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CAPSULE

OWAISI SLAMS DIDI FOR 'MINORITY EXTREMISM'
Kolkata: A day after West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee warned against "minority extremism" in an obvious attack on the AIMIM, Asaduddin Owaisi hit back on Tuesday, saying Muslims in the TMC chief's State are ranked "worst" on development indicators.

SELFISHNESS IS BAD: BHAGWAT ON BJP-SENA
Nagpur: In a veiled reference to the recent BJP-Shiv Sena fallout over differences on Government formation in Maharashtra, RSS chief Mohan Bhagwat said that both sides will face loss if they "are going to fight over a matter". "Everyone knows that selfishness is a bad thing but very few people give up their selfishness," he added.

12-YEAR-OLD STOPPED ON WAY TO SABARIMALA
Sabarimala: A 12-year-old girl from Pudukcherry, who had come for darshan to Lord Ayyappa temple here along with her father, was not allowed to proceed to the shrine from Pamba on Tuesday morning.

AILING NAWAZ LEAVES FOR LONDON FOR TREATMENT
Lahore: Pakistan's ailing former Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif on Tuesday left for London in an air ambulance to seek medical treatment for multiple diseases, days after a court here allowed him to travel abroad.

SUPERSTARS PACT IN OFFING IN TAMIL NADU?
Chennai: Superstar Rajinikanth on Tuesday said he would join hands with Kamal Haasan for the welfare of people of Tamil Nadu if such a situation arose.

House rises to Delhi pollution challenge

MPs call for standing committee, demand integrated action

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

A debate on Delhi's alarming pollution level kicked off in the Lok Sabha on Tuesday on the second day of the Winter Session with Congress MP Manish Tewari suggesting a standing committee on pollution and climate change.

"Trinamool Congress" (TMC) Kakoli Ghosh Dastidar, who wore a mask during her speech in the Lok Sabha, called for a Swachh Hawa Mission. She said Delhi is staring at mass asphyxia.

Many MPs reasoned that it is unfair to blame only farmers for stubble burning, while keeping a blind eye to major pollutants like industry, vehicles, civil constructions in Delhi. They criticised the Delhi Government for its failure to provide clean water.

Initiating the debate, Tewari pointed out how Beijing recovered from the hazardous pollution by curbing industrial and thermal wastes. He urged the Centre and the Delhi Government to resolve the issue with integrated actions.

Tewari said stubble burning is not a major pollutant in Delhi and adjoining areas, hence small farmers should not alone be blamed for the present situation in Delhi.

Participating in a discussion on "pollution and climate change", BJP MP from West Delhi Praveesh Verma slammed the AAP Government for pass-



TMC MP Kakoli Ghosh wearing a pollution mask arrives at Parliament in New Delhi on Tuesday



A man rides a bike against the background of Rashtrapati Bhawan

ing the buck to neighbouring States where stubble burning is an annual phenomenon around this time every year.

The BJP MP alleged that the AAP Government had spent ₹70 crore on publicising the odd-even road rationing scheme but did not take steps to increase the number of public buses. People are using personal vehicles due to inadequate and poor public transport facilities in Delhi, he said.

He alleged ₹600 crore was spent by the Delhi Government on advertisements but little was done to curb pollution.

Earlier Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal used

to cough, but now the entire city and members of Parliament are coughing, he said sarcastically.

Verma claimed the pollution level in Delhi has reached a saturation point and that is why many residents want to leave the city. He questioned the usefulness of the purchase of 50 lakh masks by the City Government.

Verma alleged that by blaming villagers for pollution, Kejriwal was only widening the urban-rural divide.

The Speaker reminded Verma not to take the name of Kejriwal, but he went on attacking the Delhi CM.

Verma also called upon the MPs to donate ₹2 crore from their Members of Parliament Local Area Development (MPLAD) fund for setting up pollution control towers in Delhi as they spend over 200 days of the year in the city.

Pinaki Misra (BJD) too said stubble burning is not a major contributor to pollution in Delhi and the farmers should not be vilified. However, he suggested utilising stubble for bio gas to incentivise farmers against burning it. Misra urged for combined efforts of the Centre and States in curbing the rising pollution levels of water and air.

Meanwhile, the Parliamentary Committee on air pollution in Delhi is scheduled to meet on Wednesday after most of its members and senior officials were absent at its last meeting. Their absence from the meeting had triggered outrage and raised questions about their seriousness in fighting the menace.

Panel's head and BJP MP Jagdambika Pal had written to the Speaker over the matter, expressing his "displeasure" at the absence of Government officials who were scheduled to brief MPs on the pollution crisis, especially in Delhi.

Air relapses into poor as wind slows down, stubble fires resume

SAPNA SINGH ■ NEW DELHI

After a brief breather, air quality in Delhi deteriorated again on Tuesday with overall Air Quality Index (AQI) at 249 µg-m³, mainly due to wind losing speed and resumption of farm fires in neighbouring States.

The Ministry of Earth Sciences' air quality monitor SAFAR said as stubble transport-level winds are favourable, stubble burning is expected to account for 14 per cent of Delhi's pollution on Wednesday. It was 13 per cent on Tuesday. Kuldeep Srivastava, a senior scientist at the India Meteorological Department (IMD), said the maximum wind speed dropped from 18 kilometres per hour on Monday to 10 kmph on Tuesday.

Calm winds and low ventilation index are predicted for the next two days and the condition is conducive for the sudden accumulation of pollutants in the Delhi region, SAFAR said. The Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) said on Tuesday that air quality will slip into very poor category from poor category. Particulate Matters (PM



Traffic plies on a relatively clear day in New Delhi on Tuesday

2.5 and PM 10) were recorded 179 and 111 respectively. Pollutant values will escalate three folds, according to pollution monitoring agencies. PM 10 will exceed 400 and PM 2.5 will cross 250 by Wednesday.

Delhi's 13 hotspot areas are facing tough time in dealing with air pollution. Dwarka Sector 8 recorded 460 µg-m³, Greater Noida (272), and Noida (256). RK Puram, Punjabi Bagh, Anand Vihar, Mandir Marg, Mundka witnessed toxic air.

The Supreme Court-mandated anti-pollution authority, EPCA, asked Delhi-NCR to step up surveillance and enforcement to check local sources of pollution and crop burning in view of the predicted dip in air quality.

Govt rejects ganja cultivation proposal

Industries had sought cannabis farming for medicinal use

PNS ■ BHUBANESWAR

Cultivation of cannabis would continue to remain illegal as the State Government did not give permission for it, informed Excise Secretary Sushil Lohani after a meeting held on the issue at the Lok Seva Bhavan here on Tuesday. Lohani told reporters that even as several industrial companies had sought permission for cultivation of ganja in the State due to its medicinal values, the Law Department has rejected the proposal.

"Various industries had repeatedly proposed to the Excise Department to supply ganja or grant permission for cultivation of this narcotic item for manufacturing of medicines. We referred it to the Law Department asking as to whether this can be permitted. Based on the present rule and the Law Department's opinion, we rejected the proposal," said the Excise Secretary.

Ganja plants of ₹14.48 cr burnt

PNS ■ PARALAKHEMUNDI

Police, excise and revenue officials in joint raids conducted on Tuesday in forests under the Adaba police station in Mohana block of Gajapati district burnt 1.48 lakh ganja plants cultivated in 74 acres of land. The value of the plants would be worth Rs 14.48 crore.

According to R Udayagiri SDPO AK Mohanty, the raids were conducted at Galimera village under Guruba panchayat on a tipoff that ganja cultivation had been undertaken in a vast area of mountainous and forested land. Gajapati district Collector Anupam Saha and SP Sarah Sharma ordered the raids.

Destruction of cannabis plantation has become almost a daily routine mainly in Gajapati and Kandhamal districts.

Govt has failed in procuring paddy in W Odisha: Opp

Purchase going on in transparent way, says Minister

BJP stages walkout

PABITRA SENAPATY ■ BHUBANESWAR

Opposition BJP and Congress members on Tuesday came down heavily on the State Government, saying "failure" of paddy procurement has led to distress sale and forced farmers to take to the streets in the entire western Odisha.

However, the Government refuted the charges saying paddy procurement has started in the State and payments are being made in a transparent manner.

Initiating a discussion on a concerned Adjournment

Motion, BJP member Jaya Narayan Mishra expressed strong resentments, saying farmers have staged agitations in front of Sambalpur Collector's office and MLAs' houses with tractors loaded with paddy bags since Monday as the Government has failed to procure paddy from them.

"The token system of paddy procurement is very faulty. Millers are taking advantage of delay in paddy procurement. Farmers have suffered heavy losses due to non-procurement," alleged Mishra.

He demanded that the token system be removed soon and district committees given authority to procure all paddy (with limits of 13 quintal per acre of non-irrigated and 19 quintal per acre of irrigated land) from farmers.

BJP members Nauri Nayak and Mukesh Mahaling too made same demands and urged the Government to procure paddy at scheduled MSP at the earliest.

Congress MLA Santosh Singh Saluja questioned the list of registered farmers and the Government's target of procuring paddy from farmers during the current year.

"When the Government had procured 65.5 lakh metric tonne of paddy from 10.11 lakh registered farmers in 2018-19, it is not understood how the Government has set a target to procure 60 lakh MT paddy from 12.35 registered farmers during the current year," asked Saluja.

Alleging that the Government has completely failed in procuring paddy, he demanded that the Government remove the token system and procure all paddy and make direct payment to farmer soon.

Congress Legislative Leader Narasingha Mishra slammed both the State and Union Governments for not procuring paddy at right prices (cost of production plus profit) from farmers.

