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CHAMPIONS OF
DEFECTION**WORLD 12**
BREXIT TALKS COLLAPSE AS UK OPP
BLAMES 'WEAK' THERESA**SPORT 15**
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LETTERMAN
INSPIRES ME:
SHAH RUKH
13 VIVACITY

We'll repeat 2014: Modi

In rare PC, 'disciplined' PM directs questions to party boss

DEEPAK K UPRETI ■ NEW DELHI

Prime Minister Narendra Modi walking into BJP's Press conference room at the BJP headquarters surprised scribes on Friday as it had not happened in the last five-year of his tenure. While excited journalists hoped a rare free-wheeling question-answer session with him, the Prime Minister did not oblige them and merely expressed confidence that the NDA was set to return to power. In PM's place, party chief Amit Shah interacted with the journalists.

Modi chose not to answer questions saying he will not answer because the Press conference is being addressed by Shah, and in BJP's system, discipline has to be followed. "We are disciplined soldiers of the party. The party president is everything for us," Modi said.

Shah started fielding queries with Modi looking at scribes whom he had thanked and complimented on their hard work and hoped that they would have an opportunity to take rest after the grueling campaign coverage.

Modi had flown from Madhya Pradesh and drove to the BJP office here to brief the media on his experience and expectations from the seven-phase poll.

Exuding full-confidence of again heading the National Democratic Alliance (NDA) Government at the Centre, the Prime Minister affirmed that the new Government would start working on BJP's manifesto promises at the earliest.

Claiming that it was after a long time that the Government at the Centre was returning with ease, Modi said, "Rarely has it happened that a majority Government after



Prime Minister Narendra Modi speaks as BJP president Amit Shah looks on during a Press conference at the party HQ in New Delhi on Friday

Ranjan Dimri | Pioneer

completing five years will come to power again. Political pundits should do an analysis of it as why it happened."

He claimed that the Government of 2014 and 2019 were formed with "mandate of people" and not on account of any particular "situation" or "dynastic tradition" as was the case with previous Government formations.

In a subtle dig at the heads of journalistic organisations, Modi asked reporters to ask

their bosses to "analyse" why a second-mandate is given to a Government.

He said his campaign was a thanksgiving to people for five years when in different twists and turns the nation stood with him. "Maine kaha jo yatra hamne shuru ki usko badhane ke liye aapka ashirwad bhi chahiye, aur main dekh raha hoon ki janata pahale se jyada badh chadh ke ashirwad de rahi hai" (I sought their blessings to continue our journey at the

Centre and I am seeing that they are giving greater mandate than they gave in 2014).

Taking a swipe at the pollsters, Modi said, "These punters were the biggest casualty on May 17, a day after Lok Sabha results were announced in 2014". Saying that these punters were then controlled by the Congress, he said, "Ye saab doob gaye the."

"People have decided on Government formation... We will move forward as early as

possible," Modi said, adding poll-promises as mentioned in the "Sankalp Patra" (manifesto) would be decided and acted upon.

He said his Government's USP was the last mile delivery of all the welfare schemes which he said was "new culture of governance".

Shah, who addressed the Press Conference and took questions, mentioned 133 Central schemes which, he said, impacted 50 crore people at all level as these were monitored directly by PMO.

Modi said he started his first campaign from Meerut, the city of 1857 rebellion, and concluded in Madhya Pradesh where revolutionary Bhima, a tribal, led it and was executed by the British.

We closed 90% of doors for Modi, claims Rahul

PM shut down 10% himself, asserts Congress chief

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Congress president Rahul Gandhi on Friday said his party's strategy was to systematically close down every "door" to stop Prime Minister Narendra Modi from escaping.

"We closed 90 per cent of the doors (for Modi), he closed 10 per cent himself by abusing the opponents," the Congress chief said, while mocking the PM for holding his first Press conference in five years.

Rahul claimed the Congress has managed to dismantle the idea of Narendra Modi in the past five years.

The Congress allegation against Modi and BJP chief Amit Shah was led by Rahul after the PM showed up on the dais for a scheduled Press conference by the BJP chief, who gave a report card on the performance of the NDA Government as well as party's extensive electioneering.

"PM Modi is accompanying Shah in a Press conference, which is an unprecedented event for him. Let me ask him a question right now: Mr PM, why did you not accept my challenge to debate on corruption in Rafale?" Rahul said.

Mocking the PM for not taking any questions in his first appearance at a Press conference, Rahul said, "Showing up is half the battle". He said it is "very impressive" to see the PM address his first Press conference a few days before the Lok Sabha election results are out.

"The PM's first Press conference is coming 4-5 days



Congress chief Rahul Gandhi addresses a Press conference in Delhi on Friday

AP

before the election results. The PM is accompanying Amit Shah in the press briefing. It is unprecedented. Very good. I am told the doors have also been shut as journalists who want to ask questions have been blocked. It is a great Press conference," Rahul said.

"I want to ask the Prime Minister why he did not hold a debate on the Rafale issue? I want to ask you why did you give ₹30,000 crore to Anil Ambani. I was ready to come to Race Course Road to hold a debate with Modi," Rahul said, posing a question at his Press conference.

On a question on insult of

his parents (late PM Rajiv Gandhi and mother Sonia Gandhi) by Modi, the Congress chief said he would rather die than insult the Prime Minister's parents. "Modi ji talks with hatred. He insults my father, grandmother, great grandfather. But I will never in my life speak about his family, his mother and father. I will die, but will never insult his mother and father," he said.

On question about the PM, Rahul said Modi came five years ago and he had a huge opportunity. "As an Opposition leader, I would have liked to see the PM moving the country forward," he said.

CAPSULE

BREXIT TALKS COLLAPSE AS UK OPP BLAMES MAY

London: A day after British Prime Minister Theresa May was forced to set a June timeline for her exit from Downing Street, the Opposition Labour Party ended the cross-party Brexit talks on Friday without arriving at any agreement.

P12

2K AADHAAR DUMPED ON RIVERBANK: OFFICIALS

Thanjavur: About 2,000 Aadhaar cards have been dumped near the Mulliyaru bank in Tiruvannamalai district, according to revenue officials.

GOVT DECLINES TO SHARE BLACK MONEY DETAILS

New Delhi: The Government has declined to share information on black money cases received from Switzerland, citing confidentiality. Replying to an RTI query, the Finance Ministry said India and Switzerland share information on black money on a case to case basis as per the investigations being carried out.

Won't forgive Pragya, vows PM after 3 more leaders hail Godse

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

As three more BJP leaders — Union Minister Anantkumar Hegde, Karnataka MP Nalin Kumar Kateel and Madhya Pradesh party spokesperson Anil Soumitra-echoed Sadhvi Pragya Singh Thakur's view on Nathuram Godse, Prime Minister Narendra Modi broke his silence on the issue and said he will never forgive Pragya Singh for her remarks.

BJP chief Amit Shah said the party's disciplinary committee has sought an explanation from them in 10 days.

The BJP top leadership was pushed into a corner and forced to ask its leaders to explain their comments on Mahatma Gandhi's assassin Nathuram Godse in view of all-round condemnation and the Congress questioning the PM's silence on the row.

Meanwhile, Madhya Pradesh Chief Electoral Officer (CEO) VI Kanthrao on Friday submitted a factual report to the Election Commission (EC) over the statement of Pragya.

Reacting to Sadhvi's comments on Godse, Modi said, "I



will never be able to forgive Sadhvi Pragya for insulting Mahatma Gandhi."

"Whatever has been said about Gandhi or Godse, these kind of statements are very bad and worth contempt. In a cultured society, this type of language is not permissible. This type of thinking won't do. Therefore, those who are doing this have to think a hundred times. Though she has apologised, I won't be able to pardon her from my heart," Modi said, to a TV channel, hours before campaigning for the last phase of Lok Sabha polls ended.

Earlier, BJP president Shah

said the party has taken serious note of the statements from Union Minister Anantkumar Hegde, Pragya Thakur and its Karnataka MP Nalin Kumar Kateel. Stating that the comments were against the party's ideology, Shah asked the party's disciplinary committee to submit a report on the issue in 10 days for further action."

The entire BJP regrets the remarks and that is why prompt action has been taken, Shah said at a Press conference with PM Modi alongside him. "We will immediately decide on appropriate action on them," Shah said.

"The BJP does not associate itself with the comments. We not only consider such remarks as personal but also we have issued notices to those responsible and disciplinary proceedings have been initiated against them," Shah said.

On the candidature of Sadhvi, the BJP chief said, "Her candidature is a 'satyagrah' against a fake case of fake Bhagwa terror. A fake case of 'Bhagwa terror' was made in which accused have been acquitted".

'Displacement issue legacy of Cong, JMM'

Ranchi: On the last day of campaigning for general elections 2019 Chief Minister Raghubar Das attacked Congress and JMM again holding them responsible for displacement issue in Dumka and others parts of State. The CM said that the present government is trying its best to rehabilitate the people, who have been displaced.

"Displacement of people due to works at Massanjore, Chandil Dam including other places in the State is the legacy of Congress and JMM. They displaced people from here and benefitted people of other states. The JMM and Congress entrusted displacement as a legacy to the State. This has not happened in the reign of Modi Ji or BJP. The BJP is in favour of rehabilitation first and then displacement," said the CM addressing people at Ramgarh in Dumka on Friday.

Das asked to people that the person contesting election from Dumka is now unable to



Chief Minister Raghubar Das offers prayers at Baba Baidnath temple on the last day of election campaign for Lok Sabha elections, in Deoghar on Friday

PNS

walk and speak properly then how can he become voice of people in the Parliament? "You made Gurujii your MP in 2014, but the same person goes to Parliament only once in six months for marking his attendance so that his membership remains intact. This is a big betrayal with the people of Dumka," he said.

"You chose Gurujii your MP with lots of hopes but he has dishonoured all of you. JMM has become Jharkhand Mudra Lochan Party now. They cheated the people made false claims for years and made the people poor. By doing this kind of politics the Soren family has gathered a huge amount of money through corrupt means. Do the people here feel that Gurujii or any leader of JMM can become the Prime Minister of the country? It is, therefore, useless to vote for a regional party," he said.

"Whether you need a candidate of Bokaro or from Jama, it is you who has to take a call. Modi Ji has made Sunil Soren from Jama's land his candidate in the elections so that you can make your own man MP of the constituency and not an outsider. Your MP should be such, who stays near you and become your voice in the Parliament and not like a person who never comes to you," said the CM.

Das further said that the

JMM has ruled in Santhal Pargana and the whole State for years, but just speaking about casteism and communalism it brought the Santhal society much behind in the race of development. "After 2014 there is a lot of change in the people of Santhal Pargana in the leadership of Modi Ji. Basic amenities are reaching them now. Littipara, Shikaripara and Jama is changing now," he said.

"For over 14 years the JMM and Congress kept playing games of disturbing the government in the State. They never showed seriousness for affluence of the State and development of people here. They did not define domicile policy for 14 years. Now, in the leadership of Modi Ji domicile policy was defined and steps were taken to provide jobs to the youths of the region. After 2014 the State government has given employment to more than one lakh youths and in next one month 50,000 teachers will be recruited," said he.

PNS

SAURAV ROY ■ RANCHI

A Khunti court on Friday awarded life imprisonment to six convicts, including a former catholic priest in Barudhi, in connection with the abduction and gang rape of five activists last year in Kochang village of Khunti district about 70 kms from here.

On May 7, the court had found Father Alfonso Aind and five others guilty in planning and perpetrating gang rape of five women, involved in spreading awareness against human trafficking, on June 19, 2018 at Kochang village of Khunti district.

The court held Baji Samad, Ayub Shandi Puri and Junas Munda guilty of raping the girls, while Aind was found guilty of conspiring. Balram Samad and John Jonas Tidu were convicted for abetting rape. Another accused was found to be a minor. Tidu, Baji Samad and Puri were also slapped a fine of Rs.1 lakh each.



Police take away six convicts of tribal girls' gang rape case, after they were awarded life imprisonment by a court in Khunti on Friday

PNS

The amount, the court said, will go to the victims.

In June 2018, five girls were abducted while they were performing a street play to spread awareness against human trafficking at RC Mission School in Kochang. Sources said that John Jonas Tidu, one of the main workers of the Pathalgadi movement arrived at the school and

abducted the women on gun-point. They were taken to nearby Chhouthali jungle, where the perpetrators raped them in an attempt to teach them a lesson for speaking on the Pathalgadi movement. Aind was aware of the development but did not inform the police. Police said that he asked the abductors to leave out two women as they were nuns. He

did not raise his voice to protect the remaining five, they said.

The incident shook the State as the crime was not perpetrated out of any sexual desire but in a vengeful attempt to teach a lesson to the women for raising their voice against a movement in the hinterland. Pathalgadi, a tribal custom of installing stone plaques and other writings at the border of villages to demarcate the area, drew the attention of the State government last year after a few plaques restricted entry of administration and police in villages and declared them as liberated zones. The police arrested several gram pradhans in connection with the movement in rural Khunti and Simdega.

At least 19 witnesses gave their statements to the court during the course of the hearing in the gang rape case and the convicts were awarded punishment within 11 months past the incident.

Campaigning ends in high-voltage Punjab

MONIKA MALIK ■ CHANDIGARH

Loudspeakers fell silent as the 15-month-long high-octane campaigning in Punjab ended on Friday evening for the 13 Lok Sabha seats in the State which goes to polls on Sunday.

Making a final pitch to woo voters on the last day of campaigning for seventh and the last phase of 2019 general elections which have all elements of a political soap opera, the State's political parties and leaders went all out holding roadshows, addressing massive rallies, and meetings.

278 candidates, including 25 women, are in the fray. Of 2.07 crore voters in Punjab, 1,09,50,735 are male, 98,29,916 female, 3,94,780 first-timers and 560 third gender. There are 1,10,264 divyang voters who would be provided pick-and-drop facility.

The campaigning witnessed acrimonious exchanges



Actor-turned BJP leader Sunny Deol being welcomed by his party supporters in Kathua on Friday

PTI

between the rivals — the Congress and the Akalis — over the issue of sacrilege and 1984 anti-Sikh riots, the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) made allegations of horse-trading against

the ruling Congress, with Bollywood superstars adding style and glamour in the poll campaigning.

For the first time in the Punjab's political history, most

6 get life term in Kochang gang-rape case

SAURAV ROY ■ RANCHI

A Khunti court on Friday awarded life imprisonment to six convicts, including a former catholic priest in Barudhi, in connection with the abduction and gang rape of five activists last year in Kochang village of Khunti district about 70 kms from here.



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abducted the women on gun-point. They were taken to nearby Chhouthali jungle, where the perpetrators raped them in an attempt to teach them a lesson for speaking on the Pathalgadi movement. Aind was aware of the development but did not inform the police. Police said that he asked the abductors to leave out two women as they were nuns. He

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Shibu Soren, Babulal share stage in Dumka



JMM Chief Shibu Soren and JMM Chief Babulal Marandi during an election campaign rally at Durgapur Football Maidan under Nala constituency in Dumka on Friday

MRITUANJAY KUMAR ■ RANCHI

Two stalwarts of Jharkhand politics and foes turned friends shared the stage on Friday when Jharkhand Mukti Morcha (JMM) patriarch Shibu Soren and Jharkhand Vikas Morcha (JVM) Supremo Babulal Marandi appealed for votes in Dumka Parliamentary Constituency for JMM candidate Shibu Soren.

It may be mentioned here that Marandi defeated Shibu Soren in 1998 as Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) candidate from Dumka seat and he had also contested parliamentary elections of 2014 but got

Addressing the gathering at Asanbedia under Jamtara State Assembly Constituency in Dumka, Marandi said that once upon a time they were fighting against each other for the betterment of people of the State, but the current situation has forced him to share the stage with JMM patriarch for the same cause as BJP Government be it in Centre or State only mislead people of the State and the Country

defeated by JMM Supremo but this time Marandi is canvassing for JMM Supremo against BJP. Interestingly, Marandi and Soren, both were Chief Ministers of the State.

Both the leaders have attended three public meetings in Dumka along with JMM MLA from Bahragora, Kunal Sarangi.

Addressing the gathering

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State but the current situation has forced him to share the State with JMM patriarch for the same cause as BJP Government be it in Centre or State only mislead people of the State and the Country.

“I am fortunate that I have got chance to share the dais with one of the prominent figures of Jharkhand movement. Guru Ji (Shibu Soren). He had struggled hard for the State and the people of the area. I received 1 Lakh 58 thousand votes in 2014 elections from the seat, I am appealing to people of the constituency give all the votes to Guru Ji which they have given to me for ensuring Guru Ji’s victory,” Marandi added.

While appealing to the people Shibu Soren said this is very important election for the people of the State.

“We have to go with the time as BJP is trying to usurp our water, land and forest for which have righted for so many years. We have to save our natural resources from their hands. The Centre and State Government is trying to usurp our natural resources for giving it to their industrialist’s friends,” he added.

Criticising the State Government, Soren said that the State Government is anti-poor and in this Government no one is hearing the voice of poor.

JMM MLA Kunal Sarangi accompanied Soren and Marandi entire day of campaigning.

Speaking on the occasion Sarangi said that BJP has no issue for Jharkhand as all the star campaigner of the party be it Prime Minister Narendra Modi, BJP National president Amit Shah and Chief Minister Raghubar Das has nothing to say about the State they are only appealing vote for the people on the name of religion.

New outpost at Domuhani bridge to start from July



PNS ■ JAMSHEDPUR

A new thana outpost (TOP) at Domuhani is expected to start functioning from July as it will take two-months time for setting up the building. Tata Steel has agreed to build a thana outpost building for the police near newly constructed Domuhani bridge in Sonari.

Revealing about the development, senior SP, Anoop Bitharay said that they had approached various traders’ body and industrialists’ body in Adityapur as well as Tata Steel for making a TOP building near the Domuhani bridge. He said finally Tata Steel has given its consent to make the building for the district police.

Tata Steel, construction work for the new TOP building will start after May 23. It

will take about two months for the construction of the building to get through. He said that it will be a two-room TOP building with an additional rest room.

Bitharay said that though the construction of the Domuhani TOP building will be ready by July mid, they would start deploying of traffic cops at the site of the proposed TOP from the next week.

The new bridge in river Subarnarekha linking Sonari with Dobo in the adjoining Seraikela-Kharsawan district has been up at a cost of Rs 41 crores. The foundation stone for the ambitious project was laid by chief minister Raghubar Das, leading the Kolkata-based construction agency, Royal InfraTech Pvt Ltd to go ahead with the construction work.

With the bridge becoming operational, the distance between Chandil from Jamshedpur has reduced by about 30 kms as the commuters will not have to go to Chandil -- the route for going to Ranchi -- via Dimna Chowk. About 10,000 vehicles, including trucks, trailers and car move toward Chandil from Jamshedpur via Dimna Chowk on the NH-33 for the destination like Chandil, Chowka and Ranchi beside other places in Bihar.

“As per the situation and understanding the importance of safety of the commuters, we need a TOP at the Sonari side urgently. We had, therefore, requested Tata Steel for setting up a three-room facility for a new TOP there at Domuhani,” said an official.

जिला भू-अर्जन कार्यालय, लातेहार
सूचना

परियोजना-टोरी-महुआमिलान विराटोली नई बी0जी0 रेलवे लाईन निर्माण पार्ट-I&II में अंचल चन्दवा के अर्जित भूमि के रेतों को मुआवजा भुगतान हेतु वांछित कागजात यथा खतियान की छायाप्रति, अद्यतन लगान रसीद, (Online Rasid) आधार कार्ड, वोटर आई0डी0, बैंक पास बुक, शपथ पत्र, वंशावली प्रमाण पत्र, रंगीन अद्यतन दो फोटो एवं नोटिस की मूल प्रति के साथ आयोजित शिविर में उपस्थित होकर मुआवजा भुगतान प्राप्त करना सुनिश्चित करें।

क्र० सं०	शिविर की तिथि	समय	शिविर का स्थल	अंचल एवं ग्राम का नाम
1.	21.05.2019 दिन-मंगलवार	10 बजे पूर्वाह्न से 2 बजे अपराह्न तक	प्राथमिक विद्यालय, भण्डार गढ़ा (मुसाढ़)	अंचल-चन्दवा, ग्राम-मुसाढ़, कामता एवं जमीरा
2.	22.05.2019 दिन-बुधवार	10 बजे पूर्वाह्न से 2 बजे अपराह्न तक	प्राथमिक विद्यालय, भण्डार गढ़ा (मुसाढ़)	अंचल-चन्दवा, ग्राम-मुसाढ़, कामता एवं जमीरा
3.	24.05.2019 दिन-शुक्रवार	10 बजे पूर्वाह्न से 2 बजे अपराह्न तक	प्राथमिक विद्यालय, भण्डार गढ़ा (मुसाढ़)	अंचल-चन्दवा, ग्राम-मुसाढ़, कामता एवं जमीरा

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जिला भू-अर्जन पदाधिकारी, लातेहार।

PR 206733 (Land Reforms) 19-20 (D)

कार्यालय जिला शिक्षा अधीक्षक, बोकारो
विज्ञापित संख्या:- 02/2018-19

जिले के प्रारंभिक विद्यालयों में माननीय उच्च न्यायालय झारखण्ड, राँची द्वारा पारित न्यायादेश एवं विभागीय निदेश के आलोक में विज्ञापन संख्या-03/2015-16 एवं 04/2015-16 शिक्षकों की नियुक्ति के संदर्भ में शेष रिक्त पद की सूची प्रारूप NIC BOKARO के वेबसाइट www.bokaro.nic.in पर वर्ग 01 से 05 एवं वर्ग 06 से 08 (पारा एवं गैर पारा के सभी कोटि) को अपलोड किया गया है। यदि किसी भी आवेदक को कोई आपत्ति हो तो, वे अपना शिकायत आवेदन-पत्र दिनांक 22.05.2019 के अपराह्न 02:00 बजे तक इस कार्यालय को उपलब्ध करायेंगे।

प्राप्त सभी आपत्तियों का गुण दोष के आधार पर निराकरण करते हुए अंतिम मेधा सूची तैयार कर NIC BOKARO के वेबसाइट www.bokaro.nic.in पर अपलोड कर दिया जायेगा। निर्धारित अवधि के बाद प्राप्त किसी भी आपत्ति पर विचार नहीं किया जा सकेगा।

जिला शिक्षा अधीक्षक, बोकारो।

PR 206710 Human Resource Developement(19-20)D

कार्यपालक अभियंता का कार्यालय
पथ निर्माण विभाग, पथ प्रमंडल ,चतरा
प्रेस विज्ञापित

एतद् द्वारा इस प्रेस विज्ञापित के माध्यम से सर्वसाधारण को सूचित किया जाता है कि, सिमरिया-टण्डवा पथ के 27वें कि०मी० में गेरुआ नदी पर निर्मित पुल कमजोर है, इस पुल के विकल्प के तौर पर नये पुल के निर्माण हेतु सरकार को प्रस्ताव समर्पित है।

प्रायः यह देखा जा रहा है कि टण्डवा, बचरा कोल प्रोजेक्ट से निकलने वाले अति भारित वाहनों का पुल से परिचालन हो रहा है एवं पुल के उपर ही भारी वाहन खड़ा कर दिया जाता है। जो पुल के स्थायित्व पर प्रतिकूल प्रभाव डाल रहा है, जिससे पुल के क्षतिग्रस्त होने की एवं दुर्घटना की संभावना बनी रहती है।

अतः पुल पर हर प्रकार के वाहनों के ठहराव पर अविलम्ब रोक लगाई जाती है। अन्यथा किसी अप्रिय घटना घटित होने की दशा में वाहन खड़ा करने वाले व्यक्ति/वाहन मालिक को व्यक्तिगत रूप से जिम्मेवार (दोषी) माना जायेगा। इस संबंध में पुल के दोनों तरफ पूर्व में भी अनुमंडल पदाधिकारी, सिमरिया के द्वारा सूचना पट्ट लगाए गए हैं।

इसे अत्यावश्यक समझा जाय।

कार्यपालक अभियंता पथ प्रमण्डल, चतरा

PR 206703 Road (19-20)_D

Walkaroo launches new brand campaign

PNS ■ JAMSHEDPUR

When it comes to comfort and everyday style, Walkaroo from U4ic (Euphoric) International, a VKC group company is the perfect footwear choice for all. Adding a new milestone to the brand, the company today announced a refreshed brand identity with an attitude and stature that builds preference for the brand amongst the young generation. Aamir Khan, one of the biggest superstars in the world today has been signed up as Walkaroo’s new brand ambassador. The brand campaign ‘Be Restless’ brings alive restlessness showcased by infinity chasers or millennials with hunger for more - for whom goals are like stars in the sky, forever moving and countless. Aamir Khan will be seen in the TVC campaign who effectively epitomises this



idea and continuously strives to achieve new milestones in his career path.

Walkaroo as a footwear brand was conceived and launched in 2013 to embrace the joy of walking. A high-quality footwear brand that caters to

all, with an attractive range of footwear at competitive prices. The brand, with introduction of new categories offers footwear choices from sports shoes, lifestyle shoes, casual shoes, sandals, loafers and flip flops for men, women and children.

Roy asks Health Dept to release funds for MGM Medical College Hospital

PNS ■ JAMSHEDPUR

Jamshedpur West MLA and State Food and Civil Supplies Minister Saryu Roy has written a letter to the state health department for releasing necessary fund for infrastructural development of the MGM Medical College Hospital.

Roy, who recently inspected the medical college hospital has asked the state health department to release Rs 4.02 crores which has been earmarked by the latter to be spent on the medical college and hospital.

The MGM Medical College had a year ago sent a proposal for setting up two additional doctors’ hostels near Shitla Mandir in Sakchi beside carrying out renovation of the two existing doctors’ hostels.

“After we sent the proposal, the state health department had carried out a survey and estimated Rs 4.02 crores to be spent for the infrastructural



facility of the medical college and hospital. But the fund is yet to be released though six months have lapsed,” said a senior administrative official at the MGM Medical College Hospital. The official, on condition of anonymity said that due to absence of adequate number of hostels, the junior doctors have to stay in rented houses elsewhere in the city.

The minister confirmed to have written to the state health department on Thursday for

bringing about the necessary infrastructural facility of the MGM Medical College Hospital.

The minister had assured the doctors that he would take steps that the shortcomings at the hospital are fulfilled. He said that he will come to MGM Hospital one day in a week and take care of improvement initiatives. He also said that MGM Hospital is the only hospital in the country where there is no dresser.

MGM Medical College and Hospital is a government hospital with the facility of 540 beds. Everyday around 1000 patients come here for treatment. It may be mentioned that State Government governed Mahatma Gandhi Memorial Medical College and Hospital, is an Indian medical school established in 1964. It is situated in the outskirts of Jamshedpur near Dimna. The college’s hospital is located in Sakchi.

Forest Dept to develop Anjan Dham

VINOD PRASAD ■ LOHARDAGA

Proper development of the religious place in Gumla district, Anjan Dham, which is said to be the birthplace of lord Hanumana could not be carried out yet. Now, the same has been undertaken by the Forest officials of Gumla district. Divisional Forest Officer, Gumla, Shrikant has already drafted a plan, in which it has clearly been stated that the plan is to build a shade at the upper temple (where child Hanuman is in the lap of mother Anjani).

To enter the temple a gate is to be built and the remaining area will be encircled by bamboo. A railing by the concrete staircase and a semi umbrella roof over it is also a part of the plan. This staircase is used to reach to lower Temple. There will be a shade at the broader part of approach road.

To enter the temple a gate is to be built and the remaining area will be encircled by bamboo. A railing by the concrete staircase and a semi umbrella roof over it is also a part of the plan

The road adjoining upper temple and chand cave will be enlarged. For the purpose of beautification and provide employment to the locals the department has plans of plantation around the temple. All this is to be carried out under Eco tourism scheme.

The beautification of Anjan Dham was earlier to be carried out by the tourism department. It was proposed and sanctioned in the general budget of State. Four years after the

approval and the funds released the matter stuck into technicalities and that is why the works could not be initialised.

The DFO said that to make the birth place beautiful and attractive the plan is ready. The plan is to be sent to the department up to May 25. Once the approval received the work of the beautification will be started. The department has the requisite funds for the beautification, he added.



Curtains down on month-long campaigning

ROSHAN KUMAR ■ RANCHI

Over a month long campaign for 2019 parliamentary elections came to an end on Friday evening with all candidates doing a final sprint to reach out to as many as voters as possible in State. In Jharkhand the election is being held in four phase starting on April 29. In last phase of election scheduled on May 19, fate of candidates from Santhal Pargana will be locked in the Electronic Voting Machine (EVM).

The campaign which ran for nearly a month long in State, witnessed hectic campaigning from different political parties. BJP star campaigner and Prime Minister Narendra Modi addressed four election rallies at different locations spread at four phases of election and a massive road show in Capital. Congress national president, Rahul Gandhi addressed two public meeting in tribal districts of Simdega and Chaibasa apart from holding a road show in Coal Capital, Dhanbad.

"The PM's rally location was decided in such a way that it covers voters in all four phases. On April 23, he held a road show in Ranchi followed by rally in Lohardaga next day. Similarly, on April 29, the PM second rally was held at Giridih campaigning for candidates



Chief Minister Raghubar Das waves to party supporters during an election rally at Ramgarh area on Friday

in Koderma, Khunti, Hazaribag and Ranchi. PM third rally was in Chaibasa on May 5 seeking votes for candidates contesting in Jamshedpur, Singhbhum, Dhanbad and Giridih. The PM fourth and last rally was in Deoghar on May 15 campaigning for three Santhal Pargana seats," a BJP leader requesting anonymity said.

From BJP camp, apart from Modi, BJP national president Amit Shah

addressed three rallies, Union Home Minister and former BJP national president Rajnath Singh holding rallies in Palamu, Chatra and Hazaribag, Uttar Pradesh chief minister and BJP fire brand leader Yogi Adityanath addressed two election meeting, union minister for surface transport and highways, Nitin Gadkari holding election meeting in Dhanbad and Giridih Lok Sabha constituencies.

Also in Congress camp, apart from Rahul Gandhi, party another star campaigner, Navjot Singh Sidhu known for his funniest and controversial remarks too addressed election meetings in Jamshedpur and Bokaro.

Apart from national leaders of both parties, local leaders too addressed series of meetings in State. From BJP the star campaigner was Chief Minister Raghubar Das who addressed around sixty election meeting in different parts of State. From Grand Alliance camp it was former chief minister and JMM executive president Hemant Soren who actively campaigned for Mahagathbandhan candidates. Soren too addressed more than sixty election rallies.

"From Congress which is the leading partner of Grand Alliance, party senior leader Alamgir Alam addressed more than two dozen election meetings. Also State Congress president Ajoy Kumar too actively campaigned for Mahagathbandhan candidates," said Congress spokesperson Lal Kishore Nath Shahdeo.

However, Grand Alliance's internal bickering was evident in campaigning too as RJD star campaigner and Bihar former deputy chief minister Tejashwi Prasad Yadav only campaigned for his party candidates in Palamu and Chatra. In rest of the seat he was missing.



Girls cover their faces with scarves to protect themselves from heat wave on a hot day, in Ranchi on Friday. On Friday the highest temperature of 39 degrees was recorded in Ranchi

BSNL to launch 4G services soon

PNS ■ RANCHI

Government owned telecom company BSNL will soon launch 4G services in Gunla, Simdega, Lohardaga, Latehar, Garhwa and Palamu districts. Since the new service is launched with latest technology the consumers need to replace their 3G SIM cards free of cost with 4G SIM cards.

They will not have to pay for replacement of the SIM cards and if they do not change to 4G SIM their data connection will be interrupted. Also, for 4G service they will have to use 4G handsets.

The current plans and validity of the SIM will remain unchanged and the consumers will not have to spend an extra penny for the service. CGMT,



Jharkhand, KK Thakur said that BSNL is soon going to launch 4G service in the State so consumers in Jharkhand will enjoy 4G mobile services.

Over 37K security personnel to ensure peaceful polls

Aerial surveillance on sensitive areas

PNS ■ RANCHI

In a bid to ensure peaceful polls in the final phase of elections in Jharkhand's Godda, Rajmahal and Dumka constituencies on Sunday, the Election Commission of India (ECI) has decided to deploy at least 37,000 security personnel, from central forces and state police, across the six districts covering the three parliamentary constituencies, officials said on Friday.

Addressing the media at the Chief Electoral Officer (CEO), L Kiangte's office on Friday, Inspector General (Operations) Ashish Batra said that elaborate security arrangements have been made for peaceful polling in the Left Wing Extremism-affected constituencies on Sunday.

"A total of 153 companies from central forces and 66 companies from the State police will be deployed in the constituencies on the polling day. Besides, 4700 homeguards and 18000 district police personnel will ensure peaceful elections across the three constituencies of Santhal Pargana," Batra said.

There are a total of 137 woman polling stations in the three constituencies and armed woman police personnel will be deployed in all of them to maintain law and order, he added.

At least seven booths in the final phase will have helidropping facility, while aerial surveillance across the constituencies will keep a watch on the movement of police companies and suspected activities of the CPI (Maoist) and other rebel outfits, police said.

To maintain law and order during the elections and avert



State Chief electoral officer L Kiangte along with additional chief electoral officer Vinay Kumar Choubey, IG (Operations) Ashish Batra and Health Secretary NM Kulkarni during a press conference in Ranchi on Friday

any form of disruption to the polling process, the police have seized at least 14,086 licensed arms from the residents of the

areas that will vote on Sunday. Besides, license for 11 arms were cancelled, while two licensed arms could not be

traced.

Meanwhile, CEO L Kiangte said that at least 75,051 fresh voters were added to the list of electorates in the three constituencies from January 1 to April 29. As per the latest figures with the ECI, the total number of electorates in the final phase of elections here is 45, 64, 681, he added.

The total number of voters in the three parliamentary constituencies has increased by 8.91 per cent in comparison with 2014, Kiangte said, adding that the polling process at least 591 polling stations will be webcast on Sunday.

