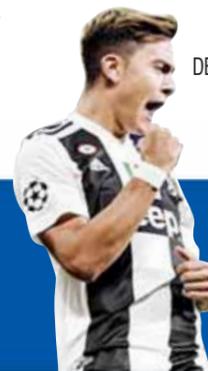




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Sena fails to show numbers, Guv invites NCP

Political musical chairs in Maharashtra continue

TN RAGHUNATHA ■ MUMBAI

In a new twist to the ongoing game of political musical chairs in Maharashtra, Governor Bhagat Singh Koshyari on Monday night eliminated the Shiv Sena from the Government formation exercise after it staked a claim to form a Government but failed to submit letters of support from the NCP and the Congress.

Late in the night, the Governor called a delegation of NCP leaders for consultations. During the meeting, the Governor handed a letter to the NCP leaders asking their party to indicate its "willingness and ability" to form the next Government in the State by 8.30 pm on Tuesday.

Talking to media persons after meeting the Governor, State NCP president Jayant Patil said, "As per the procedure, the Governor has given us a letter being the third single largest party in Maharashtra. We have suggested to him that we will have to talk to our alliance partner. We have assured him that we will get back to him as early as possible."

NCP president Sharad Pawar and central Congress leaders will hold talks on Tuesday on the Governor's letter. Given that the combined strength of the two parties is 98 MLAs and they are 47 MLAs short of the magic majority figure of 145 in the 288-member



Shiv Sena leaders Aadiya Thackeray and Eknath Shinde, along with party leaders, address a Press conference after meeting Maharashtra Governor BS Koshyari in Mumbai on Monday evening. PTI

Assembly, the two parties cannot on their own stake a claim to form a Government.

It remains to be seen if the NCP and the Congress will seek the support of the Shiv Sena to form a Government. If the two parties do approach the Sena, will the Sena extend its support to the NCP and the Congress? Lending support to the NCP-Congress means the Sena forfeiting its much-discussed claim on the Chief Minister's post, a post for which the Sena sacrificed its 30-year-long (albeit of an interrupted nature in 2014) alliance with the BJP.

Secondly, the Sena will have to play the second fiddle to the NCP-Congress alliance if it chooses to be a part of the three-party Government. Will the NCP-Congress alliance take

the risk of running a Government with an aggressive Sena, which is ideologically different from the two parties?

On his part, the Governor is going through with the motions of exhausting Constitutional options before him. Once he is through with the process, will he recommend President's rule in the State? This is a question that is bothering all the political parties in the State.

Despite indicating that they would extend their support to the Sena to form a Government, the NCP and Congress remained non-committal on the issue till late in the evening.

Though Pawar held several rounds of talks with his party leaders, he refrained from saying anything on extending sup-

Sena plans exit from NDA for survival

DEEPAK K UPRETI ■ NEW DELHI

The steady national dominance of the BJP since 2014 has seemingly squeezed the space and whittled the influence of allies in the National Democratic Alliance (NDA), the rippling impact of what is now being felt even by its oldest "ideological partner" Shiv Sena which after making common cause with the former for 25 years, is, interestingly, set to end the alliance and hug the political opponents it fought against till as recently as in the last month's Assembly polls in Maharashtra.

Sena, which had experimented with the Congress or



briefly even with the Indian Union Muslim League (IUML) in Maharashtra before launching itself with the BJP in 1989 touting "saffron brotherhood", was all through two decades a

"big-brother" in the western State as the BJP willingly played a second-fiddle in the State.

The Shah-Modi politics reversed the equation in the State as was evident when the two allies contested polls separately in 2014. In 2019, too, the two bitterly fought for greater share of seats before joining hands at the last minute in the Assembly polls that last month did not deliver the "expected" majority for the BJP, giving it 17 less seats than it collected in 2014.

The taciturn Sena was feeling the pressure from the BJP and suspected it of usurping its urban turf and gradually marginalising it in the State politics.

The rules of games had changed and the BJP was now playing big brother in Maharashtra even as it was already at the Centre. And as they say when the shove came to the push, Sena, which was constantly sniping at the BJP and attacking Modi-Shah and at times even praising former Congress president Rahul Gandhi at the cost of the duo, bolted and joined one-time foes the Congress and the NCP to try forming a second Government after Manohar Joshi first helmed the affairs in 1995 to become the first non-Congress Chief Minister in Maharashtra.

Continued on Page 4

1,500 winged guests found dead around Sambhar Lake

PTI ■ JAIPUR

Hundreds of migratory birds of over a dozen species have been found dead in Sambhar lake area near Jaipur.

Water contamination is suspected to be the cause behind the birds' death, said officials, adding, the exact reason, however, would be clear only after testing their viscera.

The birds, numbering around 1,500, were found dead on Sunday in over five to seven square km area, which is a well-known wetland of international importance and is visited by tens of thousands of migratory birds during winter.

Cong's Catch-22 situation spoils Shiv Sena's chance



Senior Congress leader Mallikarjun Kharge with Maharashtra unit leaders at 10 Janpath in New Delhi. PTI

DEEPAK KUMAR JHA ■ NEW DELHI

Should we, shouldn't we? This question rattled the Congress brass throughout Monday as it held two separate brainstorming sessions in a bid to reach a conclusion on whether to back the ideologically-opposite Shiv Sena to form a Government in Maharashtra. And if it did, in what form would it be?

By the end of the day, the Congress house remained divided on the issue and the question continued to trouble partymen who decided to take a final call on the matter on Tuesday after its Central and State leaders talk to NCP chief Sharad Pawar, who shares a good rapport with Shiv Sena chief Uddhav Thackeray.

In the meantime, as a section of the media said the Congress and the NCP have faxed their letters of support to the Sena to the Maharashtra Governor, Congress' State in-charge Mallikarjun Kharge categorically denied having done so.

A statement issued by party general secretary KC Venugopal after the meeting said, "The Congress president has spoken to Sharad Pawar. The party will have further discussions with the NCP". Hectic parleys started early morning and involved both the AICC and PCC leaders as Congress president Sonia Gandhi took stock of the things and even spoke to Pawar and Uddhav. A majority of the newly-elected Congress MLAs from Maharashtra are in favour of forming a Government in the State by being part of it. Some called for extending an outside support to the dispensation led by the Sena. More so, as they wanted to keep the BJP out of power in the politically and financially crucial State.

Pawar made attempts to bridge the gap between Sena and a reluctant Congress and Sonia is understood to have conveyed both the parties interested in forming a Government that Congress will get back only after speaking to MLAs. Sources said

Uddhav had called Sonia over phone seeking her support in Maharashtra to keep away the BJP. "We will get back to you after speaking to MLAs," Sonia reportedly told Uddhav who made several calls during the day to get past their differences to collaborate.

As the Sena and NCP anticipated that Congress will extend their support by the evening, the unexpected decision of the latter to discuss "once more" put cold waters on the Sena's desire to install their Chief Minister in the State. Given the stalemate between the two former alliance partners BJP and Shiv Sena, the role of Congress with its 44 legislators and NCP with 54 MLAs is crucial. Top Congress leaders, former Maharashtra Chief Ministers Ashok Chavan, Prithviraj Chavan and Sushilkumar Shinde as well as State unit chief Balasaheb Thorat met Sonia. Earlier in the morning, all senior members of the Congress Working Committee (CWC) met at Sonia's residence.

Govt sets in motion formation of trust to build Ram Mandir

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

In line with the Supreme Court judgment to set up a trust for the construction of Ram Mandir in Ayodhya, the Centre has started the process, with a team of officers from the Ministries of Home, Law and Culture to study the SC order threadbare to ensure that the trust is constituted in three months as per the SC verdict in the Ram Janmabhoomi-Babri Masjid case.

The opinion of the Attorney General and the Solicitor General will be taken on how to proceed, said senior officials. The Ministry of Home Affairs or Ministry of Culture will be expected to be the nodal Ministry in creation of the trust, said officials, adding that consultations will also soon start with the Uttar Pradesh Government in this regard.

In a unanimous verdict on Saturday, a five-judge constitution Bench headed by Chief Justice Ranjan Gogoi cleared the way for the construction of a Ram temple at the 2.77-acre disputed site in Ayodhya and directed the Centre to allot a five-acre plot at an "alternate but prominent" location to the Sunni Central Waqf Board for building a mosque.

"The Central Government shall within a period of three months from the date of this judgment, formulate a



scheme under the Acquisition of Certain Area at Ayodhya Act, 1993. The scheme shall envisage the setting up of a trust with a board of trustees or any other appropriate body..." said the judgment.

It is understood that the Centre will task the Uttar Pradesh Government to find the five acre for the construction of the new mosque in consultation with the Sunni Waqf Board. The apex court has directed either the Centre or the State Government to hand over the five acre to the Sunni Waqf Board.

Min stuck for six hrs in JNU hostel fee hike stir

HRD Min assures help

SHEKHAR SINGH ■ NEW DELHI

The hostel fee hike, "curfew timings" and dress code proposed by the Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU) administration have not gone down well with the students who held a protest in front of the university gate on Monday and clashed with police, leaving HRD Minister Ramesh Pokhriyal "Nishank" stranded for over six hours at the venue of the varsity's convocation.

The students wanted to march towards the All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE), around 3 kilometres from the JNU campus where Vice President Venkaiah Naidu was addressing the university's convocation with HRD Minister at an auditorium, but were stopped a few meters back by the Delhi Police and Central Reserve Police Force. Police used water cannon to disperse the protesters.

"...the situation has been handled. A student delegation, including the JNUSU president had met the Minister and they have been given assurance that their demands will be addressed," said a senior HRD Ministry official. The HRD Minister left the AICTE premises around 4.15 pm and had to cancel two events scheduled at Shastri Bhawan.

Police also detained several students who were released after a few hours. The police personnel also formed a 'human chain' in order to facilitate the



safe exit of the students attending convocation.

The protests started in the morning around 11:30 am and escalated as the day progressed with hundreds of students jostling with the police personnel. The protesters also toppled barricades and hurled shoes at the police and CRPF personnel when they were not allowed to march towards the convocation venue.

Police said that barricades were placed outside the north and west gates of the JNU campus, as well as on the route between the AICTE auditorium and the university at Baba Balaknath Marg and in nearby areas.

Continued on Page 4

Plan to create 2-cr jobs in Delhi-NCR in 20 yrs

RAJESH KUMAR ■ NEW DELHI

Generating two crore jobs in 20 years is what the "Regional Plan 2041" of the National Capital Region (NCR) will envisage. The Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA) on Monday asked the National Capital Region Planning Board (NCRPB) to prepare a blueprint for the plan by mid-2021 keeping in mind the transport, hospital, hospitality, education, environment, water, sewerage, solid waste and power sectors where the jobs will mostly be created.

"The development of these sectors will increase rural income and reduce poverty," member secretary NCRPB Archana Agarwal said, adding a regional plan with next horizon year 2041 is required to be prepared now.



The regional plan 2021 was notified on September 17, 2005, and is presently in force. Officials said that the Rapid Rail Transit System (RRTS) project will generate huge employments in Delhi and its neighboring States. The RRTS project is worth Rs 30,274

crore and will be implemented in phases, based upon its corridors and sections. The country's first regional rapid rail corridor will come up on the Delhi-Ghaziabad-Meerut route, which will eventually bring down the travel time between Delhi and Meerut to

just 55 minutes. "All rapid rail trains will have the 'made in India' mark, which means generation of employment," said officials of NCRPB. The construction of Eastern Peripheral Expressway and Western Peripheral Expressway has already generated thousands of jobs in the areas. It has given direct and indirect employment to over 10,000 skilled and unskilled workers.

MoHUA Secretary Durga Shankar Mishra asked the NCRPB to notify the regional plan by mid-2021 and focus on how to make cities citizen-centric, liveable, environmentally sustainable and disaster resilient. "The 2041 regional plan should also make the National Conservation Zone more effective, look at ways to integrate rural and urban,

utilise opportunities provided by the Transit Oriented Development policy and redevelopment. Only plans with crucial factors like economic ability and sustainability can succeed," Mishra added.

Land is the biggest challenge today and planners should think of ways to make optimum use of existing land, he said. Asked if the 2021 plan has been met with success, he said that a "lot has been achieved — both the Eastern and Western Peripheral Roads are ready, civil construction work is on with regard to the Delhi-Meerut Regional Rapid Transit System (Delhi-Meerut RRTS), a lot of progress has been achieved on the Delhi to Panipat, Delhi-Alwar RRTS projects also. These are expected to be sanctioned soon.

Continued on Page 4

PIL filed against withdrawal of SPG protection to Gandhis

PNS ■ GWALIOR

Opposing the withdrawal of SPG protection for Congress president Sonia Gandhi, Rahul Gandhi and Priyanka Gandhi, a Public Interest Litigation (PIL) has been filed with Gwalior bench of Madhya Pradesh High Court here on Monday seeking restoration of the special security cover.

The HC has scheduled the matter for hearing on November 15.

Referring to media reports, advocate Umesh Kumar Bohre in the PIL has claimed that following the Centre's decision to remove SPG cover from the three senior leaders, they are

Referring to media reports, advocate Umesh Kumar Bohre in the PIL has claimed that following the Centre's decision to remove SPG cover from the three senior leaders, they are now given Z plus security cover. The list of respondents includes Principal Secretary of PMO, Secretary Home Department, Director Home ministry and Secretary Ministry

of Defence. The petitioner opposed the removal of SPG protection saying two members of the Gandhi family already have been killed in the past. Quoting intelligence inputs, the lawyer claimed that the Gandhi family still requires the SPG security cover. The security cover was still withdrawn which was called as a vendetta by the Congress leaders, claimed the petitioner.

Few days ago, the Centre had decided to withdraw elite SPG cover from Congress president Sonia Gandhi, his son Rahul and daughter Priyanka Gandhi.

The trio has been offered Z plus security cover of the CRPF on all India basis.

CM ON SIKH GURU'S 550TH BIRTH ANNIV 'Nanak an inspiration'

BY KAMAL NATH

Guru Nanak Dev ji stands as a source of inspiration for those who believe in humanity and are selflessly committed to the service of humanity. We are spiritually privileged to celebrate 550th birth anniversary of the great Saint.

The teachings of Guru Nanak Shah Fakir have become even more relevant as humans are facing misfortunes they have created for themselves. The spirit of unity is facing threats and human faith in values has been shaken badly. Years ago Guru Nanak Ji had warned of such situations and also suggested reformative steps.

As proud citizens of India, we find ourselves fortunate to have Nanakji as our guide and philosopher. Today, when ethnic diversities across the world have been threatened by nefarious forces and fanatic minds, we are fortunate to have Guru's verses as our guiding force. He is not a Guru of Sikh community alone. He is the great spiritual teacher of humanity as he lays emphasis on cleaning of behavioural disorders from mind and heart.

Guru Nanakji is an icon of socio-religious and cultural harmony. The companionship of Nanakji and Bhai Mardana is a unique example. It symbolizes cultural unity. The two noble souls were so deeply connected that their companionship lasted till Bhai Mardana, 10 year older than Guruji departed for the heavenly abode. They travelled together for over two decades singing the glory of the Supreme Being. Nanakji used to sing and Bhai Mardana was accompanying him on Rabab, of which he was a brilliant exponent. He even improvised it by making it a six-string



instrument. He was born into a lower caste Muslim family. His knowledge of music is clearly reflective in Shri Guru Granth Sahib, which has been set into 60 Ragas. Bhai Mardana finds mention in Sri Guru Granth Sahib. Bhai Gurudas devoted a verse, which says-

'Ek Baba Akal Roop Duja Rabab Mardana.' The world needs to know that - Adi Sach, Jugadi Sach, Hai Bhi Sach, Nanak Hosi Bhi Sach.

That simply means he was an ultimate reality, omnipresent. Nothing is real but the Eternal Lord. Nothing shall last but the Eternal lord.

With such verses of wisdom, Nanakji awakened the people of India as rightly describes Urdu mystic poet Allama Iqbal - 'Fir Uthi Aakhir Sada Tauheed Ki Punjab Se, Hind Ko Ek Mard - E -Kamil Ne Jagaya Khwab Se' (Once again a divine voice rises from the Punjab declaring that there is only one God. A perfect man Nanakji awakened India from its dogmatic slumber.)

Nanakji and Bhai Mardana started the tradition of Kirtan, which has proved to be an instrument for spiritual awak-

ening. In order to demonstrate the idea of equality, he started the tradition of organising community kitchen or Langar. Years later, we understand that it was a revolutionary religious reformative step.

Nanakji demonstrated a radical spiritual streak. He said that internal awakening is the only desirable thing. He announced that all are equal and everyone has presence of the Divine. Through his spiritual journeys, Guru Nanakji awakened India and spread its glory.

Nanakji practiced what he preached. He internalised every word he uttered and carried out radical social reforms. We have the best prescriptions for the betterment of humanity in his philosophy. Always be on the side of truth and be ready to serve humanity. Always shun five evils - Ego, Anger, Greed, Attachment and Lust. Guru is the true source of knowledge. Have faith in Guru.

Let us be ready to practice in our day-to-day life Guru Nanak ji's teachings and strengthen universal brotherhood.

(From the blog of Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh Kamal Nath)

Grocery trader house burgled with valuables worth ₹3 lakh

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

Miscreants targeted a house of grocery trader and escaped with valuables worth ₹3 lakh from Lalaghati on Sunday; Koh-e-Fiza police have started investigation.

Police said that the victim Vikas Chug along with his family had gone to Delhi and when he returned on Sunday the valuables were found to be burgled.

A complaint was lodged by the victim with the Koh-e-Fiza police and in his complaint, he stated that he along with his family had gone to Delhi on November 6 and when they returned main door was found open and locks were found burgled.

The victim claimed that

Police said that the victim Vikas Chug along with his family had gone to Delhi and when he returned on Sunday the valuables were found to be burgled

gold and silver jewelry worth ₹2 lakh and ₹1 lakh cash were burgled. The victim has claimed that the total loss in the burglary is around ₹3 lakh.

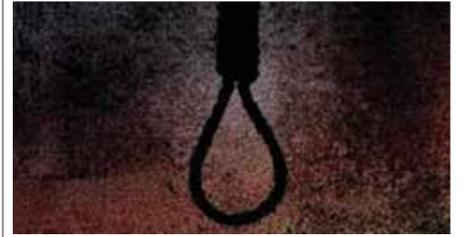
Based on the complaint after the preliminary investigation the police have registered a case under sections 454 and 380 of the IPC and have started further investigation. Police said that the house

was not installed with CCTV footage and the nearby installed CCTV camera footages would be investigated in the further investigation.

In the investigation the neighbours told the police that they were not aware of the burglary. The domestic help and security guard would be quizzed in the further investigation.

The burglary was committed on November 6 or in between the last five days as no neighbor or anyone acquainted has reported the incident of burglary to the police or victim. Victim's house is in Maya Shree Parisar which has five houses and three flats. The premises is covered but no security guard in deployed.

40-yr-old mentally ill man hangs self at Ahmedpur



STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

A 40-year old man committed suicide by hanging with the ceiling at his house at Ahmedpur village under Bilkharia police station area in the afternoon on Monday.

According to the police, Deviram was found hanging at his house shop and he was taken to hospital where he was declared dead.

Police said that the deceased was suffering from mental illness and was undergoing treatment for the same and details were provided by the nephew of the deceased.

Bilkharia police said that after the preliminary investigation the body was sent for the post mortem. The police have registered a case under section 174 of the CrPC and have started further investigation.

The details and reason of the death would be revealed after the post mortem report is received.

Statements of family members are yet to be recorded which could help in revealing the reason behind the suicide. The deceased was involved in agriculture work and owned

The police have registered a case under section 174 of the CrPC and have started further investigation

farm in the area. Other possibility of death could not be ruled out at the moment and would be investigated in the further investigation.

Meanwhile, a 50-year old railway employee died at rest room at Bhopal railway station in the afternoon on Sunday; deceased was posted at Lucknow, said police.

According to the police, Vishal Saxena reported illness and was rushed to railway hospital where he died during treatment. The deceased was Train Ticket Inspector posted at Lucknow and was on duty when he came to Bhopal. Saxena died of Cardiac arrest police said.



General Manager West Central Railway Sanjeev Mittal along with other officials inspects development work in progress at Habibganj railway station in Bhopal on Monday. Pioneer photo

STF announces ₹5,000 reward each on two absconding accused in batteries' theft case

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

The STF has declared reward of ₹5,000 each on two absconding accused who were wanted in batteries' theft from Reliance Jio mobile towers theft case of ₹45 lakh; four members were nabbed on October 26 by STF.

On Monday STF declared reward of ₹5,000 each on Shaikh Shehzaad (48) and Raja Shaikh (35) of Old Categorized Market who were part of the gang involved in stealing batteries from Reliance Jio mobile towers.

Notably STF had nabbed

a four member gang of thieves and recovered batteries worth ₹45 lakh from Reliance Jio mobile towers on October 26; accused were involved in 13 burglaries and have stolen 55 batteries in the past three months.

Police recovered 55 batteries, bundles of wire cables and electronic devices used at mobile tower from their possession. After acting on a tip off STF Bhopal nabbed four miscreants who were involved in stealing batteries from Bhopal and nearby areas.

The arrested accused persons were identified as Amit

Shukla of Ashoka Garden, Deepak Goswami of Arjun Nagar, Saurabh Lodhi Raisen and Sanju Ahirwar of Bhopal.

The main accused Amit Shukla was mastermind behind the crime and who confessed that along with the three members of the gang he used to target mobile towers and would steal batteries at the mobile tower.

The gang committed 13 burglaries and escaped with 55 batteries.

During the investigation police have also searched for the people who have bought stolen batteries from the

Two booked for molesting, scuffling, threatening 2 girls

Bhopal: Shyama Hills police have booked two youths for molesting, scuffling and threatening two girls at Boat Club area in the evening on Sunday.

According to the police complainant girl lives in Shanti Nagar and was molested by bike borne miscreants who passed lewd comments, molested them and threatened of life.

In her complaint victim stated that she had gone to Boat Club along with her friend over scooter and when they reached the spot two bike borne miscreants started to pass lewd comments and obstructed their way. They pressurized the victims for providing their mobile number and to develop friendship and when they opposed they threatened them of life and after which they scuffled with the victims when they tried to leave the spot.

Victims managed to reach the police station and lodged complaint against the bike borne miscreants. The victim noticed the registration number of the vehicle and informed the police.

The police have registered a case of molestation and threatening of life against the miscreants. Based on the bike registration number police have stated search for the miscreants. SR

Cong, BJP at loggerheads over Arjun Singh's statue

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

Both, ruling Congress and opposition BJP are engaged in yet another controversy over installation of statue of late Chief Minister Arjun Singh at a busy trisection.

The bust of legendary freedom fighter Chandrashekhar Azad, present there was shifting on the roadside around three years ago, when a special drive was launched in the city to shift the busts and statues from the squares and tri-sections.

A couple of weeks ago, the



A statue of senior Congress leader and former Chief Minister late Arjun Singh waits unveiling ceremony in Bhopal on Monday. Pioneer photo

statue of the former Chief Minister has been installed at the tri-section and is awaiting inauguration, while the BJP is up in arms against the State Government calling it 'disrespect' to the freedom fighter.

Ever since the statue has been installed at New Market trisection, several BJP leaders have opposed the move.

Bhopal mayor Alok Sharma here on Monday claimed that Mayor in Council in the past had cleared a proposal for installation of late CM Arjun Singh's statue at Vyapam square but former Congress mayors including Vibha Patel and Sunil Sood never made any efforts to complete the project in their tenures.

"I am told that days ago, some Congress leaders reached New Market trisection, summoned municipal officers and ordered that they should install late Arjun Singh's statue at the spot which violates the Municipalities Act 1956 as the

proposal should have been given to MiC," claimed Sharma who also called that the place earlier had bust of Azad and replacing it with a statue of a politician was disrespect to freedom fighters.

If required, we would take to streets and would protest on the matter. Congress spokesperson Bhupendra Gupta claimed that BJP leaders were ill-informed.

Surprisingly, the BJP government around three years had shifted the bust of Azad and the BJP leaders then did not find it disrespect to the legendary freedom fighter.

The statue was to be unveiled on Monday but the function was later postponed due to law and order issues post Ayodhya verdict delivered by the Supreme Court of India.

Late union minister Arjun Singh's son -Ajay Singh had organized a show of strength by convening a programme to mark his father's birth anniversary.

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'One should take stand for right'



Congress MLA Arif Masood and other guests release a book 'Denial and Deprivation—Indian Muslims after the Sachar Committee and Rangnath Mishra Commission reports' written by Abdur Rahman (IPS) at a programme in Bhopal on Monday

SANA RIYAZ ■ BHOPAL

One should always stand up for what is right, said IPS Abdur Rehman.

Inspector General Abdur Rehman was in Bhopal on Monday to launch his authored book Denial and Deprivation Indian Muslims after Sachar Committee and Rangnath Mishra Commission Report. His book was launched at Noor Us Sabah Palace.

The book talks about the discrimination faced by Muslims today after Sachar Committee and Rangnath Mishra Commission Report. While in a candid rendezvous with *The Pioneer*, Abdur Rehman said, "I have said this earlier too that education is the key. The most important thing for the improvement of status of Muslims in society is education."

Elaborating further, he said, "In my book I have discussed the current condition of Muslims in terms of economy, population, education, unemployment, poverty and other issues. Besides, I have talked about various schemes of government for Muslims."

Book on Indian Muslims authored by IPS officer released

Bhopal: A book Denial and Deprivation — Indian Muslims after Sachar Committee and Rangnath Mishra Commission by IPS Abdur Rehman was launched on Monday at Noor Us Sabah Palace.

In the post-Sachar era, Government started many schemes to improve the condition of Muslims whose reach and impact is assessed with the help of latest data. The book pre-

On asking about how he sees the development of Muslims today, Rehman said, "There is a lot to be worked upon the mindset."

Rehman gave a tough advice to the youngsters of the community, "I have always supported that idea that the youngsters should not only opt for government jobs, but also

In the post-Sachar era, Government started many schemes to improve the condition of Muslims whose reach and impact is assessed with the help of latest data

sents the social structure of Muslims, presence of OBCs and Dalits and suggests a practical pattern for reservation. It follows up the process of imple-

mentation of recommendations of these reports and highlights how the governments adopted tokenism, attempted to implement minor recommendations and shied away from major ones.

On the occasion, MLA Arif Masood, Ambassador Lado Abhiyan Mehmoona Khan, IPS MW Ansari and President Hockey Bhopal Nawab Raza were also present. SR

mentation of recommendations of these reports and highlights how the governments adopted tokenism, attempted to implement minor recommendations and shied away from major ones.

On the occasion, MLA Arif Masood, Ambassador Lado Abhiyan Mehmoona Khan, IPS MW Ansari and President Hockey Bhopal Nawab Raza were also present. SR

Abdur Rahman, a member of the Indian Police Service, has been working for more than twenty-one years at different positions in Maharashtra.

He writes and lectures on a range of socio-economic and educational issues from the perspective of the marginalised and securing social justice to the deprived.

Poetry session 'Mehfil-e-Sukhan' held

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

A poetry session 'Mehfil-e-Sukhan' was held at Swaraj Bhavan here on Monday.

The event was presided by renowned Urdu Poet Arif Ali Arif. He recited his poem, "Waqt Badla Toh Woh Bhi Saath Huye, Jinko mera Wajood Khalta Tha".

Later, Tahir Tarash, the poet of Bhopal, recited his poem Nazrien Toh Nazrien Chehra Apka Badal Gaya Shohrat Mili Zara Si toh Lehja Badal Gaya".

The president of the organization Khushbu Education and Welfare Society, Sajid Premi, presented one of his ghazals 'Ghar Ke Peepe me taza bhara hua aata hai Rehmatien hain mayassar bhara bhara sa Kansa Hai'.

The event was presided by renowned Urdu Poet Arif Ali Arif

Anupama Anushree, the chief guest of the programme, recited Shikayat System Se Logon Se Cheezon Se Badi Lambi Hai Yeh Fairlist. The invited poets and poets recited their selected compositions, the occasion was the "Rachna-Patha" programme organized by the Khushboo Educational and Cultural Society, Bhopal.

The event was held in the auditorium of Swaraj Bhavan at 5.30 pm. The event was chaired by the poet Arif Ali Arif, who invited Ms. Anupama Anushree, Badr Vasti, Malik Navaid, Mahmood

Malik, Dinesh Malaviya, Naqi Siddiqui as the chief guests. The program was moderated by young poet Shoaib Ali Khan. Khurshid Khan Fanku, the comic poet and poet of Bhopal, made the audience laugh a lot.

He read his ghazal "Kabhi Uske Kaanon Ko Bhar Diya Kabhi usko Jaake Bata Diya." Chief Guest Dinesh Malaviya Tukdo Me Pala Purkhon Ka Ghar Dekh Rahe Hain.

Nafisa Sultana 'Ana' Unka Ka Kya Dar Jo Mera Azam Dobala Karien, Azeem Asar "Tera Khayal Hai", Chitransh Khare Musafir "Apne Hi Bacche Ke Taane", Ashraf Ali Ashraf "Ever since Sukhan Na Aashna Masand Pe.

In the end, Sajid lover thanked all the visiting poets, poets, and the chief guests, the audience.

Social Worker felicitated by Maharashtra Kunbi Patil Samaj

Bhopal: Maharashtra's famous social worker Santosh Patil was honored by the Maharashtra Kunbi Patil Samaj in an event here on Monday.

Maharashtra's famous social worker, Motivational speaker, writer Santosh Patil, Maharashtra Kunbi Patil Samaj Bhopal president Sunil Nathu Patil and all the members of the executive welcomed him with Shreephal.

Society's vice president and spokesperson Prakash Suresh Patil told Santosh Patil Gorakhdheda Tehsil Pachora Jalgaon is a resident of Maharashtra. He was recently honored with the Global Achievers Award by the Sakha Foundation in Bhopal for everything he earns as a Motivational Speaker, from donating books to all the children to food grains and other essentials in orphanages.

Prakash Suresh Patil, Vice President and Spokesperson said that Santosh Patil, a resident of Gorakhdheda Tehsil Pachora, Jalgaon, Maharashtra, works primarily in the field of helping people living in orphanages and old age homes. Santosh in his work showed to the new and old generation of the country to lead a simple life.