"While farmers spend Rs 2,430 per production of paddy per acre of land, it is disappointing that paddy is being procured at much lesser prices," alleged Mishra.

He alleged that there has been a scam of thousands of crores of rupees in paddy procurement sector in the State. BJP members like Kishore Mohanty, Dhruva Charan Sahu, Kishore Nayak and Sarada Nayak refuted the charges, saying procurement through PPass system and payment to farmers' bank accounts are being done in transparent manner.

In his reply, Food Supplies and Consumer Welfare and Cooperation Minister said the Government has targeted to procure 60 lakh metric tonne



of paddy during the current Kharif and Rabi season. Paddy procurement has started in the State. The Government is committed to procure paddy in a transparent and efficient manner, he said.

Expressing dissatisfaction over the Minister's reply, BJP members staged a walkout.

Following the Minister's reply, the Speaker dissolved the Adjournment Motion.

(Related stories on inside pages)

Min: Resolution for Legislative Council sent to Centre

PNS ■ BHUBANESWAR

The State Government has sent a proposal to the Union Government for creation of a Legislative Council in the State after a resolution was passed in the State Assembly on September 9, 2018.

Parliamentary Affairs Minister Bikram Keshari Arukha informed this in the State Assembly in response to a question of BJD MLA Ananta Narayan Jena on Tuesday.

"To form a Legislative Council, a committee had been formed during the 15th Assembly. The committee members visited Legislative Councils of States like Karnataka, Maharashtra, Bihar and Telangana and submitted a report. The report suggesting establishment of a Legislative



Council in Odisha got the Cabinet nod on August 24, 2018. Then, a bill was passed in the Assembly on September 6, 2018. Later the same was sent to Secretaries of Lok Sabha, Rajya Sabha, Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs and the Ministry of Law for approval of the Parliament," said the Minister.

The Minister said issues relating to the State can be discussed broadly and Bills passed in the Assembly can be examined further if a Legislative Council is formed.

Schoolboy invents tool to save crop from destruction by pest

PNS ■ BHUBANESWAR

Emotionally moved by reports of farmers committing suicide because of crop failure, 16-year-old Rishikesh Amit Nayak thought someone should go to the root of the problem.

Two years later, he has come up with a device, which can alert even an uneducated farmer about pest and bacteria attacks in his field and initiate remedial action to save the crop.

"Crop failure has many reasons, but the most common is pest attack. Once the crop is attacked by pests and the farmer is not able to detect it, it can destroy the entire crop," Amit, a student of Class-XI at the DAV Public School, Chandrasekharpur here, said.

Amit's device, which he has named 'Kishan Know', was on display at the exhibition for school and college students held at the SOA University here



from November 17 to commemorate the birth centenary of legendary scientist Vikram Sarabhai.

"My grandfather is a farmer and I have seen him depressed when crop failure occurred. It motivated me to go deep into the problem and find out what could be done," Amit said, adding that he has applied for patenting his device. Amit, who took the advice

micro-level solution. "The requirement is a GSM module, a chip of circuit that can be used to establish communication and a thermal camera," he said.

The prototype when developed properly would cost about Rs 1,500, Amit said, adding that the farmer would have to move around the field, in the perimeter where the pest attacks occur first, to take the thermal images of the plants. He would need to do the exercise twice, once in the morning and then in the evening, and send the data to a database for analysis.

"If any change is found in the plant temperature, it would indicate certain pest or bacteria attack in the field enabling the farmer to undertake remedial measures," he said.

Rising sea threatens watery grave for Indian coastal cities

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

In the last 50 years, sea level along the Indian coast has risen by 8.5 cm with the decade between 2003 and 2013 showing the annual average rise at a greater speed.

On an average, the sea level along the Indian coast is considered to be rising at about 1.70 mm/year, but during the last decade (2003-2013) (till the time the reading was made) it experienced a rise at a rate of 6.1 mm/year, the Centre informed the Rajya Sabha on Tuesday.

Union Minister Babul Supriyo, however, said since no long-term data on land subsidence or emergence are available for these locations, the rate of increase of sea level due to climate change cannot be attributed with certainty," he said.

"For example, the higher rate of sea level increase at Diamond Harbour is also due to the larger land subsidence happening there. The same may apply to Kandla, Haldia and Port Blair as well," Supriyo told the Rajya Sabha.

The Minister further said that the rising sea levels can exacerbate the coastal inundation along the low lying areas during extreme events such as tsunami, storm surge, coastal flooding and coastal erosion.

"The most vulnerable areas are in Japan, China, Bangladesh and India," Guterres said speaking to reporters in Bangkok after attending the ASEAN Summit.

"However, the coastal areas

that might get inundated due to the rising sea level need to be evaluated based on their elevation above mean sea level. Since no long-term data on land subsidence or emergence are available for these locations, the rate of increase of sea level due to climate change cannot be attributed with certainty," he said.

LoP seeks CBI probe in PEO 'killing' again

Speaker says 'sorry' to Naik for not allowing him to speak

PNS ■ BHUBANESWAR

Leader of Opposition (LoP) Pradipta Naik (BJP) raised the alleged killing of Jajpur district's Haridashpur PEO Smitarani Biswal again in the State Assembly on Tuesday demanding dismissal of the SP and the SCW Chairperson and a CBI probe into the matter. Raising the issue during Zero Hour, Naik alleged that proper investigation into the matter has not been done yet. The death of PEO raises many questions as to why she would commit suicide while her husband is a Government servant and while she has a daughter. He also wanted to know as only one person (main accused

Rupesh Bhadra) has been arrested and four others, who were present at the time of incident, have not been brought under the purview of investigation.

"There were two ruling party Samiti Members, a ZP member and an agent of the Ramco Cement, besides Rupesh Bhadra. While Bhadra has been arrested, why the four others would not be brought under the purview of investigation," wanted to Naik. He too questioned why Rupesh has been booked under the Section 306 and not under the Section 302 of the IPC.

Naik demanded that removal of the SP for giving "character assassination" remarks against Smitarani and the Chairperson of the State Commission for Women for not properly conducting an



investigation. He too reiterated that a CBI inquiry be conducted into the matter.

However, Speaker Surjya Narayan Patro requested him not to discuss the matter as it was discussed earlier in the House.

Earlier, the Speaker had told "sorry" to Naik saying that he didn't allow him (Naik) to speak on Monday afternoon as he could not get what he wanted to say.

-Ahead of SC hearing-

Puri servitor to Govt: Make public Ratna Bhandar deposits

SAROJ KUMAR MISHRA ■ PURI

A servitor of Puri Jagannath Temple on Monday demanded that the Government open the Ratna Bhandar (treasure trove) and make public deposits of gold, diamonds and precious jewels inside it.

Reacting over a hearing on the Jagannath Temple in Supreme Court (SC) scheduled for January 8 next year, Daitapati servitor Binayak Dasmoahapatra made the demand and said the gold, diamond and jewels which have been protected in the Ratna Bhandar should be recounted and made public in order to clear the air about their safety.

He also urged that the Government make public the inquiry report of the missing key of Ratna Bhandar which has already been submitted by the Raghuraj Das Commission.

However, the temple administration stated that the

shrine's managing committee would take a decision whether or not to open the treasure trove.

On January 9, the Government will submit a report at the SC about decision of the temple managing committee and the inquiry report of Raghuraj Das Commission. The SC Bench is likely to give an order to the Government for unlocking of Ratna Bhandar; it is presumed.

Reportedly, as many as 629 kinds of gold, diamond, silver and coloured jewels exist in the Ratna Bhandar. While 598 types of ornaments have been protected in the inner chamber, the rest are kept in the outer room for uses in attires of the Lords. In 1926 and 1978, enumeration works had been conducted. After checking of the jewellery in treasure trove in 1978, which took 70 days to complete, a 142-page booklet containing their numbers and types had been prepared by the Government.

Farmers intensify agitation in Sambalpur and Bargarh

Protest over token system in paddy procurement

PNS ■ SAMBALPUR/ BARGARH

Farmers in Sambalpur and Bargarh districts on Tuesday intensified their agitation in protest against the centralised token system for paddy procurement.

In Sambalpur, the farmers staged protest by parking paddy-laden vehicles near the residence of Rengali MLA Nauri Nayak at Bhatra and Rairakhol MLA Rohit Pujari at Sakhipada.

They also dumped sacks containing paddy in front

of the house of Sambalpur MLA Jayanarayan Mishra and staged a dharna near the residence of Kuchinda MLA Kishore Chandra Naik.

Police forces were deployed at the spots to avert any untoward incident.

office of the Civil Supplies Department in the district.

The farmers reiterated their allegation that the introduction of the centralised token system has resulted in the delay in paddy procurement.

As per this system, tokens



An effigy of Food Supplies and Consumer Welfare Minister Ranendra Pratap Swain was burnt by farmers at Attabira in Bargarh district. The farmers also locked up the

will be issued 15 days prior to procurement of paddy and sent to the registered mobile numbers of farmers for selling paddy at the Mandis (market yards).

Spl Squad ASI suspended in Cuttack

PNS ■ CUTTACK

Cuttack DCP Akhileswar Singh on Tuesday placed Special Squad Assistant Sub-Inspector (ASI) Arjun Kanhar under suspension on charges of corruption.

Reliable sources said that acting on multiple corruption charges levelled against Kanhar, the Commissioner of Police had directed the Cuttack DCP to initiate an inquiry in this connection. After obtaining evidence against the ASI, the DCP suspended Kanhar from his service.

Sources said that besides corruption allegations, Kanhar was also accused of having a nexus with antisocial elements.

