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WANTED TO BE A MOTHER: PRIYANKA 14 VIVACITY

### HINDUJA BROTHERS TOP UK RICH LIST HAMILTON WINS SPANISH **GRAND PRIX**



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# 63% turnout in Ph-6; violence scars Bengal

and sporadic cases of EVM malfunctioning in several parts of the country, 63.48 per cent voters exercised their franchise in 59 parliamentary constituencies in six States and one Union Territory on Sunday. The highest voter turnout of 80 per cent was recorded in West Bengal, and the lowest of of 55 per cent in Uttar Pradesh.

According to the Election Commission, West Bengal recorded 80.35 per cent polling; Delhi 60.21 per cent, Haryana 65 per cent, Uttar Pradesh 55 per cent, Bihar 59.29 per cent, Jharkhand 64.50 per cent and Madhya Pradesh 61.36 per cent. Delhi and Haryana recorded significant decline in turnout this time around as compared to 2014. Delhi's had clocked 65 per cent polling in 2014 and Haryana 71 per cent. EC officials said that some

EVM-related glitches were reported from Uttar Pradesh and Delhi. Samajwadi Party (SP) chief Akhilesh Yadav filed a complaint about EVM malfunctioning in Azamgarh.

A BJP worker was killed in West Bengal's Jhargram district amid widespread violence in the sixth phase of polling which saw the saffron party's candidate from Ghatal and former IPS officer Bharati Ghosh seeking refuge inside a temple after being chased by Trinamool Congress supporters.

### **CAPSULE**

2 Let Terrorists Killed In Shopian Encounter Srinagar: Two Lashkar-e-

Tayyeba (LeT) terrorists were on Sunday killed in an encounter with security forces in Jammu 8 Kashmir's Shopian district, police said.

#### MAN HELD WITH SAFFRON WORTH ₹33 LAKH AT IGIA

New Delhi: A man has been arrested by the customs officials at IGIA in Delhi for allegedly trying to smuggle into the country 33 kg saffron. A detailed personal and baggage search of the passenger resulted in the recovery of 33 kg saffron worth ₹33 lakh, a statement issued on Sunday by the customs department said.

**CHEMICAL LEAK KILLS 3 WORKERS IN PALGHAR** Mumbai: Chemical leak at an industrial unit in Palghar

district resulted in the death of

three workers on Sunday **HOPEFUL OF WINNING ALL** 7 DELHI SEATS: SHEILA New Delhi: Delhi Congress chief Sheila Dikshit on Sunday evening exuded confidence that the "love and affection" of the people will translate into votes for her party's candidates and claimed that the grand old party

will win all the seven Lok Sabha

seats in the national Capital.



Locals argue with State Police officials during the sixth phase of Lok Sabha polls, in Medinipore district of West Bengal on

The trouble started when Bharati Ghosh tried to enter a polling booth in Keshpur. Following it, bombs were hurled and stones were pelted towards her convoy when she tried to visit another booth in Keshpur after receiving complaints of poll rigging.

One of her security guards

was injured and a vehicle of her convoy was damaged in the stone-pelting following which the security officers restored to lathicharge.

It was also alleged a Trinamool Congress worker was injured in the firing by the

Central force personnel who were with the BJP candidate who, however, denied the charge. The official said, "So far we have not received reports of any firing. We are looking into it. Our officials in the districts have been asked to send details of the incidents of attacks on Bharati Ghosh quickly."

The CEO also sought a report after Ghosh was seen videographing inside a polling booth at Pikurda in Keshpur.

Ghosh's vehicle was again blocked by locals when she tried to enter Keshpur market. The Bengal Police posted in the

area intervened and her vehicle was seized. "Her vehicle has no valid pass to move through the area on the polling day. We cannot allow her to move around like this. This is a matter of security," a Bengal Police officer said.

After the seizure, a large number of protesters gathered there and she took shelter inside a temple in Keshpur market area with her security officers guarding her.

The mob also pelted stones at policemen who resorted to lathicharge. Shop owners downed their shutters. Ghosh

police station to protect her from the wrath of the mob.

BJP's candidate and State party president Dilip Ghosh too faced protests from locals when he tried to visit a polling booth in his constituency, Medinipore.

Tamluk seat recorded the

highest voter turnout at 82.99 per cent, followed by Bishnupur (SC) at 81.90 per cent, Jhargram (ST) at 81.68 per cent, Ghatal at 80.350 per cent, Kanthi at 80.06 per cent, Purulia at 78.64 per cent, Medinipore at 78.17 per cent and Bankura at 75.68 per cent in West Bengal. The eight constituencies are spread across five districts.

BJP candidate from West Champaran Dr Sanjay Jaiswal too was attacked with sticks by unidentified people in Bettiah. Jaiswal suffered some serious injuries.

The sixth phase of polling will decide the fate of former Chief Ministers Akhilesh Yadav, Bhupinder Singh Hooda, Sheila Dikshit, Digvijay Singh, Union Agriculture Ministers Radha Mohan Singh, Harshvardhan, former Union Minister Ajay Maken, cricketer Gautam Gambhir, sufi singer Hans Raj Hans, former crick-

was then taken to the Keshpur eter Kirti Azad, boxer Vijender Singh, Rita Bahuguna Joshi, Manoj Tiwari, Virender Singh and others.

The elections in this phase are seen as a big test for the BJP which had won 45 of these 59 seats in 2014, with the Trinamool Congress bagging 8, the Congress two and the Samajwadi Party and the LJP one seat each.

In Uttar Pradesh, the BJP had won 13 of the 14 constituencies in 2014, the only exception being Azamgarh, won then by SP founder Mulayam Singh Yadav. Even though Delhi only sends seven MPs to the 545-seat Lok Sabha, it is considered a crucial indicator to who will form the Government at the Centre. It has been observed that since 1998, whichever party has got the higher number of seats in Delhi has also gone ahead to

win the overall general election. In 2014, all 7 seats were won by the BJP. However, the BJP had to face defeat in the bypolls in Phulpur and Gorakhpur constituencies last year. While, the anti-BJP alliance would like to retain its grip over both the seats, the saf-fron party is looking to wrest them from the Opposition.

Continued on Page 4

## Highest 80% polling in Bengal, lowest 55% in UP; EVM glitches reported A mid reports of large-scale A violence in West Bengal A west Bengal Battle 2019 Elections 5%, but 1st-timers, elders crowd booths



Lok Sabha elections in New Delhi on Sunday Ranjan Dimri I Pioneer

### Don't shed crocodile tears on Alwar: PM to Maya

Modi asks agonised BSP chief to withdraw support to Raj Cong Govt; Maya retorts PM politicising Dalit's rape

VIRENDRA NATH BHATT

**D**rime Minister Narendra PModi and Bahujan Samaj locked in a bitter war of words on Sunday as the PM tried to push the BSP chief in the corner for continuing to support the Rajasthan Congress Government despite gangrape of a Dalit woman in Alwar.

Addressing election meetings in Kushinagar and Deoria in eastern Uttar Pradesh, Modi said, "Please do not shed crocodile tears. If you are serious, why don't you withdraw support to the Congress Government in Rajasthan."

Mayawati hit back at the PM accusing him of trying to politicise the gangrape case and also hinted that she could withdraw support to the Congress Government in Rajasthan if strict action is not taken against the perpetrators. Mayawati alleged that the PM remained silent on alleged atrocities committed against Dalits in BJPgoverned States and suicide by a Dalit student in Central University Hyderabad while choosing to highlight only the Alwar incident.



Prime Minister Narendra Modi addresses an election campaign rally for the Lok Sabha polls in Deoria district on Sunday

"Why does he not take the moral responsibility for the attacks on Dalits in BJP-governed States and tender his resignation," she asked. The BSP, contesting the Lok Sabha polls in alliance with the Samajwadi Party, has been at loggerheads with the BJP in UP.

The Alwar gangrape incident, however, has also led Mayawati to target the





Government suppressed the matter of gangrape for their politics. They didn't let it come to fore till elections were over and even threatened the victim's family. Our party had to struggle given the very little action the Congress Government took in the case," said Mavawati.

The gruesome incident is



BSP chief Mayawati during an election campaign rally for the ongoing Lok Sabha polls at Nawanshahr on Sunday

about a Dalit woman — travelling with her husband being waylaid by five youths who then took turns to rape her in Alwar earlier last week. The incident was reportedly also recorded by the accused men. While the Rajasthan Government has assured that the guilty will be caught and punished as per law, the blame game among the political parties is on.

While addressing election rally in Kushinagar on Sunday, the PM hit out at the Congress Government over the Alwar incident and also shredded Mayawati over her comments condemning it. Pointing out that Mayawati is supporting the Congress Government led by Ashok Gehlot, the PM accused her of shedding crocodile tears.

### SHEKHAR SINGH/CHANDAN PRAKASH/GAYATHRI MANI

The national Capital witnessed a huge number of first-timers, elders differentlyabled, and transgenders exercising their franchise in the Lok Sabha elections on Sunday.

However, at 60.21 per cent, Delhi recorded about 5 per cent less polling in comparison to the last LS polls. But the figure may go up slightly as polling continued at several places way beyond the deadline.

"In 2014, it was around 65 per cent, but this time it might turn out to be around 61 per cent, which is a disappoint-ment," said Delhi Chief Electoral Officer Ranbir Singh.

Singh said the turnout was not as per the poll body's expectations considering the number of campaigns it had undertaken to draw the voters to polling booths.

including President Ram Nath Kovind, Vice President Venkaiah Naidu, UPA chairperson Sonia Gandhi and Congress president Rahul Gandhi were among those who voted in Delhi on Sunday. External Affairs Minister

Many prominent people,

Sushma Swaraj, Congress general secretary Privanka Gandhi Vadra, Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Keiriwal, former CM and Congress's North-East Delhi candidate Sheila Dikshit and Airtel managing director Sunil Bharti Mittal too cast their vote in Delhi.

Several students of Delhi Government schools voluntarily greeted voters at polling stations with rose and candies on the polling day with the city sizzling at 41 degrees Celsius.

Proving "age is just a number", several women in rural areas shun hookah to walk to polling booths in Delhi.

Continued on Page 4

### **Opp jeers at Modi for 'clouds** helped jets evade Pak radars'

CPM moves EC, alleges that PM revealed 'military operational details' to influence voters

PNS NEW DELHI

A massive controversy has erupted over Prime Minister Narendra Modi's remarks that clouds cover "helped" IAF planes evade Pakistani radars during the Balakot strikes, with some Opposition leaders terming the statement as "ridiculous and false".

The CPI(M) also moved the Election Commission alleging that Modi had revealed



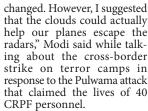
"operational details of a sensitive military mission" in a television interview with the purpose to influence voters. Rejecting the charge, senior

BJP leader and Union Minister Prakash Javadekar said, "PM Modi did not reveal anything (about the Balakot strike) he was not supposed to reveal."

In the TV interview on

Saturday, Modi said he used his "raw wisdom" to dispel doubts of Defence experts who wanted the air strike to be deferred due to bad weather.

The weather was not good on the day of air strike. There was a thought that crept in the minds of the experts that the day of strike should be



The Prime Minister comment drew widespread ridicule and condemnation from various quarters, including a large number of memes on social media. In response to a tweet by the BJP on Modi's comment, the Congress tweeted a couplet, "Jumla hi fekta raha paanch saal ki sarkar mein, Socha tha cloudy hai mausam, nahi aaunga radar mein. (He resorted to rhetoric during his five-year tenure hoping cloudy weather would keep him out of radar)." Continued on Page 4

### PNS/AGENCIES ■ HYDERABAD In a nail-biting finish in the IPL final on Sunday, Mumbai

Indians emerged as the fourth time champions with one-run win over Chennai Super Kings. After winning the toss, Mumbai Indians elected to bat and scored 149, a below-par score, for eight against Chennai Super Kings in the IPL final.

Kieron Pollard top-scored for the Mumbai side with his unbeaten 41-run knock while Opener Quinton de Kock scored 29. Lasith Malinga conceded seven runs in the final over to help Mumbai Indians lift the IPL trophy.

Chasing the target,
Chennai had a fine start with

Faf du Plessis charging from front but Mumbai Indians struck hard by removing Raina, Rayudu and Dhoni. Shane Watson was dropped thrice and that's where Mumbai

seemed to lose the plot but the batsman returned to pavilion after a runout. Chennai needed 2 runs in last ball of the match but Malinga's point-pre-cision yorker dismissed Shardul Thakur and swung the match in Mumbai's favour.

Earlier Chennai Super Kings skipper Mahendra Singh Dhoni became the most successful wicket-keeper in the history of IPL by taking his dismissals tally to 132, surpassing his India teammate Dinesh Karthik. Dhoni, who took two catches in the IPL final against Mumbai Indians, has now taken 94 catches and 38 stumpings. Karthik has 131 dismissals to his credit while Robin Uthappa has 90 scalps

behind the stumps.

Dhoni reached the milestone with a diving catch off Deepak Chahar to dismiss his opposite number Rohit



Mumbai Indians' Lasith Malinga is carried by teammates as they celebrate their win in the VIVO IPL T20 cricket final match between Mumbai Indians and Chennai Super Kings in Hyderabad on Sunday



### **SP, BSP & Cong looted** public resources: Yogi

itting out at opposition parties, Chief Minister LYogi Adityanath said that Samajwadi Party, Bahujan Samaj Party and Congress during their regimes did not work for the welfare of people and only preferred to earn riches for themselves by looting public resources.

"It is a fact that these leaders used the government money to refurbish their houses with ultra modern 'toti' (taps) and tiles in the bathrooms," Yogi said, reminding people how taps were found missing after Akhilesh Yadav vacated the government bungalow allotted to him.

On the contrary, the Bharatiya Janata Party government built houses for the poor under the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana, Yogi Adityanath said while addressing a series of rallies in Kushinagar, Ghosi and Gorakhpur.

Yogi said that Bua (Mayawati) and Babua (Akhilesh Yadav) never implemented people-oriented schemes and they worked on those projects or promoted those schemes which benefited them.

Without taking any name,
Adityanath said a broker was
already locked in jail. "In the same way, many other brokers will be behind the bars soon. Terrorists will also be eliminated from the country in the



mentality work for the welfare of the masses?" Yogi asked, and gave figures to prove how Prime Minister Narendra Modi and the BJP government in UP implemented projects for poor like providing houses to below poverty line (BPL) families, free electric connections and gas cylinders

He also spoke about reforms that the UP and Central governments had introduced in the farm sector, per annum to marginal farmers under Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Yojana.

Yogi also said his government gave recognition to Vantangiyas by giving their "How can leaders of such villages the status of revenue

because of Prime Minister Narendra Modi advocated sabka saath, sabka vikas," he

Yogi appealed to the people to reject those who play the 'politics" of caste and creed. We made sure to free 54,000 hectares from the land mafia who were nurtured during the tenures of the SP and the BSP. We took initiatives to construct schools, hospitals and cow shelters."

In his address in Kushinagar, Yogi reminded people about the national pride which had been restored by the Modi. "Now no one can dare to take 'panga' with India. Modi has sent a strict message to Pakistan through air strike that India carried out after Pulwama terror attack. The air strike was so intense that it brought gloom in Pakistan as well as in the offices of Congress, SP and BSP," he said. "I have come to you with

the appeal that a vote for BJP will be a vote for Modi," he said. In Gorakhpur, Yogi asked

people to vote for a strong and decisive government. Addressing rallies in favour of Bhojpuri star Ravi Kishan, he

said that in the bypoll, people did not come out to vote giving a wrong impression to SP and BSP that they could defeat BJP here. "Come out of your houses and vote for BJP in large number," he said.

Polling in Kushinagar and Gorakhpur will be held on









Clockwise from top left: Deputy Chief Minister Keshav Prasad Maurya and his wife Raj Kumari Devi Maurya show their finger marked with indelible ink after casting vote in Allahabad, an elderly woman is carried to a polling station in Prayagraj, voters show their voter identity card in Azamgarh and people wait in a queue to cast their vote in Sultanpur during the sixth phase of Lok Sabha elections on Sunday

### **BJP** will win **Azamgarh** seat: Pandey

Bharatiya Janata Party state Ppresident Mahendra Nath Pandey exuded confidence that his party would win the Azamgarh Lok Sabha seat this year, saying that Bhojpuri actor-singer Dinesh Lal Yadav alias Nirahua was all set to held in Sultanpur, Pratapgarh, dent Akhilesh Yadav.

In a statement issued here on Sunday, Pandey said that reports about polling in 14 constituencies that went to polls on Sunday were very encouraging for the BJP. He said the party would win all these seats, including Azamgarh. "This time 'lotus' will surely bloom in Azamgarh," he said.

In the 2014 Lok Sabha polls, SP founder Mulayam Singh Yadav had won election from Azamgarh, defeating BJP's Ramakant Yadav. This time Akhilesh is contesting

from this constituency. election in Uttar Pradesh was



Shravasti, Allahabad, Dumariyaganj, Basti, Sant Kabir Nagar, Lalganj, Azamgarh, Jaunpur, Machhlishahr and Bhadohi.

Pandey said that as the election was moving towards its end, they were sure that the BJP would win at least 74 seats this time and Narendra Modi would once again be the prime Minister of the country.

"It is now certain that the road to power in Delhi will once again pass through Uttar Pradesh," Pandey said in a written statement.

n this constituency. In the 2014 parliamentary Polling for the sixth phase election, the BJP and its allies had won 73 seats in UP.

### SP alleges irregularities by poll officials in Azamgarh

PNS LUCKNOW

Samajwadi Party has filed a complaint with the Election Commission against a polling official who, it alleged, cast votes on behalf of senior citizens in Mehanagar assembly segment of Azamgarh Lok

Sabha constituency.

SP president Akhilesh Yadav is in the fray from Azamgarh and is pitted against Bharatiya Janata Party candidate Dinesh Lal Yadav 'Nirahua' who is a Bhojpuri

A delegation of Samajwadi Party led by its chief spokesman Rajendra Chowdhary on Sunday met Chief Electoral Officer of Uttar Pradesh, L Venkatshwarlu, and submitted a memorandum demanding action against the presiding officer. The SP said that as per to Election Commission guidelines, in case of any difficulty, the family members of a senior citizen must assist him/her in casting

The Samajwadi Party demanded that the polling official in question be removed from the booth and a case be registered against him.

The Samajwadi Party also alleged that in Azamgarh, some presiding officers forcefully voted in favour of the BJP can-

The Election Commission has sought report from the district magistrate of Azamgarh over the allegation of Samajwadi Party about voters being denied their voting right at booth number 57 in Mehnagar assembly segment of Azamgarh Lok Śabha constituency during polling on

Sunday. presiding officer of the booth was himself casting votes in

place of voters. The SP leader alleged that electronic voting machines (EVMs) at a large number of polling booths were not working thus delaying the polling and forcing the voters to stand in queues at noon.

Chowdhary said the party had also received complaints of delays and other irregularities Allahabad and Dumariyaganj Lok Sabha constituencies. He said several party leaders and polling agents were detained by the police in Dumariyaganj and were not allowed to cast their votes.

### Mahagathbandhan's MBC card pays dividend in Purvanchal?

PNS LUCKNOW

A fter the sixth phase polling, the leaders of SP-BSP-RLD mahagathbandhan are elated as their campaign to put Congress and BJP in the same bracket by telling people that voting for 'panja' (Congress' hand election symbol) will be like voting for kamal (lotus election symbol of BJP) seems to have paid dividend in eastern UP.

The strident stand taken by leaders of mahagathba han has come as a surprise because it is believed that post Lok Sabha election, Congress, SP. BSP and RLD will have to come on one platform if they want to form a government. Despite this political compulsion, SP and BSP national presidents have started attacking Congress and BJP and this clearly shows that in Uttar Pradesh, the gathbandhan is treating Congress and BJP as

dushman number 1'. Why so? What made the gathbandhan leaders attack BJP and Congress? Is it because sub castes or MBCs that hold

the aces in eastern UP? The answer to this is yes.

The election in eastern UP will be decided by the sub-castes of dominant backward caste the Most Backward Classes. The MBCs are seeking separate identity and want to come out of the shadows of Yadavs and Kurmis who are the dominant castes in central and parts of eastern UP.

The ground reports suggest that sub-castes like Nishad, Bind, Mallah, Rajbhar and Kushwaha are now more bandhan than the BJP, whom they voted last time. The reason being that people believe that while Akhilesh Yadav had tried to give them reservation under Scheduled Caste category, but neither the BJP nor the Congress governments at the Centre ratified the state government's proposal.

"The small but significant backward castes who are struggling for their political space are now ready to unshackle themselves from the dominant castes and vote for the party that will ensure that their voices are heard at the national level. This time we have decided to vote for mahagathbandhan because preparties who took our votes but did little after that," said Rajesh Bind, a small-time trader in Ghazipur from where Union Minister Manoj Sinha is seeking re-election.

The social and caste matrix in eastern UP is very complex. The MBCs like Bind, Mallah (also called Nishad and Kewat), Kushwaha and Rajbhar are seeking separate political identity because they feel they are being dominated by castes like Yadavs and Kurmis.

The Bind make a living weaving reed mats, the Mallahs are boatmen and fishermen, the Kushwahas and Rajbhars are sharecroppers. President of Suheldev Bharatiya Samaj Party Om Prakash Rajbhar, who is also Cabinet rank minister in Yogi Adityanath government, claims that no Rajbhar, Nishad or Bind gets government job. Show me one SHO from these castes in Lucknow. You will find home guards, traffic policemen as Rajbhar. "Our share is being usurped by Yadavs and Kurmis," he said, adding that his party had severed alliance with BJP because

This feeling is prevalent all over eastern UP.

They say that members of the Nishad Party were out on the streets in December 2018 when the Prime Minister came to Ghazipur to address a rally. The protesters were demanding proportional representation for Nishads in education and government jobs. They clashed with the cops and allegedly killed a constable.

'No one listen said Dinesh Nishad, a local leader. "We are not asking for moon. Look. the Central government gave reservation to economically weaker sections among upper caste in 10 minutes but our plea has fallen on deaf ears," he said.

"We hope the mahagathbandhan will give us reprieve and therefore this time a large section of MBCs are voting for the alliance," he said.

Mayawati and Akhilesh Yadav were probably able to read the writing on the wall and therefore they started attacking Congress and BJP. Will this work, we will come to know only on May 23.

# प्रियदशी

Samajwadi Party president Akhilesh Yadav being presented a memento by his party workers during an election campaign rally in the ongoing Lok Sabha polls, in Mirzapur on Sunday

### Bhojpuri folk singer Hiralal Yadav dead

Varanasi (PTI): Padma Shri awardee Bhojpuri folk singer Hiralal Yadav died on Sunday at the age of 93. The veteran musician passed away after prolonged illness at his residence here in Chowkaghat.

Yadav, who was famously known as 'Birha Samrat', was undergoing treatment at a city hospital and was discharged on Saturday. He took his last breath this morning, said a family member. Yadav was awarded Padma Shri this year in January, and was also honoured with Yash Bharti award by the UP government in 2015.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi paid homage to Yadav. "Deeply saddened by the news of the demise of Padma Shri awardee Birha Samrat of Varanasi, Shri Hiralal Yadav. I had enquired about his health two days ago.'

### **Ravi Kishan to make biopic** on Modi in Bhojpuri

**PTI** ■ GORAKHPUR

Film actor and BJP's Gorakhpur Lok Sabha candidate Ravi Kishan on Sunday said he would make a biopic on Prime Minister Narendra Modi in Bhojpuri so that the speakers of that language could know more about the leader.

Kishan said he also plans to make Bhojpuri films on the lives of Swami Vivekanada and former premier late Atal Bihari Vajpayee.

"I have several projects in mind, including Modiji's biopic in Bhojpuri, so that people get to know more about him. Apart from this, I am also planning to make biopics of Swami Vivekananda and Atal Bihari Vajpayee," the Bhojpuri film star told PTI in an interview.

Regarding his career prospects in the film industry



after entering politics, Kishan said he would continue to work in cinema.

"I will not stop working as an actor and film maker. I plan to make a studio here in Gorakhpur after the elections. Both, social service and filmmaking will go hand in hand," Ravi Kishan said.

The actor said he was inspired by Modi's life story and wanted to share it with Bhojpuri-speaking people.

"I am very much inspired by the life of Modiji. In 2014, I heard Modiji speak about toilets. For the first time, I saw a prime minister with such an outlook. I was impressed," said the actor who joined the Bharatiya Janata Party in February 2017.

Kishan further said he would start working on these films once the general elections get over. He, however, made no comments about Modi's biopic 'PM Narendra Modi' which was to hit the screens on April 11 but the Election Commission ordered a ban on its release till May 19. The Supreme Court also refused to interfere with the Election Commission's order banning release of the biopic. The film is now slated for release on May 24, a day after the election results are announced

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PTI

### <u>he pioneer</u> LUCKNOW | MONDAY | MAY 13, 2019

### LMRC plans to reduce travel time

Managing director of Lucknow Metro Rail Corporation (LMRC) Kumar Keshav said that the signalling team from Bengaluru was in the state capital since they were running the train on the automatic train mode. He said that the team would be finetuning the small problems," he

He pointed out that they were in the process of reduc-ing the running time of the train from the CCS Airport to Munshipulia to 40 minutes. "We have already done it till 42.5 minutes and now we want to reduce it further to 40 minutes. This will all be done through the fine-tuning of the automatic train operations with the help of the signalling team," he pointed out.

He admitted that the passenger figures had come down during summers and now there were 49,000 passengers which were travelling daily on the North-South corridor. "The daily number of passengers has been impacted due to the hot weather when a few people are moving out, the schools and colleges have closed and some



of them have also moved out from the city for vacations," he added. He admitted that the stations which were bringing in the maximum passengers were Krishnanagar, Charbagh, Hazratganj and Munshipulia. "Munshipulia attracts a large number of passengers, Krishnanagar has up lately while Charbagh and Hazratganj attract the same number of passengers," he said. Regarding film shooting at the Lucknow Metro, he said that nobody had come forward for shooting presently. "We have given the indications to those who would like to shoot at the Lucknow Metro but none has come forward," he said.

Meanwhile, Keshav said that land acquisition processes had begun for the Kanpur and Agra Metros also. "We have approached the district administrations at Kanpur and Agra for land acquisition.For Kanpur we have already submitted the details about the pockets of land required to the district administration and in Agra we have met the senior officials of the administration, including the Commissioner

Officials said that the DPR envisaged two corridors for the

The first corridor which spreads from the IIT, Kanpur, to Naubasta covers 23.785 km with an elevated stretch of 15.164 km and an underground stretch of 8.621 km. The second corridor measuring 8.6 km from the Agriculture University to Barra-8 covers an elevated section of 4.19 km and an underground section of 4.41 km.

According to the DPR, the Kanpur Metro trains will run on a standard gauge track and will have a Peak Hour Peak Direction Traffic (PHPDT) of 16,800 passengers by 2021 for the 23.785 km long IIT, Kanpur, to Naubasta Corridor.

A total of 22 Metro stations

have been planned (14 elevated and 8 underground) for the IIT, Kanpur, to Naubasta Corridor while 9 stations have been proposed for the Agriculture University to Barra-8 corridor. Apart from this, it has also been proposed that the Kanpur Metro will have a parking provision at all stations and feeder bus services facility for its commuters besides public bicycle sharing and pedestrian facilities, he

He said the load had increased but they were already prepared for it. "However, when the load is increased and it shifts to the system, the weak points do get affected. Our job is to immediately attend to the faults. We have to carry out the work of electric-

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ LUCKNOW

The Lucknow Electricity ■ Supply Administration

(LESA) carried out an inspec-

tion in the city with an aim to

minimise the shutdown area.

LESA chief engineer Pramod

Kakkar said it was important in

view of the heat wave conditions prevailing in the state cap-

ital. He said they had given directions to the staff to not

shut down the feeders even as they repair low-tension lines. "When the feeders are shut down, 14-15 transformers are

automatically shut down,

which impacts electricity dis-

tribution. We have asked the

officials concerned to manage

at the transformer level itself

and not at the feeder level," he

had been increased so that the

work was not left for next

mornings in case of snags.

dling breakdowns at odd hours.

We have pressed into service

two gangs at each sub-station

one for the evenings and one

for the nights," he said.

The night gangs will be han-

Kakkar said night gangs



ity formatting and supply," he said. Kakkar said they had also ensured power arrangement for proper supply.

"At all the points where we

Heat effect: LESA to minimise

shutdown area in case of snags

thought more power would be required, we have made arrangements at the sub-stations. At the Sugamau sub-station which covers parts of Mushipulia and Chinhat, we removed a transformer of 5 MVA and replaced it with the one of 8 MVA. In Sarvodayanagar, there were three 8-MVA transformers and we converted them into 10-MVA transformers. Similarly, in Vikasnagar, there were one 5 MVA and three 10-MVA

Kakkar said that in case of 11-KV feeders, they made

MVA unit," he said.

transformers. We replaced the

5-MVA transformer with a 10-

bifurcation because when there was a problem, the supply to a large area was affected. "The work has been completed in 17 out of 26 feeders and the remaining eight will be looked into by May 15," he said.

He admitted that the demand of electricity had increased and currently, they had a demand of over 1,800 MW in the entire district.

On why the city was facing power woes despite so much preparations, Kakkar said there were no major problematic points except that transformers had conked off in some areas.