Life of great heroes like Shivaji Maharaj, Rajmata Jadhav Sahab, Maharana Pratap and Ahilyabai Holkar.

On this occasion, the president of the society Mr. Sunil Patil, executive members Mr. Mahesh Patil, Mr. Prakash Suresh Patil, Mr. Samadhan Patil, Mr. Deepak Nimba Patil, Mr. Prakash Aadhari Patil, Mr. Raju Shiram Patil, Mr. Ganesh Patil, Mr. Deepak Patil, etc. were present.

He help to provide food to the orphanage old age home throughout the year. SR

Day 2 of Tribal Literature Fest



STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

Indira Gandhi Rashtriya Manav Sangrahalaya, Bhopal in collaboration with Union Ministry of Tribal Affairs is organising Tribal Literature Festival.

At the beginning of the programme, Prof KK Misra in his address highlighted that literature includes many genres including tribal literature.

He emphasized that tribal literature primarily encompasses tribal life style. He discussed the novel, PARAJA, written by Gopinath Mohanty, as an example to prove his point.

On second day of TLF, session on 'Young Tribal Writers; Their Themes, Issues and Challenges was organized'. The session was chaired by Prof. Sivashish Biswas, Assam University, Assam.

During the session, five speakers talked about the emerging young writers from the tribal communities.

Jamuna Bini gave some accounts of eminent tribal poets and writers beginning with the contributions from the famous tribal writer kamal kumar Tanti whose poem vital-

ly reflects the tribal history.

She further referred that his writings expresses unwillingness and disagreement, the history of his own people whom we referred as Tea Tribe. She viewed that the poems of Kamal Kumar Kanti is with two colours and tastes i.e. black and white.

It has least embodiment of multicolored expressions.

Sunil Boro expressed some new trends emerging among the young poets and writers with special reference to the Bodo literature.

The new trend of writings

on Social media platforms; although has a question of quality.

Juri Dutta presented a chronological study on tribal writers of Assam. She reflected on writings of a famous poet which talk about the protagonist view on 'Jadugar Krimuk' a writing comparing life with museum pieces or objects.

Shreya Bhattacharya presented her paper on 'Reading Jacinta Karketta; The peoples poet of Jharkhand'.

She talked about the voice much articulating and generated.

Exhibition on Tribal painting 'Chitralipi' inaugurated

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

An exhibition on Tribal painting entitled CHITRALIPI was inaugurated on Monday by KK Chakravarty, Former Director, IGRMS, Prof KK Misra, eminent anthropologist and Ex-Director of IGRMS, Prof KK Basa, Tagore National Fellow and Prof Sarit Kumar Chaudhuri, Director IGRMS by formal lighting of lamp.

On this occasion, Some Kiro, the convener of this exhibition, along with the exhibitors, said that this unique exhibition opens up a new understanding of art in social and artistic context by expressing diversified ethnic group through their painting tradition. Tribal painting of different communities such as Gond, Bhil, Rathwa, Saora, Warli, Muria etc. have their distinct cultural identities and are deeply inter woven with their social and religious life.

MP team bags bronze medal in Junior Nat'l Fencing C'ship

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

Madhya Pradesh's Girls EP team won bronze medal in 27th Junior National Fencing Championship.

On the third day of the championship held here on Monday, Punjab, Maharashtra and Goa won one gold medal each.

The women's team event of the championship being played at Taty Topa Stadium. Players like Khushi Dabhade, Pragma Singh, Anjali Bathre and Pooja Dangi won the bronze medal as they advanced to the semi-finals.

Team of Madhya Pradesh defeated by Kerala 43-39 in the semi-finals. Punjab defeated Chandigarh 45-37 in the second semi-final.

The final match will be

The women's team event of the championship being played at Taty Topa Stadium. Players like Khushi Dabhade, Pragma Singh, Anjali Bathre and Pooja Dangi won the bronze medal as they advanced to the semi-finals

played on Tuesday. Chingkhambaitley of Goa won gold in EP individual boy, RS of Chhattisgarh Sherjin won silver and Khuman Lashram of West Bengal and Mangesh Siva of Chhattisgarh won bronze. In the foil men's team, Maharashtra won gold, SSCB won silver, Gujarat and Manipur won bronze. In the women's section, Punjab won gold, Kerala won sil-

ver and Tamil Nadu and Jammu and Kashmir won bronze.

The Junior National Fencing Championship, which is being played from November 9 at the Multipurpose Hall at TT Nagar Stadium, will conclude on Tuesday, November 12, 2019 at 1:30 pm.

In the concluding ceremony, Minister of Law and Legislative Affairs Department, Public Relations, Science and Technology, Aviation, Religious Trusts and Religion Department, PC Sharma will present prizes to the medal winning players and teams. Director Sports and Youth Welfare S.L. Thousen, Founder Member of Fencing Association of India (FFI) K.B. Aggarwal, Vice President, S.K. Parashar, Treasurer Ashok Dudhare will be specially present.

IN BRIEF

CM EXTENDS 550TH PRAKASH PARVA GREETINGS
Bhopal: Chief Minister Kamal Nath has extended greetings to the citizens on the occasion of the 550th Prakash Parva of Sant Guru Nanak Dev Ji, the founder of Sikh religion. In his greeting message, Kamal Nath has said that the importance of a message given by Sant Guru Nanak Dev Ji many years ago to serve humanity has become important today. He had said that all human beings irrespective of religion caste and community are equal. Nath said that there is a need to follow and forward this message today for establishing religious and cultural harmony in the society.

FARMER'S SON ENDS LIFE DUE TO NON WAIVER OF LOAN
Bhopal: The cause for the suicide of farmer Rajesh, son of Gangaram, a resident of Hapskhi village in Dhar district being attributed to non-waiver of loan is baseless. The Chief Executive Officer of District Central Cooperative Bank Limited, Dhar has clarified that the loan of Rs 46,493 outstanding on the deceased Rajesh was waived under the Jai Kisan Loan Waiver Scheme as on March 31, 2018. This loan amount was settled and nullified in Rajesh's account. According to the Chief Executive Officer, after this, a total loan of Rs 36,038 was given to this farmer along with a loan of Rs 27,484 for Kharif on 13 August 2019 and a loan of Rs 8,554 for Rabi on October 1, 2019. In view of the above, it is clear that non-waiver of the loan was not the reason for the suicide. Besides, new loan amount was also sanctioned to the deceased farmer this year.

MIN GIVES CERTIFICATES TO RESEARCH SCHOLARS
Bhopal: Minister for Public Relations and Science and Technology PC Sharma distributed certificates to the research scholars at the International Conference on the subject 'Digital Communication: A Challenge for Developing Nations' held at Makhnala Chaturvedi Rashtriya Sanchar evam Patrakarita Vishwavidyalaya. Sharma said that the development of digital media has facilitated the society in a big way. Information is reaching people at rapid pace.

VIPPY SPINPRO LIMITED				
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Fax: 07272-400121 E-Mail: admin@vippspinpro.com, Web : www.vippspinpro.com				
Extract of Unaudited Financial Results for the Quarter and Half Year Ended 30th September, 2019				
S. No.	Particulars	Quarter Ended		
		(Unaudited) 30.09.2019	(Unaudited) 30.09.2018	(Unaudited) 30.09.2019
1	Total Income from Operations	2,803.95	2,911.26	6,042.73
2	Net Profit/(Loss) for the period (before tax, Exceptional and/ or Extraordinary Items)	108.26	139.20	238.16
3	Net Profit/(Loss) for the period before tax (after Exceptional and/ or Extraordinary Items)	108.26	139.20	238.16
4	Net Profit/(Loss) for the period after tax (after Exceptional and/ or Extraordinary Items)	82.49	102.66	179.55
5	Total Comprehensive Income for the period [Comprising Profit/(Loss) for the period (after tax) and Other Comprehensive Income (after tax)]	80.93	99.11	172.43
6	Equity Share Capital	587.00	587.00	587.00
7	Reserves (excluding Revaluation Reserve) as shown in the Audited Balance Sheet of the previous year	-	-	-
8	Earning per share (EPS) (Equity Shares of ₹ 10/- each) (not annualised) Basic/ Diluted EPS	1.41	1.75	3.06

Notes:
1) The above results were reviewed by the Audit Committee in its meeting held on 11.11.2019 and approved by the board of director at its meeting held on 11.11.2019
2) The above is an extract of the detailed format of Quarterly Financial Result filed with the Stock Exchanges under regulation 33 of the SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirement) Regulations, 2015. The full format of the Financial Result for the Quarter Ended September 30, 2019 are available on the website of the BSE Limited i.e www.bseindia.com and also on the website of the company i.e. www.vippspinpro.com
3) The figures of the previous period/ year have been re-stated/ re-grouped/ re-arranged/ re-classified and/ or recasted wherever found necessary.

On behalf of the Board of Directors
For Vippy Spinpro Limited
Sd/-
Piyush Mutha
Managing Director (DIN: 00424206)

Place : Dewas
Date : 11.11.2019

जनजातीय साहित्य महोत्सव | 2019
Tribal Literature Festival | 2019
TLF-BHOPAL 10-11-12 नवम्बर | November, 2019

मुख्य आकर्षण
जनजातीय साहित्यकारों के द्वारा कविता, लघु कथाओं की प्रस्तुति
समृद्ध चर्चा विषय: जनजातीय साहित्य: योगदान और चिंतन

विशेष-लिपि: चित्रों के माध्यम से विचारों की अद्वितीय पर प्रदर्शनी: प्रातः 10:00 से शाम 05:00

कलांजली: जनजातीय कलाकृतियों का प्रदर्शन सह विक्रय प्रातः 10:00 से शाम 08:00

जायका: पारंपरिक भोजन: दोपहर 01:30 से अपराह्न 04:30

पुस्तक प्रदर्शनी एवं विक्रय: प्रातः 10:00 से शाम 08:00

सांस्कृतिक प्रस्तुतियों लोक एवं जनजातीय नृत्य-संगीत एवं फ्यूजन बैंड
● झारखंड से झर नृत्य
● उत्तराखंड से भोटिया नृत्य
● महाराष्ट्र के विदर्भ से लोक एवं जनजातीय नृत्य
● अरुणाचल प्रदेश से पारंपरिक नृत्य
● असम से सत्रीय नृत्य
● 12 नवम्बर को मणिपुर से लाईव हंडेडबल द्वारा फोक फ्यूजन की प्रस्तुति
सायं: 06 बजे से

स्थान: मरुवागम, मुक्तसकाश प्रदर्शनी, हील की ओर स्थित संजहालय परिसर

आयोजक/Organized by
इन्दिरा गांधी राष्ट्रीय मानव संग्रहालय
Indira Gandhi Rashtriya Manav Sangrahalaya
हामला हिल, भोपाल / Sharmila Hills, Bhopal-462013
फोन/ Phone : 0755-2661319, 2526531, 2526580; https://www.facebook.com/igrms.bhopal; http://igrms.gov.in

Main Attractions
Reading/Reciting Poetry, Short Stories by the Tribal Writers Panel Discussion on Tribal Literature: Contribution and Concerns
Chitra-lipi: An Exhibition on Expression of Thoughts Through Paintings from 10:00 A.M. to 05:00 P.M.
Kalanjali: Demonstration cum Sale of Tribal Artefacts from 10:00 A.M. to 08:00 P.M.
Jayaka: Ethnic Cuisine from 01:30 to 04:30 P.M.
Book Exhibition & Sale Counter from 10:00 A.M. to 08:00 P.M.
Cultural Performances: Folk and Tribal Dance-Music and Fusion Band
● Chhau Dance from Jharkhand
● Bhotia Dance from Uttarakhand
● Folk and Tribal Dance from Vidarbha region of Maharashtra
● Traditional Dance from Arunachal Pradesh
● Satriya Dance from Assam
● Performance of folk-fusion music by Laihui Ensemble from Manipur on 12th November from 06:00 PM onwards

Venue: Desert Village, Open-air exhibition, Lake View Side, Museum Premises

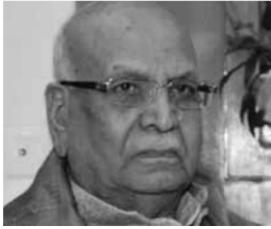
Digitisation is need of hour, says Guv

Tandon has instructed for computerisation in varsities while reviewing work of Rajiv Gandhi Proudhyogiki Vishwavidyalaya

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

Governor Lalji Tandon has instructed to undertake computerisation work in the universities on a large scale. He has said that digitisation is the need of the time and is the basis of quality education. If the universities do not make efforts in this direction in time, the difficulties would crop up in future. He said that computerization will be necessary in the proposed education policy. Tandon was reviewing the work of Rajiv Gandhi Proudhyogiki Vishwavidyalaya at Raj Bhavan on Monday.

The Governor mentioned that education and health are two primary subjects of the constitution. It is essential



to promote Hindi in technical education. In the country like Israel having small glossary of the language, the technical education is given in local language. He stated that there is a need for thinking and innovations in this direction.

Tandon said that the quality of education is important for the development. The Governor laid emphasis on mutual exchange of outstanding works and

innovations being carried out in the universities. He emphasized the need for getting the work of computerization completed by establishing coordination between all the government and private universities. The Governor further stated that the government and private universities should emulate the outstanding works by establishing coordination between them.

In the meeting, the Governor was apprised of the achievements and problems of the university by the Vice Chancellor Sunil Kumar. He informed that the university has been granted 'A' grade by the National Assessment and Accreditation Council. Efforts are being made by the university to obtain NIRF ranking for engineering and non-engineering courses. The RGPV has been honoured with the second position among the 13 technical universities for the punctuality of the academic calendar and innovations by the Ministry of

Human Resources Development, New Delhi. Priority is given to the research on subjects related to the social cause and scholarships are given to the research scholars. The process of recruitment on academic and non-academic posts is near completion.

Deliberating on the special accomplishments of the university, Sunil Kumar said that the innovations are being carried out in the field of technical education. Along with the regular courses, the university has given a facility of various other online courses to the students. The university is also carrying out important works like providing seed money of upto Rs one lakh to encourage startup, conducting more than 50 development programme to familiarize professors with latest knowledge, plantation for environment conservation and participation of teachers in facilities like On Video Lectures under the MOOCs Lab.

'Now, focus should be on developmental issues'

PNS ■ DEHRADUN

Two days after the Supreme Court announced its judgement in the Ram Janmabhoomi case; youth of Dehradun expressed relief that the issue is over for the good.

Dehradun remained calm after the apex court announced a unanimous decision on Saturday, giving the Centre three months to set up a trust to ensure the construction of Ram temple, and ordered five acre land must be provided to Muslims for constructing a mosque in Ayodhya.

Most youngsters in Dehradun are of the opinion that peace should be maintained and the government should now focus more on other pressing issues.

"The judgement has finally settled a long standing dis-

pute. People need to realise that such disputes only push our country back. We need to rise above these. There should be no politicising of the judgement," said college student Himanshu Singh.

Another youngster Fozia Ahmed also urged everyone to think about the larger good of the country. She however, opined that Muslims could have received better compensation.

"The judges have tried to balance the situation in their judgement. Given the sensitive circumstances prevailing in the country today, people who are disenchanted with the judgement also need to make peace with it for the larger good," she added.

Nidhi Rawat, another youngster said that Lord Ram's statue must stand tall in

Ayodhya as it is the birthplace of the deity. She expressed her happiness about the decision.

Many people didn't seem much interested in the verdict or the issue. They were of the opinion that peace is what matters the most. Many believe that instead of politicising such issues, the government and the people should focus on things which will make the country a better place to live in.

"Though I don't care whether they construct a temple or a mosque, I am proud that peace was maintained before and after the verdict," said Paramjeet Singh. "It's a verdict from the supreme court, let's all accept, respect it and ignore those who criticise it or use this as a tool to create communal disturbances in our secular nation," said advocate Nishan GK.

Grand Sita temple to be built at Falswadi in Pauri

PNS ■ DEHRADUN

Even as the way for building a temple of lord Ram in Ayodhya has been cleared, a grand temple of his consort, goddess Sita, will be built at Falswadi where she is believed to have taken Bhū-Samadhi. The State Government has started work on Sita Mata circuit and it will prove to be a milestone in the development of Pauri district.

With its completion, every person in the world with faith in lord Ram and Sita would definitely want to visit Falswadi village, said Chief Minister Trivendra Singh Rawat while speaking as the chief guest at the Sharadotsav in Pauri on Monday.

Rawat said that for constructing a grand temple of the goddess in Falswadi, every home in each village of the region should donate a stone,



a fistful of soil and ₹11 each. He said that he will soon undertake a Yatra from Devprayag for this purpose.

Members of the religious fraternity have also expressed their desire to be part of this initiative.

The CM said that the Pauri Sharadotsav should be organised on a larger scale. He also directed the dis-

trict magistrate to send a proposal for building parking facility in Pauri. Compensation for land has been paid to the people for the Lwali lake and work on this project will start soon.

He further said that money has been sanctioned for NCC academy and work on it will be started in the near future. Once the NCC acade-

my is opened, about 36,000 students will arrive here annually.

While stressing on the need to encourage girls to progress further, he also stressed on the need for youth to stay away from the proclivity for substance abuse. Referring to the prime minister Narendra Modi exhorting the citizens to shun single-use plastic, Rawat said that the people are cooperating in this endeavour.

The State Minister for High Education, Dhan Singh Rawat, MLA Mukesh Singh Koli, district Panchayat chairperson Shanti Devi, municipality chairman Yashpal Benam and others were also present on the occasion.

Earlier, the CM inaugurated a multi-purpose hall, guest house and staff quarters constructed by the Pauri municipality.



Hindu women light lamp at the banks of Upper Lake on Baikunth Chaturdashi in Bhopal on Monday

Pioneer photo



Madhya Pradesh Minister for Public Relations PC Sharma presents certificates to the participants on the second day of International conference on digital communication at Makhnial Chaturvedi National University of Journalism and Mass Communication in Bhopal on Monday

Pioneer photo

Sena fails to show numbers...

From Page 1

Earlier in the afternoon, Sena president Uddhav Thackeray spoke on the phone with Congress Interim president Sonia to discuss Government formation. Ud also met with Nationalist Congress Party leader Sharad Pawar at a five-star hotel in Mumbai. Later in the evening, the Shiv Sena virtually forfeited an opportunity to form a Government after they failed to produce letters of support from the NCP and Congress which, it claimed, had in principle extended their support to it form a government.

Much to the Sena's disappointment, the Governor declined to give three days' extension to it to submit letters of support from the NCP and

Congress, thus once again plunging Maharashtra into a state of uncertainty.

"A delegation of leaders of Sena met the Governor and expressed their willingness to form the Government. However, they could not submit the requisite letters of support. Further, they submitted a letter requesting for three days of extension of the deadline for submitting the letters of support. The Governor expressed his inability to give further extension," a statement issued by Raj Bhavan said.

Talking to media persons after meeting the Governor and "staking a claim" to form the Government, Yuv Sena leader Aditya Thackeray said, "Yesterday evening at around 7.30 pm, our legislature party leader Eknath Shinde received a letter from the

Governor asking us indicate its "willingness and ability" to form the next government in the state.

Despite the indications to the contrary available from both the parties all through the day, the NCP and Congress did not give their letters of support either directly to the Sena or send them across to Raj Bhavan, before the Sena. But, till this afternoon, the BJP did not give its letter of support to us. We have started talking to two other parties (NCP and Congress). The two parties have in principle agreed to support us in the larger interests of Maharashtra. The talks have begun between them as well."

"Since our deadline (to get back to the Governor) was 7.30 pm, we arrived at Raj Bhavan at 6.45 pm. We told the Governor

that we are willing to form the Government. We have staked our claim to form the Government. Though we were given 24 hours time to express our willingness to form the Government, we have got back to the Governor in 23 hours and submitted the letters signed by our party MLAs.

"In the case of two other party, they will have to obtain signatures from their MLAs. This procedure will take at least two days. Hence we requested the Governor to extend the deadline by three days. However, the Governor rejected our request. But, I can tell you one thing: the Governor has not rejected our claim. It stands. He has only rejected additional time sought by us," Aditya said.

"We will come back and give letters of support to the Government. I do not know what next course of action to be taken by the Governor -- whether he will invite the third single largest party or recommend to Rashtrapati Bhavan about the imposition of the President's rule in the state. All the same our efforts to form the next government will continue," the Yuv Sena president said.

Min stuck for 6 hrs in JNU ...

From Page 1

The angry students raised slogans such as "Delhi Police Go Back" and called Vice Chancellor M Jagadesh Kumar Mamidala a 'thief'. The students are demanding withdrawal of the draft hostel manual, which they claimed has provisions for fee hike, dress code and curfew timings. Top brass of police including Special Commissioner of Police (Law & Order) South Zone, R S Krishna, Joint CP (Central range) Anand Mohan, Devendra Arya, the Deputy Commissioner of Police (DCP), South West and Mandeep Singh Randhawa, the DCP, Central district were pressed into service to handle the situation.

Traffic came to a standstill around the area. The gates of the AICTE were locked and security personnel were stationed in and outside the premises. Even Union HRD Minister was not able to come out of the auditorium for over six hours, following which the police requested the students to let him go. Police requested the protesters to move from the gate, but the protesting students refused. A varsity official said JNUSU president Aishe Ghosh and vice president Saket Moon, along with other students, met Union HRD Minister who assured them that their demands would be looked into. "They, however, were not able to meet the VC and raised slogans following which they started chanting 'we want V-C' at the venue," said the official.

"The V-C is destroying the varsity. We have made several attempts to meet him in campus, but there has been no fruitful result," Ghosh said. Around 15 to 20 students who were graduating were sitting inside the auditorium main gate in solidarity with the protesters. "Historic day for us that we broke barricades, reached the convocation venue and met the minister. This could happen because we were united. This is not the end of our movement. We urged the HRD Minister to ask the V-C to have a dialogue with the students. It is due to him that things have come to be like this," said Ghosh. According to protesting students, they are opposing the new hostel manual draft, which the administration plans to implement.

Plan to...

From Page 1

The NCRPB area is a distinct setup having the National Capital Territory of Delhi as its core. The NCR covers over 55,083 sqkms of area with around 60 million population. The NCR areas include Gurugram, Faridabad, Rohtak, Sonapat, Rewari, Jhajjar, Mewat, Palwal, Panipat, Mahendragarh, Jind, Karnal, Bhiwani and Charkhi Dadri districts of Haryana. Alwar and Bharatpur districts of Rajasthan and Gautam Buddha Nagar, Ghaziabad, Meerut, Bulandshahr, Baghpat, Hapur, Muzaffarnagar and Shamli of Uttar Pradesh.

Eliminate social evils like corruption, atrocities: Manpreet

PNS ■ CHANDIGARH/SULTANPUR LODHI

Punjab Finance Minister Manpreet Badal on Monday appealed the people to celebrate the 550th birth anniversary of Guru Nanak Dev by eliminating the evils like corruption, atrocities, and poverty from the society. Manpreet, who along with Sultanpur Lodhi MLA Navtej Singh Cheema paid obeisance in 'Guru Nanak Darbar', said that the festive fervor of Parkash

Purab is not only limited to Punjab as it is being celebrated across the world.

"The life and preaching of Guru Nanak Dev have led a new way for the people to live life by following the message of God. The life on the earth could not be imagined without the birth of Guru," he said. Manpreet said that the first Guru has always motivated the people to help the deprived sections of the society without any discrimination. Guru Nanak's preachings have been well received by the fol-

lowers of different religions, he added. At the same time, he said that the Kartarpur Corridor has been opened for the pilgrims in the 21st century which is an indication for Punjab to cope with the heavy loss done to the State in the 20th century.

He congratulated the sangat for the opening of the corridor as it was being awaited by the devotees of Guru Nanak from several decades. He appealed to the new generation to follow the message of equality given by Guru Nanak Dev.

Sena plans exit from...

From Page 1

Sena's move to walkout of the NDA is not surprising, given the changing power-play at the Centre and the BJP outgrowing Sena in Maharashtra where the latter has a longer history and roots that are under imminent threat from the BJP's growing appetite for total control in the cash-rich State. Sena making friends with the opponents and "going against the mandate" (as BJP has sought to rationalise before stepping aside) may backfire for it. But the power-game, which overlooks larger public interest, has always been about cobbling up numbers.

Sena is no stranger to opportunism. Formed in 1966 by Bal Thackeray, it has like other parties enough experience of playing opportunist politics prior to teaming up with the ideological partner 25 years ago. Its alliance with Congress (O) in 1971 elections following a split of the Congress, and then even backing Indra Gandhi's Emergency are but a few examples of its non-ideological politics. Not just this, Bal Thackeray even aligned with Indian Union Muslim League leader Ghulam Muhammad Banatwala in the BrihanMumbai Corporation (BMC) election. History is merely repeating itself in

Maharashtra for the Sena.

Shrimoni Akali Dal (SAD), another long-time ally, has also felt the heavy hand of the BJP when it refused to share seats with SAD in the recent Haryana polls and even roped in the sole SAD MLA to its side before the elections. But there has not been any acrimony between the two with SAD supreme Parkash Singh Badal terming the alliance 'sacred'.

Former Prime Minister V P Singh, who ushered a coalition Government at the Centre in 1989 that was backed up by the left and the BJP, had once famously said "politics is art of managing contradictions". The 'contradictions' which Sena now seek to manage outside the 'saffron brotherhood' are apparently being handled deftly by a 'secular' Nitish Kumar within the NDA even though it refused to support the BJP-spearheaded legislation on the triple talaq, aimed at emancipating Muslim women.

Kumar returned to the NDA fold in 2017 after ditching 'secular' Rashtriya Lok Dal in Bihar and walking out from the alliance in 2013 with a rush of adrenaline saying the "Gujarat blot cannot be erased" and berating the "Gujarat model of development".

Nitish's JDU has not been represented at the Centre with

Narendra Modi in his second-inning refusing to part with more than one Cabinet berth to it. The compensation, however, is coming in form of Kumar's acceptance as Chief Ministerial candidate in the Assembly polls, next year, despite some recent contrarian murmuring within the Bihar BJP unit.

Coalition politics at the Centre had even before the start of the nineties witnessed strange bedfellows with political parties of all denominations and assorted 'ayarams-gayarams' suiting their convenience, making governments rise and fall. And politics at the State levels has experienced this fragmentation even earlier with 'national interest' as the umbrella cover or an 'innocent' euphemism for making a 'non-ideological' power alliance.

The State level politics and regional satraps, however, came under pressure after the ascendency of the BJP since 2014 which one by one scooped out national parties and regional players in the States and put itself in the driver's seat. At one stage BJP was ruling in 20 states before it was beaten back by the Congress in Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh.

The Sena revolt will now be a test as much for it as for the BJP.

Himachal Guv opens 400-year-old Lavi Fair

PNS ■ SHIMLA

Himachal Pradesh Governor Bandaru Dattatraya on Monday inaugurated the four-day long International Lavi fair at Rampur town and appealed to the people to contribute towards making the State free from drugs.

The Governor also stressed on 'Beti Bachao Beti Padhao' and the promotion of natural farming in the state. He said that fairs and festivals play an important role in preserving the rich cultural

heritage of state and every effort should be made to preserve it and to restore their old glory. Lavi fair has its own historical importance and is famous not only for trading activities but also for its age old long traditions, he added.

The Governor also said that such trade fairs provide self-employment opportunities to the rural people.

He said that this fair has remained an important trade fair between India and Tibet for centuries, and was a unique example of the glorious, social, cultural, economic history and

legacy of Himachal Pradesh. Even today, the tradition was as vibrant as ever, he added.

The Governor also hoped that all the folk artists of the district and other areas of the State would enthral the audience with their performances and leave an impression on the younger generation about the importance of socio-cultural and ethical values preserved by the hill people.

The fair will conclude on November 15.

The Lavi Fair, which is almost 400 years old, dates

back to the time when Raja Kehari Singh of Rampur Bushahr state signed a treaty to promote trade with Tibet. Rampur, 120 km from Shimla, was once a major trade centre as it is located on the old silk route connecting Afghanistan, Tibet and Ladakh. The traders from Tibet used to bring raw wool, herbs and leather products and take back wheat flour, rice, spices, butter, farm implements and livestock.

A three-day horse trade-cum-exhibition was organised before the beginning of the Lavi Fair.

ONIONHOARDING IT Dept survey traders' premises

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Income Tax (IT) Department on Monday surveyed commercial premises of some Onion traders in Maharashtra and Delhi following reports of alleged hoarding of the vegetable amid its skyrocketing prices. The department is examining the onion stocks as its prices have shot up to about ₹100 a kg in several parts of the country.

Onion prices have risen sharply for more than a month due to tight supply. As per the market data, onion price is ruling in range of ₹60-80 per kg in several parts of the country. Top sources said IT sleuths has raided offices of at least four big onion traders from Lasalgaon, largest market for wholesale trade of onions in the country. IT officials are checking account books of some wholesale dealers against physical stocks of the commodity and its delivery to buyers as the part of a tax evasion probe.

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- Highest rate of the bulb touched ₹57/kg on Monday. Average wholesale prices at Lasalgaon market have been ruling around ₹45 per kg. Traders fear that further spike in prices due to the high amount of damaged crops because of the unseasonal November rain
- IT sources said the Marketing Intelligence Unit of the department has recorded reports of hoarding of onion by big suppliers of Delhi and Maharashtra



IT sources said the Marketing Intelligence Unit of the department has recorded reports of hoarding of onion by big suppliers of Delhi and Maharashtra. To get rid of skyrocketing of onion prices, the Department of Consumers Affairs on Saturday decided to import one lakh tonnes of onion to control prices. The Government is also trying to facilitate import of onion through private traders from Egypt, Iran, Turkey, Dubai, Saudi Arabia and Afghanistan, for which phytosanitary and fumigation norms have been liberalised till November 30.

The decision was taken at a meeting of committee of secretaries held on Saturday.

"The Government has taken a decision to import 1 lakh tonnes of onion to control prices," Food and Consumer Affairs Minister Ram Vilas Paswan had said in a tweet on Saturday. Last week, Paswan had attributed the sharp rise in onion prices to 30-40 per cent fall in domestic production.

According to MMTTC, one tender will close on November 14, while the other will close on November 18. The first shipment of 2,000 tonnes should arrive at Indian ports immediately, while the second one can be delivered by December-end.