A total of 27,536 poll personnel will monitor the elections in the constituencies on Sunday across the 6,258 polling stations. Kiangte said that as many as 62, 762 voters will exercise their franchise for the first time in the three constituencies. Out of these millennial voters, 38, 403 are men,

24, 355 are women and four represent the third gender.

More than half of the over 45 lakh electorates in the fourth and final phase of general elections in Jharkhand are below the age of 40 years. Out of the total electorates, 23,64,541 are men and 22,00,119 are women, while 21 represent the third gender. Among the voters in the age bracket of 18 to 40 years, around 13 lakh are men and around 12 lakh are women. Young voters, in the age bracket of 18-25 years form 16.29 per cent of the total electorates in the three constituencies.

Three of four phases of elections for the 14 parliamentary constituencies in Jharkhand are already over. The final phase of election, covering Santhal Pargana, a Jharkhand Mukti Morcha (JMM) stronghold, is set to witness a tough contest between the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) and the 'Mahagathbandhan'.



Devotees offer the 2nd Friday Namaz of the holy month of Ramadan at a mosque in Ranchi on Friday

BJP optimistic of breaking JMM's wall in Santhal

PNS ■ RANCHI

The State BJP today predicted that after May 23 Lok Sabha results, JMM will be routed out in State as party is confident of making entry in Santhal Pargana—the JMM bastion in State. The BJP is optimistic of winning all three seats in Santhal Pargana going to poll in last phase of election. Presently, out of three seats in Santhal, the JMM has two seats Dumka and Rajmahal while one seat Godda is held by BJP sitting MP Nishikant Dubey.

State BJP spokesperson, Pratul Shahdeo said, "The JMM's empire in Santhal Pargana has been built with loot and lie will collapse after May 23 election results. The voters are asking from JMM executive president Hemant Soren what they have done for Santhal in the region which they have ruled for more four decades," Shahdeo said, "The voters will teach a lesson to JMM in this election."

The BJP leader claimed that JMM has treated Tribals and Moolvasi as only vote bank. Shahdeo said, "The



BJP State spokesperson Pratul Shahdeo along with media cell member Prem Mittal during a press conference at party office in Ranchi on Friday

Soren family has created property worth more than Rs 500 crore, but the condition of poor tribals and Moolvasi has not improved. These people are still living in pitiable condition."

The battle for Santhal Pargana is do-or-die contest for BJP and JMM. Santhal Pargana has remained as safe bastion of JMM as its party president and patriarch Shibu Soren has represented Dumka seat for

eight times. If he wins the election he will create history in State for reaching Lok Sabha for nine times. Also most of JMM lawmakers are from Santhal region. Party executive president Hemant Soren too is MLA from Barhait assembly segment.

The Rajmahal seat which borders Dumka too has influence of JMM patriarch as JMM has been representing the seat

continuously in the Lok Sabha. JMM sitting MP Vijay Hansdak, who is contesting the election for second time is son of former MP and old war horse Thomas Hansdak. In Rajmahal too people consider Shibu Soren as 'Dishom Guru'. The status Shibu Soren enjoys in Santhal Pargana can be gauged from the fact that in 2014 Modi wave too, JMM managed to win two seats.

However, this time the BJP has worked hard to break JMM bastions. Apart from various welfare schemes such as inland port in Sahibganj, AIIMS and Airport in Deoghar, Chief Minister Raghubar Das has campaigned extensively in Santhal areas.

The BJP spokesperson Shahdeo said, "The party is sure to win all 14 seats in Jharkhand and the BJP itself will cross 300 marks in Lok Sabha." The BJP leader attacked the Mahagathbandhan of low level campaigning. He said, "Abusing Prime Minister Narendra Modi has become a fashion for opposition, but in this election the people will give a befitting reply to such parties."

3 chain snatchers held

Ranchi: Ranchi police of Friday arrested three accused of chain snatching cases and sent them to jail. Addressing a press meet, Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP), Anish Kumar Gupta said that the in recent times various cases of chain snatching came to light. "Three persons riding on two motorbikes snatched chain from a woman early in the morning when she was on morning walk at Kanke Road under Gonda Police Station on May 16. Keeping in mind this incident Ranchi District Police constituted a Special Investigation Team in (SIT) in leadership of Ranchi Urban Superintendent of Police (SP) Sujata Kumari Vinapani to investigate the matter," he said.

"The SIT started investigation immediately and nabbed three accused and recovered the snatched chain and two motorbikes, which were used while



Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP), Anish Kumar Gupta, City SP Sujata Kumari Vinapani, along with others during a press conference in Ranchi on Friday

snatching. The three arrested persons have criminal antecedents. All the arrested persons have confessed their involvement in recently happened cases of snatching of purse, chain and mobile hand-sets," Said Gupta.

While giving details about the culprits, Gupta said that one of them is Shekh Shaiph, aged 21

years, resident of Chandaw Chowk under Pithoria Police Station in Ranchi district another is Shekh Mehtab, age 22 years, resident of Chandaw under Pithoria Police Station and last one is Shekh Jabir, age 22 years, he is also resident of Chandaw under Pithoria Police Station in Ranchi District.

PARVINDER BHATIA ■ JAMSHEDPUR

Tata Workers' Union (TWU), the labour union of Tata Steel, has entered the 100-year club. The union started its journey as the Labour Association in 1920 after a month-long strike, following which Suren Halder, Barrister-at-law (then) from Calcutta arrived to lead the striking labourers and negotiate with the management. TWU is the first labour union to complete 100 years in the country and has a rich legacy.

"People are aware of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose's contribution in freedom struggle, but few know that he was the president of the Labour Association, Jamshedpur, rechristened later as Tata Steel Workers' Union, for nine long years," said an official of the



Workers and officers of Tata Steel (then TISCO) at the steel plant in 1912

union.

He informed that following a prolonged strike, Netaji Subash Chandra Bose came to Jamshedpur in August, 1928 and provided leadership to the union, helping reach an agreement with the management and ending the strike. That was the last trade union strike at

Tata Steel.

Netaji battled for the workers' rights vigorously. His attitude to management was always positive and he viewed the company's struggle for survival as a part of a national struggle.

This little known fact can be learnt from a letter Netaji

had written to the then managing director of Tata Steel (then TISCO), N B Sakalabala, way back in November 12, 1928. The confidential letter, written by Netaji who was the president of the union from 1928 to 1937, showcases his deep concern for Indian workers in industries at a time when Britishers were occupying key positions in all sectors. As the company was largely dominated by Britishers at that time, Netaji was made the association's president on the advice of national leaders, including Mahatma Gandhi, to speed up the process of Indianisation.

Prior to this on March 20, 1920, Dorabji Tata arrived and announced terms of settlement and most importantly, gave recognition to the Labour Association. Subsequently Prof Abdul Bari, the then Deputy

Speaker of Bihar Legislative Assembly and member of Bihar Labour Enquiry Committee, was elected as the President of the Union in 1936. It was he who later changed the name of the Union to 'Tata Workers' Union in 1937.

Under Prof Bari's leadership, the union launched a peaceful movement for a thorough revision of the wage structure, introduction of the incentive bonus scheme etc. Besides Prof Abdul Bari, TWU over the last ten decades, has seen leaders like Surendra Nath Halder, C F Andrews, while Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose took over as the President of the Union in 1928.

Tata Workers' Union president R Ravi Prasad said that it is only due to the spirit of 'working together' that they have been able to achieve this milestone.

CCL grants ₹1 crore to Fani affected people



PNS ■ RANCHI

Central Coalfield Limited (CCL) has granted ₹1 crore to Odisha Government's Chief Minister Relief Fund as financial assistance for the affected people by cyclone 'Fani'.

CCL has once again come forward to help in wake of heavy damage and devastation caused in the coastal districts of Odisha due to the cyclone. Millions have been affected due to the damage

caused by the cyclone unsettling day to day life of the general public. On the initiative of Chairman cum Managing Director (CMD) CCL Gopal Singh, a special meeting of CCL's Joint Consultative Steering Committee (JCS) was conducted which was chaired by Director (Personnel), RS Mahapatra. The committee in the meeting unanimously decided that all officers and employees of the CCL will contribute in this relief mission.

In addition to this, a truck carrying food items, general medicines, water bottles, soap, plastic sheets, and other items of daily use for the cyclone affected families of Odisha has been handed over to Inspector General, Central Range, Puri Camp, Odisha. On this occasion, Senior Manager (Administration cum Personnel) RK Singh, Ashok Kumar and KN. Yadav were present on behalf of CCL.

CCL as a responsible public undertaking stands with the country during difficult times. Every time country faces any disaster, CCL family led by CMD Singh has went ahead to extend their support in every possible way to the fellow countrymen. CCL is constantly pursuing its objective of inclusive growth and holistic development for the people from the least developed part of our society.



Chief Minister Raghubar Das going to attend an election rally and meet villagers at Ramgarh in Dumka on Friday during an election campaign

Trucks catch fire at petrol pump in Chas

PNS ■ BOKARO

Two trucks parked near a petrol pump near Kandra Chad in Bokaro district caught fire before being exploded. The incident took place on Friday afternoon - a neighbourhood in Chas city of Bokaro. The truck caught fire suddenly which rapidly spread to other vehicles standing near the truck. The fire caused a loud explosion in diesel tanks of the trucks.

According to sources locally informed fire brigade authorities

about the fire which later sent four engines to douse the flames. Fortunately, there were no casualties due to the incident. The incident also exposed the emergency fire fighting preparations of the petrol pump where, as per eyewitnesses, not ever water was available to extinguish the fire.



Bermo witnesses acute water crisis

SURESH NIKHAR ■ BERMO

The available water in all the dams and rivers including Konar and Damodar of these regions is negligible. However, thanks to the Tenughat dam, people will not face any difficulty till July-end. Water is available in the dam. The only challenge is to supply it to far-flung areas, some 20 km away from the dam

Chandraparaksh Chaudhary has asked the district administrations to start plying tankers in villages where water was not available.

"After a review and reports from local authorities, we have decided to provide drinking water to villages located in different parts of district by tankers so that people don't face any shortage," said Minister Chandraparaksh Chaudhary. According to officials, the number of villages in Gomia, Peterwar and Nawadih needing water tankers will only rise due to high temperatures that push the demand.

According to DVC sources supply on daily in Bokaro thermal and Chanderpura, water is supplied only for 30 to 40 minutes a day and in many localities and societies located

on the outskirts, supply is on alternate days or through tankers in Nawadih and Dugda area.

Even in Phusro, Jaridih, Kathara the Assembly constituency of Bermo, the shortage of drinking water forced villagers to hold protests demanding its regular supply. MLAs of Bermo Yogeshwar Prasad Batul has made representations demanding adequate water supply in areas where the Tenughat water is the only source now.

"In my area, more than two dozen villages are facing acute shortage. I have written to the Minister and demanded that all villages are provided water through tankers and tanker trips will be doubled," said legislator Jagarnath Mahto from Dumari.

BATTLEGROUND CHANDIGARH

It's a classic BJP versus Cong battle

NISHU MAHAJAN ■ CHANDIGARH

Chandigarh, popularly known as the City Beautiful is witnessing a high-stakes triangular electoral contest in Lok Sabha polls with the ruling Bharatiya Janata Party attempting to retain the seat, its main rival Congress looking to make a comeback and the Aam Aadmi Party trying to regain its lost base.

The Bharatiya Janta Party's candidate and outgoing MP, Kirron Kher is locked in a tough poll battle against Congress' former MP Pawan Kumar Bansal and AAP's nominee Harmohan Dhawan, a former Union Minister.

Chandigarh, the joint capital of neighboring states of Punjab and Haryana has reposed faith in either BJP or Congress in the past three decades during parliamentary polls. In 2014 Lok Sabha polls, the city had switched loyalty from Congress to BJP making the debutant Kirron Kher victorious against the then sitting

MP and Congress' veteran Pawan Bansal.

As the two opponents face each other in parliamentary polls again this time, political experts believe that the city will see a close contest between the BJP and Congress. Even though AAP had in 2014 Lok Sabha polls gave a tough contest to both the mainstream parties, the party has lost its base over the years here, they say.

There are a total of 36 candidates in the fray from Chandigarh's lone Lok Sabha seat, which goes to polling on May 19.

Chandigarh, being a union territory is primarily governed by the Centre and comes directly under the administrative control of the Union Home Ministry.

The key issues on the minds of voters here this election season include traffic and parking woes, poor sanitation, deteriorating law and order situation, building bylaws, lack of basic infrastructure in villages, water

supply among others.

While the Congress has pitched its campaign on "local" issues, the BJP is banking on "Modi factor" and nationalism plank to beat the anti-incumbency amid public expectations of better civic infrastructure.

One of the most talked about "local" issues in Chandigarh is traffic woes. As the city did not witness any progress in either metro or monorail project in the last five years, both Kirron Kher and her arch rival Bansal are making promises to resolve the traffic woes in the city, once elected. Kher had rejected the ambitious metro rail project as a means to decongest the city's traffic and now backing monorail project while Bansal is in favor of metro project to end the traffic congestion in Chandigarh.

The city had slipped from 3rd to 20th position in the Swachh Survekshan 2019 ranking, which is another main talking point in the electoral arena here.

उपायुक्त का कार्यालय, लोहरदगा

जिले के राजकीयकृत मध्य विद्यालय में वर्ग 6-8 तक के लिए स्नातक प्रशिक्षित विज्ञान, कला, भाषा, उर्दू (भाषा) एवं प्राथमिक विद्यालयों में वर्ग 1-5 तक के लिए गैर योजनातर्गत/योजनातर्गत इण्टर प्रशिक्षित शिक्षक की नियुक्ति हेतु अष्टम् काउंसिलिंग से संबंधित आवश्यक सूचना :-

सरकार के प्रधान सचिव, स्कूली शिक्षा एवं साक्षरता विभाग, झारखण्ड, सरकार की अधिसूचना संख्या 1632 दिनांक 05.09.2012 द्वारा प्रस्थापित झारखण्ड प्रारंभिक विद्यालय शिक्षक नियुक्ति नियमावली, 2012 (यथा संशोधित) के आधार पर विज्ञापित पदों के विरुद्ध की गई पूर्व की नियुक्ति के पश्चात् शेष बचे रिक्त पदों पर एकबारगी अंतिम अवसर के रूप में काउंसिलिंग की प्रक्रिया के अन्तर्गत जिले में राजकीयकृत मध्य विद्यालयों में स्नातक प्रशिक्षित विज्ञान, कला, भाषा एवं भाषा (उर्दू) शिक्षक एवं वर्ग 1-5 तक के लिए राजकीयकृत प्राथमिक विद्यालयों में गैर योजनातर्गत/योजनातर्गत इण्टर प्रशिक्षित शिक्षक के रिक्त पद पर नियुक्ति हेतु सरकार के प्रधान सचिव, स्कूली शिक्षा एवं साक्षरता विभाग, झारखंड के पत्रांक 662 दिनांक 02.05.2019 के आदेशानुसार, अष्टम् काउंसिलिंग हेतु औपबधिक मेधा सूची आवेदन करने वाले अभ्यर्थियों के अवलोकनार्थ हेतु जिले के अधिकृत वेब साईट www.lohardaga.nic.in पर प्रकाशित किया गया है। जिन अभ्यर्थियों के द्वारा औपबधिक मेधा सूची के अवलोकन के पश्चात् किसी भी तरह की त्रुटि के निराकरण हेतु आपत्ति दर्ज करनी हो, तो इसके साथ संलग्न विहित प्रपत्र में ही संबंधित साक्ष्य के साथ दिनांक 22.05.2019 तक निबंधित डाक/स्पीड पोस्ट अथवा हाथों-हाथ कार्यालय: जिला शिक्षा अधीक्षक, लोहरदगा (गण्डेय गणपत राय भवन, प्रथम तल्ला, समाहरणालय, लोहरदगा, पिन कोड 835302) के शिक्षक नियुक्ति कोषांग में अपराह्न 05.00 बजे तक जमा कर पावती रसीद प्राप्त कर सकते हैं। इस निर्धारित अवधि के बाद किसी प्रकार का त्रुटिकरण संबंधी दावा मान्य नहीं होगा और यह समझा जायेगा कि उन्हें इस संबंध में कोई आपत्ति नहीं है।

जिला शिक्षा अधीक्षक, लोहरदगा।
उप विकास आयुक्त, लोहरदगा।
उपायुक्त, लोहरदगा।

PR 206725 Lohardaga(19-20)D

कार्यपालक अभियंता का कार्यालय ग्रामीण विकास विभाग, (ग्रामोका0मा0) कार्य प्रमंडल, खूंटी

प्रेस विज्ञापित

एतद द्वारा इस प्रेस विज्ञापित के माध्यम से संवेदक मेसर्स अशोक प्रधान, कृष्णापुरी रोड न0-1, चुटिया, रॉंची को सूचित किया जाता है कि प्रधानमंत्री ग्राम सड़क योजना के अन्तर्गत पैकेज सं0 JH-WB-KHU-068(WB) Jamudag to Magandih Block Sonahatu पथ एवं पैकेज सं0 JH-WB-KHU-063(WB) Baruhatu to Mukuramddih पथ का निर्माण कार्य अभी तक अपूर्ण है। इसको पूर्ण करने के लिए अनेकों स्मार दिये गये परन्तु आपके द्वारा उक्त कार्य को पूर्ण करने में रूची नहीं लिया जा रहा है। अतः निर्देश दिया जाता है कि दिनांक 30.05.2019 तक कार्य पूर्ण करे अन्यथा अंतिम मापी ली जायेगी, जिसमे आप स्वयं या आपके द्वारा प्राधिकृत प्रतिनिधि का उपस्थित होना अनिवार्य है। यदि आप या आपके द्वारा प्राधिकृत प्रतिनिधी कार्य स्थल पर उपस्थित नही होते हैं तो भी सहायक अभियंता/कनीय अभियंता द्वारा मापी ले ली जायेगी, जो मान्य होगी और बाद में आपका कोई भी दावा स्वीकार नहीं होगा।

क्र० सं०	कार्य का नाम	एकरारनामा सं०	एकरारनामा के अनुसार कार्य समाप्ति की तिथि	अंतिम मापी की तिथि एवं समय	सहायक अभियंता/कनीय अभियंता का नाम
1	जमुआदाग से मगनडीह पथ	SBD-62/2016-17	29-07-2018	03.06.2019 10.00 बजे	सत्यदेव प्रसाद सिंह/ महेश रवि दास
4	बारुहातु से मुकरुमडीह पथ	SBD -72/2016-17	02-09-2018	03.06.2019 2.00 बजे	सत्यदेव प्रसाद सिंह/ अमीत कुमार

PR 206719 (Rural Work Department)19-20#D

कार्यपालक अभियंता
ग्राविणितो,(ग्रामोका0मा0) कार्य प्रमंडल, खूंटी

“सुबुद्ध प्रजातंत्रं बृहत्तरं सहभागिता”

कार्यालय, जिला निर्वाचन पदाधिकारी-सह-उपायुक्त, पलामू

(वाहन कोषांग)

E-mail ID. dtopalamau@rediffmail.com

प्रेस विज्ञापित

एतद द्वारा बस, ट्रक एवं छोटी वाहनों के चालक /सहचालक /वाहन स्वामियों को सूचित किया जाता है कि लोकसभा आम निर्वाचन 2019 के निमित्त उपयोग किये गए वाहनों का लॉगबुक सूचना प्रकाशन के तीन दिनों के अन्दर जिला परिवहन कार्यालय (वाहन कोषांग) पलामू में जमा करना सुनिश्चित करेंगे।

निर्धारित समय सीमा के अन्दर वाहन का लॉगबुक जामा नहीं करने की स्थिति में आपके वाहन का प्रतिपूर्ति (भाड़ा) का भुगतान करने में कठिनाई होगी। जिसके लिए आप स्वयं जिम्मेवार होंगे।

प्रभारी पदाधिकारी,वाहन कोषांग
-सह-जिला परिवहन पदाधिकारी, पलामू
P.R.206740 District(19-20)-D

कार्यालय:-अपर प्रधान मुख्य वन संरक्षक, कैम्पा, झारखण्ड, रॉंची

Phone No. 0651-2481466 Email id: apccf-campa@gov.in

ज्ञापांक :- 296

आवश्यक सूचना

दिनांक- 17.05.2019

श्री गिलवर्ट खलखो, वन क्षेत्र पदाधिकारी, विष्णुपुर वन प्रक्षेत्र, गुमला वन प्रमण्डल, गुमला के विरुद्ध झारखण्ड सरकार, वन, पर्यावरण एवं जलवायु परिवर्तन विभाग के संकल्प संख्या-09/ व0 शी0 पदा0 (आ0)-54/2018-1371 व0 प0 दिनांक 12.04.2019 द्वारा विभागीय कार्यवाही आरम्भ की गयी है। उक्त विभागीय कार्यवाही में अपर प्रधान मुख्य वन संरक्षक, कैम्पा, झारखण्ड, रॉंची को जांच पदाधिकारी व वन प्रमण्डल पदाधिकारी, गुमला वन प्रमण्डल को प्रस्तुतीकरण पदाधिकारी नियुक्त किया गया है।

विभागीय जांच हेतु निर्धारित तिथि दिनांक 30.04.2019 को श्री गिलवर्ट खलखो, वन क्षेत्र पदाधिकारी को जांच पदाधिकारी द्वारा अपने कार्यालय कक्ष में आवश्यक अभिलेखों/साक्ष्यों के साथ इस जांच में उपस्थित होने के लिए सूचित किया गया था। परन्तु श्री खलखो के सरकारी पते व स्थायी निवास स्थान, ग्राम-विजयनगर, पो0-बियांकी, मेदिनीनगर, पलामू पर नहीं मिलने के कारण सरकारी पत्र तामिला नहीं कराया जा सका। पुनः उनको दिनांक10.05.2019 को विभागीय जांच हेतु आवश्यक अभिलेखों/साक्ष्यों के साथ जांच में उपस्थित होने हेतु सूचित किया गया था परन्तु इस सरकारी पत्र को भी तामिला नहीं कराया जा सका।दिनांक 03.05.2019 व 04.05.2019 को मुख्य दैनिक समाचार पत्रों के माध्यम से भी उन्हें जांच की अगली निर्धारित तिथि दिनांक 10.05.2019 को जांच में उपस्थित होने की सूचना दी गयी थी पर वे उपस्थित नहीं हुए।

विभागीय जांच हेतु अगली तिथि दिनांक 17.05.2019 को निर्धारित की गयी थी एवंउनके स्थायी पते पर दिनांक 11.05.2019 व 14.05.2019 पर पत्र तामिला कराने का प्रयास किया गया पर वे नहीं मिले। उनके सरकारी पते व स्थायी निवास स्थान पर नहीं मिलने के कारण सरकारी पत्र तामिला नहीं कराया जा सका। दिनांक 11.05.2019 व 12.05.2019 को मुख्य दैनिक समाचार पत्रों में पुनः प्रकाशित सूचना के माध्यम से भी उन्हें जांच में उपस्थित होने की सूचना दी गयी पर वे उपस्थित नहीं हुए।

श्री गिलवर्ट खलखो, वन क्षेत्र पदाधिकारी को उक्त सूचना के माध्यम से पुनः निर्देश दिया जाता है कि विभागीय जांच हेतु निर्धारित अगली तिथि दिनांक 24.05.2019 को जांच पदाधिकारी के समक्ष अपने बचाव प्रतिवेदन व सभी अभिलेखों/साक्ष्यों के साथ उपस्थित हों अन्यथा इस विभागीय कार्यवाही में एकपक्षीय जांच की जायेगी।

ह0/-
अपर प्रधान मुख्य वन संरक्षक, कैम्पा, झारखण्ड, रॉंची
-सह- जांच पदाधिकारी
P.R.206729 Forest, Environment and Climate Changes(19-20):D

INBRIEF

EPFO NOTICE FOR PENSIONERS

The EPFO has issued a notice to its pensioners that those pensioners whose pension is stopped for three years or more need to present their digital life certificate and non marriage certificate within 15 days. The facility is available at EPFO regional office in Ranchi, EPFO district offices in Dhanbad, Deoghar, Koderma, Bokaro, Giridih and Sahebganj and banks where the pension gets disbursed.

FILARIA MEDICINES DISTRIBUTED AT SBPS

To alleviate the suffering caused by elephantiasis, medicines of Filaria were distributed to the students during PTM here on Friday. Parents appreciated the initiative put forward by the school. Head personnel and Admin Pradip Varma said that school not only aims to provide overall development but also takes efforts to co-operate with the government's initiative to eradicate such diseases. Principal Paramjit Kaur said that it is a small step to fight against the infectious disease.SBPS always takes measures to improve the overall health of students.She acknowledged all the parents for their cooperation.

BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT AT DPS

An Intramural Basketball Tournament was played by the students of Class V at Delhi Public School, Ranchi on Friday. The final match was played between Team A and Team G, in which Team A scored 10 and Team G scored 17. During the match all the teams gave each other a cut throat competition. Speaking on the tournament, principal Ram Singh said that he was amazed to see the sportsmanship in the students. He appreciated their team spirit and also congratulated the winning teams.

JCI ORGANISES THREE DAY SUMMER CAMP

The three day summer camp organized by JCI started on Friday. As many as 75 participants were taken part in the camp. Dr. Disha Narnoly has checked up the children free of cost. Today's main attraction was mediation programme of Neha Jain and Nancy Jain.

RAILWAY WEEK AWARD FUNCTION

The 64th Railway Week Function of South Eastern Railway was held at Garden Reach, Kolkata in which large number of railway employees including from Ranchi division was awarded. Principal Chief Operations Manager of South Eastern Railway, Jaya Verma Sinha was present on the occasion awarded the railway employees. Chief Passenger Traffic Manager (CPTM), Soumitra Majumdar, Varinder Kumar and Ranchi Division Senior Operations Manager cum public relation officer Niraj Kumar were present on the occasion. The award was given in two categories individual and group category.

GOSSNER BIDS ADIEU TO PROF KESHRI

Retired Assistant Professor SN Keshri, former Psychology department Head serving Gossner College even after superannuation was given farewell by the minority college fraternity on Friday. Principal S Ecka appreciated the senior faculty member's punctuality during his four decades of service quoting that he was never late at work.

SONY ALPHA FLAGSHIP STORE AT SAKCHI

Sony Alpha's first flagship store was inaugurated at Kalimati Road, Sakchi, Jamshedpur on Friday. Mukesh Srivastava, DI Head Sony India inaugurated the new store. On this occasion, Sony India's Bihar and Jharkhand manager Nirav Gohel, Sales Incharge Farooq Alam and R K Mounka were present. This store has all the range of Sony's premium cameras and lens under one roof. Moreover, attractive offers and easy finance facilities are also available. Proprietor Sony Sales told that there is a lot of demand for a Sony camera during the summer holidays and marriage. Especially Alpha 7 M3, 7 RM3, ILCE 6400, 7 R3 are in demand due to best speed and resolution.

GLENMARK LAUNCHES DIABETES MEDICINE

Glenmark Pharmaceuticals Ltd (Glenmark), on May 16 announced the launch of its novel, patent protected and globally-researched sodium glucose co-transporter (SGLT2) inhibitor Remogliozinetabonate (Remogliozin) in India. The drug is indicated in the treatment of type-2 diabetes mellitus in adults. SGLT2 inhibitors are novel anti-diabetic drugs that help achieve glycaemic control by acting on the SGLT2 receptors in the proximal convoluted tubule of the kidney, thereby preventing renal re-absorption of glucose and promoting excretion of glucose in the urine. Along with providing glycaemic control, SGLT2 inhibitors help induce weight loss and reduce cardiovascular risks.



MNS staff to get ex-servicemen status

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Defence Ministry has agreed in principle to grant ex-servicemen status to the personnel of Military Nursing Service(MNS) comprising mostly women. This service is demanding the status for a long time and once granted, the retired personnel can avail of all facilities like ex-servicemen identity card, attending resettlement courses for future employment and jobs in public sector undertakings (PSU) and State Governments.

The Government may also allow the MNS officers to have star plates on their cars if they are above the rank of Brigadier. So far, the officers of MNS were not allowed to do so leading to friction sometimes. The MNS has the highest rank of a Major General.

As regards the veteran status, sources said here on Friday the ministry will soon submit in principle approval for grant of ex-servicemen to MNS to the Supreme Court. A case was filed in Supreme Court by the MNS personnel and its hearing was held on May 7, 2019. Supreme Court told the Ministry of Defence to submit its reply in next hearing in a closed envelope.

The MNS are the support women staff commissioned as officers in the Medical stream of the Armed Forces and they come under the DG, Armed Forces Medical Services. The MNS representatives had moved Armed Forces Tribunal(AFT) on 28 different issues. The main issue was of them being granted the Ex-servicemen Status. AFT had given favourable decision to MNS which was challenged by the Government in the Supreme Court in 2010.

The grant of status to the MNS will include them into resettlement schemes and benefits, for the re-employment courses, exemptions like the toll charges will be extended and the institute facilities like that

of the Defence Services Officers Institute will be granted. They already get the benefits of pension.

The Army has also agreed in-principle to allow, the officers of MNS of the rank of Brigadier and above to put their appointment stars on their vehicles. Brigadier has one star and the Major general has two stars on their vehicle.

Sources said the defence ministry had held a meeting in March with the Department of Personnel and Training (DoPT) representatives to redefine the definition of ex-servicemen include MNS. MNS was raised in 1943 through an ordinance and were defined as an 'auxiliary force'. The ESM status is given to the personnel who are in 'regular' force.

Army team scales Mt Makalu

One jawan dies while descending from peak

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Indian Army mountaineering team, which spotted the footprints of the mythical Yeti last month while ascending Mount Makalu in Nepal, has successfully scaled the peak. However, the expedition suffered a casualty when one soldier died while descending after reaching the peak. He was identified as Naik Narayan Singh hailing from Pithoragarh, Uttarakhand and is survived by his wife and three children.

Giving details of the incident, the Army said here on Friday, Singh was part of the 18-member expedition team to Mount Makalu and died on May 16 while descending from the summit point to camp four(first camp during the descent). The soldier had joined the Army in 2002 and was a keen mountaineer having taking part in several expeditions in the past.

In the first ever discovery of its kind, the Indian Army on April 30 had said its mountaineering team has sighted the footprints of mythical beast 'Yeti' in Nepal. The size of the pugmark measures about 32 inch by 15 inch and the Army tweeted its photograph and said the evidence will be shared with

the experts once the expedition returns by this month end or early June.

Commonly known as the "abominable snowman," scientists and experts, world over have tried to sight the mythical animal for the last several decades but success has eluded them. In this backdrop, the Latest finding by the Army team has generated interest after it released the photographs and social media was abuzz with it.

The footprint was measured by calipers and army sources claimed here it matches with earlier theories adding the photograph was released to "excite scientific temper." Also the evidence will help in reaching logical conclusion, they said.

Navy test-fires MRSAM missile successfully

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Indian Navy on Friday achieved a major milestone in adding muscle to its anti-air warfare capability with the maiden network enabled cooperative engagement firing of the medium range surface to air missile (MRSAM) by two of its warships.

Cooperative engagement comprises of all the warships and platforms having common data link to have common picture of the battle field and enable them to thwart saturation attacks from incoming missiles and low flying aircraft. This test has put the Indian Navy in the select group of the navies like the US and Australia having this capability.

Giving details of the exercise, Navy officials said here the firing was undertaken on the Western Seaboard by Indian ships Kochi and Chennai wherein the missiles of both ships were controlled by one



Source: Twitter

ship to intercept different aerial targets at extended ranges. The firing trial was carried out by the Indian Navy, Defence Research Development Organisation (DRDO) and Israel Aerospace Industries. The MRSAM is manufactured by Bharat Dynamics Limited, India.

These Surface to Air Missiles are fitted onboard the Kolkata Class Destroyers and would also be fitted on all future major warships of the Indian Navy. With the success-

ful proving of this cooperative mode of engagement, the Indian Navy has become a part of a select group of Navies that have this niche capability. This capability significantly enhances the combat effectiveness of the Indian Navy thereby providing an operational edge over potential adversaries. The radars on the warships can detect a hostile target at a distance of 450km and guide the missile in destroying the threat.

Research and Development Laboratory(DRDL) Hyderabad, a DRDO Lab, has jointly developed this missile in collaboration with Israel Aerospace Industries. The MRSAM is manufactured by Bharat Dynamics Limited, India.

MONEY LAUNDERING

ED attaches OP Chautala's assets worth ₹2 crore

PNS ■ NEW DELHI



Chautala under Prevention of Corruption Act 1988.

Investigation conducted by CBI revealed that the senior Chautala had acquired assets disproportionate to his known source of income to the tune of ₹6,09,79,026 during the check period from May 24, 1993 to May 31, 2006. Investigation also revealed that Abhay Singh Chautala and Ajay Singh Chautala had also acquired assets disproportionate to their known source of income to the tune of ₹119, 69,82,619 and ₹27,74,74,260 respectively, the ED said in a statement.

The money laundering case was initiated on the basis of an FIR registered by CBI against Om Prakash Chautala and others for acquisition of assets disproportionate to their known source of income. CBI has filed charge sheet against Om Prakash Chautala, his sons Abhay Chautala and Ajay

at New Delhi, Panchkula and also constructed residential house at Sirsa (Haryana) during the check period from the money received from undisclosed sources. It is also revealed that Chautala was directly involved in acquisition and projecting various tainted properties as his untainted properties. He had disclosed properties so acquired in the affidavit filed before returning officer in Haryana Vidhan Sabha Election 2005 and 2009 thereby projecting publicly the tainted properties as untainted.

Earlier, the ED had attached properties of the former Haryana CM to the tune of ₹46,96,000. Further to this, his properties worth ₹3.68 crores were also attached in April 2019.

Prosecution Complaint (chargesheet in police parlance) against Chautala was also filed before Special Court on July 17, 2018. The court took cognisance on November 27, 2018. Later a Supplementary Prosecution Complaint was also filed on April 25 this year.

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Election Commission (EC) has asked star campaigners and other leaders of all political parties to not give any interviews to media on election matters during the beginning of "silence period," from Friday evening for the last phase of Lok Sabha polls or 48 hours before the start of polling when campaigning comes to an end.