Min: Drinking water to reach all rural households by 2025

19, 504 of 47,306 villages get pipe link so far

PNS ■ BHUBANESWAR

Panchayati Raj and Drinking Water Minister Pratap Jena on Tuesday told the House that 19,504 out of total 47,306 villages have been supplied with piped drinking water by now and all the rural households in the State would be provided piped water by 2024-25.

The Minister informed this while replying to a question of Congress MLA Tara Prasad Bahinipati, Congress Legislature Party Leader

Narasingha Mishra and Member Santosh Singh Saluja, BJD Members Pradeep Maharathy and Pradeep Amat and many other members.

The Minister said of the Rs 17,372 crore earmarked for the project, the Union Government has provided Rs 549 crore only. Not satisfied with the answer, Bahinipati alleged that the Minister has furnished false data. He stated that more than 50 per cent of the drinking water projects are lying defunct in the State.

While Maharathy said the Government had earlier set March 2020 time limit for drinking water, the Minister said the Government would

supply safe drinking water to all urban households by that time.

When Amat wanted to know a project in his constituency has been going on for the last 13 years, the Minister assured him that the department would take action in 24 hours and complete the project at the earliest. The Minister further assured that House that all defunct water supply projects would be repaired soon.

In view of a big number of members wanted to put questions, Speaker Surjya Narayan Patro asked the members to personally submit grievances to the Minister and asked Minister to respond to them accordingly.

Segway patrolling launched at city rly station

Will increase visibility of RPF, reduce response time

PNS ■ BHUBANESWAR

The East Coast Railway (ECoR) on Tuesday introduced the Segway patrolling system at the Bhubaneswar railway station to enhance the visibility of the Railway Protection Force (RPF) personnel and reduce the response time to reach the passengers in distress.

ECoR General Manager Vidya Bhusan, who

inaugurated the Segway facility, said, "With the introduction of this system, we aim to intensify patrolling at the station. Subsequently, it will also be introduced in the Puri and Cuttack railway stations."

"The battery-operated and

will help the RPF personnel move from one place to another during their patrolling duty at the station in less time and also help in crowd control," an ECoR release stated.

The new facility would also help the RPF personnel

and protection of railway property as it would increase their mobility. Apart from being helpful in ensuring more visible policing, the system would help the force deal with theft, chain snatching and other such cases in an effective manner, it



eco-friendly Segway system ensure safety of passengers added.

Narasingha brings privilege motion against SP

Also demands his transfer

PNS ■ BHUBANESWAR

Congress Legislature Party Leader Narasingha Mishra on Tuesday brought a Privilege Motion against SP, Security, Bhubaneswar, Kanhu Charan Patnaik, alleging that he expressed his views regarding removal of the PSO from him (Mishra) in a section of media.

"The SP, Security, Bhubaneswar is a public servant and he should not have told the Press about the issue of taking out of PSO from me regarding which I had appraised the House. His views



in the Press amount to breach of privilege of a member and the House as well. I demand he

be called to the House and reprimanded or any other action taken by the Chair," demand-

ed Mishra.

However, Speaker SN Patro said he would examine the matter and come out a statement soon. Later during Zero Hour, Mishra demanded that the SP, Security, Bhubaneswar should be shifted from the post as the State Administrative Tribunal (SAT) has asked the Government to fill the post by an OPS officer.

"Patnaik is not an OPS cadre officer and he should not continue in office as per the direction of the SAT," demanded Mishra.

Mishra too slammed the Government for not implementing SAT order that asked to appoint an OPS officer in the post.

119 elephants electrocuted in 10 years

PNS ■ BHUBANESWAR

Forest and Environment Minister Bikram Keshari Arukha on Tuesday informed the Assembly that as many as 119 elephants died of electrocution in the State during the last 10 years from 2009 to 2019.

In response to a question of BJD member Badri Narayan Patra, the Minister said Keonjhar reported the maximum electrocution deaths during the period. As many as 26 elephants have been electrocuted during the current year, which is the highest ever in State's history.

While 12 died due to coming into contact with sagging wires, another 12 died of live wire trapping by the poachers, according to the information submitted by the Minister.

ICSI BBSR gets Best Chapter Award

PNS ■ BHUBANESWAR

The Institute of Company Secretaries of India (ICSI), Bhubaneswar Chapter received the ICSI National Best Chapter Award for the year 2018 at the 47th National Convention of Company Secretaries held at Jaipur in Rajasthan recently.

The Chapter Chairman said that the achievement is due to support, cooperation and participation from each of the students, members, Government Offices,

corporate houses, print and electronic media houses of Odisha, EIRC, and offices of the ICSI, ICSI HQ and ICSI staff members.

This is the fifth time the Chapter has bagged the ICSI National Award.



NHRC seeks report from AP Govt in a week

PNS ■ BHUBANESWAR

The National Human Rights Commission, (NHRC) has sought a detailed report within a week from the Chief Secretary, Government of Andhra Pradesh on the suffering of 32 bonded labourers from Odisha in a brick kiln who were denied minimum amenities and made to live under wretched conditions.

The Commission took suo motu cognisance of the fact from a media report where it was reported that the Odia labourers were pleading for their rescue from the brick kiln at Kanupalli Cross in Garladinne Mandal of the Anantapur district in Andhra Pradesh.

As mentioned in the news report, the victim labourers sent out an SOS to their relatives and friends back home for their rescue from travails they were undergoing for the past several months.

The Commission

observed that the contents of the media report, if true, indicate that the district authorities have failed to do their lawful duty to protect the labourers from victimization; hence strict action is required to be taken against the delinquent officers and appropriate legal action is also required to be taken against the brick kiln owner.

It also observed that the district authorities are expected to immediately rescue all the bonded labourers, issue release certificate and start process of the payment of the statutory relief, immediately. The authorities are also expected to ensure safe journey of the rescued labourers to their native place and in case any of them requires medical/healthcare assistance that should be provided without fail.

The Commission has further said the case to be violation of human rights of the victims.

CM confers Centurion doctorate on Haasan

LAUDS VARSITY'S SKILL INITIATIVES

PNS ■ BHUBANESWAR

Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik conferred an honorary doctoral degree on film personality and humanitarian Kamal Haasan at the Centurion University of Technology and Management at Jatni on Tuesday.

The ceremony was preceded by a tour of various skill centres by Patnaik and Haasan. Patnaik interacted with girl students trained under the Skilled in Odisha programme. He also visited wood-engineering and waste to wealth units and the Centre for Innovation and Entrepreneurship.

In his speech, Patnaik said, "It is a matter of great pleasure that participants from Odisha have shown the talent and brought laurels for the State as well for the country both at the national and international levels. My Government is working



relentlessly to ensure the best eco-system in the field of skill development for our youth. We are partnering with ITEES, Singapore, to establish a World Skill Centre at Bhubaneswar

which shall impart international standard skill development training to our youth and enhance their employability."

The CM also praised the Centurion University of

Technology and Management's skill initiatives and said the Gram Tarang programme of the institute was bringing transformative changes on the lives of thousands of rural youth, particularly from tribals.

Patnaik also interacted with the differently-abled students getting trained at the Apparel and Textile Centre of Excellence and the Hospitality

A welcome address was given by the university Vice-Chancellor. The function ended with the president of university thanking the guests and the audience.

Field officers to issue fire safety certificates

5T in Fire Services from January next

PNS ■ BHUBANESWAR

In an effort to ensure fire safety norms in all types of buildings, the State Government on Tuesday decentralised the power of issuing fire safety recommendations and certificates to the field-level officials.

The move of the Government aims at making service delivery hassle-free under the 5T initiatives of governance.

"The new reforms would ensure that applicants need not come to the Directorate of Fire Services from far off areas to obtain the fire safety recommendations and Fire Safety certificate," said an official.

The field-level officials would issue such certificates expeditiously after following the procedural formalities, he added. As per the new norms, fire safety certificates would be issued within the 18 days of receipt of application. This move of the Government would bring about improvement in the process of obtaining fire safety certificates.

The whole process would also be covered under 'Mo Sarkar' from January 1, 2020 to take random citizen feedback on service delivery.

The Government has also decided that the whole process of obtaining fire safety certificates and fire recommendations would be made online and best of practices would be implemented from April 1, 2020 as part of the 5T charter of governance.

Give security to 'willing' lawyers: HC to S'pur SP

PNS ■ CUTTACK

The Orissa High Court on Tuesday ordered the Superintendent of Police (SP) of Sambalpur district to provide adequate security and protection to the litigants and lawyers who are approaching the local District and Sessions Court in connection with their cases.

Adjudicating a PIL filed by advocate Shivsankar Mohanty, a Division Bench headed by Chief Justice KS Jhaveri passed the order, informed Mohanty, adding that the order assumes significance in view of the fact that the agitating lawyers of Sambalpur are meeting on Wednesday to chalk out their next course of action.

Mohanty had filed the PIL in 2018 with a prayer seeking the court's intervention in facilitating the litigants and the "willing" advocates to conduct their cases in the district court. Mohanty in his petition had pointed out that members of the Sambalpur Bar Association are on strike since September 2018 and preventing the District Judge and other judicial officers from attending the courts. The lawyers have also paralysed all the judicial and



revenue courts of the district, Mohanty had mentioned in the petition.