Bidders should quote for a minimum quantity of 500 tonnes. In case of inland container depot, the minimum bid quantity would be 250 tonnes. The exact supply order will be regulated in units of 250 tonnes, depending upon the requirement. Fresh onions can be imported from any country but the shipment should adhere to the phytosanitary and fumigation conditions, it added. MMTTC did not get positive response for its earlier onion import tender for 2,000 tonnes.

CRPF takes over security of Gandhis

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

After withdrawal of the 28 year long elite SPG cover, the CRPF has taken over the security duties of Congress president Sonia Gandhi and her children Rahul and Priyanka on Monday. A contingent of commandos of the Central paramilitary force armed with Israeli X-95, AK series and MP-5 guns took over the task at Sonia Gandhi's residence of 10, Janpath, said officials.

A similar squad has been placed at the residence of former Congress president Rahul Gandhi at Tughlaq Lane and Priyanka Gandhi Vadra's house in Lodhi Estate. The CRPF's VVIP security unit is overseeing the protection of the family, which is now graded in Z-Plus level security.

As per the authorisation approved by the Union Home Ministry, the new CRPF cover provides for an advanced security liaison (ASL) drill for the three VVIPs that will enable the commandos to conduct an advance reconnaissance of the venues and area to be visited by them.

The squad will have a canine component with them and they will also guard the premises of the three Congress leaders, said the officials. For some days, they said, the SPG will CRPF help the CRPF in the



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task and after that the CRPF VVIP security team will provide the protection independently with assistance of Delhi Police in the national capital and various police forces in the States.

When the leaders visit other areas, the CRPF team will work in association with the State police. The CRPF, the designated

lead force for conducting anti-Naxal operations and internal security tasks in the country, has about 52 other VVIPs under its cover, including Union Home Minister Amit Shah, former Prime Minister Manmohan Singh. Prime Minister Narendra Modi is now the only person to be protected by about 4,000-personnel-strong SPG.

INSHORT

INDIA WELCOMES RIYADH AGREEMENT

New Delhi: India on Monday welcomed signing of an agreement between the Yemeni Government and southern separatists, and hoped it will lead to an early settlement of conflict, resulting in peace, progress and prosperity for the people of that country. In response to a media query on India's position on the Riyadh Agreement, the Ministry of External Affairs Spokesperson Raveesh Kumar said, "India welcomes the signing of Riyadh Agreement between the Yemeni Government and the South Transitional Council on November 5 in Riyadh."

PM TO ATTEND 11TH BRICS SUMMIT IN BRAZIL



New Delhi: Prime Minister Narendra Modi will be in Brazil on November 13 and 14 to attend the 11th BRICS summit, the theme of which is "economic growth for an innovative future". This will be the sixth time Modi will be participating in the BRICS summit, his first being at Fortaleza, also in Brazil in 2014, a statement from the Prime Minister's Office said. Sources said he would leave for Brasilia, Brazil on Tuesday afternoon.

IFFI TO PAY TRIBUTE TO SILENT FILM VIEWING

New Delhi: 50th International Film Festival of India (IFFI) will be paying tribute to the lost form of silent film viewing in a specially curated section where three movies by master filmmakers Alfred Hitchcock, Sergei M Eisenstein and GW Pabst will be screened. The films are "Battleship Potemkin" by Russian pioneer of montage editing Eisenstein, "Pandora's Box" by German expressionist master Pabst and Hitchcock's "Blackmail".

IGNCA ORGANISES FOUR DAY MUSIC FEST

New Delhi: Much to the delight of music lovers and art connoisseurs, the Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts is organising a four-day musical extravaganza alongwith a wide variety of programmes including classical and folk music programmes, overnight concert, film festival, exhibitions, seminars, artists camp, books & DVD release lined up for its annual day celebrations from November 18-November 24.

Rajnath stresses on speedy self-reliance in Defence sector

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Stressing the need for speedy self-reliance in the Defence sector, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh on Monday emphasised on the importance of 'Ideation, Innovation and Incubation' in cutting edge technologies to achieve the goal of indigenisation.

Making this point here while addressing the inaugural session of 'DefConnect 2019' organised by the Ministry to showcase the accomplishments of the Innovations for Defence Excellence (IDEX) initiative, he said, "India is leading in the fields of technology and peace-keeping throughout the world. As a major power, it is equally important for us to strengthen our Defence manufacturing and research & development."

Singh also exuded confidence that India will become a USD 10 trillion economy in the next 10 to 15 years adding he



was filled with a sense of pride looking at the startups today and stressed that passionate incubation is needed for them. "Our Prime Minister Narendra Modi has set a target of USD 5 trillion economy by 2024. Looking at the talent India possesses, I am pretty confident that we can become USD 10 trillion economy in the next 10-15 years," he said.

The Minister also said India will emerge as a net innovator and net exporter of Defence technologies rather than a net importer said and stressed the confluence of knowledge and power are important for the progress of a country adding

that IDEX is emerging as a suitable platform for linking knowledge & power and tapping the energy of the youth.

The Minister hoped that this confluence will strengthen the Government's efforts to create a strong India which will further help in safeguarding the interests of the people as well as respond effectively to any misadventures.

Termining research, development and manufacturing as collaborative process, Singh called for building cohesion between public and private sector. He assured the Government's full support in the indigenisation of the Defence industry and nation building.

Speaking on the occasion, Defence Secretary Ajay Kumar said there never had been dearth of innovators in the country. However, IDEX has provided them with an opportunity to give the country cutting-edge technologies for the future.

SC to deliver verdict on pleas of disqualified K'taka MLAs tomorrow

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court is scheduled to pronounce on November 13 its verdict on the pleas of 17 disqualified Congress-JD(S) MLAs of Karnataka challenging the orders of the then Assembly speaker KR Ramesh Kumar to disqualify them.

A three-judge Bench of justices NV Ramana, Sanjiv Khanna and Krishna Murari had on October 25 reserved its verdict on the petitions filed by these disqualified MLAs.

Kumar had disqualified these 17 MLAs of ruling the Congress-JD(S) coalition ahead of a trust vote in July.

Then Chief Minister HD Kumaraswamy had resigned after losing the trust vote, which paved the way for the BJP-led Government in the

State under BS Yediyurappa.

Bypolls to 15 out of these 17 Assembly seats which fell vacant following the disqualification of MLAs are scheduled on December 5 and candidates are required to file their nomination papers between November 11 and November 18.

These disqualified MLAs have recently approached the apex court seeking a direction to the Election Commission to postpone the Assembly bypolls for these 15 seats till the pronouncement of verdict in the matter.

Some of these disqualified MLAs had argued in the apex court that they have an "indefeasible right" to resign as members of the Assembly and the decision by the then Speaker to disqualify them smacks of "vengeance" and "mala fide".

Centre justifies Art 370 decision in SC

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The Centre justified in the Supreme Court on Monday the abrogation of provisions of Article 370 of the Constitution, which gave special status to Jammu & Kashmir, saying the militants and separatist elements, with the support of foreign forces inimical to India, were taking advantage of the situation.

A five-judge Bench of Justice NV Ramana, Justice SK Kaul, Justice R Subhash Reddy, Justice BR Gavai and Justice Surya Kant is scheduled to take up for hearing a batch of petitions challenging abrogation of provisions of Article 370 and Article 35A on Nov 14.

In its reply to the batch of petitions, the Centre said that Article 370, in its original form, was constitutionally described as a temporary provision with respect to Jammu & Kashmir, formed a part of the

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Constitution of India as adopted by the Constituent Assembly on November 26, 1949.

The Centre's affidavit said it was observed over the years that the existing regime under Article 370 of the Constitution, and the exceptions/modifications carried out to other provisions of the Constitution of India by Presidential Orders issued under Article 370(1)(d), were impeding, rather than enabling or facilitating, the full integration of the erstwhile State of Jammu & Kashmir with the rest of the country which was neither in the national interest nor in the interest of Jammu & Kashmir.

Naidu nominates Manmohan Singh for Parliamentary panel

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Rajya Sabha Chairman Venkaiah Naidu has nominated former Prime Minister and senior Congress leader Manmohan Singh to the parliamentary standing committee on finance in place of party colleague Digvijay Singh, who has now been nominated to the parliamentary standing committee on urban development by the chairman of the Upper House.

"The Rajya Sabha chairman has nominated Manmohan Singh, member, Rajya Sabha, to be a member of the committee on finance in place of Digvijay Singh. The chairman has also nominated Digvijay Singh, member, Rajya Sabha, to be a member of the committee on urban development," the bulletin reads.

According to



sources Digvijay Singh resigned from the parliamentary standing committee on finance to make way for the former Prime Minister, Manmohan Singh, who was the country's Finance Minister between 1991 and 1996, was a member of the panel from September 2014 to May 2019 before his tenure in the Upper House ended in June this year. In August, he was elected unopposed to the Rajya Sabha from Rajasthan.

Carbon emissions from world's 20 biggest economies rising: Report

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Carbon emissions from the world's 20 biggest economies, including India, are rising, and the countries have to increase their emission targets that will put them on track to limit global warming to 1.5 degrees Celsius, a report by Climate Transparency, a global research body has cautioned.

To keep the Paris Agreement's 1.5 degrees goal within reach, G20 countries will have to increase their 2030 emission targets by 2020 and significantly scale up mitigation, adaptation and finance over the next decade, said the report 'New Brown to Green Report 2019' which was released on Monday.

It also said that none of the G20 countries have plans that will help them achieve the target even as 82 per cent of energy supply in these economies still comes from fossil fuels.

The report is the most comprehensive review of G20



countries' climate performance, mapping achievements and drawbacks in their efforts to reduce emissions, adapt to climate impacts and green the financial system.

Many of the current 2030 climate targets under the Paris Agreement (Nationally Determined Contributions or NDCs) are too weak, with about half of the G20 countries projected to meet or over-achieve their inadequate NDCs. Among the G20 countries, India has the most ambitious NDC. However, it still needs real action now to prepare the different sectors for stringent emission reductions,"

The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI) Programme Director (Earth Science and Climate Change) RR Rashmi said.

Energy-related carbon dioxide emissions in G20 countries shot up by 1.8 per cent in 2018 due to rising energy demand, the report said.

Clearly, energy supply is not getting cleaner; despite a more than five per cent rise in G20 total renewable energy supply in 2018, the share of fossil fuels in the G20 energy mix remains at 82 per cent.

In 2018, G20 emissions in the power sector increased by 1.6 per cent. While renewables now account for 25.5 per cent of power generation, this is not sufficient to outweigh the growth of emissions from fossil fuel sources. Coal needs to be phased out by 2030 in Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) countries and by 2040 globally, said the report.

Wheat cultivation lowers by 37% in ongoing season

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The cultivation of wheat is lowered by 37 per cent at 9.69 lakh hectare till last week of the ongoing rabi (winter) season of the 2019-20 crop year. Total acreage under all rabi crops was down by 15 per cent at 95.35 lakh hectare till last week of this season, as against 112.24 lakh hectare in the year-ago period.

An Agriculture Ministry official said the prospects of rabi sowing looks bright because of better soil moisture on account of good monsoon and reservoirs are also full. "Water levels in as many as 97 reservoirs are more than 80 per cent. This will ensure we have an excellent rabi crop this year," the official said. He also noted that rabi crops are mostly grown in irrigated area.

As per the agriculture Ministry's latest data released on Monday, farmers have planted wheat in an area of 9.69 lakh hectare till last week of this

WHEAT ACREAGE WAS LAGGING AT 74,000 HECTARE IN MP TILL LAST WEEK

season, compared with 15.35 lakh hectare a year ago. Sowing of wheat and other rabi crops begins from October, while harvesting from April onwards. Wheat is the main rabi crop.

Wheat acreage was lagging at 74,000 hectare in Madhya Pradesh till last week of this season, when compared with 6 lakh hectares in the year-ago period. In Punjab, farmers planted wheat in 4.20 lakh hectare as against 4.68 lakh hectare a year ago, while that in Haryana in 1.16 lakh hectare as against 1.19 lakh hectare in the said period.

Wheat planting, however, in Uttar Pradesh was covered in more area at 1.73 lakh

hectare till last week of this season as against 94,000 hectare a year ago, the data showed.

The lower wheat acreage, farm experts said, was due to late harvesting of 2019 kharif crops that has delayed sowing in some states, especially Madhya Pradesh. The curbs on stubble burning has also delayed land preparation.

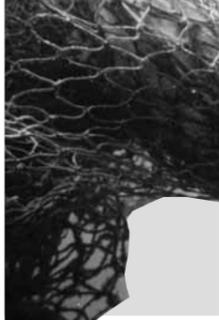
Among other rabi crops, area sown to pulses also remained lower at 27.85 lakh hectare till last week of this rabi season, as against 39.93 lakh hectare in the year-ago period.

Coarse cereals were also planted in lesser area at 12.39 lakh hectare as against 13.54 lakh hectare in the said period. However, the planting of oilseeds was undertaken in more area at 41.24 lakh hectare till last week of this rabi season as against 39.65 lakh hectare a year ago.

Rice planting area remained similar to the previous year's level of 5.77 lakh hectare in the said period.

Marine cleanliness drive begins for 50 beaches

ARCHANA JYOTI ■ NEW DELHI



Against the backdrop of more than 700 species of marine organisms in danger of extinction and marine animals like turtles and fishes known to ingest or get entangled in plastic debris in the sea, India on Monday kicked off a week-long mass

cleanliness drive to regain the beauty of its 50 beaches in coastal States/Union Territories like Gujarat, Daman & Diu and Maharashtra.

Under the 'Swachhchh — Nirmal Tat Abhiyaan', the Government is hoping to clean up the beaches and create awareness among citizens about the importance of coastal ecosystems. The campaign from November 11-17 will in total cleanup 50 beaches in the ten States. These include Karnataka, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Puducherry, Andhra Pradesh and Odisha. The beaches have

been identified after consultations with the States/UTs, said a senior official from the Union Environment Ministry.

To ensure that the drive is taken up as a mass movement, school/college students who are part of eco-clubs, district administration, institutions, volunteers, local communities and other stakeholders have been involved.

The two-hour duration drive aims to cover a minimum of a one kilometre stretch of the identified beach daily. Sand cleaning machines will be deployed at about 15 beaches,

the official added.

He said coastal debris includes plastic and other non-biodegradable synthetic materials discarded intentionally or unintentionally that enter the marine system. "This waste finds its way to the sea, does not undergo degradation and remains suspended in the water and often gets washed ashore as litter all along the coast. As high as 6.4 million tonnes of marine litter gets dumped into the seas annually," he added.

It is predicted that soon there will be more plastic than the fish in sea. A study by National Centre of Coastal Research (NCCR) last year too pointed out that plastic litter from tourism alone accounted for 40 per cent-96 per cent of all beach litter. It pointed out that at Chennai's Elliot's Beach, for instance, plastics like plastic bottles, cutlery and thermocol left by tourists accounted for 40 per cent of all the litter, while at Gopalpur in Odisha, it was as high as 96 per cent. As for the other four beaches, plastics formed 66 per cent of the overall litter on Fort Kochi

Beach, 60 per cent at Karnataka's Karwar beach, 87 per cent at Visakhapatnam's RK Beach, and 81 per cent at Andaman Island's Rangachang beach.

After tourism, fishing was the next biggest source of litter. MV Ramana Murthy, Director, NCCR, has called for a national marine litter policy to control and manage waste on land and prevent its entry into the marine environment.

"Other than the plastic litter dropped by tourists, similar waste from creeks and inlets made its way into the sea in the monsoon", he said.

A 2016 study has found that all seven species of turtles

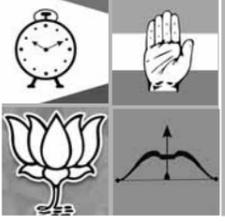
are known to ingest or get entangled in plastic debris in the sea, while more than 700 species of marine organisms are in danger of extinction.

This is for first time that the Centre has taken up marine garbage cleaning in such a large scale. So far just private companies or individuals have been engaged in mission.

For instance, lawyer Afroz Shah from Mumbai is known to inspire more than 2,00,000 volunteers to join him in clean up of Versova Beach while PepsiCo India has joined hands with Project Mumbai, an NGO, to participate in "Jalosh-Clean Coasts", biggest clean-up of nine Mumbai beaches and Mithi river.

Mahabharta of power

The Cong-NCP-Sena alliance for a Government is based on a seasonal hatred of the BJP. Can numbers work?



Maharashtra is no Karnataka, where a hung verdict had led to political machinations and a power surge of convenience. Yet in a shape-shifting scenario of permutations and combinations, Government formation is turning out to be a bizarre prospect despite a decisive electoral verdict. The Congress was desperate then, seized the advantage, was one up on the BJP but could not last even with like-minded partners in a coalition arrangement. It is still desperate for regaining a State that was its stronghold but in Maharashtra is faced between the devil and the deep sea. It cannot afford to settle with its enemy's enemy, namely the Sena, and put its credibility on the line by supporting the latter's Government from the outside. Nor can it afford to lose the heft of its ally, the Nationalist Congress Party (NCP), and play second fiddle to it, now that the latter has been invited by the Governor to stake a claim, and concede to its chief Sharad Pawar's acceptability among both the BJP and Sena. Predicted to be even more unstable than Karnataka, one hopes the Congress' decision doesn't give more ammunition to the BJP's charge that it is better to be *mukt* of it and a single party rule is the only way forward, be it in Lok Sabha or the States. The pre-poll alliance of the BJP-Shiv Sena, which has crumbled under the destabilising weight of egoistic turf wars, has put a question mark on the efficacy of alliance politics that the BJP-led National Democratic Alliance (NDA) has so far prided itself in. Particularly, when it loses a 30-year-old ally, that too one which has significantly helped in pushing a core Hindutva plank and Ayodhya. For all talk of development, the granularity of the BJP's fundamental ideology was left to the Sena to manage while the bigger party could bask in the benevolence of the idea of a grand Bharat Parv. In that sense, Sena was the fall guy for doing things with a fringe, parochial mindset and taking the blame for them with a vision limited to Jai Maharashtra. Now that the BJP has appropriated its only comfort zone and relegated it to secondary space, the Sena is making a desperate lunge to be seen and heard, relevant as it still is as a counterweight. With the election of Sena founder Balasaheb Thackeray's grandson Aaditya, it now feels it can indeed roar like a tiger than be the whimpering sidekick at a neighbourhood park. The BJP, with its Chief Minister-worthy leader in Devendra Fadnis, the man who even has the RSS' blessings, knows people trust it for providing a stable leadership. It knows the nakedly ambitious Sena could go around with a shopping bag but would not have a natural proximity, nor the leadership, compromised as it would be by the Congress-NCP conditions. In fact, it is sitting back to expose the Sena as a spoiler. And it wants to reap the spoils knowing that a new anti-BJP coalition could be wobbly without mutual convergence of interests.

The Congress is upon its worst moment of reconciliation, one that threatens its ideological consistency even if it were to support the Sena Government from outside, cede ground to the NCP and insist upon a common agenda of governance. How could it have justified itself supporting a Hindutva-driven aggression to its minority votebank or even accepted Sena's chief ministership? Aligning with the Sena would mean drawing attention to its own uncharitable history of using Thackeray to undercut its own dissidents and State leaders. Besides, it has worked with the Sena to get support on its contentious issues like the Emergency. Using the Sena to keep the BJP out, therefore, would be like jumping from the frying pan into the fire. Staying in would be more problematic than staying out. As for Pawar himself, everybody was surprised about the return of the true Marathi warrior, who held on despite BJP-engineered defections and is justifiably angry with the national party despite supporting it in 2014. But by going with the Sena, he would look just like any other greedy regional satrap though the NCP has made support conditional on Sena snapping ties with the BJP. Pawar has always enjoyed being kingmaker but does that mean he won't have a say as a king even with the Congress behind him? That's another ego battle at work. The only thing holding him and the Sena together is their seasonal hatred of the BJP. Maharashtra has anyway proved that arithmetic does not matter. The coalition of convenience may find it difficult to get stability considering the BJP will have the ammunition to stall them at each step and insist one Fadnis was better than a hydra-headed king. Sad for a State which is dealing with a serious farm crisis. Sadder for a people whose choices do not matter anymore.

Go for success

Shafali Verma's rapidfire 50 is evidence that the Indian cricket board needs to promote the women's game more



Purists might argue that it is a bit unfair to compare men's and women's sport even in the same game. But the recent achievement by teenage sensation Shafali Verma, who at two months short of 16 years struck an international 50 in a T20 international against the West Indies, is quite an achievement. Alongside the spectacular success of the Indian women's team in the last cricket world cup as well as the achievements of various members of the team, maybe it is pertinent to pose the question to the new boss of Indian cricket, Sourav Ganguly, on whether it is time for the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) or whatever new name that he wishes to give that organisation, to hold a professional Indian Premier League (IPL)-style contest for the women's game.

Critics might argue that the pool of talent in the women's game is far more limited. For the time being, this is a valid argument but only if there is an eight-team tournament for the IPL. A smaller, four-team tournament with additional slots for international talent may easily meet the competitive marks needed by any such competition. Evidence of the success of the short form of the women's game is seen in Australia, where the Women's Big Bash League (WBBL), which is played alongside the Australian T20 league, the BBL, has been a huge success and has made superstars out of players like Ellyse Perry and Alyssa Healy. Its inaugural games unearthed a 16-year-old gem in Phoebe Litchfield. The tournament has dramatically expanded Australia's women's cricket talent pool and with Cricket Australia committing to pay all its cricketers equally, they have taken the lead when it comes to equal opportunities. It will take a man to change the dynamics between men's and women's cricket in India and bring them to some level of parity. Sourav Ganguly can easily be the one. He was the visionary leader who laid the foundations of the success that Virat Kohli and his men enjoy today, over a decade after he retired. No Indian cricket fan doubts his dynamism and leadership abilities. Now, freed of the burden of the Committee of Administrators, Ganguly can effect lasting change. Change that can mean that girls like Shafali Verma can become superstars for every single Indian, much like the man whose record she broke, Sachin Tendulkar.

Historical reconstruction

The Supreme Court's landmark judgment on the disputed site in Ayodhya rests on historical evidence; the gains of which are civilisational



SANDHYA JAIN

Learned member of the five-judge Bench (not Constitution Bench) wisely collated the evidence regarding Sri Ram's birthplace and appended it to the Supreme Court's verdict of November 9, granting the disputed site to Ram Lalla Virajman. The 116-page addendum highlights the Vishwa Hindu Parishad's (VHP) gigantic efforts to collect every scrap of evidence to legally establish Hindu belief in the birthplace of Vishnu's avatar. The evidence is compelling. Critics, who allege that the judgment privileged one community, have not read the 1,045-page document.

As the dispute centres on the destruction of the Ram Janmabhoomi temple at Ayodhya by Babur's general, Mir Baiq, evidence proving the sacredness of the shrine prior to 1528 is critical. The *Janma Sakhies* (biographies) of Guru Nanak Dev show he visited Ayodhya in 1510-1511 AD, before Babar's invasion of India. Later, Guru Tegh Bahadur and his son, Guru Govind Singh, also visited the temple at Ayodhya. Though the *Janma Sakhies* do not identify the exact place of the Janmabhoomi, Guru Nanak's visit shows that pilgrims were visiting Ayodhya prior to the temple's destruction. Thus, the faith and belief of Hindus regarding the location of Lord Ram's birthplace, as asserted in scriptures and sacred books, including *Valmiki Ramayana* and *Skanda Purana*, is not groundless.

During emperor Akbar's reign (1556-1605), Tulsidas composed the *Ramcharitmanas* (1574-75). The *Balakanda* shows Brahma urging Vishnu to save the gods, sages, *gandharvas* and Earth from Ravana's terror; Vishnu promises: "Fear not, o sages, Siddhas and Indra; for your sake I will assume the form of a human being. In the glorious solar race, I shall be born as a human being along with my part manifestations." (*Doha* 186-7) Vishnu grants a boon to sage Kasyapa and his wife Aditi to be born in Ayodhya as Dasaratha and Kausalya; Vishnu would take birth in the form of four brothers, "the ornament of Raghu's line".

Akbar's biography, *Ain-i-Akbari*, mentions Ayodhya as the residence of Ramachandra and one of the holiest places of antiquity. Traveller William Finch visited India from 1607 to 1611 AD and mentioned the ruins of Ramachandra's castle.

Father Joseph Tieffenthaler visited India between 1766 and 1771 AD and found in Oudh (Awadh) a famous place called Sita Rasoi on a mud hill. Emperor Aurangzeb got the fortress called Ramkot (Ramkot) demolished and a Muslim mosque, with triple domes, constructed at the same place. Tieffenthaler recounts that some said the masjid was constructed by "Babar" (Babur) and 14 black stone pillars of five span high from the fortress are visible there; 12 support the interior arcades of the mosque. He describes the *bedi* (cradle) of Ram and says Aurangzeb or Babur razed the temple "to deny the noble people, the opportunity of practicing their superstitions". However, the people "go around three times and prostrate on the floor." This is clear evidence that Hindus at the time of Tieffenthaler were worshipping the *janamsthan* as a deity.



The East India Gazetteer of Walter Hamilton (1828) notes that pilgrimage to Oudh are chiefly by the Ramata sect. Montgomery Martin in *History, Antiquities, Topography and Statistics of Eastern India* (1838), mentions the glory of Ayodhya. Edward Thornton's *Gazetteer of India* (1854) and *Gazetteer of the Territories under the Government of the East Indies Company of the native States on the Continent of India* (1858) gives details of Oudh.

Mirza Jaan's *Hadith-e-Sehba* (1856) states, "The above mentioned place is called seat of father of Lord Rama. Places of idol worshiping situated here were demolished... The place of worship is called the birthplace of Lord Rama and the place which is adjacent to it is called 'Sita Ki Rasoi'... At that place, Babar Shah got constructed a very big masjid under the supervision of Sayyad Musha Ashiqan in the year 923 Hijri and its history is still maintained. Today, the above-mentioned 'Sita Ki Rasoi' is called the 'masjid'. The learned judge observed, "The book candidly accepts that at the *janamsthan* of Lord Ram, (a) mosque was constructed by Babar."

In 1858, the British Government annexed Awadh, after which all official reports, correspondences and orders cite the "Mosque" as "Mosque Janma Sthan." The *Historical Sketch of Tehsil Fyzabad, Zillah Fyzabad* by P. Carney, Officiating Commissioner and Settlement Officer of Ayodhya and Fyzabad (1870), states that Ayodhya is to Hindus what Mecca is to the Mohammedans and Jerusalem to the Jews. Carney categorically stated that at the place of *janamsthan*, emperor Babar built a Mosque, which still bears his name, in AD 1528. These facts are repeated in several subsequent Gazetteers.

AKBAR'S BIOGRAPHY, AIN-I-AKBARI, MENTIONS AYODHYA AS THE RESIDENCE OF RAMACHANDRA AND ONE OF THE HOLIEST PLACES OF ANTIQUITY. TRAVELLER WILLIAM FINCH VISITED INDIA FROM 1607 TO 1611 AD AND MENTIONED THE RUINS OF RAMACHANDRA'S CASTLE

The report of the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) of North West Provinces and Oudh (1889) states, "The old temple of Ramachandra at *janamsthanam* must have been a very fine one, for many of its columns have been used by the *Muslimans* in the construction of Babar's masjid." Alois Anton Fuhrer's report of the ASI (1889), *The Sharqi Architecture of Jaunpur; with Notes on Zafarabad, Sahet-Mahet and other places in the North-Western Provinces and Oudh*, states that Babar's Masjid at Ayodhya was built on the very spot where the old temple *janamsthan* of Ramchandra was standing. Fuhrer reiterates this in *Monumental Antiquities and Inscriptions in the North-Western Provinces and Oudh* (1891). Obviously, Prof BB Lal's excavations followed ASI precedents.

The *Gazetteer of Bara Banki, Vol 48* (1921), mentions that in 1853, the Bairagis seized the *janamsthan* temple land (pg 169), prompting Muslims led by Amir Ali, to march towards Ayodhya. They were intercepted by Col Barlow of the First Regiment of Oudh; the regiment was wiped out and Amir Ali and many others were killed.

On November 30, 1858, Syed Mohammed Khatib Moazzim of the Babri Mosque complained that one Nihang Singh had constructed an earth *chabutra* (platform), written "Ram Ram" inside the mosque, and was conducting *havan* (rituals) there. There are several pleas by mosque officials for the removal of the *chabutra*. In 1866, Bairagis placed an idol inside the premises. In 1877, the Deputy Commissioner, Ayodhya, granted permission to Khem Das, Mahant, *janamsthan*, to open the door in the mosque's northern wall to give Hindus a separate route to the site. In 1934, a dome was damaged in a riot, which the administration got repaired.

These accounts prove that Hindus continuously struggled to access and worship the site; hence the Sunni Wafk Board could not establish possessory rights over it. The judgment rests on historical evidence; the gains are civilisational.

(The writer is Senior Fellow, Nehru Memorial Museum and Library; the views expressed are personal)

SOUNDBITE

India was once known as *Vishwaguru*. The time has come for the country to once again emerge as a global hub of learning.



Vice President —M Venkaiah Naidu

If I have any claim to the word 'icon' it's only because I was on an iconic show, with an iconic cast, and an iconic haircut. *Friends* was the gift of a lifetime.



Actor —Jennifer Aniston

We welcome the opening of the Kartarpur corridor and hope that both sides continue to show goodwill to resolve differences through dialogue.



Chinese official —Geng Shuang

If Babri Masjid is illegal, then why is Advani being tried for its demolition and if it was legal then why is Advani getting the land?



AIMIM leader —Asaduddin Owaisi

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Accepting the verdict

Sir — This refers to the report, "Ram gets back his birthplace" (November 10). The historic Ayodhya verdict and the grace with which it was accepted by the people proved the maturity of the Indian democracy, its judiciary and citizens. All apprehensions of post-verdict tension proved wrong as not a single untoward incident was reported. Indeed, there could have been no better solution to the 492-year-old dispute.

The construction of the Ram Mandir in Ayodhya had been on the BJP's poll agenda for long, which helped it consolidate its supporters. On the other hand, Opposition parties left no opportunity to accuse the saffron party for not fulfilling its promise.