"During the silence period, star campaigners and other political leaders should refrain from addressing the media by way of Press conferences and giving interviews on election matters," the poll panel said in an advisory.

"In a multi-phased election, the silence period of last 48 hours may be on in certain constituencies while campaign is ongoing in other constituencies. In such event, there should not be any direct or indirect reference amounting to soliciting support for parties or candidates in the constituencies observing the silence period," it said.

The poll panel underlined that Section 126 of the Representation of People Act, 1951, "inter-alia prohibits elec-

tion campaign activities through public meetings, processions etc, and displaying of election matter by means of television and similar apparatus". The EC has advised that campaigners should not make any reference to a constituency where the silence period is

SARADHA SCAM

SC withdraws protection from arrest granted to former Kolkata top cop

New Delhi: The Supreme Court on Friday withdrew protection from arrest given to former Kolkata police commissioner Rajeev Kumar in the multi-crore Saradha chit fund scam, in which the CBI wanted to interrogate him in custody.

The top court also expressed concern over the confrontation between the CBI and the West Bengal Police in the case, saying that "at the receiving end are silently waiting lakhs of small town and rural investors who have been deprived and looted of their savings".

It said however that its February 5 order granting protection from arrest to Kumar would continue for another seven days from Friday to enable him to approach the competent court for relief.

A bench headed by Chief Justice Ranjan Gogoi and Justices Deepak Gupta and Sanjiv Khanna left it open to the Central Bureau of Investigation to act in accordance with the law.

"Therefore, in the given facts, we would withdraw the protection given to Rajeev Kumar, former Commissioner of Police, Kolkata, vide our order dated February 5, 2019 restraining the CBI from arresting him and thereby, leave it open to the CBI to act in accordance with the law," the bench said.

"At the same time, we direct that the interim order dated February 5, 2019 would continue for a period of seven days from the date of pronouncement of this order to enable Rajeev Kumar to approach competent Court for relief, if so advised," said Justice Khanna, who pronounced the eight-page verdict.

The bench, which was dealing with an application of

CBI seeking to vacate the February 5 order, clarified that contentions and reasons raised in the probe agency's application would not be grounds to accept or reject the request of custodial interrogation or grant of protection, if any such petition is moved.

It disposed of the application in pursuant to the directions and said that the CBI's petition seeking contempt action against Kumar for creating hurdles in the investigation of Saradha chit fund case would be taken up in the due course. **PTI**

Feud between CBI, Bengal police dismays apex court

New Delhi: The Supreme Court on Friday expressed "disappointment and dismay" over the feud between CBI and West Bengal Police during probe into the Saradha chit fund scam case and said though the situation was "grim", there was no administrative mechanism to avoid or resolve such conflicts.

While withdrawing the protection from arrest granted earlier by it to former Kolkata Police Commissioner Rajeev Kumar in the case, the apex court said that despite orders and words of advice, "antagonism and acrimony" has escalated between the two forces of the country.

A bench headed by Chief Justice Ranjan Gogoi said that due to the "clash" between the Central Bureau of Investigation and West Bengal Police, lakhs of small town and rural investors who have been deprived of their savings in the case are "at the receiving end".

"They (CBI and West Bengal Police) have forgotten that the primary purpose and role of the police is to investigate crime, collect evidence and prosecute the offenders. Situation is grim as both sides

have hardened their stand and there is no administrative mechanism in place to avoid and resolve such conflicts between the two wings of the police force in the country," said the bench, also comprising Justices Deepak Gupta and Sanjiv Khanna.

The bench noted that by slew of orders passed in the case, including the one on February 5 this year, granting protection from arrest to Kumar, the apex court had sought to "allay confrontation and clash" between the CBI and the West Bengal State Police Force (WBSPF). "With regret, we acknowledge and accept that despite orders and words of advice, antagonism and acrimony has escalated and not ebbed as is evident from the pleading and arguments addressed before us," the bench said. "To avoid proximity and as limited controversy arises for consideration, we are not referring the earlier orders for the purpose of the present judgment, albeit express our disappointment and dismay seeing the CBI and the WBSPF pitted and casting aspersions against each other and being embroiled in this feud," the court said. **PTI**

Be silent during silent period, EC to campaigners

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Election Commission (EC) has asked star campaigners and other leaders of all political parties to not give any interviews to media on election matters during the beginning of "silence period," from Friday evening for the last phase of Lok Sabha polls or 48 hours before the start of polling when campaigning comes to an end.

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tion campaign activities through public meetings, processions etc, and displaying of election matter by means of television and similar apparatus". The EC has advised that campaigners should not make any reference to a constituency where the silence period is

being observed.

The EC has also changed rules not allowing any political party to release manifesto in last 48 hours of the start of polling period. Amending the Model Code of Conduct, EC barred political parties from releasing their manifestos in the last 48

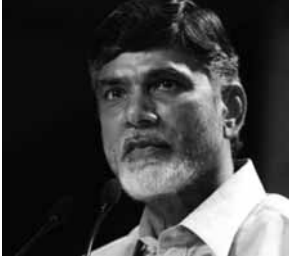
hours leading up to voting in each phase of the coming Lok Sabha elections.

The statement came in reference to queries received by the poll body on telecasting interview of star campaigners during the silence period. During the Gujarat Assembly

elections in 2017, controversy erupted after Congress president Rahul Gandhi gave interviews to some regional TV channels a day ahead of the polling. Prime Minister Narendra Modi had also organised a road show just a day before polling.

Andhra CM meets CEC over re-polling in 5 booths

PNS ■ NEW DELHI



Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister and TDP chief N Chandrababu Naidu on Friday met Chief Election Commissioner Sunil Arora and lodged a protest over its decision to hold re-poll in five polling booths in Chandragiri Assembly segment in Chittoor Parliamentary seat after 25 days. During his meeting, Naidu also asked the poll body to take action against BJP candidate Pragya Thakur for her remarks describing Mahatma Gandhi's assassin Nathuram Godse as a "patriot".

Naidu questioned the rationale behind re-polling in five Assembly seats after the

complaint was made by the YSR Congress Party (YSRCP).

In the meeting with the EC, Naidu said that he requested the poll panel to take a serious note of the series of complaints filed by his party including against the repoll ordered in Chandragiri Assembly segment in the Andhra Pradesh and counting

of votes in the entire constituency if discrepancy found in VVPAT slips with five mandated Electronic Voting Machines (EVMs) in any part of the country.

"As on today, the EC's decisions are very controversial, one-sided, pro-establishment and pro-government. During the entire election, they were supporting the government. It is unfortunate," he told reporters after the meeting. Questioning the working style of the poll panel, Naidu said, "I am the party president for the last 25 years. I have never seen this type of Election Commission. The poll body has ordered repolling after 25 days. They have to address all

grievances simultaneously, they have to take proper action," Naidu said.

In the letter, Naidu asked that the EC has already conducted re-polling in five other polling stations in three districts on May 6, based on certain complaints. "If there were any issues in the polling stations in Chandragiri assembly constituency, why didn't the Commission enquire into the same and conduct the re-polling on May 6?"

Naidu lamented that the EC once again showed its bias by ignoring the TDP demand for re-poll while accepting a similar demand by YSR Congress Party (YSRCP) more than a month after the polling.

Dementia not only due to ageing, says WHO

ARCHANA JYOTI ■ NEW DELHI

Contrary to general belief, dementia is not an inevitable (or natural) consequence of ageing which, though, is the strongest risk factor, a recent World Health Organisation (WHO) report has said.

It maintained that young onset dementia (defined as the onset of symptoms before the age of 65 years) accounts for up to 9 per cent of the total cases.

In fact, lifestyle risk factors, such as physical inactivity, excessive alcohol use, certain medical conditions like high blood pressure, high cholesterol and diabetes and smoking too are associated with a high risk of developing dementia.

Additional risk factors include depression, low educational attainment, social isolation, and cognitive inactivity, as per the report as per the WHO which has warned that



the number of people with dementia is expected to triple in the next 30 years from around current 50 million.

These should be kept at the bay to prevent dementia, said the WHO as it recently issued health guidelines to tackle the mental health related debilitating progressive disease.

Dementia is a category of brain disease which can cause long-term memory loss and even gradual decrease in the ability to think. Dementia is not a specific disease, but a group of disorders associated with a decline in memory or other thinking skills.

The decline is so severe it

reduces a person's ability to perform simple daily activities and affects memory, comprehension, orientation and judgment among other cognitive functions.

The most common type of dementia is Alzheimer's disease.

Yet another studies show

that in absolute terms, there are about 35.6 million people living in the world currently with dementia and 7.7 million new cases of dementia added every year, i.e., nearly one case every 4 s with highest projections in South Asian nations such as India and China.

WHO Director-General Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus said, "We need to do everything we can to reduce our risk of dementia. The scientific evidence gathered for these Guidelines confirm what we have suspected for some time, that what is good for our heart, is also good for our brain."

The WHO Guidelines provide the knowledge base for health-care providers to advise patients on what they can do to help prevent cognitive decline and dementia. An essential element of every national dementia plan is support for carers of people with

dementia, said Dr Dévora Kestel, Director of the Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse at WHO.

In India, only 10 per cent of the cases are diagnosed according to the Alzheimer's and Related Disorders Society of India (ARDSI), which has submitted a Dementia India Strategy Report to the Union Health Ministry.

There are seven core areas to set out as national priorities in the national strategy -- Make dementia a national health and social care priority; dementia awareness and dementia friendly communities; Risk reduction and dementia prevention; Improve access to best medical care strengthen standard treatment protocols; Social support services; Research and Development; Strengthen dementia disease surveillance system.

Victory of NYAY certain on May 23: Priyanka

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Congress general secretary Priyanka Gandhi Vadra on Friday said her party did not allow the BJP to divert the focus in elections from issues of employment and farming as she asserted that the victory of 'Nyay' was certain on May 23.

Campaigning in the bitterly fought marathon Lok Sabha elections, spread over 38 days, drew to a close Friday evening as top leaders made a final push in the seventh and concluding phase for the remaining 59 seats.

"Dear friends, 60 days of spirited election campaign for 'one person one vote' or political equality was made possible because of your love," Priyanka said.

"Despite BJP's efforts, we did not allow the elections to be diverted from issues of

employment, farming, and income. On the 23rd (May), the victory of 'Nyay' (justice) and people's voice is certain," said the AICC general secretary, in-charge Uttar Pradesh (East).

The Congress' proposed Nyuntam Aay Yojana (Nyay) promises up to "72,000 a year to 20 per cent of India's poorest families if the party is voted to power.

Polling will be held on Sunday in the seventh phase in all 13 seats in Punjab and an equal number of seats in Uttar Pradesh, nine in West Bengal, eight seats each in Bihar and Madhya Pradesh, four in Himachal Pradesh, three in Jharkhand and the lone seat Chandigarh.

Counting of votes in the world's largest exercise in democracy will be taken up on May 23.

STATES/UT	SEATS
Bihar (8)	Nalanda, Patna Sahib, Pataliputra, Arrah, Buxar, Sasaram, Karakat, Jahanabad
Chandigarh (1)	Chandigarh
Himachal Pradesh (4)	Kangra, Mandi, Hamirpur, Shimla
Jharkhand (3)	Rajmahal, Dumka, Godda
Madhya Pradesh (8)	Dewas, Ujjain, Mandsour, Ratlam, Dhar, Indore, Khargone, Khandwa
Punjab (13)	Gurdaspur, Amritsar, Khadoor Sahib, Jalandhar, Hoshiarpur, Anandpur Sahib, Ludhiana, Fatehgarh Sahib, Faridkot, Firozpur, Bathinda, Sangrur, Patiala
Uttar Pradesh (13)	Maharajganj, Gorakhpur, Kushi Nagar, Deoria, Bansgaon, Ghosi, Salempur, Ballia, Ghazipur, Chandauli, Varanasi, Mirzapur, Robertsganj
West Bengal (9)	Dum Dum, Barasat, Basirhat, Joyngar, Mathurapur, Diamond Harbour, Jadavpur, Kolkata Dakshin, Kolkata Uttar

QUOTE-UNQUOTE



I am not going to pre-judge what the people of India will decide. The mood and vision of the people will come out on May 23... Whatever the people decide, we will do that. Whatever the mood and vision of people of India, it will be known on May 23...I am not going to disrespect the people of this country by judging what they are going to do

RAHUL GANDHI



From Kashmir to Kanyakumari, from Kutch to Kamrup, the whole nation is saying — Ab ki baar, 300 paar, phir ek baar Modi sarkar...The BJP-led NDA is the choice of 130 crore Indians... This Sunday when you go to cast your vote then you will be scripting history. After decades you will elect a majority govt for a second time in a row

NARENDRA MODI

Modi is like Asrani of Sholay: Priyanka

PTI ■ MIRZAPUR/GORAKHPUR

Congress general secretary Priyanka Gandhi Vadra on Friday dubbed Narendra Modi an "actor" and said Amitabh Bachchan would have been a better choice for the Prime Minister's post.

In another Bollywood reference, she likened Modi to Asrani's character in Bachchan-starrer *Sholay*. "Prime Minister Modi is not a leader, he is an actor. It would have been better if Amitabh Bachchan was made the Prime Minister," she said at an election meeting at the end of her roadshow in Mirzapur.

In Gorakhpur, she asked the crowd, "Have you seen the *Sholay* movie and Asrani's role in it? He used to always say *angrezon ke zamane mein* (in the time of the British)."

"And in the same way Modi ji talks about Jawaharlal's work, Indira Gandhi's work and Rajiv Gandhi's work. Why doesn't he talk about his work in the last five years?" she said.

"The aim of the BJP is to grab power. Modi has been unable to fulfil the promises made during the last general election," she said in Mirzapur. "The Congress on the contrary does not make false promises, but works in the interests of the farmers, the poor and the youngsters," she added.

At both events, she referred to the stray cattle menace in Uttar Pradesh. "When stray animals come and destroy your crops, do the 'chowkidars' turn



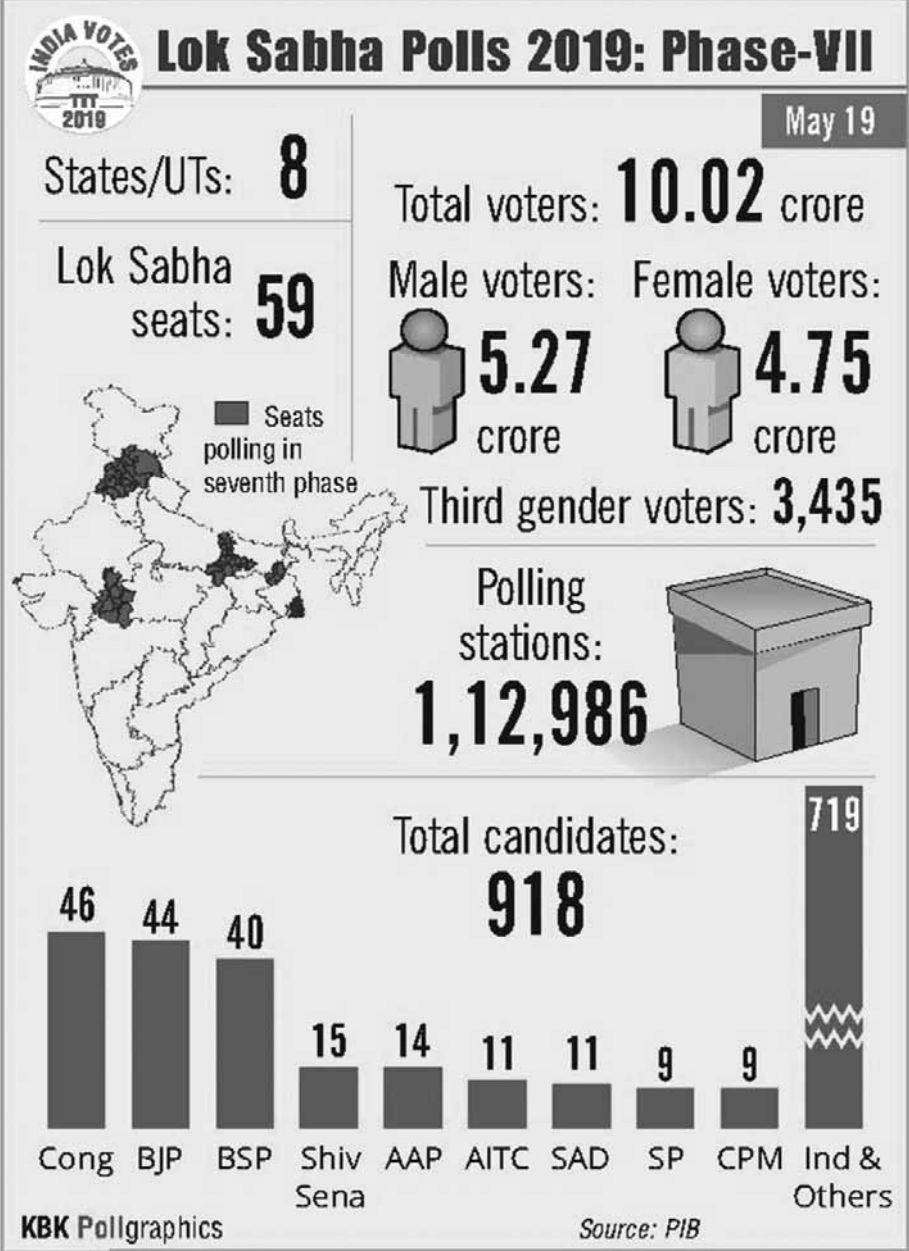
up? They do not come. They had claimed that demonetisation will bring back black money. Has black money come back? Nothing has come to the country except troubles," she said.

"What kind of Government is that which neither listens to the farmers, nor saves your farms from stray animals?" she said.

She also claimed that there has been a loss of jobs during the Bharatiya Janata Party's term, and accused the Modi Government of weakening MGNREGA, the rural employment guarantee scheme launched by the previous Congress-led Government. She halted her Mirzapur

address during the 'azaan', resuming it after the call for prayers was over. "The Prime Minister has been unable to pre-

sent his account on development work done for the farmers, labourers and youngsters in the last five years," she said.



More men with 'illegal' cash held ahead of polls

SAUGAR SENGUPTA ■ KOLKATA

Even as Mamata Banerjee alleged "free flow of illegal money for votes" in Bengal pointing at the BJP as the main accused, the police apprehended more people with unexplained cash from South 24 Parganas, North 24 Parganas, Durgapur and elsewhere.

An alleged saffron worker was arrested with Rs 30 lakh near Baruipur in South 24 Parganas police said, adding another person was held from Durgapur region with Rs 19 lakh. Both the persons were being questioned. Earlier a person reportedly travelling from Varanasi was arrested at Durgapur Railway Station while he was carrying Rs 70 lakh inside a trolley bag, police said. The Durgapur incident came within 48 hours of two persons being arrested by the Asansol GRP with Rs 1 crore.

The accused in Asansol case was remanded to police custody and had reportedly told his interrogators that the fund belonged to the saffron outfit and was likely to be used for electoral purposes. The person is a former private secretary of Bengal BJP president Dilip Ghosh.

With the Friday's catch more than Rs 2 crore was seized in the past four days, police sources said.

Meanwhile, in a related development alleged Trinamool Congress workers attacked and vandalized the vehicles belonging to TMC leader Mukul Roy and Dum Dum BJP candidate Samik Bhattacharya following information that the two leaders were meeting with a veteran CPI(M) leader Paltu Dasgupta inside a guest house.

The TMC sources said the Left and BJP leaders were transacting cash though the police found no evidence of such transaction.

"We had assembled at a family function in a house at Dum Dum where a CPI(M) leader too had come to join the occasion. The TMC made it an issue alleging the CPI(M) leader was taking cash to transfer Left votes to the BJP," said Bhattacharya adding the vehicles of his party were badly damaged by the TMC workers.

DIAMOND HARBOUR: Result may impact TMC

PTI ■ DIAMOND HARBOUR

The stakes are high for the Trinamool Congress in its decade-long bastion of Diamond Harbour, the parliamentary seat from where Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee's nephew Abhishek is seeking a re-election, as the result here is likely to have a bearing on the party's internal dynamics and on West Bengal politics.

The State's Opposition parties claim the result in this seat will be seen as "people's verdict" in favour of or against the TMC supreme herself. Situated on the banks of the Hooghly river in the South 24 Parganas district, the constituency was a Left pocket borough since the late 60s until the TMC, riding on winds of change, breached it in 2009 with then TMC leader Somen Mitra snatching the seat from four-time MP Samik Lahiri.

But Mitra left the TMC and returned to the Congress in early 2014 and is now its state



unit chief. In 2014, just three years after his baptism in politics as a leader of the Trinamool Youth Congress, Abhishek Banerjee was given ticket from this seat and won it by polling more than 40 per cent votes.

Since then, he has only grown in stature within the party and is its de facto number two. This rise has not only raised some eyebrows in state politics but also among some party veterans, who allegedly feel sidelined.

Mukul Roy was one of

those whose fall in TMC was proportional to Abhishek Banerjee's rise. Roy quit the party in 2017 to join the BJP. Five years ago, the TMC's South 24 Parganas district unit was united and worked together to ensure that Abhishek Banerjee wins by a huge margin. But since then, much water has flown down the river Hooghly and the scenario within the ruling party and in the State has changed drastically.

The Trinamool Congress, which was then literally unchallenged in Bengal is now facing a tough fight from the BJP, with Chief Minister's nephew being one of the target. The inner-bickering of the ruling party has also come out in open.

According to a TMC leader, who did not wish to be named, Abhishek Banerjee's victory of is a foregone conclusion but "what bothers the party is whether it would be able to increase the margin or not". Prime Minister Narendra Modi, during his poll campaign

at Diamond Harbour, had even said that Abhishek would be defeated and his office in the area would shut down after the elections.

TMC sources say a victory by a margin bigger than that in 2014 would help him not only quash allegations against him but also cement his position in the party.

BJP State president Dilip Ghosh said this election will prove whether Abhishek Banerjee is a true leader or not.

"The TMC is trying to project him as the leader after Mamata Banerjee. He along with his aunt are the star campaigners. But the question is whether he would be able to retain his own seat.

"Last time, the opposition was weak and he won. But this time, things are different. If he loses, which he is most likely to, it will be the end of his political journey," Ghosh claimed, adding, "His victory is Mamata Banerjee's victory, his defeat is her defeat."

Forces on toes to keep VIPs safe during campaigns

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Over 2,000 agile commandos on ground, 120 young supervisory officers, thousands of bullet rounds, first-aid kits and volumes of intelligence data sheets. This is what it takes for the Central forces to ensure a watertight VIP security cover everyday to politicians campaigning across the country during the ongoing polls.

While Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Congress president Rahul Gandhi are protected by the elite Special Protection Group (SPG), other prominent politicians are guarded by Central forces like the NSG, CRPF, CISF and ITBP, as they travel thousands of kilometres each day canvassing for their parties.

"In all, about 2,000 commandos are on ground and are rotated in shifts, apart from 120 young officers as party of the central

security cover to the politicians. A huge amount of paraphernalia of logistics, weapons and intelligence and operational dossiers are put at their disposal everyday when the teams head out with their VIPs for campaigning in the country," a senior official in the VIP security establishment said.

The Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) has been entrusted with the responsibility to guard 78 VIPs, including BJP President Amit Shah who is under their top category 'Z+' security cover.

Shah, the only one for whom an advance security liaison is done on the lines of SPG protectees, said it would have been difficult for him to survive an attack on his convoy during his roadshow in Kolkata had it not been for the

CRPF cover.

Sources said the force has mobilised a team of officers in the ranks of Assistant Commandants and Deputy Commandants to carry out advance recce of the venues to be covered across the country by Shah, who faces serious security threats.

Over 54 such officers have been deployed in various parts of the country to keep a track of prominent protectees under the cover of the CRPF. They are assisted by ground units from 28 various bases of the force activated for the special task, they said.

These commandos of the country's largest paramilitary force also provide proximate security cover to Union Ministers Nitin Gadkari, Ravi Shankar Prasad among others and are armed with sophisticated AK series and MP5 assault rifles, loaded magazines, pistols, mobile body armour and even ropes and sticks for crowd control and special circumstances.

A 24x7 control room at a CRPF base in Noida remains in constant touch with a similar

Central forces ensure watertight security cover — over 2,000 agile commandos on ground, 120 young supervisory officers, thousands of bullet rounds, first-aid kits and volumes of Intelligence data sheets to — VIPs across nation during the ongoing polls

Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Congress president Rahul Gandhi get elite Special Protection Group (SPG), other prominent politicians are guarded by Central forces like the NSG, CRPF, CISF and ITBP

CRPF has been entrusted with the responsibility to guard 78 VIPs

The commandos are armed with sophisticated AK series and MP5 assault rifles, loaded magazines, pistols, mobile body armour and even ropes and sticks for crowd control and special circumstances

Commandos hailing from the local area are also deputed so they can catch every murmur or voice that emerges from the crowd

They also carry first-aid kits to help the VIP in case of an injury, motion sickness or tiredness

The NSG has fine-tuned its security drills before Lok Sabha elections were declared and the 'black cats'



operational centre at the Ministry of Home Affairs in North Block that coordinates every move that these teams undertake and is in regular touch with them over the wireless and mobilephone.

"VIP security is a game of sharp reflexes and nerves of steel. One has to be very very meticulous while rendering the VIP security task as there are virtually no second chances," the official said.

Commandos hailing from the local area are also deputed with these VIPs at times so that they are able to catch every murmur or voice that emerges

from the crowd, he said.

They also carry first-aid kits to help the VIP in case of an injury, motion sickness or tiredness, the official said.

The Central Industrial Security Force (CISF), that has been entrusted with the security of 93 VIPs, has a tough job at hand as it has been recently asked to protect over a dozen new people in West Bengal, most of whom are trying their luck at the hustings. About 40 officials have been deployed in supervisory roles to keep a track of the various protection teams that are out on field.

They camp in the local area

and ensure the preparedness, logistics, food and other requirements of the commandos on move, the official said.

The CISF VIP security unit has specially-trained personnel and they are called Special Security Group (SSG).

The National Security Guard (NSG) has an all-time low of 13 VIPs under its cover but the task to guard them is very enduring as they include Union Home Minister Rajnath Singh, former Chief Ministers like Akhilesh Yadav and Mayawati and serving CMs like Yogi Adityanath and N Chandrababu Naidu, among

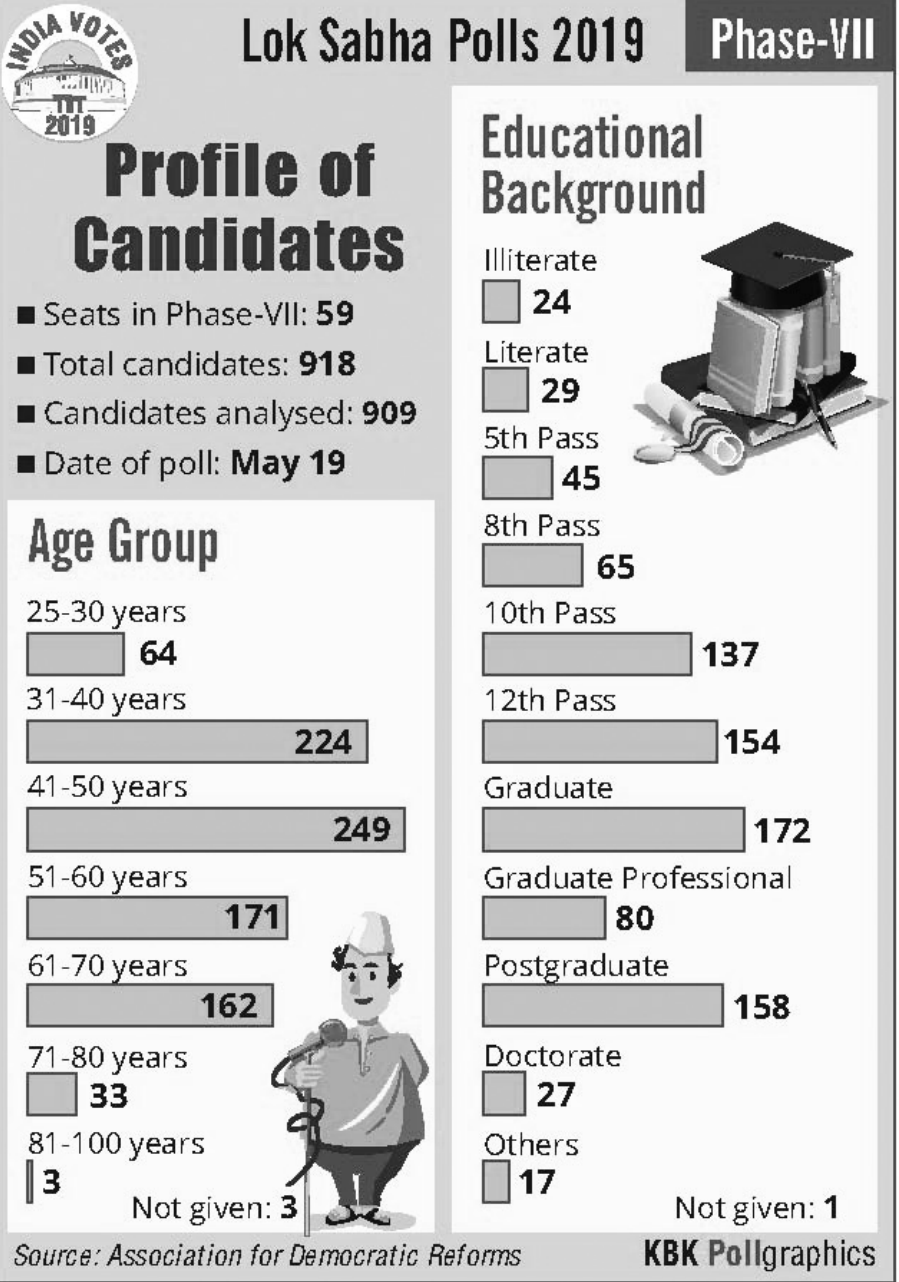
others.

The NSG has fine-tuned its security drills before Lok Sabha elections were declared and the 'black cats' are now armed with smart communication gadgets, body armour shields. They also conduct an advance recce of the venue for some VIPs like the home minister and others, the official said.

"The commando teams are pre-positioned when the VIP takes a flight or helicopter to travel from one place to the other. When one team securely leaves the VIP at point A, the other receives him when he lands at point B," the official explained.

A good number of VIP security trained drivers have been deployed with these teams on ground as they are a very vital cog of the unit as they can swiftly manoeuvre and rush out the protectee in case of an attack, ambush or bombing incident, he said.

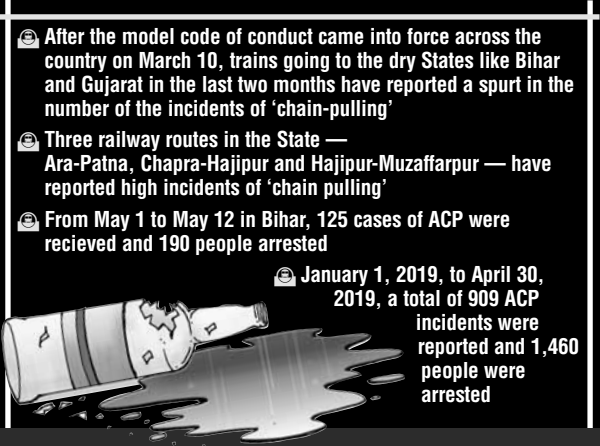
The Indo-Tibetan Police Force guards about 16 VIPs like senior BJP leader Murli Manohar Joshi (Z+), former Jammu & Kashmir CMs Omar Abdullah, Mehbooba Mufti among others.



Liquor smugglers pick rail routes in Bihar, Guj

IANS ■ NEW DELHI

In 'dry' Bihar and Gujarat, liquor has found a new route as road routes are being guarded by paramilitary and the local police to enforce the model code of conduct to check smuggling of liquor and cash. A senior Railway Ministry official said after the model code of conduct came into force across the country on March 10, trains going to the dry States like Bihar and Gujarat in the last two months have reported a spurt in the number of the incidents of 'chain-pulling' (to stop a running train). "As Bihar and Gujarat are dry States, transporting liquor in these two States has become very tough as the road routes are being guarded by paramilitary forces as well as the state police, which conduct extensive checking of vehicles for liquor smuggling and cash flow," said the official. "Thus it forced the bootleggers to shift to the train route to transport their shipments, which in return has resulted in a spurt in the incidents of alarm chain pulling (ACP) in trains in these two States. Forcing trains to stop badly affects the schedule," he said. The manufacture, storage, sale and consumption of alcoholic beverages of liquor was completely banned in Bihar after the Nitish Kumar Government returned to power in 2015 in the State, while in Gujarat the sale, consumption and storage of liquor is banned since 1960. Worried over the incidents of the alarm chain pulling (ACP), LC Trivedi General Manager of East Central Railways and Ravindra Verma Inspector General of Railway Protection Force (RPF) held a



meeting with the Bihar Director General of Police (DGP) Guptaeshwar Pandey at its zonal headquarters in Hajipur. ECR spokesperson Rajesh Kumar said, "The DGP and the GM of ECR have discussed the spurt in incidents of ACP during odd-hours and at odd locations far away from the stations." He said three railway routes in the State — Ara-Patna, Chapra-Hajipur and Hajipur-Muzaffarpur — have reported high incidents of 'chain pulling'. He said following reports of the ACP at off-hours in the

long-distance trains, the railways formed a flying squad and also increased patrolling along the three routes. "The task of the flying squad and the patrol team was to arrest those who pulled the ACP to stop the train at an unscheduled location," he said. Kumar said in April, 362 cases of ACP were received and 393 people were arrested. The railways also collected a fine of Rs 2.91 lakh in April in Bihar. He said that the from May 1 to May 12 in Bihar, 125 cases of ACP were recieved and 190 people arrested. He said so far none of railway employee has been detained for illegal smuggling of liquor. However, railway sources indicated that the local railway employees were also playing a major role in liquor smuggling. A senior ECR official said that from January 1, 2019, to April 30, 2019, a total of 909 ACP incidents were reported and 1,460 people were arrested. Western Railway spokesperson Ravinder Bhaker said, "Following a spurt in the incidents of the ACP in the western railway zone, we sent teams in plain clothes to arrest those who stopped the train by using the ACP". He said in the Western Railway zone, the Vapi-Surat route was most affected, reporting high incidents of chain pulling. A senior railway official said that the Vapi-Surat route was most affected due to its proximity with Daman and Diu, known for illegal liquor trade. However, Bhaker did not share the number of the incidents of chain pulling and the people arrested in the case. During this election season, the Election Commission has seized liquor worth Rs 285 crore till the end of the sixth phase of polling on May 12.