The lawyers are on strike demanding establishment of an additional Bench of the Orissa High Court somewhere in western Odisha. Similarly, lawyers of Ganjam district are also on agitation since long demanding another Bench of the High Court somewhere in southern Odisha. But Mohanty in his petition has claimed that the requirement of approval under Article 10 of the Orissa High Court Order-1948 does not authorise the State Government to take any decision on setting up additional Benches of the High

Court. Mohanty has also relied on a judgment delivered by the Orissa High Court way back in 1991 wherein the court had said: "The State Legislature has no authority to enact law as regards the seat or seats of the High Court or to change the principal seat of the High Court from its present location." The petition had also said that any attempt by the State Government to establish High Court Benches elsewhere other than the principal seat (Cuttack) would be viewed as violation of the theory of separation of powers or infringement in the independence of judiciary.

RRBRWS meet held; office-bearers elected



PNS ■ PURI

The general body meeting of Regional Rural Bank Retirees' Welfare Society (RRBRWS) was held in Puri. The event was hosted by the Odisha unit of the Society. More than 200 delegates from all over India attended the meeting. The flag of the society was hoisted by working president Manoj Krishna Singh with inauguration of the session. The session was presided by C Raja Reddy, president of the RRRBWS. Ramesh Vij, former chairman of HUM, attending the meeting as chief guest, spoke on contribution of retired people for the society. He spoke on role of HUM for employment of aged and retired persons.

AOR Supreme Court Sharmila Upadhyay attending as guest of honour in her address assured to extend all possible legal help for the legitimate claim of RRB employees. Rabintra Tripathy spoke on the hurdles faced during trial of the SLP and the role of various trade unions in creating hurdles. Chakradhar Singh, President, Odisha Unit and Girija Sankar Mohanty, convener, Odisha State Unit, etc. addressed the delegates. In the evening session, the election of the office bearers was held. C Raja Reddy, Manoj Krishna Singh, Girija Sankar Mohanty and Bisweswar Jena were unanimously elected as president, working president, general secretary and treasurer of the society respectively.

MCC model for waste mgmt in ULBs

Paradip unit appreciated by man behind model from TN
State to set up MCCs at 114 ULBs



PNS ■ BHUBANESWAR

In order to take forward the 'Swachh Odisha Susta Odisha' mission, the Housing and Urban Development Department has embarked upon decentralised model of compost management through Micro Composting Centre (MCC) and Material Recovery Facility (MRF), an innovative method for complete management of waste.

The man who pioneered the MCC model in Tamil Nadu, Dr Murgesan visited Kotpad and Paradip MCCs set up by the urban local bodies (ULB). Urban Development Minister Pratap Jena is constantly reviewing the progress of MCCs in the field as well.

Dr Murgesan praised the efforts undertaken by the Housing and Urban Development Department and expressed his satisfaction over the implementation and awareness level amongst various stakeholders involved in the process and also suggested some corrective measures. It has been a nice experi-

ence of witnessing good quality organic manure coming out of MCC, managed by the Paradip Municipality branded as "Mo Khata". The role of volunteers, 'Swachh Sathi', has been instrumental in generating awareness on waste segregation at household level and keep the momentum going, said Dr Murgesan while discussing with senior officials.

It is to note here that a team headed by Principal Secretary, Housing and Urban Development G Mathivathanan and Mission Director, Swachh Bharat Mission, Sangramjit Nayak had visited Tamil Nadu to understand the best practices and to replicate the same in ULBs of Odisha.

Considering the appropriateness of the MCC model, the Housing and Urban Development Department has

decided to adopt the practice in all 114 ULBs of the State.

In order to ensure proper implementation of the process, a State level training of ULB personnel was conducted and the ULB personnel in turn provided training to 28,606 sanitation workers across the State two times.

"The composting process has already started in several ULBs and the organic compost generated in the ULBs will be having very high nutrient values which will have good market value for use in agriculture and horticulture. We are planning to create an exclusive brand for the urban organic manure and market in Odisha and in other States. Our target is to achieve production of minimum 100 tonnes of organic manure every day," said Principal Secretary Mathivathanan.

Adoption Awareness Week held in A'garh

PNS ■ ATHAGARH

The Inner Wheel Club of Athagarh in association with the Yuva, a voluntary service mission organisation, observed the Adoption Awareness Week at the Maharshi Dayanand Service Mission here on Monday.

Club president Pulin Mishra presided over the meeting. Yuva president Bhabani Prasad Mishra and secretary Pradip Kumar Sahoo spoke about the mission of the organisation for adoption of destitute children.

Club secretary Manjulata Mahalik and members Kalpalata Dash, Sudama Mishra, Manjula Das and Gayatri Acharya spoke about the objective and social responsibility of the club.

Lawyer Deepali Dash stressed on the legality of adoption of children. Members of the club and Yuva spent the day with the destitute children of the Maharshi



Dayanand Service Mission and distributed clothes and foods to them.

Ganjam garments shop owner looted at gunpoint

PNS ■ BRAHMAPUR

Three armed miscreants looted gold ornaments from a garments showroom owner and his wife in Badadanda Sahi under the Badagada police station in Ganjam district on Monday evening. As per reports, the miscreants entered the shop at around 8 pm posing as customers. As there were no other customers in the shop then, the miscreants brandished guns

and looted gold jewellery including gold chain, three rings and a mobile phone from the trader and his wife by terrorising them. Later, the robbers fled the spot by locking the shop from outside.

Getting information, a team of police officials reached the spot and launched a probe in connection with the incident. The armed robbery in the areas has triggered panic among the traders and local residents.

In Sundargarh

1 dies, 6 hurt as SUV rams into tree

PNS ■ SUNDARGARH

A person died and six others sustained injuries when an SUV by which they were returning after conducting a cremation rite crashed into a roadside tree at Kalaseria under the Birmitrapur police station in the district late on Monday night.

According to reports, seven persons of Kuarmunda area were returning home when their vehicle rams into a roadside tree and overturned

leaving all the occupants of the four-wheeler critically injured.

Locals rescued the victims and shifted them to the Rourkela Government Hospital (RGH), where one of them succumbed to injuries early on Tuesday morning. The deceased was identified as Deepak Kumar Xess.

Two of the injured were later shifted to the Ispat General Hospital in Rourkela as their condition deteriorated. Police are investigating into the incident.

Paradip Kalinga Baliyatra concludes

PNS ■ PARADIP

The week-long Kalinga Baliyatra here concluded on Monday with Revenue & Disaster Management Minister Sudam Marndi, I & PR and Water Resources Minister Raghunandan Das, Jagatsinghpur MLA Prasanta Muduli, Paradip MLA Sambit Routray and Paradip Municipality Chairman Basanta Kumar Biswal and Vice-Chairman Pravati Nayak as guests.

The function was presided over by Jagatsinghpur district Collector and Kalinga Baliyatra Committee (KBC) chairman



Sangram Keshari Mohapatra. ADM and committee vice-chairperson Dr Kanhu Charan Dhir gave the welcome address.

This year, more than 400 stalls and shops were set up at the fair ground. Various cultural groups performed every evening.

Despite adequate arrangements by the KBC and the district administration, crowds were much less than expectations due to lack of proper advertisement and propaganda.

MCL book on 40 successful CSR projects

PNS ■ SAMBALPUR

Mahanadi Coalfields Limited (MCL) Chairman-cum-Managing Director BN Shukla released a book depicting 40 successful stories of the company in the field of Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR).

The book named "Enriching Lives, Impacting Communities", published by the company's Department of CSR, was released in the presence of OP Singh, Director (Technical/Operations), KR Vasudevan, Director (Finance/Personnel), and B Sairam, General Manager



(Mining/CSR). Showcasing commitment of the company towards development of underprivileged segments of the society, the book contains information on some ongoing and completed impactful CSR projects of MCL along with details like objective, outreach, outcome, progress, timeline, impact and photographs.

In Baripada SI dies after bike hits him at checkpoint

PNS ■ BARIPADA

A Sub-Inspector of Police was killed when he was hit by a speeding motorcycle while cops were conducting vehicle checking at Takatpur here in Mayurbhanj district on Monday evening.

The deceased was identified as Dayanidhi Das. He had been posted as an SI at the Town police station. Reports said that the motorcycle hit Das when he tried to intercept the two-wheeler, whose rider tried to flee from the spot. He sustained critical injuries in the incident and was rushed to the Pandit Raghunath Murmu Medical College Hospital here.

But doctors at the hospital declared him brought dead. The motorcyclist was later detained for questioning.

Sandalwood furniture worth ₹10L seized

PNS ■ BHAPUR (NAYAGARH)

Khandapada Forest officials on Monday conducted surprise raids at different places in Banapur village under Khandapada block in Nayagarh district and seized sandalwood planks and furniture worth Rs 10 lakh.

Acting on a tipoff, a team of forest officials under leadership of Nayagarh DFO HD Dhanraj raided different places of timber mafias Maya Pradhan, Raghav Pradhan, Dinabandhu Nayak and Dhulia Das and seized huge amount of sandalwood planks and furniture.

The forest officials said the timber mafias managed to flee from the spot during the



raids. But on the directions of Dhanraj, relatives of the mafias have been detained at the DFO office. Khandapada Tehsildar Parthasarathi Hansda and Khandapada police station IIC Bimal Kumar Mallick were present during the raid.

Paddy procurement begins in Kalahandi

18 PACs of 74 opened on day 1

BIKASH KHEMKA ■ BHAWANI-PATNA

A day after uproar in the Assembly over farmers' woes, the district administration has begun lifting paddy in Kalahandi.

It was seen that there were divided opinions on the online system of paddy procurement as some farmers were supporting it while some others were against the system.

A farmer of Mandal panchayat, Badri Narayan Panda said he had been a victim of distress sale for the past four years. "I cannot wait in the mandis for a long time in the winter season. In the name of FAQ, 5 to 8 kg paddy is deducted per quintal and we face loss while trading. The Government's online system

has again made the matter worse," Panda opined.