BJP president LK Advani's rath yatra from Somnath to Ayodhya played a major role in the party's ascent to power. After the Supreme Court verdict on Ayodhya, it is now expected that party leaders will refrain from politicising this issue and instead concentrate on more serious issues plaguing the nation.

MC Joshi Lucknow

Welcoming Kartarpur

During Partition, Shakargarh, a *tehsil* on the right bank of Ravi River where Kartarpur is located, went to Pakistan and Gurdaspur, a *tehsil* on the left bank of Ravi River, remained with India. The opening of the much-awaited corridor, connecting Dera Baba Nanak in Punjab with Darbar Sahib Kartarpur in Pakistan, was a long-cherished dream for the Sikh Panth. Kartarpur Sahib, where the founder of Sikhism, Guru Nanakji, spent almost 18 years of his life teaching and preaching and which was his final resting abode, is what Mecca is for the Muslims. The new corridor will allow Sikh pilgrims holding a special permit to freely visit the shrine.

Immediately after assuming power, Pakistan Prime Minister Imran Khan made a promise to construct the Kartarpur corridor before the 550th birth anniversary of Guru Nanakji, a gesture that found immediate traction with the Sikh community. The BJP-Akalis Dal combine, which seemed rather unconcerned initially, reversed its position quickly, sensing a possible Sikh backlash. As is common these days, a section of the electronic media indulged in continuous double-speak on Pakistan and the architects of the corridor, in line with the mood of



the ruling party. Fortunately, Sikhs are sensible and are difficult to sway. Punjab exhibited extraordinary resilience to the mischievous representations unleashed in Pakistan and kept its peace. The Kartarpur passage has within it the spark to convert itself into a "corridor of peace" in the region.

Haridasan Rajan Kozhikode

A true legend

Sir — As the Chief Election Commissioner, TN Seshan not only ushered in strict electoral reforms for the enforcement of the Moral Code of Conduct but he gave the Election Commission

of India (ECI) the much-needed spine. He took the electoral body to greater heights of authority, credibility and visibility. It is testimony to his strong character and personality that people can relate with him when it comes to elections. We may not remember him

as the first man to become the Election Commissioner but for his strong character. He took charge in an era of booth capturing and rigging but literally transformed the way elections are now conducted in our country.

Bal Govind Noida

Stupendous victory

Sir — Kudos to team India for accomplishing an exceptional victory in the third T20 international match played against Bangladesh. The middle order batsmen must be commended for playing responsible knocks in the series decider. After early dismissal of Indian openers Rohit Sharma and Shikhar Dhawan, the need was for a composed partnership between the two batsmen to accelerate the team to a massive total. KL Rahul's scintillating 52 and Shreyas Iyer's outrageous 62 proved to be the one.

Being asked to bowl in the second innings by the toss winning team, especially at a time when there is dew on the ground, it seemed like a strenuous task for Indian bowlers. But Deepak Chahar accomplished the best bowling figures in T20 internationals, taking six wickets for just seven runs in a spell of 3.2 overs. He did something one would never have anticipated.

Tushar Anand Patna

Send your feedback to: letterstopioneer@gmail.com

FIRST COLUMN

Not a coup, just a big blunder

If you are going to rig the vote, do it from the start. Don't wait until the count shows that your candidate is not doing well and then intervene



GWYNNE DYER

Democracy is in danger in Bolivia as the result of legitimate pressures from the poor. We cannot generate economic growth and well-being for a few and then expect that the large majorities that are excluded will watch silently and patiently. A recent President of Bolivia said that, but it wasn't Evo Morales (who has just quit, plunging the country into chaos). It was Carlos Mesa, the man whom Morales tried to cheat out of the presidency in last month's election. Mesa said it in 2005, the last time he was President, just before he quit and Morales won a landslide victory in the election triggered by the former's resignation.

Most outside commentators used to stick to a simple script when talking about Bolivia. Evo Morales was the good guy, because he was the country's first indigenous President (he grew up speaking Aymara, and only learned Spanish as a young adult) and because he looked like and seemed to care about the poor majority of Bolivians.

On the other hand, Carlos Mesa belongs to the privileged white minority (15 per cent of the population) who have always controlled both the politics and the wealth, so he must be the bad guy. But his face doesn't fit the frame: He is an historian and television journalist and he resigned from the presidency in 2005 after trying and failing to nationalise the country's gas industry.

Evo Morales took his place, and he did better. Morales nationalised not only oil and gas but the tin and zinc mines and key utilities as well. He got away with it, where Mesa couldn't, because he paid out good compensation to the owners — and he could do that because Bolivia was riding a commodities boom that tripled the country's Gross Domestic Product in 15 years.

The boom has been over for a while now and a more cunning politician than Morales might have decided to let Mesa win this election. Then, as the country's income dropped further, Mesa would have got the blame for downsizing the welfare State Morales built, and Morales could return to power triumphantly in five years, claiming that Mesa had betrayed the poor. Morales' mistake was to believe that he was the indispensable man. He clung to office too long, and now he is toast. He will retain enough of a following to be a permanent political nuisance but he has embarrassed his country and he's unlikely ever to hold high office again. Under the new constitution of 2009, promulgated by Morales himself, a Bolivian President is entitled to only two five-year terms. But as he got closer to the 2019 deadline, Morales changed his mind and in 2016 he held a referendum that proposed to allow the President any number of terms. He lost. So Morales went to the Supreme Electoral Tribunal, which is dominated by his own party. Unsurprisingly, the tribunal agreed that the two-term constitutional limit violated his 'human rights' — so there he was last month, seeking a fourth term as President in a race with eight other candidates.

Everybody knew that Morales would lead and Mesa would be the runner-up in the first round of voting. Many suspected that Mesa would pick up more votes and overtake Morales in the second round — so his advisers decided that he had to win in the first round. He could do that only if he were ahead of Mesa by at least 10 per cent of the votes cast.

On October 20, the 'fast count' of the national vote went smoothly until 84 per cent of all the votes had been counted — at which point it became clear that Morales was not going to have a big enough lead over Mesa. So suddenly the counting stopped, and did not resume for 24 hours. It then showed Morales with a 10.1 per cent lead over Mesa, so no second round was needed. All hail Morales's fourth term!

But the vote-rigging was just too blatant and for almost three weeks the protesters have been in the streets. By last weekend even the police were refusing to defend Morales. When the election monitors from the Organisation of American States delivered their verdict on Sunday, saying that there were "serious security flaws" in the computer systems and "clear manipulation" of the count, Morales resigned. The election results were cancelled and it's pretty clear that he will not be a candidate when the re-run happens.

How much damage has all this done? Not much. Bolivia used to hold the world record for military coups, but everybody behaved reasonably well this time. Most of the good things Morales did, like entrenching the rights of indigenous communities in the constitution, will survive him. Carlos Mesa, who will almost certainly be the next President, has a very different style, but he is not hostile to most of Morales's goals. And here's a take-away for everybody in politics: If you are going to rig the vote, do it from the start. Don't wait until the count shows that your candidate is not doing well and only then intervene to fix it. Amateurs!

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

POINT COUNTERPOINT

THE MANDATE WAS FOR A BJP-SENA ALLIANCE. IF THE SENNA WANTS TO FORM THE GOVERNMENT WITH THE CONGRESS AND THE NCP, WE WISH THEM GOOD LUCK.

—MAHARASHTRA BJP CHIEF CHANDRAKANT PATIL



WHERE WAS THEIR IDEOLOGY WHEN THEY FORMED THE GOVERNMENT IN J&K WITH THE PDP, WITH MAYAWATI IN UP AND WITH NITISH KUMAR IN BIHAR?

—SHIV SENNA MP ARVIND SAWANT

Time to secure South Asia

Regional economic integration remains the only option for addressing the long-standing, protracted interstate tensions in South Asia



M ASHRAF HAIDARI

The South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) Chamber of Commerce recently hosted a conference on "Regional Economic Integration: A Catalyst for Socioeconomic Prosperity in South Asia."

I welcomed this timely forum. Afghanistan, a country-participant and member-State of SAARC, has long been advocating for an acceleration of regionwide efforts to jump-start the process of regional economic integration. Doing so can indeed be a catalyst for the sustainable development of all South Asian nations, which hold so much promise in terms of both natural and human resources that should be harnessed for lifting the whole region out of poverty, disease, environmental degradation, and other challenges that directly feed terrorism, extremism and criminality in the region.

At the same time, regional economic integration remains the only option for addressing the long-standing, protracted interstate tensions in South Asia. We know this from the bitter experiences of Europe during the 18th, 19th, and early 20th centuries, where the pursuit of zero-sum foreign policies and militarism eventually led to the utter destruction of the whole continent in the two world wars.

But, in the wake of World War-II, Europeans realised that what unfortunately remains the status quo in South Asia would no longer serve their shared best, long-term national security and economic interests.

That is why they gradually but steadily moved toward long-term economic integration, which they understood could help address their short and long-term human and protective security needs, which were increasingly intertwined. Those needs could no longer be ensured by the pursuit of the same zero-sum approaches that caused two devastating wars.

These harsh experiences and Western Europe's resulting adoption of a common economic market soon, began inspiring other regions of the world to form such regional groupings as the SAARC, the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), the Eurasian Economic Community (EEC), the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA), the African Union (AU), and the Union of South American Nations (USAN), to name a few.

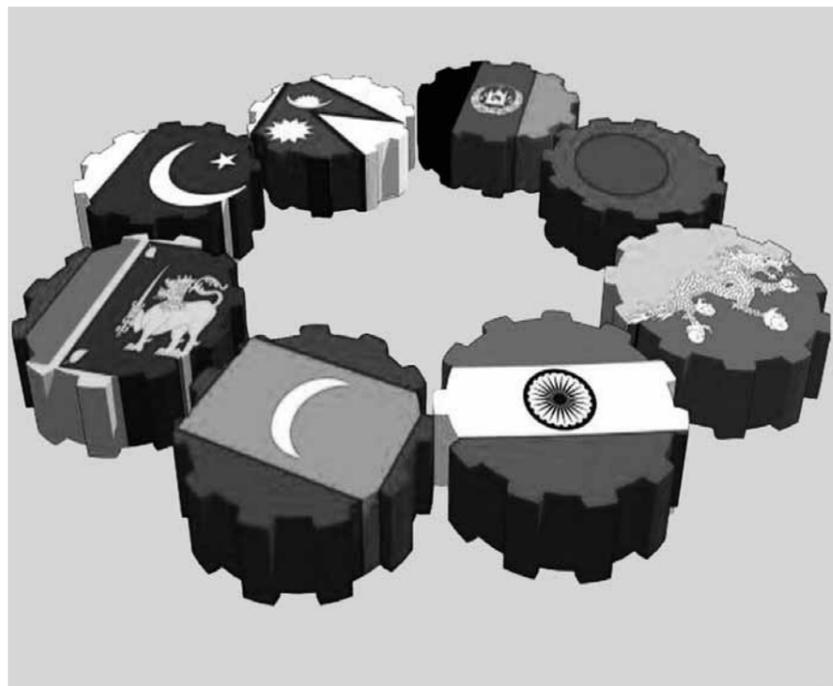
As we know, however, not all these regional groupings have achieved their dream of meaningful economic integration on a par with Europe associations.

SAARC stands out in having lagged far behind others because two of its key member-States remain hostile to each other. This continues to hinder efforts by the other member-States, including Afghanistan and Sri Lanka, to make steady progress toward regional economic integration, which underpinned the vision and mission of SAARC when it was established in 1985.

As we continue advocating for cooperation against confrontation among our neighbours, Afghanistan has consistently pursued a foreign policy that promotes regional economic cooperation against zero-sum hedging strategies.

We strongly believe that the replacement of confrontational policies at the regional level,

SAARC STANDS OUT IN HAVING LAGGED FAR BEHIND OTHERS BECAUSE TWO OF ITS KEY MEMBER-STATES REMAIN HOSTILE TO EACH OTHER. THIS CONTINUES TO HINDER EFFORTS BY THE OTHER MEMBER-STATES, INCLUDING AFGHANISTAN AND SRI LANKA, TO MAKE STEADY PROGRESS TOWARDS REGIONAL ECONOMIC INTEGRATION, WHICH UNDERPINNED THE VISION AND MISSION OF SAARC WHEN IT WAS ESTABLISHED IN 1985



with those of cooperative, win-win partnerships would gradually minimise the existing interstate tensions in South Asia. And this would enable SAARC to realise its vision, knowing that South Asia is an extremely young and naturally-endowed region where our youths demand jobs and a secure future in a common, interdependent neighbourhood.

Indeed, this won't come to pass unless South Asian Governments learn relevant lessons from pre and post-war Europe, that would encourage them to make tough but necessary policy choices against the status quo for achieving shared peace and prosperity across the region through economic integration.

The Government of Afghanistan has done its part and continues to do so. Despite the imposed security challenges the nation is facing, Afghanistan has put forth a strategic solution for adoption and implementation by its near and far neighbours: The Heart of Asia-Istanbul Process (HOA-IP) on Regional Security and Cooperation for a Secure and Stable Afghanistan and the Regional Economic Cooperation Conference on Afghanistan (RECCA). These Afghanistan-led processes were established to help secure regional cooperation for Afghanistan's stabilisation and sustainable development, thereby ensuring regionwide stability and prosperity, which SAARC strives to accomplish.

Even though HOA-IP and RECCA remain underutilised so far, it is in the best short and long-term interests of the countries — including India and Pakistan — that participate

in the two processes, to achieve the shared goals of the two platforms. Of course, every tangible step they take to utilise these interconnected processes will help minimise their own and other nations' security and socioeconomic vulnerabilities against the terrorist-extremist-criminal nexus that victimises Afghanistan more than any other country in the region.

This constructive thinking underpins our growing ties with the friendly Government and people of Sri Lanka, with whom Afghanistan shares an ancient civilisation.

Since I took up my assignment as Afghanistan's Ambassador to Sri Lanka last year, we have worked to further expand our bilateral relations with a focus on promoting full-spectrum connectivity that builds deeper economic, defence, cultural, and people-to-people ties between Afghanistan, Sri Lanka and the rest of South Asia.

In this light, we have met with numerous businesses, including members of Sri Lanka's chambers of commerce, to discuss the vast bilateral trade potential that needs to be realised.

More recently, high-powered Afghan delegations have met with the representatives of the Ceylon Chamber of Commerce; the Colombo Chamber of Commerce; the National Chamber of Commerce as well as the International Chamber of Commerce of Sri Lanka to discuss the formation of an Afghanistan-Sri Lanka Business Council to promote exchange of trade teams, business-to-business meetings and business match-making conferences, which should facilitate bilat-

eral investment between the two nations. To this end, we look forward to finalising and signing with Sri Lanka a memorandum of understanding (MoU) on trade and investment promotion and protection.

This step, together with our bilateral air services agreement, should facilitate the establishment of a direct passenger and cargo flight between Kabul and Colombo. When this happens as one of the country's key goals, Afghans and Sri Lankans should be able to reconnect with their shared heritage through tourism, trade, investment, education and cultural exchange.

Indeed, the achievement of this bilateral goal will help South Asia as a least connected region, make a giant leap forward towards regional economic integration — effectively connecting SAARC's northernmost member-State, Afghanistan, with its southernmost counterpart, Sri Lanka.

And this necessary connectivity will undoubtedly benefit the rest of South Asia where the challenges that face our nations and the opportunities that we must exploit to our shared advantage are increasingly intertwined. That is why others in the SAARC should consider doing away with the prevailing zero-sum approaches and join Afghanistan and Sri Lanka to operationalise the vision of SAARC for the common economic benefit of all of its member-States with increased interdependencies.

(The writer is the Ambassador of Afghanistan to Sri Lanka, as well as a Senior International Security Fellow at the New America in Washington-DC)

Indians voted for reforms in 2019 LS polls

The Finance Minister has indicated that a lot of the market rectifications or some of the other structural changes often on the list of economists are well on the cards, as a mandate of 303 makes them possible



KARAN BHASIN

The year 2019 will go down in Indian history as a critical juncture that changed the country's trajectory. With a switch in our direction, it is evident that we're going to change our eventual destiny. For the first time in 48 years of the country's political history, India elected a second term, full-majority Government in 2019.

It was also for the first time in the country's history that Indians voted for a reformist Government, thereby signalling a new dawn in the nation's politics. The electoral results broke the myth of the citizens voting against reforms, which prevailed in academic discussions for many years. Any analysis of the

developments of different events in 2019 cannot be without a detailed discussion on the significance of 303 seats.

The subsequent full majority Government of Prime Minister Narendra Modi comes with the backdrop of improved numbers for the BJP in the Rajya Sabha and a long list of States where the saffron party is currently in power. All of this opens interesting opportunities for some of the long-standing politically-sensitive, yet important economic reforms. More importantly, it gives the BJP the necessary political capital to take tough decisions.

Be it the issue of triple talaq or of Article 370, we see an unflinching commitment by the Government to its manifesto. Especially the so-called 'core' agenda of the BJP such as the Uniform Civil Code (UCC), Article 370 and the issue of construction of the Ram Temple. The way things stand, in 2019 at least two of these core promises have been delivered, one by the BJP and the other by the Supreme Court. It is important to

recognise the significance of both these achievements, as these were extremely challenging and contentious issues with severe political and social repercussions. The handling of both these issues has been with utmost care and this shows the level of empathy by our executive, judicial and legislative bodies. The Prime Minister's address after the judgment is extremely important as he welcomed the verdict and gave a call for the creation of a 'New India'. The theme of 'New India' seems to be consistent with Modi's agenda to build a more inclusive, dynamic and equitable society.

The focus is on creation of equal opportunities to ensure upward mobility in the nation's economy. The Government has drastically pivoted India's welfare programmes away from the leaky socialist ones. Smart welfare in the form of Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) must be viewed as a tool that aims at creating a basic and decent standard of living for all. This is also the year when India initiated one of the bold-est corporate tax cuts in its history.

In fact, the reductions were one of the largest tax cuts in the 21st century. Their significance is difficult to fathom for many commentators, but the fact that it makes our tax rates competitive amongst other East Asian countries after a really long time, illustrates the importance of the same.

The Finance Minister too indicated that a lot of the market reforms or some of the other structural reforms often on the list of economists are well on the cards, as a mandate of 303 makes them possible. Recall the land ordinance during Modi 1.0, which became a problem because of the lack of numbers in the Rajya Sabha. Now there is no such problem and therefore, critical reforms such as land reforms can become a reality sooner rather than later.

The fact that growth is slower in 2019 is also an important thing that many have ignored. With the slow-down coming early in the term of Modi 2.0, we are likely to see a lot of reforms to address some of the long-standing issues that affect the

economy. A bulk of these reforms have become necessary and urgent such as the corporate tax cuts. As it is often said, one should never miss an opportunity for reforms and certainly Modi 2.0 is not a Government to shy away from them. The significance of it all is that as the BJP delivers on its core agenda, Modi has created a new agenda of developing a 'New India'.

This implies an unflinching commitment towards economic growth and development for the next couple of years, which will likely result in a transformation of the country's economy and society.

The manifesto of the BJP seems to have become a form of social contract between the party and the people. It is this form of social contract that has enabled the growth of the party across the country, giving it further political capital to fulfil its promises.

It is interesting to also point out that just as the BJP is expanding, old allies like the Shiv Sena have parted ways. The power struggle between the two old partners over

the issue of rotational chief ministership and the subsequent falling out have plunged the State into a crisis of governance till the vexed *kissa kursi ka* (who will rule) Maharashtra is settled.

Clearly, none of the political parties in the country have learnt their lessons from the Karnataka debacle or the unsuccessful Jammu & Kashmir experience, which showed very clearly that unnatural alliances only result in misgovernance and political instability does more damage to institutions over a period, than anything else.

In the future, when fresh elections are held in Maharashtra, the people of the State will definitely ask all these political parties some tough questions. They will ask why their mandate to the saffron alliance was not respected and why governance in Maharashtra was put on hold for many days after the people had given their verdict.

At the end of the day, politics and economics are always intertwined and that is precisely why one needs to watch out and learn vital

lessons from such developments.

No matter, what the result of the political games and machinations in Maharashtra, the fact remains that the sooner the reins of the State come into responsible hands, the faster the beleaguered State that has been reeling under a farm and water crisis, can head on the path of economic development.

More importantly, no matter how one looks at 2019, one finds significant political, social and cultural developments that are likely to have significant consequences for the future of the Indian economy. The BJP has an unflinching commitment to its social contract, which is resulting in further consolidation of its power.

With just another month and a half before 2019 ends, nobody knows what more is likely to happen, but one thing is for sure, Indian politics and the country are likely to have transformed into something better by the end of the year.

(The writer is a New Delhi-based public policy researcher)

CYCLONE BULBUL

Didi announces ₹2L to kin of deceased

PTI ■ KAKDWIP (WB)

Leading the administration in South 24 Parganas district for its initiatives to minimise the impact of Cyclone 'Bulbul', West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee on Monday announced a compensation of ₹2 lakh for the families of those killed in the storm.

Banerjee also constituted a task force to look into the relief and restoration work.

She urged people to "stay positive" and stand beside those who have been affected by the cyclone.

Cyclone 'Bulbul', which made landfall between Sagar Islands in South 24 Parganas and Kheppupara in Bangladesh, claimed at least 10 lives and affected six lakh people in different parts of Bengal.

As many as 1.78 lakh people have been shifted to 471 relief camps set up in the state.

The CM, following an aerial survey of the cyclone-ravaged areas of Namkhana and Bakkhali, held an administrative meeting here to review the work being undertaken in the aftermath of the disaster.

"My administration did a commendable job. The devastation, otherwise, could have been far more... If they (officials) had not rescued 1.78 lakh people, I cannot say what would have happened. They



will be rewarded. Even the central government applauded (the efforts)," she said.

Stressing that restoration of power supply, provisions for clean drinking water and medicines were the need of the hour, Banerjee asked officials to reach out to people and ensure that the aid was evenly distributed without affecting peace in the region.

She appointed Chief Secretary Rajiva Sinha as the head of the task force — which, she said, would be reviewing the ongoing relief work every 48 hours.

Taking note of the damage caused to beetle leaf cultivation and paddy in the district, the TMC supremo directed departments of irrigation, forest and power to work in tandem for

restoring normalcy.

The Trinamool Congress supremo also advised the officials to take help of civic volunteers of Accredited Social Health Activist (ASHA), Integrated Child Development Services (ICDR) to speed up the relief operations.

A total of 323 kitchens have been opened to cater to the cyclone-hit families and 94 boats employed to aid in the restoration work, the CM said.

"As of now, reports suggest that six lakh people have been affected by the cyclone. The number might increase in the days to come," she added.

Banerjee is set to visit cyclone-affected areas of Basirhat in North 24-Parganas on Wednesday.

Power services in cyclone-hit areas of Odisha, Bengal restored; phones soon

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Power services in cyclone 'Bulbul' hit areas in West Bengal and Odisha have been restored on Monday, while telecommunication links are expected to be back soon.

This was conveyed at a meeting of the National Crisis Management Committee (NCMC), chaired by Cabinet Secretary Rajiv Gauba, which took stock of the relief and restoration works in the aftermath of the cyclone over West Bengal and Odisha. West Bengal reported seven human casualties, damages to about one lakh houses and standing crops, an official statement said.

While electricity has been restored, telecom services are expected to be restored shortly. Though no human casualty was reported from Odisha, there has been extensive damage to standing crops in over two lakhs hectares. Power and water supplies have been restored barring a few areas where services are expected to be resumed by Tuesday, the statement said.

The NCMC assured all central assistance in terms of additional stocks of food items,

drinking water, health services as well as restoration of telecom and power services. Central teams would be visiting the affected areas in both the states within this week to take stock of the damages.

Both the states indicated that they are carrying out detailed assessment after which they may seek specific central assistance, if required.

It may be recalled that IMD had provided regular and timely alerts on a sustained basis about the cyclone to the states. Concerned central agencies including National Disaster Response Force (NDRF), Coast Guard etc have been fully involved in rescue and relief operations, the statement said.

Senior officers of the ministries of Home, Defence, Power, Telecommunications, Agriculture and Cooperation, Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution, Food Processing Industries, Health and Family Welfare, as well as those from NDRF and National Disaster Management Authority attended the meeting.

Senior officers from West Bengal and Odisha participated in the meeting through video conference.

Bodies of 4 fishermen missing in capsized trawler recovered

Kolkata: Bodies of four out of the nine fishermen who went missing after their trawler capsized off Mousuni Island in West Bengal under the impact of Cyclone Bulbul were recovered in a joint operation by the Indian Coast Guard and the NDRF, a senior Coast Guard officer said Monday.

The trawler had capsized on Saturday midnight 50 metre off the island when it was caught in the severe cyclone, which made its landfall between Sagar Island in South 24 Parganas and Kheppupara in Bangladesh.

The four bodies were recovered after sustained hunt, Commander of Coast Guard, West Bengal and Deputy Inspector General S R Dash told.

The bodies have been handed over to the district administration, he said.

Dash said the search operation will resume Tuesday to locate the other missing fishermen who were onboard the trawler when it capsized off Mousuni Island in South 24 Parganas district under the impact of the high-speed cyclone.

Coast Guard and NDRF teams have been engaged in the rescue operation since the mishap.

Cyclone 'Bulbul' after its landfall on Saturday midnight



had hurtled northeastwards into neighbouring Bangladesh over the Sunderban delta.

Commandant of NDRF 2nd Battalion, Nitish Upadhyay told on Monday that deep divers of the force are searching the sea to locate the missing fishermen as time runs short for the hapless men.

Dash said the Coast Guard has pressed two hovercraft in the search operation. Each hovercraft comprises a pilot, a co-pilot and eight crew men and they are conducting sorties from Fraserganj coast.

Commandant Deepak Singh of Coast Guard, Haldia is commanding the hovercrafts.

According to other sources there were 13 fishermen in the trawler and four of them had swum to safety. The where-

abouts of the rest nine were not known before the four bodies were found.

Dash said the Coast Guard has been bracing for the cyclone situation since November 6 and its personnel had sensitised people of all the coastal villages.

Nadia-based NDRF 2nd Battalion commandant said a total 10 teams of the force have been engaged in three West Bengal districts — North 24 Parganas, South 24 Parganas and East Medinipur before the cyclonic storm made its landfall.

Upadhyay said the NDRF teams are rendering assistance to district administration post-cyclone to remove uprooted trees and in restoration work. **PTI**

Make Bengali, other languages as JEE exam medium: TMC

SAUGAR SENGUPTA ■ KOLKATA

The ruling Trinamool Congress has once again demanded inclusion of Bengali as a medium in the All-India Joint Entrance Examinations (Mains) decriing Central Government's "arbitrary" decision to do the same favour to Gujarati leaving aside all the other recognised languages of the country.

All-India examinations are normally conducted in Hindi and English only.

Attacking the Centre for trying to impose one State and its language (read Gujarati) upon the remaining others TMC Member of Parliament Abhishek Banerjee asked, "why should there be a bias for one particular state and language? Why should other States and languages be ignored for that purpose?" reminding, "India belongs all its citizen and not only on particular State," and arguing "such arbitrary

approach of the Centre will not be tolerated."

Addressing a rally against the Centre's "unprecedented decision to provide special status to Gujarati language," he said "we will make a demand to include Bengali too for JEE exams and if our demand is not met then we will snatch our demand from Delhi," the Diamond Harbour MP who is also the nephew of Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee said.

Circuitously attacking Union Minister Babul Supriyo for justifying the Centre's decision to exclude all other languages in favour of Gujarati senior Bengal Minister Subroto Mukherjee said "a young BJP Minister is trying to befool the people of Bengal saying Gujarati was chosen as a medium because Gujarat had made an application for it to be included...either he is befooling the people or he himself had no knowledge of how things function."

Mukherjee said, "such decisions are not taken merely upon an application but upon a policy decision taken by the Government," adding the "Centre should immediately apologise to all other States for this grossly unconstitutional and anti-federal step and introduce all the recognized regional languages as medium of examination."

Earlier the Chief Minister too had condemned the Centre's "partisan" decision promoting one language and imposing it on the other languages of the country.

Refuting the TMC's charges Bengal BJP president Dilip Ghosh said that the Centre was justified in its decision to include Gujarati as a medium of examination as "60,000 students from that State appear for the exams," and asked "how many students from Bengal appear for JEE?"

The TMC was just trying to rake up the issue by playing

with Bengali sentiments in order to get votes, he maintained.

Elsewhere the ongoing tiff between the State Government and Governor Jagdeep Dhankhar reached a new height with the ruling Trinamool Congress severely criticizing his decision to visit administrative units in the districts without informing State Government.

The Governor on Monday had suddenly taken a detour to Singur while returning from Shantiniketan before entering office of Block Development Officer where he took information and progress report of various schemes.

"I have read Constitution with great care and have found it unprecedented for a Governor barging into a BDO office to take administrative information without informing the State Government. It does not behave a person sitting on that post."

Kerala Govt mulling pubs across State, says CM

Thiruvananthapuram: The CPI(M)-led LDF Government in Kerala is exploring the possibility of opening pubs in the State, Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan has said.

Vijayan, during a weekly TV show telecast on Sunday, said those who work late, including IT employees, lack space to unwind themselves as there were no facilities like pubs in the State.

"Those who work late do not have good restaurants or other places like pubs in the night. The lack of pubs has come in for criticism against us. The Kerala Government is seriously looking into the matter," Vijayan said.

The Chief Minister said the issue of long queues outside the Kerala Beverages Corporation (Bevco) outlets, which sell liquor, would be resolved as they would get a face-lift soon. The previous UDF



Government's policy had resulted in the closure of 712 bars below the five-star category as part of its aim to ensure total Prohibition in 10 years. A majority of the closed bars were later converted into beer and wine parlours. However, the LDF government in 2017 unveiled its new liquor policy by deciding to open closed bars in three-star and above-classified hotels besides allowing serving of toddy in these hotels. **PTI**

Kuber crew member's widow given ₹ five lakh compensation: Guj to HC

Ahmedabad: The Gujarat Government on Monday informed the High Court that a monetary compensation of ₹5 lakh was paid to the widow of a crew member of fishing trawler 'MV Kuber', which was hijacked by terrorists who carried out the 26/11 Mumbai attacks in 2008.