"We are trying to find out why the transformers went up in flames," he said. "We have asked the IEs to check all the transformers of 250 KV, 400 KV and 630 KV for overload,"

### Sub-inspector's son held for fleecing job-seekers



PIONEER NEWS SERVICE LUCKNOW

The son of a senior sub- I inspector was arrested from his house in Vibhuti Khand on Sunday morning on the charge of taking huge sum from job-seekers after promising them jobs in defence services and establishments like Intelligence Bureau (IB) and Research and Analysis Wing (RAW). The accused was identified as Harshvardhan Singh.

A complaint in this regard was lodged with Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP) Kalanidhi Naithani by the father of a victim, whose idenpending enquiry. The com-plaint was lodged a fortnight ago. The complainant alleged that the accused had taken Rs 5 lakh from him a year ago after assuring him a job for his son in Indian Navy.

He said he contacted Singh in March to ask about his promise and grew suspicious when Singh failed to give a convincing reply. He then sought help from his relative, who is working with the Indian

### Two auto-lifters land in police custody

wo auto-lifters landed in ■ police net near Yaseenganj crossing under Saadatganj police station on Sunday. They were identified as Mohammed Jafar (21) — who is a local resident - and Aslam (19), a native of Allahabad presently living near the house of Jafar.

Saadatganj police station incharge Mahesh Pal Singh received a message late on Saturday night that two persons had been seen moving towards Yaseenganj crossing on a stolen motorcycle (UP32 GD2190). A team led by senior sub-inspector Tauhid Ahmed stopped the suspects near the crossing and asked them to papers but as the duo got nervous and contradicted their away from Lucknow on the statements, they were taken to

Navy in New Delhi. He told the complainant that it was a false assurance and advised him to file a police complaint. The SSP took prompt action and asked the cyber cell to help in the investigation. The Vibhuti Khand police station incharge submitted a report on Saturday evening, stating that Harshvardhan Singh was run-

the police station. As the registration papers turned out to be fake, the police interrogated them further and they confessed to have stolen that bike and several others. Jafar told the police that they used to visit different localities disguised as salespersons giving utensils in place of used clothes. Jafar said they used to get a clear picture of the activities taking place in the localities. He said they confessed to have stolen 15 two-wheelers from different localities of the Old City in the past eight months and sold the same after making fake registration papers. Jafar said they used to keep the money at their hideout in Sitapur. A raid was conducted at the place but it show registration papers of the was not clear how much cash motorcycle. Jafar produced the was recovered from there. Jafar said he used to keep the cas

> ning a racket and fleecing gullible job-seekers. It also surfaced during investigation that Singh used to meet the job-seekers in army uniform or in a blazer with RAW's monogram. Interestingly, senior police officers were reluctant to comment on the issue and some even tried to shield the

advise of Aslam.

### Uncle-nephew duo killed in road mishap

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ LUCKNOW

A man and his nephew were killed after being knocked down by a speeding car near Subhash Rospital crossing on Faizabad Road on the intervening night of Saturday and Sunday. The victims were identified as Vinod (30) and his uncle Khushi Ram (45). The errant driver managed to speed off after hitting the bike the uncle-nephew duo were riding.

Lalit Kumar told the police that his younger brother was into catering business and had gone to a site in Malhaur Chinhat) on his motorcycle (UP32 HR6904) on Saturday night. He was accompanied by his uncle Khushi Ram. They were returning home after winding up the work around 2 am when the mishap occurred.
An identified car hit the

motorcycle from behind and both sustained injuries. They were rushed to Dr Ram Manohar Lohiya Hospital by the Dial-100 personnel with the help of locals and passersby. At the hospital, Khushi Ram was declared brought dead while Vinod was referred to KGMU Trauma Centre. However, he also succumbed to injuries during treatment. Police said a manhunt had launched for the errant driver and he would be

### Counting agents can apply three days prior to May 23

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ LUCKNOW

Those willing to be counting agents of the candidates in Lucknow and Mohanlalgani apply fill the application form and submit the same three days prior to the date of counting (May 23). A senior official of the district administration said they had to fill form 18 to

apply as counting agents.

The official said there would be 14 tables for each Vidhan Sabha constituency at Ramabai Sthal for counting and one counting agent at each table. He added that from the government's side, there would be a counting supervisor, an assistant and a fourth class employee each at every table.

There will be one microobserver at each table, which the nine Vidhan Sabha constituencies. There will be one assistant returning officer for each Vidhan Sabha constituency room at the counting venue and they will have three additional returning officers each for assistance," he explained.

He said that training of the officers would begin from May 16. "All the counting staff will be trained separately. The micro-observers will be trained by the observers," he said.

### Rain, thunderstorm likely today



People braving the heat wave on a scorching Sunday in Lucknow

The Met department has forecast rain and thundershowers in the city on Monday. On Sunday night too, there was a brief dust storm which brought some relief to the residents troubled by heat.

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ LUCKNOW

The state capital witnessed hot weather conditions in the afternoon as the maximum temperature settled at 41.2

degree Celsius on Sunday.

There is also prediction for dust storm and thunderstorm accompanied by lightning at isolated places in the state. In Uttar Pradesh, Allahabad remained the hottest at 44.8 degree Celsius, followed by Basti (44 degree Celsius).

Meanwhile, nutritional experts said juices extracted from seasonal fruits were the best to remain hydrated in view of the hot weather. "One can have watermelons and fresh fruit juices to keep the body cool and hydrated. One can also have cucumbers and lemonades besides tamarind water with spices and mint. Iced tea, milkshakes, raw mango juices can be refreshing too," an expert said.

She added that one could opt for light lunches consisting of pulses, rice, green vegetables and curd as they are light on the stomach.

### Lucknow has a rich diversity

of bats: BBAU professor PIONEER NEWS SERVICE LUCKNOW

The state capital has a rich diversity of bats which help to a large extent in controlling the pests and insects which feed on agricultural fields. Associate Professor, Zoology, BBAU, (Babasabeb Bhimzaka) Ambedkar University), V Elangovan, who is carrying out a research on these creatures in the state, said that the reason why there were several species of bats in Uttar Pradesh was because there were a large number of monuments here.

As many as 15 species of bats were identified from Uttar Pradesh out of which eight species are distributed in and around Lucknow. Fruit-eating such Rousettusleschenaulti,

Cynopterus sphinx and

Pteropusgiganteus are common in Lucknow. The insecteating bats such as Rhinopomahardwickii, Megadermalyra, Pipistrelluscoromandra, Scotophilusheathii, and Scotophiluskuhlii are common in and around Lucknow. The colonies of Indian flying fox (Pteropusgiganteus) are observed on tall trees such as mango, fig, eucalyptus, neem, etc. "In Lucknow these bats can be seen in, monuments such as the Bada Imambara and Residency. Monuments provide



undisturbed areas where there is very little human habitation and hence provide the space where these animals can breed." He said that these bats were harmless and eat pests which spoil agricultural farms. Currently I am working on a project on the same subject under the aegis of the Department of Science and Technology," he said.

The studies revealed that the highest distribution of bats was in eastern Uttar Pradesh, including Lucknow, due to the presence of a large number of old monuments, palaces, caves, deep wells and forests which harbour bats.

"These permanent structures give stable roosting sites to the bats. In general there was no major threat to the bats in the study area except sporadic observations at times. Another support is that a maximum number of bat colonies are located in old monuments which are governed by the Archaeological Survey of India, while a few more colonies are located in caves. Thus the state of Uttar Pradesh provides a range of suitable habitats for the distribution of both frugivorous and insectivorous bats.

He said that bats were the second largest mammalian order and next only to rodents. "About 1,240 species of bats are distributed throughout the world of which about 119 species are distributed in the Indian subcontinent. Bats utilise almost all the niches and make up a quarter of all known mammals on earth. Bats play vital roles like pollinators, seed dispersers and active agricul-tural pest controlling agents. Bats also maintain the ecological balance of insects. Every insectivorous bat feeds many

hundreds of insects in a night,"

### NALCCON-2019 to be held in city

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ LUCKNOW

ucknow has been chosen Lucknow has been chosen for organising NALC-CON-2019 (National Conference of the Indian Society of Lung Cancer) under the aegis of the UP Chapter of Indian Chest Society in King George's Medical University (KGMU) from December 14-15. 2019. December 14-15, 2019. Professor (Dr) Rajendra Prasad is the Chairman and Professor (Dr) Surya Kant, is

the conference secretary. Prof Surya Kant who is head of the Department of Respiratory Medicine, KGMU, while giving the scenario of India said that nearly 3 crore Indians have asthma. " Now out of these 3 crore (8-10 per cent) have severe asthma which means that they are not responding to treatment as per the guidelines. The other challenging scenario for India is that inhalation therapy is the best one but only 30 per cent of the Indians adopt it and 70 percent are still on the old therapy," he said. He said that the other issue was that out of the 30 per cent who are on inhalation therapy only nine per cent use inhalers regularly.

He said that in April this year the Global Initiative for Asthma (GINA) released the 2019 updates to the Pocket

Management and Prevention as well as an updated version of the Pocket Guide on 'Diagnosis and Management of Difficult-to-treat and Severe Asthma in adolescent and adult patients."

Prof Surya Kant, who is president of the National College of Chest Physicians (NCCP), India, said that the 2019 GINA strategy report represented the most significant change in asthma management in over 30 years. The key changes in GINA-2019 are first, that for safety, it no longer recommends starting treatment of asthma with short-acting beta2-agonist reliever inhalers on their own. Instead GINA recommends that all adults and adolescents with asthma should receive either symptom-driven (for mild asthma) or daily inhaled anti-inflammatory controller treatment, to reduce their risk of serious exacerbations and to control symptoms. Prof Surya Kant said that these new GINA recommendations represented the outcome of a 12-year-long campaign by it to obtain evidence for strategies to reduce the risk of serious asthmarelated exacerbations and death, including in patients with so-called mild asthma.



witnessed the felicitation of mothers. Little children gifted cards to their mothers and some families celebrated the day by eating out. 22-year-old Rohit said he bought a nice suit and cake for his mother and she was delighted. Youngsters also greeted their mothers with flowers and hand-made gifts. Sangeeta, a thirteen-year-old girl, said she baked a cake for her mother and prepared sandwiches for her for lunch. "It was exciting to make my mother sit back and enjoy herself even as I worked in the kitchen. It was my mother's day off," she said. Rajeev Chandra, a student, bought movie tickets for his parents so that they could enjoy themselves. "Mother's Day should be celebrated every day instead of just one day," he said. Pioneer









(Left to right) Voters taking selfies after casting their votes at a polling station in Prayagraj (Allahabad) on Sunday, people standing in a queue waiting for their turn to exercise their franchise; a girl carrying her grandmother after she cast her vote; and Sashastra Seema Bal jawans assist an elderly person at a polling station

### Phulpur's voting percentage rises to 50.86; turnout in Alld 50.73%

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ ALLAHABAD

The poll percentage in Phulpur went up to 50.86 while it remained 50.73 in Allahabad, a press release issued by the district election office at 7 pm said following reports from the booths.

Polling in both the parliamentary seats of Prayagraj — Phulpur and Allahabad by and large passed off peacefully on Sunday amidst scorching heat. Heat wave conditions prevented a good number of voters from reaching their respective polling booths during the sixth phase of polling. Poll percentage in the district was not encouraging, though efforts were made by the district administration and a good number of social organisations to educate the people and create awareness among them for casting their votes to elect a government of their choice.

It is generally believed that low polling percentage did not suit the BJP but this time here in Allahabad things were totally different. The BSP votebank did not participate in the voting with the needed enthusiasm because due to the alliance with the Samajwadi Party, both the ed constituency but Pankaj

seats of Prayagraj went to the SP. This difference between the SP and BSP was visible when Dimple Yadav and Jaya Bachchan had arrived here for a roadshow. This roadshow lacked the participation of the BSP, sources said.

The SP candidates from

Phulpur and Allahabad, Pandhari Yadav and Rajendra Singh Patel, respectively left no stone unturned but even then their victory seemed doubtful. The Congress has fielded Yogesh Shukla from Allahabad and Pankaj Niranjan of the Apna Dal (Krishna) from Phulpur. Yogesh till yesterday was a BJP activist and when he could not get the ticket he switched over his loyalty to Rahul Gandhi so he lacked the support of his party workers. Pankaj Niranjan is the son-inlaw of Dr Sone Lal Patel, founder of the Apna Dal, which was divided into two factions Anupriya (daughter of Sone Lal Patel) and Krishna (wife of Sone Lal Patel. Anupriya is a part of the NDA Government led by Narendra Modi and Krishna entered into an alliance with the Congress.

Phulpur is a Patel-dominat-

Niranjan is not at all being considered as a winning candidate. He will just prove himself to be vote 'katva', and may spoil the prospects of the BJP candidate, eshri Devi Patel.

Keshri Devi Patel of the BJP is a former Zila Panchayat chairperson and enjoys considerable support in Phulpur. Once she had lost the Lok Sabha election from Phulpur with a narrow margin against the muscleman and mafia don, Atiq Ahmad, who was the Samaiwadi Party candidate.

On the Allahabad seat the BJP candidate, Rita Bahuguna Joshi, enjoys the support of the BJP and the NDA partners besides a big chunk in the Congress. Rita, daughter of the former UP Chief Minister and Union Minister, Hemwati Nandal Bahuguna, is the former mayor of Allahabad and had been the state chief of the Congress besides being the national president of the Women's Congress so she enjoys the support of the Congress from different pockets.

#### **VOTING DELAYED**

The voting process in the six polling booths of the twin

Phulpur was delayed by 15 to 45 minutes from the scheduled time due to some technical snag in the electronic voting machines (EVMs). Amidst tight security arrangements the voting was scheduled to be held from 7 am to 6 pm in both the Allahabad and Phulpur parliamentary seats.

Assistant Returning Officer KK Upadhyay said that he had also received information that EVMs were out of order in many places on Sunday morning. The officials concerned had been directed to rectify the problem as soon as possible. He directed the officials to change the defective EVMs immediately. It may be pointed out here that polling started half an hour late at the Meja booth No 94 in Allahabad, Esauta of Karchhana and Salaiya Arts and Dev Ghat booths in Koraon due to the technical glitches in the EVMs. Polling started at 9 am due to the fault in the EVM in Chaparo village in Koraon. Similarly the voting process started 20 to 40 minutes late in Nayka Inter College of Jhunsi, Radharaman Inter College of Daraganj and IRT and other polling booths located in Dhoomanganj due to the same reason. Although all the polling booths witnessed peaceful voting but the atmosphere at pink booth and model polling stations was pleasant. Apart from security arrangements for decoration and water etc had been made in a proper manner here. The voters also looked happy here and they spent some time in the booth even after casting their votes, took selfies and got the pho-tographs clicked with their

inked fingers. At the pink booth 100 per cent polling staff was female. In the same manner almost half the staff consisted of women at the Adarsh polling station. With this the people who came to vote at these booths were highly overjoyed and comfortable as compared to those which lacked even the basic facilities. Women voters were especially given additional care here. After casting their votes, people were seen taking selfies enthusiastically at the selfie

#### TRIPATHI, SHUKLA **CAST THÉIR VOTES**

West Bengal Governor Pt Keshari Nath Tripathi and Congress candidate from Allahabad, Yogesh Shukla, also exercised their right of franchise at their respective polling booths here on Sunday.

Pt Keshari Nath Tripathi cast his vote at the GHS polling booth of Allahabad North constituency while Yogesh Shukla used his right of franchise at the Tisenpur polling booth of Meja region. Despite the sweltering heat people were seen ventur-ing out from their houses to cast their votes. Many VIPs used their right of franchise in Allahabad and Phulpur parliamentary constituencies. Amongst them West Bengal Governor Keshari Nath Tripathi, Uttar Pradesh Deputy Chief Minister Keshav Prasad Maurya, Cabinet Minister Sidharth Nath Singh, Nand Gopal Gupta Nandi, and Congress candidate from Allahabad, Yogesh Shukla, cast their votes and thereafter posed before cameramen with their inked fingers. Mammoth security arrangements had been made at the booths for the sixth phase of polling. However, the people did not face any kind of

inconvenience here. Meanwhile beating the searing heat the Muslims in large numbers ventured out

their right of franchise during the holy month of Ramzan at their respective polling booths on Sunday. According to them, casting their vote was a constitutional duty which could not be ignored as the month of Ramzan was a constant reminder about it. Determined not to give up their democra-tic duty on the polling day despite the sweltering heat and hot winds, Muslim families in the city were seen coming out in large numbers and reaching the polling booths immediately after *sehri*. A Muslim voter,

from their houses and used

the polling booth early and cast their votes so that she could be free from her duty before the mercury went up. Farida Akhtar, a resident of Dhoomanganj, had already explored her polling station in advance so that she could also reach there in time after sehri. 'All my family members reached the booth almost an hour in advance so that we

were the first ones to cast our

votes," she added. A teacher in

Huma Khan, from Badshahi Mandi area said that Ramzan taught us to fulfil our respon-

sibility. Hence she along with

her sister, Afroz Khan, reached

Kareli, Mohammad Faiz, said that elections were no less a festival than Ramzan.

On the other hand, a large number of Muslim clerics had also come to the polling booths to cast their votes. According to them, casting votes was as important for them as observing fast during Ramzan.

Pertaining to the Muslim voters, it is generally believed that their stand is always against the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) and to defeat it they could can vote for any other candidate. But the sce-nario at Manda's Bharatganj polling booth displayed a few other stories. A woman clad in 'burqa' who had came to vote here, openly showed both her hands which had lotus marks on it. Some called it a changing mood of Muslim voters while some people considered it a part of the political strategy. It may be pointed out here that the common Muslim voters are considered to be anti-BJP and anti-Modi-Yogi governments. But on the issue of instant 'teen talaq', the way Modi Government took the stand the attitude of Muslim women is believed to have changed drastically.

### **Students to mention Class 12** marks on LU admission portal

 $T^{he\ Lucknow\ University}_{authorities\ have\ asked\ stu-}$ dents who have appeared for the entrance examinations to put the details of their Class 12 marks on the admission portal. Admission coordinator Anil Mishra said the candidates who had appeared in the entrance test for BA, BA (Hons), LLB (Integrated), BCom, BCom (Hons), BSc (Biology), BSc (Mathematics),

Energy), BVA, BFA, Diploma courses in Fine Arts, UG Management and BEIEd programmes had to login and enter the details of their Class 12 marks on the LU admission portal latest by May 20.

"In case they miss the login details, they can regenerate their passwords by clicking on the 'forgot password' link and entering their respective registration numbers. The new login details will be sent to

NONFER NEWS SERVICE | LIICKNOW BCA BVoc (Renewable their registered mobile num bers," he said. He pointed out that this step was a necessary condition for the candidates to participate in the online offcampus counseling which is likely to start in the last week

> advised to keep visiting the admission pages of the LU website frequently regarding details and other updates as no personal information will be

of this month.

"The candidates are also sent to them," he added.

### **CITYBRIEFS**

#### **CISH COMMERCIALISING** HERBAL CHEW TECH

Central Institute of Subtropical Horticulture (CISH) is commercialising its herbal chew technology, an answer to paan masala or gutka which causes health problems. CISH director Shailendra Rajan said it was a Vitamin Cenriched aonla and dill-based formulation which helps in getting rid of bad breath naturally. "It improves the mood as well as digestion. Being rich in antioxidants, it eliminates free radicals from the body and has a vast array of remarkable

"Increasing consumption of paan masala is one of the major challenges for reducing cancer risk. In general, gutka addicts face difficulty in quitting tobacco products. They get

different symptoms like intense cravings, increased appetite, irritability and depressed mood after quitting tobacco. There was a need to provide an alternative for quitting chewing tobacco and use of paan masala. The product developed by CISH is an effective remedy in this sense," he explained. The product was developed by Neelima Garg in the Post-Harvest Technology division of CISH.

#### TECHNOLOGY DAY

National Technology Day celebrations will be organised at National Botanical Research Institute (NBRI) on Monday. Scientists said that NBRI would observe 'Open Day' and laboratories, Botanic Garden and Exposition would remain open for students and general public from 11 am to 4 pm.

#### MAHASAMAGAM



Actor Vivek Oberoi was in the state capital to attend the 'mahasamagam' of Acharya Manish. Addressing the gathering, he spoke on general health and diet issues. He said he keeps a fast once a week because the digestive system should be given rest. He said that is important to eat fresh fruits and vegetables.

#### **SCHOOLSCAN**

health benefits," he said.

#### **100 PERCENTILE**



Abhiyaansh Narain, a student of City Montessori School, Kanpur Road, secured 100 percentile in

the International Benchmark Test (IBT), organised under the aegis of Australian Council for Educational Research (ACER). CMS awarded a cash prize of Rs 50,000 to Abhiyaansh. Scores of students from India and abroad took the test in

which Abhiyaansh secured 100 percentile in Mathematics. Abhiyaansh was awarded a certificate for this achieve-

#### **CMS DELEGATION**

A 24-member delegation of City Montessori School, Kanpur Road, comprising 22 students and two teachers left for Bengaluru on an educational excursion on Sunday. The CMS students will get a firsthand experience of the picturesque locations and they will be visiting many places of



tourist interest like Tipu Sultan's Palace, ISKCON Temple, and Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO). This trip will be helpful in the intellectual and personality development of the students. The delegation will return to Lucknow on May 17.

### CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

63% TURNOUT IN...

In Madhya Pradesh, Rajgarh recorded the highest polling at 68.15 per cent, followed by Vidisha 65.31 per cent, Guna 64.80 per cent, Bhopal 60.95 per cent, Sagar 60.42 per cent, Gwalior 56.03 per cent, Morena 54.36 per cent and Bhind 50.82 per cent. In Bhopal, Congress veteran Digvijay Singh is locked in a battle with BJP candidate and 2008 Malegaon blast accused Sadhvi Pragya Singh Thakur. Digvijay Singh could not cast his vote as he is a registered voter of his hometown Raghogarh in Rajgarh Lok Sabha seat. Thakur exercised her franchise in the morning at a polling booth in Rivera Town area in the State capital. Congress general secretary Jyotiraditya Scindia, who is seeking re-election from Guna seat, cast his vote at a booth early in the morning in Gwalior. Sporadic violence, scuffles and allegations of vote rigging marked the sixth phase of the Lok Sabha elections in Uttar Pradesh in which polling was held on 14 seats. The highest turnout was in Ambedkar Nagar where 55.24 per cent polling was recorded. The lowest turnout of 46 per cent was in Phulpur. In Azamgrah, which is a SP stronghold, the contest is between Akhilesh Yadav and BJP's Dinesh Lal Yadav "Nirahua". In Jaunpur, violence was reported when a man was seen wiping his shoes with a BJP flag. BJP supporters beat up the man which led to clashes, and the police had to resort to lathicharge to disperse the mob. Polling was not affected during the incident.

In Sultanpur, tension prevailed throughout the day after BJP candidate Maneka Gandhi accused her BSP rival Sonu Singh of 'terrorising' voters. Sonu Singh, who came face to face with Maneka Gandhi at one point, said that he was being unnecessarily targeted by

the ruling BJP.

In Bhadohi, BJP MLA Dinanath Bhaskar allegedly beat up a presiding official in the Aurai Assembly segment after accusing the officer of deliberately slowing down the

polling process.

Jharkhand recorded 65.17

cent, Jamshedpur 66.44 per cent and Singhbhum or Chaibasa 67.79 per cent.

A voter turnout of 65 per cent was recorded in 10 Lok Sabha seats of Haryana with Kurukshetra and Hisar constituencies witnessing brisk polling. As per the constituency-wise break up, Kurukshetra from where Haryana Minister Nayab Singh Saini is pitted against Congress's Nirmal Singh

and INLD's Arjun Chautala, recorded poll percentage of 67.51 while Hisar recorded poll percentage of 68 per cent.

Sirsa, Karnal, Bhiwani-Mahendergarh, Sonipat, Rohtak, Gurgaon, Ambala and Faridabad registered polling percentage of 72, 56, 69, 68 68, 62, 66 and 58 per cent respec-

tively, as per poll officials. Indian Cricket team captain Virat Kohli was among early voters who exercised his franchise at a polling booth in Gurgaon. After exercising his franchise, he posted a picture of his inked finger on his Twitter handle. Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar was among the early voters in Karnal while former CM Bhupinder Singh Hooda of Congress, fighting from Sonipat, cast his vote in Kiloi in Rohtak district. The State Congress chief Ashok Tanwar exercised his franchise in Sirsa. JJP candidate and Hisar sitting MP Dushyant Chautala also cast his vote in Sirsa.

JJP leader Digvijay Chautala, candidate from Sonipat, alleged that at booths number 88, 89 and 90 in Jind district, his party symbol (a pair of slippers) was "not clearly visible on EVM machines".

#### OPP JEERS AT MODI... A number of Congress

leader also hit out at Modi over his remarks.

The Congress took a jibe and said Modi is an expert in planning 'escape' operations including that of Nirav Modi, Mehul Bhai and Vijay Mallya as they were never on his radar. Congress spokesperson Sanjay

per cent polling for four Lok Jha said, "Now (Finance Sabha constituencies on Minister Arun) Jaitley will Sunday. As per EC data, Giridih write a blog explaining the chemical metabolism resulting in a diabolical cloudburst that can conceal large aircraft's from being spotted by Tata Sky radars across the LoC."

Congress social media head Divya Spandana said, "We also have this amazing new and improvised 'radar' since 2014 to detect stupidity, lies, corruption, fudged data...How else do you think we detected a stealth one like you...Narendra Modi the radar to detect planes, cloud or no cloud has been there for decades. Even for the stealth ones. If not, other the country's planes would be crisscrossing the skies firing away at will... This is what happens when

you're stuck in the past." National Conference leader Omar Abdullah tweeted, "Pakistani radar doesn't penetrate clouds. This is an important piece of tactical information that will be critical when planning future air strikes."

Taking a swipe at Modi, he tweeted, "I was raked over the coals for questioning veracity of Balakot strikes. But seeing Pak media & journos troll PM on cloud gaffe is awfully embarrassing. BJP's ability to suspend logic in its quest to win another term is mind numbingly fatuous. Our armed forces don't deserve this." CPI(M leader Sitaram Yechury termed the remarks as "shameful" and moved the Election Commission, demanding action against Modi for violating the model code of conduct. Yechury said Modi's words are "truly shameful".

"Most importantly, because they insult our Air Force as being ignorant and unprofessional. The fact that he is talking about all this is itself antinational; no patriot would do this. National security is not something to be trifled with. Such an irresponsible statement from Modi is highly damaging. Somebody like this can't remain India's PM," he tweeted. "Modi's ridiculous comments on radars, clouds and fighter jets have been deservedly mocked but the EC needs to act against him for invoking

armed forces hours before the sixth phase of voting. Letter to EC asking for prompt and

In his letter to the EC, Yechury has alleged Modi's statements were in clear and deliberate violation of the guidelines which were re-issued and reiterated by the Election Commission before the first round of polling, making it clear that the armed forces, which belong to all of India, cannot be a subject for hyperbolic and false claims by any party.

#### **DELHI POLLING SINKS...**

Ram Rati (79), along with other elderly women, left their hookah in the middle to cast their vote in Munirika Village in South Delhi constituency. She said that she along with her group of elderly woman has stopped smoking hookah just to cast their vote for Prime

"I just asked my grandchildren to take us to polling booth and we pressed Modi's symbol (referring to BJP) here," said Ram Rati.

Minister Narendra Modi.

A 111-year-old Bachan Singh, the oldest voter in Delhi who till the last Assembly elections in 2015, cycled to the polling booth to cast his vote, this time reached the Tilak Vihar booth in a car along with poll officers. "I will vote for those who worked for us," he said. Jasbeer Singh (63) eldest son of Bachan Singh claimed that his father has never missed out on an election since 1951. 'Till a few years ago, he would cycle to the polling booth and cast his vote. He never needed any help. He cooked for himself and spent most of time doing seva in gurdwara," said Jasbeer. According to data shared by the Delhi CEO Office, there are a total of 96 centenarians who were eligible to vote in Lok Sabha polls in Delhi -- 42 male and 54 female. Besides centenarians, several senior citizens, aged above 80, braved the heat and old-age ailments and turned up at the polling booths to exercise their

franchise. Interestingly, people took their children at polling booths to educate them about the democratic system of the coun-

try. Many of parents were seen briefing them about importance of voting and the differrecorded 65.93 per cent voter atmospheric decomposition of turnout, Dhanbad 61.90 per air particles that accentuates violation," he said. children on Sunday while holding their parents hands, went inside the polling booth across the national Capital to share the joy and satisfy their curiosity about the electoral process. A few model polling stations also had a separate zone to entertain children as their parents went inside to cast their vote. Some of the parents were also seen explaining their wards about the electoral process in polling

"You should not only take your child with you when you vote, but you should also talk to him or her about what's happening and why they should be excited to take part in the election process. Today they are excited, tomorrow we have to make them an engaged citizen. We have to begin before they are old enough to cast their own ballot," said Anjali Kataria, who voted in polling booth located at August Kranti Marg in South Delhi.

Meanwhile, first time voters filled with joy and excitement reached polling booths early in the morning to franchise their vote. Most of the youngsters were even seeing praising Prime Minister Narendra Modi efforts for young generation.

"We have voted looking at the respect India is getting in foreign countries. Modi has travelled to several countries and he has brought investment, which will start yielding results in coming days," said Ankur, a resident of Mukherjee Nagar. "Where in the world do you see a Prime Minister addressing the students before the board examinations? Modi is the one. No politician can love the youth as much as he does. He takes out time from his busy schedule to talk to students, to meet them so that he can address their issues," said Ananya (19), who voted for the first time at Greater Kailash.

