CSA medical committee to the decision to withdraw him from the remainder of the IPL," Moosajee said in a Cricket South Africa statement.

"Kagiso has a history with back injuries and the CSA medical team is taking the best measures to ensure he is fully fit for the ICC Men's Cricket World Cup next month. He will consult with a back specialist upon his return and proceed with a treatment and rehab programme."

Delhi Capitals' head coach Ricky Ponting termed the development as "unfortunate".

"It's unfortunate that Rabada is having to leave us at this stage of the tournament. But I have full confidence in our team and I'm sure each and every member of this unit will step up to the occasion," Ponting said. He is now banking on New Zealand pacer Trent Boult's experience in the upcoming play-offs.

"It's a massive loss obviously but it's a loss that we can cover. We have someone like Trent Boult, who is a world-class fast bowler. He had a terrific season for the Daredevils (erstwhile) last year. With him coming to the side now, we think we can cover

Match Atter

Sunrisers eye Play-off berth against RCB

PTI BENGALURU

stay in top-4.

against

Play-offs

es.

the super over.

Sunrisers Hyderabad Swould look to complete the unfinished business and seal their place in the IPL Play-offs when they clash with laggards Royal Challengers Bangalore, here on Saturday. The defeat against



Mumbai home with three balls to spare.

Kane

Mumbai Indians via Super Captain Williamson, all-rounder Over must be hurting but they need to shrug it off and Vijay Shankar and comeadd two points to take their back man Wriddhiman Saha tally to 14, good enough to will look to score in the key match. Despite their defeat

Hyderabad bowlers have Mumbai, performed well in patches Hyderabad's net run rate is and need to get their act +0.653, which is superior to together against Bangalore's others in contention for the master blasters AB de Villiers and Virat Kohli.

Even if Hyderabad lose The visitors boast of their last match, they can still multi-pronged attack in reach playoffs if Kolkata which Afghanistan's Rashid Knight Riders and Kings XI Khan has been the standout Punjab don't win more than performer. one of their last two match-

Sandeep Sharma, Khaleel Ahmed and experienced In the absence of their Bhuvneshwar Kumar, along batting mainstay David Warner, young Manish Pandey (71 off 47 balls) with the Afghan spin twins Rashid and Mohammed Nabi add sting to Hyderabad shouldered the responsibili-ty pretty well against Mumbai as he pushed the match into attack.

Bangalore will be playing for pride after their hopes of entering playoffs went up in But with just nine runs to smoke after their match against Rajasthan Royals was win in super over, Pandya and Kieron Pollard took abandoned due to rain.

We don't depend on few to take us over the line: Rohit

PTI MUMBAI

 N^{ot} depending on specific individuals and handling the pressure situations with aplomb has been key to Mumbai Indians' Play-off journey, an elated skipper Rohit Sharma said

Mumbai Indians sealed their place in the Play-offs with a Super Over win over Sunrisers Hyderabad. They still have a game in hand

"It's a good positive for us to qualify with one game to spare. In 2017, when we won the trophy, we qualified with two games in hand. As a team what take us over the line," he elabo-

we have done well is that we have handled the pressure situations well," said Rohit.

"A lot guys have put their hand up and taken the responsibility which is why we don't have anyone, barring Quinton (de Kock), in the top five (of the highet run scorers). It's not about one or two individuals.

"If you want to win the tournament everyone needs to do well. That's the hallmark of this team, whether it is (leggie) Rahul Chahar or Quinton. We don't believe in individuals to win the game on their own. We

want everyone to chip in and

SAMSUNG

left arm Krunal Pandya (2-22) trick in stopping SRH from winning the game.

"They understand the conditions really well. Vijay Shankar and Manish were batting and they kept varying the length. Their eight overs were probably the turning point. They bowled really well with a wet ball, which is not easy," he said.

Looking ahead, Sharma said the team's batting order was flex-ible from positions 3-7 which gives them the option to send big-hitters Hardik Pandya and Kieron Pollard higher.

"If you look at the whole tournament, they (Hardik and Pollard) have batted around the 14th or 15th overs and scored 70-80 runs the maximum number of times. Right from number 3-7 all our batsmen are flexible. They can bat anywhere at any given time which makes our job easier.

"And Pollard and Hardik we have that option. Polly has done it a few times — if you remember he had done that against (Kings XI) Punjab (batted at No 4 and made 83 off 31 balls). We will keep our options open.'

rated. Rohit said the eight overs of spin bowling done in tandem by

and Chahar (0 for 21) did the