The compensation, under the Chief Minister's Relief Fund, was deposited in the bank account of Jashiben Bambhania, whose husband Rameshbhai Bambhania, a native of Una taluka in Gir-Somnath district, along with four other fishermen, was killed on the trawler.

The money was deposited by the local revenue officials of Gir-Somnath district by way of a fixed deposit having a lock-in period of three years in favour of Jashiben Bambhania. She will get quarterly inter-

est on this deposit till the expiry of the lock-in period, the Government informed the court of Justice Bhargav D Karia on Monday.

The body of MV Kuber's captain, Amarsinh Solanki, was found on the boat, while bodies of four others, including Bambhania, were missing. The boat was hijacked by Ajmal Kasab and other Pakistani terrorists in the Arabian Sea who used it to reach Mumbai.

Jashiben, a mother of four, had approached the Gujarat High Court in October seeking compensation from the Government.

In her plea, she claimed that since her husband's body was never found, authorities at the state and central levels were not ready to consider her husband dead and subsequently refused compensation. **PTI**

Will fight Assembly bypolls for 15 seats with unity: Karnataka Congress

PTI ■ BENGALURU

Amid talks of differences within the party, Congress leaders in Karnataka on Monday said they resolved to face December 5 bypolls to 15 Assembly seats in the State with "unity".

The list of candidates for the remaining seven constituencies has almost been finalised and would be declared after the Supreme Court verdict on the disqualified MLAs case, which they hoped, would give a 'favourable' verdict.

A meeting of senior Congress leaders was convened by the party's State unit here to

discuss about the bypolls and the candidates.

The meeting also saw leaders expressing strong reservations against taking in disgruntled leaders from the BJP into the party.

"Senior party leaders met today and discussed about the bypolls. Looking at the court order on November 13, we will finalise the candidates for remaining seven seats," KPCC chief Dinesh Gundu Rao said after the meeting.

He told reporters here that the discussions took place in a "cordial atmosphere" and leaders decided to set aside their differences and jointly face the

polls.

Rao said the list cannot be considered final until it comes from the AICC and added that they had decided on probable candidates in most constituencies, except in one or two, where further discussions were needed.

In general there was more or less unanimity on selection of candidates, he said. However, according to sources some senior party leaders expressed displeasure about not everyone being taken into confidence on selection of candidates.

When CLP leader Siddaramaiah asked senior

leaders to take responsibility of a constituency each, some reportedly voiced discontent about their opinion not being considered while deciding candidates and "unilateral decisions" being taken.

Congress has already announced a list of candidates for eight out of 15 seats that will go for the December 5 bypolls.

Adding credence to the speculation about differences emerging at the meeting was senior Congress leaders K H Muniyappa and B K Hariprasad leaving early.

The KPCC chief however brushed aside questions of discontent among leaders, saying

there was nothing of the sort and discussions at the meet were held peacefully and all present expressed their opinion.

Clarifying on Muniyappa and Hariprasad leaving the meeting early, he said it was the guesswork of the media and not the truth. They participated in the meeting, after which they left. As there are municipality polls in Kolar (Muniyappa's home district) he had to leave urgently, that's all. Unnecessarily don't misrepresent."

Muniyappa, flanked by Hariprasad, also cited a similar reason for leaving early.

He said discussions were held on candidates for the coming bypolls and opinions were shared.

"We have to see to that party wins all the 15 seats...We have given our own suggestions."

Muniyappa replied in the negative when asked whether there was disgruntlement about candidates already selected for eight seats, saying they had given their suggestions and brought to the leadership's notice who are the winnable candidates.

At a recent party meeting, Muniyappa and Hariprasad had hit

out at CLP Leader Siddaramaiah and Dinesh Gundu Rao for their "unilateral style of functioning" and accountability not being fixed for the party's debacle in Lok Sabha polls.

To a question, Rao said he was 100 per cent confident that the Supreme Court judgment on disqualified MLAs that is likely on November 13 "will go in our favour" and the party would also win the maximum number of seats in the bypolls.

Bypolls to 15 of 17 seats represented by disqualified MLAs, whose resignation and absence from the trust vote led

to the fall of the Congress-JD(S) coalition Government, and made way for the BJP to come to power, will be held on December 5.

Meanwhile, State Congress on Monday held protest in front of Town Hall here against the "anti public policies" of both State and central Governments.

In a memorandum to the President, submitted through the Deputy Commissioner, Congress requested him to intervene and direct the Government to work towards improving the economy, solve unemployment, among other issues. **PTI**

Lata Mangeshkar in ICU, sister Usha says she is recovering

PTI ■ MUMBAI

Legendary singer Lata Mangeshkar was admitted to Breach Candy Hospital's Intensive Care Unit in the early hours of Monday after she complained of breathing problems, hospital sources said. The singer, who turned 90 on September 28, is in a critical condition, they said.

"She was brought to hospital at about 2 am. She is critical and in the ICU," a hospital insider told. Mangeshkar's younger sister Usha said the singer had a viral infection and should be discharged by Tuesday.

"Lata Didi is still in hospital. She is under observation. She is doing absolutely well and is stable. She will be discharged by tomorrow. "We thought it's better to treat her at a hospital because of the viral infection so she is there for today," Usha



Mangeshkar told amid reports that the musical icon had already been discharged and was recuperating at home.

In a career spanning over seven decades, the Indore-born Mangeshkar has lent her voice to thousands of songs in over 1,000 Hindi films as well as in various regional and foreign languages. The indefatigable Mangeshkar recorded her last song this year. "Saugandh mujhe is mitti ki" was released on March 30 as a

tribute to the Indian Army. Her last full album was "Veer-Zaara". She started her journey as a playback singer in 1942 with Vasant Joglekar's Marathi movie "Kiti Hasaal". Her first song to release was "Natali Chaitraachi Navalaa" from "Pahili Mangalaa-gaur". She also acted in the movie. Mangeshkar was awarded the Bharat Ratna, the highest civilian honour in the country, in 2001. She was given the Dadasaheb Phalke Award in 1989. **PTI**

Over 180 head constables made ASI in Jammu

PTI ■ JAMMU

Over 180 head constables of Jammu & Kashmir Police have been promoted to the rank of Assistant Sub Inspector in Jammu region, a police spokesperson said.

Extending greetings to all the ranks on the eve of Gaurpurab, Inspector General of Police, Jammu zone, Mukesh Singh on Monday issued the formal promotion orders to 187 head constables.

Singh lauded the efforts of these officers in earning their due promotion well in time.

He further expressed hope that they shall rededicate themselves towards their work with more zeal and enthusiasm to make the department and society feel proud. **PTI**

Kerala to begin preventive drive against Nipah virus: Health Min

Thiruvananthapuram:

Kerala would begin a comprehensive preventive drive against the outbreak of Nipah virus next month to equip the State health machinery to fight the deadly virus, Health Minister KK Shylaja said on Monday.

A year after two north Kerala districts were hit by the deadly Nipah that claimed 17 lives, the virus had re-surfaced in the southern State in June this year with a 23-year-old student here being infected.

The Ernakulam-based youth was discharged from the hospital after 53 days of treatment and surveillance.

Detailing the initiatives under the preventive drive, Shylaja informed the State assembly that surveillance would be intensified and mock-drills would be held. "This year's Nipah preven-



tive drive will begin next month. Mock drills will be held in major hospitals, including those in the private sector.

We contained the spread of virus in a remarkable manner last time through such coordinated efforts," the minister said during question hour.

Fruit bats of the Pteropodidae family are the natural host of the Nipah virus. **PTI**

Nipah virus can be transmitted to humans from animals (such as bats or pigs), or contaminated food and can also be transmitted directly from human-to-human.

According to the WHO, Nipah virus is a newly emerging disease that can be transmitted from its reservoir (natural wildlife host), the flying foxes (fruit bats), to both animals and humans. **PTI**

Train services in Kashmir Valley to begin from Tuesday: Rlys

New Delhi: Train services in the Kashmir Valley, which were disrupted since August 3 ahead of the abrogation of provisions of Article 370, will resume on Tuesday, a Northern Railway official said.

The valley had been under restrictions after August 5, when the Centre revoked the special status to Jammu & Kashmir.

"After appropriate action and assurance by GRP, J&K regarding safe operation of train in Kashmir Valley between 10 AM and 3 PM, the Firozpur Division will commence a limited passenger service of running two pair of trains between Srinagar-Baramulla-Srinagar with effect from November 12," an official said. **PTI**

POST AYODHYA VERDICT UP Cabinet congratulates Yogi

Lucknow: Members of the Uttar Pradesh Cabinet on Monday congratulated Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath on the Supreme Court's judgement on the vexed Ayodhya issue.

In a historic and unanimous verdict, a five-judge constitution bench headed by Chief Justice Ranjan Gogoi on Saturday cleared the way for the construction of a Ram temple at the disputed site in Ayodhya. The bench also directed the Centre to allot a five-acre plot to the Sunni Waqf Board for building a mosque.

Monday's Cabinet meeting, presided over by the Chief Minister, approved 13 issues, spokespersons of the state government Shrikant Sharma and Siddharth Nath Singh told reporters here.

The cabinet approved the opening of the Raja Mahendra Pratap Singh

University in Aligarh and laying of new transmission lines in Meerut, Simbhavli, Rampur and Sambhal regions that will benefit 13 districts in the State's western part, the spokespersons said.

The work, to be carried out on a public-private partnership (PPP) model, aims to ease electricity-related problems in the region and will be completed by 2021. **PTI**

UP Govt thanks people for maintaining communal harmony

Lucknow: The Uttar Pradesh Government on Monday thanked people of the State for maintaining communal harmony in the wake of the Supreme Court's verdict on vexed Ayodhya issue.

The Government thanked people during a Cabinet meeting, chaired by Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath, the Government's spokesperson Shrikant Sharma and Siddharth Nath Singh told reporters.

Besides approving 13 decisions of the Government, the Cabinet expressed thanks to the people, taking note of their restrained reactions, aimed at maintaining communal amity in the wake of the judgement, they said.

The Cabinet members also congratulated the chief minister for his apt handling of the law and order situation in the wake of the judgement, they added.

In a historic and unanimous verdict, a five-judge Constitution bench headed by Chief Justice Ranjan Gogoi on Saturday paved the way for the construction of a Ram temple



at the disputed site in Ayodhya. The bench also directed the Centre to allot a five-acre plot to the Sunni Waqf Board for building a mosque.

The Cabinet also approved the selection of firms for building the 296-km Bundelkhand Expressway and 91-km Gorakhpur Link Expressway, they said, adding the projects together are expected to provide employment to around 60,000 youths.

The Bundelkhand Expressway project is to be completed in six phases, while the Gorakhpur Link Expressway is to be completed in two phases.

The Cabinet approved the establishment of Raja

Mahendra Pratap Singh State University in Aligarh.

It also approved the revised E-Stamp rules, removing the limit on purchasing stamps worth only up to Rs 15,000 in one go.

The Cabinet also approved two power grid projects to erect 765 KV and 400 KV transmission lines at Rampur and Sambhal.

A total of 13 districts in western Uttar Pradesh will benefit from this, an official release said.

The work, to be carried out on a public-private partnership (PPP) model, aims to ease electricity-related problems in the region and will be completed by 2021.

The Cabinet also approved the expenditure burden assessment for the Madrasa Modernisation Scheme.

The Centre will contribute 60 per cent, whereas the state will bear 40 per cent of the expenditure for 7,442 madrasas running in the State. The scheme has now been renamed as 'Scheme for Providing Education in Madrasas. **PTI**

Pilgrims make beeline for holy dip on Kartik Purnima

Ayodhya: Lakhs of devotees are thronging the town for taking a dip in the River Sarayu on Kartik Purnima on Tuesday, the first major congregation of devotees here after the historic judgement in the Ayodhya case.

The Supreme Court on Saturday paved the way for the construction of a Ram Temple at the disputed site at Ayodhya, while directing the Centre to allot a 5-acre plot to the Sunni Waqf Board for building a mosque.

Devotees will take the dip in Sarayu in Ram ki Paidi and Naya Ghat and adjoining areas, officials said.

"Over five lakh devotees are likely to take a dip on the occasion of Kartik Purnima in Ayodhya. On normal days, around 8,000 visitors visit Ramjanmabhooni for darshan. On festive occasion, the number crosses 50,000. Now, since the judgement has come on Ramjanmabhooni, the number of visitors may increase as well," Ayodhya District Magistrate Anuj Kumar Jha told.

He said the situation is absolutely normal around the Ramjanmabhooni area.

"We have taken all precautionary steps to ensure security, and also to make sure that devotees do not face problem, and have a safe and hassle-free

darshan. Posting of police officials and magistrates have been done keeping this in mind," he said.

For the convenience of visitors coming to Ayodhya, various health, sanitation and drinking water facilities among other have been put in place.

Water tankers have been installed at around 18 places, 20 medical camps with ambulance are ready besides 30 mobile toilets.

Deputy Director, Information, Ayodhya division, Murlidhar Singh said, "The bathing in Sarayu river will commence at 4.00 pm on Monday, and will continue till Tuesday evening, since as per the Hindu calendar Purnima will begin on Monday evening."

Elaborating on the significance of Kartik Purnima, Prayagraj-based convener of organisations Ram Naam Bank and Ram Sewa Trust Ashutosh Varshney told, "The full moon day during the month of Kartik is known as Kartik Purnima. It is also known as Dev Deepawali — the Deepawali celebrated by Gods. This Dev Deepawali comes 15 days after Deepawali celebrated by us on Amavasya day."

"Earthen lamps are lit at all temples as well as at the bank of River Ganga on the day of Kartik Purnima," he said. **PTI**

Five-acre land must be allotted in acquired 67-acre area: Muslim leaders, litigant Iqbal Ansari

Ayodhya: The five acres of land to be allocated for building a mosque under the Supreme Court verdict in the Ram Janmabhooni-Babri Masjid dispute should be within the 67 acres of acquired land in Ayodhya, Iqbal Ansari, a main litigant in the case, has demanded along with several other local Muslim leaders.

The Central Government had acquired the land including the disputed site in 1991. "If they want to give us the land, they must give us according to our convenience and only in that acquired land of 67 acres. Then we will take it. Otherwise we will reject the offer, as people are saying 'Go out of Chaudah Kos and construct Masjid there'. This is not fair," Ansari said.

Maulana Jalal Ashraf, a local cleric, said Muslims can buy land on their own to build a mosque are not dependent on the Government for it.

"If the court or the Government wants to pacify our sentiments to some extent, the five acre land must be given to in the acquired area as many graveyards and Dargahs including that of 18th century Sufi saint Qazi Qudwah are in that area," he said.

Khalid Ahmad Khan, General Secretary of All India

Milli Council, expressed similar views.

Haji Mahboob, who was also a litigant from Muslim side, said, "We will not accept this lollypop. They must make clear that where they want to give us the land."

Haji Asad Ahmad, Corporator of Ayodhya Municipal Corporation, said the community does not want any land in lieu of Babri Masjid.

"If the court or Government wants to give land for mosque they must give it in the acquired area of 67 acres, otherwise we don't want donation," he said.

Maulana Baadshah Khan, Ayodhya president of Jamiat Ulema Hind, said the Muslim side was fighting the case for Babri Masjid, not for any other land.

"We don't want any land for mosque anywhere. Instead we offer this land also for Ram Mandir," he said.

Yusuf Khan, a social activist, said the issue is closed now after the Supreme Court verdict and no additional land was needed for mosque.

"We have enough mosques in Ayodhya to fulfil our religious needs, the apex court has given its verdict in favour of Ram Temple. The issue is closed now," he said. **PTI**

HYDERABAD TRAIN ACCIDENT

16 injured, ex-gratia announced

Hyderabad/New Delhi: Two slow-moving trains collided at Kacheguda Railway station here on Monday, leaving 16 people injured, including a driver who was trapped in his badly mangled cabin for eight hours, officials said.

The Lingampalli-Falaknuma multi-modal transport system (MMTS) apparently overshot the signal and collided with the Kurnool-Secunderabad Hundry Intercity Express (17028) at 10.41 am, South Central Railway officials said.

The driver of the MMTS train, who sustained serious injuries, was initially trapped in his cabin, which was badly mangled, but was rescued after a couple of hours, officials said.

Oxygen and other life-saving medical aid were provided to him during the operation, they said adding he has suffered severe leg injuries. He was rushed to a private hospital, where his condition is stated to



be stable. Commissioner Railway Safety, Southern Central Circle Secunderabad, Ram Kripal will conduct an inquiry into the incident.

The Railway Ministry has announced ex-gratia of ₹5,000 each to passengers with minor injuries and ₹25,000 each to passengers having grievous injuries.

"Due to collision, 16 passengers were injured and they were immediately rushed to the hospital. Nine of the injured were immediately discharged," a railway release said, adding five coaches of the MMTS service and three coaches of the

Hundry Express have been damaged. Senior officials of the SCR, along with medical and accident relief vans, undertook relief and restoration work, it said. Following the accident, one train was cancelled and another was diverted while five more have been partially cancelled.

Padmavathy, a woman passenger of the MMTS, said the commuters felt a big jolt as the train was nearing Kacheguda station.

"Several passengers' heads and knees rammed into opposite seats due to the impact resulting in bleeding," she said. Railway Minister Piyush

Goyal tweeted: "Received the tragic news of the train accident in Hyderabad & immediate instructions have been given to the authorities for assistance & monitoring."

"Railway administration is extending assistance & have made arrangements for the treatment of the injured at the accident site."

Several train services were cancelled either fully or partially due to the incident.

Railways said that it had taken the accident very seriously and Member (Traction), Additional Member (Signal & Telecom) and Executive Director, Safety, Railway Board will visit the site.

A high-level inquiry at the level of Commissioner, Railway Safety, South Central circle, has been ordered to investigate into the reasons for the incident, a railway release said.

Union Minister of State for Home G Kishan Reddy visited the spot and made enquiries with the officials. **PTI**

Seshan had brilliant career as civil servant

KUMAR CHELLAPPAN ■ CHENNAI

Thirunellai Narayana Iyer Seshan, popularly known as T N Seshan, who passed away late Sunday due to old age related ailments was given a tearful farewell on Monday at Basanthi Nagar crematorium in Chennai by thousands of citizens who had gathered to bid au revoir.

The 1955 batch IAS officer breathed his last late Sunday night and had desired to be cremated at Chennai itself, where his wife too has the last resting place. Seshan who shot into international fame with his six year stint as Chief Election Commissioner was known for his no-nonsense approach to the job in his hands. After retirement from the post of CEC, Seshan used to tell the people that his final wish was to see the Government of India funding the election process in the country.

When he was appointed as the CEC, the general Election and Assembly Election in the country were manipulated and



muzzled by mafia dons and anti social elements who threatened the voters with dire consequences if they do not vote for the candidates picked by the former. "Appavukku Charayam, Ammaavukku Sari and namma verpalarkku vote" was the catchword of the political masters, Seshan used to tell. It meant, alcohol for the family head, sari for the women and vote for the candidate picked up by the local ruffian. But with Seshan assuming office in the Nirvachan Sadan things underwent a drastic change.

Both the DMK and the AIADMK shivered from head to toe at the mention of his name. But don't be under the impression that it was as CEC

he earned the reputation. That started long back, in 1960s when he worked as the district collector of Madurai which saw unprecedented riots as part of anti Hindi agitation. "My officers were beaten up by rioters in a village. Many government officials were set ablaze and were killed. I went to the village with a police force who cordoned off the area. I had a stick with me and ordered all the villagers to line up outside their houses. I told them if they do not reveal the names of the rioters responsible for the gruesome incident, I would beat them to pulp. The woman began to sing and the men spilled the beans," Seshan had told in an interview.

He led various departments in the Government of Tamil Nadu during his tenure in the State. When drivers of the State Transport Corporation submitted a memorandum to him listing their grievances in driving the dilapidated buses, Seshan himself took to the wheels of the buses to get a first-hand experience of the difficulties faced by the

employees and asked the government to replace the buses which was done in hours!

Delivering a lecture in Kochi in 1993 about the economic liberalization initiated by the then Narasimha Rao government, Seshan said there was nothing innovative in the opening up of the Indian economy. "This was what C. Rajagopalachari had told them in 1950 itself. But it fell in deaf ears as Rajaji (pet name for Rajagopalachari) had dark Salem skin. Since it has come from a fair skinned person, it has been accepted now. Let's see whether they would be able to break the logjam and save the Indian economy," Seshan had said.

The uniqueness of Seshan is that each person who had met him has a different story to tell. All good things only. Behind the façade of that roughness and arrogance (which people loved) there was a soft spoken Seshan too. He used to explain his name as Tough Nut Seshan! Yet another titan has walked away to meet his maker. **PTI**

NORTHERN RAILWAY
TENDER NOTICE (through e-tendering)
Tender No. 558-Sig/16/M/Tender/1321 Dated : 11.11.2019

S. No.	Name of work with its Location	App cost of the work (in Rs.)	Tender Inviting Officer Address	Tender Documents Fee (in Rs.)	Earnest Money to be deposited (in Rs.)	Date & Time for closed of tender	Website particular & notice board location where complete details of the tender can be seen etc.
1	Dual detection for block working in between KAT and MCZ Sub section in CW doubling work	Rs. 36,57,312.64/- only	Sr. Divisional Signal & Telecom Engineer/1, Northern Railway, 2nd Floor, Annex-1, DRM office New Delhi-110055	Rs. 3,540/- only	Rs. 73,200/- only	Tender uploaded date & time: 04.12.2019 up to 15:00 hrs.	See the N. Ry. website www.nrs.gov.in & Notice board at S&T branch, 3rd Floor DRM office, State Entry Road, New Delhi-110055

3621/19

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

DELHI JAL BOARD: GOVT. OF NCT OF DELHI
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER (C)DR.X.I
ROOM NO. 308, VARUNALAYA PHASE-1, KAROL BAGH, NEW DELHI-110005
Telefax:- 011-23554487 / Email:- eecdr11.djb@nic.in
Short NIT No. 02 (2019-20) (PRESS TENDER)

S. No.	Name of Work	Estimated Cost in Rs.	Date of release of tender on e-procurement system	Last Date /Time for receipt of tender through e-procurement system
1.	Face lifting / renovation of A wing gallery and lift lobby at First Floor, Varunalaya Phase-II	25,15,268/-	11.11.2019 at 17:00 hours onwards	18.11.2019 upto 15:00 hours

Tender ID: 2019_DJB_183670_1

Further details, in this regard, can be seen on Delhi Government web-site <https://govtprocurement.delhi.gov.in>. Any further corrigendum / addendum / clarification, if any, will be uploaded on website only.

ISSUED BY P.R.O. (WATER)
Adv.NO.J.S.V.5/21/2019-20

Sd/-
EE(C)DR.X.I

SYMBOLIC POSSESSION NOTICE
ICICI Bank Branch Office: ICICI Bank 2nd Floor, Videocon Tower, Jhandewalan Ext, New Delhi-110055

Whereas
The undersigned being the Authorized Officer of ICICI Bank Limited under the Securitisation, Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of the powers conferred under section 13 (12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) rules 2002, issued demand notices upon the borrowers mentioned below, to repay the amount mentioned in the notice within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.

As the borrower failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrower and the public in general that the undersigned has taken symbolic possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him/her under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the said rules on the below mentioned dates. The borrower in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of ICICI Bank Limited.

Sr. No.	Name of the Borrower/ Loan Account Number	Description of Property/ Date of Symbolic Possession	Date of Demand Notice/ Amount in Demand (Rs.)	Name of Branch
1.	Dharmesh Narayan Tripathi / Kushum Tripathi / LBGUR00001881235	Silver Tulip, B 12 A, Revenue Estate, Bhorakalan, Farukh Nagar Gurgaon-122003 Haryana / Nov 07, 2019	Aug 31, 2019 Rs. 47,33,927/-	Delhi NCR
2.	Ajit Singh/ Nihal Singh/ LBGUR00002682549	Flat No-702, Tower-7, 7th Floor Pyramid Urban Homes Sec-70A, Gurgaon-122001 Haryana /Nov 07, 2019	Aug 31, 2019 Rs. 20,01,739/-	Delhi NCR

The above-mentioned borrowers(s)/ guarantors(s) are hereby given a 30 day notice to repay the amount, else the mortgaged properties will be sold on the expiry of 30 days from the date of publication of this Notice, as per the provisions under the Rules 8 and 9 of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002.

Date: 11-11-2019
Place: Delhi/ NCR

Authorized Officer
ICICI Bank Limited

Expedite pending cases relating to SC & ST: Nitish

Patna: Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar on Monday asserted that pending cases relating to Scheduled Caste (SC) and Scheduled Tribe (ST) need to be expedited and the law department should appoint special public prosecutors in different special courts for the purpose.

Training and orientation programme should be held regularly for officials concerned to keep them abreast of changes that have been incorporated in the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe (Prevention of Atrocities) Rules and Act and its provisions over time, Kumar said.

The Chief Minister was speaking at a meeting here convened to review the State-level

monitoring and vigilance committee constituted under Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe (Prevention of Atrocities) Rules 1995 and Amendment Rules 2016.

"The law department should appoint special public prosecutors in different special courts (constituted under SC and ST Act, 1989). Eligible and committed lawyers should be given the responsibility and inefficient special public prosecutors should be relieved so that pending cases (relating to SC and ST) can be expedited," Kumar was quoted as saying in an official release.

The director general of police should carry out police station wise review of all the cases, he said adding that the

meeting of district-level monitoring and vigilance committee should be held regularly. Kumar said land for habitation should be made available to all the landless families belonging to SC and ST apart from Mahadalits.

The State Government is providing ₹60,000 for buying land for those who have got allotments under Pradhan Mantri Grameen Awas Yojana but do not possess land.

Home, revenue and land reforms, SC and ST departments, the director general of police, IG(Weaker Section), CID and director of prosecution gave detailed report at the meeting on the work being carried out by the departments and agencies. **PTI**

Mini buses start plying in Srinagar, train service branch Srinagar-Baramulla stretch to resume

Srinagar: Mini buses began plying on some routes in the city on Monday while railways conducted two successful trial runs on the Srinagar-Baramulla stretch ahead of resumption of the train service on Tuesday, officials said.

The train service has been suspended since 5 August when the Centre decided to abrogate Article 370.

A railway official said that railways conducted the trial run of the service for the first time in over three months since the shutdown in the valley.

"The train service on Srinagar-Baramulla stretch will resume tomorrow (Tuesday), while Srinagar-Banihal train service will resume in a few days after checking the track safety and conducting trial runs," he said.

The railways conducted two successful trial runs on the stretch on Monday after conducting a thorough safety audit of the line.

Train services in the valley were suspended on the morning of 5 August — hours before the Centre announced its decision to abrogate Article 370 of the Constitution and to bifurcate the erstwhile state into two Union territories.

The Centre's decision led to an unprecedented shutdown in the valley even as authorities imposed severe restrictions which were later gradually eased out.

Officials said that on Monday few mini-buses plied on Batwara-Batamuloo route through the city centre for the first time since 5 August.

Inter-district cabs and auto-rickshaws also plied in the city and elsewhere in the valley, they added.

The officials said private transport was plying unhindered and several areas of the city witnessed traffic jams. **PTI**

Goa BJP to get new chief by Dec 15: CM Sawant

Panaji: The Goa BJP will elect a new State unit president by December 15, chief minister Pramod Sawant said on Monday.

Rajya Sabha MP Vinay Tendulkar is the current state unit chief and has been on the post for two terms since 2012.

Sawant on Monday evening chaired a meeting of party MLAs and office bearers to finalise its organisational election process. Speaking to reporters post the meeting, Sawant said, "The BJP has to elect its new state president by December 15. **PTI**

NORTH DELHI MUNICIPAL CORPORATION
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER (M-I)
KAROL BAGH ZONE, ROAD NO. 34, OPPOSITE FIRE STATION, MOTI NAGAR, NEW DELHI-110015

NIT No. 20/EE(M-I)/TC/KBZ/2019-20 Dated: 08.11.2019
Executive Engineer (M-I), Karol Bagh Zone, Invites on behalf of the Commissioner, North Delhi Municipal Corporation, Sealed percentage rates tender from the approved and eligible contractors registered with the MCD (General Wing) as per following schedule.

Start Date of Sale of Tender Documents : 08.11.2019 from 18:00PM
Last Date of Bid Submission : 18.11.2019 up to 15:00 PM
Opening of Financial Bid : 28.11.2019 at 15:30 PM

S. No. 1, Name of work: Strengthening and Development of Drainage system & Roads from C-52 to WZ-719, passing along S.K.V. school, WZ-860 & WZ-701, Naraina, Ward No. 104-N/KBZ. **Tender No.:** EEM-I/TC/KBZ/2019-20/20-1, **H/A:** XL-VIII-S(d), **Tender Amt. in Rs.:** 8938467/-, **Earnest money:** 178800/-, **Time of completion:** 03 Months, **Rate Hold Goods for:** 05 Months, **Tender Cost:** 1000/-

S. No. 2, Name of work: Strengthening and Development of Drainage and court yard and passing of commercial complex at A-Block near Metro Station at, Naraina Vihar, Ward No. C-104 /KBZ. **Tender No.:** EEM-I/TC/KBZ/2019-20/20-2, **H/A:** XL-VIII-S(d), **Tender Amt. in Rs.:** 8938467/-, **Earnest money:** 178800/-, **Time of completion:** 03 Months, **Rate Hold Goods for:** 05 Months, **Tender Cost:** 1000/-

S. No. 3, Name of work: Strengthening and Development of Drainage system & Roads from H. No. B-5 to B-34, B-41 to B-27, B-26 to B-72, B-71 to B-60 and B-42 to B-79, Naraina Vihar B-Block, Ward No. C-104 /KBZ. **Tender No.:** EEM-I/TC/KBZ/2019-20/20-3, **H/A:** XL-VIII-S, **Tender Amt. in Rs.:** 8269219/-, **Earnest money:** 165400/-, **Time of completion:** 03 Months, **Rate Hold Goods for:** 05 Months, **Tender Cost:** 1000/-

S. No. 4, Name of work: Strengthening of road by pdg. Dense carpeting from H. No. 4A/57, Shankar Road to 22B Pusa Road and 5/46 Shankar Road to IB/I Pusa Road in Old Rajinder Nagar at Ward No. 102-N/KBZ. **Tender No.:** EEM-I/TC/KBZ/2019-20/20-4, **H/A:** XL-VIII-S(d), **Tender Amt. in Rs.:** 9069034/-, **Earnest money:** 181400/-, **Time of completion:** 03 Months, **Rate Hold Goods for:** 05 Months, **Tender Cost:** 1000/-

EMD and Tender cost to pay through online mode only. You can opt for Challan no. in mode of payment for paying form fee details through E-payment/NEFT/RTGS.