However, the children who are studying in a Delhi Government school volunteered at polling stations to help elderly and differently-abled with aim to encourage people cast their vote with a smile.

#### **TERROR BODY CLAIMS NEW BRANCH**

### **Alert in Valley over ISIS claim**

PNS NEW DELHI/ SRINAGAR

Intelligence agencies have been put on high alert after the Islamic State terror group has claimed through social media that they have estab-lished a new "province" in India. The declaration was made by ISIS through its news agency Amaq News Agency, which is itself blacklisted by the US for terror related money laundering along with Al-Hayat Media Centre.

The Arabic name of the new branch is "Wilayah of Hind" (India Province), the dreaded terror outfit, (also known as ISIS and ISIL), said through its Amaq News Agency. Though Intelligence agencies reject this development as just a claim, they exercise caution regarding its possible supporters in Kashmir and other sensitive regions. Many senior Jammu & Kashmir police officers have also reject-

The ISIS' news agency, Amaq, did not elaborate on the branch's geographical remit as it mentioned the name of its new branch in a low-key announcement. The ISIS operates two news agencies known as Amaq and Al-Hayat Media Centre. Both were blacklisted by the US for terror related money launder-



ing in March 2019.

Many Intelligence officers feel the announcement of the new branch is a part of ISIS' strategy to give the impression of strengthening its global affiliations following the territorial losses in the Middle East. Such strategies of fake announcements were highlighted by ISIS chief Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi in the past. "But this shows that they have some sleeper cells in certain regions physically and in the online world," said a senior IB officer.

The brief ISIS statement of May 10 via the messaging app Telegram said that the Islamic State terrorists using machine guns had clashed with the Indian security forces in the village of Amshipora in Kashmir's Shopian district, killing or injuring a number of them. The statement, however, did not mention when the alleged clashes occurred.

Media reports on May 10 said that one militant was killed in clashes with security forces in Kashmir's Shopian district. ISIS began claiming attacks against Indian security forces in Kashmir since November 2017 without any branch affiliation. Prevously, ISIS attacks in Kashmir were linked to its socalled Khorasan Province branch, which was set up in 2015 to cover "Afghanistan, Pakistan and nearby lands".

Though agencies feel these fake announcements are part of rumour mongering and miischives in the social media, they say caution must be exercised on these elements.

### 'IN-HOUSE' PROCEEDINGS OF BANKS

### Loan defaulters have no right to be represented by lawyer: SC

New Delhi: The Supreme Court has held that a person has no 'right" to be represented by a lawyer in "in-house" proceedings initiated by banks or financial institutions to declare him willful defaulters for non-payment of dues.

A bench comprising Justices RF Nariman and Vineet Saran was dealing with the question whether a person is entitled to be represented by a lawyer of his choice in the process undertaken by banks to declare him a "wilful defaulter" under a circular issued by the Reserve Bank of India

"We are of the view that there is no right to be represented by a lawyer in the inhouse proceedings contained in...The Revised Circular dated July 01, 2015, as it is clear that the events of wilful default as mentioned...Would only relate to the individual facts of each

"What has typically to be discovered is whether a unit has defaulted in making its payment obligations even when it has the capacity to honour the said obligations; or that it has borrowed funds which are diverted for other purposes, or siphoned off funds so that the

order, the apex court ordered

that the bank must give to the

borrower the copy of the order

of the first in-house committee

which conducted the proceed-

ings to declare the firm a will-

represent against such order

within a period of 15 days to the

Review Committee...The Review Committee must then

pass a reasoned order on such

representation which must then

be served on the borrower," the

apex court said. The lending

bank had contended that the

defaulting borrower does not

need the assistance of lawyers in

the proceedings as no complex

legal questions are decided in

declaring a person a willful

"The borrower can then

ful defaulter.

funds have not been utilised for the specific purpose for which the finance was made available," the top court said in its verdict delivered on last Wednesday.

It said that the question whether a default was "intentional, deliberate, and calculated" was the question of fact which can be dealt by the borrower or the lender and the assistance of lawyer was not

The apex court allowed the appeal of State Bank of India against the Delhi High Court order which had held that the firm, Jah Developers Pvt. Ltd., can be represented by lawyers in the in-house proceeding of the lending bank to declare it a willful defaulter.

Setting aside the high court

**Chowk if Cong wins 40 seats: Kharge** Bengaluru: Stoking a contro-

Will PM Modi hang

himself at Vijay

versy, senior Congress leader Mallikarjun Kharge on Sunday asked whether Prime Minister Narendra Modi would hang himself at Vijay Chowk in Delhi if his prediction of the opposition party getting less than 40 seats in Lok Sabha polls is proven wrong.

Addressing a rally in support of Subash Rathod, the Congress candidate for the Chincholi Assembly bypoll in Karnataka, Kharge said, "It is you the people sitting here who are going to write the future and fate of this country, it is in your hands to write the fate of Subash and ours, not it their (BJP/Modi) hands."

"Wherever (Modi) goes, (he) says Congress will not get 40 seats (in Lok Sabha polls). Does any of you agree with this? If we get 40 seats, will Modi hang himself at Vijay Chowk in Delhi?" the senior Congress leader said.

The Congress had won 44 seats in the 2014 parliamentary

Senior BJP leader and MP Shobha Karandlaje has demanded Kharge's apology, saying that she never expected such low remarks from a senior leader like him.

"Blatant lies, fake allegations, derogatory remarks have become common with hollow Congress, nothing progressive! He should apologise! **PTI** | Karandlaje tweeted.

#### **POST EASTER BOMBINGS**

### Lanka deports 600 clerics, including 100 Indians

Out of the 600 foreigners including 200 hardcore maulvis (Muslim religious preachers) deported by Colombo over the last week after the suicide bombings there, over a 100 were Indians. They, along with those from Pakistan and Maldives, were suspected to be engaged in radicalisation in the Sri Lankan

Besides the Indians, clerics from Pakistan and Maldives have also been deported in large numbers owing to their terror links that emerged after serial suicide bombings in Colombo on Sunday Easter last month that took a toll of over might have developed a hub of 250 persons including 11 such transnational radical Indians. Besides the 200 maul- preachers in the country.

are also suspected to have travelled on tourist visas but have been essentially been engaged in radical preachings, ources said.

Sri Lankan authorities have identified about 1,200 such individuals who are being screened for terror links and depending upon antecedent verification more such clerics are likely to be deported to the respective countries.

The revelation of the Indian maulvis in radicalisation activities in the island nation has set alarm bells ringing in the security establishment here as they apprehend the international terror groups

on Tuesday after the Sri Lankan authorities informed the respective foreign missions on the issue. By Thursday, the 600 such radicals were deported to the respective

Pakistani clerics have infiltrated the mosques in the region including in Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Myanmar and Maldives and even in some of the ASEAN countries. These clerics are being exploited by the Pakistani Inter-Services Intelligence for the larger design of implementing state agenda of sponsoring terror in the neighbourhood, sources

The sources said such radical clerics are also part of the transnational radicalization

terror groups like the Al Qaeda and ISIS who have a long term agenda of radicalisation and subsequently recruit them into their fold for their terror designs, including logistics management chain and funding through illegal narcotics

During the last over two years, Indian clerics in large number, as revealed by the Sri Lankan deportation, are also taking up jobs of Islamic preaching in foreign shores.

In the wake of the devel-

opment, the challenge for the security agencies is two-fold: first, to keep tabs on their activities after their deportation, and secondly to establish their role and extent of involvement in radicalization during

Officials also said the Indian security agencies will have an onerous task ahead to contain the impact of the deported radical clerics.

They said counter-terrorism and security-related issues come under the domain of the security agencies in so far as Sri Lanka is concerned as any adverse activity there has a direct bearing on the security calculus in South India, especially Tamil Nadu.

Ahead of carrying out the suicide bombing in Colombo, chief National Thowheed Jamat Zaharan Hashim had stayed in South India for three months but remained undetected by the Intelligence Bureau.

> Sources later said, the Niti Aayog had not shared any political data but district-level

The EC had written to Niti Aayog CEO Amitabh Kant on May 4 flagging the allegations made by the Congress and the AAP. Asking Kant to furnish the reply "immediately", the EC had referred to the allegations that the Niti Aayog has asked officers in various states and Union territories to provide to the PMO write ups about destinations of the prime minister's campaign.

The EC also responded to a question on the Congress's fresh complaint against information allegedly sought by an officer of the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade from the Commerce Ministry on Start Up India, claiming that it was meant to be used for BJP's manifesto. Saxena said the Ministry has been asked to

### No poll code violation by Niti Aayog in sharing district level data with PMO: EC

New Delhi: The Election Commission has found no violation of the poll code in Niti Aayog sharing data with the Prime Minister's office on places where PM Narendra Modi was set to campaign for the Lok Sabha elections.

Senior Deputy Election Commissioner Sandeep Saxena said the commission has disposed off the complaint as the Prime Minister is exempted from the provision that bars ministers from combining official visits with campaigning.

The exemption to the prime minister was given in October, 2014. "It was not a one time exemption but a standing instruction," Saxena

data with the Prime Minister's office (PMO).

### Foreign electoral representatives witness elections

PNS NEW DELHI

Electoral representatives and lawmakers from over 20 countries witnessed the complex Indian election process in action and the use of the Electronic Voting Machines in the national Capital on Sunday.

Representatives from ECs of these countries, which include Australia, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Bosnia & Herzegovina, Fiji, Georgia, Kenya, Republic of Korea, Kyrgyzstan, Malaysia, Mexico, Myanmar, Romania, Russia, Srilanka, Suriname, United Arab Emirates, Uzbekistan and Zimbabwe, monitoring the Indian election closely in a bid to perfect the methodology of conducting elections in their own countries. These representatives were invited by the Election Commission of İndia to join the Election Visitors Program.

EA Shevchenko, a member of the central Election Commission of Russia, said he visited 12 polling stations in Delhi and spoke to election observers. He said it was interesting to know about EVMs.

'We saw the new machines and we liked what we saw. We visited north and south Delhi constituencies and it was interesting to know about EVMs and learn that one gets to know that their vote has been registered," he said.

"In Russia, only the passport serves as the ID. Voters can vote from any part of the country and do not have to be in the city where they live. During the last presidential polls, over six million people voted from cities other than **PTI** | their hometowns " he said.

The official said in Russia, elections take place on a single day, not in phases.

Commissioner Sunil Arora hailed the contribution of the founders of the Indian Constitution in an address to the participants. He also underlined the EC's commitment towards conducting free, fair and peaceful elections in India. "The objective and intention of the Commission is to always keep learning from the experiences of the past for necessary course corrections for the future," he said while adding that criticism and scepticism

Arora also stressed that the process of conducting elections in a country as diverse as India needs to be constantly updated to keep it robust, ethical, inclusive, accessible and participative. He highlighted the contribution of IT developments in helping with the electoral process in recent

On the occasion, second issue of EC's quarterly magazine "My Vote Matters" was also released on this occasion by the Commission. The Magazine presents a comprehensive glimpse of preparatory initiatives in different States for the ongoing elections. First issue of this magazine was presented by CEC to the President Ram Nath Kovind on the National Voters' Day 25th January 2019.

Lok Sabha election in the country is the largest democratic exercise anywhere in the world and countries around the world have witnessed every election here with keen interest, and a high degree of amaze-

### Priyanka votes, says BJP will face defeat in LS



Congress leader Priyanka Gandhi Vadra accompanied by her husband Robert Vadra greets an elderly voter after casting her vote during the sixth phase of general elections in New Delhi on Sunday

PNS NEW DELHI

Congress leader Priyanka Gandhi Vadra on Sunday said it is "very clear" that the BJP will face defeat in Lok Sabha polls as people are "angry and distressed" and they will convey their sentiments through voting. Interacting with media after exercising her franchise, the senior party leader said it was "very clear that the BJP Government is going". Priyanka alongwith his party chief Rahul Gandhi hit out at Prime Minister Narendra Modi and said the PM doesn't reply to any of the issues that Congress has raised and that Modi has "used hatred" during the elections but the grand old party "used

"There is anger among peoole, and they are under distress. Modiji, instead of talking about real issues, has been talking about random things. And, now, they will express their anger against this Government through voting," the Congress general secretary said. She said this will be witnessed especially in Uttar Pradesh.

Asked about the constant criticism the Nehru-Gandhi family faces from the BIP. Privanka recounted an anecdote about her guru telling her the calmness that Lord Buddha had in face of detractors. Priyanka said Modi and his party had in 2014 promised to deposit ₹15 lakh in every Indian's bank account and create two crore jobs, but Prime Minister Modi "doesn't talk

Rahul Gandhi who also casted his vote said that so far it has been a "good fight" in the elections. Asked how many seats the Congress is winning, he said, "I won't omment on that. It will be decided by the people." "People are the master. Whatever people say, we will accept. How many seats we will win, people will decide that... Jai Hind," he said.

There are four issues in this election, these are not our issues but people's issues. And most important among these is of unemployment. Then, condition of farmers, demonetisation, Gabbar Singh Tax (mocking GST), corruption and the Rafale issue," he said.

### Vadra posts Paraguay flag in place of Tricolour, gets trolled

New Delhi: In an embarrassing the butt of jokes on social goof-up, Congress leader Priyanka Gandhi Vadra's husband Robert Vadra on Sunday used the flag of Paraguay instead of the Tricolour to spread awareness about the Lok Sabha elections on social media, inviting ridicule from netizens.

"Our right our strength!! Everyone must step out n vote...we need all support, to create a combined future for our loved ones, n for a secular, safe productive future of our country," Vadra tweeted with a joined hands emoji, the Indian Parliament and a Paraguayan flag, along with a photo of his inked finger after casting his

The tweet, which became the caption.

media, remained for over four hours on his Twitter page.

Soon after the goof-up, Vadra was mercilessly trolled on social media, following which he deleted the tweet. A user said, "Robert Vadra

Declared Himself A Paraguayan Citizen On 12th May, 2019". Another sarcastically asked, "Voted for BJP right?" Though Vadra posted a correct caption on his Facebook page, he however failed to check the offending flag while posting it on Twitter.
Hours later he deleted the

tweet and posted the screenshot of his Facebook post which had the Indian flag in | Ministry the cention | PTI | respond.

### Tech helping natural calamity

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

n a classic example of how **⊥**disaster risks and agony of affected lives can be reduced through the greater use of science and technology, various labs of the country's top research agency, Council of Science and Industrial Research (CSIR) are providing a range of services, including cyclone-proof shelters, safe drinking water and ready-tomade food to name a few to Fani cyclone battered people in Odisha.

CSIR DG Shekhar Mande said since usually its water and food supply that is affected post disasters, our labs have extended help in these areas. He explained that the Bhavnagar-based Central Salt

and Marine Chemicals

Research Institute (CSMCRI)

has already deputed its indige-

nously developed 40-feet long bus housing a water purification and desalination plant to ensure pure water to the people in the severely affected cities like Puri and Bhuvneshwar.

The customised bus can purify more than 40,000 litres of drinking water per day. The plant can purify any available contaminated water including the silt laden left by the floods, the brackish water along coastal areas or high TDS water and make it potable and good for drinking. The bus has a RO desalination and ultra-filtration plant and consists of TFC membrane filtration that can remove viruses and bacteria as

Similarly, the central food technological research institute (CFTRI) has supplied a combination of seven reconstitutable foods products --

instant mixes of poha, upma, ready-to-eat upma, high-protein rusks, high-protein biscuits, long-shelf-life chapati and tomato chutney.

"The products were chosen keeping in view the Indian palate. The decision to manufacture and send rations was taken as soon as Fani hit the Indian coasts," added K S M S Raghavarao, director, CFTRI.

The CSIR's Institute of Minerals and Materials Technology, Bhubaneswar, is taking care of logistics at the other end. Raghavarao added that "Reconstitutable versions of the poha and upma mix have shelf-lives of more than a month and so can be used as and when needed. The readyto-eat upma is a cooked and the sterilised product that can be consumed immediately. With a shelf life of 10-12 days, it is suit-

able for immediate relief."

Similarly, CSIR's Institute of Himalayan Bio-resource Technology, Palampur too has announced supplying 1 lakh units of ready-to-eat canned food (dal rice aloo mix) and protein bars weighing around 20 tonnes. Dr Sanjay Kumar, IHBT director said that "the institute has technologies for preparing such foods and in such tragic circumstances, it is the duty of national institutes to come forward and support the affected people."

In fact, its disaster-proof buildings constructed a few years back in Odisha have already earned praised, having saved many lives who were evacuated from the coastal regions just before the Fani cyclone had made the landfall in the State. Around 75 buildings were constructed near the coastal areas that were cyclone safe, said the CSIR DG Mande.

This is not the first time that the CSIR has responded to the crises in the country. For instance, since 2004, when the tsunami hit the eastern coasts of India, the CFTRI had geared up voluntarily to help the disaster struck with special relief food packages. It sent food to Uttarakhand in 2013, and to Coorg and Kerala, last year. The IHBT too had extended support to the victims during Kerala floods. Similarly, the CSMCRI's

mobile van unit has served in several mass disaster incidents. including the ones at North 24 Parganas, cyclone Aila in June 2009 in West Bengal; heavy rains and floods in Raichur, Karnataka in 2009, floods in Odisha's Ganjam and Jagatsinghpura in 2013; and in during the Himalayan Tsunami in Srinagar Garhwal and Rishikesh in 2013.

LUCKNOW | MONDAY | MAY 13, 2019

PICTURES: PTI/AP



















### **VIOLENT BENGAL**

Amid violence, WB votes more than 79%

#### SAUGAR SENGUPTA ■ KESHPUR/MEDINIPORE

In Bengal history continued to repeat with vengeance as poll-day dogfight left two dead and many more — including a BJP candidate — hurt as BJP, TMC and CPI(M) cadres fought among themselves at various polling stations. Notwithstanding, the eight constituencies that went to polls in the sixth phase witnessed a little more than 79 per cent polling.

cent polling.

Political volatility matched the mid-May noon's unforgiving temperatures as cadres of BJP and the ruling Trinamool Congress clashed against each other at various places from Barojora in Bankura to Bhagwanpur at Kanthi to Gopiballavpur. The historically volatile Keshpur however remained at the centre stage of the day-long political skirmish witnessing sporadic clashes and stone pelting after a band of restive TMC workers accosted Ghatal BJP candidate and former IPS officer Bharati Ghosh whose security guard opened fire in "self-defence" injuring a TMC worker.

injuring a TMC worker.

As though the locals were taking out their pent up anger on Ghosh — who had a couple of days ago threatened to bring a thousand boys from UP to teach the TMC men a lesson — she was literally accosted and-chased until she took shelter inside a local Kali Temple where she remained parked for more than two hours before being rescued by the police. The candidate had to literally leap across the high parapet of the Temple premises, along with the media who were also holed up inside.

Amid the pandemonium Ghosh, the SP who had humbled the dreaded Maoists collapsed on the ground, injured her toes and began crying till she was rescued by the jawans of Central forces.

Several persons from both the sides were injured and half-a-dozen vehicles were smashed in the melee even as the locals alleged "violence started after Ghosh came to the scene." The BJP leader however said the TMC goons got



A BJP activist shows injury sustained after an alleged attack by TMC workers during the sixth phase of Lok Sabha elections, in Burdwan, on Sunday



BJP activists wave party flags as they protest after an alleged attack by TMC workers during the sixth phase of Lok Sabha elections, in Burdwan, on Sunday PTI

angry as she stopped them from jamming the booths and rigging. The police have seized her vehicle and lodged and FIR in the case. The security guard of Ghosh sustained head injuries in stone-pelting. He had been hospitalised.

Earlier, a booth-level BJP

Earlier, a booth-level BJP leader Ramen Singh from Gopiballavpur under Jhargram constituency was found dead in mysterious circumstances. His family members said he was murdered by the local TMC goons. The ruling party denied such charges.

Body of a Trinamool Congress worker Sudhakar Maiti was recovered from Kanthi. The TMC alleged he was bumped off by a joint band of BJP and CPI(M) goons while he was returning from a hospital.

Elsewhere at Bhagwanpur in Kanthi constituency two BJP workers Ananta Guchait and Ranjit Maity were shot at by alleged TMC goons the latter however refuted the charges.

Firing also took place at Barjora in Bankura where TMC and CPI(M) cadres clashed against each other. Clashes also took place at Bishnupur and Bhagwanpur in Purulia constituency.

In the sixth phase of polls

In the sixth phase of polls voting took place at Jhargram and Medinipur, Tamluk, Kanthi, Ghatal, Bankura, Bishnupur and Purulia. Elections to 33 out of 42 seats ended till sixth phase of polling on Sunday.

Till reports came in the

eight constituencies had witnessed about 79.93 per cent polling with Bishunupur recording 80.90 per cent, Ghatal recording 80.35 per cent. About 75.68 per cent voters of Bankura and 78.64 per cent at Purulia exercised their franchise whereas Medinipore and Jhargram polled 78.17 and 81.68 per cent respectively. For Tamluk and Kanthi the polling percentage was 82.99 per cent and 80.16 per cent respectively.

### Voters board 'Shiksha Express' in Bihar to exercise franchise!

**PTI** ■ MUZAFFARPUR

It is an express train that only a few voters can board. Welcome onboard "Shiksha Express" in Vaishali Lok Sabha segment, where voting is underway in two polling booths.

The building of a Government school at Kanti block of Muzaffarpur district in the constituency has been painted in shades and designs which give the feel of a railway station with a train compartment stationed on the premises, beckoning visitors for an onward journey.

"The school was painted this way and named Shiksha Express in order to make learning an exciting experience for the students. We are glad that the endeavour has also made it attractive to adults taking part in the dance of democracy," said Block Development Officer Uma Bharti.

The polling stations have also been declared pink booths which imply that all personnel, except those entrusted with security, are women, she said.

"Two booths — numbers 38 and 39 — in Vaishali segment have been set up in the school building. Both were designated as model booths, which means arrangements hav been made for drinking water, sheds to avoid Sun while waiting in the queue, and an amusement zone for children who may be accompanying their mothers," the BDO said.

The Vaishali Lok Sabha constituency has altogether



1,803 polling stations, 302 of these falling under Kanti assembly segment.

assembly segment.

One of the primary contestants here is veteran RJD leader and former Union

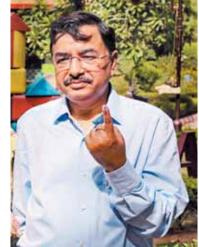
Minister Raghuvansh Prasad Singh, who had represented the seat five times on the trot before losing it to Lok Janshakti Party's Rama Singh, who rode the Modi wave of 2014. The LJP has, however, replaced its sitting MP — a mafia don-turned-politician — with Veena Devi, who is a former MLA and was earlier with the BJP.

#### ELECTION COMMISSIONEDS DAY OUT



Chief Election Commissioner Sunil Arora along with his family members shows his finger marked with indelible ink at a polling station, at Nirman Bhawan in New Delhi, on Sunday

PTI



Election Commissioner Sushil Chandra shows his inked finger in New Delhi, on Sunday PTI



Election Commissioner Ashok Lavasa after casting



Police disperse a mob during a clash at a polling station at the sixth phase, in East Medinipore, on Sunday

he pioneer

PICTURES: RANJAN DIMRI/PTI

**CELEB CORNER** Table tennis player Manika Ba





### Report: Social media plays key role in influencing first-time voters

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

A survey conducted by a dig-dital marketing company has claimed that nearly onethird of first-time voters were influenced by political messages on social media platforms in the ongoing general elections.

As many as half of around 15-crore first-time voters received political messages through various social media platforms, said the report based on an online survey of around 25 lakh participants.

Political movement on social media was higher in 2019 Lok Sabha elections than

**72.32% turnout** 

in repoll in 168

polling stations

PTI ■ AGARTALA

in 2014, the report by ADG (18-24 years) kept themselves Online said. "30 per cent of 150 million first-time voters are engaged and influenced through social media platforms, political messages have reached out to 50 per cent of first-time voters through social media and rest 20 per cent are aware of the developments in the country," the report said.

Social media messages have a greater influence on youths, the report said, adding that more than 50 per cent voters influenced by social media are less than 25 years of age.

As per the survey report, around 40 per cent of youths updated about the political developments through at least one of the five social media platforms - Facebook, ShareChat, Instagram, hatsapp and Twitter. The very nature of social

media helped in amplifying engagement through comments, online interactions, trolls, posts, pictures showing support, it said.

Anuj Sayal, Group Chairman, ADG Online, said, "Political parties have used big data analytics techniques for increasing mass outreach and conveying their key messages for the general elections.

# Will take revenge in every

An estimated 72.32 per cent of the 1,41,251 voters exer- $B_{\text{Mamata Banerjee once}}^{\text{engal Chief Minister}}$ cised their franchise in the repolling held in 168 polling stations of West Tripura Lok Sabha constituency on Sunday, an official said. Fifteen companies of Central Armed Police Forces were deployed during the

repoll, the official said. "Repolling passed off peacefully with 72.32 per cent voter turnout. The percentage can increase slightly after final computations," Chief Electoral Officer (CEO), Sriram Taranikanti told reporters.

The Returning Officer, Vikash Singh said "Cameras were installed for videography both inside and outside polling stations. We also engaged additional videographers to record all events during the elections. Section 144 was clamped outside polling stations and there were patrolling by the securi-

Deputy Inspector General (DIG) Arindam Nath said there were stray incidents of intimidation. "We had reports of intimidation from Kasba and Chelikhola areas in Sipahijala district and from Totabari in Gomati district. One Bijoy Das was apprehended for intimidation from Kasba," Nath said.

The opposition CPI(M) and Congress alleged that the intimidation and attacks were reported during the repoll.



again stoked the squatting controversy daring Prime Minister Narendra Modi to prove his charges against her or else do the sit-ups which in any case "I also would also do if I fail to prove my points."

The Chief Minister who

addressed a whirlwind round of three rallies in South 24 Parganas accused the Prime Minister of peddling lies in Bengal and BJP of humiliating not go unpunished.

'I will remember everything. The atrocities and humiliations heaped on my State and I will not go unpunished. I have all the records and documents with me. I will take revenge for what is being done to me inch by inch. All those who are perpetrating the offence should remember this," Mamata said accusing the Prime Minister of

selling "dirty lies" in Bengal. Every time he comes here and says that I do not allow the Hindus to perform Durga Puja or Sarswati Puja. I want to ask you all whether this accusation has a grain of truth. He is a liar whom I feel ashamed to call a Prime Minister. I challenge him to prove his charges or do sit-ups in the public and I also will do the same if I fail to prove my point," Banerjee said, adding the BJP had unleashed



West Bengal Chief Minister and Trinamool Congress supremo Mamata Banerjee with party candidate from Jadavpur Parliamentary constituency Mimi Chakraborty (R) during her election campaign rally for the ongoing Lok Sabha polls, at South 24 Parganas district of West Bengal, on Sunday

a reign of terror in Bengal in the name of elections.

Accusing the saffron outfit of running a parallel Government by using the Election Commission and excessive deployment of Central forces she said, "The EC can do everything within its power. But why the State Government will be by-passed where there is question of law and order.

Today also one of their central force personnel has shot at a TMC worker at Ghatal."

She warned the opposition parties "the EC or the CAPF

will be there for a few more days. Tomorrow it is the State police that will be the master of situations.

Attacking the BJP for publicising violent ideas she said "Today they worship people who killed Gandhiji. They have no love for non-violence. In the name of cow protection they have unleashed a band of cowvigilantes who are creating terror and panic among the people. But I also warn them against doing accesses. After all the Central force will go soon and the BJP will go from power in the Centre. Then we will

take revenge in every inch."

### 111-year-old Bachan Singh the oldest voter in Delhi

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

BJP's Faridabad Lok Sabha constituency

Age is just a number, says a family member of 111year-old Bachan Singh, the oldest voter in Delhi who carried a youthful enthusiasm into the polling station in Tilak Vihar here. Till the last assembly elections in 2015, the centenarian cycled to the polling booth to cast his vote. This time, he reached the booth in a car along with poll officers in full media glare.

He was later wheeled into the polling both using a chair. A paralysis attack around three months ago had rendered



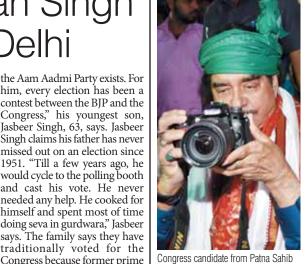
Though Bachan Singh cannot talk like the way he did before, but he knows how important his vote is. "I will vote for those who worked for us," he said.

Interestingly, Singh doesn't know there's a party called the AAP and that Arvind Kejriwal is the chief minister of Delhi.

"He doesn't even know that

him, every election has been a contest between the BJP and the Congress," his youngest son, Jasbeer Singh, 63, says. Jasbeer Singh claims his father has never missed out on an election since 1951. "Till a few years ago, he would cycle to the polling booth and cast his vote. He never needed any help. He cooked for himself and spent most of time doing seva in gurdwara," Jasbeer says. The family says they have traditionally voted for the Congress because former prime minister Jawaharlal Nehru "supported Namdhari Sikhs at the

time of partition".



seat Shatrughan Sinha clicks photos during an election campaign in Patna

#### Nagvi: India wants permanent PM, not contractual one

Kolkata: Union minister Muktar Abbas Naqvi on Sunday said the country wants a permanent and decisive Prime Minister, instead of a contractual one.