Another farmer of Dharmagarh, Asit Kumar Khansama said he was eager to sell the produce through online system. "The token will be provided within a week and we will sell paddy at Funda Primary Agricultural Cooperative Society (PACS). Earlier, we used to sell paddy after going 5 km from home but it is available in the village itself now," Khansama said, adding, "We hope that money will be transferred online immediately in our account soon after selling paddy."

A farmer of Golamunda requesting anonymity said the transaction is done in pen and papers by the PACS authorities whereas practically most of the farmers sell the produce through middlemen.

"From most of the yards, middlemen lift the paddy which is transported to the miller's point directly. Farmers don't want to be the part of the Government system because of harassment in the PACS," he

alleged.

The administration has initially fixed a target to procure 26 lakh quintal paddy during the kharif marketing season (KMS), 2019-20 which may go up to 35-40 lakh quintal.

It has given priority for the small and marginal farmers. The district has registered 72,000 farmers. On Tuesday, PACS of Brundabahal village lifted 142 quintals of paddy from a farmer. 18 PACs out of 74 were opened on Tuesday.

The administration has provided advance token to the farmers for 32,000 quintal paddy to be procured under Dharmagarh sub-division.

Civil Supply Officer, Kalahandi, Siba Prasad Dora said farmers' land record, bank account, Aadhaar card, eye ball testing have been recorded through biometric system. "All the PACS along with 23 SHGs will be operative in the coming days and the online system will drive away the middle men who were posing themselves as actual farmers earlier," he said.

MCL CSR: New building for Phuljharan Ashram



PNS ■ SAMBALPUR

The Mahanadi Coalfields Limited (MCL) would construct a new building for the Phuljharan Ashram, an old age home on the outskirts of Sambalpur as part of its CSR initiatives.

Jagriti Mahila Mandal president Manjula Shukla on Tuesday laid the foundation-stone for the proposed building named "Red Cross Parbati Giri Matru Bhawan",

Phuljharan, which is to be built by the MCL at a cost of Rs 72.76 lakh. The building, with all modern facilities for comfort of elderly and destitute women, would have 12 rooms and four bathrooms and toilets. The project is expected to be completed in six months.

The MCL, being the top contributor in Odisha under CSR, has remained actively involved in carrying out social welfare activities in and around its operational areas.

Puri seer's title row

'Don't need Narasingha Mishra's certificate'

Gobardhan Mutt says issue already settled by Govt, court in past
Rule must prevail, says Muktimandap

PNS ■ PURI

Following a controversy triggered by Congress leader Narasingha Mishra in the State Assembly on the surname of Puri Sankaracharya Nischalananda Saraswati, reactions have come from the Gobardhan Peetha and the Muktimandap of Jagannath Temple as well.

A statement from the Gobardhan mutt has revealed that Jagadguru Sankaracharya needs no recommendation of Narasingha Mishra as the State Government and court have made the title issue clear in the past.

"No need of recommendation of Mishra and the Government and court have cleared in the past," said Gobardhan Peetha PRO Manoj Rath.

Muktimandap of Jagannath Temple has distanced itself from the surname row by stating that rule must prevail. Its president Pundit Biswanath Mishra told The Pioneer that Sankaracharya is the 'Nayak' (head) of Muktimandap as per the record of rights; hence they cannot question on him. However, he cleared that there is a rule and it must prevail.

Two days ago, during a debate on Odisha Hindu Endowment Act, Congress leader Mishra raised title issue of Nischalananda Saraswati, questioning Saraswati in place of Devatirtha. Mishra had said that the earlier seer of the mutt Niranjana Devatirtha had written in his will that only 'Devatirtha' surname could be

enthroned here which the present seer Saraswati did not hold anymore. The Congress leader also sought to know from the Law Minister the actions taken against the Gobardhan Peetha for failing to submit expenditure details in last 10 years and deposit 5 per cent of mutt's incomes with the Government as per the Endowment Act.

Notably, the State Government re-amended the Endowment Act in the Assembly and freed the Gobardhan mutt from its clause. Now, the Gobardhan mutt was made independent headed by the Sankaracharya. The steps from the Government came following independent status enjoyed by other three monasteries in India established by Adiguru Sankaracharya. However, in the debate, Congress leader Mishra opposed the bill by raising title issue of the present seer and deposit of revenues.

Dalmia-OCL sets up snorkel unit at Rajgangpur

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Dalmia-OCL on Tuesday announced inauguration of an integrated snorkel manufacturing line at Rajgangpur. Snorkel is a critical product used in RH degasser for clean steel production.

The new line will allow Indian steel producers to source high-quality indigenously manufactured snorkels for producing high-grade steel eliminating the need to import.

With an annual capacity to manufacture 240 sets, the new snorkel manufacturing line features high-accuracy automated equipment like zero-tolerance grinding machines and high-temperature dryers to produce snorkels that match global standards. Dalmia-OCL's onsite R and D centre, Dalmia Institute Scientific and

Industrial Research (DISIR), will also help accelerate further innovations in refractory technology for clean steel production.

"The Indian steel makers are moving towards manufacturing high grade steel which needs tailored refractory solutions that support high performance and at the same time, ensure local availability," said Group CEO - Refractory Business, Dalmia Bharat Group Sameer Nagpal. "This is a significant step towards Make-in-India. With this development, we aim to give Indian steelmakers access to high quality snorkel products right here in India which have been previously imported. This will lead to lesser logistics, shorter lead times, reduce environmental impact, while boosting the Government's mission to promote manufacturing in India," Nagpal added.

Commissioners, DGs' meet on GST held

Bhubaneswar: The first two-day Commissioners and Director Generals conference on Goods and Services Tax (GST) was held here recently under chairmanship of CBIC- Investigation-GST and CX Member SM Bhatnagar.

Central Excise and Customs Zone, Chief Commissioner of the Bhubaneswar GST Naresh Penumaka gave the welcome address at the meeting which discussed on the recently launched Sabka Vishwas (Legacy Dispute Resolution) Scheme. Besides, discussions were held on various aspects of GST including challenges faced by the trade and industry as well as the department in implementation of the new enactments and emphasis was laid upon to simplify the mechanism of GST and for facilitating Ease of Doing Business.

A promotional video regarding the scheme was released to create awareness amongst the erstwhile Central Excise and Service Tax assesses to come forward and avail the scheme to clear their tax dues to the Government to reduce the litigation. PNS

BRIEFS

WARSHIPS TO ARRIVE AT PARADIP ON NOV 24



Paradip: On the occasion of National Navy Day, Indian Navy warships Ranvir and Airavat will come to the Paradip Port on November 24. People can visit the warships on November 24 from 9 am to 4 pm free of cost. For this, free bus service would be available from the Gopabandhu Stadium here, informed the INS Chilka Public Relation Officer (PRO). The VIP guests and mediapersons will visit the warships on November 25. https://ssl.gstatic.com/ui/v1/icons/mail/images/clear_dot.gif

TWO MINOR GIRLS DROWN IN POND IN N'RANGPUR

Nabarangpur: Two minor girls drowned in a pond at Dangasil village under Tentulikhunti block in Nabarangpur district on Monday evening. The deceased were identified as Tabha Jani (14) and Uma Jani (6), who had gone to the pond for cleaning themselves after attending nature's call. Both slipped into deep waters. The bodies were later fished out from the pond by Fire Services personnel. A pall of gloom descended on the village after the tragic incident.

FARMER KILLED BY JUMBO WHILE GUARDING CROP

Dhenkanal: A man was killed after an elephant attack while he was guarding crop at his farmland near Gadapalasuvi village under the Parjang police limits in Dhenkanal district late on Monday night. Narayan Nayak (55) sustained critical injuries after being attacked by the jumbo and was rushed to the Parjang hospital. He was later shifted to the Kamakhyanagar hospital as his condition deteriorated. However, he died during treatment.

CATTLE RESCUED FROM 3 VANS IN JSPUR; 5 HELD



Jagatsinghpur: Police on Tuesday rescued 15 cattle while they were allegedly being trafficked in three pickup vans. Acting on a tipoff about the cattle trafficking, cops intercepted the vans on the Alpingala road near Kathapola under the Sadar police limits. Besides rescuing the animals, police seized the vehicles and arrested five persons in this connection. The accused were illegally transporting the cattle from Niali, sources said.

MAN HELD FOR ILLEGAL CHARCOAL DESPATCH

Cuttack: Forest officials arrested a person near the Nuapanta bridge at Choudwar late on Monday night for allegedly carrying a huge cache of charcoal illegally in a pickup van. The accused was identified as Dhruva Charan Das. The vehicle carrying over 20 sacks of charcoal worth lakhs of rupees was seized. The charcoal was being transported from Khuntuni to Balakati, an official said, adding that such raids would continue to curb illegal transportation of charcoal in the area.

B'PUR MLA ASSURES HELP TO HAPLESS SIBA

Brahmapur: Local MLA Bikram Kumar Panda has assured all sorts of help to hapless Siba Shankar of Brahmapur who is under treatment after suffering from critical burn injuries by falling in a hot oil pan on July 1. Panda on Sunday visited the City Hospital here and inquired about his health condition. He would be shifted to the MKCG and might undergo a plastic surgery for which the attention of CM Naveen Patnaik has been attracted. Among others, former MLA Ramesh Chandra Chayupatnaik, BJD leader R Murali Mohan and Sanjit Panigrahi were present.