All the circulars issued from time to time by MCD up to the date of issue of this NIT shall be applicable. The detail of the tender can be seen at <http://www.tenderwizard.com/NORTHDMCETENDER>

Executive Engineer (M-I)
R.O No. 148/DPI/North DMC/19-20 Karol Bagh Zone

Industrial production posts steepest fall in 8 yrs

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

In signs of continuing weakness in the economy, India's factory output shrank to the lowest level in eight years as all three broad-based sectors of capital goods production, consumer durables, and infrastructure and construction goods contracted.

The Index of Industrial Production (IIP) fell 4.3 per cent in September as compared to a contraction by 1.4 per cent in August 2019 and a growth of 4.6 per cent in factory output in the same month a year back, data released by the Ministry of Statistics showed on Monday.

The second straight month of contraction has taken the IIP to its lowest level since it shrank by 5 per cent in October

2011. On a quarterly basis, the second quarter of 2019-20 fiscal (July-September) saw IIP contracting by 0.4 per cent (Q1 3 per cent expansion and 5.3 per cent growth in Q2 FY19).

In September 2019, capital goods output dropped 20.7 per cent from a year ago, while consumer durables fell 9.9 per cent. Infrastructure and construction goods output fell 6.4 per cent. Intermediate goods was the only use-based classification that grew 7 per cent in September.

The contraction in IIP in September has dampened prospects of a quick recovery in economic growth after it slipped to a six-year low of 5 per cent in the April-June quarter this year.

Gross Domestic Product (GDP) data for July-September



is due on November 29.

"IIP has been very volatile and the small momentum of a couple of months fizzles out soon," said Devendra Kumar Pant, Chief Economist at India Ratings & Research. "The Indian economy is presently facing a structural growth slow-

down originating from declining household savings rate, and low agricultural growth." Low agricultural growth is feeding into low agricultural and non-agricultural wage growth in rural areas, which is impacting rural demand adversely, he said, hoping of a

cut in the interest rate in December.

During April to September, the IIP growth remained almost flat at 1.3 per cent compared to 5.2 per cent in same period last fiscal.

A slowdown was witnessed in the manufacturing sector, which declined by 3.9 per cent in September as compared to 4.8 per cent growth a year ago.

The power generation sector output dipped 2.6 per cent in September, compared to 8.2 per cent rise a year ago.

Mining output too fell by 8.5 per cent in September as against 0.1 per cent climb in the corresponding month last fiscal. Capital goods production, which is a barometer of investment, declined by 20.7 per cent in September compared to a 6.9 per cent hike in the year-

ago month.

As per use-based classification, the growth rates in September 2019 over September 2018 are (-) 5.1 per cent in primary goods, 7 per cent in intermediate goods and (-) 6.4 per cent in infrastructure/construction goods.

Consumer durables and consumer non-durables have recorded growth of (-) 9.9 per cent and (-) 0.4 per cent, respectively. In terms of industries, 17 out of 23 industry groups in the manufacturing sector have shown negative growth during September 2019 as compared to the same month last year.

- The Index of Industrial Production fell 4.3% in September
- The second straight month of contraction has taken the IIP to its lowest level since it shrank by 5 per cent in October 2011
- Gross Domestic Product (GDP) data for July-Sept is due on November 29

BUSINESS CORNER

NHPC'S NET PROFIT JUMPS 9.93% IN Q2

New Delhi: NHPC Limited has reported a 9.93% growth in the standalone net profit at ₹1339.46 Crore during second quarter of current fiscal FY 2019-20 against ₹1218.51 Crore of the corresponding period. Profit after tax for the half year is ₹2,220.60 Crore against ₹1956.08 Crore of the corresponding period. Sales for the second quarter of the current fiscal FY 2019-20 rose 4.25% to ₹2605.43 Crore, as compared to ₹2499.19 Crore reported in the year-ago period. Revenue is higher mainly due to better operational efficiency, operation of Kishanganga Power Station and revenue from Power Trading Business.



GADKARI TO INAUGURATE IITF 2019

New Delhi: The 39th edition of the India International Trade Fair 2019 will be inaugurated by the Hon'ble Minister of Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises (MSME), Government of India Shri Nitin Gadkari at 11.00 am on November 14, 2019 at Hamsadhvani Theatre Pragati Maidan, New Delhi. Shri Som Parkash, the Hon'ble Minister of State for Commerce & Industry, Government of India will grace the inaugural function as the Guest of Honour. The theme for the 2019 edition of the fair (November 14-27, 2019) is "Ease of Doing Business" inspired by the unique achievement of India of rising up to the 63rd rank on the World Bank's Ease of Doing Business Index from 142nd rank in year 2014. The history of IITF is closely interwoven with India's struggle for socio-economic empowerment and industrialisation and its emergence as one of the most rapidly growing and dominant global economies. The Fair has been a unique platform for displaying the entrepreneurial skills and ingenuity of the people of India. It has become a part of the collective consciousness of the people of the country and is one of the most eagerly awaited annual events.

₹ skids 19 paise amid renewed global trade tiff concerns

Mumbai: The rupee on Monday tumbled by 19 paise to a near one-month low of 71.47 against the US dollar as fresh concerns over US-China trade deal and Hong Kong unrest kept forex market participants edgy.

Investors also played their

bets cautiously in view of India's rating outlook cut by Moody's investors Services last week.

Opening marginally lower, the Indian currency dropped to a low of 71.54 to the US dollar before settling at 71.47, showing a fall of 19 paise. **PTI**

Benchmark indices clock marginal gains

Weak global cues weigh

PTI ■ MUMBAI

Benchmarks Sensex and Nifty on Monday managed to close in the green after a choppy session, with banking stocks saving the day for the indices which were otherwise battered by weak global sentiment.

For a better part of the session, the Indian market was engulfed by bouts of volatility triggered by a sharp fall in Asian equities amid escalating political issues in Hong Kong and uncertainty over US-China trade deal.

After swinging 266 points during the day, the 30-share Sensex ended 21.47 points, or 0.05 per cent, higher at 40,345.08.

Similarly, the broader NSE Nifty closed with a gain of mere 5.30 points, or 0.04 per cent, at 11,913.45.

Yes Bank was the top gainer in the Sensex pack rising 5.80 per cent, followed by Tata Motors, ICICI Bank, IndusInd



Govt to lift pricing curbs on domestically produced gas

IANs ■ NEW DELHI

In one of the last reforms in the oil and gas sector, the government is set to free up pricing of all domestically produced gas that would help scale up local production from fields of ONGC, OIL, Reliance and Vedanta and help create a uniform gas where the fuel is freely tradable on exchanges.

Government sources said that discussions on lifting price restrictions on locally produced natural gas have started that would culminate into a decision about the timing of the new reform initiative.

The current timing is considered ideal to free up gas prices as oil market and prices have remained stable.

A panel led by the Niti Aayog vice chairman has also suggested free-market pricing for natural gas produced from all fields to boost domestic output. "We are looking at all proposals on bringing out domestic gas production from pricing regulations. A cabinet note



proposing the changes would soon be finalised so that new system is put in place at the earliest," said a government official privy to the development.

However, any move to completely lift price regulation in the gas sector will be done gradually as has been suggested by the Kelkar Panel. This would mean that the present system of regulated gas pricing for domestic production would continue for at least three more years but during the period

producers would be given freedom to sell a portion of the total output under negotiated pricing deals (market determined) with their customers.

The NDA government's reform initiatives has already allowed free gas pricing for production coming from small and marginal blocks, difficult high pressure/deep water blocks and all production coming under the newly bid blocks under the Hydrocarbon Exploration Licensing Policy (HELP).

OFFICE OF THE RECOVERY OFFICER-1 DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL-II, DELHI
4TH FLOOR, JEEVAN TARA BUILDING, PARLIAMENT STREET, NEW DELHI-110001

SALE PROCLAMATION NOTICE
ICICI BANK V/S PARMANAND SING

R. C. No. 251/20187

PROCLAMATION OF SALE UNDER RULE 52(2) OF SECOND SCHEDULE TO THE INCOME TAX ACT, 1961 READ WITH THE RECOVERY OF DEBTS DUE TO BANK AND FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS ACT, 1993

CD#1 Sh. Parmanand Sing B-80, Beta-1, Gautam Budh Nagar, Greater Noida- 201308, UP Also at: Parmanand Sing, Flat No. 1806, 18th Floor, Tower-H, AVJ Heights, Plot No. GH-12/2, Sector Zeta-1, Greater Noida-201307, UP

CD#2 Sh. Aftab Alam S/o Sh. Shirajul Haque, G-519, Gamma-2, Greater Noida 201306, UP

CD#3 M/s AVJ Developers India Pvt.Ltd. Having its Registered Office at D/237, Vivek Vihar, Phase-I, Delhi-110095, Also At: M/s AVJ Developers India Ltd, AVJ Heights, Plot No. GH- 13/2, Sector Zeta-1, Greater Noida-201307, UP

1. Whereas Recovery Certificate No. 251/2017 in O.A. No.685/ 2016 dated 24.08.2017 drawn by the Presiding Officer, Debts Recovery Tribunal-II for the recovery of a sum of Rs. 12,01,674/- (Rupees Twelve Lacs One Thousand Six Hundred and Seventy One Only) as become due from CDs as per Recovery Certificate drawn in O.A. No.685/2016 dated 24.08.2017 by the Presiding Officer, Debts Recovery Tribunal-II, Delhi, Rs.11,87,671 (Rupees Eleven Lacs Eight Seven Thousand Six Hundred and Seventy One Only) along with interest @ 13% per annum simple from 01.09.2016 till realization with cost of Rs.14,000/- from the CDs jointly and severally.

2. And whereas the undersigned has ordered the sale of property mentioned in the Schedule below in satisfaction of the said Recovery Certificate.

3. Notice is hereby given that in absence of any order of postponement, the said property shall be sold by e-auction and bidding shall take place through "Online Electronic Bidding" through the website <https://www.banksauctions.com> on 30.11.2019 between 11 a.m. to 12 noon with extensions of 5 minutes duration after 12 noon, if required.

4. The sale shall be of the property of the CDs above-named as mentioned in the schedule below and the liabilities and claims attaching to the said property, so far as they have been ascertained, are those specified in the schedule against each lot.

5. The property shall be put up for the sale as specified in the schedule. If the amount to be realized by sale is satisfied by the sale of a portion of the property, the sale shall be immediately stopped with respect to the remainder. The sale will also be stopped if, before auction is knocked down, the arrears mentioned in the said certificate, interest costs (including cost of the sale) are tendered to the officer conducting the sale or proof is given to his satisfaction that the amount of such certificate, interest and costs have been paid to the undersigned.

6. No officer or other person, having any duty to perform in connection with sale, however, either directly or indirectly by, acquire or attempt to acquire any interest in the property sold.

7. The sale shall be subject to the conditions prescribed in the Second Schedule to the Income Tax Act, 1961 and the rules made thereunder and to the following further conditions.

7.1 The particulars specified in the annexed schedule have been stated to the best of the information of the undersigned, but the undersigned shall not be answerable for any error, his statement or omission in this proclamation.

7.2 "The reserve price below which the property shall not be sold is Rs. 13,44,000/- (Rupees Thirteen Lacs Forty Four Thousand) and the Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) is Rs. 1,34,000/- (Rupees One Lacs thirty four Thousand Only).

7.3 The interested bidders, who have submitted their bids not below the reserve price with documents including PAN Card, identity proof, address proof etc., latest by 26.11.2019 before 5.00 PM the Office of the Recovery Officer-I, DRT-II, Delhi, shall be eligible to participate in the auction to be held from 11.00 AM to 12.00 Noon on 30.11.2019. In case bid is placed in the last minute the desla time of the auction, the closing time will automatically get extended for 5 minutes

7.4 The bidder(s) shall improve their offer in multiples of Rs.50,000/- (Rupees Fifty Thousand Only).

7.5 The unsuccessful bidder shall take the EMD directly from the Office of Recovery Officer-I, DKT II, Delhi/CH, i.e., ICICI Bank, immediately on closure of the e-auction sale proceedings

7.6 The Successful / highest bidder shall have to prepare Demand Draft Pay Order for 25% of the bid/sale amount favoring Recovery Officer-I, DRT-II, Delhi, A/C R.C. No. 251/2017 within 24 hours after close of e-auction and after adjusting the EMD and send/deposit the same in the office of the Recovery Officer-I, DRT-II, Delhi so as to reach within 3 days from the close of e-auction failing which the EMD shall be forfeited.

7.7 The successful/ highest bidder shall deposit, through Demand Draft/Pay Order favor Recor Officer-I, DRT-II, Delhi, A/C R.C. No. 251/2017, the balance 75% of the sale proceeds below the Recovery Officer-I, DRT-II, Delhi on or before 15th day from the date of auction of the property, exclusive of such day, or if the 15th day be Sunday or other holiday, then on the first office day after the 15th day longwith the postage fee @ 2% upto Rs.1,000 and a 1% on the excess of such gross amount over Rs. 1000/- in favour of Registrar, DRT-II Delhi. In case of deposit of balance amount of 75 through post the same should reach the Recovery Officer as above).

7.8 In case of default of payment within the prescribed period, the property shall be sold, after the issue of fresh proclamation of sale. The deposit, after defraying the expenses of the sale, if the undersigned thinks fit, be forfeited to the Government and the defaulting purchaser shall forfeit all claims to the property or to any part of the sum for which it may subsequently be sold.

8. The property is being sold on "AS IS WHERE IS BASIS".

9. The undersigned reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids found unrenegoric on postpone the auction at any time without assigning any reason

SCHEDULE OF PROPERTY			
Description of the property to be sold	Revenue assessed upon the property or any part thereof	Details of any encumbrance to which property is liable	Claims, if any, which have been put forward to the property Other known partner bearing on its nature and value
Property bearing Flat No. 1806, 18th Floor, Tower-H, AVJ Heights, Plot No. GH-12/2, Sector-Zeta-1, Greater Noida-201307, UP	Not known	Not known	Not known

Given under my hand and seal on 14.10.2019.

(Shiv Kumar)
Recovery Officer
DRT-II, Delhi

Turbulence in world politics hurting growth, says Moody's

IANs ■ MUMBAI

Increasingly unfriendly global political environment with tensions between the US and China over trade, India and Pakistan over Kashmir, EU and the UK over Brexit are "growth-diminishing", Moody's said on Monday.

The antagonistic political environment is weakening global and national institutions, lowering the shock-absorption capacity of sovereigns with high debt burdens and low fiscal buffers, it said.

"While the stark example is clearly the trade war between the US and China, distracting and, in some cases, growth-diminishing tensions have also risen in the Gulf, between Japan (A1 stable) and Korea (Aa2 stable), India and Pakistan (B3 negative), the US and the EU, and the EU and the UK," the ratings agency said.

The slowdown, Moody's said, partly reflects cyclical factors, partly structural drivers, including demographic trends.

UK economy avoids recession with 0.3 per cent quarterly growth

AFP ■ LONDON

Britain's Brexit-facing economy avoided entering recession in the third quarter with growth of 0.3 per cent, official data showed on Monday.

Gross domestic product rebounded in the July-September period after a 0.2-per cent contraction in the second quarter, the Office for National Statistics (ONS) said in an initial estimate.

The technical definition of a recession is two straight quarters of negative growth. Economic activity was propelled largely by the construction and services sectors, while the production sector was flat.

"GDP grew steadily in the third quarter, mainly thanks to a strong July," said an ONS spokesman.

"Services again led the way with construction also performing well."

"Manufacturing failed to grow as falls in most industries were offset by car production bouncing back," he added.

Govt formulating policy on credit ratings for MSMEs, says Gadkari

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The Government is in the process of formulating a policy on credit ratings for micro, small and medium enterprises to help investors and other players take informed decision, Union Minister Nitin Gadkari said on Monday.

Addressing International Women's Entrepreneurial Challenge Foundation, Gadkari said MSME contributed 49 per cent of India's total export.

The event was organised by Ficc Ladies Organisation (FLO) here.

"We are going to start digital data based credit rating system... We are going to make the rating of the industry... It can give information about the MSMEs. That can be more easy for taking any decision because rating is now very important. So, now we are formulating the policy and we are going to make some scheme for them and that will be very useful," MSME Minister Gadkari said.

The minister also said that the government is using technology and innovations to boost agricultural and tribal sectors through new technologies and innovations.

He gave examples of honey and oranges being used in various products, which has resulted in the increased production and market value of these products. The Government is working on backward integration to develop rural industry and create employment, he said, adding that the employment potential is 11 crore.

At the same time, innovations and skill development in the MSME industry are being carried with the collaboration of German government to make Indian products more competitive in the international market, he said.

He emphasised that the international companies should look at India for setting up their manufacturing base as it will reduce their manufacturing cost by 25-40 per cent while ensuring the quality.

MMTC floats tenders for import of 4K tonnes of onion

New Delhi:

State-owned MMTC, which has been directed to import 1 lakh tonnes of onion, has floated two separate bids for import of 4,000 tonnes onion in order to boost domestic availability and check prices that have risen sharply up to Rs 100/kg in most places, including the national capital.

The government on Saturday decided to import 1 lakh tonnes of onion to control prices. While trading firm MMTC will import onions, cooperative Nafed will supply the key kitchen item in the domestic market. The decision was taken at a meeting of committee of secretaries held on Saturday.

"The government has taken a decision to import 1 lakh tonnes of onion to control prices," Food and Consumer Affairs Minister Ram Vilas Paswan had said in a tweet.

MMTC has been asked to import onions and make it available for distribution in the domestic market between November 15 and December 15 period, he said.

Pradhan woos foreign firms to invest in India's oil & gas sector

PTI ■ ABU DHABI/NEW DELHI

India on Monday wooed foreign companies to invest in its oil and gas sector as the world's third-largest energy consumer is likely to see over \$100 billion spending in energy infrastructure creation to meet rising demand.

Oil Minister Dharmendra Pradhan, who is on a two-day visit to the United Arab Emirates, showcased investment opportunities, promising political and fiscal stability, predictable policies and a huge diverse market.

"Our focus is to attract global investments into the oil and gas sector, as India would invest USD 100 billion by 2024 in refining, pipelines and gas terminals," he said at a conference in Abu Dhabi. "There is no better place to invest (than India) if you are in the business of energy."

India is expanding oil refining capacity to produce more fuel and petrochemicals as also investing in pipelines and terminals to increase the share of natural gas in the energy mix.

PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF ACCUSED PERSON

(SECTION 82 Cr.Pc.)

Whereas complaint has been made before me that the accused person **Rajesh Kumar**, S/o, Ajeet Singh R/o H.No. 82, Pkt-06, Sector-25, Rohini, Delhi has committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence in case **FIR No. 160/19 u/s 33/58 Ex. Act, P.S. Shahbad Dairy, Delhi** and it has been returned to warrant of arrest there upon issued that the said accused person **Rajesh Kumar**, cannot be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said accused **Rajesh Kumar**, has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of said warrant). Proclamation is hereby made that the said **Rajesh Kumar**, Under **FIR No. 160/19 u/s 33/58 Ex. Act, P.S. Shahbad Dairy, Delhi**, is required to appear before the court on or before **20.12.2019**.

By order
Ms Manu Goel Kharb,
Ld MM North, Room No. 114
Rohini Courts, Delhi

DP/760/ON/19

Appeal For Identification

General public is hereby informed that this person **Name** : Unknown, **S/o** : Unknown, **R/o** : Unknown, **Age** : Approx 35 Yrs., **Sex** : Male, **Height** : 5'8", **Complexion** : Shallow, **Built** : Medium, **Face** : Round, **Wearing** : Cream Colour Shirt with Black Dots & Dark Blue Lower and bare footed. has been found dead on 02.11.2019 at 06:13 pm at LNJP Hospital, Delhi. In this regard a FIR/DD No. 07-A Dated 02.11.2019 has been lodged at PS. Bawana, Delhi. Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out information about this person but no clue has come to light so far. Any person having any information or clue about this person may kindly inform to the following.

SHO
PS. Bawana, Delhi
Ph. : 011-27752534, 8750870321

DP/775/ON/19.

China's Jingye forges rescue deal for British Steel

AFP ■ LONDON

Chinese industrial giant Jingye Group has agreed to buy bankrupt British Steel for an undisclosed amount, the official receiver said Monday in a rescue deal that saves thousands of jobs.

Jingye added separately that it would invest 1.2 billion pounds (\$1.5 billion, 1.4 billion euros) over the next decade to place the business, which collapsed in May, on a competitive and sustainable footing.

"The Official Receiver and Special Managers from EY can confirm that a sales contract has been entered into with Jingye

Steel (UK) Ltd and Jingye Steel (UK) Holding Ltd to acquire the business and assets of British Steel Limited," read a statement. A source had already confirmed to AFP that a deal was in the works earlier on Monday, amid press reports that Jingye would pay 70 million.

Jingye will purchase British Steel's sprawling steelworks at Scunthorpe, northern England, as well as its other UK mills.

The deal also includes the company's stakes in Dutch steelmaker FN Steel, British Steel France, and specialist UK manufacturer TSP Engineering.

How Trump's impeachment will unroll

AFP ■ WASHINGTON

The start of open hearings in the impeachment investigation into President Donald Trump on Wednesday will give the American public their first chance to witness live the explosive showdown between Democrats and Republicans over the US leader's future.

The hearing before the House Intelligence Committee

marks the second phase of the impeachment investigation into allegations that Trump abused his powers by seeking help for his 2020 reelection campaign from Ukraine.

Trump is under threat of becoming only the third president in US history to be impeached — formally charged with violating his duties as president or committing crimes, and placed on trial in

the Senate.

With Democrats in control of the House of Representatives, impeachment appears highly likely, as soon as the end of 2019.

But the Republicans hold a majority in the Senate, a bulwark against him being convicted and removed from office — unless they turn against him.

There is still much to do, but analysts believe the entire process could be completed before the end of January.

On Wednesday, the House Intelligence Committee takes the impeachment investigation public after six weeks of closed-door depositions from White House, State Department and other officials.

Those depositions have already painted a fairly complete picture of how Trump and aides, including personal lawyer Rudy Giuliani, pressured Ukraine's President Volodymyr Zelensky to open investigations that could con-

ceivably find political dirt against the Democrats and Trump's possible 2020 election rival Joe Biden.

Some of the witnesses who already testified privately will be recalled to face the public panel, starting with Ambassador William Taylor, Washington's top diplomat in Ukraine, and Deputy Assistant Secretary of State George Kent on Wednesday, and former Ambassador to Ukraine Marie Yovanovitch on Friday.

Donald has not done anything to be impeached, says Haley

New York: Nikki Haley, the former US ambassador to the UN, has backed embattled Donald Trump, with the Indian-origin Republican leader saying the President has not done anything that warrants an impeachment, which she said is like a "death penalty" for a public official.

President Trump, a Republican, is accused of trying to pressure Ukraine into investigating unsubstantiated corruption claims against his Democratic Party political rival

and former vice president Joe Biden, and his son who worked with an Ukrainian gas company.

On Wednesday, the House Intelligence Committee is scheduled to open hearings in the impeachment investigation into allegations that Trump abused his powers by seeking help for his 2020 re-election bid from Ukraine President Volodymyr Zelensky. *PTI*

US urges early Iraq polls, halt to violence against protesters

Washington: The United States on Sunday urged Iraqi authorities to hold early polls and carry out electoral reforms, and called for an end to the violence against protesters that has left hundreds dead.

Washington wants "the Iraqi government to halt the violence against protesters and fulfill President (Barham) Saleh's promise to pass electoral reform and hold early elections," the White House said in a statement.

"The United States is seriously concerned by continued attacks against protesters, civic activists, and the media, as well as restrictions on internet access, in Iraq," it said.

Mass rallies calling for an overhaul of the ruling system have rocked the capital Baghdad and the Shiite-majority south since October 1, but political forces closed ranks this week to defend the Government. *AFP*

Turkey begins deporting foreign jihadists

Istanbul: Turkey said Monday it had begun sending back foreign jihadists to their countries of origin, with an American already expelled and more than 20 Europeans in the process of deportation.

A "foreign terrorist fighter" from the US was deported early on Monday, with two more — from Germany and Denmark — due to be expelled later in the day, interior ministry spokesman Ismail Catakli told state news agency *Anadolu*.

Seven more Germans were due for deportation on Thursday, he added, while 11 French citizens, two Irish and at least two additional Germans were also being processed.

Turkey has criticised Western countries for refusing to repatriate their citizens who left to join the Islamic State group (IS) in Syria and Iraq, and stripping some of them of their citizenship.

Interior Minister Suleyman

Soylu said last week that Turkey had nearly 1,200 foreign members of ISIS in custody, and had captured 287 during its recent operation in northern Syria.

It was not clear if all those being deported this week were captured in Syria, or in Turkish territory.

"There is no need to try to escape from it, we will send them back to you. Deal with them how you want," Soylu said on Friday.

Turkey has frequently sent back captured jihadists in recent years, but has lately increased pressure on Europe to take responsibility for the problem.

It follows its offensive last month in northern Syria against Kurdish militants who were holding thousands of ISIS fighters and their families.

Turkey said it would take control of captured jihadists in areas that it seized from Kurdish groups, but demanded greater assistance from Europe. *AFP*

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Bolivia's prez resigns amid election-fraud allegations

La Paz (Bolivia): Bolivian President Evo Morales resigned on Sunday under mounting pressure from the military and the public after his re-election victory triggered weeks of fraud allegations and deadly protests.

The decision came after a day of fast-moving developments, including an offer from Morales to hold a new election. But the crisis deepened dramatically when the country's military chief went on national television to call on him to step down.

"I am sending my resignation letter to the Legislative Assembly of Bolivia," the 60-year-old socialist leader said.

He added: "I ask you to stop attacking the brothers and sisters, stop burning and attacking."

Before Morales had even

finished his statement, car horns began sounding in La Paz and other cities, and people took to the streets to celebrate, waving Bolivian flags and setting off fireworks.

Morales was the first member of Bolivia's indigenous population to become president and was in power for 13 years and nine months, the longest term in the country's history.

But his claim to have won a fourth term last month set off unrest that left three people dead and over 100 injured in clashes between his supporters and opponents.

Earlier in the day Sunday, the Organisation of American States said in a preliminary report that it had found a "heap of observed irregularities" in the Oct. 20 election and that a new vote should be held. *AP*

Rohingyas 'threat' to B'desh PM

PTI ■ DHAKA

Bangladesh Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina on Monday said the over 10 lakh Rohingyas who fled from Myanmar to her country in the wake of "persecution" are a "threat to the security" of the entire region as she urged the global community to resolve the issue.

According to the UN, as of May 24, 2018, more than 9,00,000 Rohingya Muslims fled Myanmar's restive Rakhine State since 2017 after large-scale violence following a military crackdown.

The exodus of refugees in large numbers has resulted in a major crisis in neighbouring Bangladesh.

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Hong Kong Police shoot protester; man set on fire

AP ■ HONG KONG

A Hong Kong anti-government protester was shot by police on Monday in a dramatic scene caught on video as demonstrators blocked train lines and roads in a day of spiraling violence fueled by demands for democratic reforms.

Elsewhere, a man was set on fire following an apparent dispute over national identity in the semi-autonomous Chinese territory, which has been wracked by five months of protests. The man was in critical condition in a city hospital.

The violence is likely to further inflame passions in Hong Kong after a student who fell during an earlier protest succumbed to his injuries on Friday and police arrested six pro-democracy lawmakers over the weekend. Monday's video shows a police officer shooting away a group of protesters at an intersection, then drawing his gun on a masked protester in a white hooded sweatshirt who approaches him.

As the two struggle, another protester in black approaches, and the officer points his gun at the second one. He then fires at the stomach area of the second protester, who falls to the ground. The officer appeared to fire again as a third protester in black joined the tussle.

The protester in white manages to flee, bounding up a nearby stairway, and the officer and a colleague pin the two in black to the ground. Police said that only one protester was hit and that he was undergoing surgery.

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Cops probing videos of man set alight

Hong Kong: Hong Kong police said on Monday they are investigating reports that a man was set alight following an argument on a day of widespread protests across the city, as videos of the purported attack surfaced online.

Three videos were posted on messaging channels used by protesters showing a man in a green t-shirt arguing with people on a footbridge, reportedly in the northern district of Ma On Shan. A masked man dressed in black then throws a liquid over the man and sets him ablaze as crowds scatter and the victim frantically tries to remove his t-shirt. *AFP*

GLOBE TROTTER

FIVE KILLED IN PAK FIRING INCIDENT
Lahore: Five persons, including two policemen, have been killed in Pakistan's Punjab province after gunmen opened fire on a police vehicle, according to media reports. The attack took place on Sunday in Arbi Tibba area of the Rajanpur district where a police team was conducting a raid after receiving information about the presence of the fugitives in the area, the News International reported.

SOCIALISTS WIN SPAIN POLLS AMID FAR RIGHT SURGE
Madrid: The Spanish Socialist Party (PSOE) of acting Prime Minister Pedro Sanchez has won most of the seats in the country's fourth general election, but fell short of a majority while right-wing parties made major gains, it was reported on Monday.

WILDFIRES: OZ STATE DECLARES EMERGENCY
Canberra: Australia's most populous State declared emergency on Monday due to unprecedented wildfire danger as calls grew for Australia to take more action to counter climate change.

11 MN SAPLINGS PLANTED ACROSS TURKEY
Ankara: Eleven million saplings were simultaneously planted on Monday across Turkey as part of a mass campaign aimed at contributing to the agriculture while establishing a greener landscape for future generations.

STRONG FRENCH EARTHQUAKE INJURES FOUR
Lyon: An unusually strong earthquake hit southeastern France on Monday, injuring four people, one of them serious, authorities said.

HINDUSTAN EVEREST TOOLS LTD.