RE-POLLING IN 7 BOOTHS IN KERALA ON MAY 19 The Election Commission (EC) on Friday directed its Kerala unit to conduct re-polling in seven booths in Kasaragod and Kannur parliamentary constituencies of the state on May 19 when 59 Lok Sabha seats across eight states will go to the polls in the seventh and final phase of polling. Kasaragod's four booths in Kalliasery and Thrikkurpur Assembly segments and three booths in Kannur's Taliparamba and Dharmadam Assembly constituencies will go to the polls on Sunday after the EC declared the voting conducted at these polling stations on April 23 as "void".

BJP, CONG CONFIDENT OF WINNING PANAJI BYPOLL As the election campaign for the Panaji Assembly bypoll wound up on Friday evening, both the Congress and the BJP expressed confidence at winning the May 19 by-election, even as Chief Minister Pramod Sawant scoffed at claims made by the Congress, about overthrowing the BJP-led coalition government soon after results of four Assembly bypolls, including Panaji, are declared on May 23. Addressing the media on Friday, Chief Minister Pramod Sawant said, "The Congress should rouse of its pipe-dream of forming a government, after results are declared on May 23."

VAJPAYEE WAS LARGE-HEARTED, NOT LIKE MODI: AJAY Former Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee was a large-hearted man who took everyone along, quite unlike Narendra Modi, says Congress' Varanasi candidate and old BJP hand Ajay Rai. Rai, who takes on Varanasi MP and Prime Minister Narendra Modi in this Uttar Pradesh temple town, said the election this time is easier than in 2014. "The election is relatively easier this time than last time as people have seen through Modi's tall and fake promises and he has not delivered anything," Rai told PTI ahead of the election on Sunday. The now Congress leader is full of appreciation for Vajpayee.



CONG-JD(S) FALL IMMINENT AFTER LS POLLS: BSY Describing the Congress-JDS coalition dispensation in Karnataka as a hub of infighting and confusion, BJP State president BS Yeddyurappa on Friday expressed doubts over the Government's continuation after the Lok Sabha elections. The BJP leader made the remark in Hubballi when asked about the Twitter war between chief minister HD Kumaraswamy and former Chief Minister Siddaramaiah on Congress leader Mallikarjun Kharge becoming the Chief Minister.

HOW BJP CRAFTED ITS campaign in prized Varanasi

PTI ■ VARANASI

Voters may complain that the competitive zing was missing in the Prime Minister's constituency but the BJP had a clear-cut strategy to keep the campaign ship sailing — entrusting senior leaders and celebrities to canvass for votes while a handful of carefully chosen lieutenants managed the back end. A string of senior leaders such as Sushma Swaraj and Yogi Adityanath visited the town to address meetings and Bhojpuri showbiz stars Manoj Tiwari and Nirahua added a dash of glamour in the campaigning for the BJP's most prestigious seat. The campaigning ended on Friday evening, ahead of the last round of the seven-phase elections on Sunday. Behind the scenes, three BJP leaders from Gujarat, Prime

Minister Narendra Modi's home State, have been silently running the show, said party insiders. Parindu Bhagat, also known as Kakubhai, looks at the overall election management of Varanasi and the expenditure, local BJP leaders said. Bhagat, a lawyer by profession, received Modi's winning certificate from the district magistrate in Varanasi in the last general elections. Modi's trusted ally for years, Bhagat handles all legal matters related to elections in Varanasi and operates from an office in Mahmoodganj in Varanasi. The second man behind the scenes is Sunil Oza, another leader from Modi's home State and former

MLA from Bhavnagar. He is overall in charge of the Varanasi and Gorakhpur Lok Sabha seats. According to party workers, Oza managed Modi's election in 2014 as well and was the person assigned for door-to-door campaigning and reaching out to voters across the constituency. The third is BJP's MP from Navsari, C R Patil who has been assigned to stay in constant touch with BJP's 'panna pramukhs', local councillors and village headmen. He also looks after developmental work in two of the villages adopted by Modi. While the trio from Gujarat handled the nitty-gritty, the others managed the optics of the voter outreach. Two Union Ministers Piyush Goyal and JP Nadra along with Uttar Pradesh Deputy Chief Minister Keshav Prasad Maurya have been camping here for more than a week.

Muslims in dilemma over choosing between SP-BSP alliance, Cong

PTI ■ GORAKHPUR

Many Muslims in eastern UP may not want to vote for the BJP but they face a dilemma over choosing between the SP-BSP alliance and the Congress. Though some members of the community speak in favour of Prime Minister Narendra Modi for the development carried out in Gorakhpur, Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath's bastion, they harbour a sense of insecurity. Mufti Mohammed Waliullah, who leads prayers at Gorakhpur's biggest mosque, said the Muslims are not "unanimous" over their choice of parties. "Less literate Muslims will vote for the 'mahagathbandhan' (the Opposition alliance) and the educated will vote as per their understanding," he said. Waliullah expressed anguish over the BJP questioning the nationalism of Muslims, reminding that the community is indigenous to



India. "Only a few Muslim clerics visited India and people who lived in the country adopted Islam. India is our country," he said. Muslims account for about

THE 'CHOWKIDAR' FROM Varanasi who has boycotted elections all his life

PTI ■ VARANASI

Dressed in a sweat-stained uniform, Lalji Vishwakarma wears a jaded look on his face as he waits the door at an economy hotel near the Varanasi railway station. The 'chowkidar' (watchman) with a slight build and a big moustache sits on a plastic stool in a corner, getting up promptly every now and then to welcome guests with a salute. In between, he also assists the hotel staff in room service, a routine he has followed for the last several decades. Ask him about the election buzz in Varanasi — his hometown and parliamentary constituency of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Vishwakarma, who has never voted in nearly 70 years of his life, says, "I am just waiting for this poll 'tamasha' (theatrics) to end". "Elections are held time and again, politicians come and go, they urge us to vote for them, they become MLAs, MPs or ministers, but we remain wherever we are," he said, with a note of pessimism in his voice. Born in 1950 in the temple town, Vishwakarma, who has seen multiple Governments and elections come and go, recalled how his father struggled with the "faulty system". "As a child, I would see my father struggle to get work done at Government offices. He worked in the furniture making sector and did not earn much. In local offices, he would either be expected to pay a bribe to get his work done or wait with little hope," the 69-year-old lamented. "To get access to ration and

other facilities, I would see him get frustrated with the faulty system. So, when I turned 18, I decided to not vote for anyone. And I am still not interested in any party as I have lost faith in all of them. They are all the same, mere vote seekers," he said. The high-pitched campaigning and elaborate election manifestos of political parties have failed to enthuse Vishwakarma. "I know the city is now under the spotlight after Modi became the MP from here. Big parties are doing big roadshows, I see so many ordinary people running behind those leaders, chanting slogans and showering flower petals on them. But what happens to people like us after elections? Do our lives change? Do lives of our children change?" he asked. A father of three daughters and two sons, Vishwakarma works 12 hours a day (from 8 am to 8 pm), gets no weekly off and earns a meager Rs 8,000 per month. His wife, who works as a cook, and his son, a carpenter, supplement the family income. He said his experience with the system hasn't been very different from that of his father. "When my son was little, I went to a Government school to get him admitted there without any fees as we belong to the economically backward category, but in vain. Last December, I married my third daughter, Babita, with my savings. Somebody had suggested me to approach the State Government department to seek financial assistance under a scheme for daughters' marriage for the poor, but that also did not work out," he said.



BSP-SP-RLD alliance is one of ideas: Mayawati

PTI ■ MIRZAPUR/CHANDAULI

BSP president Mayawati on Friday termed the BSP-SP-RLD alliance a combine of ideas and said it will not sit silent till the Yogi Adityanath Government in the State and the Narendra Modi Government in the Centre were uprooted. "Unlike the Bharatiya Janata Party, this alliance is that of ideas and it will not sit silent till it uproots the Yogi Adityanath Government in Uttar Pradesh along with the Narendra Modi government," the Bahujan Samaj Party president said, addressing rallies for the candidates of the alliance in Mirzapur and Chandauli. "The sad faces of the BJP leaders after the completion of six phases of polling indicate that they know it's time for the Narendra Modi government to go. Their bad days will start from May 23. After that, preparations for Yogi to return to his Mutt will start," she said. Seeing the bad state of affairs in the polls, the BJP and its supporters tried to create misunderstanding between the BSP and the Samajwadi Party but they failed, Mayawati said.



"This alliance has been formed after due consideration and will last long," she asserted. Mayawati exhorted the electorate to ensure BJP state unit president Mahendra Nath Pandey, in the fray for the Chandauli seat, losses his deposit. Mayawati said the amount of work the BSP and the SP have done for the sisters and daughters of the state had not been done by any other party. She said when in power her Government had taken steps to connect Naxal infested areas with development works. "Instead of killing Naxals,

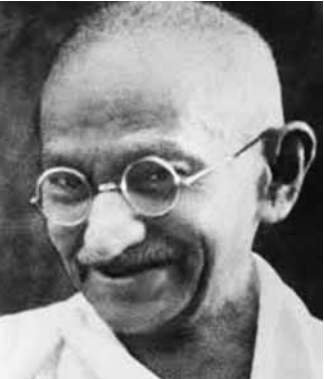
we extended employment and food. We gave employment to the poor people of Sonbhadra (naxal infested area) and later the SP Government did a lot of work in this direction," she said. Stating that SP president Akhilesh Yadav had put in a lot of effort to ensure BSP candidates fared well in the polls, Mayawati said it was the BSP's moral responsibility to ensure the victory of SP candidate from Chandauli. Samajwadi Party president Akhilesh Yadav, in his address, said the 'mahagathbandhan' had wiped off the BJP in the six

phases of polling because of which their leaders were having sleepless nights. "As May 23 is nearing, their (BJP) fear is rising," he said. Attacking Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Akhilesh said, "He (Modi) wants to teach us about socialism. Says that Samajwadis do not know anything about socialism. I want to say the PM will have a lot of time after two days. We will send some books of Dr Ram Manohar Lohia. He will get to know a lot about India once he reads 'Hindu Banam Hindu' and 'Itihas chakra'."

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Best left alone

It doesn't matter if BJP punishes Pragya Thakur on Godse, an irreparable damage has been done to nationalist thought



The response to industrialist Anand Mahindra's tweet earlier yesterday on how we should spare icons we hold sacred, particularly Mahatma Gandhi, the "beacon" of "global morality," from crude politicisation, best sums up the sentiment of the times. Somebody complimented him for "daring to speak up" on an issue that has been simmering in people's minds but given the viciousness of discourse, has been lost to fear and self-doubt. With all talk of Mahatma Gandhi's assassin Nathuram Godse being a "patriot" or a "Hindu terrorist," everybody seems to have forgotten what the Father of the Nation stood for and why years later he continues to be a global icon, our most famous Indian and the spiritual heart of India. Most importantly, the greatest patriot of the idea of India. His assassination was tragic and any justification of that as a patriotic act should be struck off from our consciousness simply because Gandhi was above the politics of his time and his philosophy continues to be the guiding principle of our State policy. Would the devolution of power to our panchayati Raj institutions, the idea of self-rule, the persuasion of a non-violent protest, sustainable living, a *swachh* Bharat, a participatory democracy have been possible without the values he espoused? Had he not upheld civil liberties or fiercely stuck to his Indian identity and asceticism, our *netas* would not have been wearing the Gandhi *topi* or appropriating his thoughts for political sustenance. So whatever may be his flaw as an individual man or his actions within the specifics and imperatives of his time, howsoever we may want to separate history from hagiography, there is no taking away from him his universal relevance, which continues to shape world leaders and movements. And certainly Sadhvi Pragya Thakur, still an accused in the Malegaon blasts case that killed six people and injured countless others, holds no brief to judge his stature or denude it by exalting his killer. Worse, it is the implication of calling Godse a patriot that's frighteningly askew. Does that mean she feels Gandhi is a traitor to his cause?

It doesn't matter that the Bharatiya Janata Party's (BJP's) top leaders, Prime Minister Narendra Modi and party chief Amit Shah, are unforgiving of her following a public outcry. They had endorsed her candidature for Lok Sabha polls in the first instance and accorded her mainstream political legitimacy, one which had given her enough confidence to admit that "my party's line is my line." It doesn't even matter if she offers an apology or not. It doesn't mean much if she is ultimately suspended from the party. It isn't of consequence either if she reaps political dividends or scores self-goals for the BJP or not. For she and many fiery rabble-rousers of the party, who were so far consigned to the fringe, have been allowed to evangelise the mass Indian mindset with a line of thinking that treats history as its enemy and the source of all wrong-doing. In one stroke, it absolves the current regime of non-performance and responsibility simply because the ills are inherited and that burden cannot be shifted in five years. This blind acquiescence to revising historical wrongs rather than changing the legacy for the future hereon is the reason why statues we hold dear are being desecrated across the country in a Taliban-like zeal. Be it that of Ambedkar or that of Ishwarchandra Vidyasagar, all of whom challenged conservatism of thought and reset the narrative with their actions. As we demolish our icons metaphorically and brutally, does this mean that we are uncomfortable with the ideals they stand for, only because they do not fit in with a simplified and Orwellian conformity that has no space for inquiry and reason? Nothing is wrong with the presence of a Hindu narrative in a pluralistic society. Neither will it ever be under threat considering its placement in a majoritarian context. But this imagined threat to the nationalist identity is fast descending into a self-defeatist cry wolf syndrome, considering we are attacking the very pillars who defined nationalism for us in the first place. We are becoming our own enemy.

Curbing celebrations

Did authorities in Surat go overboard in asking revellers to tone down birthday rituals? Or do they have a point?



The police in Surat, Gujarat, in all their wisdom, have prohibited exuberant birthday celebrations in public. By calling rituals such as smearing cake on faces and giving birthday bumps as "cruel and violent" behaviour, do the cops have a point or are they needlessly shoring up their worth as neighbourhood vigilantes? Is this another case of overreach by the authorities? Could be a bit of both. Celebrations, especially involving the youth, can and often do get raucous but if they are not bothering other patrons or the public at large, then frankly no authority has any business to intervene and play spoilsport. After all, a bit of smeared cake never killed anyone. However, it is also true that some birthday celebrations can go a bit too far. Birthday bumps are no laughing matter, particularly as you get older, and can leave a person fairly badly bruised, if not injured, if done in an inebriated or spirited condition in a group. Most often this harmless physical banter can descend into bullying, chaos and in worst cases assault. That said, extreme behaviour, one would like to believe, happens in only a minuscule of birthday jamborees. India's cities are not free from pub brawls or harassment of women, particularly on New Year's Eve parties or during cricket wins, and often pose a law and order problem. Does that mean we curb the idea of street parties altogether in the apprehension that all of them would test our manageable limits?

The problem with rules, regulations and a social ban is that there cannot be a one-size-fits-all solution to societal transgressions. For example, in this case, do authorities in Surat plan to draw up a code on dos and don'ts for celebrating birthday parties in public places, the cheapest venue of a get-together by college students? As it is, overly exuberant celebrations of any sort that create a public nuisance are already effectively banned because creating a public disturbance has always been against the laws. It would, therefore, be wiser for the authorities in Surat and other cities to first enforce those restrictions. In addition, they should run an education campaign through advertisements that celebrations are no excuse for physical assault and people can get badly hurt in the excitement. They must make it clear that forcing someone to partake in the festivities or even smearing cake on his/her face could amount to assault and a case would be made out against the offender. And indeed, the authorities should make it easier for any aggrieved party to file a case of assault or bullying. But it is not the job of the Surat Police or any police force in India to say how one should celebrate and what one can or cannot do within reasonable bounds.

Champions of defection

The lack of specific laws has meant that political leaders continue to switch parties without any fear or remorse and as easily and casually as changing clothes



SAMEER CHAUDHARY

Consistency, as they say, is a virtue of asses. Whatever one may think about our politicians, their virtues or even vices are certainly not asinine. They follow the age-old adage that in politics, there are no permanent friends or foes, only permanent interests. This is the reason why they have no compunctions in switching sides, particularly during election time, when personal and political ambitions replace ideology for convenience.

Now, this is quite a routine at the State level. In Uttar Pradesh, for instance, leaders move seamlessly from the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) to the Samajwadi Party (SP) or Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP) and vice-versa if their own party doesn't give them a ticket to fight the Assembly or Lok Sabha polls. However, at the national level, this was not very usual till recently. In the last few years, this, too, has changed. In West Bengal, they say the faces don't change, only the colour does.

As the narrative of waning ideology and political ambition takes centre stage, the common man, the most important cog in the wheel of democracy, has been taken for granted as if he/she is captive and pinned to the political leaders rather than to the ideology or other relevant social and economic issues that have a direct bearing on his/her monotonous daily life. It is time that we, the people of India, must decide whether political ideology and principles are only a hyperbole, reserved for rhetoric on television debates or do they translate into action on the ground.

Examples of political leaders, who have sacrificed ideology at the altar of political ambitions, are aplenty and have been witnessed across party lines. Take the example of motor-mouth Navjot Singh Sidhu. When in the BJP, he used to regale crowds with his one-liners and ridicule Congress leaders. Back then, he did not even spare a thorough gentleman like former Prime Minister Manmohan Singh. Sidhu had called Manmohan Singh a "Pappu Prime Minister" and said he didn't know if the former Prime Minister was a *sardar* (Sikh) or not. "Sir, you worked hard silently in such a way that your success created an uproar. Sir, you are a *sardar* and also *asardar* (effective)," he had said. Once he joined the Congress, it was revealed to Sidhu that he was wrong earlier: "I want to apologise to *sardar* Manmohan Singh with my head hanging down. I want to say that *sardar* Manmohan Singh, what your *maun* (silence) has done, the noise made by BJP could not do so."

However, the story of Priyanka Chaturvedi, one of the prominent spokespersons of the Congress till a few days ago, is a little different. She joined the Shiv Sena, which has made her *upneta* of the party. In the past, she was at the forefront of those fighting "communalism."



During the communal clashes of Uttar Pradesh in December last year, that led to the death of a cop and a youth, she had slammed the BJP leadership at both the Centre and the State and accused it of polarising the country in the name of religion and caste. "BJP's political trajectory since 1980 is on the basis of creating religious divides. Today, unfortunately it has reached a stage where they are now trying to divide gods over the castes," she said.

It does not bother her now that she has joined the BJP's oldest ally and ideologically kindred spirit Shiv Sena. In fact, among her immediate priorities, she has listed championing the cause of empowering women in politics and other fields besides helping "strengthen and build up Shiv Sena at the national level."

The case of former Congress leader and a close aide of UPA chairperson Sonia Gandhi, Tom Vadakkan, is similar, too. For years, he had slammed the BJP for its "communal agenda." A few weeks ago, however, he joined the "communal" party.

For two decades, former Lok Sabha member Baijayant Panda was a senior leader of the Biju Janata Dal (BJD). He recently joined the BJP, soon after which he was made its

national vice-president and spokesperson. To be fair to Panda, he seldom, if ever, took an extreme stand against the saffron party when with the BJD in the manner that Chaturvedi did. Yet, switching sides during the war can scarcely be called exemplary behaviour.

Then there is actor-turned-politician Shatrughan Sinha, who recently quit the BJP to join the Congress. This, just because Prime Minister Narendra Modi and party president Amit Shah didn't give him any responsibility. He turned his back on the party and joined the Congress. In fact, even before joining the grand old party and still being a BJP MP, he attended a rally of Opposition leaders in Patna.

At another rally in the same city, he talked about the "most important role" Congress leaders had played for the development and freedom of the country. "...*Inki party hai jinka desh ke vikas me, desh ki tarakki me, desh ki azadi me sabse mehatvapurna aur sabse bada yogdaan hua, isliye hum yaha aye,*" (they [Congress] had the most important role in development and freedom of the country. This is the reason why I have come here," Sinha said while addressing a rally. As Daagh Dehlvi wrote, "*Badi der*

ki meherbaan aate aate." It took you decades to realise this, Mr Sinha!

Praveen Nishad, however, took just a year to quit the SP, from whose ticket he had emerged victorious in the Lok Sabha byelection last year, and joined the BJP, whose very candidate he had defeated.

What these leaders and their actions show is that political philosophy and ideology mean little. It's not that such transgressions mean anything to the loyalists but the turncoats bring greater disrepute to politics. The *aaya ram gaya ram* (come and go men) phase in Indian politics was checked to some extent by the anti-defection law in 1985. However, the lack of any specific laws, provision of mandatory cooling off period or electoral restrictions have ensured that the menace of political leaders switching parties without any fear or remorse continues to remain as easy and casual as changing clothes. The collective consciousness of democracy demands that political leaders, who are the representatives of the people, must be distinguishable from speculators in financial markets, who are constantly on the lookout for a better deal.

We have not seen the last

of these political switches as we come closer to the results of the Lok Sabha elections. A fractured verdict will give rise to numerous permutations, which will be at play to form the new Government, and we are likely to witness more such instances of political turncoats to remind us of Ekta Kapoor's ditty for her long-standing TV show: "*Rishton ke bhi roop badalte hain, naye naye saanchen mein dhaalte hain* (Relationships change and get cast in new moulds)."

It goes without saying that we, the people of India, who elect leaders and whose interests our political masters claim to represent, rarely figure in their calculations. We are taken for a ride. As the backbone of the largest democracy of the world, we must not identify ourselves with political parties but ideology and real issues. The herd mentality has got us nowhere.

Former US President Ronald Reagan had once said, "It has been said that politics is the second oldest profession. I have learned that it bears a striking resemblance to the first." In India, the resemblance just became even more striking.

(The writer is a political commentator, Barrister and practising advocate in the Supreme Court of India)

SOUNDBITE

Despite its cultured population, Goa's MLAs often defect from parties. They are influenced by the US where marriages do not last.

Union Minister
—Nitin Gadkari



There is a conscious effort to do movies that have a social topic and subjects and stories that can touch hearts.

Actor
—Kareena Kapoor



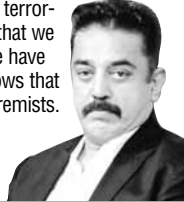
The increasing weakness and instability of your (May) Government means there cannot be confidence in securing whatever might be agreed between us.

Labour leader
—Jeremy Corbyn



Every religion has its own terrorists and we cannot claim that we are sanctimonious and we have not done that. History shows that all religions have their extremists.

Actor-politician
—Kamal Haasan



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Battleground Bengal

Sir — This refers to the editorial, "Ocean of darkness" (May 16). It is no surprise that the bitterly contested Lok Sabha election in West Bengal has been ravaged by violence, the likes of which has not been seen anywhere else in the country.

Violence and brutality seem to be running in the veins of West Bengal's politics. Remember when Trinamool Congress (TMC) chief Mamata Banerjee, then in the ascendant, made her bid to topple the then incumbent Left Front Government? Similar scenes of violence were witnessed in the State at the time. A few months ago, during the panchayat elections, Mamata's TMC had created a similar environment of intimidation and fear. Stone-pelting, an exchange of blows and torching of vehicles are now par for the course. The political players in the news, both the TMC as well as the BJP, are equally responsible for letting their workers run riot. Politics in West Bengal, it would seem, is destined to be distorted by the cult of violence.

J Akshobhya
Mysuru

India must seal visible cracks

A lot has changed in four years. In 2015, the renowned *Time* magazine had featured Prime Minister Narendra Modi on its cover with the words, "Why Modi matters." This year, the Prime Minister has once again featured on the same magazine's cover but the words accompanying his image have changed to, "India's divider in chief." The phrase refers to an article by a writer named Aatish Taseer — son of journalist Tavleen Singh and the Pakistani statesman Salman Taseer — which claims that division is clearly visible in India.

Whether it is mob lynchings or the appointment of Yogi Adityanath as the Chief Minister or the BJP's decision to field terror accused Pragya Singh Thakur from Bhopal, the veins of divisive ideology run deep in the country, according to him. In the same article, Taseer is also critical of the Opposition, calling it a "weak," "ragtag" coalition. He is of the opinion that the Congress has "little to offer than the dynastic principle" and describes Congress chief Rahul Gandhi as "an unteachable mediocrity." This

Take it easy

Sir — The case of a BJP Yuva Morcha (Priyanka Sharma) functionary being arrested in West Bengal for sharing a morphed image of Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee can be best described as a despotic act. Didi, who once got a Jadavpur University professor arrested

for allegedly posting a cartoon on social media involving Banerjee, maybe taking herself a tad too seriously. No matter how disparaging a meme or a caricature, should someone be arrested for creating or sharing the same?

In recent years, we have been treated to endless jokes on 'NaMo' and 'Pappu'. Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP) chief

Mayawati and BJP chief Amit Shah, too, are favourite targets for gagsters.

Stand-up comics have mercilessly pilloried the political class as a whole and the incumbent regime in particular. It is understood that public figures, particularly politicians, are fair game.

JS Acharya
Hyderabad

Iconic appeal

Sir — This refers to the editorial, "Ocean of darkness" (May 17). There can be no second opinion about the destruction of a bust of Ishwar Chandra Vidyasagar. One wonders why the police could not catch the goons red-handed. Had this been the case, the police could have found out the truth from them.

Nevertheless, Vidyasagar's greatness is limited not just to Bengal or Hindus. According to media reports, Taslima Nasreen, a noted Bangladeshi feminist, respected only three men *viz*, her father, Vladimir Lenin and Vidyasagar. Maulana Bhasani, one-time mentor of Sheikh Mujib-ur-Rahman in his Muslim League days, was also his (Vidyasagar's) admirer. Leading intellectuals of those times, of Bombay (now Mumbai), Madras (now Chennai) and Delhi were also his admirers.


SC Panda
Bhubaneswar

Send your feedback to:
letterstopioneer@gmail.com

FIRST COLUMN

Time to rethink monetary policies

Governor Das' out-of-the-box suggestion that Central banks need to be more flexible on the size of their interest rate ought to be taken seriously



RANJAN CHAKRAVARTY

Speaking at the 2019 Spring Meetings of the World Bank Group and the International Monetary Fund (IMF), Reserve Bank of India Governor Shaktikanta Das made an extremely significant point that can have far-reaching ramifications, one that would have revolutionary implications for the monetary policy worldwide. He asked Central bankers all over the world to reflect on the conduct of monetary policy and not restrict themselves to the existing norms of oversimplified stances on policy direction and standardised 25 basis point tranches of policy action.

Governor Das explained that the current approach, followed by Central banks worldwide, actually serves to deter policy through an example: "If the easing of monetary policy is required but the Central bank prefers to be cautious in its accommodation, a 10 bps reduction in the policy rate would, perhaps, communicate the intent of authorities more clearly than two separate moves — one on the policy rate, wasting 15 bps of valuable rate action to rounding off and the other on the stance, which, in a sense, binds future policy action to a pre-committed direction."

This leads us to reflect as to why such a convention exists and why we have persisted with it for so long. A logical conjecture that comes to mind is that it is a remnant of the unipolar economic world of the last quarter of the last century when the United States overwhelmingly dominated global markets both in terms of volume of real as well as financial products. In those days, it made eminent sense for all economic activity to be aligned, both operationally and conceptually, to American practices. Hence, it made sense for Europe, Japan, non-Japan Asia, Australia and emerging markets to be in sync with the actions of the US Federal Reserve.

So do we need to use those conventions any longer? The answer is a clear no. The current approach is unwieldy and insufficient for the needs and growth of today's economies. Take the example of India. Governor Das cannot be hamstrung by being forced simply by convention to make a delayed impact instead of one that he is required to make instantaneously. The market he operates in is large enough and diverse enough to adjust to policy in extremely quick time. In addition, India is clearly a supply side economy and a policy factoring in rational expectations is needed, not the old traditional post Keynesian policies of late 20th century America. In such an economy, the RBI Governor not only needs freedom of action but actually more empowerment.

Governor Das is clearly a Central banker for growth, unlike any in the recent past. Most Governors have been stance-driven liquidity managers in the last 20 years, whether India was in growth mode or not. This had resulted in the self-imposed restriction of inflation management as the almost sole function of the RBI and one at which it has not been a spectacular success. Witness what happened to the USDINR and the purchasing power of the rupee in this decade. For the longest time, RBI watchers have almost repetitively focussed solely on the reverse repo window and overnight liquidity management numbers. Combined with this activity was the occasional reactive positioning on USDINR spot that came to define the limits of RBI's role, which was one of a passive Central bank, similar to the Reserve Bank of Australia, one utterly unsuited to the RBI's role in an economy as diverse, dynamic and with the amount of potential as that of India's.

In contrast to the past, Governor Das' conduct of Open Market Operations, as exemplified by the dollar swap initiatives of March and April this year, are directed to meeting multiple growth and rate management objectives and have been an unqualified success. Not only have these issues been applauded by the market by being three time oversubscribed but they have also succeeded in providing the market with direction via a definite notional level for the three-year USDINR rate while infusing the much-needed liquidity into the system through a proper, tractable swap mechanism. This reminds us of the incredibly successful monetary policy conducted by Japan in the 1970s and 1980s while the US faltered. Hence, in terms of actual operational conduct of monetary policy, imitating US conventions with a voting Monetary Policy Committee is not optimal. Though we are all for a strong MPC, it should have a strictly closed door advisory role to the RBI Governor. If the buck stops with him, there is no way his actions should be fettered in any form. Governor Das is absolutely right. More power to him.

(The writer is a product strategy at Metropolitan Stock Exchange)

analysis09

POINTCOUNTERPOINT

WE CHERISH THE OPEN DOOR THAT WE WANT TO CREATE FOR OUR COUNTRY BUT A BIG PROPORTION OF THOSE IMMIGRANTS MUST COME THROUGH MERIT.

—US PRESIDENT DONALD TRUMP



WE CANNOT ALLOW PEOPLE TO START PARING AND POINTING FINGERS AND CREATING HIERARCHIES AMONG IMMIGRANTS.

—INDIAN-ORIGIN US SENATOR KAMALA HARRIS



Asking for the moon

Can mining the moon really become a big business? Before fascinating about this journey, much work needs to be done about the feasibility of digging the treasure trove of minerals



TOM HOGGINS

Amid the recent boom in extra-terrestrial exploration, a new frontier for private companies and space agencies appears to have emerged: Mining the moon for precious resources. Once thought to be a beautiful but largely barren rock, the moon is now believed by some to be a treasure trove of rich materials that could play a vital role in the Earth's future. For instance, space agencies, hoping to mine the moon, say oxygen in its regolith — or lunar soil — could be used to power life support and fuel rockets in space, while rare metals could be ferried back to Earth to be used in everything from gadgets to construction.

What has got the industry most excited, however, is the Helium-3 isotope that is present in moon dust, which has been touted as a possible key to safe nuclear energy. But despite its hidden treasure, is mining the moon a viable commercial project? Some private companies think so. Among them is the Cape Canaveral-based Moon Express, which has raised \$12.5m (£9.7m) in late 2018 to fund its plan to put robotic landers on the moon with the goal of sending samples back to Earth.

The ultimate goal is to commercialise the resources, according to boss Bob Richards. "We'll make some of it available to scientific research," he said. "But we also plan to commoditise it ourselves." Moon Express is not alone in looking to mine resources from space. Other firms such as Planetary Resources, backed by Google founders Larry Page and Eric Schmidt, and Japan's iSpace, are making their own progress on mining either the moon or asteroids. But if potential private miners are expecting immediate returns on what will be an expensive undertaking, they may well be disappointed.

"Companies are assuming that a market will be available," says Dr Ian Crawford, professor of Earth and Planetary Sciences at Birkbeck College London. "Which is a problem, because without a market, they can't justify the expense. It will start off smaller than the companies hope."

The European Space Agency (ESA) recently announced a deal with French rocket maker ArianeSpace to study and prepare for a moon mining mission. The feasibility study is focussed on finding out if mining the moon is possible, with the aim to send robotic equipment to mine a small sample by 2025. The primary motivation for such mining is to broaden the potential of human exploration into space rather than transporting resources back to Earth.

"The strategy is aimed at trying to understand if we can economically exploit resources to support future exploration missions," says Bernhard Hufebach, strategy and innovation team leader at ESA. "From an ESA perspective, it isn't about mining the moon to bring resources back to Earth, I think if that happens it's a commercial undertaking. We've purposefully called for an ambitious timeline. We're not sure if 2025 is realistic as there are a lot of steps that need to be done before."

Oxygen found in the moon's regolith could be used in space-faring life-support and refuelling efforts. Fuel could then be transported to nearby stations to allow refuelling following a rocket's propellant-hungry launch.

Water on the moon, which exists as ice in per-



manently shadowed craters, could also be an essential resource. In its announcement that it would be returning to the moon by 2024, NASA cited the mining of water as a way of creating oxygen and rocket fuel. And that the moon was a checkpoint to what lies beyond.

The theory goes that finding a way to successfully extract resources from the moon's surface — be it for those rockets or a potential lunar station — is cheaper and more practical than transporting heavy substances from Earth.

It can cost between \$100,000 and \$400,000 for every pound of water sent to the moon. There is believed to be an around 600m tonnes of water on the moon, and transporting that from Earth would cost between \$120 quadrillion to \$480 quadrillion. This use of the moon's resources could be key to the grandiose visions of the world's billionaires looking to take humanity to the stars.

When Amazon CEO Jeff Bezos unveiled his Blue Moon lander, the targetted site was the water ice rich Shackleton Crater near the moon's south pole. The further exploration of space, not to mention Bezos' far-flung plans for O'Neill colonies in Earth's orbit, or Elon Musk's desires to colonise Mars, could hinge on the success of mining research projects such as ESAs.