Hitting out at the Opposition alliance for having 'too many" contenders for the PM's post, Naqvi said the country "does not want a contractual Prime Minister, where you have someone as prime minister for six months and somebody else for the next six months." He told a Press conference here, "The country does not want a 'juggad' or 'jod tod ki sarkar."



' 'jod | Samajwadi Party president Akhilesh Yadav being presented a memento by his party workers during an election campaign rally PTI | For the ongoing Lok Sabha polls, in Mirzapur, on Sunday

### Daughters of slain Uri soldier bring smile on mother's face

 $K^{\mathrm{iran}}$  Devi had lost all hopes about her future nearly three years back when her soldier husband Naik Sunil Kumar Vidyarthi was killed in a dastardly terror attack on an Army camp in Kashmir's Uri. Now her hopes have been rekindled by her three daughters.

Aarti Kumari, Anshu Kumari and Anshika Kumari have scored excellent marks in their Class 10, 8 and 4 exams this year, paying a real

tribute to their slain father. Aarti, 16, secured 92.4 per cent marks in Class 10 exams. She was a student of DAV School in Gaya. Anshu, 14, got 93 per cent in Class 8 and and Anshika, 10, secured 99 per cent in her Class 4

"I am proud of my daughters who are doing really well in education, which is more

have paid the real tribute to their martyr father," said the 35-year-old wife of Vidyarthi who was killed in the terror attack in Jammu & Kashmir in 2016. "They will fulfil his dream to become educated human beings who will make a difference in their own and others' lives," she added.

The slain soldier was a resident of Baknauri village in Gaya. Naik Vidyarthi had joined the Army in 1998. He was one of three soldiers from Bihar who were killed in

Kiran Devi also has son. She has been looking after them single-handedly since her husband was killed. She admits life has not been smooth or easy for her in the absence of Vidyarthi. "I hold my head high, thanks to my daughters. I was depressed

after I lost my husband.

than I had expected. They daughters have brought a new ray of inspiration into my life. They are hardworking and determined. They want to do well, make their father proud bring alive his dreams —

the once he had about them," Kiran Devi told IANS over telephone from the government quarters provided to her in the military camp at the outskirt of Gaya town, about 100 km from Patna.

She did not forget to admit that all this was possible due to the help by Sarvesh Tiwari, a social activist who runs an organisation in Delhi.

Tiwari, originally hailing from a village in East Champaran district, was moved by the killing of soldiers in the Uri attack and had announced to fund the education of Vidyarthi's three daughters.

Tiwariji came forward at a time to support help and "I had no hope left but my help me educate my daugh-

ters, when I felt all was lost. He was God send. A helping hand for us. If today my daughters have made me and others proud, all credit goes to Tiwariji," said the widow.

Tiwari has handed over a cheque of Rs 20 lakh to her for the children's education. "Annually we get Rs 2

lakh from it to spend on educational purpose, including school fees and home tuition, she explained. Kiran Devi's eldest Aarti, who had joined Akash Institute in Gaya for preparation in Class 9, could do so only due to the financial help extended by Tiwari.
"This year she is off to

Kota in Rajasthan to prepare for medical entrance exam and to pursue her Class 12th as well. Without Tiwariji's help, how could I have send her to Kota with my limited income that I am getting as compensation," Kiran Devi

### PM revealing details of military op a poll code violation: CPI(M)

**PTI** ■ NEW DELHI

CPI(M) general secretary Sitaram Yechury has written to the Election Commission against Prime Minister Narendra Modi for allegedly violating the poll code by sharing operational details of a "sensitive" defence mission in a television inter-

view to influence voters. In his letter to the EC, Yechury has alleged Modi's statements were in clear and deliberate violation of the guidelines which were reissued and reiterated by the Election Commission before the first round of polling, making it clear that the armed forces, which belong to all of India, cannot be a subject for hyperbolic and false claims by any party. In an interview on Saturday, Modi had said he approved the Indian Air Force's cross-

border mission in Balakot,

Pakistan, despite inclement consequences for our democweather and against the advise of experts as he felt cloud cover would hide the Indian fighter jets from Pakistani radar. Modi said he relied on his "raw wisdom" to dispel the doubts of the defence experts who had planned the mission.

"I am surprised that the country's pundits who abuse me never figured this out," he said, referring to rain on the night of the air strike.

The CPI(M) general secretary said, "This interview wherein Modi gave out operational details of a sensitive military mission, with a purpose to influence the voters during the silent period of the campaign needs to be recorded and acted upon by the Commission. "It appears that Modi is mocking the Election Commission by violating all rules, codes and guidelines with impunity with damaging

racy, of which the Election Commission is the custodian. We hope that you will uphold the prestige, honour and credibility of the Election Commission and initiate action against Modi," he said.

Yechury further said based on the poll body's recent decisions on BJP leaders and Prime Minister Narendra Modi making alleged poll code violations earlier, it was "widely per-ceived" that Modi was being treated as though he was outside the purview of the Model Code of Conduct. Yechury further lashed out at Modi for continuing to use the armed

forces in his speech. In an election rally in Kushinagar in Uttar Pradesh on Sunday, the Prime Minister is reported to have said, "Today terrorists were killed by our Army in Kashmir. Now some people

are worried as to why did Modi kill the terrorists when voting is underway? An armed terrorist is attacking, do my jawans go to the Election Commission to seek permission to kill him?"

"Note: He (Modi) claims that he killed the terrorists not our armed forces!" Yechury said. The Left leader pointed out that similar "violations" have been brought to the notice of the EC earlier

"The commission, however, seems to think that Modi and Shri Amit Shah are above the electoral process and the Model code of Conduct does not apply to them. This has been noted by myriad cartoonists, newspaper editorials and commentators. I hope that the Election Commission will now prove them wrong and initiate prompt and suitable action against Modi," he said.

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### — PAPER WITH PASSION — **Lessons from Fani**

Yes, the evacuation was spectacular. But there can be no complacency about post-disaster management



hile there are no two ways about our mammoth effort in minimising human casualties with probably modern India's biggest pre-emptive evacuation plan before the dreaded cyclone Fani struck, we have obviously not been as sharp about post-event management of human lives and rehabilitation. Fact is the operational efficiency of existing disaster drills is not enough to counter the ecological, financial and infrastructural damage caused by Fani, the destructive scale of which has been much

larger than ever anticipated. So though deaths have been few, the lives of over 1.5 crore affected people may not return to normal very soon as everything that they built over the years and the world as they knew it have all but flattened. With power grids in disarray, roads cut off in places, food and water supply disrupted and most importantly, the capital Bhubaneswar in a shambles, reconstruction is a taller order. Restoring the basics of power and water may take up to a week in some places. Imagine, it could take up to a month to restore power supply to the entire Puri district! People are crowding Bhubaneswar station to charge their communication devices as it is the only place that has a power supply. Providing food, shelter and medical care is immediate priority and with hospital buildings and other structures decimated, there's no roof over people's heads quite literally. About 80,000 km of low tension power lines and 64,000 distribution transformers cannot be repaired overnight and with the nerve centres of Odisha — Cuttack, Puri and Bhubaneswar — crippled, Odisha is staring at a much much longer road to recovery. In short, disaster preparedness along Odisha's coast should now mean a re-assessment of how basic infrastructure has been planned along these cities all this while and how they can be saved, reconfigured or brace up for the future. For climate changeinduced extreme events mean that cyclones will only become more intense in the Bay of Bengal.

And this is the real problem, understanding the intensity. While the IMD and satellites predicted the superstorm with a fair bit of accuracy, the response mechanism probably erred on visualising how the gale force would manifest itself. Most rescue teams had factored in a tidal wave surge swamping the coastline, that being the traditional impact that people are used to and probably resulted in the spectacular evacuation drive. Instead, the wind speed, at 200 kmph, was very high and took down everything in its path. Which means that power cables now on have to be embedded in the earth than strung to overground poles. Such a measure helped Puducherry, which was hit by a severe cyclone in 2011, restore power in less than 12 hours. Odisha faced a similar problem during Phailin and considering the lay of its land, will have to permanently invest in disaster risk-reduction measures. Building zones need to be recodified for height and structural stability, a system of common underground shelters needs to be executed and more out-of-the-box solutions developed with disaster mitigation experts. With thousands of trees uprooted across Lake Chilika and marine life affected because of heightened salinity of its waters, the change in biodiversity maps could take decades to overturn and will drastically change livelihoods and the local economy. It is for such rapidly changing climate impacts that the Government passed the National Disaster Management Act (2005). It envisaged a comprehensive framework and introduced a management approach called Incident Response System (IRS) which each State was expected to follow. A national guideline was also issued subsequently in 2010. Had these been followed in spirit, they would have resulted in better utilisation of resources. The private sector with interests in this belt should partner with the government in recovery and rejig efforts and make disaster risk reduction a part of its CSR. Yes, we have managed to evacuate well. But in times of climate change, there is no room for complacency in meeting immediate goals. We cannot just go by past experiences, we have to look far ahead and use a predictive methodology. Lives have been saved no doubt but robbed of their past, we have not given them answers what to do next. They are refugees in their own land.

### **Relationship or rape?**

We need a framework for consensual relationships which, for whatever reason, break down and the woman cries 'rape'



lacktriangle t the very outset, this newspaper unequivocally states that violence against women, including sexual abuse and assault, is a major problem in India, where patriarchal forces still reign. Laws that protect women against such assault have been written and amended over the years, particularly after some high-profile cases. Of course, one has to recognise that the implementation of the law and the closure rate of rape cases remain abysmally small. However, it is becoming apparent that there is a growing number of cases where consensual relation-

ships, for whatever reason, break down and the female partner cries 'rape'. There is also a large number of cases of women who claim they have been 'raped' because their partners promised to marry them.

In the latter case, one could argue that consent acquired through lies is not consent. And while one could say that the women were stupid for believing the men who bedded them, sometimes all of us fall for lies and promises that cannot be kept. And many of the women who fall for these lies may come from less educated and less privileged classes. So crying 'rape' is possibly the only option they have because they could be left high and dry, possibly even pregnant, by the man who scoots away and marries someone else. And the problem with a patriarchal society, and make no mistakes, we are one, is what happens to the poor girl afterwards. This is why the Supreme Court ruled in April that consent for sex obtained under the false promise of marriage is rape. The only issue, it is one person's word against another, because unlike a Memorandum of Understanding, there is no paperwork involved in getting that consent. But the first issue is coming into more prominence due to some rather high-profile cases in Bollywood. And this is troubling because relationships go sour all the time and claiming rape afterwards is unfair. Not only will it be unfair to the accused, falsely indicted and often crucified by the media, it is also unfair to the women who are actual victims of sexual crime and assault and who, too, would be accused of a cry-wolf syndrome. It is important for men to realise that they cannot have it all their own way anymore; consent cannot be forced or coerced. It is becoming more and more important for them to retain correspondence, almost always in digital form nowadays, to prove their cases.

# opanion

# Dealing with emissions

The new Bharat Stage-VI norms will drastically reduce vehicular emissions, particularly for diesel cars, but India has to start adapting new drivetrain technologies for itself



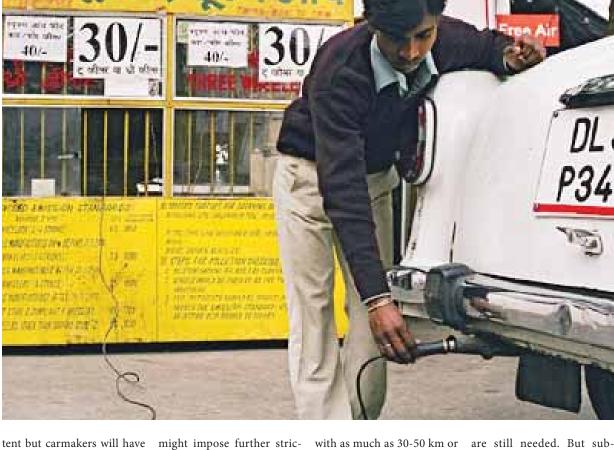
KUSHAN MITRA

ver the past few weeks, the surprise announcement by Maruti Suzuki, the country's largest carmaker, that it would be withdrawing from the diesel segment after the new Bharat Stage-VI (BS-VI) norms come into force on April 1 next year, has the entire automotive industry in India aflutter. But Maruti Suzuki chairman RC Bhargava, had a point: Small diesel-engined cars will, for the large part, become unaffordable once these new norms

There are a couple of reasons behind this. The first and one, which should not be ignored, is the accelerated timeline the Government introduced for BS-VI emission norms three years ago, following a particularly polluted winter in the capital. In doing so, India was to skip Bharat Stage-V (BS-V) emission norms and move directly to the next level. Those of us, who understand how carmakers plan their future, know that it takes year, often a decade, to develop new cars and engines, particularly in modern times when emissions, fuel-economy and safety are paramount. Skipping a generation meant that carmakers scrambled to develop BS-VI engines instead of BS-V ones and this sudden shift meant that the engineering work did not just double but increased by several multiples. And crucially so did costs.

What is the second factor? Today, a diesel engine variant of a small car or sedan in India costs around ₹1 lakh to ₹1.5 lakh more than a similarly-specified petrol model. Yes, diesel engines are a bit more complex because of the way they operate. Advanced technologies, such as injection high-pressure variable-geometry turbochargers, have made even a small one capable of producing huge amounts of power. Surprisingly, that too, without much of the lag that diesels from the early 2000s had. Volvo sells cars equipped with a two-litre turbodiesel engine that produces 235 horse-power, which frankly is incredible and would have been considered impossible on a standard road car by engineers a few short years ago.
But these technologies that make

diesel so appealing are expensive and do not take away from the fact that the fuel when it is burnt. Hazardous compounds like benzene, nitrous oxides, sulphuric oxides as well as much more particulate matter. Diesel after all is a heavier hydrocarbon compound and it has far more impurities than petrol. In addition, to making diesel burn more efficiently, sulphur is still added to it. But under BS-VI norms, impurities have to be reined in. For one, crude refineries will have to produce diesel with far lower sulphur con-



tent but carmakers will have to build and develop systems that capture much of the emissions. And those capture systems, even though they might on the face of it appear simplistic, drive up the cost. This has been noticed in Europe when Euro-VI emission norms, which are broadly similar to Indian norms,

have come into play. So to make a BS-VI compliant small diesel car is not only expensive but costs a significant premium to even a BS-IV diesel car, as much as a lakh of rupees more. A premium hatchback in diesel could cost over ₹2 lakh more if it has a diesel engine. And at today's prices at the pump, that would mean a lot of daily driving to make back the additional investment, which if you live in the National Capital Region (NCR) is accelerated further because of the Supreme Court imposed strictures mandating that diesel cars must be deregistered after 10 years.

While the introduction of the new norms should mitigate this condition for BS-VI compliant vehicles, the possibility that the courts and the National Green Tribunal might impose further strictures on diesel are ever present. There were serious talks last year of the possibility of all diesel vehicles being banned in the NCR during really bad days with hazardous Air Quality Index scores, and given that it is not just the NCR but almost the entire northern half of the nation that chokes every winter, this remains a possibility, even though it cripples the economy.

However, increased prices of diesel vehicles do lead to an intriguing possibility. One major reason why people bought diesel cars was that they are incredibly fuel efficient, sometimes as much as 40-50 per cent more economical. While that made a huge difference when petrol and diesel prices were miles apart, ronment, it makes a sizeable difference. If you are driving more than 50 km a day, a diesel still makes sense as of today. What will that heavy usage person think of once that diesel option is taken

The answer in my opinion is not electric, not just yet, but hybrids, particularly those with as much as 30-50 km or pure electric range as well as the ability to be plugged-in overnight. Both Honda and Toyota have fairly advanced hybrids available in India but they are in the large sedan segment and quite expensive. But if such a hybrid was made available in a smaller vehicle -and with technology and battery prices falling that is clearly possible — why wouldn't a buyer consider one

A strong plug-in electric hybrid could reduce fuel bills dramatically, much more than diesel vehicles. The fact that it also has an electric mode could curb emissions spectacularly.

Pure electric cars are still far too expensive and it is more likely that electric mobility will be driven in public transportation. But far more studies need to be conducted. While India produces more than enough electricity, our grids are currently not capable for the large part of dealing with a surge of electric vehicles. To make such vehicles viable, huge subsidies on the vehicle manufacturing costs and the power supplied

sidised power will mean that a commercially viable charging ecosystem cannot develop alongside. There are hundreds of questions and the fact is that "visionary" politicians and bureaucrats, who have declared the future of mobility is electric, have been incredibly lazy, because this is an industry that employs millions and plays a huge role in the economy.

Hybrids are easier, they take care of the infrastructure problem by having an onboard generator in the engine. They will be slightly expensive to buy but the potential fuel savings on hybrids, if the Honda Accord and Toyota Camry hybrids that are currently sold in India are any indication, could be more than that of diesel, ularly charged.

Charge the battery overnight and your fuel tank could stretch for weeks rather than days. And it will get Indians used to a new normal. But one thing is clear, that new normal will not have diesel play a big role! (The writer is Managing

Editor, The Pioneer)

#### SOUNDBITE

away from him/her?

Nathuram Godse (who killed Mahatma Gandhi) is now BJP leader. They (BJP) have forgotten Netaji who gave the Jai Hind slogan.

TMC chief —Mamata Banerjee I'm not the type of mother who believes in 'oh today my child learned this so watch it on a video.' I don't believe in the showmanship of a child.

—Neha Dhupia



Let him (Modi) organise a debate at any place. I can guarantee to the

minutes of debate, he won't be able to show his face to them.

Congress chief



The world has started saying that the BJP is dangerous for democracy. The world's biggest magazine has written that these are the very people who divided society.

Samajwadi Party chief -Akhilesh Yadav



#### ETTERS TO

Pitroda's remarks prove costly

#### Clear the air

Sir — This refers to the editorial, "Delhi confidential" (May 11). Without an iota of doubt the 2019 Lok Sabha election will go down in the history of India as the dirtiest one. With even senior leaders indulging in below-the-belt remarks day in and day out, we should not be surprised by the pamphlet row between the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) and the Bharatiya Janata

To her credit, AAP leader Atishi Marlena has a huge role to play in restoring lost credibility of the Government schools in Delhi. But having said that, it would also be wrong to blame BJP candidate Gautam Gambhir for this fiasco without any solid proof. A thorough probe must be launched and whosoever has played this dirty game must be brought to book and punished. For sure, in a democracy as vibrant as India, it is expected of the voters to be smarter than the politicians. As for the parties, such vileness will only tend to backfire.

**Bal Govind** 

he 1984 anti-Sikh riots in Delhi were sad and shameful days for India as a country known to embrace all religions without bias. The tacit support of some Congress leaders behind the killings was alleged and courts were moved. But anti-Sikh "anger" remains a blot on the Congress' widely hailed secular image. Unfortunately, while top Congress leaders have been subdued and sober on the horrific tragedy, some mediumlevel cadres and "intellectuals" have put the party in a spot of bother with their of the cuff and immature remarks. Sam Pitroda was considered a right hand man of late Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi. The "overseas chairman" of the Congress suddenly emerged from nowhere to "help" the Congress.

Earlier, Pitroda had courted controversy by refusing to blame Pakistan for the 26/11 Mumbai terror attacks and his latest "hua toh hua" remarks on the Sikh killings have caused a huge uproar among the community. His blooper may affect the party in Punjab and Delhi. There have been huge protests by the Sikhs against his comments and the BJP has made them an election issue.



However, Congress president Rahul Gandhi was quick to undertake a damage control exercise by asking Pitroda to apologise. It's high time Rahul Gandhi cautions his senior and junior party members to go slow on controversial issues that have a direct bearing on people's sentiments. What is said cannot be unsaid despite countless apologies and regrets

Ganapathi Bhat

### Odisha needs help

Sir — Fani, the cyclone that hit Odisha recently, has affected the people of this State most severely, depriving them of essentials like food, drinking water, power supply among other things. Nevertheless, the

State's preparedness in preventing casualties is highly appreciable. Even before Fani could make a landfall, people were moved to safer places. Many cyclone shelters were constructed and the Government instituted a disaster risk reduction system that included preparedness activities by families, communi-

ties, Government bodies and NGOs. These efforts drastically minimised the damage However, the priority right now should be to restore power and telecommunications immediately and ensure adequate drink ing water supply to the affected regions, which will require massive manpower and resources.

Further, it was heartening to know that in a noble gesture, the Indian Railways has been transporting relief material free of cost. This move must encourage more people to chip in and expedite relief work to the affect-Varun Dambal

Bengaluru

#### **Grave injustice**

Sir — It is astonishing that the Supreme Court's inquiry committee, probing allegations of sexual harassment against Chief Justice of India (CJI), found "no substance" in the accusations of a former court employee against him. This will not only affect the reputation of the top court, which is the last hope of the aggrieved seeking fair play and equitable justice, but the reputation of the CII himself as a man of impeccable character in personal and professional dealings. It might not be salvaged by the decision to keep the report under wraps. Sushant

Via email

Send your feedback to: letterstopioneer@gmail.com

### FIRSTCOLUMN

### Stem the rot within

It is disheartening that the credibility of our institutions stands eroded today. There's a need to restore what's lost through informed effort



VINAYSHIL GAUTAM

The state of many Indian organisations at best verges on being unprofessional and dubious. There was a time in the national arena when in popular psyche a public institution was trusted and the entry of the private sector elicited reactions of "nationalise them." There was also a time when similar rumblings affected some Government organisations, too, and the cry went out, "privatise them." In this merry-go-round of "privatisation" and "nationalisation", the intensity of the disease only worsened. Many NGOs as also registered societies fared no better. The fate of educational institutions almost caused universal regret but no dramatic turnaround was visible. It was assumed that somehow, the system would cure itself. But it didn't.

A famous story about a sinking ship, one of the biggest in the ocean, goes: When it was hit by an iceberg and began sinking, it had a stray cyclist on its deck. When the ship tilted to the side, the cyclist almost fell over. Out of idle curiosity, he asked a fellow seafarer: "What's happening?" The fellow replied: "The ship is sinking", to which the cyclist said, "You must be joking" and he continued pedalling on. Many Indian organisations fit into this analogy. The brewing crisis is not even being recognised in suitable measure.

Among all institutions, banks have been the first notable victims, both private as well as public sector ones. The only gainer seems to be the defaulters. The working of these institutions seems only to lurch ahead. If the ignominy of a CEO or identification of a scam were to cure the malaise, almost all institutional problems would have been curable. A CEO would have been inept. His kin and friends would have profited out of an unsavoury situation. But what sentiment makes them take liberties? This is only the tip of an iceberg. If one bank scam is unearthed, it is equivalent to catching one rat in a field infested with rats. The CEO may come and go but the overall inefficiency inherent in the situation is corrosive. Killing rats may be a temporary solution but rat holes have to be plugged and the fields have to be sanitised.

Analogies in other sectors exist, too, because perhaps very few realise the gravity of the situation, which threatens to be endemic. Take the case of the education sector: Irrespective of the category or the type of university, in most cases, the moment the post of a vice-chancellor falls vacant, people make a beeline to get on the crease to bat much like the way school children vie with each other for their turn. The pathetic situation of the institution is not unknown to the aspirants of the vice chancellor's post but that does not affect the number of entrants to the race. This situation, which is repeated across various sectors, has led to institutional degradation, which the best of talent at the top may not be able to contain, let alone expect a turnaround, without taking some drastic steps.

Our institutions are allergic to drastic steps. Then enters the new dramatis' personae on the stage. Concerns of equity, caste and religion are new issues for them to negotiate. Rules of the game can anyway be changed. Nobody wants to speak about reforms because they will cause a furore. The media, with its chat shows and printed word in its columns, creates a clatter which confuses any clear hearing.

All this is eating the vitals of economic stability. is a need to take a step back and look carefully at the situation before it becomes graver than it is today. And it did not begin with 1947 but since 1935, when institutionally, the sub-continent passed into the self-governance mode. Several institutions were established for many good reasons and sometimes not so good ones and even today their historical evaluation is coloured with pre-conceived notions.

Putting it in simple terms, all institutions need a clarity of functioning. They require an effective communication flow. They must also have clear decision centres, complete package of objective data, suitable financial flows and above all, balanced and educated decision-makers, who can see emotion for what it is and objectivity for what it should be.

This will not happen on its own. It needs conscious and informed effort. India needs a nation-wide movement to bring coherence and further strengthen the credibility of our institutions. Else, there will always be doubts about the credibility of the Election Commission, the Supreme Court and the Parliament — some of our most prized institutions. A conscious effort must be order to stem the tide.

(The writer is a well-known management consultant)

#### POINTCOUNTERPOINT

A RIFT IS APPARENT IN THE SP-BSP ALLIANCE. LEADERS OF BOTH PARTIES ARE ACCUSING EACH OTHER OF FAILING TO TRANSFER THEIR RESPECTIVE VOTE BANKS. —UTTAR PRADESH CHIEF MINISTER

**YOGI ADITYANATH** 





THE SP-BSP ALLIANCE IS STRONG. IT IS MY APPEAL TO THE WORKERS OF BOTH THE PARTIES TO REMAIN ALERT AND NOT PAY HEED TO RUMOURS.

—SAMAJWADI CHIEF **AKHILESH YADAV** 

# What constitutes privacy?

India does not even have a data protection policy. This is something that our policy-makers need to look forward to instead of batting for the right to be forgotten





**MEHTA** 

s a concept, the Right To Be Forgotten (RTBF) evolved in the 1990s in western Europe and subsequently developed as part of human rights jurisprudence. France became a pioneer of this issue when it recognised the "right to oblivion." This right was available to all convicted individuals, who had served their prison sentences. Often, in cases like these, social stigma is attached to individ-uals even after they have served their punishments. In general, people had ready access to the criminal history of such cases and the actu-al commission of a crime would perpetuate stig-ma. As a result, individuals suffered regardless

ma. As a result, individuals suffered regardless of the geographical location.

The RTBF is reflected in Article 17 of the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) of the European Union (EU). The EU Parliament took nearly four years of preparation and debate to approve the GDPR in 2016, which was finally enforced on May 25, 2018. The GDPR framework replaced an outdated Data Protection directive from 1995. It contains Data Protection directive from 1995. It contains provisions that require businesses to protect their personal data as well as privacy of the EU citizens for transactions that occur within the member states of the EU. It also regulates the exportation of outside its boundaries. personal

In the Indian context, RTBF is envisaged in the Justice BN Srikrishna Committee report (2018) on Data Protection Bill. The report held that the "rights of the citizens have to be protected, the responsibilities of the States have to be defined but data protection can't come at the cost of trade and industry." Thus, there is also a strong possibility of this right making its way a strong possibility of this right making its way into the Indian legislature. The rationale of the Supreme Court of India in the Puttaswamy judgement has upheld other fundamental rights securing individual liberty in the Constitution. In addition, individual dignity is one of the basis for right to privacy. Privacy itself was held to have a negative impact (the right to self-development) right to self-development).

protect one's identity. This right recognises the fact that all information about a person is fundamentally their own and he/she is free to communicate or retain it for himself/herself. This core of informational privacy is, thus, a right to autonomy and self-determination with respect to one's personal data. Such a notion has also been echoed in the Srikrishna Committee report (2018) on data protection.

Further, it believes that a free and fair digital economy, one that empowers the citizens, can only grow on the foundation of individual autonomy, working towards maximising the common good. However, the report manifests an approach to balance free speech with RTBF. Many have pointed out that the Bill doesn't lay down the golden principle of allowing individuals to be true owners of their own data. The report further includes a balancing test with five criteria for the judiciary to weigh the freedom of speech and expression with RTBF.

RTBF is sometimes referred to as the Right to Erasure (RTE). As it is commonly misunder-



RIGHT TO PRIVACY

GUARANTEES
LIBERTY IN
PRIVATE SPACES,
ELECTRONIC OR
OTHERWISE. THIS
MEANS THAT THE INFORMATION, WHICH IS NOT IN THE PUBLIC DOMAIN, IS PROTECTED FROM COMING INTO THE PUBLIC DOMAIN. RIGHT TO BE FORGOTTEN, ON THE OTHER HAND, INVOLVES INFORMATION THAT IS ALREADY IN THE PUBLIC DOMAIN AND IS REQUIRED TO BE DELINKED FROM THE INDIVIDUAL WHO DOES NOT WANT TO LEAVE A **FOOTPRINT** 





stood, RTBF is not synonymous to the RTE. It is rather an extension of it. The underlying principle of RTE is that when there is no compelling reason for the subject's data to be processed, he/she can request the data controller to erase/remove their personal data, stop any further distribution of their personal data or potentially prevent third parties from processing their personal data.

RTE was applied to only proprietary databases. For example, if one wishes to unsubscribe from a magazine, he/she can ask the concerned firm to delete all information not apply to search databases as RTBF does. Hence, RTBF is actually an extension of the RTE.

The debate around this has gained a lot of traction in India after the Supreme Court recognised Right to Privacy in its landmark case of *Justice* KS Puttaswamy (Retd) and Anr vs *Union Of India and Others.* The apex court held that right to privacy is part of the right to life and personal liberty as guaranteed under Article 21 of the Indian Constitution. A ninejudge Bench held that "life and personal liberty are inalienable rights. These are rights which are inseparable from a dignified human existence. The dignity of the individual, equality between human beings and the quest for liberty are the foundational pillars of the Indian Constitution..." The verdict has given impetus to demands for recognition for other

fourth generation human rights in India, like the right to be forgotten and The right to privacy guarantees

Sensitive Information Compliance

liberty in private spaces, electronic or otherwise. This means that the information, which is not in the public domain, is protected from coming into the public domain. Right to be forgot-ten, on the other hand, involves information that is already in the public domain and is required to be delinked from the individual, who has claimed the right to be forgotten.
Further, the RTE operates in an

even niche area, where an individual can target a specific database and claim a KTE against it for the removal of information which concerns them. But the fourth-generation communication rights, like the right to be forgotten, come with their own set of flaws.