Regd. & H.O. Dohil Chambers, 46, Nehru Place, New Delhi 110 019
CIN : L74899DL1962PLC003634, Ph: 91-11-46692600, Fax : 011-41606788
E-mail: h@everesttools.com, Web-site: http://www.everesttools.com

EXTRACT OF UNAUDITED STANDALONE FINANCIAL RESULTS FOR THE QUARTER AND HALF YEAR ENDED 30TH SEPTEMBER, 2019

Particulars	Quarter Ended			Half Year ended			Year Ended
	30.09.2019 Unaudited	30.06.2019 Unaudited	30.09.2018 Unaudited	30.09.2019 Unaudited	30.09.2018 Unaudited	31.03.2019 Audited	
Total income from continuing operations (Net)	53.67	20.30	-	73.97	-	-	61.99
Net Profit/(Loss) for the period from continuing operations (before Tax, Exceptional and/or Extraordinary items#)	(3.22)	(50.66)	-	(53.88)	-	-	(0.57)
Net Profit/(Loss) for the period from continuing operations before tax (after Exceptional and/or Extraordinary items#)	(3.22)	(50.66)	-	(53.88)	-	-	(0.57)
Net Profit/(Loss) for the period from continuing operations after tax (after Exceptional and/or Extraordinary items#)	(3.22)	(50.66)	-	(53.88)	-	-	(0.57)
Net Profit/(Loss) from discontinued operations for the period after tax (after Exceptional and/or Extraordinary items#)	-	-	(65.66)	-	(133.59)	(102.57)	-
Total Comprehensive Income for the period (Comprising Profit/(Loss) for the period (after tax) and Other Comprehensive Income (after tax))	(3.22)	(50.66)	(65.66)	(53.88)	(133.59)	(103.14)	-
Paid up Equity Share Capital (Face Value of Rs. 10/- each)	160.72	160.72	160.72	160.72	160.72	160.72	160.72
Other equity	-	-	-	-	-	-	2940.59
Earning/(Loss) Per Share from continuing operations (Not annualised)							
(a) Basic (Rs.)	(0.20)	(3.15)	-	(3.35)	-	-	(0.04)
(b) Diluted (Rs.)	(0.20)	(3.15)	-	(3.35)	-	-	(0.04)
Earning/(Loss) Per Share from discontinued operations (Not annualised)							
(a) Basic (Rs.)	-	-	(4.09)	-	(8.31)	(6.38)	-
(b) Diluted (Rs.)	-	-	(4.09)	-	(8.31)	(6.38)	-
Earning/(Loss) Per Share from continuing and discontinued operations (Not annualised)							
(a) Basic (Rs.)	(0.20)	(3.15)	(4.09)	(3.35)	(8.31)	(6.42)	-
(b) Diluted (Rs.)	(0.20)	(3.15)	(4.09)	(3.35)	(8.31)	(6.42)	-

NOTES:
The above Statement of "Unaudited Financial Results" for the quarter and half year ended September 30, 2019 ("the Statement") has been reviewed by the audit committee and approved by the Board of Directors in its meeting held on November 11, 2019. The Statutory Auditors have carried out a limited review of the Statement.
The financial results have been prepared in accordance with the recognition and measurement principles of Indian Accounting Standards prescribed under section 133 of the Companies Act, 2013 read with relevant rules framed thereunder and other accounting principles generally accepted in India.
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) Regulations, 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: 11th November, 2019
Place: Nehru Place, New Delhi

PUBLIC NOTICE / TENDER NOTICE CORRIGENDUM NOTICE - II

SR NO.	NAME OF DEPARTMENT / BOARD / CORP / AUTH	LETTER / MEMO No. & DATE	OLD REFERENCE / NIT/TENDER NO.	NATURE OF CORRIGENDUM	WEBSITE OF THE DEPARTMENT	NODAL OFFICER/ CONTACT DETAILS/EMAIL
1	Uttar Haryana Biji Vitran Nigam Limited	CH-47/XENP- I/M/MCH/2541 dated: 07-11-2019	Notice Inviting Tender No. 04/JH/MM/XEN/ I/MCH/J-2541 dated 14-09-2019 (15:00 Hrs)	Bid preparation and submission date extended upto 26-11-2019 (15:00 Hrs)	www.uhbvn.org.in; tenders.hry.nic.in	cmn@uhbvn.org in 9357189013

RO NO. 79144 DI. 11-11-2019

CUBICAL FINANCIAL SERVICES LIMITED

Regd. Office-456, Aggarwal Metro Height, Netaji Subhash Place, Pitam Pura, Delhi-110034
CIN-L65993DL1990PLC040101

Extract of the statement of Unaudited Financial Results for the Quarter ended September 30, 2019 (Rs. In Lacs)

Sl. No.	Particulars	Quarter Ended 30.09.2019 (Un-audited)	Quarter Ended 30.09.2018 (Un-audited)	Year Ended 31-03-2019 (Audited)
1	Total Income from operations	26.55	26.59	367.00
2	Net Profit/(Loss) for the period before tax	13.44	1.61	58.28
3	Net Profit / Loss for the period after tax	9.95	1.61	42.63
4	Equity Share Capital	1303.4	1303.4	1303.40
5	Reserves excluding Revaluation Reserve	-	-	-34.75
6	Earnings Per Share (EPS) (of Rs. 2/- each)			
	Basic	0.02	0	0.07
	Diluted	0.02	0	0.07

NOTES: The above is an Extract of the Detailed Format of Quarterly Financial Results filed with the Stock Exchanges under Regulation 33 of the SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015. The Full Format of the Quarterly Financial Results is available on the Website of Bombay Stock Exchange at www.bseindia.com & on Company website at www.cubicalrealtors.com.
By Order of the Board of Directors for CUBICAL FINANCIAL SERVICES LIMITED
Sd/-
ASHWANI KUMAR GUPTA
MANAGING DIRECTOR
DIN-00348616
DATED: 11TH NOVEMBER, 2019
PLACE: DELHI.

UJVN LIMITED

(An Ultra Large Scale Enterprise)
K. O. 'UJVN', MAHARAJA BAGH, GATE ROAD, GROUND FLOOR, CHANDI ENCLAVE, DELHI-110022
Tel: 011-2763388, Fax: 011-2763550, website: www.ujvn.com

"e" Procurement Notice

The office of Executive Engineer (Maintenance), MB-II, Chinnylsaur (Uttarakashi) invites tender for the following work:-

- NIT No-36/EE (M)/MB-II/19-20:** Procurement of Rotating shaft Sleeve for 76 MW Turbines at Dharasu Power House, MB-II Uttarakashi.
- Approx value of work** : ₹ 97,12,50,00 only + (Taxes extra)
- Tender Cost** : ₹ 590.00
- Earnest Money** : ₹ 30000/-
- Date & Time of availability of :** 13.11.2019 at 16:00 Hrs bid document in the portal
- Last Date/Time for receipt of :** 05-12-2019 up to 16:00 Hrs bid in the portal
- Last Date/Time for receipt of :** 09-12-2019 up to 11:00 Hrs Hard copy in the office
- Date of opening of bid** : 10-12-2019 at 11:00 Hrs. on the website
- Name & Address of the officer inviting the bid:** EE(Maintenance), MB-II, Dharasu Power House, Dharasu. Further details, subsequent addendum/corrigendum/ cancellation etc. may be seen at e-procurement portal "http://uktenders.gov.in"

आवक सं 643/आवक 11.11.2019
"Avoid wasteful use of Electricity"

DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL -II, DELHI

4th FLOOR, JEEVAN TARA BUILDING, PARLIAMENT STREET, NEW DELHI-110001

OA NO 34/19 DATE: 11.10.2019
Karnataka Bank Ltd APPLICANT
VERSUS
M/s Ajay Electronics And Home Appliances RESPONDENT

To, DEFENDANT
M/s Ajay Electronics & Home Appliances, Through Its Proprietor
Mr Arun Kumar Bhardwaj S/o Mr. Satya Prakash Aged About 34 Years
1/7224, F.F. Main Babarpura Road Shivaji Park Delhi - 32
Also at: 1/5304-C, Gali No. 12, Balbir Nagar Extension Delhi - 32
2. Mr. Ajay Kumar Sharma S/o Sukhpal Sharma
1/7216A, Gali No. 1, Shivji Park Shadara Delhi - 32

Whereas the above named applicant (s) has/have instituted a case for recovery of Rs 3,52,87,715/- (Rupee Three Crore Fifty Two Lakh Eighty Seven Thousand Seven Hundred And Fifteen 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 the ordinary way therefore, this notice is given by advertisement directing you to make appearance in the Tribunal on 20.12.2019 at 10.30 A.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, New Delhi.

PUBLIC NOTICE

CHAHAR HAPPY TO REPAY CAPTAIN'S FAITH



IANIS ■ NEW DELHI

It almost looked like Bangladesh would run away with the third T20I in Nagpur on Sunday and with it register their maiden series win over India as Mohammad Naim and Mohammad Mithun looked to be in cruise mode. With dew not helping matters, skipper Rohit Sharma handed the ball to pacer Deepak Chahar, hoping for the youngster to rise to the occasion. And that is exactly what he did.

Chahar, who had earlier scalped for Liton Das and Soumya Sarkar, delivered instantly in the 13th over and started the collapse. The rest as they say is history. Chahar finished with figures of 6/7 — the best in T20Is — and also became the second Indian to pick a hat-trick in the format.

Speaking after game, Chahar said that while everyone is talking about him picking the hat-trick and winning India the game in conditions not suited for bowlers, it is the faith that skipper Rohit showed in him that makes him happy.

"He told me I will use you as a Bumrah today. I will bowl you in the crucial overs and that was motivating for me. I love it when I am given responsibility

under pressure because that makes me feel that I am being trusted. I feel bad when nobody trusts me. To get that confidence from the captain felt good at that stage of the game," he smiled.

It is not often that you have players liking the fact that he is compared to a teammate, but Chahar says there is no doubting the fact that Bumrah is the No 1 bowler at present in the format and it is a matter of pride to be compared to the pacer.

"Imandar hona chahiye (You should be honest)...I know where he stands and I also know where I stand. He is the No 1 bowler in the format and as a T20 bowler, he has everything, be it pace or control. He is the No 1 bowler for me and saying that is not a shame. I am not competing with him and my job is to do well. You need to focus on the game and the team should win and that has to be the priority.

"When they were cruising at the end of 12 overs, I wanted to walk up to him and ask for the ball from the captain, but I didn't because I knew the captain would have his plan and give me the ball. The whole thought was that we shouldn't lose the game and the series. What matters when you play for the country is to perform and win matches,"

he explained.

Pundits have often spoken about how he is more of a new-ball bowler, but Chahar silenced all with his performance on Sunday. And the pacer says that it was more about people assuming things because he always had variations up his sleeves.

"People assumed that and didn't give me a chance to bowl at the death. Whenever I got a chance, I bowled well. I have bowled before as well, even for my state. Generally you don't bowl those bowlers at the death who bowl at less than 130kph, but I don't have that issue. I have bowled around 135kph even in the IPL and say in CSK I wasn't used because Mahi bhai had other bowlers.

"It depends also on the captain. Team requirement is also something that you need to look into. Like on Sunday we had only two fast bowlers in Khaleel Ahmed and me. Shivam Dube isn't a proper fast bowler. So, Rohit bhaiya used me in the death. When I played before, the set-up needed me to bowl at the top," he pointed.

Every player is preparing keeping the World T20 in mind and while Chahar too wants to go ahead and represent the country in the showpiece event in Australia in 2020, he wants to

keep working on his game and get better with each passing day.

"World T20 is about 11 months away and that is a long time. Obviously I have that in the mind and we are looking to win the trophy, but as a sportsman you can't think so far as there is a lot of international cricket before that as well as the IPL. I want to gain more trust from the management till then and there will be times where I will get hit and I want to still gain the trust of the team so that they support me. Performing in every match is the goal.

"I take every game as the last as the competition is very high and the fast bowling unit is doing really well. Cementing your place in this team is very tough, so I look to perform every time I get an opportunity," he signed off.

'CSK STINT HELPED'

Countering the dew in the sultry Chennai heat has been a big part of Deepak Chahar's cricket education and he said it showed during his world record figures of 6 for 7 against Bangladesh in the series-deciding third T20.

Chahar, who also became the first male cricketer from the country to take a T20 International hat-trick, has been one of the Chennai Super Kings' successful new ball bowlers, used judiciously by franchise captain Mahendra Singh Dhoni.

"Playing in Chennai, I have now realised how to counter dew and sweat. How to keep my hands clean. At times, rub dry soil in your hands and then bowl (so that hands don't get slippery)," the 27-year-old Rajasthan seamer said during an interview on 'Chahal TV'.

Asked what was his strategy considering that there was no nip in the air and the ball wasn't swinging a lot.

"Since the side boundaries (at VCA Stadium) were big and that was the plan that we will have to force the batsman to play shots on the sides. I also wanted to vary the pace as the ball was getting wet because of the dew and it was difficult to grip," Chahar explained.

For the 27-year-old, never even in his wildest of imaginations, he could have thought about incredible figures of 6 for 7 in 3.2 overs.

"Come to know in the end that I got a hat-trick since I got the first wicket off the last ball of previous over. Even if you sit back at home and dream, you will not think that in four overs, you will get six wickets for 7 runs," said a beaming Chahar.



विश्व निमोनिया दिवस
12 नवम्बर

कमल नाथ, मुख्यमंत्री, मध्यप्रदेश



5 वर्ष तक के बच्चों में निमोनिया मृत्यु का एक प्रमुख कारण है

निमोनिया फेफड़ों का संक्रमण है जिससे बच्चों को साँस लेने में कठिनाई होती है। गम्भीरता की स्थिति में बच्चे की मृत्यु हो सकती है।

निमोनिया के प्रमुख लक्षण



सर्दी और खाँसी



तेज बुखार आना



तेज साँस चलना



छाती का नीचे धंसना या परसली चलना

निमोनिया के अन्य लक्षण भी हो सकते हैं

(1) स्तनपान/आहार लेने में असमर्थ (2) नथूने फूलना या कराहना (3) लगातार उल्टी होना (4) झटके आना (5) सुस्त या बेहोश होना।

बचाव

- प्रारंभिक 06 माह केवल स्तनपान
- पर्याप्त पूरक आहार
- विटामिन A की खुराक

रोकथाम

- काली खाँसी, खसरा, हिब, पीसीवी टीकाकरण
- साबुन से हाथ धोना
- सुरक्षित पेयजल एवं स्वच्छता
- घरेलू वायु प्रदूषण में कमी लाना

उपचार

- उचित देखभाल एवं सही परामर्श
- स्वास्थ्य सेवाओं एवं सामुदायिक स्तर पर रोगी प्रबंधन

निमोनिया हारेगा ये है विश्वास, हर बच्चा लेगा चैन की साँस

लोक स्वास्थ्य एवं परिवार कल्याण विभाग, मध्यप्रदेश द्वारा जनहित में जारी

संस्करण: 15 नवम्बर 2019

Given heads up to be India's No 4, says Shreyas

PTI ■ NAGPUR

The talented Shreyas Iyer has been given a "heads up" by the Indian team management that he will be the designated No 4 batsman in white-ball format after a string of impressive performances in the past few months.

India tried umpteen players at the number four spot in the lead up to the 50-over World Cup but none of them could cement their place in the team and it was used as a floating position during the mega event as the experiment with Vijay Shankar fell flat.

"For me personally, they (team management) have given me a heads up that 'You'll be there at No 4. So just back yourself and believe in yourself'," Iyer, who smashed 62 off 33 balls including five sixes in the T20 series decider against Bangladesh, told mediapersons after the match.

"It has been a really important last few series for me to set the benchmark at the No 4 position, which all of us are competing for at the moment," said Iyer, who scored a couple of half-centuries batting at No 5 in the ODIs against the West Indies.

Iyer will have to be one of the "finishers" in case team's top two batsmen — skipper Virat and Rohit are dismissed cheaply.

"Even if Kohli and Rohit get out, we need someone to finish the game and bat till the end. That is a No 4's role. That's what I was trying to replicate today and it worked out really well for me," said the 24-year-old.

सतिगुर नानक प्रगटिआ मिटी धुँध जग चानण होआ।

सतगुरु श्री गुरुनानक देव जी के आगमन मात्र से दुनिया से अज्ञान और वुराई रूपी धुँध छट गयी और सर्वत्र ज्ञान का प्रकाश फैल गया

आध्यात्मिक और ईश्वरीय मूल्यों के प्रतीक, मानवता के सच्चे पथ-प्रदर्शक सतगुरु श्री गुरुनानक देव जी के 550वें प्रकाश-पर्व पर समस्त प्रदेशवासियों को हार्दिक बधाई एवं शुभकामनाएं



"पूज्य श्री गुरुनानक देव जी का संपूर्ण जीवन प्रेम, दया, समानता, भक्तिभाव, मानव सेवा और भाईचारे का दिव्य संदेश है। आज के इस पावन प्रकाश पर्व पर हम सब मिल-जुलकर श्री गुरुनानक देव जी के जीवन से प्रेरणा लेकर उनकी शिक्षा को आत्मसात कर प्रेम, सौहार्द से परिपूर्ण समाज और मध्यप्रदेश के नव-निर्माण का संकल्प लें।"

कमल नाथ, मुख्यमंत्री, मध्यप्रदेश



मध्यप्रदेश जनसामर्थी द्वारा जारी
D-11213/19 अगस्त 12, 13 नवम्बर 2019

vivacity

I AM ALWAYS
MY WORST
CRITIC: ANIL
-P 14



Relevance of business card in digital age

We all know that this current era is all about internet, on smart phones. TEAM VIVA will focus on why business cards are not fully replaced with digital version



In this day and age- where everyone carries around a smart phone and has access to the Internet, you may wonder about the practicality of business cards.

Everything we do in business today is digital -- sending mail, signing contracts, attending meetings, even networking. The business card is one thing that digital will not fully replace anytime soon.

There are reasons why the old school business card is still important -- and why you should have a pocket full of them at all times.

Networking is about making genuine connections. Sending contact information via text or email on the spot is convenient but it is also extremely impersonal. Engaging in eye contact and actual conversation is how real relationships begin.

Networking is about making genuine connections. Sending contact information via text or email on the spot is convenient but it is also extremely impersonal. Engaging in eye contact and actual conversation is how real relationships begin.

Email marketing, search engine optimization and paid media all do a great job of attracting leads and prospects, but they still aren't as effective as an in-person meeting sealed with a handshake along with a business card exchange.

You can encounter a potential

lead or contact at any time -- tradeshow, industry conferences, happy hour, airport lounges -- and arming yourself with business cards at all times will ensure that you never miss an opportunity to make a valuable business connection. Keep some in your pockets, wallet, money clip or laptop bag so the next time you encounter a prospect you are prepared.

A business card is the first impression of your brand.

When you meet someone that could potentially be a great prospect or connection, don't you want him or her to walk away with a great first impression? A memorable business card does a lot more than just pass on an email address or phone number.

Yes, they cost more -- but think of how many unnecessary expenses you can cut to allocate funds for great business cards. Hold off on the ping pong table and espresso machine for the office and get some business cards that will make a great first impression.

A business card is a physical object that a potential prospect leaves the encounter with. Your brand stays with them.

If you meet a prospect and exchange email addresses and phone numbers you each walk away with another contact on your mobile phone -- it ends there. If you hand over a creative business card that makes a great impression that person is likely to



show it to other people -- putting you and your brand in front of additional prospects.

Despite all the technological advancements, business cards are

still irreplaceable. It seems that no amount of automation is going to take their place. Most company officials keep some cards in the pocket and hand out the cards

BUSINESS CARDS ARE PART OF THE BRANDING EXERCISE THAT MARKETERS TAKE UP TO BEAT THE COMPETITION

when shaking hands with the potential client. Cards come handy to promote business during a trade fair, seminar, or a business meeting.

Business cards are part of the branding exercise that marketers take up to beat the competition. The cards do not merely hold contact details such as email address, phone number, website address, and others. Smart strategists turn the cards into impressive designs. The design speaks favorably for a business. Every design element like color, typeface, space, image, and logo, etc. has its planned use in the card for the desired impact.

For clients and general customers, business cards are a window to peek into a company's possible quality of products or services. The importance is evident from some glaring facts. According to a study, an overwhelming 72 per cent of the people form an opinion about a company based on the quality of its

business card. So it's evident that the card can make or break your business. You will lose many customers if the card paper is too thin and its design fails to impress them.

A reason for business cards still in circulation is that they deliver contact information with ease. A company's contact information is vital to clients. All of your contact details such as email address and phone number are available on the card. The recipient can put the card easily in a wallet or office drawer. These cards thus come handy in finding out a company's details quickly.

Some digital devices such as iPhones and Android phones can send information to another phone. But that happens only when the other device is compatible. Not all of your potential customers may have compatible phones. That makes these cards essential for all businesses.

When handing out a business card, clients do not merely get the contact details. A lot of handshakes go with exchanging these cards. Both the parties give thanks and greet each other. Moreover, they spend a good time while talking and connect well. They share their contact information through the cards in a friendly environment. This warmth helps in building a relationship with a client.

Every seriously conducted business must grab the attention of its target customers. People's atten-

tion span is already increasing due to many distractions. Therefore, instant first impression on a target audience becomes all the more essential.

When you meet someone and develop that instant rapport you want to give them a chance to follow up with you instantly without having to reach for a pen or their phone.

If left with no other choice do not hesitate to hand over your phone to the other person and have him type in his contact details and vice versa.

When you meet someone and develop that instant rapport you want to give them a chance to follow up with you instantly without having to reach for a pen or their phone.

If left with no other choice do not hesitate to hand over your phone to the other person and have him type in his contact details and vice versa.

Business cards can go wherever you go, making them an essential mobile marketing tool if your business requires you to travel frequently. If you often attend industry trade shows or business conventions, for instance, business cards can facilitate the process of establishing and maintaining contacts that can lead to future business opportunities. By keeping a stack of business cards with you at all times, you have the opportunity to continuously market your business to everyone you meet.

Trend Blazer

I am always my worst critic: Anil

After four decades in Bollywood, actor ANIL KAPOOR feels he needs to learn how to go easy on himself, and that is his biggest challenge. The actor says he has always been his worst critic.

"I've always been hard on myself and I'm always my own worst critic. So my biggest challenge continues to learn to go easy on myself and to let go when I need to," Anil said.

He says his career goals continue to be the same as they were all those years ago, when he was starting out.

"Strangely enough, my goals haven't changed much! I'm a simple man with a simple plan — to be better than I was yesterday. So that's what I continue to strive towards," said he.



My character in House Arrest belongs to a well to do family. He somehow has not come out of his house for the last nine months. The story starts at that point. He is not trapped. He is not psycho or a murderer. It's a voluntary house arrest and there are interesting reasons behind this, which is what the film is all about. The film is an out and out comedy.

—Ali Fazal

Veteran actor-director AMOL PALEKAR will be returning to the stage after 25 years with a Hindi play *Kusur*.

Palekar will be performing on the stage as retired ACP Dandavate.

"The fast pace story whirled us through the twists and turns disturbing our complacency and overturning our assumptions. The deep subtext will linger in our minds beyond the curtain drop," Palekar said.

"As an actor, the role poses an enormous challenge, demanding tremendous emotional and physical energy at my age," added Palekar.



I am because of Friends: Aniston

Actor JENNIFER ANISTON, who won the People's Icon Award at the 2019 E! People's Choice Awards this year, says she has earned the title of being an icon because of her fans and the still popular sitcom *Friends*.

Aniston said, "This town does out a lot of awards but the People's Choice, this was always something special to me. As actors, we don't do this for the critics or for each other or to make our families proud, we do this for the money."

"I am kidding... we do it for you guys. Come on seriously, we really do," she added.



Diabetes, a lifestyle disease, has been regarded as an incurable and chronic ailment which requires lifelong management through medication and insulin, till now. Only a few people are aware that it is curable.

A recent concept called Diabetes Reversal means that people with type 2 diabetes (when your body cells are not able to respond to insulin the way they should) are able to regulate the disease by changing their lifestyle or food patterns without taking medication. This is also known as putting diabetes into remission.

Dr Anoop Misra, chairman, Fortis C-DOC Centre of Diabetes, Metabolic Diseases and Endocrinology says, "As lifestyle improves, medication can slow down the progression of diabetes and prevent complications. Being obese and overweight are the biggest risk factors among Indians. But if we begin to ensure dietary restrictions, the rate of diabetic occurrence will decrease profoundly. Adopting a sustainable healthy diet that is low in carbohydrates and high in proteins and vegetables can help one to control and reverse diabetes." However, this must be done keeping in mind the weight of the patient and their Body Mass Index (BMI). Another intervention which can help in a diabetes diagnosis is to exercise every day as it boosts metabolism.

Akansh Khurana, CEO and co-founder at THB India also attributes lifestyle modification and balanced diet to diagnose and reverse diabetes. "Reversing impaired blood sugar control in diabetes is particularly troublesome when it remains undiagnosed and untreated for a long

SWEET NO MORE

Diabetes has almost taken on the proportion of an epidemic in the country. On the occasion of World Diabetes Day on November 14, experts tell SAKSHI SHARMA about the practicalities, implications and the role of technology in diabetes reversal

time. It remains asymptomatic for longer durations before any clinical signs and symptoms manifest due to impaired glucose levels or associated complications. In such a case regular blood glucose monitoring is, therefore, necessary," says he. There are several technological interventions — smart devices, health apps and digital monitors which are increasingly playing an important role in empowering diabetes patients. They provide patients with real-time access to their data — blood glucose status, dietary habits, physical activity, and diabetes-related information which help in promoting a more personalised therapy and encourages patient's active participation in the overall disease management.

Daivam Wellness in collaboration with Eternity Medicine has launched its *Diabetes Reversal Programme*. With the

help of their diabetes mobile app, they monitor the patient's health and continuously tailor the programme to cater to their varying needs. This is like a coach sitting next to you when you learn driving, to make sure that you make no mistake.

The 360-degree approach of the programme ensures that after a detailed counselling from their experts, their advice is followed and discrepancies are reported. "Through their continuous glucose monitoring device, they observe the blood sugar levels for days and suggest a personalised treatment according to their expert observations," says Dr Alok Chopra, founder and medical director, Daivam Wellness.

Another important aspect of the programme is its two-way communication. The digital platform enables patients to put their concerns and experts revert within a set timeframe.



This interactive feature further helps to modify the programme as per the needs of the patients, therefore getting better and quicker results.

With the country reeling under 49 per cent of the world's diabetes burden and expecting to be home to 134 million diabetics by 2025, a holistic approach towards diabetes prevention is certainly important.

"Data suggests that one in every four people under 25 in India has adult-onset diabetes, a condition more usually seen at the age of 40-50. This is mainly because of a sedentary lifestyle and weight management issues that completely spin their metabolism. Such a large number of people suffering from the disease which causes further health complications, will be a huge socio-economic burden on the country. It is high time that medical fraternity should come up with more innovative solutions and help to prevent this epidemic," adds Dr Chopra.

However, there are many doctors who feel that the concept of diabetes reversal is flawed and is a myth. Dr SK Wangnoo, senior consultant-endocrinology, Indraprastha Apollo Hospital says, "It's not permanent. You can reverse

diabetes for a year or two by strict diet control but not more than that."

He adds that a trial is underway in UK which investigates whether offering an intensive programme for weight loss and its maintenance would be advantageous for people with type 2 diabetes. It recruited patients who were given a fixed diet of around 800 calories per day. And it was supervised by medical practitioners. They showed two years interim data where most of the patients had lost liver and pancreatic fat and had lost more than 10-15 kgs of weight, which means that they could reverse the diabetes. But the approach did not work for everyone. So the study is continuing to understand the biology underlying remission and find ways to make it a reality. A short term reversal is usually possible but long term is not.

For people who think that you haven't reversed your diabetes until you can eat a chocolate cake or swig down an cold drink without your blood sugar rising, the concept is flawed. But for the ones who are ready to change their lifestyle under a professional supervision for a prolonged period, diabetes reversal is possible.



Scorsese's superhero film snub unfortunate: Feige

Marvel Studios president Kevin Feige has opened up on filmmaker Martin Scorsese's criticism of Marvel's superhero films, saying the remarks were unfortunate. Last month, Scorsese spoke with *Empire* magazine about his views towards the Marvel films, expressing that he regards them as "not cinema" and likens them to "theme parks". Since his initial remarks, Scorsese repeated the "theme parks" analogy at the BFI London Film Festival.

In conversation with *The Hollywood Reporter*, Feige, Marvel Chief Creative Officer and the architect of the Marvel Cinematic Universe, opened up about the remarks in public for the first time. "I think that's not true. I think it's unfortunate," Feige says when asked about the notion that superhero films are a negative for cinema.

"I think myself and everyone who works on these films loves cinema, loves films, loves to watch a communal experience in a film theatre full of people," he added. Since launching with 2008's *Iron Man*, Marvel Studios has reshaped the theatrical landscape. Four of the top 10 highest-grossing films of all time come from the Disney-owned studio, including *Avengers: Endgame*, which in July surpassed *Avatar* to become the highest-grossing film of all time.

In a *New York Times* op-ed, Scorsese went back to his comments and added, "What's not there is revelation, mystery or genuine emotional danger. Nothing is at risk. The pictures are made to satisfy a specific set of demands and they are designed as variations on a finite number of themes."

In response to Scorsese, Feige brought up more recent examples of the risks the studio has taken, saying that Marvel hasn't made an *Iron Man* film since 2013 and instead pitted Robert Downey Jr's Tony Stark against Chris Evans' Captain America in 2016's *Captain America: Civil War*.

"We did *Civil War*. We had our two most popular characters get into a very serious theological and physical altercation," Feige said, adding, "We killed half of our characters at the end of a film (*Avengers: Infinity War*). I think it's fun for us to take our success and use it to take risks and go in different places."

Feige, who does not personally know Scorsese, notes that art is a subjective thing. He said, "Everybody has a different definition of cinema. Everybody has a different definition of art. Everybody has a different definition of risk. Some people don't think it's cinema. Everybody is entitled to their opinion. Everyone is entitled to repeat that opinion. Everyone is entitled to write op-eds about that opinion and I look forward to what will happen next. But in the meantime, we're going to keep making films."

—IANS

How much are you willing to give?

Here is what to do if your parents need financial help

Multiple surveys have found that most parents provide some sort of financial support to their adult children. But often, financial aid goes the other way.