"Making it more sustainable is essentially about transporting less mass into space and using local resources which hopefully leads to lower costs," says Hufebach. "Then we may have synergies with technologies which could be used by commercial actors to mine the moon for other materials if that would legally be possible one day and if there was a business case."

While the immediate concern is to use the moon's resources to further space exploration, Helium-3 is an otherworldly isotope that has long been speculated as a way of producing clean nuclear energy. Its rarity on Earth means it is worth an estimated \$3 billion per tonne.

In theory, the nuclear fusion of Helium-3 would produce a large amount of energy without causing surrounding material to become radioactive. However, the temperature required would be much higher than 'traditional' fusion, leading to debates about its viability before successful nuclear fusion has even been achieved.

"It's a bit premature to decide we have a huge market for Helium-3 when we haven't proved it works yet," he says.

There is also some contention about its abundance on the moon. While some reports claim there are 1.1m tonnes of Helium-3 on the moon — theoretically enough to power the entire Earth for 10,000 years — other experts such as Dr Crawford are more sceptical.

"It's true that a tiny fraction of Helium-3 exists in lunar soils," he says. "Its concentration varies, about 4 parts per billion on average, but even in a relatively well concentrated area it would be 10 in a billion. The concentration is quite low."

The other problem, says Dr Crawford, comes from extracting the isotope from the moon dust. "You'd imagine huge combine harvesters like tractors scooping up regolith," he says. "Then you need to heat it up which takes a lot of energy. Just to extract a small amount of Helium-3 would be a huge undertaking."

Nevertheless, countries such as China and India have shown interest in the potential of Helium-3. China landed its Chang'e 4 lunar rover on the far side of the moon in January — the first time a 'dark side' landing has been achieved — with the purpose of measuring the chemical compositions of rocks and soils. This could give a more definitive answer to the question of just how resource-rich the lunar surface is. However, if moon mining moves from theory to practice there could be contention over the legal issues of claiming moon materials.

Both from national agencies, potentially giv-

ing their country exceptional energy resources and private companies. Article II of the 1967 Outer Space Treaty currently says that the moon is "not subject to national appropriation." But the treaty, drawn up during the heightened tensions of the Cold War and the US-Soviet space race, is widely thought to be outdated and stifling current space exploration efforts.

"There is a lot of work required on the legal side in order to define the right framework," says Hufebach. "That has to take place. To some extent may be the work we do in Research and Development may inform the debate on legal issues. But if in the future there is a business case for mining the moon or even asteroids, there is a lot of legal framework that needs to be done."

There is also the ethical and environmental question of whether it is right to move on to strip mining the moon after using up so much of the Earth's own resources. "It depends on the general policy for utilising the moon in the long-term, whether it's meant to be a place which can be economically exploited or if it's meant to be a heritage of mankind," says Hufebach.


Crawford argues that it could be ethically right to mine the moon. "There is an environmental case for using space resources," he says. "Rare Earth Elements can be environmentally damaging to mine and refine. You could argue that if in the future we could extract rare Earth elements from the moon or asteroids, then it would be environmentally preferable to mine from dead rocks in space than from our own planet."


But before any ethical discussion, there is much work ahead to confirm how feasible mining on the moon is. While we might not be experiencing a lunar gold rush just yet, the world's best minds are firing on a fascinating aspect of this new chapter of mankind's journey to the stars. And if feasible, it could be our key to the galaxy.

(Courtesy: Daily Telegraph)


How to measure water needs

The value of a river will depend on a unique data-set to construct the water poverty profile and experts who can suggest future correctives, say **SOUMI ROY CHOWDHURY, DEVENDRA B GUPTA and SANJIB POHIT**





FOREIGN EYE



MUTUAL BENEFITS

Julian Richer has announced a succession plan that involves handing control of his hi-fi and TV retail chain to its 531 employees. Mr Richer's grand gesture was born of particular circumstances, and the wish to secure his business's future. But by not only handing over a share of profits but a controlling stake, his actions serve as a reminder of what is possible. Profitable businesses don't have to remain in the hands of the very few.

(The Guardian Editorial)

In India, the discourse about new pathways for development hardly focusses on water. The narrative generally centres on two things: First, the availability of water and second accessibility to good and safe drinking water. Public policies largely focus on the latter even as the Government launches flagship programmes like Namami Gange and National Rural Drinking Water Programme.

But to be able to measure societal impact of any given programme, it is important to have baseline and endline information. In this case, how river water scarcity or its quality impacts common households. Specially, information on the use of water, livelihood aspects and quantifiable aesthetic value of the river are of utmost importance to gauge value.

Such information is, however, sparse and available only for pilot projects. Further, no serious efforts have been made to compile them for better identification of water-stressed regions, especially in the Indian context. However, efforts are under way to create a data-driven policy-making in our country.

With the launch of the Composite Water Management Index developed by NITI Aayog, one gets a sense of the macro picture of the effectiveness of water management across various States. Efforts like these must, however, be complemented with information linking household welfare, understanding livelihood implications of water scarcity and the degree to which it impacts human population. All of these can succinctly bring disparate data sources together.

Further, river basins in India are of different sizes, with habitation and livelihood depending on it. Therefore, analysing the communities living off the basin is critical to take into account both the physical and socio-demographic factors associated with water scarcity. A water poverty index approach is appropriate for such an analysis as it can monitor both the availability of water as well as the socio-economic factors that hinder the use and access of the same.

Elsewhere in the world, water poverty index, a relatively newly introduced policy tool, has caught the attention of policy-makers in the realm of water-driven issues. However, it is yet to catch the attention of Indian researchers and legislators.

The concept is based on the premise that the lack of adequate water supply in a country can lead to poor health of its population, whereas despite its availability, it is the user cost of clean water that can drive one to use inadequate and unreliable sources of water supply.

Therefore, a country, which is water-scarce should encompass understanding of different inter-related components: The availabil-

ity of internal water resources and external water inflows followed by access to safe water and sanitation in the region. Equally important is to capture the share of regional water use for domestic, industrial and agricultural purposes.

Scientific measurements of water quality parameters are equally critical to understanding the role of different kinds of regulatory mechanisms to preserve the water body, including biodiversity threats.

Last but not the least, the socio-economic ability of availing clean water resources and status of health information constitute the much-needed water data for a comprehensive analysis. The applicability of this kind of measure goes beyond just ranking the regions, which is the usual reporting norm, but actually categorising the components. Targetted approach allows diagnosis of the source of water problem and helps identify those policy parameters that need more attention.

Indeed, this is by no means a simple task that can be accom-

plished easily. An inter-disciplinary team of researchers is needed to understand and analyse the water poverty index of a river basin. More frequently, it happens that data is not available at the adequate level in India. For example, scanty information is available on water scarcity or how the poor quality of the same impacts the health and developmental goals of the people in various communities across river basins.

In sum, working towards a unique data-set to construct a water poverty measure will require hydrologists, who can advise on the water flow and availability, scientists who can develop water quality measures and social science researchers, who can assess the information on the use and implications of river water usage, including health costs, economic costs and other socio-demographic linkages.

(The writers are Associate Fellow and Professors at National Council of Applied Economic Research (NCAER), New Delhi. Views expressed here are personal)

Etihad nominee on Jet board Robin Kamark quits

PTI ■ MUMBAI

Grounded carrier Jet Airways Friday said Etihad nominee director on the airline's board, Robin Kamark, has quit the company with effect from May 16.

After Kamark's exit, only Ashok Chawla and Sharad Sharma remain on Jet Airways board, which ceased operations around mid-April.

The Gulf-based Etihad, which acquired 24 per cent stake in the then Naresh Goyal-promoted carrier in 2013, had two nominee directors, Kevin Night and Robin Kamark, on the airline's board.

Night stepped down in March along with Jet Airways founder-chairman Naresh Goyal and his wife Anita Goyal on March 25 following a debt recast plan.

Naresh Goyal also stepped down from the post of chairman.

"Robin Kamark nominee director of Etihad Airways PJSC, has resigned from the company with effect from May 16," Jet Airways said in a regulatory filing.

Last week, four senior executives, including chief executive Vinay Dube and his deputy Amit Agarwal quit the defunct carrier.

Last month, Independent Director Rajshree Pathy, Non-Executive and Non-Independent Director Nasim Zaidi as well as Whole Time Director Guarang Shetty also announced their exit.

In November last year, independent directors Vikram Singh Mehta and Ranjan Mathai had resigned from Jet Airways' board.

Grounded Jet Airways shares plummet over 24% in one month

New Delhi: Shares of Jet Airways have fallen over 24 per cent in one month since the cash-starved airline suspended operations.

Jet Airways stopped flying on April 17 after it ran out of cash.

In one month, shares of the company tumbled 24.28 per cent to ₹124.10 on the BSE Friday from ₹163.90 on April 18.

Markets were closed on April 17 for Mahavir Jayanti. The scrip of the firm hit its one-year low of ₹120.25 on May 15. Its market valuation has eroded by ₹451.26 crore to ₹1,409.74 crore on BSE during the one month's time.

Jet Airways witnessed top-level exodus earlier this week, with four senior executives, including chief executive Vinay Dube and his deputy Amit Agarwal, quitting the crisis-hit airline.

The carrier on Tuesday announced the exit of Dube, Agarwal, Company Secretary Kuldeep Sharma and Chief People Officer Rahul Taneja.

Last month, Independent Director Rajshree Pathy, Non-Executive and Non-Independent Director Nasim Zaidi as well as Whole Time Director Guarang Shetty had quit.

In late March, Jet Airways founder Naresh Goyal along with his wife Anita Goyal as well as Etihad Airways' nominee director Kevin Knight stepped down from their respective positions following a debt-recast plan.

Naresh Goyal also stepped down from the post of chairman.

Lenders are scrambling to find a suitor for the cash-starved carrier. On behalf of the lenders, SBI Caps had sought bids for sale of up to 75 per cent stake in Jet Airways.

After the first round of bids, private equity firms IndiGo Partners and TPG, Etihad Airways and National Investment and Infrastructure Fund (NIIF) were shortlisted. **PTI**

IOC ties up oil from US, Saudi to make up for Iran shortfall

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Indian Oil Corp (IOC), the nation's biggest oil firm, has tied up imports from the US and taken additional volumes from Saudi Arabia to make up for the bulk of the volumes lost because of sanctions prohibiting buying oil from Iran, top officials said Friday.

Iran supplied more than a tenth of India's oil needs before the reimposition of US sanctions against the Persian Gulf nation stopped supplies this month.

"We have tied up supplies from alternate sources. No single country can make up for the volumes lost, that's why we are keeping our sourcing diversified. We are fairly diversified in our sourcing and we have robust sourcing in place to make up for all of the Iranian oil," IOC Chairman Sanjiv Singh told reporters here.

India bought close to 24 million tonnes of crude oil from Iran in the fiscal ended March 31 (2018-19). Of this, IOC sourced about 9 million tonnes from Iran.

IOC and other Indian refiners stopped importing crude oil from Iran this month following the US' move to end sanction waivers.

To make up for the shortfall, IOC has used optional

volumes available from suppliers such as Saudi Arabia. Also, it has for the first time signed term import contracts with two US suppliers, he said, adding in all 4.6 million tonnes of crude oil from the US has been signed up for 2019.

IOC Director (Finance) A K Sharma said the company has an annual contract to buy 5.6 million tonnes of crude oil from Saudi Arabia. On top of this, it has the option to import an additional 2 million tonnes.

"We have exercised our optional volumes with Saudi Arabia and will be importing 2 million barrels of additional crude oil from Saudi Arabia in six months period beginning July," he said, adding the optional volumes imported from July to December total to about 1.5-1.6 million tonnes.

From the US, IOC has signed a deal with Norwegian oil company Equinor for buying 3 million tonnes of crude during the year and an additional 1.6 million tonnes from Algerian national oil company Sonatrach.

Equinor and Sonatrach produce crude oil in the US.

Singh said refiners import crude oil from a wide range of sources and have been lining up alternate supplies for the past months.

NCLAT annuls creditors' voting on NBCC's bid for Jaypee Infratech

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The National Company Law Appellate Tribunal (NCLAT) on Friday annulled voting by homebuyers and lenders on NBCC's bid to acquire debt-laden Jaypee Infratech, and allowed renegotiation on the offer by May 30.

Hearing a plea by IDBI Bank, seeking a stay or annulment of the voting process, a three-member NCLAT bench headed by Chairman Justice S J Mukhopadhyaya also allowed nine homebuyers' associations representing around 5,000 buyers to file intervention application.

The appellate tribunal also allowed the Committee of Creditors (CoC) to renegotiate on NBCC's bid by May 30.

Fresh voting process will start from May 31, the bench said.

On Thursday, voting started to approve or reject NBCC's bid to acquire Jaypee group's realty firm. As many as 13 banks and over 23,000 homebuyers of Jaypee Infratech have voting rights in the CoC.

The voting process was to end on Sunday and the result was to be announced on May 20.

In its order on Friday, the bench said, "in the meantime, the voting already taken is annulled."

LetsTrack launches mobile app

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

LetsTrack announces launch of its App and Devices for B2C and B2B consumption that aims to change the way we do things in our everyday lives. Letstrack is an app with innovative solutions and smartdevices to solve the most common problems faced by each one of us in our everyday lives.



FORM No. 5
DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL
600/1 University Road Near Hanuman Setu Mandir, Lucknow- 226 007
(Area of Jurisdiction - Part of Uttar Pradesh and Uttaranchal)

Summons for filing Reply & Appearance by Publication
Date : 25/03/2019
(Summons to Defendant Under Section 19(3), of the Recovery of Debts due to Banks and Financial Institutions Act, 1993 read with Rules 12 And 13 of the Debts Recovery Tribunal (Procedure Rules, 1993)

Original Application No. 365 of 2015


Allahabad BankApplicant Bank
Rudrapur, Distt. Udham Singh Nagar
Versus

Shri Arun Verma & OrsDefendants
To.

- Shri Arun Verma** (Borrower)
S/o Shri Brahm Singh Verma,
R/o House No. G-297/C, Sushant Lok - II,
Sector - 56, Gurgaon, Haryana
- Shri Ajay Singh Maan** (Guarantor)
Village Jharsa, Patti Pachylian,
Gurgaon, Haryana

In the above noted Application, you are required to file reply in Paper Book form in Two sets alongwith documents and affidavits (if any), personally or through your duly authorized agent or legal practitioner in this Tribunal, after serving copy of the same on the Applicant or his Counsel/duly authorized agent after publication of the summons, and thereafter to appear before the Tribunal on 10/06/2019 at 10:30 A.M. failing which the application shall be heard and decided in your absence.

Registrar
Debts Recovery Tribunal, Lucknow

**SBFC**
SMALL BUSINESS FINCREDIT INDIA PVT. LTD.
(Erstwhile Mape Finserve Pvt. Ltd.)

Address Unit No. 103, First Floor C&B Square, Sangam Complex, 127, Andheri-Kurla Road, Village Chakla, Andheri (East), Mumbai 400059 | Telephone: +91 22 67875300 | Fax: +91 22 67875334 | www.sbfci.com | Corporate Identity Number: U67190MH2008PTC178270

PUBLIC NOTICE
This is to inform the Public that Auction of pledged Gold Ornaments will be conducted by Small Business Fincredit India Pvt. Ltd. (Erstwhile Mape Finserve Pvt. Ltd.) on 22nd May 19 at 10 AM at K-17, 2nd Floor, Near DTC Bus Pass Centre, Lajpat Nagar-2, New Delhi-110024, Faridabad Branch 28/1, First Floor, Near Bhairav Sweet Corner, Faridabad, Haryana-121001 and Gurgaon branch First Floor, Property No. 342/9, Subhash Nagar, 1st Floor, New Railway Road, Gurgaon-122001 and Panipat Branch, Plot no 946, 1st Floor, above Vodafone Store, Near Railway Road Main Gate G/T Road, Panipat-132103, Haryana.

The Gold Ornaments to be auctioned belong to Loan Accounts of our various Customers who have failed to pay their dues. Our notices of auction have been duly issued to these borrowers.
The Gold Ornaments to be auctioned belong to Overdue Loan Accounts of our various Customers mentioned below with branch name.
Faridabad Branch: PRO055566/GLD540216, PRO060836/GLD554136, P R O 0 6 2 3 8 5 2 / G L D 5 9 2 4 9 6, PRO059243/GLD54133, PRO0608749/GLD554134, PRO0623815/GLD552028, PRO0593872/GLD593916, PRO0582439/GLD529569, PRO0606087/GLD554085, PRO0615304/GLD583407, PRO0624651/GLD593916, PRO0596264/GLD529513, PRO062480/GLD554086, PRO061135/GLD554084, PRO0615304/GLD593916, PRO0587714/GLD555936, PRO0606283/GLD554087, PRO0621138/GLD583505, PRO0631644/GLD594004, PRO0580309/GLD535957, PRO0607148/GLD554110, PRO0622117/GLD583530, PRO0631644/GLD594005, PRO0584656/GLD535973, PRO0607189/GLD554106, PRO0622889/GLD583539, PRO0633529/GLD594034, PRO0591730/GLD540120, PRO0623189/GLD583543, PRO061138/GLD594036, PRO0592265/GLD540133, PRO0608380/GLD554125, PRO0623738/GLD583528, PRO0635040/GLD594643, PRO0592367/GLD540137, PRO0608735/GLD554133, PRO0623809/GLD592491, PRO0637443/GLD594087, PRO0592434/GLD540138, PRO0608749/GLD554134, PRO0623815/GLD552028, PRO0593872/GLD593916, PRO0593354/GLD540163, PRO0595090/GLD540208, PRO0593511/GLD540166, PRO0595245/GLD540211, Gurgaon Branch: PRO062450/GLD587025, PRO0620666/GLD586941, P R O 0 6 0 2 8 3 1 / G L D 5 1 6 1 3, PRO0570288/GLD59498, PRO0624848/GLD587029, PRO0621652/GLD586958, PRO0613041/GLD595731, PRO0578424/GLD5021782, PRO0625729/GLD587041, PRO0623143/GLD587002, PRO0613286/GLD595735, PRO0580276/GLD5021814, PRO0633989/GLD589423, PRO0623496/GLD587009, PRO0613876/GLD595754, PRO0581746/GLD5021857, PRO063346/GLD589458, PRO0623582/GLD587011, PRO0613931/GLD595758, PRO0589420/GLD531445, PRO0637104/GLD589490, PRO0623620/GLD587012, PRO0615450/GLD595794, PRO0592367/GLD531596, PRO0638252/GLD589509, PRO0624459/GLD587023, PRO0620661/GLD586940, PRO0602834/GLD551612, Lajpat Nagar Branch: PRO0625228/GLD516707, PRO0607919/GLD543846, PRO0601506/GLD548306, PRO0578450/GLD516399, PRO0629671/GLD585221, PRO0614973/GLD548445, PRO0601510/GLD548305, PRO0579752/GLD516414, PRO0634738/GLD5895266, PRO0632066/GLD516666, PRO0601515/GLD548306, PRO0579616/GLD516412, PRO0592671/GLD516519, PRO0593343/GLD516526, Laxmi Nagar Branch: PRO0612771/GLD5055637, PRO0595381/GLD534111, P R O 0 5 8 3 8 0 8 / G L D 5 1 0 1 9 5, PRO0579771/GLD510183, PRO0623948/GLD581322, PRO0599916/GLD540231, PRO0592206/GLD533370, PRO0621138/GLD528387, PRO0580574/GLD556160, PRO0596763/GLD552898, PRO0604652/GLD552426, PRO0582305/GLD531350, PRO062480/GLD554106, PRO0596702/GLD545444, PRO0604654/GLD552057, PRO0590513/GLD533007, PRO0624999/GLD556233, PRO0603393/GLD545564, PRO0605652/GLD505207, PRO0593700/GLD541411, PRO0625913/GLD556233, PRO0603393/GLD545564, PRO0605652/GLD505207, PRO0593885/GLD541412, PRO0631904/GLD596848, PRO0603401/GLD545565, PRO0608389/GLD552109, PRO0591266/GLD520831, PRO0636059/GLD591661, PRO0623435/GLD591509, PRO0609503/GLD551899, PRO0591916/GLD520837, PRO0637632/GLD591671, PRO0623450/GLD591510, PRO0618476/GLD552057, PRO0592106/GLD520851, PRO0638371/GLD591675, PRO0592128/GLD520850.

For more details, please contact
Small Business Fincredit India Pvt. Ltd.
(Erstwhile Mape Finserve Pvt. Ltd.)

Contact Numbers: Lajpat nagar 1800-102-8012 / 011- 40305228 / 207, Faridabad: 01294314725/4104450 and Gurgaon Branch 0124-4276037, Panipat 010- 4067209
(Small Business Fincredit India Pvt. Ltd. (Erstwhile Mape Finserve Pvt. Ltd.) reserves the right to alter the number of accounts to be auctioned &/ postpone / cancel the auction without any prior notice.)

KARVY **FINANCE** Retail is now **SBFC**

JK Tyre clocks 24% increase in sales during FY19, crosses ₹10,000 crores

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Indian tyre industry major, JK Tyre& Industries Limited (JKTIL) announced its results for Financial Year ending 31st March 2019. Sales at ₹10,370 crore for the year grew by 24% while Operating Profit for the year at ₹1,196 crore was 35% higher. PBT for the year was ₹270 crore on a consolidated basis. Q4 sales at ₹2,706 crores also grew by 18% over the corresponding period.

Commenting upon the results, Raghupati Singhania, Chairman and Managing Director of the Company said, "FY19 was indeed a landmark year for the Company. JK Tyre sales crossed the ₹10,000 crore-mark while achieving a robust growth of 24% over the previous year, surpassing the industry growth. Despite Q4 profitability being impacted due to high raw material prices, the operating margins for the year as a whole increased by 35%".

JK Tyre volumes grew by 20% despite slow down in the automotive sector in the second half of the year.

Sebi refuses to lift market ban on Allied Financial, 7 entities

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Regulator Sebi Friday refused to lift the market ban imposed on Allied Financial Services and seven entities in a case of alleged misappropriation of clients' securities.

However, the watchdog revoked the directions against three former directors — Rajeev Kumar Asopa, Lalit Agarwal and Rajendra Prasad Basia — of the company in the same case.

In an interim order in February, Sebi barred Allied Financial and ten others from securities market till further directions besides imposing various other restrictions.

The ruling had come after Sebi found that mutual funds of Novjyot Emporium Pvt Ltd, OCL India Ltd and Dalmia Cement East Ltd were allegedly transferred illegally by Allied to IL&FS Securities Services as a collateral for margins of Allied.

SEARCH FOR MISSING



AARIFA

General Public is hereby informed that one girl **Namely: Aarifa, D/o: Md. Intzar, R/o: C-232, Near Madina Maszid Mool Chand, Adarsh Nagar, Delhi, Age: 17 Years, Height: 5'2", Face: Round, Complexion: Fair, Built: Normal, Wearing: Green Shirt and Legging** has been missing/kidnapped since 23.04.2019. In this regard **FIR No. 117/19 u/s 363 IPC, dated 24.04.2019** has been lodged at **PS. Adarsh Nagar, Delhi**. Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out the missing/kidnapped girl but no clue has come to light so far. If anyone have any information about this missing/kidnapped girl please inform the undersigned.

SHO
E-Mail ID: cbc@cbi.gov.in
Fax: 011-24368639
DP/8903/NW/19
PS, Adarsh Nagar, Delhi,
Ph.: 011-27674452, 27672452

SEARCH FOR MISSING/KIDNAPPED



Komal Brijesh

General Public is hereby informed that one woman namely **Komal Brijesh W/o Vijay Singh R/o H.No. 12/47, Trilokpur, Delhi, Age- 26 years, Height-5'3", Built: Medium, Face: Round, Complexion- Fair, Wearing: Red Colour Jarshi, Cream colour Suit & Pink colour Pajami** has been Kidnapped/missing since 12.02.2019 from the area of **PS. Kalyan Puri, Delhi**. In this regard a **FIR No. 184/19 u/s 365 IPC** dated **04.04.2019** has been Lodged at **PS. Kalyan Puri, Delhi**

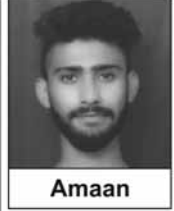
Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out the woman but no clue has come to light so far. If any one having any information about this woman please inform undersigned.
E-mail : cbc@cbi.gov.in
Ph.: 011-24368638, 24368641
Fax : 011-24368639
PS. Kalyan Puri, Delhi
DP/6783/ED/19
Ph. 011-22772251,8750870629

NORTHERN RAILWAY TENDER NOTICE

The Dy. Chief Engineer/Const., Northern Railway, State Entry Road, New Delhi for and on behalf of President of India invites open e-tender under **Single Packet System** for the under noted work :-

1. Name of work and location	Sub soil investigation, plate load testing for Road Over Bridge in lieu of LC-12 & 20 on DLI-UMB section, LC-25, 28, 48 & 49 on DLI-SMQL section and construction of Auditorium at National Rail Museum, Chanakya Puri, New Delhi under Dy. Chief Engineer/Const.-I, Northern Railway, State Entry Road, New Delhi
2. Completion period of the work	6 (Six) months from the date of issue of acceptance letter.
3. Approx. cost of work	Rs. 62.55 lakh (Rupees Sixty two lakh fifty five thousand only)
4. Earnest money amount (to be deposited Online)	Rs. 1,25,100/- (Rupees One lakh twenty five thousand one hundred only)
5. Date, Time for submission of e-tender and opening of tender	Tenders may be uploaded upto 11:30 hrs on 11.06.2019 on IREPS website i.e www.ireps.gov.in The bidders can only participate in the e-tender, the tender will be opened at 11:30 hrs on 11.06.2019 .
6. Detailed Tender Notice & Tender Document	The detailed e-tender notice is available on Northern Railway website i.e www.nr.indianrailways.gov.in Above tenders document will be available on IREPS website i.e. www.ireps.gov.in from 28.05.2019 to 11.06.2019 . All other terms and conditions in respect of above tenders are given in tender document. The detailed tender notice also can be seen on the Notice Board of the above office.
No. 220-Acs/1/1131/Soil/Inv. Date : 17.05.2019	1488/2019
SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE	

SEARCH FOR MISSING



Amaan

General public is hereby informed that a Boy namely **Amaan S/o Sh. Badar, R/o H.No. 832/7, Sheesh Mahal, Bara Hindu Rao, Delhi, Age : 23 yrs., Height : 5'7", Complexion : Fair, Face : Oval, Built : Thin, Wearing : Red Colour Lower, Red Colour T-shirt and Blue Colour Shoes in Feet,** has been missing / kidnapped since 30.04.2019 from the area of **PS. Bara Hindu Rao**. In this regard a case **DD. No. 29-A dated 04.05.2019** has been lodged at **PS. Bara Hindu Rao, Delhi**. Sincere efforts have been made by local Police to trace out the missing / kidnapped Boy but no clue has come to light so far.

If anyone have any information about this missing / kidnapped Boy please inform undersigned.
Website: http://cbi.nic.in, Email: cbc@cbi.gov.in,
Ph.: 011-24368638, 24368641, Fax: 011-24368639
DP/9983/N/19.
PS. Bara Hindu Rao, Delhi
Ph.: 011-23528060, 8750870125

Business Corner



NMDC Limited has bagged the prestigious S&P Global PLATTS Global Metals Award 2019 in Corporate Social Responsibility category for the second consecutive time in a row for the dedicated initiatives undertaken in the field of Education, Skill Development and Health for the emancipation of local communities. The award ceremony was held at London, UK. Sandeep Tula, Director (Personnel), NMDC Limited received the coveted award among the shortlisted 11 nominations of renowned companies across the world



Army Chief General Bipin Rawat pays homage to Sepoy Sandeep who made the supreme sacrifice during Counter-Terrorist operation on May 16 at Village Delipura of Pulwama district



Streak Professional reinvents vintage styles with its latest launch 'Retro Remix' at its mega hair show 'Hair & Beyond'

Corporation Bank in Q4 posts loss of ₹6,581 crore

PTI ■ MUMBAI

Public sector lender Corporation Bank on Friday said its loss widened to ₹6,581.49 crore during the fourth quarter ended March 31, mainly due to higher provisioning for bad loans. The bank had reported loss of ₹1,838.39 crore during January-March quarter of 2017-18.

The total income of Corporation Bank during the fourth quarter of 2018-19 stood at ₹4,187.65 crore down from ₹4,642.45 crore in the same period of the previous fiscal, the lender said in a regulatory filing.

The bank, however has reported reduction in non-performing assets (NPAs).

The gross NPA as a percentage of total advances was 15.35 per cent compared to 17.35 per cent during fourth quarter of 2017-18.

SIDBI net profit rises 36.5 % in FY19

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Financial performance highlights for Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI), the all India financial institution engaged in creating an integrated credit and development support ecosystem for Indian Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME).

Mohammad Mustafa, IAS, Chairman & Managing Director, SIDBI said, "Credit growth to the MSME sector is on a firm footing and aggregate MSME lending as a proportion to the Gross Domestic Product is on the rise. This has helped us achieve such encouraging financial performance. During the fiscal, our asset book has grown over 42% and net profit has grown over 36% compared with FY18. For FY20, our focus will be to sustain growth momentum, build scalable and profitable franchise focused on MSME development and financing."

SEARCH FOR MISSING



Kavita

General public is hereby informed that one girl namely **Kavita, D/o Moti Lal, R/o: Gokul Ka Makan, Gali No. 5, Nathan Vihar, Ranholah, Delhi, Age: 12 years, Height: 4', Complexion: Wheatish, Face: Round, wearing Black Suit-Salwar and Brown Sandal in feet,** has been missing/kidnapped from the area of **PS. Nihal Vihar, since 30.04.2019**. In this regard a **FIR No. 295/19 u/s 363 IPC, dated 01.05.2019** has been registered at **PS. Nihal Vihar, Delhi**.

Sincere efforts have been made by the local police to trace out the girl but no clue has come to light so far. If any one having any information about her please inform undersigned.

Website : http://cbi.nic.in
E-mail : cbc@cbi.gov.in
Fax : 011-24368639
Ph. No. : 011-24368638, 24368641
DP/2233/OD/19
PS. Nihal Vihar, Delhi
Ph.: 011-25946700, 25946710

SEARCH FOR MISSING



SAKSHI

General public is hereby informed that a girl (depicted in the photo), **Name : Sakshi D/o Sh. Ramesh R/o L-398, J.J. Colony, Wazirpur, Delhi** is missing since 13.04.2019. In this regard a case vide FIR No. 179/19 u/s 363 IPC dated 14.04.2019 has been registered at **PS Bharat Nagar, Delhi**. The description of the missing girl is as under :-

Age : 16 year, Height: 5'2", Complexion : Fair, Built : Medium, Face : Round, Wearing : Dark Brown colour kurta and lagging and black colour sleeper.
Any person having any information/clue about this missing girl, may inform SHO, Bharat Nagar, Delhi at E-mail : **cbc@cbi.gov.in** or Website: **http://cbi.nic.in.**
SHO</

Sensex soars 537 points ahead of exit poll results

PTI ■ MUMBAI

The BSE Sensex soared 537 points and the NSE Nifty reclaimed the 11,400 level on Friday in a broad-based rally led by banking and auto stocks ahead of exit poll results, despite global headwinds.

Markets are pricing in the formation of a stable government and continuation of reforms, experts said.

The 30-share BSE benchmark closed 537.29 points, or 1.44%, higher at 37,930.77. Similarly, the broader Nifty rose 150.05 points, or 1.33%, to settle at 11,407.15.

During the week, the Sensex gained 467.78 points, or 1.24%, and the Nifty advanced 128.25 points, or 1.13%.

Bajaj Finance was the top gainer in the Sensex pack on Friday, surging 6.09%, after the company reported a 50% jump in net profit for the March quarter. Bajaj Auto too ended higher following strong results.

Hero MotoCorp, Maruti, Kotak Bank, HDFC, HUL, M&M, HDFC Bank, ITC, ICICI Bank, Axis Bank, Coal India, SBI, IndusInd Bank and Asian Paints were among the other gainers, rising up to 4.26%.

On the other hand, Yes Bank, Vedanta, Infosys, HCL Tech, Sun Pharma, TCS and NTPC shed up to 2.36%.

Investors lapped up banking and auto stocks, boosting key indices, ahead of the exit poll results scheduled for Sunday.

“Indian markets have shown tremendous strength before the long-awaited exit polls, despite the ongoing ambiguity in US-China trade talks.

“With the last phase of elections scheduled for Sunday, the all-round buying across the sectors reflects market’s anticipation that exit polls may indicate the formation of a stable government,” said

Jagannadham Thunuguntla, senior vice-president and head of research (wealth), Centrum Broking Limited.

Sectorally, the BSE auto, FMCG, finance, bankex and capital goods indices ended up to 2.45% higher. However, healthcare, IT and teck lost up to 0.99%.

Broader indices followed the benchmarks, with the BSE mid-cap and small-cap indices settling in the green.

The Indian rupee depreciated by 16 paise to 70.20 against the US dollar intra-day.

Global oil benchmark Brent crude was trading 0.26% higher at USD 72.81 per barrel.

Ficci for more inclusive LTTC policy of Rlys

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Industry body Ficci has suggested to the railways ministry various measures like inclusion of coal and coke in long-term tariff contract (LTTC) policy, to promote growth of steel industry.

The policy was unveiled by the ministry for key customers using predetermined price escalation principle.

Ficci also suggested rationalisation of freight class for iron ore, formulation of long-term policy on freight structure for short lead traffic, allocation of more rakes for movement of cargo for industries, and route rationalisation policy for iron ore and limestone.

It also said it is essential to rationalise freight class for iron ore in view of the viability of

domestic iron ore mining and steel sector. “Since a wide range of industrial segments ranging from metals to thermal power generation are dependent upon coal, coke and iron ore, these commodities should also be covered under the LTTC policy,” it said.