First, one of the major problems is that the guarantee of the right vests with only a few individual corporations. Take the example of Google. As per Google's Transparency report, it can remove only 41 per cent of the URLs against which some issue was raised. This means that the authoritative framework for implementing such a right now vests with a corporation and it is performing an adjudicatory function while deciding to accede to a request of removal. This is something which the Indian legal system does not envisage; wherein adjudicatory role is an essential state function.

Second, there is a concern that accused criminals can wipe out valuable evidence while their guilt is under adjudication. This can turn out to be an implementation nightmare for security agencies, especially those who are collaborating on international crimes and possibly terrorism.

Third, the sheer reach of the

internet make a case for something, like the right to be forgotten absolutey impractical. If there is an adjudicaly impractical. If there is an adjudica-tory order, for instance against Google, the information, which a claimant is seeking to protect, is not necessarily saved by such a request. This simply because Google is not the sole repository of that information. Details may be available through other search engines and may still be hosted as it is a primary website. Hence, it is highly problematic to put such a right in motion. Regardless to mention, it also involves significant expenditure to bring it into force.

Fourth, India does not even have a data protection policy. This is something that our policy-makers need to look forward to instead of batting for the right to be forgotten. Because in the absence of such a system, multinational corporations, which practically administer and govern the internet, are beyond the jurisdiction of the Indian law and courts. Hence, even a guarantee will be meaningless if the decisions of our courts are not respected/recognised.

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

### Trade row precursor to another low

Amid a vicious circle of mistrust between the US and China, what is quite likely to happen is that the latter will slide into a huge recession, dragging the rest of the world behind it. Maybe not as bad as 2008 but very bad and probably very long



**GWYNNE DYER** 

S President Donald Trump is playing the hard-ball with China over trade and the worry-warts are fretting that he's going to start a real trade war by accident. The bigger threat, however, is that he will push first China and then the whole world into a deep recession.

It's been 10 years since the last recession (2008-09) and that one was a doozy. Recessions tend to come around once a decade, so one is due about now anyway — and the Chinese economy is so shaky that almost any serious shock can topple it into the pit. The rest of the world will follow.

A week ago, according to both sides, the US-China trade deal was Washington) China started to "renege" on parts of the deal it had earlier agreed to. Washington is probably telling the truth about that: It's practically standard in the closing stages of any negotiation with the Chinese

So, Trump responded by imposing heavy new tariffs on Chinese exports, to come into effect in less than a week's time unless they back off. According to his Twitter-storm, the existing tariff of 10 per cent on \$200 billion of Chinese exports to the United States will more than double to 25 per cent. In another move, Trump ordered tariff hike on remaining Chinese imports valued at \$325 billion and will face 25 per cent customs duties.

Decades of experience in the Manhattan real estate market have taught Donald Trump to recognise the smell of fear and he is right: The Chinese are terrified. But he knows nothing about trade or the Chinese economy, so he doesn't understand the implications of that. (This is a guy who boasts that the Chinese are having to almost done, but then (according to pay these new tariffs. It is, of course,



the American importers who pay.) The Chinese leaders are terrified because their economy is already trembling on the brink of a major recession. They dodged the last one in 2008 by flooding the economy with cheap credit and setting off an investment boom that kept employment high, especially in construction. But that trick only works once.

All four corners of almost every major intersection in the hundred biggest Chinese cities are now occupied by 'dark towers': Forty or 50storeyed apartment buildings with few

or no occupants. It would take an estimated four years with no new construction whatsoever to sell off the currently unsold housing stock.

And the building is still going on, albeit at a somewhat slower pace. The vaunted six per cent annual growth in the Chinese economy is just creative accounting. At least half of that is actually spending on white elephant projects like the dark towers that create employment but will never produce an adequate return on investment.

Meanwhile, the real Chinese economy (annual growth rate between two

ing to a near-stall. Last year, for the first time in a quarter-century, new car sales in China actually fell by almost six per cent. A big hit to its exports to the US, its biggest single customer, could tip it over the edge.

China is now such a big player that the rest of the world economy would probably follow it into a recession and it would be much worse than the usual couple of years of slow or no growth because none of the major players has really recovered from the last recession yet. The main way Governments fight recessions is by cutting interest rate, but that is still near zero in most big economies from the drastic cuts in interest last time round. Moreover, Government debt is much higher than it was a decade ago and there would be no public support for bailing out the banks with the taxpay-

ers' money again. "We're in much worse shape to deal with whatever shocks come along than we were ten years ago," said Nobel Prize-winning economist Paul Krugman in a recent Bloomberg Growing Pains: The Future of interview. China is in particularly bad Democracy and Work)

per cent and three per cent) is slow- shape. Its total debt, even according to the untrustworthy official figures, is nearing three times its GDP, which is when the alarm bells usually start ringing. So what happens if Trump's huge tariff hikes do not force an immediate Chinese surrender on whatever issues remain in contention in the trade talks? What if Chinese President Xi Jinping and his people decide to tough it out rather than lose a lot of face? What is quite likely to happen is that China slides into a huge recession, dragging the rest of the world behind it. Maybe not as bad as 2008, but very

bad and probably very long.

Something else might happen too. The Chinese version of the 'social contract' is that power and privileges of the post-Communist autocracy that runs the country will be tolerated as long as people's living standards rise rapidly. But they are already stagnating. How would the Chinese public react if living standards actually begin to fall? Really badly, in all like-

lihood. We live in interesting times. (The writer's new book is





REWRITE THE **RULES OF TRADE** 

The world's trading rules

need rewriting, not least so that its largest economies can trade peacefully. They need to allow a freer hand for countries to pursue "fairer trade" strategies that suit their economies and societies. In richer nations, labour markets ought to be protected from social dumping and technology leakages. Developing nations should be able to pursue an

independent economic strategy.

(The Guardian editorial)

Scheme			Sundaram Select Focus(G)	174.61		Franklin India Equity Fund(G)				25.26	-5.46	Ooverneed Fu	
DHFL Pramerica Global Equity Opp Fund(G)	18.41	17.75	Tata India Pharma & Healthcare Fund-Reg(G)	8.92	3.54	DSP Equal Nifty 50 Fund-Reg(G)	9.81	-0.86	Fund-Reg(G) Templeton India Equity	45.59	-5.48	Soyameal Ex	ports
ICICI Pru US Bluechip	27.30	15.97	Kotak India EQ Contra Fund(G	G) 51.17	3.17	Franklin India Taxshield(G)	553.62	-0.90	Income Fund(G)	10.00	0.10	(in ₹	Crores)
Equity Fund(G) Reliance US Equity	15 22	14 56	Invesco India Financial Services Fund(G)	54.96	3.02	Tata India Tax Savings Fund-Reg(G)	17.52	-0.90	Sundaram Diversified Equity(G)	98.43	-5.50	14155.97	The second
Opp Fund(G)	15.52	14.50	DSP Global Allocation	12.16	2.89	Mirae Asset Great Consumer	33.07	-0.98	L&T Equity Fund-Reg(G)	79.29	-5.63	5 2 5 5	
SBI Banking & Financial	17.86	13.38	Fund-Reg(G)	00.70	0.04	Fund-Reg(G)			DSP Natural Res & New	31.62	-5.68		300
Services Fund-Reg(G) Franklin India Feeder -	31.35	10.69	ICICI Pru Focused Equity Fund(G)	29.70	2.84	DSP Top 100 Equity Fund-Reg(G)	200.22	-1.14	Energy Fund-Reg(G) Tata Ethical Fund(G)	151.71	-5.78	OIL-CAKE AND	OTHER SOLID TETHER OR NOT
Franklin U.S. Opportunities	01.00	10.00	Tata Banking & Financial	18.27	2.84	UTI Banking and Financial	96.30	-1.29	IDFC Multi Cap Fund-Reg(G)	89.16		GROUND OR II	N THE FORM OF
Fund(G)	F7 76	0.04	Services Fund-Reg(G)	17.00	2 02	Services Fund-Reg(G)	16.01	1 21	UTI MNC Fund-Reg(G)	184.17		RESIDUES WH GROUND OR II PELLETS, RESU	
ICICI Pru Technology Fund(G) Tata Digital India Fund-Reg(G			Fund-Reg(G)	17.00	2.83	JM Tax Gain Fund(G) Invesco India Growth Opp			SBI LT Advantage Fund-II-Reg(G)	13.52	-6.00	THE EXTRACTI	
SBI Technology Opp			Sundaram Fin Serv Opp	40.51	2.73	Fund(G)			Reliance Vision Fund(G)	508.00			).42 6656.45
Fund-Reg(G) Aditya Birla SL Intl. Equity	21 01	8 40	Fund(G)  JM Core 11 Fund(G)	8.79	2.57	SBI BlueChip Fund-Reg(G) Reliance Close Ended			UTI Core Equity Fund-Reg(G) ICICI Pru Value Fund-10(G)	59.96 11.21			5130.42
Fund-A(G)	21.01	0.40	JM Large Cap Fund(G)	65.80	2.43		10.11	-1.40	Aditya Birla SL Global		-6.16	4849.37	
Franklin India Technology	161.20	8.25	Baroda Large Cap Fund(G)	14.05		DHFL Pramerica LT Equity	13.91	-1.56	Commodities Fund(G)	15.10		48 48 152	
Fund(G) DSP US Flexible Equity	24.52	8.19	JM Multicap Fund(G) Mirae Asset Emerging	30.94 51.09		Fund-Reg(G) Sundaram Value	15.60	-1.68	SBI Equity Opp Fund-Sr I-Reg(G)	15.46	-6.23		SV: (Apr-Feb)
Fund-Reg(G)			Bluechip-Reg(G)			Fund-II-Reg(G)			Principal Multi Cap Growth	137.17	-6.25	0011 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10	
HDFC Top 100 Fund(G) ICICI Pru Growth Fund-2(DP)	482.97 11.83		Tata Large Cap Fund(G) Reliance Banking Fund(G)	213.15 274.41		SBI Healthcare Opp Fund-Reg(G)	117.89	-1.70	Fund(G) Principal Global Opportunities	28.32	-6 26	2011-12 12-13 13-14 14-15 15-16 16-	-11 11-10 <b>10-13</b> mmerce
Tata Index Fund-Sensex			ICICI Pru Bluechip Fund(G)	41.14		DSP Focus Fund-Reg(G)	22.27	-1.71		20.02	-0.20	Tata India Consumer	16.23 -10.2
Plan(G)	004.00	7.07	Franklin Build India Fund(G)	40.97		ICICI Pru Value Fund-8(D)	10.33		Principal Personal Tax	187.93	-6.26	Fund-Reg(G)	40 47 40 0
HDFC Index Fund-Sensex(G) DSP World Agriculture			BNP Paribas Large Cap Fund(G)	85.85	1.92	Aditya Birla SL Equity Fund(G)	707.12	-1.76	saver Fund ICICI Pru Exports & Services	54.47	-6.47	Invesco India Infrastructure Fund(G)	16.17 -10.2
Fund-Reg(G)			Reliance Multi Cap Fund(G)	95.15	1.82	` '	12.63	-1.76	Fund(G)			L&T Large and Midcap	45.22 -10.2
Axis Bluechip Fund(G) Sundaram World Brand			SBI Focused Equity Fund-Reg(G)	139.28	1.42	Invesco Global Equity Income Fund(G)			HDFC Focused 30 Fund(G) Principal Nifty 100 Equal			Fund-Reg(G) UTI LT Adv Fund-III(G)	13.10 -10.54
Fund-Sr II-Reg(G)	14.99	0.09	Kotak Bluechip Fund(G)	226.05	1.36		138.51	-1.83	Weight Fund(G)	09.19	-0.56	SBI PSU Fund-Reg(G)	10.00 -10.5
Aditya Birla SL Digital	52.29	6.65	Edelweiss Large Cap Fund(G)			TaxGain'93-Reg(G)			Aditya Birla SL Equity	391.46	-6.67	Kotak Infra & Eco Reform	19.29 -10.9
India Fund(G) Kotak US Equity Fund(G)	16 54	6 65	Aditya Birla SL Focused Equity Fund(G)	57.85	1.26	Axis Focused 25 Fund(G)  DHFL Pramerica Tax Plan(G)			Advantage Fund(G) UTI Focussed Equity Fund-I/G	3) 12 85	-6 82	Fund(G) HDFC Small Cap Fund-Reg(G)	) 41.63 -11.1 <sup>-</sup>
Sundaram World Brand			Kotak Equity Opp Fund(G)	115.57	1.10	Aditya Birla SL Intl. Equity			Principal Tax Savings Fund	200.63	-6.87	SBI Magnum Comma	35.09 -11.1
Fund-Sr III-Reg(G)	147.00	6.40	UTI Mastershare-Reg(G)	118.54		Fund-B(G)	E4 07	4.0=	DSP World Energy	12.95	-6.88	Fund-Reg(G)	152 02 44 4
Reliance Pharma Fund(G)  Mar Apr May Jun			Reliance Quant Fund(G)  p Oct Nov Dec Jan F	25.10 eb Ma		Principal Dividend Yield Fund(G)	51.9/	-ı.ŏ/	Fund-Reg(G) SBI LT Advantage	13.08	-6.93	Aditya Birla SL Dividend Yield Fund(G)	153.83 -11.1
2018	Jui A	ag se	737	201		Motilal Oswal Focused	21.14	-1.88	Fund-I-Reg(G)			1 0( )	127.65 -11.43
			723			25 Fund-Reg(G) ICICI Pru Value Discovery	141 26	-1 92	Franklin India Prima Fund(G) ICICI Pru Infrastructure			Kotak Global Emerging Mkt Fund(G)	15.25 -11.64
691 692 <sup>697</sup>			689	//73	4	Fund(G)	141.20	-1.32	Fund(G)	49.00	-0.33	UTI LT Adv Fund-IV(G)	10.03 -11.66
679	672 67	70		<b>V</b>		Edelweiss Emerging	12.43	-1.99	DSP World Mining Fund-Reg(				42.74 -11.93
		66		80		Markets Opp Eq. Offshore Fund-Reg(G)			UTI Infrastructure Fund-Reg(Control Invesco India PSU Equity	-			275.68 -12.28
		-				ICICI Pru Large & Mid	314.92	-2.00	Fund(G)			Fund(G)	
5000	NO SMOKING	FLAMMABLE				Cap Fund(G)	12.05	2.06	DHFL Pramerica Euro Equity	13.14	-7.62	Sundaram Infra Advantage	31.30 -12.42
Consumption o	<i>ε</i> Δ1	ΓE			W	Sundaram LT Tax Adv Fund-Sr I-Reg(G)	13.25	-2.06	Fund(G) SBI Contra Fund-Reg(G)	106.29	-7.68	Fund(G) Aditya Birla SL Mfg. Equity	12.40 -12.61
NOSMOKING						Reliance Focused Equity	46.27	-2.08	DSP Midcap Fund-Reg(G)	52.49	-7.81	Fund-Reg(G)	
(in '0	DO MI	7)				Fund(G) HDFC TaxSaver(G)	505 <b>7</b> 5	2 15	IDBI Diversified Equity Fund(CL&T India Value Fund-Reg(G)	-		Invesco India Feeder - Invesco Pan European Equity	10.39 -12.64
					and the	Aditya Birla SL MNC Fund(G)						Fund-Reg(G)	
Source: Ministry of Petroleum & N	ature Gas		GP GR	RAPHIC	S	BNP Paribas Long Term	36.83	-2.17	Fund-Reg(G)	00.04	7.04	IDBI Midcap Fund(G)	10.28 -12.73
ICICI Pru Banking & Fin	63.79	6.37	DHFL Pramerica Large	162.74	0.89	Equity Fund(G) Edelweiss Multi-Cap	14.08	-2.30	Sundaram Rural and Consumption Fund(G)	39.64	-7.94	IDFC Sterling Value Fund-Reg(G)	49.49 -12.82
Serv Fund(G)			Cap Fund(G)			Fund-Reg(G)			UTI India Consumer	24.19	-7.95	,	31.03 -13.1
UTI Nifty Index Fund-Reg(G) Reliance Index Fund -			DSP Tax Saver Fund-Reg(G) L&T India Large Cap			Sundaram LT Tax Adv Fund-Sr II-Reg(G)	14.23	-2.46	Fund-Reg(G) Sundaram Select Small	13 55	-7 95	Fund(G) L&T Infrastructure Fund-Reg(G	S) 15 29 -13 1:
Sensex Plan(G)	10.03	0.51	Fund-Reg(G)	20.44	0.72	SBI LT Advantage	13.14	-2.56	Cap Series-IV-Reg(G)	10.00	-1.33	L&T Business Cycle	14.56 -13.32
IDFC Nifty Fund-Reg(G)			Franklin India Bluechip	452.80	0.63	Fund-III-Reg(G)	40.70	0.07	Sundaram Select Small	13.53	-8.09	Fund-Reg(G)	CO OF 40 4
Aditya Birla SL Global Real Estate Fund(G)	19.30	6.21	Fund(G) Principal Focused Multicap	61.66	0.62	Invesco India Tax Plan(G) Reliance Japan Equity Fund(C			Cap Series-III-Reg(G) ICICI Pru Dividend Yield	16.35	-8.09	SBI Magnum Midcap Fund-Reg(G)	69.95 -13.47
HDFC Index Fund-NIFTY	102.28	6.18	Fund(G)			ICICI Pru R.I.G.H.T Fund(G)	-		Equity Fund(G)			Sundaram Mid Cap Fund(G)	448.43 -13.80
50 Plan(G)	67.00	0.00	Aditya Birla SL India	79.76	0.61	IDBI India Top 100 Equity	22.84	-3.10	SBI Magnum Global	161.19	-8.12	Edelweiss Mid Cap Fund-Reg(G)	25.37 -14.3
Tata Index Fund-Nifty Plan(G) ICICI Pru Global Stable			GenNext Fund(G) IDFC Large Cap Fund-Reg(G)	31.33	0.60	Fund(G) Canara Rob Emerg Equities	91.17	-3.14	Fund-Reg(G) Tata Infrastructure	53.17	-8.18	Franklin India Smaller Cos	52.10 -14.40
Equity Fund(G)			Invesco India Largecap			Fund-Reg(G)			Fund-Reg(G)			Fund(G)	
SBI Nifty Index Fund-Reg(G) ICICI Pru Growth Fund-1(DP)			Fund(G) Tata Large & Mid Cap	100 22	0.52	Reliance Consumption Fund(0 BNP Paribas Multi Cap	-		IDFC Tax Advt(ELSS) Fund-Reg(G)	54.44	-8.21	DHFL Pramerica Midcap Opp Fund-Reg(G)	17.28 -14.46
Baroda Banking & Fin			Fund(G)	190.23	0.55	Fund(G)	45.21	-5.20	SBI Infrastructure Fund-Reg(G	S) 14.67	-8.37	SBI Small Cap Fund-Reg(G)	50.07 -14.7
Serv Fund(G)			DHFL Pramerica Large	12.12	0.51	Sundaram Global Advt(G)			IDBI Equity Advantage	-		Reliance Small Cap Fund(G)	38.66 -14.9
ICICI Pru Nifty Index Fund(G) Reliance Index Fund -			Cap Fund-2-Reg(G) UTI Equity Fund-Reg(G)	136 90	0 47	Edelweiss Large & Mid Cap Fund-Reg(G)	30.01	-3.38	Fund-Reg(G) Templeton India Value	244 56	-8 42	Baroda Mid-cap Fund(G) ICICI Pru Smallcap Fund(G)	8.59 -14.95 24.27 -15.20
Nifty Plan(G)			ICICI Pru Value Fund-9(G)			DHFL Pramerica Diversified	12.83	-3.39	Fund(G)			Kotak Small Cap Fund(G)	68.05 -15.60
Aditya Birla SL Index	110.25	5.41	UTI Healthcare Fund-Reg(G)	83.48 37.47		Equity Fund-Reg(G)	Q2 70	-3 40	SBI Consumption Opp	111.41	-8.51	UTI Mid Cap Fund-Reg(G)	94.34 -16.25 23.47 -16.45
Fund-Reg(G) Franklin India Index	89.09	5.39	Canara Rob Consumer Trends Fund-Reg(G)	31.47	υ.11	UTI LT Equity Fund (Tax Saving)-Reg(G)	<b>ช</b> 3.72	- <b>૩.48</b>	Fund-Reg(G) Principal Emerging Bluechip	99.83	-8.61	L&T Emerging Businesses Fund-Reg(G)	20.47 - 16.4
Fund-NSE Nifty(G)			ICICI Pru Bharat Consumption	10.02	0.10		211.97	-3.49	Fund(G)			Kotak World Gold Fund(G)	7.38 -16.62
Reliance Large Cap Fund(G)			Fund-1-(G)	04.04	0.00	Fund-Reg(G)	40.40	0.50	Motilal Oswal Long Term	16.48	-8.79	Reliance Power & Infra	94.91 -16.82
Mirae Asset Large Cap Fund-Reg(G)	49.59	5.29	SBI Tax advantage Fund-II(G) Axis Long Term Equity			Invesco India Contra Fund(G) Tata Mid Cap Growth Fund(G)				129.32	-8.82	Fund(G) IDBI Small Cap Fund(G)	9.01 -16.88
SBI Magnum Equity ESG	101.92	5.26	Fund(G)			Franklin India Opportunities			Baroda ELSS 96(G)	42.52	-8.83	HDFC Infrastructure Fund(G)	15.93 -17.1
Fund-Reg(G)	20.75	E OF	UTI Dividend Yield	63.38	-0.08	Fund(G)	74.05	_0 70	Kotak Emerging Equity	36.76	-8.84	Aditya Birla SL Emerging	14.20 -17.7
IDBI Nifty Index Fund(G) Parag Parikh Long Term			Fund-Reg(G) Aditya Birla SL CEF-Global	23.10	-0.18	Reliance Value Fund(G) HDFC Capital Builder Value			Scheme(G) L&T Tax Advt Fund-Reg(G)	51.91	-8.97	Leaders Fund-4-Reg(G) DSP Small Cap Fund-Reg(G)	53.22 -17.8
Equity Fund-Reg(G)			Agri-Reg(G)			Fund(G)			SBI LT Advantage			IDFC Infrastructure	14.40 -19.90
Axis Multicap Fund-Reg(G)			Aditya Birla SL Banking &		-0.18	Invesco India Midcap Fund(G)			- · ·	1) 20 40	0.00	Fund-Reg(G) Sundaram Select Micro	12.02.20 7
HDFC Equity Fund(G) Kotak Standard Multicap			Financial Services Fund-Reg(0 Aditya Birla SL Frontline	•	-0.28	ICICI Pru Value Fund-11(G) Edelweiss Long Term Equity			BNP Paribas Mid Cap Fund(G HDFC Mid-Cap Opportunities				12.93 -20.7
Fund(G)			Equity Fund(G)			Fund (Tax Savings)-Reg(G)			Fund(G)			Aditya Birla SL Small Cap	33.21 -21.14
Canara Rob Equity Tax Saver Fund-Reg(G)	63.04	4.56	HDFC Growth Opp Fund-Reg(G)	109.40	-0.53	Reliance Growth Fund(G) Aditya Birla SL Tax			IDBI Nifty Junior Index Fund(CICICI Pru Nifty Next 50			Fund(G) Aditya Birla SL Pure Value	48.71 -21.73
Canara Rob Bluechip	24.02	4.39	• ,	214.08	-0.55	Relief '96(G)	JU.40	<del>7.4</del> 3	Index Fund(G)	۷۵.45	·J.∠1	Fund(G)	.0.11-21.6
Equity Fund-Reg(G)			Fund-Reg(G)			Franklin India Equity	76.81	-4.49	Edelweiss Eur Dynamic	10.51	-9.26	Sundaram Small Cap Fund(G)	
<del>-</del>	42.90		SBI Tax Advantage Fund-III-Reg(G)	23.71	-0.58	Advantage Fund(G)  JM Value Fund(G)	30.61	-4 59	Equity Off-shr Fund-Reg(G) ICICI Pru Midcap Fund(G)	92 19	-9 40	Sundaram LT Micro Cap Tax Adv Fund-Sr V-Reg(G)	8.31 -24.33
Kotak Tax Saver Scheme(G)	236 77	+.ა∪	<b>3</b> , ,		0.62	* *			UTI LT Adv Fund-V(G)			Sundaram LT Micro Cap Tax	
Kotak Tax Saver Scheme(G) ICICI Pru FMCG Fund(G) ICICI Pru Multicap Fund(G)		4.27	SBI Magnum Multicap	47.36	-0.62	Franklin Asian Equity Fund(G)						oundaram Li wiicio cap iax	10.01 -24.8
ICICI Pru FMCG Fund(G) ICICI Pru Multicap Fund(G) ICICI Pru LT Equity Fund	286.68		Fund-Reg(G)			IDFC Core Equity Fund-Reg(C	G) 43.24		DSP India T.I.G.E.R			Adv Fund-Sr III-Reg(G)	
ICICI Pru FMCG Fund(G) ICICI Pru Multicap Fund(G) ICICI Pru LT Equity Fund (Tax Saving)(G)	286.68 371.82	4.22	Fund-Reg(G) Sundaram Large and			IDFC Core Equity Fund-Reg(CDSP World Gold Fund-Reg(G	G) 43.24 ) 10.70	-5.07	DSP India T.I.G.E.R Fund-Reg(G)	87.26	-9.60	Adv Fund-Sr III-Reg(G) Aditya Birla SL Emerging	
ICICI Pru FMCG Fund(G) ICICI Pru Multicap Fund(G) ICICI Pru LT Equity Fund	286.68 371.82	4.22	Fund-Reg(G)	33.29	-0.65	IDFC Core Equity Fund-Reg(C	G) 43.24 ) 10.70	-5.07	DSP India T.I.G.E.R	87.26 53.48	-9.60 -9.64	Adv Fund-Sr III-Reg(G) Aditya Birla SL Emerging Leaders Fund-7-Reg(G) Sundaram LT Micro Cap Tax	12.04 -24.98
ICICI Pru FMCG Fund(G) ICICI Pru Multicap Fund(G) ICICI Pru LT Equity Fund (Tax Saving)(G) Canara Rob Equity Diver Fund-Reg(G) ICICI Pru Value Fund-15(G)	286.68 371.82 130.07 10.65	<ul><li>4.22</li><li>4.07</li><li>3.70</li></ul>	Fund-Reg(G) Sundaram Large and Mid Cap Fund(G) ICICI Pru Bharat Consumption Fund-2-(G)	33.29 9.93	-0.65 -0.70	IDFC Core Equity Fund-Reg(CDSP World Gold Fund-Reg(GMotilal Oswal Midcap 30Fund-Reg(G)ICICI Pru Growth Fund-3(DP)	3) 43.24 ) 10.70 24.25 10.24	-5.07 -5.30 -5.45	DSP India T.I.G.E.R Fund-Reg(G) Reliance Tax Saver (ELSS) Fund(G) IDFC Focused Equity	87.26 53.48	-9.60 -9.64	Adv Fund-Sr III-Reg(G) Aditya Birla SL Emerging Leaders Fund-7-Reg(G) Sundaram LT Micro Cap Tax Adv Fund-Sr IV-Reg(G)	10.01 -24.85 12.04 -24.98 8.48 -25.48
ICICI Pru FMCG Fund(G) ICICI Pru Multicap Fund(G) ICICI Pru LT Equity Fund (Tax Saving)(G) Canara Rob Equity Diver Fund-Reg(G)	286.68 371.82 130.07 10.65	<ul><li>4.22</li><li>4.07</li><li>3.70</li></ul>	Fund-Reg(G) Sundaram Large and Mid Cap Fund(G) ICICI Pru Bharat Consumption Fund-2-(G)	33.29 9.93 59.28	-0.65 -0.70 -0.76	IDFC Core Equity Fund-Reg(C DSP World Gold Fund-Reg(G Motilal Oswal Midcap 30 Fund-Reg(G)	3) 43.24 ) 10.70 24.25 10.24	-5.07 -5.30 -5.45	DSP India T.I.G.E.R Fund-Reg(G) Reliance Tax Saver (ELSS) Fund(G)	87.26 53.48 35.35	-9.60 -9.64 -10.08	Adv Fund-Sr III-Reg(G) Aditya Birla SL Emerging Leaders Fund-7-Reg(G) Sundaram LT Micro Cap Tax Adv Fund-Sr IV-Reg(G) UTI Transportation & Logistics	12.04 -24.98 8.48 -25.48

### **Imminent crisis in NBFC** sector: Corp Affairs Secy

PTI NEW DELHI

There is an "imminent crisis" in the non-banking financial companies (NBFCs) sector as misadventures by some large entities and credit squeeze present a perfect recipe for disaster, a senior Government official has said.

In recent months, the country's financial system has been grappling with multiple woes in the wake of the turmoil at diversified IL&FS group as well as debt defaults by some other large entities.