PARADIP LADIES' CLUB HOLDS CANCER CAMP

Paradip: The Paradip Ladies' Club organised a screening-cum-awareness camp for breast cancer and cervical cancer on Monday with active participation of its president Subhalaxmi Roy, working president Sabita Panda and secretary Kalpana Sahu along with Subrata Biswas, cofounder of Swasth Vomi Private Ltd. The healthy gene was the major attraction of the programme. It travelled to the Saraswati Sisu Vidya Mandira, Port Trust High school, 'V' Point KG School, NAC Govt High School and Jagruti School to educate and create awareness among children and teachers about balance diet, good healthy habits and why we should avoid junk food.

GRIEVANCES LODGED AT JSPUR SAMPARK CAMP



Jagatsinghpur: A Jan Samparka camp aimed to address public grievance and connect people in governance was held at the district headquarters here on Monday. Inaugurating the camp, district Collector SK Mohapatra spoke about several developmental schemes in the district. According to the District Information and Public Relations Department, as many as 239 grievances were registered, including on housing schemes, land dispute, old age pension, financial assistance from the Chief Minister's Relief Fund and ration card, etc.

JSPUR COMMUNIST LEADER SETHY REMEMBERED

Jagatsinghpur: A remembrance meeting was organised in Uttarsasan village under Biridi block to pay tribute to communist leader Prahalad Sethy, who passed away on November 30 following prolonged illness. Leaders cutting party lines attended the event and discussed manifold activities of Sethy.

ALLIANZ HOLDINGS LAUNCHES PRODUCTS IN ODISHA

Bhubaneswar: The Allianz International Holdings Ltd, a multinational FMCG which manufactures personal care products, cosmetics and food items, has launched its products in Odisha recently. However, Odisha is the second State in the country after Hyderabad; where the FMCG brand has forayed into. Country head Narendra Shrivastava, regional head Nagarajan, director RB Thakur, Bikram Keshari Sahoo, Rajeev Lochan Das made the people aware about the brand and products benefits during the launch. Actress Anu Choudhary has been announced as the brand ambassador for Odisha.

Google removes '2020 Sikh Referendum' app from Play Store

PNS ■ CHANDIGARH

Acceding to Punjab Chief Minister Capt Amarinder Singh's demand, IT giant Google has removed the secessionist, "anti-India" mobile application '2020 Sikh Referendum' from its Play Store with immediate effect.

"This app is not available any more on Google Play Store for mobile users in India," said a spokesperson of the Chief Minister's office.

The app had asked the general public to register themselves to vote in the 'Punjab Referendum 2020 Khalistan'

15 MLAs, 10 non-MLAs enjoy Minister status

PNS ■ BHUBANESWAR

A part from members of Council of Ministers, 15 MLAs and 10 non-MLAs (total 25) are enjoying Cabinet or Minister of State or Deputy Minister ranks.

While two MLAs (Leader of Opposition and Government Chief Whip in Assembly) and two non-MLAs (President, WODC and Advisor Health) have been accorded status of Cabinet Ministers, 12 MLAs given Minister of State status (District Planning Committee Chairpersons), an MLA of Deputy Minister rank (Deputy Government Chief Whip in Assembly) and eight non-MLAs (heads of different Government bodies such as

WODC) given Minister of State status.

Parliamentary Affairs Minister Bikram Keshari Arukh informed this in the State Assembly in response to a question of Congress MLA Tara Prasad Bahinipati.

While a Cabinet ranked MLA is getting about 1,60,000 towards salary and perks, the Deputy Minister ranked gets a little less than him. Excepting the WODC Chairman, other non-MLAs are not getting any salary or perk.

DPCs are getting Rs 38,000 as monthly honorarium, vehicle hiring charge of maximum of Rs 42,000 and daily allowance of Rs 800 and telephone charges of Rs 1,500 per month.

Walkathon, signature campaign held in city

Day for Prevention of Child Abuse

PNS ■ BHUBANESWAR

The People's Cultural Centre (PECCUC) in collaboration with the Labour and ESI Department held a walkathon against child labour, exploitation and abuse from the Ram Mandir Square to Master Canteen and a signature campaign near Master Canteen on Tuesday to mark the World Day for Prevention of Child Abuse.

Chairperson of Odisha Building and Construction Workers' Welfare Board Subash Singh and Labour

Commissioner Niranjan Sahoo, PECUC Goodwill Ambassador Anshika Routray, secretary PECUC and chairperson of NACG EVAC, India, Ranjan Kumar Mohanty inau-



gurated the events. Divisional Labour Commissioner Pradeep Kumar Mohapatra, Olympiad Anuradha Biswal, Women and Child Development Department advisor Sulata Deo, Assistant Labour Officer SN Acharya, Assistant Labour Officer Dharashree Mohapatra, Labour Inspectors Pravakar

Rights, safety of single women discussed

'Let State policy for Girls, women be reviewed'
'Take strong measures to stop witch hunting'

PNS ■ BHUBANESWAR

The Action Aid Odisha in association with its partner organisations Adivasi Ekta Sangathan, Koraput, Antara and Kandhamal, the CIRTD, Sundargarh, C C W D, Bhubaneswar, SAI, Nuapada, Patang, Sambalpur and Shehara, Jharsuguda, held a two-day State-level meeting of single women at Phulnakhara from Monday.

Around 50 single women from 10 districts took part in the capacity building programme on "Women's share - A campaign for gender justice in property rights", which provided them to come together to share their issues and experiences as single women.

The main objective of the

meeting was to build an understanding on the issue of property rights and land rights of single women, underscore a need for a national policy for social security for them and linking them with different livelihood options.

State Commission for Women Chairperson Dr

rights activist Bisakha Bhanja said that the Odisha State Policy for Girls and Women 2014 needs to be reviewed for the benefits of single women and demanded 30 per cent reservation in job allocation under the MGNREGA at panchayat-level, especially for single women.

Action Aid programme



Minati Behera inaugurating the meeting assured to conduct a survey for the single women in the State to provide them necessary support in linking to different schemes and entitlements.

The Commission would provide necessary support to address the issues of single women, she added. Women

manager Ghasiram Panda stressed on formulation of the Odisha Prevention of Witch-Branding Rules as single women always are branded as witches and face violence at large.

Though there is the Odisha Prevention of Witch-Branding Act 2013, but it needs to be implemented properly, he added.

Art 370: Praja Samiti felicitates Union Minister



PNS ■ DHENKANAL

Odisha Bhumihina Praja Samiti president and rights activist Er Debashisha Hota felicitated Union Minister of State for Home Affairs Nityanand Rai for the abrogation of Article 370 and 35 A and integration of the trouble-torn State of Jammu and Kashmir with the national mainstream.

He along with a delegation of 47 members from the State

ASI spent ₹2.37cr for Puri temple conservation

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) spent Rs 2.37 crore for conservation of the Jagannath Temple in Puri in 2018-19.

This was stated by Union Minister of State for Culture and Tourism Prahlad Singh Patel in the Lok Sabha on Tuesday replying to un-starred questions by BJP MPs Jai Oram and Nishikant Dubey on Monday. The Union Minister said in a written statement that the ASI had spent Rs 4.02 crore and Rs 6.07 crore on conservation of the Lord Jagannath Temple in 2017-18 and 2016-17 respectively. Patel further said the ASI had borne Rs 1.70 lakh and Rs 7.12 lakh on conservation work at the Lord Lingaraj Temple in Bhubaneswar in 2018-19 and 2017-18 respectively. Rs 11.86 lakh were spent on the temple in 2016-17.

State library sr clerk held taking bribe

PNS ■ CUTTACK

The Vigilance police on Monday caught Bhubaneswar Harekrushna Mahatab State Library Senior Clerk Kishore Chandra Swain red-handed for demanding and accepting illegal gratification of Rs 20,000.

Swain was caught the bribe from complainant Nrusingh Charan Senapati of Baliaanta in Khordha district in order to process the pending medicine bill and pension papers of his bed ridden father Prasanna Kumar Senapati, who was serving as book binder in the library.

His residential Government quarter at Bhubaneswar was searched. Later he was arrested and forwarded to court.

S'pur college principal in Vigilance net

PNS ■ SAMBALPUR

The Vigilance police on Tuesday conducted raids at several places including the residence of Jayprakash Patel, Principal of Prabhudayal Rural College at Kesaibahals in the district for allegedly amassing disproportionate assets to his known source of income.

Acting on the allegation against the Principal, a team of the Rourkela Vigilance division on carried out raids at six places.

The total assets of Patel and his family members were calculated as Rs 3.19 crore. Verification of several documents and papers was being carried out by the Vigilance officials.

SAD leader shot dead in Punab

PNS ■ BATALA/CHANDIGARH

A Shiromani Akali Dal leader was allegedly shot dead on Tuesday and later his legs were chopped off after an altercation with his neighbour in Gurdaspur.

Batala Senior Superintendent of Police Opinderjit Singh Ghuman said that there wasn't any political motive behind the killing of 51-year-old Dalbir Singh Dhillwan who was the vice-president of the SAD's Gurdaspur unit. He was also a two-time village sarpanch.

It has been learnt that the incident happened at Dhillwan village in Dera Baba Nanak area on Monday evening. Dalbir Singh and his neighbour, Balwinder Singh, had earlier entered into a verbal spat over the hiring of a servant.

NATIONAL COMPETITIVE BIDDING THROUGH e-Procurement
Tel. No.06752222092, e-mail id-eerwpuri@gmail.com
No:-Online-05 Date:13.11.2019.

The Executive Engineer, Rural Works Division, Puri on behalf of Government of Odisha invites percentage rate tenders through e-procurement for 29 Nos of works for the year 2019-20 in the district of Puri.