Ficci noted that while this policy provides certainty in logistics operations to the industry and railways, there are exceptions in the policy and the most transported commodities — iron ore, coal and coke — have been listed under excluded category. Further, it said several railway routes carrying iron ore and limestones have been subjected to route rationalisation due to congestion in the railway network and delays in doubling /trebling of lines to ease the situation.

Bajaj Auto Q4 net up 20% at ₹1,408 crore

New Delhi (PTI): Riding on good domestic motorcycle sales, Bajaj Auto on Friday reported 19.82% increase in consolidated net profit at ₹1,408.49 crore for the fourth quarter ended March 31, 2019. The company posted a profit of ₹1,175.47 crore in the year-quarter period. Bajaj Auto said in a regulatory filing.

Total revenue from operations for the period under review stood at ₹7,395.19 crore as against ₹6,788.43 crore in the year-quarter, it said. In the fourth quarter, the company’s total sales were up 14% at 11,93,590 units as against 10,45,378 units in the same period previous year, it said.

Commenting on the performance, Bajaj Auto Executive Director Rakesh Sharma said in a conference call that the motorcycle segment, particularly in the domestic market, has done well even as the company faced headwinds in the commercial vehicles three-wheeler segment.

During the quarter, the company clocked 23% rise in domestic bike sales at 6,10,094 units as against 4,97,587 units in the year-quarter period. He said Bajaj Auto did well in the entry-level and top-end premium sports segment. Motorcycle exports during the quarter stood at 3,91,889 units as against 3,58,802 units in the year-quarter period. Commercial vehicle sales were down 16 per cent at 1,02,258 units as against 1,22,229 units in the fourth quarter previous fiscal. For the year ended March 31, 2019, the company’s profit was at ₹4,927.61 crore as against ₹4,218.95 crore in the previous year, a growth of 16.79 per cent. Total revenue from operations for the year was at ₹30,249.96 crore as against ₹25,617.27 crore in the previous fiscal.

Commenting on new product launches, Sharma said in the next three to four months Bajaj Auto would bring upgrades of some of its existing models. Besides, he said the company was working on electric options for all the formats of vehicles that it has in its portfolio — two and three-wheelers along with quadri-cyle. “We will this year certainly test the waters to see how the market and consumers respond to electric vehicles,” he said.

IOC NET RISES 17% TO ₹6,099 CRORE IN Q4

New Delhi: State-owned Indian Oil Corp (IOC) on Friday reported a 17% rise in its fourth quarter net profit at ₹6,099.27 crore. Net profit in January-March 2018 was ₹5,218.10 crore, the company said in a regulatory filing. Turnover rose to ₹1.44 lakh crore in January-March quarter from ₹1.37 lakh crore a year earlier.

Asian markets mixed after US rally, pound down on Brexit woes

Hong Kong (AFP): Asian markets were mixed on Friday as another rally on Wall Street and data indicating a strong US economy were offset by the increasingly tense trade and technology stand-off between China and the United States. The Brexit saga also moved back into view, with the pound at three-month lows on renewed concerns Britain will leave the EU with no deal as

Prime Minister Theresa May tries to push her divorce deal through again.

And oil prices sank as trade worries overshadowed tensions in the Middle East where the US and Iran are growing increasingly hostile.

New York’s three main indices rose for a third successive day on the back of better-than-expected housing construction data and a dip in US

jobless claims, while solid earnings from Walmart and tech firms Cisco Systems and Nvidia reinforced optimism. The figures boosted sentiment after almost two weeks of volatility sparked by Donald Trump’s threat, and implementation, of higher tariffs on Chinese imports.

In light of the Wall Street rally, OANDA senior market analyst Jeffrey Halley said

investors seem “to have temporarily given up trying to predict the fluid situation that is US-China trade relations and concentrate on the here and now”.

Hong Kong fell 1.2% in the afternoon and Shanghai tumbled 2.5% while Seoul shed 0.6% and Taipei dived 0.9% with Singapore dropping 0.7%. Tokyo finished 0.9% higher, Sydney rose 0.6%, Manila soared more than one percent.

In early trade London fell 0.2%, Paris eased 0.3% and Frankfurt was off 0.5%.

Uncertainty among investors was reflected in a drop in high-yielding, riskier units, with the Chinese yuan at lows not seen since November.

The pound was also under pressure after May said she would set out her timetable for leaving office after her Brexit deal with the EU, which has

already been rejected by parliament three times, goes to MPs early next month. Investors sold sterling on worries her likely defeat could lead to a no-deal Brexit taking her post, which most commentators warn would hamper the economy.

In a sign of things to come, arch-Brexit Boris Johnson said he will run for the PM’s job once it is vacated.

NIFTY 50						
SCRIP	OPEN	High	LOW	LTP	CHANGE	
ZEEL	350.10	377.80	346.30	374.45	28.75	
BAJFINANCE	3137.00	3316.00	3122.05	3295.00	184.95	
BAJAJFINSV	7675.00	8029.75	7588.35	7979.00	361.55	
MARUTI	6497.00	6790.00	6485.00	6769.95	290.30	
HEROMOTOCO	2523.00	2637.00	2521.80	2625.00	104.70	
KOTAKBANK	1416.00	1469.80	1415.40	1465.00	51.85	
BAJAJ-AUTO	2950.00	3049.00	2935.15	3046.90	104.25	
EICHERMOT	2020.00	2100.00	2005.40	2100.00	694.75	
HDFC	1941.00	1997.95	1938.55	1996.00	53.90	
HINDUNILVR	1690.10	1742.20	1685.20	1734.00	45.80	
AXISBANK	731.80	752.15	727.20	750.30	18.45	
HDFCBANK	2313.00	2369.30	2311.60	2365.00	54.35	
M&M	607.00	622.50	600.00	619.20	13.95	
ICICIBANK	381.20	392.00	380.75	391.15	8.65	
ITC	295.10	302.35	295.10	301.40	6.65	
BRITANNIA	2719.85	2785.10	2710.00	2772.00	55.80	
IBULHSGFIN	715.00	728.00	712.00	720.80	12.85	
LT	1335.00	1371.50	1332.55	1360.50	23.35	
COALINDIA	233.10	238.00	232.35	236.20	4.05	
SBIN	315.65	321.95	313.45	321.00	5.25	
GAIL	331.00	334.10	330.20	333.50	4.30	
GRASIM	819.00	833.60	814.30	830.50	10.40	
ASIANPAINT	1305.00	1330.75	1301.00	1320.15	15.60	
INDUSINDBK	1368.00	1392.00	1365.00	1371.10	12.90	
TATAMOTORS	1749.5	1777.00	1702.00	1765.85	1.45	
ONGC	166.50	168.00	162.10	167.30	1.35	
WIPRO	286.50	289.90	285.30	287.10	1.95	
TITAN	1184.00	1230.00	1180.00	1193.15	6.70	
BHARTIARTL	323.70	330.70	322.15	327.00	1.80	
BPCL	372.00	378.85	366.55	377.00	1.45	
POWERGRID	181.70	183.60	180.35	182.50	0.65	
RELIANCE	1267.00	1276.95	1252.00	1269.00	3.65	
UPL	970.85	992.95	958.35	972.00	1.15	
TATASTEEL	465.05	471.50	461.00	469.50	0.25	
INFRATEL	269.00	270.90	265.50	267.95	-0.20	
NTPC	124.75	126.60	124.00	125.60	-0.15	
JSWSTEEL	275.45	277.70	271.55	275.00	-0.45	
ULTRACEMCO	450.00	458.90	443.50	449.00	-13.80	
TECHM	793.00	793.00	776.55	784.50	-4.85	
SUNPHARMA	409.05	416.00	401.70	409.60	-2.80	
TCS	2112.60	2135.00	2090.00	2094.00	-14.75	
HCLTECH	1075.05	1077.00	1059.75	1062.60	-9.65	
INFY	733.15	735.80	720.10	724.50	-8.60	
ADANIAPORTS	368.80	372.80	362.00	367.00	-4.50	
CPIA	549.00	551.95	541.00	542.85	-7.75	
HINDALCO	192.00	192.80	187.25	191.90	-2.70	
VEDL	163.15	164.30	159.35	160.75	-2.75	
IOC	150.00	152.65	146.85	148.45	-2.20	
YESBANK	141.00	146.00	132.45	134.10	-3.65	
DREDDY	2791.00	2810.00	2667.45	2724.75	-76.25	

NIFTY NEXT 50						
SCRIP	OPEN	High	LOW	LTP	CHANGE	
NIFTY NEXT 50	25984.55	26263.00	25910.60	26226.50	221.80	
PETRONET	224.40	237.80	223.35	236.85	12.70	
GODREJCP	640.15	673.75	639.00	671.00	32.85	
PAEIND	2173.00	2300.00	2163.80	2280.00	1076.80	
PGL	2040.00	2150.00	2035.65	2130.00	83.40	
BAJAJHLONG	3180.00	3310.00	3174.00	3287.00	119.55	
SRTANSFNG	1001.00	1045.00	999.10	1034.00	31.60	
ICICIIG	1097.00	1126.00	1088.00	1119.15	27.80	
DABUR	361.00	377.30	361.00	370.00	8.95	
BANKBARODA	109.75	113.15	107.70	112.30	2.50	
MARICO	352.00	361.70	351.70	360.00	7.90	
CONCOR	469.95	481.00	467.65	478.80	9.70	
ASHOKLEY	83.10	85.05	82.60	84.60	1.75	
COLPAL	1120.00	1148.90	1111.00	1143.00	22.40	
BOSCHLTD	5670.00	1789.90	1697.00	1725.90	292.10	
MCDOWELL-N	123.60	536.50	109.00	532.25	8.65	
NHPC	21.90	22.30	21.65	22.10	0.35	
GICRE	224.55	232.45	224.20	229.30	5.30	
BANDHANBNK	558.80	565.00	549.45	564.90	7.15	
AMBAJACEM	214.45	220.00	213.20	218.00	2.75	
HAVELLS	724.80	739.00	723.00	733.80	8.60	
INDIGO	1450.00	1498.35	1413.70	1479.30	14.40	
URL	1345.25	1366.90	1331.80	1362.45	12.95	
L&T&H	116.15	118.00	115.80	117.25	1.15	
PIDILITIND	1157.40	1174.80	1148.40	1163.50	9.65	
HDFCAMC	1582.00	1604.95	1575.05	1600.00	12.55	
DLF	162.65	167.00	161.85	164.05	1.15	
ACC	1575.50	1614.65	1570.10	1594.60	11.25	
ABB	1385.00	1403.80	1372.55	1397.00	9.75	
MRF	53749.90	54750.00	53401.65	54045.05	352.65	
HDFCLIFE	379.75	384.00	374.25	382.40	2.50	
ICICIPRULI	334.65	343.10	332.40	336.95	2.10	
PGHH	10520.00	10615.05	10399.95	10570.00	48.20	
SHREECEM	19350.00	19748.00	19300.00	19500.05	82.05	
NMDC	90.45	91.65	90.30	90.45	0.05	
DEVISLAB	1636.00	1653.00	1622.10	1638.00	-2.30	
BHEL	61.00	62.65	61.20	62.00	-0.20	
SIEMENS	1129.15	1138.60	1110.00	1125.05	-4.55	
SAIL	48.00	48.25	47.05	47.75	-0.25	
OFSS	3445.00	3466.95	3421.10	3422.50	-18.95	
SBILIFE	634.85	645.95	623.35	626.25	-4.70	
HINDZINC	252.60	255.85	251.90	252.25	-2.30	
MOTHERSUMI	119.00	119.00	114.15	117.00	-1.45	
BIOCLON	523.50	525.00	515.70	519.00	-6.55	
NIACL	164.25	165.00	162.15	162.85	-2.90	
DMART	1259.20	1268.00	1230.00	1230.80	-23.00	
HINDPETRO	279.45	279.45	272.00	274.15	-6.95	
IDEA	12.40	12.45	11.60	11.85	-0.35	
CADILAHG	257.70	260.20	247.20	250.05	-7.65	
LUPIN	771.00	773.00	746.30	753.50	-29.10	
AUROPHARMA	728.40	728.40	662.00	670.10	-56.20	

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Script	Open	High	Low	LTP	WOCKPHARMA	365.00	369.00	360.00	364.00
RPOWER	5.89	6.17	5.81	5.97	SPARC	150.00	150.00	145.00	148.00
YESBANK	141.00	145.95	133.05	134.55	JAICORPLTD	99.35	103.35	99.35	100.80
SUZLON	5.25	5.34	5.13	5.25	IKTIRE	76.85	79.80	75.00	78.20
DELTAACORP	188.20	190.20	155.50	165.55	RADICO	341.20	352.50	335.10	349.00
RELIANCE	1268.00	1276.90	1255.00	1265.70	WESTLIFE	332.05	350.00	330.60	348.10
RELCAPITAL	120.25	121.75	113.60	114.95	JUBLFOOD	1259.00	1279.30	1241.50	1272.30
ZEE	350.10	378.40	347.30	372.20	VIPIND	427.00	433.00	425.25	428.00
BAJFINANCE	3144.00	3314.95	3125.00	3301.20	DISHTV	28.50	29.85	28.00	29.20
ICICIBANK	381.80	392.10	381.10	390.30	INDIACEM	95.15	96.30	92.50	95.30
INDIGO	1462.00	1497.15	1416.50	1474.00	INDHOTEL	141.25	150.50	140.15	143.00
SPICEJET	131.80	131.90	124.85	125.90	BATAINDIA	1348.90	1377.95	1333.35	1369.00
TATAGLOBAL	2220.00	237.90	218.60	235.30	BRITANNIA	2715.00	2785.70	2711.50	2780.00
DHFL	111.20	116.20	109.35	112.60	IRB	113.35	119.80	113.35	118.90
PCJEWELLER	109.35	109.90	97.55	99.85	STRANSFIN	1002.10	1043.35	1001.15	1039.50
ITC	296.15	302.25	295.00	301.40	TECHM	795.70	796.50	779.00	787.00
IOC	149.50	152.20	146.90	149.70					
INFY*	733.30	735.70	721.00	723.80					
BAJAJ-AUTO	2959.90	3145.55	2935.00	3041.80					
AUROPHARMA	725.00	725.00	662.15	670.25					
KOTAKBANK	1414.00	1469.90	1413.95	1460.70					
MARUTI	6501.00	6799.00	6484.00	6707.20					
HDFCBANK	2317.90	2369.00	2311.45	2361.65					
IBVENTURES	249.55	301.40	249.50	298.40					
TATAMOTORS	175.25	176.75	170.20	176.70					
IBULHSGFIN	713.60	727.00	712.55	721.15					
SUNPHARMA	410.55	415.70	401.85	408.00					
JUSTADIAL	592.90	634.20	588.20	622.00					
BAJAJFINSV	7685.00	8042.00	7590.05	7993.00					
SBIN	315.05	321.60	313.30	318.95					
LT	1338.00	1371.00	1333.20	1361.90					
VENKYS	1502.70	1695.00	1455.00	1634.60					
RELINFRA	108.50	113.40	105.30	107.85					
JETAIRWAYS	129.95	130.30	120.50	124.10					
GRAPHITE	314.00	333.45	314.00	325.30					
IBREALEST	107.95	111.40	104.10	105.80					
IDEA	12.25	12.45	11.60	11.85					
HDFC	1959.95	1999.90	1940.00	1993.75					
HEROMOTOCO	2525.55	2640.50	2520.85	2623.50					
TATASTEEL	465.90	471.45	461.00	469.55					
TATACHEM	601.35	623.60	601.00	619.05					
PHILIPCARB	122.00	136.50	122.00	134.10					
PNBHOUSING	747.80	752.70	717.15	734.20					
INDIANILVR	1691.00	1741.00	1687.00	1715.75					
JPASSOCIAT	4.35	4.60	4.32	4.47					
M&M	609.00	623.00	607.75	621.25					
RCOM	1.86	2.03	1.85	2.03	STAR	420.30	423.80	411.05	414.80
CHAMBLFERT	141.85	163.75	141.00	161.25	ADANIIMPORTS	370.50	372.20	362.10	366.50
CADILAHAC	257.00	257.00	247.20	249.55	ABFRL	193.25	198.80	189.40	195.30
TITAN	1187.75	1198.60	1181.15	1190.25	LICHSGFIN	491.95	504.55	486.55	499.50
NCC	95.00	96.00	91.35	94.40	HSCIL	102.55	105.00	100.25	100.00
PNB	80.70	83.10	79.50	82.65	BHARTIARTL	324.35	330.60	322.20	328.80
UPL	973.00	992.85	960.05	970.20	NATIONALAUM	49.00	49.35	48.30	48.80
ASIXBANK	734.00	751.50	727.75	748.15	BOMDYEING	11.00	11.35	10.90	10.98
TCS	2120.60	2134.95	2088.95	2096.35	UBL	1300.00	1364.75	1300.00	1358.80
COALINDIA	233.00	238.00	232.30	236.40	BEML	843.40	850.05	826.55	833.00
RBLBANK	636.05	659.95	632.55	659.00	CNBC	53.85	53.85	52.05	53.00
UJIVIAN	324.90	328.35	310.00	308.20	CANCK	242.00	247.15	241.20	246.80
MOTHERSUMI	121.00	121.00	114.00	117.40	POWERGRID	181.85	183.50	180.60	182.10
DRREDDY	2790.00	2811.65	2668.80	2748.10	GODREJPC	64.00	67.10	63.80	66.80
LUPIN	778.70	778.70	747.40	752.75	JSJALFEQS	49.40	50.75	48.10	50.00
BANKINDIA	81.60	82.35	79.65	81.65	AVANTI	33.10	336.90	326.50	327.00
MANAPURAM	122.05	126.70	121.20	122.50	PERSISTENT*	60.00	61.00	60.40	60.50
DCMSHRIRAM	547.50	572.90	543.40	567.00	TATAMTRDVR	84.00	84.00	80.80	83.10
INDUSINDBK	1369.75	1394.00	1366.00	1373.85	GODREJPROP	820.00	837.30	815.00	828.80
HEG	1565.00	1630.80	1565.00	1598.80	KTKBANK	111.90	112.25	109.20	110.00
PETRONET	224.00	238.85	224.00	237.05	BANDHANBNK	564.00	567.35	550.40	561.00
ULTRACEMCO	4519.95	4519.95	4439.00	4490.00	ONGC	166.10	168.35	162.30	167.50
INDHACALCO	192.00	193.75	187.25	191.90	GRANULES	107.00	109.40	104.85	105.75
BANKBARODRA	109.80	112.65	107.75	112.05	PAEIND	21729.35	22945.70	21686.35	22799.95
RAIN	98.90	101.30	97.00	99.40	TATAPOWER	61.25	61.80	61.00	61.30
PEL	2046.00	2149.30	2040.00	2131.00	MINDTREE	986.00	990.20	980.00	983.30
ASHOKLEY	83.70	84.80	82.70	84.30	DIVISLAB	1632.35	1652.40	1622.60	1638.00
WIPRO	285.90	289.90	285.55	286.75	VOLITAS	557.50	577.95	556.95	574.00
ESCORTS	566.80	568.70	549.30	558.95	INFIBEAM	42.65	43.50	42.25	42.45
INDMPETRO	278.60	279.10	271.90	274.00	KEI	390.05	394.55	382.00	389.30
DHART	1254.00	1269.55	1232.00	1237.30	HAVELLS	726.00	738.95	724.00	733.00
BIOCON	527.00	527.00	516.00	520.80	FORCEMOT	144.00	1465.00	1441.00	1452.00
BPLCL	373.10	378.60	366.80	375.85	TATACOFFEE	86.65	89.20	85.70	87.10
EICHERMOT	20100.00	21040.95	20067.95	20959.70	MANPASAND	99.15	102.90	98.00	101.00
J&KBANK	56.20	57.35	55.25	56.00	PIDILITIND	115.00	1173.90	1150.00	1163.00
JUBLILANT	620.00	629.40	590.00	596.05	SOUTHBANK	13.40	13.55	13.20	13.30
JSJLHISAR	74.45	80.00	74.25	75.25	DEEPAKCI	283.35	290.00	282.30	283.10
VEDL	163.90	164.25	159.45	160.80	TATAELXSI	852.00	869.75	849.95	863.00
HDFCLIFE	379.05	384.00	374.50	382.50	FSL	51.00	51.80	50.55	50.80
JINDALSTEL	156.35	158.10	153.60	156.55	TJVMOTOR	464.70	472.00	460.10	469.90
STRTECH	166.90	169.80	165.95	166.70	JSVSTEEL	275.00	277.15	271.55	276.30
BHEL	62.90	62.90	61.20	62.05	RCF	53.80	55.75	53.80	54.50
DLF	163.60	167.00	161.80	162.40	ABCAPITAL	91.50	92.05	90.55	90.80
ANIPANPAINT	1306.90	1329.00	1301.75	1318.15	IDBI	34.45	35.00	33.75	34.00
BLISSGVS	159.50	174.35	156.65	171.35	CUMMINSIND	696.75	716.00	695.20	711.10
ADANIPOWER	40.30	41.05	38.80	40.40	DBL	472.90	495.10	469.80	492.00
DABUR	363.90	376.90	361.10	370.25	CGPOWER	35.95	36.45	35.00	36.30
ITI	1801.95	1827.00	1760.05	1789.60	DCGBANK	220.20	222.25	218.15	221.10
UNIONBANK	70.45	71.15	69.25	70.40	CETATLTD	941.05	965.00	939.50	948.00
MERCK	4250.00	4389.00	4236.10	4342.55	HEXAWARE	352.80	358.85	351.90	353.80
L&TH	116.70	118.00	115.90	117.20	GRASIM	821.00	832.00	815.00	830.00
AUBANK	64.00	67.50	64.00	66.30	RECLTD	136.90	136.90	133.00	136.00
PPC	109.00	109.90	107.60	108.65	NOCIL	116.90	117.75	114.80	115.10
M&MFIN	372.10	381.45	369.00	379.00	GODREJIND	443.00	453.40	442.35	449.20
IDFCFIRSTB	41.40	42.00	40.75	41.80	EXIDEIND	207.00	207.60	204.00	207.00
SRF	2775.00	2823.75	2747.20	2800.05	HCLTECH	1074.10	1077.00	1058.20	1061.00
ICICIGI	1095.00	1122.25	1087.00	1119.15	SIEMENS	1129.95	1137.00	1111.00	1126.00
RNAM	207.00	210.85	208.00	201.70	GSCF	94.25	96.35	93.40	95.90
FEDERALBNK	98.10	99.65	96.25	98.45	LAJTS	1730.00	1765.00	1730.00	1760.00
NTPC	125.00	126.80	124.05	125.80	BAJAJHLNDG	316.00	330.00	316.00	326.00
SAIL	89.80	92.00	88.70	91.70	SYNDIBANK	32.40	32.80	31.60	32.10
BEL	47.80	48.20	47.05	47.65	ITI	79.25	80.00	78.70	80.10
GNFC	281.75	286.45	278.25	282.20	ICICIPRULI	334.45	342.95	332.90	337.00
EVEREADY	67.70	74.80	67.70	74.80	CHOLAFIN	1315.15	1356.90	1294.90	1337.00

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Brexit talks collapse as UK Opp blames ‘weak’ Theresa

PTI ■ LONDON

A day after British Prime Minister Theresa May was forced to set a June timeline for her exit from Downing Street, the Opposition Labour Party ended the cross-party Brexit talks on Friday without arriving at any agreement.

Labour leader Jeremy Corbyn wrote to May to declare an end to the process, blaming the “weakness and instability” of her government as a leadership contest gets underway within the ruling Conservative Party.

“The increasing weakness and instability of your government means there cannot be confidence in securing whatever might be agreed between us,” Corbyn wrote.



“As you have been setting out your decision to stand down and Cabinet Ministers are competing to succeed you, the position of the Government has become ever more unstable and its authority eroded,” he noted. Stressing that his party had conducted the exercise in “good faith” and that some constructive effort had gone into finding a possible consensus, there has been growing

concern within the Opposition ranks about the government’s ability to deliver on any compromise agreement.

The Labour Party has been in favour of a form of a common customs arrangement with the European Union (EU) that keeps the UK aligned with its European neighbours on trade tariffs post-Brexit.

Some Labour MPs have also insisted they would not back a deal with the Government unless it includes another referendum.

Both scenarios have caused anger among Brexit-backing Conservatives, who claim a customs union would stop the UK negotiating its own trade deals around the world and who believe another public vote is undemocratic.

Lawyers for jailed Morocco journalist urge phone release to Khashoggi probe

AFP ■ RABAT

Lawyers for a jailed Moroccan journalist on Friday urged a UN special rapporteur to request that authorities release his phone, to retrieve an “exchange of messages” with murdered Saudi dissident Jamal Khashoggi.

“Arbitrarily detained Moroccan journalist Taoufik Bouachrine’s defence urges Agnes Callamard, UN Special Rapporteur” to make a request to the Moroccan authorities for access to Bouachrine’s phone, the detained journalist’s lawyers said in a statement.

Khashoggi — a contributor to the Washington Post and a critic of the Saudi government — was killed and dismembered in October at the kingdom’s consulate in Istanbul by a team of 15 agents sent from Riyadh. His body has not been recovered.

TENDER NOTICE FOR PROCUREMENT OF HYGIENE CHEMICALS ITEMS FOR CONSUMPTION YEAR 2019-2020

1. Tenders are invited by IHQ of MoD (Army), Quartermaster General's Branch, Directorate General of Supplies and Transport, New Delhi -110 105 for and on behalf of the President of India for procurement of following items

(a) Hygiene & Chemicals BTI AS Serotype H-14 (approx qty 1,100 Ltrs), BTI WP Serotype H-14 (approx qty 1,200 Kgs), Lip Salve (approx 6,96,597 Nos), Cyphenothrin 5% EC (approx qty 38,367 Ltrs) and Malathion Technical 95% (approx qty 17,240 Ltrs) for the consumption year 2019-2020 from Indian manufacturers only. The vendors can search for the tender enquiry on CPP in the following way

www.defproc.gov.in →Open Home Page →Click on "Tender Search" Type →"Army HYGIENE CHEMICALS" (Right side of home page)

2. In case of any clarification the officials can be contacted at phone No 011-23018963 or on e-mail ID ddgstft-ihg@nic.in. These Tenders will be available at www.defproc.gov.in with effect from 0300 PM on 17 May 2019.

Sd/- (Avinash Gaur) Lt Col AQMG(Proc) for DGST File No : P/72002/2018-19/Q/ST-9/Hyg Chem dated 16 May 2019. davp/10602/1/0009/1920

HINDUSTAN EVEREST TOOLS LTD. Regd. & H.O. Dohil Chambers, 46, Nehru Place, New Delhi -110019 CIN : L74899DL1962PLC003634, Ph:91-11-46692600, Fax : 011-41606788 E-mail: admin@everesttools.com, Web-site: <http://www.everesttools.com>

EXTRACT OF AUDITED STANDALONE FINANCIAL RESULTS FOR THE QUARTER AND YEAR ENDED 31 st MARCH, 2019 (Rs. In Lakh Except per Share Data)					
Particulars	Quarter Ended		Year Ended		
	31.03.2019 (Audited) (Refer Note 4)	31.12.2018 (Unaudited)	31.03.2018 (Audited) (Refer Note 4)	31.03.2019 (Audited)	31.03.2018 (Audited)
Total income from operations (Net)	61.99	-	-	61.99	-
Net Profit/(Loss) for the period (before Tax, Exceptional and/or Extraordinary items#)	(0.57)	-	-	(0.57)	-
Net Profit/(Loss) for the period before tax (after Exceptional and/or Extraordinary items#)	(0.57)	-	-	(0.57)	-
Net Profit/(Loss) for the period after tax (after Exceptional and/or Extraordinary items#)	(0.57)	-	-	(0.57)	-
Net Profit/(Loss) from discontinued operations for the period (after Exceptional and/or Extraordinary items#)	32.87	(1.85)	875.26	(102.58)	5176.89
Total Comprehensive Income for the period (Comprising Profit/(Loss) for the period (after tax) and Other Comprehensive Income (after tax))	32.30	(1.85)	875.26	(103.15)	5176.89
Paid up Equity Share Capital (Face Value of Rs. 10/- each)	160.72	160.72	160.72	160.72	160.72
Reserves(excluding Revaluation Reserves as shown in the Audited Balance Sheet of Previous year)	-	-	-	2,940.59	3,043.73
Earning/(Loss) Per Share from continuing operations (Not annualised)					
(a) Basic (Rs.)	(0.04)	-	-	(0.04)	-
(b) Diluted (Rs.)	(0.04)	-	-	(0.04)	-
Earning/(Loss) Per Share from discontinued operations (Not annualised)					
(a) Basic (Rs.)	2.05	(0.11)	54.46	(6.38)	322.11
(b) Diluted (Rs.)	2.05	(0.11)	54.46	(6.38)	322.11
Earning/(Loss) Per Share from continuing and discontinued operations (Not annualised)					
(a) Basic (Rs.)	2.01	(0.11)	54.46	(6.42)	322.11
(b) Diluted (Rs.)	2.01	(0.11)	54.46	(6.42)	322.11

Notes: 1. Subsequent to closure of its only manufacturing facility in year 2017, the management of the Company has been exploring various business activities in trading as well as manufacturing space with a particular emphasis in engineering sector which has traditionally been the expertise of the management since the inception of the Company.

Further, the management has explored the business of trading in metals and plans to scale up the trading activities in the year 2019-20. Accordingly, the operating segment of the Company as of now is trading in metals.

During the quarter ended December 31, 2018, the Company had substantially completed the settlement of liabilities, and realisation of assets, pertaining to its discontinued operations. Net surplus funds are available at the Corporate level for investment in a new business and the same have been temporarily invested in debt based mutual funds to earn risk free returns. As of now, income from or gain on fair valuation, of these investments is major source of income for the Company. However, the investments are temporary and the management of the Company does not foresee it to be a permanent source in view of the aforementioned business plan under evaluation. Consequently, the statutory liabilities and tax credits shall now be considered at Corporate level as majority of the liabilities of discontinued operations have been settled.

Consequently, figures for the discontinued operations have been separately disclosed and operations of the trading activities have been considered as continuing. Accordingly, corresponding figures for the previous periods have been reclassified/regrouped as per current period presentation.

“The net worth of the Company as on date is positive and there is no foreseeable issue that the Company shall not be able to pay off its remaining liabilities which are not significant in current context. In view of improved net worth and availability of funds, the management is hopeful to finalise a new business plan for the Company in near future and the Company shall be able to continue as a going concern.”

2. The above Statement of “Audited Financial Results” for the quarter and year ended 31st March, 2019 (“the Statement”) has been reviewed by the audit committee and approved by the Board of Directors in its meeting held on 16th May, 2019.

3. The above is an extract of the detailed format of Quarterly Financial Results filed with Stock Exchange under Regulation 33 of the SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulation, 2015. The full format of the quarterly financial results are available on the Exchange website www.bseindia.com and the Company’s website www.everesttools.com.

FOR AND ON BEHALF OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS Sd/- SHRAVAN KUMAR MANDELIA Managing Director, DIN: 00040532 Date: 16th May, 2019 Place: Nehru Place, New Delhi

‘Concrete action’ needed to save nuclear deal: Iran

Urging ‘friends’ to take action, Zarif says only Russia and China supported Iran and helped keep the nuclear deal going

AFP ■ BEIJING

Iranian Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif on Friday urged “friends” including China and Russia to take “concrete action” to safeguard the 2015 nuclear deal after the US withdrew from the agreement.

On a visit to Beijing, Zarif said he would also talk with the Chinese officials about “bilateral ties and the very dangerous issues that are ongoing in our region today,” according to a video published on the Iranian Foreign Ministry website.

Amid rising tensions in the Gulf, Iran on Thursday rejected negotiations with the US and said it was showing “max-

imum restraint” after Washington sent extra military forces to the region against what it claimed was an imminent threat from Tehran.

Zarif called on the international community to save the JCPOA, or Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action.

The landmark 2015 deal between Iran and world powers including the EU and the United States offered sanctions relief to Iran for scaling back its nuclear programme. In May 2018 President Donald Trump withdrew the US from the deal and reinstated unilateral economic sanctions.

“If the international community and other JCPOA member countries and our friends in the JCPOA like



Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi meets Iranian Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif at the Diaoyutai State Guesthouse in Beijing on Friday AP

China and Russia want to keep this achievement, it is required that they make sure the Iranian people enjoy the benefits of the JCPOA with concrete actions,” Zarif said.

Zarif said last week that only Russia and China had supported Iran and helped it keep the nuclear deal going, and accused other parties to the

agreement of letting Tehran down.

China was one of the eight global buyers — India, Turkey, Japan, South Korea, Taiwan, Italy and Greece — that was allowed to import Iranian crude oil before the US ended waivers in early May.

Zarif’s China trip comes after visits to Turkmenistan,

India and Japan in the past week.

Despite Washington’s campaign of “maximum pressure” against Iran, the Islamic Republic has vowed to keep selling oil to its main customers, especially China, even if it takes using indirect means.

Syria urges ‘restraint’ as America-Iran tensions soar

AFP ■ DAMASCUS

Syria called on Friday on all “parties” to exercise “restraint” in the Gulf as its ally Iran comes under mounting pressure from the United States, state media said.

“The Syrian Government calls on all sides to exercise restraint because escalating tensions in the Gulf would not benefit countries in the region,” State news agency SANA quoted a foreign ministry source as saying. “Dialogue... Would undoubtedly reduce tensions and would ensure stability, security and peace,” the source said.

UK warns British-Iranians against all travel to Iran

London: London warned British-Iranian dual nationals against all travel to Iran on Friday due to Tehran’s “continued arbitrary detention and mistreatment” of such citizens.

The move comes as Britain continues to try to secure the release from jail of dual national Nazanin Zaghari-Ratcliffe.

Tehran has also recently sentenced an Iranian British Council employee, Aras Amiri, to 10 years in prison on charges of spying. AFP

Trump more cautious than his top advisers on Iran

AP ■ WASHINGTON

President Donald Trump says he hopes the US is not on a path to war with Iran amid fears that his two most hawkish advisers could be angling for such a conflict with the Islamic Republic.