In an interview to PTI, Corporate Affairs Secretary Injeti Srinivas said the NBFC sector is facing issues of credit squeeze, over-leveraging and misadventures by some large

"There is an imminent crisis in the NBFC sector. There is a credit squeeze, over-leveraging, excessive concentration, massive mismatch between assets and liabilities, coupled with some misadventures by some very large entities, which is a perfect recipe for disaster," Srinivas said.

However, he added that "responsible" companies are managing the risk well and are not facing such a dire situation. Srinivas also said corporate governance in India is being

put to test. "It is a defining moment. The way things are moving, in the medium to long term it will be for the good. In the short

term, there can be turbulence,"

are responsimanage the risks. There are many companies in the country that have strong corporate governance. They take risks but manage them as well. So, they don't face such dire situation that some others

are facing

today," Srinivas said. Amid instances of the situation of non-performing assets (NPAs) being linked to external factors, Srinivas noted that it would not be a convincing explanation.

To say that the situation (NPA) can be attributed entirely to external factors and business risks is not a convincing answer because there is something known as responsible behaviour," he emphasised.

Earlier this month, former Prime Minister Manmohan Singh said the banking sector is "under severe stress" and the way out of "this mess" is to reverse some "gross distortions", work closely with the RBI, re-start the process of credit delivery and ensure sufficient liquidity and cash in cir-



The Reserve Bank of India proposes to come out with a mobile application to aid visually impaired persons in identifying Indian currency notes.

At present, banknotes in the denominations of ₹10, 20, 50, 100, 200, 500 and 2,000 are in circulation, besides ₹1 notes issued by the Government of India.

Intaglio printing based identification marks for helping the visually challenged in identification of denomination of banknotes are present in notes of ₹100 and above.

The RBI has solicited bids from technology firms for developing the mobile appli-

"The application should be able to identify denomination of legal tender banknotes of Mahatma Gandhi Series and Mahatma Gandhi (New) series by capturing the image of the notes placed in front of mobile camera or scrolled across it," said the request for proposal issued by the central

Also, the mobile application should be searchable via voice option in all app stores,

it said.
"The mobile application



should be able to identify the bank note denomination in 2 seconds or less," the RBI said, and added that the app should also work in offline mode without internet connection.

Further, the mobile application shall provide multi-lingual support as well as audio notifications. The application is expected to support Hindi and English language as a minimum, it said.

Cash constitutes the most important means of transaction in the country. As on March 31, 2018, there were about 102 billion pieces of banknotes in circulation having a value of ₹18 lakh crore.

There are about 80 lakh blind or visually impaired people in the country, who are likely to benefit from the initiative of the central bank.

In June, 2018 the central bank had declared that it would explore the feasibility of developing a suitable device or mechanism for aiding the visually impaired in the identification of Indian banknotes

### NCLAT dismisses insolvency plea against SpiceJet

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The National Company Law Appellate Tribunal (NCLAT) has dismissed à plea for initiation of insolvency proceedings against Spicejet by Ramco Systems Ltd, an operational creditor of the low-cost carrier.

A two-member bench headed by Chairman Justice S J Mokhopadhaya upheld the orders passed by the National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT) in this mat-

ter saying that it has rightly rejected Ramco's plea by observing that such petition requires strict proof of debt and default, which was absent in this case.

The appellate tribunal said there was nothing on record to suggest that the demand notice relating to invoices issued by Ramco System was forwarded or received by Spicejet.

"For the reasons aforesaid, no relief can be granted," said NCLAT.

Ramco Systems had entered into agreement with Spicejet to provide 'Aviation Software Solutions' in May, 2013.

Later in July 2014, 'Change Order Demand' was executed between the parties.

The earlier 'Software Licence Agreement' for 180 number of authorised users were amended to 55 aircraft tails and unlimited users with other amendment and modification which also followed various modification and alteration

NATIONAL COMPANY LAW

TRIBUNAL

Ramco Systems counsel claimed before the NCLAT that a huge amount is payable by Spicejet and invoice for ₹62.89 lakh was intimated to them and sent by email on January 2016.

Rejecting it, Spicejet claimed before the NCLAT that all claims depended on invoices for the financial year 2013-14, including the invoice dated July 23, 2014. This was due and payable by August 22, 2014 and said that it was barred by limitation.

Moreover, the demand notice was issued by Ramco Systems on April 24, 2017, without attaching the invoices relating to debt which are payable. It further contended that two demand notices dated July 23, 2014 for amount ₹59.83 lakh and ₹33.70 was never

issued by Ramco Systems. Consenting to it, the NCLAT said: "There is nothing on the record to suggest that the invoices dated July 23, 2014 were forwarded or received by Spicejet.'

"... In absence of specific evidence relating to invoices actually forwarded by the Appellant and there being a doubt, we hold that the Adjudicating Authority (NCLT) has rightly refused to entertain application under Section 9 which requires strict proof of debt and default," said the NCLT.

Ramco Systems has moved the NCLAT after the National Company Law Tribunal has dismissed its insolvency plea on December 14, 2017.

The NCLT had dismissed Ramco System's application on the ground of inconsistency in the overall payments and the non-compliance with the provisions by the operational creditor, in the absence of a certificate from the financial institution maintaining its accounts.

### Positive sentiment continues for manufacturing sector in Q4, capacity utilisation up at 80%: FICCI survey

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Sentiment in the manufacturing sector remains positive as overall capacity utilisation rose to 80 per cent in the fourth quarter, a survey by FICCI said.

According to FICCI's 'Quarterly Survey on Manufacturing', the overall sentiment in the manufacturing sector remains positive as the proportion of respondents reporting higher output growth (around 54 per cent) during the remained the same as compared to the third quarter.

"First time in last many quarters, the overall capacity utilisation in manufacturing has witnessed an increase to 80 per cent in Q4 2018-19. It was hovering at 75 per cent for last many quarters," it added.

On hiring front, the outlook for the sector seems to have slightly improved for near

"While in Q4 of 2017-18, 70 per cent respondents mentioned that they were not likely to hire additional workforce, this percentage has come down to 62.5 per cent for Q4 of 2018-19," the survey pointed out.

In terms of order books, 44 per cent respondents in March

2019 quarter said they expect the number to go up as against 43 per cent in October-December 2018 quarter.

Going forward, it is expected that hiring scenario will improve further as 37.5 per cent respondents in Q4 2018-19 are looking at hiring more people now as compared to 30 per cent in the year-ago period. FICCI's survey assessed

manufacturers in 12 major sectors namely automotive, capital goods, cement and ceramics. als textiles footwear, metal and metal products, fertilisers and pharmaceuticals, and others.

Responses were drawn from over 300 manufacturing units from both large and SME segments with a combined annual turnover of over ₹3.56

About 72 per cent respondents said the cost of production as a percentage of sales has risen - primarily on account of increased cost of raw materials, wages, power cost, rising crude oil prices, increase in finance cost and rupee depre-About 40 per cent respon-

dents reported plans for capacity additions for the next six months as compared to 47 per cent in the third quarter.

### FinMin reworking strategic sale procedure for CPSEs

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The Finance Ministry is **I** reworking strategic sale procedure to ensure outright sale of CPSEs within 4 months of issuance of documents to potential investors, a move aimed at ensuring speedier conclusion of the entire process, an official said.

The NPA "scare" has

brought lending to a virtual

halt, the former prime minis-

ter had said, adding that a

"one-size-fits-all approach"

drove companies into insol-

vency while demonetisation

shut out all sources of informal

Arun Jaitley had dismissed the

concerns, saying, "When an

economist turns into a politi-cian, he loses sense of both

behind in 2014 an economic

slowdown, policy paralysis and corruption. He brought down

his party to lowest ever strength

in Parliament. India was a part

of the fragile five. Today he

regards the world's the fastest

growing major economy as disastrous," Jaitley had said.

economy and politics".

However, Finance Minister

"Dr Manmohan Singh left

However, for CPSEs like Air India, which are relatively bigger in size, the timeline for completion of strategic sale is likely to be fixed at 6 months from the date of issuance of Preliminary Information Memorandum (PIM) about the company.

Currently timeline for concluding strategic sale of a State-owned company and the entire process, in some cases, drags on for months, if not years.

The strategic sale policy is already in place, but the procedure needs to be streamlined so that the sale process is completed within 3-4 months' time. The thinking is that if a process cannot be completed in 4 months then it should be abandoned," an official

Facing a daunting task of meeting the ₹90,000-crore disinvestment target in the current fiscal, the Department of Investment and Public Asset Management (DIPAM) will focus on outright sale of selected CPSEs, which have been



pending for long. NITI Aayog has already identified 35 profitable and loss-making CPSEs which can go in for

strategic sale. The procedure would be drafted in a way such that the process can go on simultaneously for more than one CPSE. For bigger CPSEs, the timeline for completion of sale could be extended till about 6 months," the official added.

The companies which have been shortlisted for strategic sale include Air India, Air India subsidiary AIATSL, BEML, Scooters India, Bharat Pumps Compressors, and Bhadrawati, Salem and Durgapur units of steel major

The other CPSEs for which approvals are in place for outright sale include Hindustan Fluorocarbon, Hindustan Newsprint, HLL Life Care, Central Electronics, Bridge & Roof India, Nagarnar Steel plant of NMDC and units of Cement Corporation of India

The process for strategic sale of many state-owned companies started back in late 2017 or early 2018 but the transactions could not be concluded.

The DIPAM had issued PIMs for sale of Pawan Hans, Bharat Pumps & Compressors Ltd, Hindustan Fluorocarbons Ltd in April 2018, while the

Newsprint was floated in March 2018. The same of SAIL's Alloy Steel Plant was issued in February, while that of Hindustan Prefab was posted on website in October 2017. However, these transactions could not be completed so far due to variety of reasons.

same for Scooters

India, Hindustan

In last fiscal the Government had raised ₹84,972 crore from CPSE disin-₹15,914 crore came in from strategic

During the fiscal, stateowned NBCC bought government stake in HSCC for Rs 285 crore. Besides, a consortium of four ports acquired the government's 73.44 per cent stake in Dredging Corp of India for Rs 1,049 crore, while National Projects Construction Corporation (NPCC) was sold for Rs 80 crore.

An amount of Rs 14,500 crore was raised by way of state-run state-run Power Finance Corp acquiring the government stake in REC.

So far in current financial year, the Government has mopped up ₹2,350 through disinvestment transactions.

### Govt to set up panel under DGFT to look at steel availability for engineering exporters

**PTI** ■ NEW DELHI

The Government has decid-I ed to set up a committee under the Director General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) to look into availability of steel at competitive prices for engineering goods exporters, an official

"The committee will submit its report to steel and commerce ministries within two months. It will suggest measures which will be a win-win situation for both steel producers and neering exporters," the official added.

Engineering exporters are demanding that they should get steel at global prices as domestic rates are higher. However, steel producers state that freight charges and cost of production is high in the country, which push up

The decision to set up the committee, which will also have members from the engineering sector, was taken during a meeting last week between the senior officials of steel and commerce ministries and exporters.

In that meeting, engineering players said steel should be made available at competitive rates so that outbound shipments can be pushed further. Another official said that if steel prices are "so high, then

how are engineering exports recording healthy growth rate". The country's engineering exports rose by 6.36 per cent to \$83.7 billion in 2018-19 from

\$78.7 billion in 2017-18. These exports accounts for over 25 per cent of the country's total merchandise exports, which stood at \$331 billion last fiscal.

Shipments to North America and Europe constitute bout 40 per cent of the totengineering exports.

Engineering exports include transport equipment, capital goods, other machinery/equipment and light engineering products like castings, forgings and fasteners.

According to a report of the World Steel Association (worldsteel), India's crude steel production in 2018 was at 106.5 million tonnes, up by 4.9 per cent from 101.5 million tonnes in 2017

Since 2011-12, India's exports have been hovering at around \$300 billion. During 2017-18, the shipments aggregated at \$303 billion.

Promoting exports helps a country to create jobs, boost manufacturing and earn more foreign exchange.

### Sardar Patel University of Police, SPUP

PNS NEW DELHI

Tn a step that would upscale Ltechnical skills of private security personnel, Central Association of Private Security Industry (CAPSI) on Thursday signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Sardar Patel University of Police, Security and Criminal Justice (SPÚP), Jodhpur (Rajasthan) to cooperate and collaborate in framing of syllabus and conduct degree, diploma and certificate courses in security management.

'There is a need for specialized courses on security management. Our association with SPUP will help in getting good quality of managers and supervisors for private security industry. There is a growing demand for private security personnel from abroad also. Our trained manpower with proper degrees and certificates will increase their employability abroad, particularly in Europe



and Gulf nations where demand is increasing," said CAPSI Chairman Kunwar Vikram Singh after signing the MoU.

According to Kunwar Vikram Singh: "As per the agreements signed between CAPSI and SPUP, the two organizations will establish collaborative relations between them in the area of academics and research besides working in developing curriculum for degrees, diplomas and certificate courses. Sardar Patel University of Police, Security and Criminal Justice, Jodhpur (SPUP) has been established by an Act Passed by the State Legislature, Government of Rajasthan in 2012.

### CAPSI signs MoU with | Finmin seeks applications for post of DMDs at IIFCL, IFCI, Exim Bank

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The finance ministry has **▲** invited applications from eligible candidates to fill the vacancy of deputy managing directors of three state-owned financial institutions including Exim Bank and IFCI.

Finance Company Ltd (IIFCL) and IFCI require to fill one post of deputy managing director (DMD) each, while Exim Bank has two such vacancies. The maximum permissible age for eligible candidates is 55

years as on the date of vacan-

cy which in case of IFCI dates

India Infrastructure

back to December 12, 2016, as per the public notice. The maximum age of entry for both internal as well as other candidates shall be 55 years as on the date of vacancy (August 16, 2017) for the first and July 21, 2019 for sec-

ond vacancy for the Exim

Bank, it said. With regard to educational qualification, it said, candidates should have a post graduate degree preferably in eco-



nomics, commerce, business administration or finance or a graduate degree with professional qualification of chartered accountancy, cost accountancy of chartered financial analyst.

Candidates should have a minimum 18 years of experience as on the date of vacancy in different verticals or domain in banks or financial institutions with at least 2 years at the highest level below the board level, it said.

The positions are open for

which 2 years as director or deputy secretary Government of India in relevant filed. The last date for submission for these applications is May 27, 2019.

The Finance Ministry will screen applications and the shortlisted candidates will be interviewed by panel headed by Financial Services

deputation basis with mini-

mum 15 years of experience of

### Lenovo launches EGO smartwatch in India

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Lenovo launched digital smartwatch EGO on Saturday. Bridging the gap between smartphones and wearables, Lenovo EGO offers health and fitness features while offering the services of a smartphone too. This new digital smartwatch has core features like 20 days battery life, 24/7 heart-rate monitor, scientific sleep monitor, and is water resistant up to 50 meters allowing it to be used as a swim tracker. Lenovo EGO is priced at ₹1,999 and will be available on Flipkart.

Khandelwal, PR Innovations Pvt. Ltd. said, 'Smartwatch as a category has transformed its way in the previous years and the industry of smart wearable devices shall continue to grow. We expect Lenovo's new digital smartwatch, EGO to acquire India market at a fast pace. We look forward to building this partnership and expanding the smartwatch portfolio while constantly fulfilling the needs

of our customers."

### General Manager, North Raliway inspects electric loco shed

PNS NEW DELHI

¬P Singh, General I Manager, Northern Railway, accompanied by SC Divisional Railway Manager, Delhi, & Principal Head of Departments of Northern Railway inspected Electric Loco Shed and EMU Car Shed and Signal Workshop

Ghaziabad. At Electric Loco Shed, General Manager inspected the speedometer section, pneumatic test setup, PPIO unit & Electronic Laboratory. He appreciated the work of calibration of speedome-

ter during maintenance. At EMU Car Shed, General Manager inspected the 3 Phase EMU rake and Ladies Special EMU Rake alongwith the maintenance activities in the different sections of the shed.

General Manager was given a detailed presentation at



maintenance activities. He also interacted with the recognized Unions and assured them that the matters relating to staff would resolve expeditiously.

TP Singh, General Manager said that there should be increase in reliability of Locomotives & EMUs and to increase the outage of sheds. He instructed that the "Dos and Don'ts" and other safety instructions in the risk prone or critical areas of workplace should be followed by the maintenance staff.

### Hinduja brothers top UK rich list, Reuben brothers second

**PTI** ■ LONDON

ndian-origin brothers dom-Linate the annual rich list of Britain's wealthiest, with the Hinduja brothers ranked at No. 1 with a fortune of 22 billion pounds followed by Mumbai-born Reuben brothers in second place with 18.66 billion pounds.

Srichand and Gopichand Hinduja, who run the Hinduja Group of companies in the UK, registered a 1.35 billion pounds jump in their fortunes over the previous year to return to the top of the Sunday Times Rich List after topping it back in 2014 and 2017.

leaves the EU, Gopi Hinduja is convinced it can forge a closer relationship with his family's homeland," notes the newspaper's profile on the 79-year-old Co-Chair of the Hinduja Group, GP Hinduja.

The London-based industrialist, along with UK-based brother Sri, 83, and their brothers Prakash, 73, and Ashok, 68, who live in Geneva and Mumbai respectively, control more than 50 companies with a total turnover of nearly 40 billion pounds worldwide in 2018, notes the Rich List.

The family occupies four  $interconnecte \acute{d}\ Lond \bar{o}n\ homes$ 

"Whether or not Britain in Carlton House Terrace, bought from Queen Elizabeth II in 2006. Their business empire was founded by father Parmanand in Mumbai in 1914.

The Hindujas, described as devout Hindus eschewing meat and alcohol, have stakes in oil and gas, IT, energy, media, banking, property and health-care. Some of the biggest hike in profits last year came from London-registered Hinduja Automotive, which includes North Yorkshire bus maker Optare and saw profits rise by 50 per cent to 337 million pounds on 3.5 billion pounds

sales in 2017-18. They had acquired former British Prime Minister Winston Churchill's old War Office in London's Whitehall for 350 million pounds back in 2014 and plan to open it as a luxury hotel with the Raffles group

Mumbai-born siblings David, 80, and Simon, 77, with interests across property and internet, have been on a buying spree, taking hold of 1 billion pounds of London property last year. The Reuben brothers snapped up Mayfair's 300-million pounds Burlington Arcade, Shoreditch's Curtain hotel and a 132 million pounds block in Piccadilly

"The pair could be excused

for feeling flush after selling another stake in their Global Switch data centres for 2.1 billion pounds last July, two years after banking 2.4 billion pounds for a separate chunk of the business," the 'Sunday Times' notes.

The brothers, who were ranked fourth in 2018, also saw a massive 3.56 billion pounds jump in their fortunes over the previous year to come in at second this year.

Another Indian-origin billionaire, Lakshmi N Mittal, suffered 3.99 billion pounds in losses to slip down to No. 11 in this year rich list, from No. 5 in 2018. The Rajasthan-born steel

magnate logged an estimated fortune worth 10.66 billion pounds last year as he gets set to take control of his first steel plant in India with a purchase from Essar Steel.

Mittal is followed in the list by Indian mining magnate Anil Agarwal, who had a good year and registered a 8.72 billion pounds spike in his fortunes to be ranked 12th with a fortune estimated at 10.57 billion pounds.

Other prominent billionaires who improved their fortunes in the 2019 analysis, which includes around 45 Indian-origin super-rich, includes textiles and plastics industrialist Sri Prakash Lohia with a 243 million pounds spike in earnings to hit No. 26 with a fortune of 5.4 billion pounds.

NRI industrialist Lord Swaraj Paul logged a 500 million pounds hike in his fortune to jump up from 90th in 2018 to 69th this year, with an estimated fortune of 2 billion pounds.

There were a few new Indian-origin entries to this year's list, including Sunil Vaswani who has interests in transport and food industries. Ranked 75, India-born Vaswani clocked a fortune of 1.9 billion pounds via his empire working alongside brothers Mahesh and Haresh.

Another new entry is Lord Dolar Popat, who runs care homes and hotels in the UK. Described as the first Tory of Gujarati descent in the House of Lords, the 65-year-old peer is credited with building up TLC Group from just 10 pounds when he arrived in the UK aged 17 after being expelled by Idi Amin's regime in Uganda.

Meanwhile, chemicals firm founder Sir Jim Ratcliffe, who topped last year's list, has slipped to third place, with 18.15 billion pounds.

### **Lankan Catholics hold first Sunday** mass since Easter attacks

PTI ■ COLOMBO

ri Lanka's Catholic Church held its first Sunday mass amid tight security, three weeks after devastating suicide attacks on three churches and luxury hotels that killed over 250 people on the Easter Sunday.

Regular services were cancelled across all churches after the deadly suicide attacks claimed by the Islamic State.

However, the Archbishop of Colombo Cardinal Malcolm Raniith conducted private Sunday services in the past two weeks, which were broadcast live on national television.

Ranjith Cardinal announced Thursday that mass would be held in his diocese from Sunday.

It was just this morning (Sunday) that churches resumed their normal Sunday services since the attack, resi-

Security has been beefed up across Śri Lanka after the April 21 attacks on three churches, two of them Catholic,

and three luxury hotels. Authorities did not allow any vehicles into the compound of the churches and worshippers were asked to

bring only minimum baggage.

The security forces are conducting round the clock security operations since the attack in the crackdown on radical Muslims with links to the bombings.

Three main churches which were conducting Easter | imposed till 6 am Monday as a suicide bombers.

Armed guards have been stationed outside hotels, churches, Buddhist temples and mosques across the country since the attacks.

On April 30, Cardinal Ranjith said that public mass in Sri Lanka would resume from May 5 and no bags will be allowed inside as part of the

tight security measures. However, Sri Lanka's Catholic church announced on May 2 that it has cancelled all Sunday mass in churches across the island nation until further notice after warning of more possible attacks.



Sri Lankan Catholic devotees leave after attending Sunday Mass at a church in Colombo, Sri Lanka, on Sunday

### Sri Lanka imposes curfew in western coastal town after communal clashes

PTI ■ COLOMBO

ri Lankan police on Sunday Simposed curfew with immediate effect in the country's western coastal town of Chilaw after a mosque and a few shops owned by Muslims were attacked by a mob, authorities

The curfew has been precaution, the police said.

Additional troops have been deployed in the city to bring the situation under control, they said.

Tension was brewing since Saturday between the Catholics and Muslims in the Christian dominated town. This is a fallout from the Easter Sunday

Nine suicide bombers,

including a woman, carried out

a series of devastating blasts

that tore through three church-

es and three luxury hotels,

killing 258 people and injuring

over 500 others on the Easter

attacks in which over 250 people were killed.

Some inflammatory exchanges happened between the two communities in the town since Saturday, the residents said. A Catholic woman claimed that she was threatened inside a Muslim-owned Early this month, several

people were injured in clashes Christians in Negombo, a majority Christian town where St. Sebastian's Church was targeted during the Easter attacks.

After clashes in Negombo, Cardinal Ranjith appealed to Christians and other communities to show restraint.

"I appeal to all Catholic

The Islamic State claimed

responsibility for the attack, but

the government has blamed

local Islamist extremist group,

the National Thawheed

Jama'ath (NTJ), for the bomb-

Sri Lanka's police say they

the communities of Sri Lanka." Sri Lanka has a population 21 million whic a natch work of ethnicities and religions, dominated by the Sinhalese Buddhist majority. Muslims account for 10 per

and Christian brothers and

sisters not to hurt even a sin-

gle Muslim person because

they are our brothers, because they are part of our religious culture," said Ranjith.

"Therefore please avoid hurting them and try to create

a better spirit of understanding and good relations between all

cent of the population and are the second-largest minority after Hindus. Around seven per cent of Sri Lankans are Christians.

have either killed or arrested all those responsible for the bombings but that the threat of global terrorism persists.

President Maithripala Sirisena has vowed to eliminate the militants and restore normality in the country.

### Pak to review re-opening of airspace for **Indian flights**

**PTI** ■ LAHORE

Pakistan will review re-opening of its airspace for Indian flights on May 15 amid height-ened Indo-Pak military tensions, a civil aviation official said Sunday, but a senior minister indicated that the status quo will remain till the elections are over in India.

Pakistan fully closed its airspace after an Indian Air Force strike on a terror camp in Balakot on February 26. However, Pakistan on March 27, opened its airspace for all flights except for New Delhi, Bangkok and Kuala Lumpur.

"The Pakistani government will decide whether to lift or not its airspace ban for the Indian flights on May 15," Pakistan's Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) spokesperson Mujtaba Baig told PTI on Sunday.

He said that in the May 15 meeting the officials and ministers of all ministries concerned will participate and a decision will be taken about lifting of ban or not on the Pakistani airspace 'operational and overflying' for India. "The decision will be notified any time on May 15," Baig said. However, Prime Minister Imran Khan's close aide and federal science and technology minister Fawad Chaudhry doesn't see any change in the status quo till conclusion of Lok Sabha polls in India.

"Status quo will remain till the elections are over in India. I don't see any improvement in relations between Pakistan and and a new government is installed. The ban on airspace by each other I think will also continue till Indian polls," Chaudhry told PTI. Pakistan and India had closed their airspace for each other on February 26 after rise in tension between the two nuclear countries. When asked had not the CAA written to Prime Minister Khan about huge financial losses the Pakistan International Airlines, other private airlines and CAA were facing because of closure of its profitable routes because of ban of Indian airspace, Baig said: "It is a bilateral matter to be resolved by the both governments."

### India, Vietnam to strengthen co-op in defence and security, atomic energy

PTI ■ HANOI

**T**ndia and Vietnam agreed to I further strengthen cooperation in defence and security, peaceful uses of atomic energy and outer space, oil and gas and renewable energy as Vice President M Venkaiah Naidu on Sunday concluded his fourday visit to the Southeast Asian country.

During his visit, Vice President Naidu held talks with his Vietnamese counterpart Dang Thi Ngoc Thinh, Prime Minister Nguyen Xuan Phuc and Chairperson of the National Assembly Nguyen Thi Kim Ngan. "Vice President's talks with

his Vietnamese interlocutors were extensive and productive and covered whole range of bilateral and multilateral cooperation," said a statement issued by the Ministry of External

Both sides agreed to further strengthen cooperation in defence and security, peaceful uses of atomic energy and outer space, oil and gas, renewable energy, agriculture and opment partnership engage-

innovation-based sectors, it

Vietnam is an important trade partner of India and their bilateral trade stood at nearly USD 14 billion last year having nearly doubled from USD 7.8 billion three years ago. Vice President Naidu and

Prime Minister Phuc expressed commitment to enhancing trade and investments and agreed to facilitate direct air connectivity to promote tourism, trade and people-topeople relations.

Both sides reiterated the importance of building a peace-ful and prosperous Indo-Pacific region on the basis of respect for national sovereignty and international law, and expressed full commitment to an open, transparent, inclusive and rulesbased regional architecture based on freedom of navigation and overflight, unimpeded economic activities and peaceful settlement of disputes in accordance with international law, the statement said.

Vietnam's leaders appreciated India's long-standing develment, especially scholarships and training programmes. They also thanked India for extending concessional Lines of Credit for defence industry cooperation and implementing other socio-cultural infrastructure projects in Vietnam under Îndian grants-in-aid.

Naidu also invited Vice President Thinh to undertake a visit to India.

"Vice President Naidu's visit has imparted momentum to the bilateral relationship and provided an opportunity to review various areas of collaboration and cooperation of the Comprehensive Strategic Partnership, with Vietnam's leadership," the statement said.

Naidu also delivered a keynote address at the 16th UN Day of Vesak at the Tam Chuc Pagoda in Hanam Province in Vietnam.

Vesak, also known as Buddha Jayanti, is traditionally observed by Buddhists as 'Buddha's Birthday'.

He also paid respects at the Monument of National Heroes and Martyrs and at the Ho Chi Minh Mausoleum at Hanoi.

### Pakistan PM condemns **Gwadar hotel attack**

**PTI** ■ ISLAMABAD

Dakistan Prime Minister PImran Khan on Sunday condemned a deadly attack on a luxury hotel in the port city of Gwadar in the troubled Balochistan province, saying the terror strike was an effort to "sabotage" the country's eco-

nomic projects and prosperity. Three heavily-armed militants on Saturday stormed the Pearl Continental (PC) Hotel in Gwadar and opened random firing, killing a guard. All the three attackers were killed by the security forces. "Such attempts especially in Balochistan are an effort to sabotage our economic projects and prosperity. The government will not allow these

attack, Khan appreciated the initial response by security guard and security forces in foiling greater loss to human lives.

The banned Balochistan Liberation Army (BLA) claimed responsibility of the attack. Gwadar port is one of the

focal points of the USD 50 billion China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) with many Chinese workers from other provinces of Pakistan working at the port. China is investing heavily in Balochistan under the

The Chinese embassy in Pakistan also condemned the attack on the hotel and expressed

agendas to succeed," Khan said in condolences to the families of the a statement issued by his office. security guard who was killed injured.

The hotel, frequented by business as well as leisure travellers, is located on the Koh-e-Batil hill, south of West Bay on Fish Harbour road in Gwadar.

All foreign and local guests staying at the hotel were safely The provincial police chief

further said that "the attackers may have come in a boat to launch the attack". Balochistan Chief Minister

Jam Kamal Khan Alyani condemned "the terrorists attack" and instructed the authorities to "ensure the safety of all inside the

### Australian PM bares self in campaign launch



Canberra: Australia's prime minister has officially launched his conservative coalition's campaign less than a week before an election in an extraordinarily personal presentation. Scott Morrison is his government's third prime minister in the administration's six years in office and still remains relatively unknown to many Australians. He is asking them for a third three-year term when they vote on Saturday next week. The coalition's launch in the city of Melbourne on Sunday included recorded interviews with Morrison family members that covered his wife Jenny's diagnosis with endometriosis and their 14-year failed battle to conceive through IVF before having their two daughters naturally. Morrison also outlined government policies including support for first-home buyers.