- Total no. of works : 29 Nos.
- Tender cost of packages : Varies from Rs.6.19 lakhs to Rs.36.89 lakhs
- Class of contractor : As per DTCN.
- Period of completion : 2 (Two), 3 (Three) & 4 (Four) calendar months.
- Period of availability of tenders on-line/ Date & time of bidding on-line/ last date of seeking clarification/ Date of opening of tender papers.

Procurement Officer	Bid identification No.	Availability of tender on-line for bidding		Last date & time of seeking tender clarification	Date, time & venue of opening of tender
		From	To		
Executive Engineer, Rural Works Division, Puri.	Online- 05	22.11.2019 at 11.00A.M.	02.12.2019 up to 3.00 P.M.	30.11.2019 up to 1.00 P.M.	03.12.2019 at 11.00A.M. Office of the E.E.,R.W.Division, Puri.

6. Other details can be seen in the bidding documents, which is available in website <https://tendersodisha.gov.in>.

Sd/- Executive Engineer, R.W. Division, Puri.

25065/11/0008/1920

No progress in Sena-NCP-Cong Govt formation efforts

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

The exercise for Government formation in Maharashtra made no headway on Tuesday with the scheduled meeting between the leaders of the Congress and NCP to thrash out niggling issues called off due to the former's "pre-occupation with late former Prime Minister Indira Gandhi's birth anniversary events".

But then, Congress chief Sonia Gandhi did chair a meeting with senior party leaders Mallikarjun Kharge, AK Antony and Ahmed Patel, who have been tasked to hold the discussions with the likes of Praful Patel, Sunil Tatkare, Ajit Pawar from the NCP.

Despite of several rounds of talks between leaders of the three parties in Mumbai and Delhi, possibility of a Sena-led Government still remains at a nascent stage. NCP president Sharad Pawar held a meeting with Congress chief Sonia Gandhi in Delhi on Monday who later said if the NCP-Congress have to take a view on Government formation, they have to first discuss it between themselves.

In the meeting Congress

decided to hold another round of talks with NCP in New Delhi to finalise the draft common minimum programme (CMP) while Kharge will lead the talks along with Party General Secretary K C Venugopal and state leaders.

AICC sources said that Congress leadership was informed that NCP is pushing for the rotational arrangement for the Chief Minister post between Sena and NCP. The deliberations on power sharing will be finalised by the high-powered committee for the three parties in this week and the final stamp will be put by the leaders of all the three parties.

As per the deal negotiated till the end of Sonia-Pawar meeting, sources said Congress will rest with Speaker's post and a Deputy Chief Minister post in the Government while NCP will get post of legislative council chairman. All three parties are likely to get an equal share in the Council of Ministers.

"The parties are negotiating for portfolios and the grand old party is seeking Home and Revenue while NCP desires to sit over Finance and Cooperatives. The Ministry of Cooperatives is Maharashtra is

Tug-of-war between BJP-Shiv Sena turns bitter

TN RAGHUNATHA ■ MUMBAI

The ongoing war between the erstwhile saffron alliance partners turned most bitter on Tuesday, as the Shiv Sena likened the BJP to an ungrateful 12th century Muslim invader Muhammad Ghori, who defeated and executed legendary Hindu king Prithviraj Chauhan through foul means, and castigated the Amit Shah-led party for removing it from the NDA summarily without even issuing a notice or giving it hearing. Miffed with the BJP's announcement about its "summary removal" from the National Democratic Alliance (NDA) made on the seventh death anniversary of its late chief Bal Thackeray "who founded the very NDA", the Shiv Sena demanded to know in an editorial published its mouth-piece "Saamana": "Was the meeting of NDA constituents

perceived an important portfolio," said a senior Congress leader closely monitoring the Maharashtra developments adding that Congress wants finalisation of the CMP before

called to discuss and decide on the removal of the Sena from the alliance? What was the basis for the removal of the Sena from the NDA?" "The seventh death anniversary of late Balasaheb came to be mired in politics. On a day when the nation was paying homage to the late Sena chief, the BJP perpetrated the nasty act of showing door to late Balasaheb's party from the NDA, an alliance founded by the very same leader," the "Saamana" editorial stated. Holding Prime Minister Narendra Modi virtually responsible for erosion in the importance of the NDA during the last five and a half years, the "Saamana" editorial said: "Without any notice or discussion, the Shiv Sena was removed from the NDA, an entity whose existence has been diminished systematically during the last five and a half years. This is the beginning of the end of politics of arrogance and

moving forward to an official announcement.

The UPA alliance partners have deputed leaders for holding talks on a possible alliance with the Shiv Sena, a party

arbitrariness. We are saying this deliberately. The decision taken by the BJP in the land of Chhatrapati Shivaji will definitely boomerang on the party itself". Parliamentary Affairs Minister and BJP leader Pralhad Joshi, it may be recalled, had announced on Sunday that the Shiv Sena had ceased to be a part of the NDA after its move to align with the Congress and NCP to form a government in Maharashtra, and said: "So it is natural that they will be allotted seats on the opposition side in both houses". Drawing parallels between the BJP and Muhammad Ghori (1149-1206), an invader who laid foundation for Muslim rule in the country, the Sena editorial stated: "Of the total 18 small and big battles he fought with the Muslim invader, legendary Hindu king Prithviraj Chauhan defeated Mohammed Ghori 17 times. Every

closely associated with Hindutva and anti-Congressism.

Amid cautious approach by the NCP-Congress, Shiv Sena too has called a meeting of all its MLAs and senior leaders on

Friday to be chaired by Sena chief Uddhav Thackeray. In the last month's assembly polls, the NCP and the Congress, pre-poll allies, won 54 and 44 seats, respectively in the

288-member assembly where the majority mark is 145. Shiv

Bhagwat warns BJP, Sena over break-up

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

As long-time allies BJP and the Shiv Sena remain unrelenting on their stance with the latter choosing to break the alliance, RSS chief Mohan Bhagwat on Tuesday had a word of caution and advise for the two sides without naming them.

"Everyone knows that selfishness is a bad thing but very few people give up their selfishness. Everybody knows that both of them will face loss if they are going to fight over a matter," he said.

The head of the RSS to whom both the BJP and the Shiv Sena show their ideological adherence to, warned them of the adverse impact of fallout of their tug-of-war for power in Maharashtra.

Bhagwat, without naming the two former partners of the

previous alliance Government in Maharashtra, warned that "both will face loss" if they fought over any matter.

"Everyone knows that selfishness is a bad thing but very few people give up their selfishness. Take the example of the country or of individuals," Mr Bhagwat said at an event in Nagpur on Tuesday, news agency ANI quoted him as saying.

"Everybody knows that both of them will face loss if they are going to fight over a matter," he said.

The Sena's insistence of sharing Chief Ministership with the BJP had led both falling apart on the issue of Government formation in Maharashtra with former making friends with political rivals Nationalist Congress Party and the Congress in its bid to wrest power in the State.

Sena has 56 seats in its bag BJP emerged largest at 106 seats.

CRPF writes to States, UTs on new security protocol for Gandhi family

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The CRPF has written to States and Union Territories about the new protocols for Congress president Sonia Gandhi and her family members' security and will soon seek Government nod for raising one more battalion for securing them.

But in the meantime, the Congress has given a notice to move an adjournment motion in the Lok Sabha against the withdrawal of SPG cover of the Gandhi family. Describing the move as "arbitrary", the Congress in the notice said the security cover was withdrawn ignoring the existing and probable threats to the Gandhi family.

The Union Home Ministry central Government earlier this month replaced the Special Protection Group (SPG) security cover given to Sonia Gandhi, her son Rahul Gandhi and daughter Priyanka Gandhi Vadra by the 'Z-plus'

category security of the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF).

Officials said the paramilitary force will seek sanction from the government for procurement of specialized armoured vehicles to secure the new protectees including former prime minister Manmohan Singh besides the Gndhi family.

Informing the States and the UTs, the CRPF has articulated that the Gandhi family has been accorded an advance security liaison (ASL) protocol and this will require the "support" of their intelligence, police and administrative machinery prior to any of the five new protectees -- Sonia Gandhi, Rahul, Priyanka, Manmohan Singh and his wife Gursaran Kaur -- reaching their jurisdictions on official or personal tours.

Former PM Manmohan Singh's SPG security cover was withdrawn by the Centre in August.

As part of the ASL drill, a special CRPF team will travel at least 24 hours in advance to the location to be visited by these protectees and liaise with local authorities to sanitise the venue and isolate the areas that the VVIPs will visit.

Through the official communication, the five protectees will need to be given all administrative and police support along with route plans and travel maps.

In the Lok Sabha, the Congress on Tuesday gave a notice to move an adjournment motion against the withdrawal of Special Protection Group (SPG) cover of the Gandhi family.

Describing the move as "arbitrary", the Congress in the notice said the security cover was withdrawn ignoring the existing and probable threats to the Gandhi family.

An adjournment motion is moved to stop the proceedings of the House to take up the issue raised in the motion.

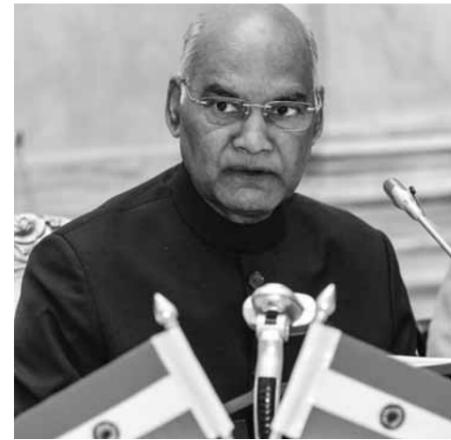
IITs, NITs will find solutions to air pollution: Prez

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

President Ram Nath Kovind on Tuesday exuded confidence that the IITs and NITs, with their specialisations, will be able to find solutions to address the problem of air pollution as well as create sensitivity among students and researchers.