A 2015 survey by TD Ameritrade found 13 per cent of adults provided financial support to a parent. Millennials were far more likely than older generations to report they were helping their folks. Of people born between 1981 and 1996, 19 per cent helped their parents, compared with 13 per cent of Gen Xers (1965 to 1980) and 8 per cent of baby boomers (1946 to 1964).

Sometimes the money is provided happily or at least without resentment, by those following cultural norms or personal conviction that they owe it to their parents. Other times, financial aid to parents is a source of tension — between parent and adult child, among siblings and between partners.

Certified financial planner Austin A. Frye had no idea when he married his wife four decades ago that they would one day support her parents. The older couple, now in their 80s, cover their day-to-day expenses with a union pension and social security. Frye and his wife cover unexpected expenses and travel for her parents, Frye says, and also pay \$15,000 a year for a long-term care policy. Frye says that though he's



happy to be in a position to help his in-laws, he still wishes they had saved money for their retirement. "They just spent what they made. They didn't really plan," Frye says.

Certified financial planner Kashif A Ahmed, on the other hand, comes from a culture where younger people get into arguments about who will have the honour of caring for an older relative. Ahmed said he needed a spreadsheet to coordinate the

dozens of relatives who volunteered to help his great-grandparents in their final illnesses.

Ahmed invited his mother to move in with him after his father died in 2001. His wife, Simona, an economist who grew up with similar values in Romania, supported the move, and Ahmed's mother is helping to raise their four daughters, ages 6 to 16.

Ahmed says financial advisers from other cultures often have

trouble grasping the deep sense of obligation. He's heard peers criticize clients who aren't saving enough for retirement or are neglecting other goals while supporting parents, saying the clients don't "get it."

"I'll say, 'No. You don't get it,' " Ahmed says. Balancing competing goals is what financial planning is all about. If you're supporting a parent or think you may in the future, the following steps could

help make the balancing act a bit easier."

TALK TO YOUR PARTNER

If you're married or in a committed relationship, it helps to get on the same page about how much you're willing and able to give. Brainstorm different scenarios, such as emergency expenses (how much can you give, and what constitutes an emergency?) or long-term care (can you provide

care in your home or help pay for in-home or nursing care?). If you're not clear what you can afford, a consultation with a financial planner could help. If you don't have a partner, talking to a trusted friend or a financial planner can help you clarify what you can offer and when.

TALK TO YOUR PARENTS

Just over half of the people supporting parents in the TD Ameritrade survey had ever talked with them about it. Financial planners say that understanding the parents' financial situation can help you prepare, and might also provide an opportunity for you to reduce their need for your help. You could help them budget, give them a session with a financial planner. You also can let them know how much help you can afford to provide.

ROPE IN YOUR SIBLINGS

Even if they can't contribute financially, they may be able to help in other ways — running errands, taking parents to the doctor, handling bill paying and other paperwork, or providing respite care.

TAKE CARE OF YOURSELF

You may have to delay retirement, buying a house or having kids to support your parents. Many people do, according to the survey. But you should have a plan to eventually reach your own goals. Unlike your parents, you may have only yourself to rely on when you're older.

—AP

IN DURYODHANA'S VOICE

PUNEET ISSAR's retelling of Mahabharata through the eyes of its antagonists, though bleak in its representation due to the TV soap-like execution of its script, raises the right questions against the unjust society and challenges the idea of how history has always belonged to the victors, says CHAHAK MITTAL

Every story has a protagonist and an antagonist. And the latter is usually the flawed one, who is eventually defeated by the former and mostly called the 'villain'. The protagonist, on the other hand, is always praised and looked at as an example of the ideal human being. But ever wondered why the antagonist is an antagonist after all? And why not a hero? Who decides what is wrong or right? How are the two terms defined? What if even the protagonist did something wrong initially? And what if what he did was even worse than the actions of the one portrayed as the negative character?

Actor-director Puneet Issar's retelling of the Mahabharata through Karna and Duryodhana's (the so-called antagonists of the great epic) perspectives makes one ask these questions. The play challenges the notion of history, which has always been written through the eyes of the victors rather than those who were defeated. It questions as to why he has always been looked at as such a bad character



in the epic while he was so generous with his countrymen and loyal to his friend. Despite that, even though Karna is seen as the tragic hero, Duryodhana came to be known as the villain.

The play, divided into different scenes, begins with young Duryodhana's soliloquy where he laments how the Kauravas have always been neglected as compared to the Pandavas due to their father and blind king Dhritarashtra. He calls out, 'Jo adhikaar mila na pita ko, mujhe kyun na mile? Main toh andha nahi hun,' and swears to be the one who is the first one to be remembered by the generations to come when they speak of the Mahabharata. Even though the narration lacks elements of some subtlety due to its

very direct though powerful narration by Meghna Malik, Puneet makes Duryodhana the centre of the epic brilliantly, without justifying any of his wrong or misguided deeds. He reasons, 'Jab mujhme ghrina ka beej boya hai bachpan se, toh mere phal bhi toh ghrina ke hi hongee na. Main likhunga itihaas naya, mujhe yaad rakhegi duniya,' presenting an idea that even though he and his brothers have always been despised, there's a reason for their behaviour which lies in their treatment.

The second scene showcases Karna's coronation by Duryodhana as the Angaraaj and a clash between Arjun and Karna where the other people in the court, including Vidura and



Dronacharya, put him down by calling him a Sutputra and asserting that only Kshatriyas are allowed to fight in the court of Bharatvansha. The act introduces a number of characters in the play as Arjun and Karna's confrontation is always interrupted by some or the other character, including (orderwise) Duryodhana, Bheem, Yudhishtir and Nakul and Sahdev. And each one of them, emerge from the back of the auditorium and make their way amidst the audience. The act, however, was the most powerful of all as it did bring across a message when Duryodhana questions the discrimination being done against Karna. From questioning the 'dasi-putra' Vidura to reminding Drona of Eklavya's sacrifice,

he says, 'Sir pe swarnmukut, bheetar se kaale kaale!' and makes a point that one's destiny is decided by one's actions (karma) and that caste cannot determine it. He then honours Karna as the king of Anga and his friend.

The next act takes one to Draupadi's swayamvar where Karna is all set to hit the fish's eye with his arrow. He is interrupted by Draupadi who insults him by calling him a Sutputra and hence, ineligible of being her husband. Full marks to Draupadi's (played by Urvashi Dholakia) acting skills, however, unfortunately, the woman who has symbolised power and femininity has been shown in a very dark light in the play. The director's rendition of her showcases her as a woman who was just arrogant and proud of her wealth and beauty rather than depicting her as the epitome of justice and feminism. She was a woman of substance and her strong personality and will power made her attractive. Furthermore, while the play says that it tells Mahabharata through the eyes of Duryodhana and Karna both, I wished there was more of Karna as much as it was of the former's. Even after Draupadi walks off the stage and Karna is left alone, he does not voice opinion.

Duryodhana's insult by Draupadi is the next act and what I said about Draupadi's representation in the previous scene continues here as well. She calls Duryodhana as 'Andhe ka putra andha', and laughs out loud like the villainous women in Indian TV soaps. Though Duryodhana's brilliant monologue after

Draupadi exits the stage saves the act, which is followed by Sakuni's entry and his plotting of the dice game against the Pandavas. The scene makes for laughs too when Sakuni delivers some humorous dialogues. After the Pandavas lose all that they had, including themselves and their wife, Panchali is dragged to the stage by Dushasan by her hair. Well, the most striking thing that I observed here is that even though Karna is anguished by this behaviour against Panchali and wants Duryodhana to take back his order of stripping her in the court, he never says anything. In other versions, it is said that Karna at least tried to stop Duryodhana but is shunned due to his loyalty and promise to his friend of never going against him. However, here, especially when the play was said to be told through both of their perspectives, I wished Karna's misery came across at least once. The scene got a round of applause as Draupadi questioned all the men in the court who turned blind during her assault, reflecting upon society's reality and how it has turned its back towards women during the time when it is needed the most. The act also makes space for the audience to explore what Duryodhana felt about how Panchali's five husbands stayed silent to their wife's harassment. He says that it was wrong of Dushasan to have held her by her hair and thrown in the court but why did nobody question Yudhishtira who didn't utter a word. 'Main galat kyun? This is not the way Bharatvansha's bahu (or daughter-in-law) should have been treated and you know that, Pitamah Bhisma!' he says.

Certainly, the play makes for a great visual representation of the epic with its vibrant costumes and stage set-up; however, there isn't anything new that the audience would find here. The attempt of presenting the story by making its antagonists the heroes is commendable but the perspectives given by the character doesn't present a lot of new things. The overdramatised scenes and repetition of certain punchlines remind one of the various TV soaps based on the epic. And the extremely loud dialogue delivery definitely reminds one of Mahabharata that became every household's Sunday breakfast show during the 90s.

Artist Arpana Caur celebrates and commemorates Guru Nanak with reverence and great fervour. Her organic and minimalist strokes done in tensile thread like contours speak about art's many sojourns. And her brilliance lies in her weaving of tensile and tactile tales with elements she takes from Nanak's life.

550 years of Nanak

Artist ARPANA CAUR says that it is very hard to capture 'a being as elevated as the Sikh Guru' on canvas with a painter's limited skills. By UMA NAIR

No one loved Nanak more than my friend Khushwant Singh who had a painting of him by Caur in his room. Khushwant was a dear friend of Arpana. In 1998, when I asked Caur about Nanak in front of Khushwant, she said, "Nanak is a spiritual master who guides and defines our lives. The stories are unending and when you practice his teachings, it becomes like a tale that turns into a testimony. It becomes a part of who we are."



She was the only contemporary artist at that time, who was creating modern imagery of characters with miniature formats entwined. "Ajanta, Ellora and Pahari miniaturists flow through my veins, just like many other stories that have always stayed in my mind. Whenever I think of Nanak, it's a journey that goes deep into the roots of my own existence. Its like finding a fragrance."

One look at the many artworks of Nanaks that she has done over the years show that she always sought to achieve near perfection. Khushwant used to say that Caur's Nanak was like a reminder to invoke Lord's blessings for strength. Caur's images have graced many books. The finest being *Nanak: The Guru* in collaboration with author Khushwant's daughter Maya Dayal. Apart from that — *Hymns of the Sikh Gurus*, which unfortunately is now out of print.

It is very hard to capture 'a being as elevated as Nanak' on canvas with a painter's limited skills. My solo on Him was almost 20 years ago. There were 'Baba Nanak, Guru Nanak, Peer Nanak, Lama Nanak'. I have been to many of the innumerable places he went on foot, (Baghdad, Sri Lanka, Dhaka, Kashmir, South India, Leh and Sikkim). He, of course, went to many many more.

It is clear that you cannot create so many Nanaks unless you have deep devotion for him. "I love him because of the life affirming things he did. He did away with the caste system. He said 'Nako Hindu Na Musalman'. He considered women as equal

to men and said so in his verses that too 550 years ago. He was an ecologist and has even praised nature in his verses. He was against feudal oppression. He shared and asked all to share their earnings with the needy. He was a great poet and was against rituals (sacred thread, pilgrimages etc) and believed only in humanity, Love, and service to everyone."

resonance. The stark black backgrounds draw attention to the contemplative expression on his face and the prayer beads in his hands even as she lines the silhouette with grace. Surrounding him are lined details in blue and white and these trace abstractions and reflect perhaps his many journeys as well as his thoughts. She creates a metaphor of the many journeys that he undertook during his lifetime not only around the India but also to Afghanistan, Iraq, China and Tibet.

According to Caur, she added shards of colour and light, in white, grey and blue to create a transient feel of spirituality. Each Nanak in Caur's hands is unique and deeply contemplative.

SO MANY NANAKS
Caur explains her oeuvre over more than four decades. "It

HIS ENDURING LEGACY

A new exhibition on GEORGE ORWELL seeks to remind people how the author's premonitions about fake becoming the gospel have shaped the minds of generations



War is Peace. Freedom is Slavery. Ignorance is Strength. Those were the slogans of the Party in George Orwell's 1949 novel 1984 that allowed the superstate of Oceania to keep its population under control. The Thought Police thwarted dissent. The Ministry of Truth promoted lies. The Ministry of Love tortured lovers. Those dystopian warnings about the fake becoming the gospel have shaped the minds of generations since they appeared in print more than a half-century ago. And now a new exhibit on Orwell at the University of Albuquerque, New Mexico seeks to remind people about the author's premonitions amid a new — yet very familiar — era.

George Orwell: His Enduring Legacy, which runs to April, features posters and material related to 1984 and his 1945 allegorical novella, *Animal Farm*. It also contains rare Orwell books in different languages to highlight his reach and evolution as a writer. Orwell, who died in 1950, was known for *Animal Farm* and 1984, both of which tackled totalitarianism. Orwell's 1984 has become a best-seller in the US again during the Trump administration.

The exhibit was sparked after a longtime advocate and employee of the University of New Mexico University Libraries donated his collection of rare Orwell books. For years, Russ Davidson, a University of New Mexico professor and curator emeritus, amassed rare Orwell books from around the world.

Those rare works included first editions of *Animal Farm* and 1984 in

Icelandic, Ukrainian, Swahili, French, Urdu, German, Hungarian and Spanish. He also obtained first, early and other scarce editions of many of Orwell's other books, essays and reportage. Such unique books are on display in the exhibition. Yet, the most captivating aspect of the small but powerful exhibit is the art and objects connected to themes and Orwell's life. Artifacts and posters from the Spanish Civil War are shown to illustrate how the conflict played a role in Orwell's intellectual formation. Orwell fought against a right-wing military coup in Spain but fled after he was shot in the throat and officials sought his arrest.

The campy book cover art also is seductive, offering commentaries about the eras the editions were produced rather than the work inside. In one edition of 1984, for example, the cover features characters for the Sen. Joseph McCarthy Era 1950s with the words "forbidden love...fear...betrayal." It's almost as if novel was merely a pulp fiction soap opera found at Route 66 gas stations, except it's not.

Then, there are the portrayals of Napoleon, the authoritarian pig in *Animal Farm*. Red posters show Napoleon in military gear of communist Eastern Europe. Other images show his celebrating his abundance at the sake of others, since, "all animals are equal, but some animals are more equal than others."

Journalists, academics and political observers of every succeeding generation since Orwell's untimely death have argued that Orwell remains relevant in

their time. And, yes, the same could be said of today. Orwell's concepts of doublespeak (deliberately euphemistic, ambiguous or obscure language), newspeak (doublespeak for political propaganda) and thoughtcrimes (thoughts deemed illegal by a mob or a government) continued to be cited in response to current events.

President Donald Trump's practice of blurring falsehoods — like saying, "The Kurds are much safer right now" after Turkey invaded Kurdish strongholds — have been called Orwellian. The same has been noted for some Democrats. California Gov. Gavin Newsom claimed in August that the "vast majority" of San Francisco's homeless people came from Texas. (A 2019 report found 70 percent had previously lived in the city). Even in New Mexico, the most Hispanic state in the US that sits along the US-Mexico border, Orwellian concepts in practice have emerged.

In 2016, for example, a left-leaning immigrant rights group denounced then-Republican Gov. Susana Martinez and her attempts to revamp a state law that allowed immigrants in the country illegally to obtain driver's licenses. The group called a potential compromise to create a "two-tier" system to issue two types of licenses — one compliant with the federal REAL ID Act — nothing but a "scarlet letter." After New Mexico Democrats said it would support the compromise and the bill passed, the group changed course and publicly and proudly claimed Martinez lost. But she won. —AP

WATCH OUT



Back to France presents *Inhabited Geometries*, an exhibition of artist Navani's artworks, which deal with abstract geometric forms and inhabit layers within the natural, sacred and architectonic worlds. WHEN: Till November 25 WHERE: Galerie Romain Rolland, 72 Lodi Estate.



Pandies' Theatre presents *Medea, a story of heartbreak and after*. It follows the life and tragedy of an ancient Greek sorceress whose jealousy and passion drive her to commit unimaginable crimes. TIME: 7 pm WHEN: November 23 WHERE: Amaltas, India Habitat Centre.

Baroda-based artist Neelkant Choudhary presents a solo show titled *Feminine Divine* in which he creates Madhubani art with a twist by using a stylised, contemporary form that uses a global iconography. WHEN: November 7 to December 3 TIME: 11 am to 6 pm WHERE: Gallerie Ganesh, Greater Kailash-II.



India Art Festival, a contemporary art fair presents 30 galleries, 124 booths, 450 artists and 4,500 artworks. Art galleries and independent artists participate with wide range of artworks that include paintings, sculptures, installations, photographs, digital prints, video art and all other forms of visual art done in various mediums. WHEN: November 14 to 17 TIME: 11 am to 8 pm WHERE: Thyagaraj Stadium.



Dastkar presents its 4th event of the season — Nature. It is dedicated solely to craftspeople and traditional Indian handicrafts. WHEN: November 12 to 14 TIME: 11 am to 7.30 pm WHERE: Nature Bazaar Venue, Kisan Haat, Andheria Modh.

India leave for World Cup qualifiers

To win more games, we need to score more: Gurpreet



Indian players train during practice session ahead of FIFA World Cup qualifier against Bangladesh at Salt Lake stadium in Kolkata

PTI/File Picture

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

He saved India the blushes against Bangladesh and centre-back Adil Khan said on Monday Afghanistan also can pose the Blue Tigers a "heavy challenge" in their upcoming FIFA World Cup qualifier.

Khan, whose last-gasp equaliser salvaged a draw for India against Bangladesh in their last qualifier, said that he'll be happy "scoring a few more goals" for the Blue Tigers

in the future.

The team is leaving for its upcoming World Cup qualifying assignments against Afghanistan and Oman. "Afghanistan beat Bangladesh in their only home game so far and they are a respectable side. They can impose a heavy challenge on us," Khan said.

Recalling his strike, he said, "It was the moment of truth for us, and thankfully, I could contribute. It could have been anyone actually. Now, I don't want to look back and

reminisce about the goal. I would rather like to score a few more for India."

India are scheduled to clash swords with Afghanistan in Dushanbe, Tajikistan on November 14, before flying to Muscat where Oman will host the Blue Tigers five days later.

On being asked how challenging would the tie against Afghanistan be, he said: "Very tough actually. Afghanistan have always been a juggernaut for us. We

have to be very cautious and stay on our toes throughout to garner a positive result against them."

"We have heard from Sunilbhai, Gurpreet-bhai and others how gruelling and taxing it was in the SAFF Tournament final in 2016.

"As I heard, a few Afghan players ply their trade in different European leagues and it underlines how threatening their players can be."

Adil had made his debut for the

Blue Tigers in 2012 before making a comeback seven years later under Igor Stimac in the King's Cup 2019.

"It's a dream-come-true occasion for any footballer to represent his country and I'm no different. I still remember my first match back in 2012 and again getting the national team call-up in 2019 was something like my reincarnation as a footballer."

India will have a session in Dubai before flying to Dushanbe, and Stimac said it will "immense-

ly benefit the squad".

"We wanted to fasten the recovery process. The morning session in Dubai will also help us in a way or two before reaching Dushanbe," Stimac said prior to departure from the capital.

Sunil Chhetri, the talismanic striker felt, "A good sleep, proper diet and recovery are very important to stay in the right shape before we face Afghanistan on 14th. The rest in Dubai will help all shrug off the fatigue."

India goalkeeper Gurpreet Singh Sandhu feels the team has moulded itself into a battle-hardened unit but it still needs to find the back of the net consistently to improve its winning ratio in top-flight football.

"I think, of late, we have turned ourselves into a team which is tough to beat. We just have to add something more to it which is scoring to get the points on the table and we have that quality," Gurpreet said.

Skipper Sunil Chhetri had promised to put their best foot forward in the upcoming qualifiers against Afghanistan and Oman, Gurpreet also said they will have to get something substantial out of the two matches.

"Both games are difficult. Oman are a very good side and have quality players, whereas Afghanistan will be tough to play against in Tajikistan. But we have to go there with a strong approach to get something out of the two games," the country's first-choice goalkeeper said.

Gurpreet said coach Igor Stimac has been smart in introducing a host of new faces.

"We have grown stronger with the introduction of the young players who will improve with time."

While Chhetri felt the team is still far from fully implementing coach Stimac's vision, Gurpreet said they are gradually getting accustomed to his philosophy.

"Yes, the team is getting accustomed with the system but most importantly getting used to each other as well playing with the ball."

India endured a disastrous campaign in the 2018 World Cup qualifiers, including a shock loss to tiny Pacific nation Guam, and Gurpreet said the team has come a long way from those days.

"I think if we compare it with the 2015 qualifiers that we played, we have come a long way since then. We have two points on the table and have only lost one game which also we could have won. I am happy but not satisfied because I know we have the potential to do more."

SINGLES

TONALI REPLACES VERRATTI IN ITALY SIDE

ROME: Paris Saint-Germain midfielder Marco Verratti, AS Roma defender Leonardo Spinazzola and Sassuolo striker Domenico Berardi have all been ruled out of Italy's final Euro 2020 qualifiers, the country's football federation (FIGC) confirmed on Monday.

Brescia's 19-year-old midfielder Sandro Tonali comes in for Verratti, but Spinazzola and Berardi have not been replaced. Italy, who have already qualified for next year's European Championship, face Bosnia and Herzegovina on November 15 before hosting Armenia three days later.

SUNDAR DEFENDS WORLD TITLE IN JAVELIN

DUBAI: Sundar Singh Gurjar overcame a shoulder injury to defend his World Para Athletics Championships title in the men's F46 javelin throw event while also securing Tokyo Paralympic Games quota, along with the Bronze winner Ajeet Singh and Rinku. Gurjar came up with his season's best effort of 61.22m to claim the top spot. Singh sent the spear to a distance of 59.46m to clinch the Bronze while Rinku finished fourth. Under International Paralympic Committee rules, the top four ranked athletes at the 2019 World Para Athletics Championships in each of the individual medal events on the Tokyo 2020 Paralympic Programme (excluding Marathon) will each obtain one qualification slot for their respective country.

PAES DROPS OUT OF TOP-100 BRACKET

NEW DELHI: Veteran tennis star Leander Paes on Monday dropped out of the top-100 bracket for the first time in 19 years, slipping to 101 after losing five places in the ATP doubles chart. With 856 points, Paes is now fourth-highest ranked Indian player behind Rohan Bopanna (38), Divij Sharan (46) and Purav Raja, who re-entered the top-100 by jumping eight places to 93. The last time the 46-year-old Paes was placed outside top-100 was in October 2000 when he was ranked 118. Meanwhile, in the singles, Prajesh Gunneswaran continues to be India's top-ranked singles player though the Chennai left-hander dropped a rung to 95 and was followed by Sumit Nagal (127, +2), Ramkumar Ramanathan (190, +9), Sasi Kumar Mukund (250, +2) and Saketh Myneni (267, -1).

NAVAS OUT FOR AT LEAST 2 WEEKS

PARIS: Paris Saint-Germain goalkeeper Keylor Navas has been ruled out of action for at least two weeks with a thigh injury, the Costa Rican football federation (FEDEFUT) announced on Sunday. The former Real Madrid number one pulled out of PSG's 2-1 win at Brest on Saturday after injuring himself during the warm-up. The problem will rule him out of Costa Rica's upcoming CONCACAF Nations League games against Curacao and Haiti, on November 15 and 18, and faces a race to be fit in time for PSG's Champions League match at Real Madrid on November 26. PSG coach Thomas Tuchel has an extremely lengthy injury list, with Navas joining Kylian Mbappe, Neymar, Ander Herrera, Thomas Meunier and Thilo Kehrer on the sidelines.

GHOSAL IN LAST 16 AT PSA WORLD C'SHIP

DOHA: India's Saurav Ghosal put up a fine performance to get past seasoned Frenchman Lucas Serme 11-8, 11-5, 11-5 and enter the pre-quarterfinals of the PSA Men's World Squash Championship. The Indian No 1 controlled everything from rallies to strokes and subdued Serme in the Qatar capital on Sunday night. He saved one game ball in the first game but was outplayed in the next. Having grabbed the first two games, Ghosal won the first five points in the third game to extend his dominance and seal it in his favour. In the pre-quarterfinals today, the tenth seeded Ghosal will face Egyptian world No 2 and top seed Mohamed El Shorbagy.

Dybala keeps Juve at summit



Paulo Dybala celebrates after scoring Juventus' only goal against AC Milan on Sunday

AFP ■ TURIN

Paulo Dybala struck the decisive goal in Juventus' 1-0 win over AC Milan on Sunday after replacing Cristiano Ronaldo as Juventus stayed top of Serie A.

Argentine forward Dybala hit the winner in the 77th minute in the Allianz Stadium having taken the place of Ronaldo 20 minutes earlier.

Defending champions Juventus maintain their one-

point lead over Antonio Conte's Inter Milan who had taken pole position after their 2-1 win over Verona on Saturday.

AC Milan's seventh defeat in 12 games saw Stefano Pioli's side drop to 14th position, just four points above the relegation zone.

However Milan had threatened as the former European giants chased their first win against Juventus in Turin in eight years.

Wojciech Szczesny was kept

busy in the Juventus goal, denying fellow Pole Krzysztof Piatek, Lucas Paqueta and Hakan Calhanoglu.

Blaise Matuidi missed Juventus' best chance before Dybala's winner when his powerful curling effort flew wide just after the break.

Five-time Ballon d'Or winner Ronaldo, who had also been taken off during the midweek Champions League win over Lokomotiv Moscow, reportedly left the stadium before the end of the game after being substituted on 55 minutes.

Douglas Costa also came on for Federico Bernardeschi after an hour, with the two substitutions changing the game for the champions.

Gonzalo Higuain fed Dybala, who easily shook off Alessio Romagnoli to beat Donnarumma and claim his third league goal this season.

"Cristiano should be thanked because he made himself available despite not being in optimal conditions," said Juventus coach Maurizio Sarri.

"In the last month he has had this discomfort in his knee and this is a little problem for him."

"It's only natural a player is going to be irritated to leave the pitch, especially when he worked so hard to be there."

Klopp hails 'focused' Liverpool after City win

AFP ■ LIVERPOOL

Liverpool boss Jurgen Klopp hailed his side's "incredible goals" after they beat Manchester City 3-1 on Sunday to move nine points clear of the defending Premier League champions.

The European champions took a huge step towards a first top-flight title in 30 years by opening an eight-point lead at the top of the table, with Leicester City in second place.

Goals from Fabinho and Mohamed Salah gave Liverpool a dream start before Sadio Mane's diving header early in the second half sealed City's fate.

Bernardo Silva pulled a late goal back but a third defeat in eight league games leaves City down in fourth, nine points behind Liverpool, and with a mountain to climb if they are to claim a third straight league title.

"They (City) were good," Klopp told the BBC. "Oh they were good and we had to defend with all we had but we scored incredible goals."

"It was so tough to play, the intensity of the game was so clear. It was all worth it, really great."

"The boys were completely focused and concentrated," he added. "It was so good. It is the only way we can beat City. Maybe other teams can do it a different way but this is the only way we can beat them."

City boss Pep Guardiola said his side had shown why they were Premier League champions.

"What happened today we showed why we are champion," Guardiola told Sky Sports.

"I am so proud of my team, more than ever."



Man City boss Pep Guardiola looks at match official Michael Oliver at the end of Premier League game against Liverpool

PL We can be proud of how we played against the strongest team in Europe."

"We played like back-to-back champions," he added. "We cannot deny how good Liverpool are but the way we played, the personality, it was good."

Khaka ready to battle for Arsenal place

AFP ■ LONDON

Grant Khaka may have been stripped of the Arsenal captaincy due to his public run-in with the club's fans but he says he will be staying and fighting for his place in the team.

The volatile 27-year-old Swiss international midfielder has not played since he mouthed an obscenity at a section of Arsenal fans jeering him when he was substituted in the Premier League match with Crystal Palace a fortnight ago.

However, despite manager Unai Emery deciding he could not carry on as skipper — a role he was given after a secret

ballot of the players — he told Swiss newspaper *Blick* he would not be leaving.

"You can be sure that I'll keep fighting and putting myself out there in every training session," Khaka said.

"I feel last week has been dealt with and I'm ready."

"My time at Arsenal has been very positive for a long time."

"After a difficult start, I played a lot and overall I've had a great time at Arsenal."

Khaka, who has been linked with a move to struggling Newcastle in the January transfer window, said the boos and jeers has not altered his views of the city or the club.

"I'll continue to stay positive," he said. "(To) give my all to an even greater extent and prove that I am an important part of this great team."

AFP ■ LONDON

Roger Federer faces an uphill task to qualify for the last four of the ATP Finals after defeat by Dominic Thiem on Sunday following a masterclass by Novak Djokovic.

Six-time champion Federer was beaten 7-5, 7-5 in the evening match on the opening day after Djokovic had swatted aside debutant Matteo Berrettini in the earlier Group Bjorn Borg contest in London.

Federer and Djokovic will meet later in the week in a repeat of this year's epic Wimbledon final, with two players advancing from the four-man group.

The Swiss 20-time Grand Slam winner recovered quickly from being broken in the first game of the match but the Austrian fifth seed repeated the dose in the 11th game and took the opening set 7-5.



Roger Federer shakes hands with Dominic Thiem after he lost the match during ATP World Tour Finals

Federer, uncharacteristically wayward, squandered an early chance to break in the second set and the games went with serve until the 11th game again, when Thiem broke to love after the third seed dumped a forehand into the net.

The Austrian stuttered while serving for the match, forced to save two break points, but he held his nerve to take the set 7-5 and seal a deserved victory on his second match point.

"I thought Dominic saved himself real well when he had to," said Federer. "So I thought he

played a tough first-round performance today, and my game was probably just not good enough, and the start didn't help."

"It's a normal tournament from here on forward," added the 38-year-old, who may now have to beat Djokovic to progress.

"Not allowed to lose anymore for me. That's how it is every week of the year for the last 20 years, so from that standpoint there is nothing new here."

Thiem came into the match with a 4-2 winning record against his illustrious opponent but the result is still a surprise. The only time Federer has failed to progress to the knockout stages was in 2008.

"We had a good and close match, and it's always special to beat Roger, who is a legend," said Thiem, who impressed with his clean hitting.

"It's amazing to play against probably the best player of all time, but luckily I have a pretty good record against him."