### **Netanyahu needs** more time to form new Israel govt

sraeli Prime Minister **▲**Benjamin Netanyahu said on Sunday he would ask President Reuven Rivlin for more time to form a new coalition government, citing recent holidays and the Gaza flare-up.

Netanyahu's Likud won 35 seats in the April 9 general election, with most party chiefs represented in the 120-seat parliament recommending that he forms the next governing coalition. On April 17 Rivlin formally tasked him with the mission, which by law needs to be completed within 28 days although a 14-day extension is automatically granted upon request. "As in past instances of forming a government, I intend on asking an extension from the president," Netanyahu said in the opening remarks of the weekly cabinet meeting. "Such an extension is not only acceptable but also required due to scheduling problems," he said citing a busy holiday season, including Passover and Israeli Independence Day, as well as

the Gaza flare-up. On May 4, militants in the Hamas-ruled Gaza Strip fired hundreds of rockets at Israel, prompting the army to strike dozens of targets inside the blockaded coastal enclave in response. Four Israeli civilians and 25 Palestinians, including at least nine militants, were killed in the two-day flare-up, which ended on Monday in a tentative

Netanyahu has been conducting low-intensity meetings with heads of the parties expected to join his coalition.

It is expected to include the 16 members of the ultra-Orthodox Jewish parties, the far-right national religious union, Avigdor Lieberman's nationalistic Israel Beitenu and the centreright Kulanu. Netanyahu's lawvers were meanwhile negotiating with the justice ministry when the premier's pre-trial hearings would take place. The attorney general announced in February his intention to indict Netanyahu for bribery, fraud and breach of trust — pending a

#### 12 Indians arrested for running illegal networking business in Nepal Kathmandu (PTI): Twelve

Indian nationals have been arrested for allegedly running an illegal networking business and duping several people in the Himalayan nation, according to media reports. All the 12 accused, belong-

ing to Uttar Pradesh, were arrested from a hotel in Kathmandu on Friday while organising an orientation and training programme to run the illegal networking business for around 300 Nepalis, the Himalayan Times reported. Networking business, under which money is sent to foreign countries without any legal channel, has been banned by Nepal Rastra Bank.

Metropolitan Crime Range said all the suspects have been taken into custody. "They were asking the people participating in the orientation to invest USD 1,250 promising them attractive return," a spokesperson for the Metropolitan Crime Range DSP Hobindra Bogati was quoted as saying. He further said the arrested Indian nationals had opened an unregistered marketing company in Nepal named Shine Group International.

### N Korean cargo ship seized by **US arrives in American Samoa**

A North Korean cargo ship seized by the US because of suspicion it was used to violate international sanctions arrived on Saturday at the capital of this American territory. The Wise Honest was slow-

during a cloudy Saturday morning and docked at the main docking section of the port that afternoon. The trip from Indonesia took about three weeks and American Samoa, in the South

y towed to the port of Pago Pago

Pacific, was chosen because of "its central strategic location," US Coast Guard public affairs officer Amanda Wyrick said. "We also have a good strong relationship and partnership with the American Samoan government," Wyrick said. "With that being said, we also already have the resources that

are able to ensure the security of

the vessel but most important-

ly the Port of Pago Pago." The ship was detained in April 2018 as it travelled toward Indonesia. Justice Department officials announced Thursday that the US had seized the ship.



Harbor in Pago Pago, American Samoa on Saturday

Asked as to how long the ship will be in the territory, Wyrick said the US Department of Justice is "leading the investigation so they will be conducting that. Upon the conclusion of the investigation, the ship will be moved."

But the next destination is unknown, she said. "I do know that Justice Department is going to do the investigation as fast as

they can," Wyrick added. She said she didn't have the exact number of US Coast Guard personnel or people from other federal agencies who have

traveled to American Samoa for the investigation. "I do know that, we have a marine and safety security team here from Honolulu," Wyrick said.

"We're conducting random patrols, also conducting inspection of the vessel and the Port of Pago Pago, keep an eye on things such as security breaches or vandalization of the ship

Officials are also making sure the port is protected, she said. "We especially in the Coast Guard, we understand the importance of the port. It's a life-

line in getting goods to the islands," Wyrick said, "So we want to make sure that we're doing everything we can, to make sure that there's absolutely no disruption to the flow of commerce coming in and out."

The US government dispatched to the territory an inspection team to the ship before it docked in Pago Pago, she said. Wyrick noted there was an inspection conducted before leaving Indonesia and, because the ship has been at sea for three weeks, "it's subject to the elements.

"The inspection of the ship before entering the harbor is to make sure the structure integrity of the boat is still intact. In that way, once we get the thumps up, and the green light, and the inspectors deem it safe, then it will enter the port," Wyrick said.

US officials made the announcement of the ship's seizure hours after North Korea fired two suspected short-range missiles toward the sea, the second weapons launch in five days and a possible signal that stalled talks over its nuclear weapons program are in trouble.

# A BIODYNAMIC FARM BY BEING A

A documentary, The Biggest Little Farm, shows an intimate look at how a filmmaker and a chef converted 200 acres of land into an organic space

ohn and Molly Chester, a filmmaker and a chef, had made a decision that many urbanites only fantasise about — They decided to leave their life in Los Angeles and start a farm that would function in harmony with nature. Their family and friends thought they were crazy, but they were thought they were crazy, but they were determined. They'd bought 200 acres of land 50 miles away from downtown LA, in Moorpark, California, and they'd found an investor to fund the adventure. The only problem? The land was dead and they knew nothing about forming.

ing about farming.

Eight years later, visiting the idyllic and suspiciously lovely smelling Apricot Lane Farms — where they grow over 100 types of vegetables, 75 types of fruit, from avocado to citrus, and raise animals including cows, sheep, chickens, ducks, guinea hens and a pig named Emma — you'd hardly know either of those things.

But the Chesters have pulled the curtain back on what it took to get there in the documentary — The Biggest Little Farm. The film, which John Chester directed, does not gloss over the hardships, the doubt and the occasional death that came with their dream of not using chemicals on the crops or drugs on the animals in this intimate look at how they made a biodynamic farm out of nothing.

John Chester said it's "life affirm-

ing" to go back and watch how far they've come. "It was about continuing to move forward in the presence of great failure and great embarrassment," he said.

They didn't set out to make a film initially. John Chester had left the business behind, and besides, he figured, they weren't even experts. Still, being a documentarian at heart, he had the itch to film nonetheless and starting amassing footage of everything (mostly failures). But then five years in, things started to change, the farm was actually working.

"We saw the return of so much wildlife and we saw pest and predator relationships start to balance things out and I was able to capture those things," John Chester said. "I knew at that moment that we had a very unique opportunity to tell a

story."

The technique employed at Apricot Lane Farms is something known as biomimicry, which basical-



ly relies on the idea that any problem can be solved through nature. The secret to everything, they say, is in the soil and the cover crops that rebuilt the land and preserved the water.

"The food we grow truly is special," said Molly Chester. "It's very nutrient-dense and flavorful because we focus on soil development."

The produce, meat and eggs from the farm are sold at local groceries and at various farmers' markets, from Calabasas to Santa Monica.

The Chesters have already seen a raised profile for themselves and the farm through film festivals like Telluride, Toronto and Sundance, and are readying themselves for even more recognition and interest as the

YOU CAN FIND AS MUCH JOY IN A QUARTER ACRE AS YOU CAN ON 200 ACRES. YOU HAVE TO DESIGN THE FARM. LEARN FROM OTHER

FARMERS, VOLUNTEER, USE THEIR MISTAKES AS YOUR LESSONS. THAT'S SOMETHING I WISH WE WOULD HAVE GOTTEN TO DO MORE OF. LESS PRESSURE, MORE TIME UNDER

SOMEBODY ELSE'S DIME'

audience meet the film's stars like Emma the pig, the guardian dogs, Maggie the cow and others.

In fact, they hear the same question often after screenings of the film:

They do offer private tours, including some for children, but as a working farm, it's not open to the public every day. And they're renovating space that eventually will be usable for farm-to-table dinners and movie nights. John Chester said that the tours are a way to, "inspire people to support what we do and what other farms like us do."

We're not the first to do this," he said. "We're mimicking many mentors who have done this far longer than we have. We're just maybe the first in this neighbourhood."

As for whether or not they'd recommend following in their footsteps, both say yes, but with some

"I would recommend it on a smaller scale and not with 250 things," John Chester said. "You can find as much joy in a quarter acre as you can on 200 acres. You have to design the farm and where it is based around the life you want to live. Learn from other farmers, volunteer, use their mistakes as your lessons. That's something I wish we would have gotten to do more of. Less pressure, more time under somebody else's dime."

#### The growing trend of skin-ny body types or the most idealistic zero figure has made women to start resorting to extremely unhealthy ways of losing weight. For instance, by

avoiding food, eliminating carbs ing insufficiently and even puking forcefully. This is an extremely dangerous phase to be in. It affects women mentally, physically as well as psychologically and can also lead to mental illness. There are also surgical methods used by women all across the globe to transform their body types. Desperate attempts to look thinner, better and fairer makes them try everything, without proper understanding the

implications of one's health. This becomes a case of anorexia nervosa, an eating disorder which consists of causing people to obsess about their weight and what they eat. In the cycle of self-starvation, the body is denied the essential nutrients it needs to function normally. Thus, the body is forced to slow down all of its processes to conserve energy, resulting in serious medical consequences. It is associated with a distorted body image with an intense fear of becoming fat even though underweight. Anorexia isn't all about food, rather it's an unhealthy way to try and cope with mental stress. It is usually

### Be your own kind of beautiful

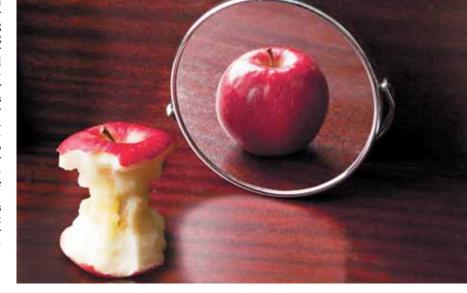
Being supportive is a crucial part of treating anorexia, it's not solely about the patients, says Preety Tyagi

10 times more common in females. Although the disorder most frequently begins during adolescence, an increasing number of children and older adults are also being diagnosed with it. You cannot tell if a person is struggling with illness by looking at them. A person does not need to be emaciated or underweight to be struggling. Studies have found that largerbodied individuals can also have anorexia, although they may be less likely to be diagnosed due to cultural prejudice against fat and obesity.

An individual experiences an intense fear of becoming fat and has a relentless drive for thinness despite obvious starvation. It can be of two types:

#### Restricting (No binge eating):

This type is present in approximately 50 per cent of people suffering from Anorexia. Food intake is highly restricted and people may be relentlessly and compulsively overactive. A person with restricting anorexia nervosa often have depression and anxiety associ-



ated with it.

Binge-eating

Individuals alternate attempts at rigorous dieting with intermittent episodes of binge eating. It is often associated with self-induced vomiting or frequent use of laxatives to

compensate for the binging episodes. The other symptoms are the medical complications of starvation as slower heart rate and feeling cold due to reduced fat that is stored in the body.

There are many challenges with regards to the treatment for anorexia. However, the key is to

kick the concept of being skinny and welcome the notion of being fit. The most important point is to restore person's nutritional state and maintain a healthy body weight. Patients must willingly participate for the treatment to succeed in the

long run. The sooner someone

gets treatment, the more likely they are to make a full recovery. The treatment of anorexia is a combination of a therapy, familv education and in some cases. medications.

Therapy:

People with anorexia connect their body weight to their self-worth. They urge to check themselves in the mirror very frequently. Therapy helps the patient to cope with their life's struggles and to change their behavior towards what is going on in their life. A patient should confront their anxieties and must try to getaway with them.

Family-based therapy: Education is the answer to everything. It's important to educate the family about the illness so that they can be supportive towards the patient. It's a crucial part of the curing process as it's not solely about the patients themselves. The family must also work as a whole for the recovery. Parents are the most important aspect of the recovery process.

(The author is a health expert and the founder of a health and wellness organisation.)

Spiritual integrity, on the basis of purity, specifically involves creating constructive goals that enable people to actively manage difficulties and find positivity even in adverse situations, says Rajyogi Brahmakumar Nikunj Ji



Spiritual beliefs tremendously influence the outlook of people about the world. It can offer solace to them in turbulent times or provide them support from a like-minded community. These beliefs may contribute to resilience and well-being and result in improved performance. In simple words resilience is the potential to absorb and recover from any change and return to the original form. With respect to people, it is the ability to maintain internal equilibrium in the face of trauma, distress or disruption through multiple pathways. When we consider spiritual resilience, we refer to the will of the spirit, the core of human resilience and the foundation of maintaining this will and resilience is purity. This term is normally used to describe water and the natural environment rather than human behaviour or character. However from a spiritual perspective, purity is something or someone existing in its true and original state, which is unfettered, uncomplicated and unpolluted. It is also the understandspiritual being and interacts with other people and the environment on this basis. Purity is the attitude that feeds the unexpressed dialogue beneath the conversations we have and the decisions we make. Spiritual resilience recognises and works with people's inherent proficiencies and strengths. When organisations and communities work together while incorporating a broad attitude and approach, there

is better recognition of the inherent capacities of local communities which leads to greater success.

Spiritual resilience, on the basis of purity, specifical-ly involves acknowledging personal qualities, communal resources and creating con-structive goals that enable structive goals that enable people and communities to be actively manage difficulties, resist disintegration of capacities and find positivity even in adverse situations. This approach to spiritual resilience has four steps. The first step is the awareness that peace, strength and dignity are innate to every human being. This includes maintaining respect for oneself as a person of great and unique value, which is a matter of self-regard and selfrespect. This pure awareness forms a positive attitude, which creates and sustains motivation and hope among people, governments and service-providers who work together to achieve common goals. From this vision, we can see the strengths, capacities and culture of those whom we are supporting. This four-sten awareness, attitude, vision and action is cyclical and dynamic, through which we create the world around us and it responds directly to our attitude and intention. When we see the world with a vision of the whole, we draw on the proficiencies of people, generating a sense of kinship with the world's population. So let us imbibe purity within us to become spiritually resilient and bring a positive change in society.



Life is like riding a bicycle. To keep your balance you must keep moving. **—Albert Einstein** 

### **GOOD SLEEP CAN HELP YOU STAY SHARP**

Memory slips with age, but getting a fair amount of sleep every night and having a cheerful mood each day may help you stay sharp even when you grow old, suggests new research. Poor sleep quality and

a depressed mood are linked to a reduced likelihood of remembering a previously experienced event, said the study published in the Journal of the International Neuropsychological Society

The researchers found strong associations between working memory and three health-related factors such as sleep, age and depressed mood. Working memory is the part of short-term memory that temporarily stores and manages information required for cognitive tasks.

It is critically involved in many higher cognitive functions, including intelligence, creative problemsolving, language and action-planning. It plays a major role in how we process, use and remember information.

#### VIRTUAL REALITY CAN HELP WITH DEMENTIA

Virtual reality (VR) technology can enhance the quality of life for people with dementia by helping them to recall past memories, reduce aggression and improve interactions with caregivers,



Kent in the UK. These memories not only provided positive mental stimulation for the patients but also helped their caregivers learn more about their lives before care, thereby improving

their social interaction. "VR can clearly have positive benefits for patients with dementia, their families and caregivers. It provides a richer and more satisfying quality of life than is otherwise

available, with many positive outcomes," said Jim Ang, Professor at the University of Kent.

#### STRESS IN EARLY LIFE MAY LEAD TO DEPRESSION

People who take stress in early life are at risk of developing negative thinking which could lead to major depressive disorder (MDD), says a study.

"This study supports a wider body of literature which suggests that depression may develop from an interesting yet complex interaction between biological and

psychological processes," said study lead author Emma Robinson Professor at the University of Bristol in Britain "As we start to understand these better we hope that the knowledge we generate can be used to better guide current and future treatments," Robinson said.

Using a rodent model of early life adversity, the study showed that offspring are much more sensitive to negative biases in their cognition when treated with the stress hormone, corticosterone. Published in the journal Neuropsychopharmacology, the research showed a dose of corticosterone had no effect on normal

rats but caused a negative bias in the early life adversity animals. The study also found that the early life adversity rats were less likely to anticipate positive events and failed to properly learn about reward value.

#### ANGER MORE HARMFUL THAN SADNESS

Anger is more harmful than sadness for older adults and may lead to health complications -- potentially increased inflammation which is associated with chronic illnesses like heart disease, arthritis and cancer, say researchers.

The study, published in the journal Psychology and Aging, shows that anger can lead to the development of chronic illnesses whereas sadness did not.

"Sadness may help older seniors adjust to challenges such as age-related physical and cognitive declines because it can help them disengage from goals that are no longer attainable," said study lead author Meaghan A Barlow from the Concordia University in the US

The research examined whether anger and sadness contributed to inflammation, an immune response by the body to perceived threats, such as infection or tissue

The researchers suggest that education and therapy might help older adults reduce anger by regulating their emotions or by offering better coping strategies to manage the inevitable changes that accompany ageing

### **ONLINE BULLYING LEADS TO DEPRESSION**

Parents, please take note. Teenagers who experience cyber bullying are more likely to suffer from poor sleep and depression, warns a study. In one of the few studies to explore the connection between cyber victimisation and sleep quality, the



research team from University at Buffalo examined the relationship between online bullying and depression among over 800 adolescents.

"Cyber victimisation on the Internet and social media is a unique form of peer victimisation and an emerging mental health concern among teenagers who are digital natives," said Misol Kwon, a Phd student from University at Buffalo. Nearly 15 per cent of US high school students report being bullied electronically, said Kwon.

At severe levels, depression may lead to disrupted school performance, harmed relationships or even suicide. The study was scheduled to be presented at "SLEEP 2019" conference in Texas from June 8 to 12.

'Not interested in

controversies<sup>2</sup>

A ctor Ranbir Kapoor has reacted to actress Kangana Ranaut's state-ment where she slammed him

for being apolitical. Ranbir

said he doesn't have any inter-

sparked a controversy by say-

ing that few actors like Ranbir

Kapoor don't want to talk

about political and social issues

of the country just because they

asks me any question, I always

try to answer, but I don't have

any interest to answer these

questions and to get into such

kind of controversies. People

can talk about me whatever

they feel like. I know who I am

'PEOPLE CAN TALK ABOUT ME WHATEVER THEY FEEL LIKE. I KNOW WHO I AM AND

Talking about his actor-father Rishi Kapoor's health

who is taking medical treat-

ment in the United States for

the last one year, Ranbir said,

"He is doing much better. Hopefully, he should be back in

a month or two and his spirits

are up and there is a lot of pos-

coach Roshan Taneja who died

on Friday night, Kanbir said,

He was a legend of our film

industry. He taught acting to

my father. I also took acting

classes from him. I pray for his

soul. He was a great talent and

was an amazing boon to our

Paying his tribute to acting

itivity in his behaviour."

and what I say."

WHAT I SAY'

Ranbir said, "If anyone

are living a luxurious life.

A few months ago, Ranaut

est to get into controversies.

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#### 'Always wanted to be a mother'

**Actress Priyanka Chopra Jonas** is looking forward to starting a family with her husband, NICK JONAS. She said, "I've always wanted to be a mother. I think, you know, whenever God wants it to happen." Priyanka said she and Nick consult with each other on their outfits in general. "I definitely ask his opinion. I think he's extremely stylish and his choices of clothes are so great and I love a man who's well turned out. My (late) father was that, always well turned out, like took care of himself, and

'I have worked with all the Khans -Shah Rukh, Salman, Aamir and Saif. But

that shows that you

she said.

care about your wife."

for me, it is an honour and privilege to work with Irrfan Khan. He is the pioneer, one of the finest actors among all the Khans. So, I had to tick that box of acting with him in Angrezi Medium. I know it is a small role but that does not matter. I know I am too excited, and I am really looking forward to this one.'

-Kareena Kapoor

Actress YAMI GAUTANI Delleves her part in Uri - The Surgical Strike helped her bag a role in *Bala*. She feels that cer-

tain films and roles tend to elevate an actor's perception in the eyes of other filmmakers.

Yami said, "I think we actors keep shifting our moulds with each film. Every film we do is a projection of what we are capable of. I have had the fortune of working on some amazing projects and some very challenging roles. But I do feel that after Uri, people have seen me in a whole new light. We are perceived slightly different after each film. And that's the wonderful part of our job."

#### **Kylie to launch** skincare range

Reality TV star KYLIE JENNER is set to launch a skincare range with make-up free campaign, and boasts it's "vegan and cruelty free.' The "self-made billionaire" already has a successful make-up company called Kylie Cosmetics. And now Kylie has revealed she is expanding her billion dollar empire with a skincare line - called Kylie Skin By Kylie Jenner. The 21-year-old entrepreneur wrote, "Skincare and makeup go hand in hand and Kylie Skin was something I dreamt up soon after Kylie Cosmetics. I've been

working on this for what

# HALIMA IS NOT THE FIRST

Afro-American people have had an influence on fashion in the Muslim world going back at least eight decades and shown that fashion and Islam are indeed compatible

edia reports have celebrated Halima Aden becoming the first woman to be featured in the Sports Illustrated annual swimsuit edition wearing a hijab or a burkini. In the past, she has appeared on the covers of *Allure*, British *Vogue* 

and *Glamour* magazine.
As a scholar who studies Black Muslim fashion, I often find that reporters covering Muslim women's fashion seem to have the notion that Islam and fashion are incompatible. This attitude ignores the influence Black people have had on Muslim fashion going back at least eight

#### EARLY ISLAM IN THE US

First, it's important to understand the long history Muslims have in the United States. According to the Pew Research Center, Black Muslims account for one-fifth of all Muslims in the United States. Islam first came to the United States with enslaved Africans.

Their numbers were small, ranging from 30,000 to 40,000. However, as historian Sylviane Diouf notes, enslaved Áfrican Muslims left a lasting impact on Black American culture, especially in the Sea Islands and Lowcountry region, the coastal area stretching from North Carolina to northern Florida.

The first Islamic text in the United States, the Bilali Document, was written by an enslaved African living on Sapelo Island named Bilali Muhammad in the 19th century. It includes rules about daily prayers and a list of beliefs of Muslims. Another important text perhaps the only known narrative by an enslaved person in Arabic was written by Omar Ibn Said in 1831, who lived as a slave in North Carolina. In it, he recounts his life in Senegal, including his religious education. The autobiography also includes several Muslim prayers.

#### **CLOTHING AS IDENTITY**

In the 20th century, Black Americans were reintroduced to Islam through several people and organisations. These included the taught his followers that they had



Moorish Science Temple of America and the Nation of Islam. The Moorish Science Temple of America was founded by a Moorish American, Noble Drew Ali, in 1913 in Newark, New Jersey.

Drew Ali taught his followers that they were not Negros or Ethiopians, rather they were Moors and that Islam was their true religion. According to Drew Ali, Moors are descendants of the ancient Moabites who founded Mecca, one of the most important cities in

WD Fard Muhammad, who founded what would become known as the Nation of Islam in 1930 in Detroit, Michigan, also forgotten their true identity as Asiatic Muslims and members of the lost tribe of Shabazz. The term Asiatic referred to Black people and other people of colour.

Clothing played a central role in constructing a unique Black Muslim identity. Black Muslim women used their dress to challenge American beauty standards, which typically holds thin young white women as the ideal beauty. Their dress practices also challenged beliefs that Islam was only an Arab religion by encouraging members to develop their own local dress practices. In the Moorish Science Temple of America, male members wore fezzes or turbans and women wore turbans often paired with long

shift dresses as part of their every-

day wear.

Men in the Nation of Islam dressed in tailored suits and bowties or ties. Women donned a Muslim Girls Training uniform. The Muslim Girls Training included lessons for women and girls on the rules and beliefs of the Nation of Islam as well as how to cook, clean, raise children and practice selfdefence. The uniform included a high-neck tunic that came down to the thigh. It was paired with either loose-fitting pants or a skirt that came to the ankles.

#### **BLACK MUSLIMS**

In my forthcoming book, I argue that Nation of Islam and the Imam WD Mohammed community have played an important role in developing the modest fashion industry in the United States. Imam WD Mohammed took over the leadership of Nation of Islam in 1975, following the death of his father Elijah Muhammad, who had succeeded the founder WD Fard Muhammad.

These organisations and their members have organised fashion shows and operated clothing stores centered on Islamic modesty since the 1960s. The models were usually volunteers from the local community. Elijah Muhammad discouraged female members from embracing the fashion trends of the day.

The fashion shows were a means of highlighting the creative ways Nation of Islam women could dress modestly and maintain the unique aesthetic, while still looking beautiful. They featured diverse head coverings such as berets and fezzes, colour-block outfits and different takes on the classic Muslim Girls Training tunic.

Imam WĎ Mohammed and his members would continue to encourage women's fashion ventures. They incorporated Afrocentric inspired designs and clothing, like the *dashiki* and *kente* 

For a decade, starting in the 1960s, when the oldest daughter of Elijah Muhammad, Ethel Muhammad Sharrieff led the Muslim Girl's Training, clothing

became a way of building a self-sustaining Black Muslim community.

A clothing factory she managed produced the official Muslim Girl's Training uniform. Members were encouraged to buy the uniform from the factory. Temple #2 clothing, a store in Chicago, Illinois, sold a wide range of products including shoes, lingerie and jewellery.

#### **FASHION SHOWS**

This May, I attended the Sealed Nectar Fashion Show, an annual fashion show hosted by the Atlanta Masjid of al-Islam in Atlanta, Georgia. It is one of the longest-running Muslim fashion shows in the United States, with 2019 marking its 33rd anniversary.

The fashion show was founded in 1986 by Amira Wazeer, an Atlanta-based designer, as a means of celebrating beauty and modesty. This year's theme, "World Traveller," featured six Black Muslim women designers from the United States, Tanzania and Kenya. More recent ones include in cities such as Washington DC, Houston and an forthcoming one in Philadelphia.

The fashion shows and bazaars highlight Black women's creativity and diverse definitions of Islamic modesty. This includes different styles of wrapping head scarves — turbans and buns that leave the neck and ears exposed to show off jewellery — as well as multiple clothes layering techniques, like wearing a pair of skinny pants under a short

#### BLACK MUSLIM MODELS

What Aden has been able to accomplish in three years is certainly worth celebrating. She has opened the doors for other hijabi models like Ikram Omar Abdi, who was featured on the cover of Vogue Arabia along with Aden and another Muslim model, Amina Adan.

However, in my view, it is important to place Halima Aden within the larger history of Black Muslim fashion in the United States. Unless we do that, there is a risk of erasing the Black Muslim fashion trailblazers who came before her and made her rise possible.

RIM OF THE WORLD



**D** im of the World follows four misfit campers who Rmust stay together and battle extraterrestrials during a freak alien invasion. The group of kids are ambushed by otherworldly creatures, which almost wipe out civilisation when they arrive, and they have to survive the apocalyptic incident. The film directed by McG will hit Netflix on May 24.

### MALIBU RESCUE



When a long list of shenanigans lands Tyler in hot water, he's forced to suit up and spend his summer training for an elite junior lifeguard program. Starring Ricardo Hurtado, Breanna Yde and Jackie R Jacobson, the film will release today on

#### GOOD SAM



curious reporter finds love while pursuing the A curious reporter initias for thinks a story of a mysterious figure who's leaving bags of cash for strangers around New York City. Starring Tiya Sircar, Chad Connell and Marco Grazzini, the film will release on May 16 on

### TECH TALK

Finding gems in the junk through video streaming can give you a treasure-hunting rush

Free services let you watch thousands of films and TV shows online but using the control of the online, but using them feels like wandering through a low-rent, digital version of Blockbuster (RIP).

Reality TV, long-forgotten "classics" that never made it to theaters these are the lackluster shows and movies you'll find for free. But finding gems in the junk, like the original Roseanne, can give you a treasure-hunt-

Unfortunately, websites and apps for many of the services have poor designs and search capabilities - not conducive to finding those gems. An outside search aid such as Roku, Reelgood, Decider and JustWatch can help scan multiple services to see which ones have the titles you want.
Once you find something to watch,

you'll have to put up with commercials. You'll get fewer ads compared with traditional TV channels. But as entertainment costs rise — especially as AT&T, Disney and Apple introduce new video subscriptions — free is hard to turn down. Here's a look at some of the

What's on: "Classic" films and TV shows along with some originals although the best-known, Jerry Seinfeld's Comedians in Cars Getting Coffee, is now on Netflix instead. You can browse movies by broad categories like "action" and "drama."

How odd: An "up next" feature plays something else after you're done watching. But instead of bringing up the next Who's the Boss episode after finishing the pilot, it landed on the movie Ali. And despite what the search results tell you, Julia Roberts is not in El Mariachi.

On demand: The original nineseason run of "Roseanne" (but not the recent reboot) and some appealing movies from the past few decades like Election, Short Term 12 and Heathers.

Live TV: Pluto is unusual in that it also offers dozens of channels with "live" video. Though some of these are pretty niche, dedicated to Minecraft or cats, the service is owned by Viacom, so you also get shows from well-known



no search tool, though Pluto says it's

How odd: The TV guide only shows what's on in the next 90 minutes, and you can't pause, rewind or fast-forward the video.