Asked on Thursday if the US was going to war with Iran, the President replied, “I hope not” — a day after he repeated a desire for dialogue, tweeting, “I’m sure that Iran will want to talk soon.”

The tone contrasted with a series of moves by the US and Iran that have sharply escalated tensions in the Middle East in recent days. For the past year, national security adviser John Bolton and Secretary of State Mike Pompeo have been the public face of the administration’s “maximum pressure” campaign against Tehran.

The friction has rattled lawmakers who are demanding more information on the White House’s claims of rising Iranian aggression.

GLOBE TROTTER

AF SECURITY FORCES KILLED IN US STRIKE Kandahar (Afghanistan): Several Afghan security forces have been killed in an American air strike targeting the Taliban, The US military said on Friday, with local officials reporting the deaths of at least eight police officers. Colonel Dave Butler, a spokesman for US Forces Afghanistan, said Afghan security forces had called for US air support during a firefight on late Thursday in Lashkar Gah, in the southern province of Helmand.

OVER 2.50,000 ROHINGYA RECEIVE UN ID CARDS Geneva: The UN said on Friday it has registered more than 2,50,000 Rohingya refugees in Bangladesh, providing many with their first ever identification cards and proof of their right to return to Myanmar in the future.

UAE TO RELEASE 572 PAKISTANI PRISONERS Islamabad: The United Arab Emirates (UAE) will release 572 Pakistani prisoners languishing in its jails under an amnesty during the ongoing holy month of Ramazan, according to a media report.

TAIWAN’S PARR OK’S SAME-SEX MARRIAGE Taipei: Taiwan’s Parliament legalised same-sex marriage on Friday in a landmark first for Asia as the Government survived a last-minute attempt by conservatives to pass a watered-down version. The island’s lawmakers comfortably passed a law allowing same-sex couples to form “exclusive permanent unions” and a second clause that would let them apply for a “marriage registration” with Government agencies. The vote is a major victory for the island’s LGBT community.

SPORTKING INDIA LTD. CIN: L17122DL1989PLC035050 Regd. Off: 5/68, First Floor, Guru Mansion, Padam Singh Road, Karol Bagh, New Delhi-110005 Phone : 011-25754885, 25747028 Website: www.sportking.co.in Email: cs@sportking.co.in

NOTICE Notice is hereby given pursuant to Regulation 47 of the SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations 2015 that a Meeting of the Board of Directors of the company is scheduled to be held on Saturday, 25th May 2019, to consider and to take on record, inter alia, the Audited Financial Results for the quarter and year ended 31st March 2019. The above information is also available on the company’s website www.sportking.co.in and on the website of Stock Exchange i.e. BSE - www.bseindia.com.

For Sportking India Limited Sd/- Munish Avasthi Place: Ludhiana Managing Director Date : 17.05.2019 DIN : 00442425

PUBLIC NOTICE Notice is hereby given on behalf of Mr. Suran Pal that the Original Regd. Sale Deed dated 30.06.1993 registered as Doc No. 2185, Original GDA, Agreement to Sale & WILL dated 14.07.1995 executed by Mr. Rajendra Singh S/o. Mr. Sagar Singh in favour of Mr. Seema Vati W/o. Mr. Narendra Singh & Original Regd. Sale Deed dated 04.03.2005 registered as Doc No. 11942 along with Death Certificate of Late Mrs. Kula Devi in respect of Plot Old No. 529 & New No. 227, Area Measuring 119.965 Sq. Yds., loc. 100.302 Sq. Mtr. Part of Kharsa No. 1059, situated at Vishwas Nagar, Village Sihani, Pargana Loni, District Ghazalabad is lost/misplaced. Also The Legal How Certificate/Surviving Member Certificate of Legal Heirs of Late Mrs. Kula Devi is not available. To comply the requirements of bank/NBFC we give this public notice that if any person(s) having any objection regarding ownership and/or creating mortgage of the said property is/are hereby requested to intimate in writing to the undersigned within 10 days from the date of this notice, at below address. Lucien Legal LLP 269, Rama House, Ground Floor, Masjid Moh. Opp. Uday Park, South Ex-46, Delhi-49 011-40046316.

ADVENTURE TURNKEY SOLUTIONS PRIVATE LIMITED CIN: U74900DL2013PTC254460 EMAIL: dgauravkarn@gmail.com Before the Regional Director Northern Region In the matter of Section 13(4) of Companies Act, 2013 and Rule 30(5)(a) of the Companies (Incorporation) Rules, 2014 AND In the matter of Adventure Turnkey Solutions Private Limited, having its registered office at N-16, Budh Vihar, New Delhi - 110086

Notice is hereby given to the General Public that the Company proposes to make application to the Central Government under Section 13 of the Companies Act, 2013 seeking confirmation of alteration of the Memorandum of Association of the Company in terms of the Special Resolution passed at the Extra Ordinary General Meeting held on 07th May, 2019 to enable the Company to change its Registered Office from “NCT of Delhi” to “State of Haryana”. Any person whose interest is likely to be affected by the proposed change of the registered office of the Company may deliver either on the MCA-21 portal (www.mca.gov.in) by filing investor complaint form or cause to be delivered or send by registered post of his/her objections supported by an affidavit stating the nature of his/her interest and grounds of opposition to the Regional Director, Northern Region Bench at B-2 Wing, 2nd Floor, Paryavaran Bhawan, CGO Complex, New Delhi - 110003 within fourteen days of the date of publication of this notice with a copy to the applicant Company at its registered office address mentioned above. Sd/- GAURAV KARNA (DIRECTOR) DIN: 03077125

HMS Queen Elizabeth captain sacked from post over official car ‘misuse’: Reports

London: The captain of HMS Queen Elizabeth, the British Royal Navy’s largest and most powerful warship, has been stripped of his command for allegedly misusing an official car on weekends, media reports said on Friday. The Royal Navy confirmed that Commodore Nick Cooke-Priest, 50, had been reassigned to a new role, without giving a reason. PTI

Before Debts Recovery Tribunal-II, Delhi 4th Floor, Jeevan Tara Building, Parliament Street, New Delhi-110001

O.A. No. 863/18 Dt. 06-05-2019 Corporation Bank Applicant Versus Mr. Pavan Kumar Mishra & Ors. Respondent To, Defendant 3. M/s Amrapali Centurian Park Pvt. Ltd., 307, 3rd Floor, Nipun Tower, Plot No. 15, Community Centre, Karkardooma, Delhi-92

Whereas the above named applicant(s) has / have instituted a case for recovery of Rs 29,64,597/- (Rs Twenty Nine Lacs Sixty Four Thousand Five Hundred Ninety Seven Only) against you and where as it has been shown to the satisfaction of the Tribunal that it is not possible to serve you in ordinary way therefore, this notice is given by advertisement directing you to make appearance in the Tribunal on 25-05-2019 at 10.30A.M. Take notice that in default of your appearance on the day before the mentioned, the case will be heard and determined in your absence.

by order of the Tribunal Section Officer, DRT-II, Delhi

Before Debts Recovery Tribunal-II, Delhi 4th Floor, Jeevan Tara Building, Parliament Street, New Delhi-110001

O.A. No. 861/18 Dt. 04-05-2019 Corporation Bank Applicant Versus Mr. Vineet Kumar Mittal & Ors. Respondent To, Defendant

1. Mr. Vineet Kumar Mittal 2. Mrs. Ritu Mittal Both at : R/o House No. 1010, Sect.-14, Faridabad, HRY. 3. M/s Amrapali Silicon City Pvt. Ltd., 307, 3rd Floor, Nipun Tower, Plot No. 15, Community Centre, Karkardooma, Delhi-92

Whereas the above named applicant(s) has / have instituted a case for recovery of Rs 21,09,002/- (Rs Twenty One Lacs Nine Thousand Two Only) against you and where as it has been shown to the satisfaction of the Tribunal that it is not possible to serve you in ordinary way therefore, this notice is given by advertisement directing you to make appearance in the Tribunal on 12-07-2019 at 10.30A.M. Take notice that in default of your appearance on the day before the mentioned, the case will be heard and determined in your absence.

by order of the Tribunal Section Officer, DRT-II, Delhi

Before Debts Recovery Tribunal-II, Delhi 4th Floor, Jeevan Tara Building, Parliament Street, New Delhi-110001

O.A. No. 862/18 Dt. 04-05-2019 Corporation Bank Applicant Versus Mr. Om Prakash Singh Kushwaha & Ors. Respondent To, Defendant

1. Mr. Om Prakash Singh Kushwaha 2. Mrs. Sonia Kushwaha Both at : R/o 582, E Block Paradise Apartments Rohini, Sect-18, Delhi 3. M/s Amrapali Dream Valley Pvt. Ltd., 307, 3rd Floor, Nipun Tower, Plot No. 15, Community Centre, Karkardooma, Delhi-92

Whereas the above named applicant(s) has / have instituted a case for recovery of Rs 17,43,160/- (Rs Seventeen Lacs Forty Three Thousand One Hundred Sixty Only) against you and where as it has been shown to the satisfaction of the Tribunal that it is not possible to serve you in ordinary way therefore, this notice is given by advertisement directing you to make appearance in the Tribunal on 12-07-2019 at 10.30A.M. Take notice that in default of your appearance on the day before the mentioned, the case will be heard and determined in your absence.

by order of the Tribunal Section Officer, DRT-II, Delhi

NORTHERN RAILWAY	
OPEN E-TENDER NOTICE	
Invitation of Tender through E-Tendering (E-Procurement Systems)	
The Sr. Divisional Engineer-IV, Northern Railway, Delhi Division for and on behalf of President of India invites E-Tender on prescribed form for the following work. 1. Name of work with its location : Rack pigging in km 13-20 (excluding yards) in DLI-BTI section and widening of cess in km 17-19 in DLI-BTI section under ADEN/ROK. 2. Approx. cost of work : Rs. 45,00,090.62 3. Earnest Money : Rs. 90,000.00 4. Date and time of submission of tender and opening of tender : Upto 15:00 hrs on 28.05.2019 Opening of e-Tender at 15:00 hrs. on 11.06.2019. 5. Website particulars published e-tender notice location etc complete details of tender can be seen and website where the tender form can be downloaded : Above tender available on IREPS site i.e. www.ireps.gov.in No. 128-W/260/Tender Notice/25/19-20W-IV Date : 17.05.2019 1494/19	
Serving Customers With A Smile	


NORTHERN RAILWAY	
TENDER NOTICE	
Invitation of Tender through E-Tendering (E-Procurement Systems)	
1. Name of work with its location	1 Plantation in Railway land in the section of Sr. DEN-V(DDE-RE, DALand HN2M-PWL).
2. Approx. Cost of work	Rs. 49,82,796.00
3. Earnest Money	(It should be in the form of net banking or payment gateway Only. Note: FDR will not be accepted as EMD for tender invited on IREPS as per Railway Boards letter no 2015/CE-1/CT/5/1 dated 31.08.2016) Rs. 99,700.00
4. Completion period of Work	24 Months
5. Cost of Tender	(It should be in the form of net banking or payment gateway Only. Note: FDR will not be accepted as EMD for tender invited on IREPS as per Railway Boards letter no 2015/CE-1/CT/5/1 DATED 31.08.2016) Rs. 3,540/-
6. Date and time for submission of tender and opening of tender	Upto 15:00 hrs. on 14.06.2019 Opening of tender at 15:00 hrs on 14.06.2019
7. Website particulars notice board location complete details of tender can be seen and address of the office from where the tender form can be purchased etc.	Above tender available on IREPS site i.e. www.ireps.gov.in
No.128-W/280/e-Tender Notice/2019-20/W-V Dated : 15.05.2019 1478/19	
SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE	

NORTHERN RAILWAY	
OPEN E-TENDER NOTICE	
The Sr. Divisional Operations Manager, Northern Railway, New Delhi invites E-Tender for the following work. 1. Name of work with its location : Contract of Hiring of One Non AC vehicle (Boloro, Xylo, Scorpio or Similar Vehicle in Non AC) under control office at DRM Office, State Entry Road, Delhi Division for a period of two years. 2. Approx. cost of work : Rs.13,53,600/- + GST as applicable 3. Earnest Money : Rs.27,100/- 4. Date and time of submission of tender bid and opening of tender : 15:00 hrs on 11.06.2019 5. Website particulars where complete details of tender documents can be seen : www.ireps.gov.in No. Optg-Vehicle hire-09-2019 Date : 16.05.2019 1480/19	
Serving Customers With A Smile	


NORTHERN RAILWAY	
NOTICE INVITING TENDER	
Name of work and its location: 30-Elect-14-T-2019-20-E3. Electrical work in connection with renovation of ward no. 3, 4, 6, 10, 11, 12, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18. Cancer units & cabins at NRCH & extension of platform no. 1, 2 & 3 at DSJ Railway Station. Approx cost of the works: Rs. 28.59 lacs. Address of the office: Sr. Divl Elect. Engineer/General, New Delhi. Earnest Money: Rs. 57,200/- Date & time of submission of tender: 13.06.2019, 15:00 Hrs. Opening of tender: 13.06.2019, 15:15 Hrs. Website & notice board: www.ireps.gov.in & Sr. Divl. Elect. Engineer/General, New Delhi. 1500/2019	
Serving Customers with a Smile	

PUBLIC NOTICE / TENDER NOTICE							
Sr. No.	Name of Dept. / Corp./ Auth.	Name of Work/ Notice/ Tender	Opening Date Closing Date (Time)	Amount / EMD (Approx.) in Rupees	Website of the Department	Nodal Officer/ Contact Details/ Email	Tender Ref. No./Tend er No.
1	UHBVN	Construction of 2 No. 33/ 11 KV containerized GIS S/s in Anaj Mandi Pargat & Jaton Gate Canal with 33 kv lines & 11 kv link lines and Civil Works on turnkey basis under IPDS scheme.	19-05-2019 (17:00 Hrs) 11-06-2019 (13:00 Hrs)	10.00	www.uhbvn.org.in	CE/PD&C, UHBVN, Panchkula Ph. No. 9172-2570431, 3019105, 3019145, 3019146 Email: cepd@uhbvn.org.in sepd@uhbvn.org.in xend3@uhbvn.org.in	NIT No. 253/ P&D/2019 (Bid No. 597)
Chief Engineer/ PD&C, UHBVN, Panchkula							
RO NO. 76376 Dt. 17-05-2019							


NORTHERN RAILWAY						
TENDER NOTICE (through e-tendering)						
S. N.	Name of work with its location	App. Cost of the work (In Rs.)	Tender inviting Officer Address	Tender Document Fee (In Rs.)	Earnest Money to be deposited (In Rs.)	Date & Time for Closed of tender
1.	Comprehensive Annual Maintenance contract (AMC) of BPAC installed in Delhi Division for one year.	Rs. 76,68,39/- only	Sr. Divisional Signal & Telecom Engineer/C, Northern Railway, 3rd Floor, Annex-1, DRM office, New Delhi-110055.	Rs. 5,900/- only	Rs. 1,53,400.00 only	Tender uploaded date & time- 12.06.2019 up to 15.00 hrs.
Website particular & notice board location where complete details of the tender can be seen etc. : See the N. Rly. website www.ireps.gov.in & Notice board at S&T branch, 3rd Floor, DRM office, State entry road, New Delhi-110055.						
Tender No. 558-Sig-16/M/Tender/AMC/038/2019-20 Dated : 16.05.2019						
SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE						
						1487/19



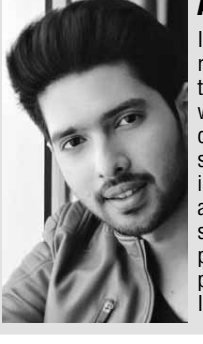
SHAH RUKH KHAN
No more footprints... this is The Abominable Snowman. Before Batman and Spiderman, there is Mr (David) Letterman thanks for your generosity. Had too much fun being interviewed. Not because it was about me but because you were kind enough to make me feel I can be me. You are an inspiration sir.




KIRTI KULHARI
While people might have expectations, I feel what I am doing from my side is avoiding putting pressure on myself about performing well at the box office. In fact, I don't want to take the pressure because it doesn't work for me. I need to be relaxed and keep doing what I believe I know and what comes to me and what works for me.



ARJUN KAPOOR
Where my marriage is concerned, speculation is understandable because that's the nature of the business. Also, the buzz that I should just get married is because my peers also have. But I am very happy in my personal, professional space and I wish to keep it like that. I haven't hidden things. I will tell when something comes.



ARMAAN MALIK
In a musical, you express more rather than just singing. I have to modulate with my voice in a way where I am making the character show that they are seeing a new world. So, it is important you sing like a character and the character is not a singer. That was a challenging part. But I have done this in the past. So once I got a hang of it, I got into it.



ANIL KAPOOR
Since I am in deep discussions with Shekhar (Kapur) about the look for *Mr India 2*, it feels like deja vu. We are super excited. We're hoping to create the same magic we did before with *Mr India*. The cap adjustment was lucky then and it might do the trick this time as well.

SHORT CIRCUITS

ENCOUNTER 45 MINUTES

SHE SETS HER TIMELINE OF CHOICES

Actor RAKUL PREET SINGH believes in herself rather than abiding by the fixed norms of society or the film industry, says SAIMI SATTAR

Rakul Preet Singh is fiddling with her ring and it drops off while she is mid-sentence. She picks it up promptly, puts it back on her finger and goes on to say, "I don't wear accessories. These rings, my stylist gave them to me." She lifts her carefully coiffured hair to reveal her ears. "I don't even wear earrings," she says and laughs. Given that she is in a business where dressing up to the nines is the norm, this statement sums up how candid the 29-year-old actor can be in front of the media.

In the city to promote her newest release *De De Pyaar De*, which also stars Ajay Devgn and Tabu, Rakul comes across as a breath of fresh air. While she might pause and ponder to answer a question, none of them come across as rehearsed or diplomatic.

The film, about an older divorced man with children who falls in love with a much younger woman, has her cast as Ayesha, the girlfriend. "When Luv (Ranjan) sir (the producer) narrated the script, he said that a lot of girls have reservations if they are paired directly opposite an older star as their screen age goes up immediately. He said that I should take a day to think about it but I wanted to be on board immediately. It is so new-age and progressive, if I may call it so," she says as she sits in a conference room in a Delhi hotel, the city which she called home for a good 11 years. Elaborating further on why she believes that the script is forward-looking, she says, "There are a lot of things happening in society but you do not talk about them. Despite that, these are normal. Relationships, where there are extreme age differences, are usually the subject of an art film. *De De...* deals with it in a humorous way and shows what happens in a family drama where the emotions are extremely strong. The man takes the girl to introduce her to his family and what happens next unfolds in the film."

Her character is that of an independent

girl who lives in London. "She has a job but works part-time as a bartender, which she loves," says Rakul who took a week of bartending classes to get the body language and mannerisms right. "When I am serving, I shouldn't be just holding the glass and making a drink. I needed to have the flair to flip the bottle and hold the glass in a certain way," says the actor who graduated in Maths honours from Jesus and Mary College. But this was not the only thing that she had to do to prep for the role. She lost a lot of weight within a period of 45 days as she signed the film in November end and it had to go on the floor in January. And since there was a lot of dancing involved, classes for that, too, became essential for her to slip into the role.

She wants to stick with the lost weight and has no qualms in sharing that, "Since yesterday, the conversation has been *chhole bhature kahan se khaenge* when we are in Delhi? And I said, you guys can eat all you like but I am on a see-food diet," she says gesturing towards her eyes.

Since we are talking about a May-September pairing, I ask her that often when the tables are reversed where the woman is older, she tends to face flak and be trolled with sexist comments as happened recently when actor Priyanka Chopra got married to singer Nick Jonas. She says matter of factly, "People who want to talk will do so irrespective of whether there is an age difference or not," and goes on to add in a voice that takes on an expression of shock, "Oh my god! That girl is dating that guy!" She points out that naturally these are the people, who would express even more displeasure if the couple happens to be a same sex one.

Photo: Pankaj Kumar

"Our society likes to talk. But people at large accept the more non-conventional relationships. It should not matter as long as two people in a relationship are happy and they complement each other rather than perfectly fitting the age group and being terrible at honestly living together or cheating on each other. Just leave the couple alone," she asserts and goes on to say, "The youth do not really care as they have more things to do than sit back and talk about relationships. A few years from now we won't be having this conversation. Hopefully."

Talking more about the film, did she find it intimidating to be paired with Ajay and sharing the same screen space with Tabu, who is known to be a powerhouse performer? She disagrees. "One does want to work with bigger stars. If in such a scenario, I come in and bring my nervous energy then I don't deserve to be there. It was exciting. And it is a learning process, though that happens subconsciously. I can't say I learnt A, B and C on a particular day but when you work with people, who are so seasoned and know their job so well, you pick up a lot of things because acting is nothing but action and reaction. If the person opposite you is a great performer, you need to raise the bar," she says. She also points out that working on the film was a riot. "Everytime we read a scene, we were like *yeh karne mein maza aayega*. Both Ajay and Tabu are spontaneous and so am I," she says.

While, this is her third film in Hindi after *Yaariyan* (2014) and *Aiyaary* (2018), she has done a substantial number in Kannada, Tamil and Telugu over a period of four years. "It was not intentional that I did less Hindi films. It just happened that way. *Yaariyan* was my first film and three days after I finished shooting it, I started my first Telugu film, *Venkatadri Express*, which released two months before it. That became a success and I immediately signed three-four more films. In Hindi, I signed *Shimla Mirchi*, opposite Rajkummar Rao, directed by Ramesh Sippy, which was never released. The Telugu ones released faster and were hits," she says. Moreover, she was supposed to essay the role which later went to Disha Patani in *MS Dhoni: The Untold Story*, but fate had other plans. "Everything was signed at that time but the dates changed at the last minute.

I was working with Mahesh Babu and Allu Arjun and I couldn't move a date," she says and is philosophical about the way things unfolded. "I am glad it is happening now, because during the time of *Yaariyan*, I was very young and naive. I would not have understood my work — the craft and how to deal with it publicly. I was an Army kid with no exposure to films and took everything at face value. If I came earlier, I wouldn't have sustained because I call a spade a spade. I still can't lie but at least



now I know how to keep shut," she says.

The rapid pace at which she has worked has resulted in 24 films across four languages that have been released and five more will hit the theatres during the course of the year. But she credits her background for not flagging. "I always had a very hectic life as a kid. My parents never left me free. Right from class 1, after school, I was attending classes like singing, dance, harmonium, riding, lawn tennis, swimming and more. But now I thank them when I see people around me getting tired. I have a timetable in my head. In 3rd or 4th grade, I asked my parents why I can't go outside to play *ghar ghar*? They responded that I should play a sport. I was not allowed to waste time or watch TV. Multi-tasking was never a problem for me. I studied in college and was modeling full time alongside in Delhi. I can take flights from different cities and shoot day and night. I have done that," she says.

Since she has worked in four different industries, are there points of convergence and separation? "They don't have anything which make them different from each other. The lines are blurring. After *Baahubali*, people have realised that there is South Indian cinema even though remakes have been happening in the 70s and 80s. There were so many Anil Kapoor's films which were remakes. I feel either you are working with a good team or a bad team and that happens irrespective of language. It is either a good script or a bad script. Otherwise there is not much of a difference," she says.

But what about the barriers of language? Did she have a lot of problems while crossing those frontiers? She says, "It was not very difficult. Switching languages is just like switching characters and roles. Initially, I was scared when I started doing films in Telugu but now I speak it as fluently as Hindi or Punjabi. Even when I didn't know it, I would cram the lines and understand the emotion behind them. On the whole, it becomes a good space when people from here are working there and from there are working here. It happened in the past too. Just that it is being noticed now as there is more reachability."

Each actor signs on a project based on their understanding of what they are looking for in a film or a role. For Rakul, there is a permutation and combination that she works with. "Beggars are not really choosers as initially people do not know what you are capable of. A little luck also makes things fall into place. In Telugu, where I am 16 films old, I would want variation as I want to experiment more and not do regular stuff or perhaps at least not do the kind of roles

that I've already done. In Hindi, on the other hand, I am fine with doing roles of smaller length which are impactful as people haven't seen me. Sometimes it is the director. If Sanjay Leela Bhansali offered me a role, even if it was a small one, I would take it. Sometimes it is the actor whom you want to work with and the other times, it is the script that excites you. If there are five things to choose from, I will go with my gut feeling," she says.

She feels that it is a great time to be in the industry as there is great content. "Films have progressed, content has changed and the audience has evolved, especially since the last two years. People are no longer rigid that I've been paired with a certain category of actors and I can only work with them. Earlier, you were either doing art or commercial films. Now everything has come together," she says.

She does believe that a lot of the change has been powered by digital content. "It has influenced films. People did not have access to this kind of content earlier. There are other factors at play. Lives are very fast and everything is available on the phone. So unless it is a spectacle film or it is great content, where you can go and enjoy with your friends, you would not venture into the theatre. That is the reason why films like *Stree*, *Andhadhun*, *Badhaai Ho!* have done immense business. People want to watch great content, else they can see everything sitting on their couch. You can't take the audience for granted and that has led to a lot of experimentation. And there is this influx of new directors," she says and adds, "It is not about star power anymore."

As an outsider, was it a problem, breaking through the industry? "I have not made it," she laughs and goes on to add, "This is just the beginning. It is not easy but it is not something which I consider difficult. I believe in myself. Moreover, what is the joy of getting something easily? I am a little spiritual in my head and I feel lucky to have been able to pursue my passion. So, the journey itself has been beautiful."

Having graduated in Maths, the immediate assumption is that she must have been a nerd. "I was never one but I was good with numbers in school. I knew I wanted to start modeling during college, which I did, so I took on a subject that I was good at," she says as someone gestures to me to bring the interview to a close. Rakul responds, "Why? It is a very rare interaction that I have enjoyed." But when it becomes apparent that the end cannot be staved off any further, she beams a wide and warm smile to bid goodbye. Clearly, never the one to shy away from being candid.

The *Golmaal* series has gained high popularity among the audience over the years that it is now being turned into a cartoon series. This must be a huge compliment for you...

Rohit: Yes, it makes me very happy. When we started *Golmaal*, I didn't expect that a second part would be made. We started in 2005 and now it has been 14 years of the *Golmaal* journey. It has become a household brand and now I feel that the brand belongs to the audience and we just work towards reinforcing it. The cartoon series is a new journey. When the idea of animation came by, it was great. Here, there would be same characters and traits but different stories.

If we speak about animation, Indian characters are very limited, most of them are from overseas... The growth will happen gradually. Whether it's our country or television and digital medium, it will take time. When television picks up more pace and we have more reach through channels, then we will have more animation. We still have many famous characters.

Who is your target audience? When films like *Golmaal* were made, I never felt that kids would like *Singham* or *Simmba*, especially the former because it was an

‘Golmaal’ animated for kids’

Director ROHIT SHETTY laughs when *Sooryavanshi* is compared with *Avengers* and says that his films have an ever-expanding universe, without a suspense. By TEAM VIVA

action film. But parents started reaching out and letting us know of their kids' love for the film. That's when we made *Golmaal Again*, where we targeted families and children. Films and television contribute to the popularity of our franchise. Whatever we do, it feels like a responsibility now. We subconsciously make an effort to ensure kids watch the film.

Of all your films, which is your son's favourite? He likes all the films I make. When he was young he used to like all the action films I did and would try to imitate them with toy cars at home.

You've made *Singham*, *Simmba* and now *Sooryavanshi* is on the floors. Is this the 'desi' *Avengers* in the making?

In today's social media world, if a person speaks his mind, he might get into trouble. If I say, I am making something like *Avengers*, I would be grilled. Comparing us to *Avengers*



is no less than a joke. But we are trying to create our own world and are open to it. There is no suspense. We are creating our own universe. During *Simmba*, I was a bit afraid

because it was the first time *Singham* would meet *Simmba* and I didn't know how people would react to it. It was big. However, we are just expanding that universe now.

What impact did action films have on you during your childhood?

My father was in the film industry and an action director. So, it has always been my background. If I ask my son about his future goals, he would say that he wants to be in films. He is just 13. When I was 16, I was an assistant director. The impact stayed with me because of my father. Many people question me about when did I decide to become a director. However, I am unaware of the truth. I always wanted to be a director.

How has your mother inspired you?

Even my mother was a stunt woman. That's how my parents met each other. I had a fantastic upbringing, always surrounded by a work culture. Honesty and integrity is what I've learnt from them. Even Ajay Devgn, who is such a big star today, has the same level of sin-

cerity. For instance, I have missed a flight or two in my career but he hasn't missed a single flight. I've been lucky that I've had such people around me.

My mother is a strong woman. She has taught me honesty and how to give 100 per cent, whether its professional or personal.

What are your favourite cartoons and comic books?

I like *Tom and Jerry*. And *Tintin* was my favourite comic because the animation was excellent. It makes me nostalgic.

We felt that Kiran Bedi would be a perfect police woman for a biopic...

Usually, people start with writing a great script and then make the film. With me its the other way round. First, I need to think of a film, judge whether people will like it or not and then jump into it and make a script out of it. We will definitely plan to make a film on a lady cop.

You usually release one film every year. Will you continue with the same pace even after *Sooryavanshi*?

It has been only four days since we commenced its shoot. At the most, I take a break only for a month or two. I love working and making films. I don't remember a day when I got up and felt like I shouldn't work. It has never happened with me. Even after starting the work early in the morning and then looking at other things till late in the night, I would still go back to shoot tomorrow at the same time. But I feel that only a few directors are loved by kids. So I am privileged that way and feel that I have to put my best.

When will the second schedule begin?

The current schedule is till June 30. We'll go to Bangkok then Hyderabad.

Do you think animation will be accepted more now?

If there is a great story and good technique, it will do really well. We are a young company when it comes to animation. We did *Little Singham* last year and now it's *Golmaal Juniors*. We will wait for the response to see how it goes. (*The series airs every Monday to Friday at 1.30 pm on Sonic.*)

CANNES DIARIES

LOOK, FEEL AND SUBSTANCE TOO

There was a time when our films picked up top honours at Cannes and our film personalities made it to its prestigious jury. Now, the growing business of Indian films, small and big, in the film market section and their attendant promotions have meant that our stars are also joining our filmmakers to make a statement. So it is that the red carpet is ablaze this season, too, with headlining acts by Bollywood’s leading ladies. Style on point, ever ready with quotes, here’s a look at how some of them carried themselves



DEEPIKA GOES DRAMATIC
Actress Deepika Padukone went as dramatic as it could get for her red carpet appearance. Draped in an elegant monochromatic, Peter Dundas gown and a high hairdo, the actress set the red carpet on fire. With a gigantic bow, the gown had a front slit, a plunging neckline and exaggerated sleeves. Her eye make-up exuded drama with dark reverse winged eyeliner and a sleek and neat high ponytail.

She looked fresh and wore her confidence on her sleeve as her face showed no sign of fatigue even though she got ready amid a tight schedule.

Well, on the second day, the global audience applauded at her four disparate looks, each one alluring than the other. The first was a blue and white-striped pantsuit, paired with bright orange court shoes, followed by a black dress with neon green bralette. In her third ensemble, she wore a translucent cream shirt with high waist pants, which was followed by a floral gown with a stylised neck.

PRIYANKA SHIMMERS IN BLACK
For her debut, actress Priyanka Chopra Jonas looked fiery in a bold black and red embellished ensemble, a custom creation by Roberto Cavalli.

She carried the strapless gown with a thigh-high slit with panache. The former Miss World took to the red carpet with a smile on her face and folded her hands to gesture *Namaste*. Her accessories were limited to statement earrings, while her hair was left simple in loose curls.

Earlier, the actress was seen in a white ensemble inspired by what late Lady Diana once wore to the festival.

CHANDIVALI TO CANNES: HINA A ‘PROUD OUTSIDER’

Actress Hina Khan says she is a “proud outsider” who will continue working hard to make her own place, after a scribe commented on her appearance at the film festival. “Cannes has suddenly become Chandivali Studios *kyaa?*” a magazine editor posted on an Instagram story, which drew ire from a host of TV fraternity members who supported Hina and her journey whole-heartedly.

“I was persistent, I am constant and I will be efficient again and again. Don’t know where I belong, don’t know if I have to, as the place doesn’t define me. Because as always I will work hard and I will make my



own place. My promise, a proud outsider from my Chandivali Studios,” Hina wrote on social media.

The *Kasautii Zindagii Kay* actress made a sparkling debut in a gown by Lebanese designer Ziad Nakad.

“Cannes 2019. The picture is just not ‘a’ picture. God’s sign. Shining star,” she wrote alongside one of her images from the event. At the India Pavilion of the fest, Hina will also be a speaker and will launch the first look of her film *Lines*, set in the backdrop of the Kargil War.

Many of the fraternity members cheered for her. Producer Ekta Kapoor said, “Hina we are so proud of you.”

Filmmaker Farah Khan wrote, “I’ve shot many a times at Chandivali Studios and it’s a great place. So proud of you Hina Khan... it’s not where we come from but where we are going that matters. Have fun at Cannes Film Festival, you are probably the only one who is there for the right reasons... A film.”

Actor Karanvir Bohra slammed the scribe’s “snide” remarks and wrote, “Maybe, you had things ready for you maybe you didn’t have a humble beginning, maybe you did... But I think hobnobbing with the glitterati, you have forgotten your roots. This is the same Chandivali Studios where Shah Rukh Khan sir, Naseeruddin Shah sir, Anupam Kherji, Ekta Kapoor and Sushant Singh Rajput have come up the hard way and made a name for themselves. We all are very proud of Hina Khan and for this achievement. We all are with you girl!”

Arjun Bijlani applauded Hina’s self-made journey and thanked the scribe for making her a “superstar”.

Actress Kavita Kaushik wrote, “Chandivali Studios holds way more talent, inspirational stories than one will ever hear from the ‘just lost weight to become an actor just like daddy’ talents. TV actors can make the biggies talk like a jealous *chachi* (aunt). You have made us all proud.”

—Agencies

Nationalism is very spiritual, says Kangana

Actress Kangana Ranaut, who chose to flaunt a traditional *Kanjeevaram* sari styled with a corset and gloves at the 72nd Cannes Film Festival, said she considers nationalism spiritual in nature.

At the India Pavilion of the ongoing gala, Kangana spoke about her journey, the changes in the industry, the need to take care of technicians and her idea of nationalism among other things.

She said, “I don’t know when and how nationalism and being liberal became two different things because nationalism is something very spiritual in nature. When you identify with another being, when you fall in love with someone, it is such an exhilarating feeling. You include them and you feel one with them. And if you identify with a set of people, that makes your family, right? And then you start to identify with your village, your caste people. It expands your experience of inclusiveness. So, nationalism is nothing but identifying with a whole lot of people who have vowed to be in the same constitution or have the same passport or vow to protect the same land. It’s your extended family.”

Kangana delved upon some changes that need to be brought about in the way a film set functions. She said, “Our technicians are hugely devalued. There is no insurance for people who do stunts. Human life, the way it is treated on sets, it’s so sad. Some people have no value of time. Shifts of eight hours run to 12 hours and some people get so consumed by the so-called fashion and the lack of planning, that things roll into lunch breaks, snack breaks and a lot of delay. Actors, directors go into their vans, eat on time, they take care of their diet, but the way a unit is treated is definitely something we must look at.”

She said food is another concern. “There is a difference between the food they get. There’s unit 1, 2, 3... these are petty things. Sometimes the films cost crores. Sometimes they have a huge budget, but because you are used to treat human life in such a crass way, you continue with that tradition without realising you have the budget for everything, but you just don’t want to do it. There should be strict rules for that and more for human rights,” she asserted.



On the changes she has seen in the industry for actresses since the time she stepped in, Kangana said,

“I see a lot of change. When I started out, after my debut in a very strong role, I was jobless for a considerable time because I was not fitting into the roles that were popular during those days... the singing and dancing, and that was the absolute. But now I see a lot of people and actresses who come and find themselves in some category. There are a lot of categories now. Some can do niche cinema if you don’t know dancing. Like I didn’t know dancing and it was such a big deal. I can fight, I can do everything, but I am not good with dancing. “Today I see so many actresses who can have a successful career if they don’t know dancing. Or if you are a dancer, you can continue doing that, but I feel that since the last year or two, a lot of women have made a comeback, be it Neena Gupta or Madhuri Dixit without being frowned upon for age. So, there are not mainstream things that are happening, but at least there are some examples to begin with, and it’s not a bad thing,” she added.

On the second day, the actress adorned an all-black pantsuit, which was followed by a Michael Cinco white and mauve gown with jewellery by Chopard.

—IANS

JURIES OVER THE YEARS

In 72 years of celebrating cinema, only eight Indians have been called upon to adjudge the best films of the year.

VIDYA BALAN (2013)

Vidya Balan was a part of the nine-member jury alongside Steven Spielberg, Ang Li, Nicole Kidman and Christophe Waltz.

SHEKHAR KAPUR (2010)

Padma Shri awardee Shekhar Kapur

served as a jury member in the 63rd Cannes Film Festival. He is one of the few individuals who has contributed to national as well as international cinema — from *Mr India* to the Golden Globe nominated *Elizabeth*.

SHARMILA TAGORE (2009)

Sharmila Tagore was invited in the 62nd edition of the festival.

NANDITA DAS (2005)

Das is the first Indian to be a jury

member twice. Her first time was in 2005 and then in 2013.

AISHWARYA RAI (2003)

The first Indian actress to be invited to Cannes to be a jury member.

ARUNDHATI ROY (2000)

Author and political activist Arundhati Roy was part of the jury board in 2000, three years after her debut novel *The God Of Small Things* went on to win the Booker Prize in 1997.

MIRA NAIR (1990)

Mira Nair’s debut film earned her the Golden Camera Award as well as the Audience Award in 1988, following which she joined the jury panel in 1990.

KRISHNA RIBOUD (1958)

Krishna Riboud was the first Indian to have been on the panel way back in 1958. She was a historian, collector of Indian and Chinese textiles, also a Tagore descendant, and she passed away in 2000.

Rocketman isn’t so dissimilar from *Bohemian Rhapsody*

Elton John, the 72-year-old pop star came dressed in a tuxedo with ‘Rocket Man’ emblazoned on the back and regaled attendees with an after-party performance on the beach.

John, an executive producer of the film, hadn’t spoken much about the film before it made its premiere. But donning heart-shaped, red-tinted glasses, he gave the film his hearty blessing. At the post-premiere party, he called it “an emotional night.”

“Even if the film doesn’t make one penny at the box office — which will kill (Paramount Pictures chief) Jim Gianopulos — it is the movie I wanted to make,” John said.

At the party John performed *I’m Still Standing* before being joined by Taron Egerton, who plays him in the film for a rendition of “Rocket Man.” Egerton was visibly moved to tears after the premiere.

The film is directed by Dexter



Fletcher who also took over directing duties on last year’s hit music biopic, *Bohemian Rhapsody*, after Bryan Singer departed mid-production.

Rocketman isn’t so dissimilar from *Bohemian Rhapsody*. It’s a glossy music-stuffed biopic with a star-making turn from Egerton. But this film is R-rated and



less cautious about its star’s homo-sexuality.

***Les Miserables* rings alarm for Paris suburbs**

More than 150 years after Victor

Hugo’s classic novel, a French film titled *Les Miserables* gives a gritty, modern view of the Paris suburbs where Jean Valjean first met Cosette. Ladj Ly’s *Les Miserables* contains no

singing or romance, but rather a tough, “The Wire”-like street-level portrait of the Parisian banlieue of Montfermeil. It’s the same neighbourhood where the 37-year-old Ly grew up and still lives.

Ly said he made his movie as “an alarm bell” for the plight of kids growing up in neighbourhoods like Montfermeil. He said, “For the past 20 years, we’ve said things are not going well. We have the impression no one’s listening. I wanted to address a message to Emmanuel Macron, the president of the Republic. It’s important for him to see the film.

“For 20 years now, we have been yellow vests,” he added, referencing the ongoing protests of working-class French. “We’ve been demanding our rights for the past 20 years. We’ve had to cope with police violence for so many years.”

Les Miserables, which is competing for the top Palme d’Or prize, shows the Paris suburbs as a combustible powder keg, where neighbourhood gang leaders and overan-

xious police are in a constant dance. Much of Ly’s film revolves around the young kids growing up in the housing projects.

In 2015, the Paris banlieue of Clichy-sous-Bois exploded in riots that put an international spotlight on the lives of immigrants and French-Africans in the areas surrounding Paris.

“One shouldn’t forget that three-fourths of the people who live in these housing estates are French,” said Ly. “Now we have the impression that there are different classifications of citizenship. But we’re just French, so accept us as French, full stop.”

Other recent films have sought to capture the reality of the banlieues, including *La Haine* and *Dheepan*, which won the Palme d’Or in 2015. The film, Ly’s feature directing debut, drew largely strong reviews for its muscular genre work and passionate social commentary.

“One century later, misery, abject poverty is still present in these housing estates,” said Ly.

—AP

BUNDESLIGA FINALE GRIPS GERMANY

Bayern Munich need to avoid defeat to secure 7th straight league title as Dortmund hope miracle on final day

AFP ■ MUNICH

Bayern Munich coach Niko Kovac and his Borussia Dortmund counterpart Lucien Favre both face a trip down memory lane on Saturday as the Bundesliga braces itself for the most nail-biting season finale in years.

Both Kovac and Favre will face their former clubs on a much-anticipated final day, as the title race goes down to the last weekend of the season for the first time since 2010.

Bayern currently sit two points ahead of Dortmund, and can claim a seventh straight league crown if they avoid defeat at home by Kovac's old club Eintracht Frankfurt on Saturday.

Dortmund, meanwhile, travel to Favre's old hunting ground at Borussia Moenchengladbach, knowing that they can only be crowned champions if they win and Bayern lose.

"We need to focus on our game," said Favre on Thursday, adding that Dortmund needed to be prepared for all eventualities against Gladbach, whom he coached between 2011 and 2015.

"They play well on the counter-attack, but they can also press high up the pitch, and they need to win too," he said.



Bundesliga (Match Day 34)
Live from 7:00pm IST
STAR SPORTS NETWORK

There is more than the title at stake on Saturday, with both Gladbach and Frankfurt still in the running for Champions League qualification.

Dortmund sporting director Michael Zorc joked on Thursday that he would not send Frankfurt a crate of beer if they beat Bayern.

"They have something to play for, so they don't need any extra motivation," he said. Zorc admitted that Bayern were in "pole position", but

confirmed that the club were making plans for a potential title celebration in the Dortmund town centre.

"We are hugely looking forward to the game, and the excitement will rise when we are on the way to the stadium, those are nice moments," he said.

'WE MUST WIN TROPHIES'
Bayern coach Kovac said on Thursday that he is proud to be on the verge of the title, having trailed Dortmund by

BAYERN CURRENTLY SIT TWO POINTS AHEAD OF DORTMUND, AND CAN CLAIM A SEVENTH STRAIGHT CROWN IF THEY AVOID DEFEAT AT HOME BY KOVAC'S OLD CLUB EINTRACHT FRANKFURT ON SATURDAY



nine points in December.

"In winter, we just hoped we would have any chance at all on the final day, and now we are in the comfortable situation of having it in our own hands," he said.

The Croatian says he is expecting an emotional afternoon on Saturday, when his old club Frankfurt come to Munich.

Bayern have not won the title in front of their own fans since 2000, and are preparing to bid farewell to club icons

Arjen Robben and Franck Ribery.

"There hasn't been a situation like this in Munich for a while, and we want to bring the fans with us on Saturday," he said.

Kovac, who steered Frankfurt away from relegation in 2016 before leading them to glory in the German Cup last season, said that the pressure to win the title is nothing compared to a relegation fight.

"When you are fighting

for your existence, that is something different," he said.

Yet the under-fire coach knows that Saturday's meeting with his Frankfurt past could yet define his Bayern future.

With Saturday's title decider and next weekend's German Cup final against RB Leipzig, Kovac has two chances to win silverware in the next week, and is determined to take both of them in his maiden year in charge.

"We must win trophies," he said.



Bayern deny reports of Kovac departure

AFP ■ MUNICH

Bayern Munich denied reports on Friday that coach Niko Kovac is to be sacked regardless of whether he wins the Bundesliga title, and that Mark van Bommel is being lined up as his successor.

Despite being on course to win a league and cup double in the next week, Kovac has been under growing pressure amid widespread speculation that he will not be in charge next season.

On Friday morning, websites *Sport.com* and *Goal.com* claimed to have "exclusive information" that Kovac would be sacked regardless of whether he won the title on Saturday and the German Cup final seven days later.

"Kovac isn't just lacking the unconditional trust of the club hierarchy, he also has most of the dressing room against him," wrote *Sport*.

Yet Bayern CEO Karl-Heinz Rummenigge, who is considered one of Kovac's biggest boardroom critics, denied the reports.

"There is no decision (to sack Kovac), this report is completely made up," he told *Bild* newspaper.



Kane will get time to prove fitness: Southgate

AFP ■ LONDON

Tottenham Hotspur striker Harry Kane could miss the Champions League final but still captain England in their bid to win the Nations League, said national coach Gareth Southgate.

The 25-year-old talisman has not played since injuring ankle ligaments in the first leg of Spurs' Champions League quarter-final win over Manchester City.

But is hoping to be fit for their European showpiece final with Liverpool.

That game takes place in Madrid on June 1, just five days before England face Holland in their Nations League semi-final.

Kane was included in an initial 27-man squad for the tournament named by Southgate on Thursday, with the final group of 23 to be confirmed on May 27.

"Frankly, we will know a lot more about that if he is in Tottenham's team," he said of Kane's current fitness level.

Asked if Kane needs to play in the Champions League final to be considered for international duty, Southgate replied: "Not necessarily, because they might take a view that (Lucas) Moura scored a hat-trick (in the semi-final) and Son (Heung-min)

played well so they keep Harry as an impact player.

"So without talking to Mauricio (Pochettino), I don't know what his thinking on that will be. I guess that depends on how Harry trains in the build-up to the game."

Southgate said he is preparing to make a special case for his captain.

"Where there are one or two others we need to know a lot more about in the next week, he is one I will make an exception for in that I will see how it goes in the final week," he said.

Kane is one of nine players from Tottenham and Liverpool who could potentially be involved in the Champions League final and go on to link up with the England squad in Portugal for the Nations League.

Southgate admitted the all-English final presents a rare challenge.

"That's a test of our management skills and our collective spirit as a team," he told *BBC Radio 5*.

"It's the biggest challenge of all to compete against each other, then leave that at the door and remember with England we are a team, we support each other."

"That's been a massive strength for us over the last 18 months."

We will give our 100%: Chhetri on Stimac's appointment

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The Indian football team led by talismanic skipper Sunil Chhetri Friday welcomed new coach Igor Stimac to the new set-up and said they are determined to give their 100 per cent on the field under the former Croatian World Cupper.

The 51-year-old Stimac, who was part of Croatia's 1998 World Cup squad that finished third in France, was on Wednesday officially appointed as head coach of the Indian team. He comes with an experience of over 18 years in coaching, structuring and developing football with players back home and internationally.

As a coach, Stimac's major achievement was guiding Croatia to the 2014 FIFA World Cup Finals in Brazil.

"I'd like to extend a warm welcome to the new boss, @stimac_igor on his appointment as coach of the National team. He brings with him tremendous experience of having coached on some



of the biggest stages in football. We will do well to benefit from it," Chhetri had

earlier tweeted soon after Stimac's appointment.

"This will be a process, one towards which we will be giving nothing less than 100 per cent. I've already spoken with the boys from the national team, and we have begun working on our fitness as we need to switch modes soon.

"When there is a change in guard at the helm, what doesn't change is our desire to keep improving. What I am also assuming won't change is the way all you fans have backed us. Let's all turn to this new chapter," he added.

India defender Sandesh Jhingjan said Stimac's experience will be of great help to Indian football.

"At the moment, Croatia are ranked 5 in the FIFA ladder, besides being the FIFA World Cup finalists, and him being one of the pioneers of that process shows his positive vision," he said.

"Personally, it's a big bonus for me. He was a central defender during his playing days, and had such a great

World Cup in 1998. So it's an opportunity for me to learn a lot."

India goalkeeper Gurpreet Singh Sandhu said he is eagerly waiting for the first national camp under Stimac here.

"I am very excited to be honest. We have a busy year coming ahead which is really good for us to keep developing as a team. We need games like the King's Cup, and the Hero Intercontinental Cup to challenge ourselves to grow. I am really looking forward, and very happy," Gurpreet was quoted as saying by All India Football Federation (AIFF) in its website.

"If we keep doing our jobs like we have in the recent past, I am sure we will grow even more."

Right-back Pritam Kotal also couldn't hide his excitement.

"I am very excited to have Igor Stimac as our new coach. His experience will be a great addition to the team and we will look to go one better under his leadership," Kotal said.

Allegri to leave Old Lady

AFP ■ TURIN

Coach Massimiliano Allegri will leave Serie A champions Juventus at the end of the season after guiding them to five straight Italian titles, the club said on Friday.

"Massimiliano Allegri will not be on the Juventus bench for the 2019/2020 season," the club announced in a surprise development.

Allegri, 55, held meetings with the club's hierarchy earlier in the week during which a clear disagreement between the two parties emerged.

He had rejected reports saying he was about to be dismissed last Saturday adding he had already been making plans for the side's future for the past six months.

Juventus have already wrapped up their record



eighth consecutive title, and Allegri's fifth in as many years and he lifted the Coppa Italia on four occasions since replacing Antonio Conte in 2014.

The club's former midfielder Conte along with

France boss and ex-defender and boss Didier Deschamps, Champions League finalist Mauricio Pochettino of Tottenham and Lazio's Simone Inzaghi have been linked with taking over from Allegri in the Italian press in recent weeks.

Despite signing Cristiano Ronaldo from Real Madrid last summer the Bianconeri failed to make it past the quarter-finals of the European football's top competition for the second successive season.

They were humiliated by modest-spending Ajax in the last eight in April despite a star-studded side including Ronaldo, Argentina's Paulo Dybala and France World Cup winner Blaise Matuidi.

Allegri guided Juve to two European finals losing to Barcelona in 2015 before being hammered by Real Madrid two years later.

India end Aus tour with 2-5 defeat

PTI ■ PERTH

The Indian men's hockey team ended its tour Down Under with a 2-5 loss to world No 2 Australia in the fifth and final match here on Friday.

Trent Mitton (11th and 24th minutes), Flynn Ogilvie (3rd), Blake Govers (28th) and Tim Brand (43rd) scored for the hosts while Nilakanta Sharma (12th) and Rupinderpal Singh (53rd) registered their names on the scoresheet for India.

The visitors had the opening chance in the match, but it was cleared by Eddie Ockenden, while on the counter Australia forced Indian goalkeeper Krishan Pathak to make a brilliant save towards his left side as deflected it outside for a long corner.

The following seconds saw Australia score the opening goal of the match in the 3rd minute as Ogilvie managed to get the final touch.

Australia won their first penalty corner in the 10th minute, but the shot was blocked by India, and cleared away.

However, the next minute saw India play out a loose ball from the back which was lost by Gurinder Singh, and it was Australia's Mitton who took advantage as he found himself in space on the left flank and fired the ball past Pathak to make it 2-0.

However, India were quick to respond as Gursahibjit played a pass into the circle from the left flank, and it was Indian midfielder Nilakanta who got the last touch to put the ball into



the back of the net, and pull a goal back in the 12th minute.

Mitton found himself in a great position during second half on the right side of the striking circle as Joshua Simmonds played a great pass to him, and Mitton turned and fired the ball past PR Sreejesh into the back of the net to make it 3-1 after 24 minutes.

In the 29th minute, Gurinder Singh was dubiously fined for a push inside the 16-yard line by the umpire, and the resulting penalty corner saw Blake Govers fire a shot past Sreejesh's left side into the back of the net to make it 4-1 at the half-time.

In the 43rd minute, Armaan Qureshi had a glorious chance to score India's second

goal but Johan Durst made a fine save on his left side, and it was Australia who managed to score on the counter as Tim Brand pushed the ball past Pathak to make it 5-1 with just one quarter to play.

India needed to score heavily in the last quarter and they tried to create chances but the Australian defence made sure that they did not give them space in the circle.

It was only in the 53rd minute that India managed to score their second goal as Rupinderpal converted a penalty corner as he fired the ball past Durst's left side to make it 5-2.

The Indian team tried to create a few more chances in the remaining minutes, but could not score.

L'pool will be PL contenders again: Lovren

AFP ■ LIVERPOOL

Dejan Lovren believes Liverpool will be Premier League title contenders again next season, saying they are still improving under Jurgen Klopp.

Liverpool were pipped to the title by Manchester City by a single point despite reaching 97 points — the third-highest tally in Premier League history. The Reds have also secured back-to-back Champions League final appearances, which Lovren said was another indication of their improvement.

"When you look back on the last three years, it was every season improvement," he told *liv-*



erpoolfc.com.

"When Klopp came (in 2015), every year we did better



and better. Last season we did quite well, we had quite a lot of injuries and reached the final of

the Champions League.

"This year, with the new players, we reached second place with 97 points, it's incredible.

"And again the final of the Champions League, so definitely we are again one of the contenders for next year to do something great.

"With this team, we can only improve."

Central to that, according to Lovren, will be keeping the current squad together — most key players have already been tied down to long contracts — and making the right additions.

Narrowly missing out on the title meant the Croatia international suffered a second



Navdeep Saini bowls during Royal Challengers Bangalore training session during Indian Premier League RCB/Twitter

Saini hopes to learn how Bumrah bowls yorkers

PTI ■ KOLKATA

Hurling yorkers like Jasprit Bumrah and master death bowling is among the few tricks Navdeep Saini wants to learn while steaming in at nets alongside one of the world's best bowlers and his lieutenants.

The pacer from Karnal, who plays for Delhi in domestic cricket and represents Royal Challengers Bangalore in the IPL, will be flying to the United Kingdom for the ICC World Cup as one of India's four net bowlers for the showpiece.

Bumrah's unplayable yorkers aside, Saini also wants to learn from Bhuvneshwar Kumar and Mohammad Shami.

"We have spoken briefly in the IPL but not much as we were busy with our respective franchises. Bhuvni bhai's swing, Bumrah bhai's yorker and the way Shami bhai seems after pitching on the length is just amazing. I hope I will learn these things from them and become a better bowler," Saini said.

Playing under Virat Kohli at RCB, the 26-year-old took 11 wickets in 13 matches, bowling 141 dot balls which was among the top-10 in the recently-concluded IPL.

"It was a great learning experience playing under the Indian captain. He always backed me. He told me never to take any pressure and always keep the intensity high. Give your 110 per cent effort. It has become a habit for me now," Saini added.

He is paying a lot of attention to death bowling these days, something Bumrah has mastered.

"My focus currently is on improving my death bowling and backing my strength — bowling hard length ball that comes on top of the stumps.

"It's a deadly delivery. We think batsmen will hit you, but if you make slight variation and bowl in the same area, it becomes a very difficult to clear."

Saini has impressed with his pace in his first IPL season and was the fastest among Indians, clocking 152.85 kph, which was second only to South Africa's Kagiso Rabada's at 154.23 kph.

'Dhoni, Pandya should be allowed to attack from start'

Harbhajan suggests team management to let MS & Hardik play their natural game

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Mahendra Singh Dhoni's six-hitting prowess is still intact and the Indian team management must give him the license to attack from the word go during the World Cup, suggests senior off-spinner Harbhajan Singh.

A trend shows that Dhoni has been taking the game deep before going for a final assault but his one-time national and current CSK teammate wants him to go back to his big-hitting ways.

"I feel he is at his best when he hits from the onset. Some of his best innings have come when he started the onslaught straightaway. I feel the team management should give him and Hardik Pandya the licence to bat the way they want to. No restrictions, only go for the jugular at No 5," Harbhajan said.

For Harbahajan, top-order batsmen Shikhar Dhawan, Rohit Sharma, Virat Kohli and KL Rahul can build the innings, so Dhoni has the freedom to attack.

But what about his problems in the middle overs when spinners like Mitchell Santner or Nathan Lyon will be operational?

"That exactly is my point. The Dhoni of the old would hit a six off the second ball off any spinner and those are big sixes. He should and can still do it as I have seen at the CSK nets. Uske chhakkon mein bahot jaan hai (He still hits mighty sixes)," said the member of the victorious 2011 World



Cup squad.

Harbhajan wants Dhoni to have the same intimidating presence that he and Virender Sehwag had some during their best years of international cricket.

"I can tell you how a bowler's mind works. Suppose I am bowling to Kevin Pietersen and Ian Bell in tandem, I would be more worried about KP than Bell. I could bowl a couple of dot balls to KP but he had the ability

to take me on. Bell on the other hand would push for singles. Dhoni like KP can intimidate bowlers. He has that effect," said one of India's greatest spinners.

On the team front, Harbhajan said that there is a bit of worry about the number 4 and 6 slots going into the World Cup.

"I don't see anyone except for KL Rahul fitting into that No. 4 slot. So that's a bit of a worry and also No 6 slot where Kedar Jadhav will play. I hope that Jadhav gets fully fit before the South Africa game (June 5) as it is a very important slot," said the member of the two-time World championship winning team.

Apart from world's best batsman Virat Kohli, the other game changer for India would be Jasprit Bumrah.

"Sachin Tendulkar called him world's best fast bowler at the moment. Indeed he is, for the impact he has created. If you take Bumrah out of that India line-up, it's like you rip a heart out of the body. He is that precious. He is your Virat Kohli of Indian bowling," said Harbhajan.

Harbhajan's four semi-finalists are India, Australia, England and New Zealand.

Asked why no West Indies or Pakistan, the veteran off-spinner opined, "I am not saying they can't but New Zealand is a team that does well in big events. Best part of that set up is their boys do the basics well on a consistent basis. That makes a huge difference in a big event," he concluded.

'India sleeping giant of woman's cricket'

PTI ■ MELBOURNE

India are the "sleeping giants" of women's cricket with the resources they have at their disposal, feels Australia coach Matthew Mott.

The interest in women's cricket in India has been on the rise ever since they finished runners-up in the 2017 World Cup in the United Kingdom.

India also entered the semi-finals of last November's T20 World Cup in the West Indies.

"They're (India) the sleeping giant in women's cricket. They've got a country that's mad on the game, and in their batting they've already got three or four world-class players," said Mott.

"The depth in their batting is outstanding, their bowling's got potential as well and their fielding has improved out of sight," he was quoted as saying by cricket.Com.au.

India entered two World Cup finals (2005, 2017) but finished on the losing on both occasions.



But Mott believes if they continue in the same vein, the future is bright for women's cricket in India.

"They're going to be a force in world cricket. Having made that World Cup final (in 2017), and they've got a country of a billion people behind them as well, they're going to be a huge force," said the 45-year-old former Queensland all-rounder.

Imam escapes serious injury after painful blow

PTI ■ NOTTINGHAM

Pakistan's Imam-ul-Haq suffered a pre-World Cup injury scare after being struck by England paceman Mark Wood on Friday but scans showed he did not suffer any broken bones.

The 23-year-old left-handed opener had to retire hurt after a ball by Wood hit him on the elbow.

The incident took place in the penultimate match of the five-game series at Trent Bridge, when Imam missed an intended pull off an 89 mile-per-hour (143 kilometres-per-hour) delivery from the Durham paceman.

Imam, fresh from his career-best 151 in the third ODI at Bristol on Tuesday, fell to the ground and winced on the turf in agony.

Imam, the nephew of Pakistan great and chief selector Inzamam-ul-Haq received several minutes' treatment before retiring hurt on three not out, with the tourists then nine with-



out loss in the fourth over.

He was taken to hospital but a Pakistan team spokesman told AFP that scans showed there were no broken bones, with swelling on his left arm the full extent of the injury.

The fact his injury was not as severe as first feared was confirmed when Imam resumed his innings after Pakistan lost their seventh wicket on 319 in the 48th over.

He finished on six not out in a total of 340 for seven.

NADAL ENTERS ROME SEMIS; FEDERER, OSAKA PULL OUT INJURED

AFP ■ ROME

Roger Federer and Naomi Osaka both pulled out of the Italian Open on Friday before their quarter-final matches due to injuries just a week before the start of the French Open, as defending champion Rafael Nadal swept into the last four.

The eight-time champion came through 6-4, 6-0 against compatriot Fernando Verdasco to set up a rematch with Greek rising star Stefanos Tsitsipas for a place in the final.

Tsitsipas advanced after Federer -- returning to clay after a two-year absence -- retired with a right leg injury before their game.

"I am not 100 percent physically and after consultation with my team, it was determined that I not play," said 37-year-old Federer.

The 32-year-old Nadal, seeded second, advanced to his fourth straight semi-final but has not managed to go further on clay this season, ahead of his bid for a 12th French Open title at Roland Garros, starting on May 26.

Tsitsipas beat Nadal in last week's Madrid Open semi-finals before falling to Novak Djokovic, but lost to the Spaniard in the Australian Open semis earlier this year.

Reigning US and Australian Open champion Osaka had earlier said she could not compete because of



a problem with her hand.

"I woke up this morning and I couldn't really move my thumb," the 21-year-old told a press conference.

"I can't move my hand. I can't move my thumb and I'm not sure I can play my match."

"I tried to practice and grip my racket and I just felt this pain every time I tried to move my hand in different directions."

The Japanese star was due to meet Madrid Open champion and sixth seed Kiki Bertens.

Bertens goes through to meet either Britain's Johanna Konta or Czech Marketa

The 32-year-old Nadal, seeded second, advanced to his fourth straight semi-final but has not managed to go further on clay this season, ahead of his bid for a 12th French Open title at Roland Garros, starting on May 26



Vondrousova.

Osaka said she could stay in Rome before going on to the French Open, but did not rule out competing in Roland Garros.

Osaka won twice on Thursday after the previous day's play was rained off, retaining the world number one spot ahead of the French Open.

Federer was playing in the Italian capital to prepare for his return to the French Open for the first time since 2015.

"I am disappointed that I will not be able to compete today," said Federer, who also

reached the quarter-finals in Madrid.

"Rome has always been one of my favourite cities to visit and I hope to be back next year."

The 20-time Grand Slam champion had been on court for nearly four hours on Thursday, saving two match points to win through in three sets against Borna Coric after earlier easing to a straight sets win over Portugal's Joao Sousa.

The former world number one had been a late addition to the Rome tournament as he sought clay-court practice ahead of his bid to add to his lone French Open title from 2009.

On court, Argentina's Diego Schwartzman dispatched Japanese sixth seed Kei Nishikori to reach the semi-finals.

Schwartzman, 26, won 6-4, 6-2 in 87 minutes in the quarter-final for his first win in four meetings with former US Open finalist Nishikori.

The world number 24, a French Open quarter-finalist last year, has not dropped a set so far on the red clay of the Foro Italico and next faces either the top-ranked Djokovic or compatriot Juan Martin del Potro.

"It's not the best result I wanted, but I'm getting better every tournament from Barcelona and looking forward to playing the French," said Nishikori.

Man City target landmark treble

AFP ■ LONDON

Manchester City are on the brink of a domestic treble, with only Watford standing in their way in Saturday's FA Cup final.

City became the first side in a decade to retain the Premier League title last weekend, holding off Liverpool by a single point at the end of a thrilling race thanks to a run of 14 consecutive league wins to end the season.

Pep Guardiola's men also retained the League Cup in February, the first leg of their potential domestic clean sweep, which has never before been done in England.

Guardiola's side have smashed a host of records during his three-year spell in charge, despite a disappointing trophyless debut campaign in England.

However, a first-ever clean sweep of League Cup, Premier League and FA Cup would give this City side a claim to be the best England has ever produced.

"I'm desperate, desperate, desperate to win the FA Cup. You don't even know how much it's a priority," said City captain Vincent Kompany after lifting the Premier League last weekend.

Kompany could make his final City appearance at Wembley with the Belgian's contract up in the summer and no new deal agreed as yet.

City won their fifth FA



Man City vs Watford
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Cup in 2011, the first silverware since Sheikh Mansour's takeover, but will be wary of complacency after slipping up against Wigan at Wembley in 2013.

In contrast to City's trophy-laden decade, Watford have never won a major trophy.

And despite losing twice to Guardiola's men in the league this season, Hornets boss Javi Gracia, whose side mounted an

impressive comeback to beat Wolves in the semi-final, is taking heart from both games.

"I think it showed us it's possible," said the Spaniard. "We lost both games but I think we showed that we can beat them."

"We competed really well in both games in different moments. In the first game we lost 2-1 but we competed until the end and had chances at the end. In the second one we kept the result until the second half and then they scored from an offside position and the game changed."

SINGLES

\$10 MILLION ON OFFER IN WORLD CUP

LONDON: The winners of the upcoming ICC men's World Cup will earn a cash award of \$ 4 million, the highest prize money on offer in the history of the tournament. The winners of the 10-team tournament will also get a trophy that they will lift at the historic Lord's on July 16, a statement from the ICC read. The total prize pot of \$ 10 million will see the runners-up take home \$ 2 million and the losing semifinalists \$ 800,000 each at the end of the 46-day tournament being played across 11 venues in UK from May 30. There are prizes for each league match won, in what promises to be a competitive tournament with the world's best teams playing each other in a round-robin format.

ICC RELEASES OFFICIAL ICC WCUP SONG

LONDON: The ICC on Friday released the official song of the Men's World Cup — 'Stand By' with LORYN and Rudimental across all streaming platforms. 'Stand By' — a collaboration between new artist LORYN and one of the UK's most successful and influential acts, Rudimental - will be played in ground and city events across the tournament when the showpiece event begins on May 30. The ICC Men's World Cup is one of the world's biggest global sporting events, attracting around one million sporting fans soaking up the action in the UK and a further billion fans watching world-wide across the 48-match event. 'Stand By' will provide a common voice for fans when they show their passion for their respective teams during the month and a half long tournament which culminates on July 14.

IND EVES TO TOUR AUS FOR A SERIES

MELBOURNE: India women's A team will embark on its maiden tour to Australia in December this year for a limited-overs series, Cricket Australia confirmed on Friday. The series is a part of an agreement between CA and BCCI to host annual A series between the two nations. The first such series was held in October last year, when Australia A toured India for an ODI and T20 series. During the tour, India A will play three ODIs and as many T20 matches in Brisbane and Gold Coast respectively starting December 12. The three ODIs between India 'A' and Australia 'A' will be played in Brisbane on December 12, 14 and 16 while the T20 matches will be hosted by Gold Coast December 19, 21 and 23.

PATHAN PART OF CPL 2019 PLAYER DRAFT

NEW DELHI: Irfan Pathan is one of 536 players from around the world who have signed up for the Caribbean Premier League (CPL) player draft. While this is the first time an Indian has applied in the draft, Pathan's participation would be subject to whether he gets a No Objection Certificate (NOC) from the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI), which maintains a strict policy of not allowing Indian players to play in foreign T20 leagues. Pathan's name appears on the CPL's website among several others who have made themselves available for the draft, which is to be held on May 22 in London. His is the only name from India. Pathan, who has got over 100 Test wickets to his name, has not featured in the Indian team since a T20I against South Africa in 2012. He has also not been a part of the Indian Premier League over the past two seasons.

MARTA LEADS BRAZIL IN WORLD CUP

RIO DE JANEIRO: Veteran Brazilian stars Marta, Formiga and Cristiane are among the 23-strong Brazilian squad selected for the women's World Cup in France next month, coach Vadao said on Thursday. Chasing their first World Cup trophy, Brazil will face Jamaica in their opening Group C match in Grenoble on June 9, before taking on Australia on June 13 in Montpellier and Italy in Valenciennes on June 18. "We are optimistic for a great campaign and look for that coveted world title," coach Oswaldo Alvarez, better known as Vadao, said. Crowned the world player of the year a record six times, Orlando Pride forward Marta, 33, will captain Brazil in their attempt to finally win the coveted trophy. At 41, Formiga, who recently extended her contract with Paris Saint-Germain to 2020, will be the oldest player in the tournament that kicks off on June 7.

Agencies