What's on: Fun retro stuff (I do love Problem Child), prestige films from past decades and some old hits. A tenth of the library changes every month. Finding video: Films and TV

shows are organised into useful categories, some with cheeky themes like Cult Classics or Not on Netflix. Ad interruptions: It's great that I

can fast-forward through scenes without being forced to watch an ad. Other free services often show ads when you jump ahead. TV episodes that I watched only had ads before the show, not during it, but that doesn't mean the same will happen for you.

How odd: A third of the movies brought up by searching actor John Ritter came out after he died. His ghost is not in them.

Apple's iTunes and Google Play, but there's also plenty of free TV shows and movies, with such categories like Westerns, Anime and Kids TV. Vudu will also introduce original content this

Those ads: Though ads will break up movies, they didn't interrupt the TV shows I watched. Rather, as with Tubi, the ads were all shown before the

How odd: Different seasons of TV shows each get their own tile, making me scroll more to find different shows.

There are many, many other free services, including ones that focus just on children's video (PBS Kids) or local news (NewsON). Here are a few that will have broader appeal: - **Youtube** is the world's largest

free video site, but it's not the best place to find full versions of traditional movies and TV series for adults. Its selection of free movies is small and uninteresting (Find them by searching for "movies" and looking for the "free with ads" tag). The site also streams live events and plans to make its original

- Hoopla and Kanopy technical-Viacom networks like MTV and Comedy Central. There's an entire What's on: The Walmart-owned ly charge for viewing videos, but it's service sells shows and movies, just like your public library that pays for it. It's

free for you with a library card. The movie selection is noticeably better, particularly Kanopy, with recent critical favourites, though don't expect the latest Marvel or Star Wars blockbusters. No ads, but libraries limit how many you can watch each month.

Yahoo View is Hulu's old free business, with a few recent episodes of broadcast-network shows. You can watch only on a traditional computer, not a mobile or streaming device.

- The Roku Channel with live channels and on-demand films and shows. It works on computers and mobile, so you don't need to own a streaming device.

 Amazon-owned IMDB Free-Dive has on-demand movies and shows, but not as extensive as what you get with an Amazon Prime member-

 Locast streams over-the-air stations for ABC, CBS, Fox, NBC, PBS and others in Baltimore, Boston, Chicago, Dallas, Denver, Houston, New York, Philadelphia and Washington. Ads asking for donations interrupt what's on TV.

— Facebook has a **Watch** tab with cult favourite *Buffy the Vampire Slayer* and Jada Pinkett Smith's talk show, but it isn't easy to use or tell what's avail-

### BB

film industry."

# DOUBLE DONE & DUSTED

Man City beat Brighton 4-1 to seal second consecutive English title as Liverpool finish second despite 2-0 win

**AFP** ■ LONDON/LIVERPOOL

Manchester City retained the Premier League title in style on Sunday, holding their nerve to come from behind against Brighton and see off a charging Liverpool after a

thrilling campaign.

Pep Guardiola's team thumped
Brighton 4-1 away to finish on 98
points — the second-highest total in Premier League history — as Liverpool beat Wolves 2-0 at Anfield to finish a single, agonising, point

City, who strung together 14 league wins at the end of the season, are the first side to retain the title since their bitter rivals Manchester United managed the feat in 2009, and remain on course for the first domestic treble in English football history. But Guardiola's team of aristo-

crats did not have it all their own way on a day of drama on England's south coast in keeping with an astonishing season in which the lead switched hands time after time. Liverpool drew first blood on

Sunday, with Sadio Mane striking in the 17th minute to put them mathematically top of the table and on course for their first English top-flight title since 1990, before the Premier League era even started. City fans' nerves were shredded

even further when Glenn Murray put

Brighton in front from a corner in the 27th minute, resulting in a huge roar at Anfield. But those cheers were quickly muted, with Guardiola's side level just 83 seconds later, Aguero staying

after a brilliant ball from David Ten minutes later, the unmarked Aymeric Laporte rose to head in Riyad Mahrez's corner to complete

onside and keeping his cool to finish

the turnaround for City. Guardiola's side continued to dominate at the start of the second half and were rewarded when Mahrez smashed in a third goal with 27 minutes to go.



Manchester City players celebrate at the end of the English Premier League match between Brighton and Manchester City at the AMEX Stadium in Brighton on Sunday. Pep's men become first team in a decade to win back to back titles

Ilkay Gundogan then blasted home a free-kick to put the result beyond doubt.

#### **RECORD-BREAKERS**

City broke a host of Premier League records in romping to the title last season, becoming the first team in English top-flight history to reach 100 points and finishing a record 19 points clear of closest rivals Manchester United.

This term has been a totally different campaign, with Guardiola's men forced to dig deep to see off the relentless challenge of Liverpool, who have lost just one Premier League game all season.

The champions have ground out a number of 1-0 victories in recent weeks, showing they have added steel to their style.

The outcome was cruel on Liverpool, who are second behind otal match of the campaign.

only United in the all-time list of English champions with 18 titles,

although the last came in 1990. The Merseysiders' points tally is the third-highest in Premier League

Jurgen Klopp's side travelled to face City at the Étihad in January with the chance to open up a 10-point lead but the defending champions won 2-1 in what turned out to be the piv-

Liverpool suffered a blip in late Premier League action, Tottenham January and February, held to a series of draws, but they found their form again and relentlessly harried City, finishing with nine straight league wins.

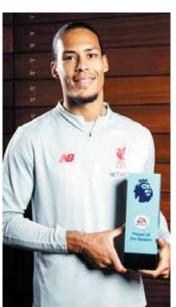
Klopp's team will have to put the disappointment behind them as they prepare to face Premier League rivals Spurs in the Champions League final in Madrid on June 1.

Elsewhere on the final day of

made mathematically certain of a place in the top four, drawing 2-2 against Everton

Arsenal beat Burnley 3-1 while fellow Europa League finalists Chelsea were held to a goalless draw

Ole Gunnar Solskjaer's Manchester United finished their season with a whimper, losing 2-0 at home to relegated Cardiff.



There were also wins for Crystal Palace, Newcastle and West Ham. Southampton and Huddersfield drew

#### **THREE WAY RACE**

Mohamed Salah has shared the Premier League's Golden Boot award with Liverpool team-mate Sadio Mane and Arsenal's Pierre-Emerick Aubameyang.

Salah went into the final day of the season two clear of the chasing pack but he failed to find the net as Manchester City retained the title ahead of the Reds.

The Egypt star could not match his incredible return of 32 Premier League goals from last term, but 22 was enough to share the award with two fellow Africans.

Aubameyang hit a double in Arsenal's 3-1 win at Burnley while Mane scored both Liverpool goals in their 2-0 home win against Wolves.

Salah follows players including Harry Kane, Robin van Persie, Thierry Henry, Michael Owen and Alan Shearer in winning the award in successive seasons.

### SINGLES

**ANKITA MAKES S/F EXIT FROM LUAN ITF New Delhi:** Ankita Raina recovered from a slow start but could not carry forward the momentum and crashed out of the \$ 60,000 ITF women's event in Luan, China. The second seed Indian lost 3-6, 6-1, 2-6 to local girl Ying-Ying Duan in the semifinals of the hard court tournament. "I am very upset. I thought I had the match after the second set. I had good rhythm in the second and in the third as well but I don't know what went wrong. Since I knew I had the match I was more upset. I will go home and then leave for the French Open, so looking forward to that," said Ankita. Her effort, earned Ankita, ranked 175, a total of 29 ranking points.

#### PUNE-HARYANA CLASH START IIPKL

PUNE: Haryana Heroes will lock horns with Pune Pride to kick off the inaugural Indo International Premier Kabaddi League here on Monday. The Pune Leg which is going to be held at the Balewadi stadium will have a star-studded opening ceremony. The first match of the tournament is going to feature the home side and Haryana Heroes. The city will play host to another 20 games before proceeding to Mysore and then Bengaluru for the final leg. Eight franchisees will be battling it out for the championship title along with a total prize purse of ₹ 4 crore over a period of 23

### WI MAKE RECORD CHASE VS IRELAND

**DUBLIN:** Sunil Ambris's maiden One-Day International hundred saw the West Indies complete their highest successful ODI run chase as they beat Ireland by five wickets in Dublin. Ambris made 148, off just 126 balls including 19 fours and a six, as the West Indies surpassed Ireland's total of 327 for five with 13 deliveries remaining on Saturday. The West Indies, who unlike Ireland have qualified for the upcoming World Cup in England and Wales, were behind the run-rate at 112 for two in the 20th over. But a third-wicket stand of 128 between Ambris, playing only his fourth ODI, and Roston Chase (46) helped get the tourists back on track. Not even a three-wicket haul from Ireland's former England fast bowler Boyd Rankin was sufficient to deny the twotime World Cup-winners, with Jonathan Carter (43 not out) and captain Jason Holder (36) seeing the West Indies to their second triangular series win over the tournament hosts.

#### HAKAN KEEPS AC MILAN IN CL CHASE

MILAN: Unheralded Atalanta moved third in Serie A on Saturday with a 2-1 win over Genoa edging the Bergamo side closer to a first-ever Champions League qualification with two games left this season. Musa Barrow and Timothy Castagne's second-half goals sent Atalanta two points clear of Inter Milan, who play already-relegated Chievo on Sunday. But AC Milan responded with Hakan Calhanoglu heading in the only goal against Fiorentina to boost Gennaro Gattuso's team's hopes of a return to elite European football for the first time since 2013-2014. AC Milan are fifth, one point behind Inter, with Roma a further three points adrift in sixth before they host champions Juventus on Sunday.

#### **BHULLAR FINISHES T-25 AT BRITAIN** SOUTHPORT: Gaganjeet Bhullar once again played

fairly solid golf for two-under 70 in the final round, ending Tied-25th at the British Masters, his second best finish of the season, here on Sunday. He totalled seven-under 281 as he sunk in four birdies and two bogeys from 11th to 18th. While he did not drop a bogey on first as he had done first three days, he did drop a bogey on a Par-5 at 11th, but birdied the Par-5s at second and fifth and parred 17th. Agencies

# Bertens halts Halep push for top spot

**AFP** ■ MADRID

The Netherlands' Kiki Bertens tory over Simona Halep to win the Madrid Open on Saturday, denying the Romanian a return to the top of the world rankings.

Halep could have knocked Naomi Osaka off the number-one spot with a triumph in the Spanish capital but instead it was Bertens who made history, becoming the highest-ranked Dutchwoman ever by climbing to world number four.

Bertens secured her ninth WTA singles title, as well as a cheque for 1.2 million euros, while her success should make amends for last year's disappointment in Madrid, when she lost in the final to Petra Kvitova. Halep was chasing her third suc-

cess in four years in this tournament but delivered the sort of patchy, disgruntled display that has hindered her before with a trophy in sight.

But Bertens more than played



her part, a deserving winner and the Kiki Bertens poses with the winner trophy AP

first woman ever to win the title

without even dropping a set. On this evidence, she will be a ous contender at the Open later this month, where Bertens reached the semi-finals in 2016 only to be stopped by Serena Williams.

Halep is the reigning champion at Roland Garros but has struggled at major tournaments since her debut victory last year. The 27-yearold has failed to go past the fourth round in any of the three Grand Slams since.

She was gracious in defeat, highfiving Bertens as she made her way to collect the trophy.

"I'm really happy to win this tro-phy," Bertens said. "It means a lot to me after last year getting to the final

Halep said: "It's an amazing tournament for me, very special. I'm sad I didn't win but Kiki deserved to win, she played the better tennis and all week the best tennis, so congrat-

### LOCAL EVENTS

#### **NAQVI SPORTING LIFT TROPHY**

Naqvi Sporting defeated Charminar Cricket Club by 19 runs to win the 15th BBD 'C' Division Cricket League at Akhilesh Das Stadium on Sunday. Batting first, Naqvi Sporting piled up 218 runs in the allotted 40 overs with Siddharth Singh slamming 93 runs. In reply, Charminar Club could managed only 199 runs. **BRIEF SCORES:** 

NS: 218 (Siddharth 93, Rudra 35, Sami 26, Amit 25; Vaibhav 48/3,

Wahabul 18/2) CCC: 199 (Mohit 77, Amaan 26, Zeeshan 23; Kartik 47/4, Aseem 15/3)

#### **RAVI EMERGES WINNER**



Ravi Shankar held David Yung for a draw in the last round to emerge victorious in the 25th Shivani Cup Sunday Open Chess Tournament at Shivani Public School on Sunday. Ravi finished on top with the better tie-break while David settled for third spot. Skand took the second spot while Deep and Aman finished on fourth and fith place respectively.

(U-10) 1-Sanyam Srivastava, 2-Utsav, 3-Ujjawal; (U-14) 1-Akshat, 2-Anshuman, 3-Akash; (U-16) 1-Aryan Singh, 2-T Krishna Tejas.

### Serena looking to turn the clock back in Rome

**AFP** ■ ROME

Serena Williams returns from injury in Rome next week looking to get back to winning ways as she prepares her bid to match Margaret Court's record of major singles titles at the French Open later this month.

Rome will be Williams's fourth tournament of the season and the first since being forced to withdraw from the Miami Open in April due to a knee

injury.
The 37-year-old American — now ranked 11th — has completed just seven matches this year, also withdrawing from Indian Wells in March with illness.

There are now doubts that the veteran can add to her tally of 23 Grand Slams, something which has so far proved beyond her since returning last year after taking time out following the birth of her first child. Her last Grand Slam singles title

was won at the Australian Open in 2017, where she was pregnant, breaking a tie with Steffi Graf for the most in the professional era.

Her win in Melbourne moved her one behind Australian Court's record of 24 major singles titles.



### Hamilton wins in Spain to take c'ship lead

**AFP** ■ BARCELONA

Lewis Hamilton beat Valtteri Bottas in the Spanish Grand Prix on Sunday to replace his team-mate as world championship leader as Mercedes' extended their record start to the season with a fifth 1-2 finish.

The defending five-time world champion seized the initiative at the start in Barcelona and led from lights to flag with a consummate demonstration of his speed and race-craft at the Circuit de Catalunya. It was his third win this year,

the 76th of his career and his fourth in Spain following victories in 2014, 2017 and 2018.

Responding to being outpaced by Bottas in qualifying, Hamilton came home 4.074 seconds ahead of the Finn who was second ahead of Max Verstappen of Red Bull, fourtime champion Sebastian Vettel and his Ferrari team-mate Charles Leclerc.

Pierre Gasly was a solid before."

sixth in the second Red Bull ahead of Kevin Magnussen of Haas, home hero Carlos Sainz of McLaren, Daniil Kvyat of Toro Rosso and Romain Grosjean in the second Haas.

It was the 16th time that Hamilton won a Grand Prix after leading every lap of race.
Hamilton's triumph hoisted him back to the top of the stand-

ings with 112 points, including one for fastest lap, ahead of Bottas on 105 "I have to put it down to this incredible team," said Hamilton.

"This is history in the making to have five 1-2's. I am very proud of that! "It's definitely been a bit of

a hard first four races. Naturally we have a great car, but we don't always get along. I'm grateful in the race that we managed to settle our differences.' Bottas said: "I lost it there,

at the start. The clutch was strange — bite and release, bite and release. I've never had that

### Tsitsipas reaches **Madrid final**



Novak Djokovic will play Stefanos Tsitsipas for the Madrid Open title after the 20year-old Greek stunned Rafael . Nadal on Saturday to win a thrilling semi-final 6-4, 2-6, 6-3 on his fourth match point. Nadal had been a clear

favourite to face Djokovic in Sunday's showpiece at Caja Magica but the 17-time Grand Slam champion extended his stuttering build-up to the French Open with another surprise defeat.

Tsitsipas' surprise victory means he reaches his fourth ATP final of the season while vindicating those that have him circled as a future star of the men's game. It might be too early to

expect the world number nine to challenge at Roland Garros later this month but, with a fearless style and formidable forehand, he is developing a habit for delivering on the big stage.

He ousted Roger Federer from the Australian Open and, as well as Nadal, has beaten Alex Zverev and Thiem, both twice, and Djokovic, whom he played on hard in Canada last year and prevailed in three sets.

### Juventus lose their stripes in new kit

**AFP** ■ TURIN

Serie A champions Juventus Oon Sunday unveiled their new home kit for the 2019-20 season, which for the first time in over a century removes the iconic black-and-white stripes traditionally worn by players.

The club was founded in 1897, but players have worn black and white stripes of various types since 1903.

Next season Cristiano



Ronaldo and his teammates will wear a half-and-half jersey with white on the right and black on the left. The team will debut the new jersey against Roma in Serie A

on Sunday in the Stadio Olimpico. "The daring new design evokes the past, whilst igniting the future of the club through

the evolution of the iconic black and white stripes," the team said. "An unexpected flash of

pink sits at the heart of the design and honours the first colour the club ever played in."

# MUMBAI LIFT 4TH IPL TROPHY

### ....edge past CSK by a run in nail-biting final

**PTI** ■ HYDERABAD

 $M^{\text{umbai}}_{\text{IPL}} \ \text{champions for the} \\ \text{fourth time after defeating}$ Chennai Super Kings by one run in a thrilling final, here Sunday.

Kieron Pollard top-scored for the Mumbai side with his unbeaten 41-run knock while Opener Quinton de Kock

Deepak Chahar accounted for three batsmen while Shardul Thakur and Imran Tahir took two wickets each for

Australian batsman Shane Watson hit a well-calculated 80-run knock before being run out. Faf du Plessis contributed 26 runs.

Chennai Super Kings dished out a disciplined bowling performance under pressure to restrict Mumbai Indians to 149 for eight.

After opting to bat, Mumbai ended up with a below-par total despite Kieron Pollard's unbeaten 25-ball 41. Deepak Chahar (3/26) was

impressive once again and so was fellow pacer Shardul Thakur (2/37). The spinners, Harbhajan Singh (0/27) and Imran Tahir (2/23), too played a crucial role in limiting Mumbai Indians.

The Rohit Sharma-led side was dealing in sixes early on in their innings with the in-form de Kock collecting three sixes out of the four hit in the first three overs.

After a frugal first over, Chahar went for 20 runs in the following one with the South African wicket-keeper batsman going for his strokes on a

true surface. Thakur was not spared either as de Kock clobbered him over deep-midwicket for his fourth six before top-edg-ing a short one to Dhoni in the same over.

All of a sudden, a promising start got converted into a Mumbai back. wobbly one with Rohit getting caught behind off Chahar three Mumbai captain got deceived by a slower one but he still went for the drive, only to edge it to Dhoni.

It was a brilliant a comeback from Chahar after being and his mis-hit went into the hit for 20 in his previous over and credit to Dhoni for bring-



Mumbai Indians players celebrate during the VIVO IPL T20 cricket final match in Hyderabad on Sunday

ing him back into the attack from the other end and keeping the faith in the team's most successful pacer this season.

With two new batsmen at the crease, the runs dried up before Ishan Kishan hit Dwayne Bravo for two boundaries to take Mumbai to 70 for two in 10 overs.

Just when it seemed Kishan and Qualifier 1 hero Survakumar Yadav will produce a much needed partnership, two wickets falling in quick session for second time in the innings, pegging

Surykumar played on leggie Tahir before the new batsballs later, leaving Mumbai at man, Krunal Pandya, was discatch from Thakur off his own

It got worse for Mumbai when Kishan tried deposit a Tahir googly out of the park safe hands of Suresh Raina at

Kieron Pollard, were in the Two of the biggest hitters in middle to put life into the the game, Hardik Pandya and innings and take their team to

cover, leaving Mumbai at 105 EFFORT IN VAIN: Chennai super King's Shane Watson plays a shot

a fighting total.

CSK, who had done most things right up till, gave a breather to Pandya as Raina dropped a regulation catch at cover. The dangerous Pandya made his opponents pay smashing Thakur for two sixes in the same over before getting

Pollard at the other end did not get enough strike in the death overs. He faced all six balls in the final over and did not take the single off the first three deliveries after not being able to clear the bound-

He got the much needed fours off the final two balls but it was not enough spoil a tidy

#### **DHONI'S RECORD**

Chennai Super Kings skipper Mahendra Singh Dhoni on Sunday became the most successful wicket-keeper in the history of IPL by taking his dismissals tally to 132, surpassing

his India teammate Dinesh Karthik.

Dhoni, who took two catches in the IPL final against Mumbai Indians, has now taken 94 catches and 38 sumptions 14 catches and 38 sumptions 15 catches 15 c ings. Karthik has 131 dismissals to his credit while Robin Uthappa has 90 scalps behind the stumps.

Dhoni reached the mile-

stone with a diving catch off Deepak Chahar to dismiss his opposite number Rohit Sharma. Before that he took a dolly off Shardul Thakur's bowling to remove Quinton de

#### **POLLARDREPRIMAND**

In an act rarely seen in cricket, an annoyed Kieron Pollard, to everyone's astonishment, took strike near the tramline before nearly leaving the pitch, attracting the ire of the umpires during final.

Mumbai Indians' Pollard, though, adamantly stood his ground in protest during the summit clash against Chennai Super Kings. Bowling the final over of the MI innings, Dwayne Bravo, finding birth-day boy Pollard shuffle repeat-edly towards the off-stump from his one-leg guard, clev-erly bowled fuller deliveries outside the 'tramline' (marked for wide balls) for three dot balls.umpire Nitin Menon did-n't signal wide as expected by Pollard, the reason being the burly batsman's big trigger.

After the third dot delivery, Pollard's frustration was evident as he flipped his bat in the air even though he didn't utter

Just as Bravo got into his stride to bowl the fourth delivery, Pollard, in a mock gesture, left the stumps open and kept walking towards the side of the

The umpires immediately intervened as Ian Gould, from square leg, and Menon, walked towards him to reprimand the senior player for his gesture, which was against the spirit of the game.

Mumbai Indians: 149 for 8 in 20 overs. (K Pollard not out 41, Quinton de Kock 29; D Chahar 3/26, I Tahir 2/23, S Thakur

Chennai Super Kings: 148 for 7 in 20 overs. (S Watson 80; J Bumrah 2/14).

### 'Dhoni is an era of cricket, almost like leader of a nation'

Australia's former star bats-man Matthew Hayden has used a variety of superlatives to describe Mahendra Singh Dhoni, calling him an "era of cricket" and "almost like a leader of a nation".

The big-hitting ex-opener eulogised the two-time World Cup winning skipper hours ahead of the IPL final between Dhoni's Chennai Super Kings and Mumbai Indians, both eyeing a record fourth title. "You know Dhoni, he is

not just a player, he is an era of cricket. In many ways, I think MS is like the captain of the gully cricket team, he is one of us, he will do anything," Hayden said on Star Sports special programme for CSK — 'The Super Kings Show'.

The Australian added, You see how he warms up, he bowls his leg spinners, he catches, he asks players and people around the squad on how they are doing and he is so relaxed, I think we can all relate to him because we all have busy lives working around with friends and families and that's a big commitment.

"So, someone like that at



the helm will make you feel calm, will make you feel relaxed and that's why Thala Dhoni that word 'Thala', obviously meaning the leader of Chennai, but you it's almost like leader of a nation.

Both Hayden and Dhoni had faced off while representing their respective national teams, with the Australian playing under the seasoned keeper-batsman at CSK.

With an average of 103.5, the Chennai skipper is so far the leading run-scorer for his side after accumulating 414 runs from 11 innings in the ongoing Indian Premier



### With 26 wickets, Tahir grabs Purple Cap

PTI HYDERABAD

¬hennai Super Kings' leg-Uspinner Imran Tahir Sunday pipped compatriot Kagiso Rabada to emerge as the highest wicket-taker winning the coveted 'Purple Cap' in the Indian Premier League. Incidentally, Tahir also

became the oldest player at 40 to win the 'Purple Cap' in the league.

edged past Rabada, who turned out for Delhi Capitals before injury curtailed his campaign, when he flummoxed Mumbai Indians' Ishan Kishan in the final of the cash-rich league for his 26th

Tahir picked up 26 wickets in 17 matches at a measly economy rate of 6.66.

Prior to the summit showdown of the 12th edition, pacer Rabada led the charts with 25 wickets in 12 matches before back injury ended his

campaign.

Tahir returned with figures of 2/23 in three overs, also picking up the wicket of Suryakumar Yadav, besides

Kishan went for a slog sweep but top edged it, and Suresh Raina took an easy catch at point. His first wicket of the game came in his first over itself when Suryakumar inside edged the ball on to the

### Rabada fit for WC opener; Steyn, Nigidi still doubtful

**PTI** ■ JOHANNESBURG

South Africa's pace spearhead Kagiso Rabada is expected to be fully fit for country's World Cup opener against India in Southampton on June 5, according to team doctor Mohammed Moosajee.

Rabada, became IPL's highest wicket-taker with 25 scalps for Delhi Capitals before Cricket South Africa pulled him out as a precautionary measure after he complained of stiff back.

"With KG (Rabada), we are extra cautious because of two reasons," Moosajee was quoted as saying by Cricket South Africa's website.

Mossajee said Rabada will be fully fit within three weeks as his rehabilitation is on track.

The anticipated recovery period for KG's injury is two to stand by, said Moosajee.

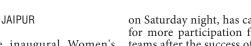
three weeks and we are hopeful he'll make a full recovery to be part of the World Cup squad," said Moosajee. "He had a back issue that

kept him out of the game for a protracted amount of time. Secondly, there's his importance in the squad, so we're managing his rehab and his return to play very carefully," the doctor said.

Moosajee, though, is yet to put a comeback date for the injured pace duo of Dale Steyn and Lungi Ngidi, who are out with shoulder and side strain respectively.

While there was no clarity on when Steyn and Ngidi would get fit, both are expect-ed to travel with the squad to England.

If they don't get fit in time, there are enough players on



The inaugural Women's T20 League was a great concept but it was too short and the tournament needs to have more teams and matches going forward, said Supernovas skipper

Supernovas skipper Harmanpreet Kaur after clinching the maiden title. Supernovas defeated Velocity by four wickets to win the inaugural Women's T20 Challenge, a T20 league involving three teams.

But Harmanpreet, who has hit a vital 51 in Women's T20 League," added Supernovas last-ball win here Harmanpreet, who was sur-

on Saturday night, has called for more participation from teams after the success of the tournament.

"Firstly it was great tournament for me, I learnt a lot from it and the same goes for other players also. We learned a lot from this tournament and that's what we were expecting," she said after the

"We wanted to play a T20 league in India and I am really happy the way it went. We are looking for more matches and more teams in the next



We need more teams in WT20: Harman

prised to witness a strong crowd of 15,000 cheering both

the teams. Harmanpreet said even

the foreign players want the tournament to be held in a large-scale next year.

'It shows how important this league is for the foreign players too. They were always asking when the women's league was to be played in India where they can come and play. You can see how important these games were for everyone. How keen they were to play here," she said.
"I think everybody was so

excited for these games." Speaking about her own performance, the Indian

women's T20 captain said she was delighted to finish off the our national team.'

job for her side on Saturday night.
"I learnt how to finish

because depending all the time for sixes is not going to work and sometime you can play along the ground and win the games. I did half the job and Radha Yadav came and finished the game," Harmanpreet said.

"A lot of youngsters like Radha Yadav, Jemimah (Rodrigues), Deepti (Sharma) have great future and perhaps they would get an opportunity to play in other leagues and that would help us in building

# Don't know how

IANS SOUTHAMPTON

Pakistan coach Mickey Arthur has praised Jos Buttler who played a match-winning knock of 110\* which came off just 55 balls in the second ODI of the five-match series which England won here in Southampton.

On Saturday, Buttler smashed six fours and nine sixes in the span of just 66 minutes, and helped England post gigantic 373/3 in their 50 overs. In reply, Pakistan's batsmen responded encouragingly. However, they could not cross the finishing line and fell short by 12

"I don't know how you bowl to him," Arthur said after the match. "I've just asked the bowlers the same thing and they didn't have an



going to stop him, so we've got to two teams," he added.

try to get him out," he added. Buttler has five of the 10 fastest ODI centuries by an England batsman, having struck a 60-ball ton on his way to 150 against West Indies in Grenada in February.

England skipper Eoin Morgan, who shared an unbeaten 162-run stand with Buttler, was all praise for the latter and said he was the difference between the two sides.

"He seems to have a gear that not many of us have. I certainly don't have it, but it's great to watch,' Morgan said.

"He always seems to time his run really well, regardless of what time he comes in, he always seems to have enough balls to go on and bang a 50-ball hundred. He was brilliant and the difference in the

### ABD pulls out of Big Bash

**PTI** ■ MELBOURNE

 $S \ \, \text{outh African legend A B de Villiers has} \\ \ \, \text{decided to pull out of the next edition of Big}$ Bash League (BBL) after initially committing to play during the final phase of the tourna-

While Cricket Australia has decided to make it a 14-match league affair on a homeand-away basis, there is a possibility that a lot of big names will not be available for the better part of the tournament due to cramped international calender.

According to a report in 'ESPNCricinfo', De Villiers was willing to play for a "limited stretch towards its concluding stages" but has now turned his back after realising that both Cricket Australia and Big Bash League wanted maximum leverage from the Proteas legend's participation and lift the dwindling TV ratings.

De Villiers' presence is a necessity for BBL and CA because in January, some of the biggest Australian names will first be busy playing Test series against New Zealand and then travel to India for the ODI series.