He was addressing the annual 'visitor's conference' at the Rashtrapati Bhawan, attended by directors of 23 Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs), 31 National Institutes of Technology (NITs) and Indian Institute of Engineering Science And Technology (IIEST), Shibpur.

"This is that time of the year when the air quality of the national capital as well as of many other cities worsens beyond all norms. Many scientists and futurologists have painted doomsday scenarios. On days of smog and poor visibility in our cities, we fear the future might already be here," Kovind said. "We are facing a kind of challenge here that we have never faced before. Hydrocarbon energy changed



President Ram Nath Kovind addresses Directors of IITs, NITs and IIEST, Shibpur, during a conference at the Rashtrapati Bhawan in New Delhi on Tuesday PTI

the face of the world in the last couple of centuries, but now it is threatening our very existence. The challenge is compounded for nations battling to bring substantial sections of populations out of poverty.

Yet, we will have to find alternatives," President Kovind said. He expressed confidence that institutions like IITs, NITs with their various specialisations, would take care to create a sensitivity and awareness

among students and researchers towards our common future," Kovind said. "I am sure that your institutes, with your various specialisations, will find a solution and take care to create a sensitivity and awareness among students and researchers towards our common future," he added.

The conference was the part of regular interactions of the President with such institutions in his capacity as a visitor to 152 Central Universities and institutions of higher learning. The president said that after the government's efforts to improve India's ranking on the Ease of Doing Business Index, the aim is now to improve the Ease of Living for all citizens. "How can we move forward in that direction, and make life easier for all, especially those on the margins of society? Later this week, Governors of states will be here in Rashtrapati Bhawan and this will be one of the major points of deliberation in their conference. I am sure there are solutions in the area of Governance," he said.

BJP PARLIAMENTARY PARTY MEETING Ministers brief MPs on PM's foreign visits

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

BJP Parliamentary Party meeting on Tuesday focused on Prime Minister Narendra Modi's "successful" visits to several countries as well as his participation in events such as the UNGA and BRICS meetings, and India's refusal to join RCEP in "national interest". Modi did not attend the meet.

Foreign Minister S Jaishankar and Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal briefed BJP MPs on the issue in the first meeting of the Winter Session of Parliament and what it meant for India.

Interestingly, in the Lok Sabha BJP leader Bhartruhari Mahtab, during the day, sought to know during the zero hour as what were the gains for the country by joining BRICS vis-à-vis China who he said has favourable trade deficit and had emerged an economic power.

Jaishankar told MPs that refusal of India to join the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) had secured country's interests.

He spoke in detail about Modi's participation in the United National General Assembly meeting in the US in September and the 'Howdy Modi' rally, attended by thou-

Refusal of India to join the RCEP had secured country's interests

sands of people of Indian origin (PIO), which was attended by US President Donald Trump. The Prime Minister's participation in the BRICS and ASEAN meetings besides his trips to Russia, Saudi Arabia, Bahrain and Bhutan were also spotlighted, with Jaishankar telling the ruling party's lawmakers that Modi brought the

issue of terrorism to the fore and found support from most countries. The Foreign Minister mentioned the decision of Saudi Arabia and Bahrain to accord their highest civilian honour on Modi.

In his briefing on India's decision to keep out of the RCEP, Goyal said it was in national interest as joining the grouping would have widened India's trade deficits with some countries and harmed its domestic industry, sources said.

Goyal said the UPA government favoured joining the RCEP but the Modi government has stood for the country's interest by keeping out of it.

Onion output in kharif, late-kharif seasons may fall 26% to 52L tonne, says Paswan

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Onion production in kharif and late-kharif seasons of 2019-20 is estimated to fall 26 per cent to 52.06 lakh tonne, putting pressure on supply and prices, Food Minister Ram Vilas Paswan said on Tuesday. The all-India average retail price of onion stood at ₹60.38 per kg on November 15, compared with ₹22.84 per kg on the same date last year.

In a written reply to the Lok Sabha, he said onion is a seasonal crop with harvesting period of rabi (March to June), kharif (October to December) and late-kharif (January-March). During July to

October, the supply in the market comes from stored onions from rabi season.

"During 2019-20, there was a 3-4 weeks delay in sowing as well as decline in sown area of the kharif onion because of late arrival of monsoon. Further, untimely prolonged rains in the major growing States of Karnataka, Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh during the harvesting period caused damage to the standing crops in these regions," Paswan said. As a result, the Minister said the production of kharif crop was affected.

The rains during September-October also hit

transportation of crop from these producing regions to consuming centres, he said.

"This led to limited availability of kharif onions in the market and has put pressure on its prices," Paswan said.

During the current year, the production of kharif and late-kharif is estimated to be 52.06 lakh tonne, which is about 26 per cent lower than the previous year's production of 69.91 lakh tonne in the same seasons, the Minister said.

Paswan said the Government has banned onion exports and imposed stock limits to boost domestic supply and check prices.

FROM THE PARLIAMENT

J&K: 765 stone pelters arrested since Aug 5

Kashmir's administration had informed, a total of 34,10,219 tourists, including 12,934 foreigners, visited in last 6 months and an income of ₹25.12cr was earned

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Union Home Ministry on Tuesday informed Lok Sabha that security forces had arrested 765 people in connection with stone pelting cases and incidents of stone pelting has declined in J&K since the abrogation of Article 370. "Since August 5, 2019 to November 15, 2019, 765 people have been arrested in 190 cases registered relating to stone pelting/law and order.

From January 1, 2019 to August 4, 2019, 361 such cases were registered," said Minister of State for Home G Kishan Reddy, replying to a written question in the Lok Sabha.

"Investigation has revealed that various separatist organisations and activists, which are part of the Hurriyat, have been behind the incidents of stone pelting in the Kashmir valley. The NIA has chargesheeted 18 persons in terror-funding cases so far," he said.

Reddy said the Government had adopted multi-pronged policies to check the stone pelting menace and had succeeded in curbing it to the extent that a large number of troublemakers, instigators and mob mobilisers were identified and various preventive measures taken against them,

including detention under the stringent Public Safety Act (PSA) and preventive arrests.

Replying to another question, Reddy said the J&K administration had informed that a total of 34,10,219 tourists, including 12,934 foreigners, visited J&K in the last six months and an income of ₹25.12 crore was earned through tourism during this period. The Minister said after the abrogation of Article 370, initially, attendance of students was thin in the schools of J&K, which gradually picked up and at present, stood at 99.7 per cent during the ongoing examination.

On a question related to use of pellet guns since August 5, the Minister said pellet guns were used with abundant caution, only to deal with severe law-and-order problems to

avoid civilian casualties.

Regarding Left Wing Extremism, the Minister said violence dropped by 43 per cent between May 2014 and April 2019 compared to the five years before that, the Centre said on Tuesday, and disclosed that only 10 districts accounted for two-third of the incidents. Reddy said that the steadfast implementation of policy has resulted in consistent decline in violence and in the geographical spread shrinking.

"Only 10 districts account for 2/3rd of Left Wing Extremism violence. The LWE related incidents of violence between May-2014 to April-2019 have been 43 per cent lesser while compared with the preceding five years period," he said in response to a written question.

Birla warns members over sloganeering

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla on Tuesday warned that he will be forced to take action against members protesting in the Well as Congress and other Opposition parties, including DMK and TMC, indulged in sloganeering.

The Speaker also took note of Congress leader Rahul Gandhi's absence from the House and said he had wanted to give a chance to the former Congress president during Question Hour as the latter's name being listed for a question on 'PM Gram Sadak Yojna' in Kerala.

From the word go, Lok Sabha again witnessed, for the second-day, scenes of slogan-shouting with Congress-led opposition trooping in the well of the house, shouting against the Modi-Government. This followed Congress,

DMK and TMC seeking to raise their respective issues during the question hour but were disallowed by the Speaker. Birla, however, did permitted them to speak soon after the question hour which was forced to be undertaken in the loud din created by the opposition MPs.

There were around 20 MPs from the Congress who had collected in the well of the house shouting "Tanashahi nahin chalegi".

Besides the Congress, members from the National Conference were also in the Well.

Birla repeatedly requested the protesting members to go back to their seats as the questions were about farmers' issues.

He asked Congress and DMK MPs to speak on the farmers issue which was being taken up in the house.

As the protests continued and seemed coming closer to his chair, an indignant Speaker warned that action would be taken against members and he may even name them.

"There might have been precedents of protesting in the Well. From today onwards, no (member) will protest in the Well. If not, I will be forced to take action," he said. At one point of time, the Speaker also said that he would give a chance for protesting members to ask supplementaries if they go back to their respective seats.

The members continued with their noisy protests until the commencement of the zero hour when they spoke on their respective issues including police action against JNU students, and thereafter staged a walk-out.

Congress members sought to raise various issues, including the withdrawal of SPG

security cover of party president Sonia Gandhi, her son Rahul Gandhi and her daughter Priyanka Gandhi Vadra.

The Speaker took note of Congress leader Rahul Gandhi's absence from the Lok Sabha saying he had wanted to give a chance to the former Congress president during Question Hour.

"His (Rahul Gandhi's) question was listed for the Question Hour and I wanted to give him a chance had he been present," Birla remarked when K Suresh, Congress MP from Kerala, got up to speak during Zero Hour from Rahul's seat.

The speaker asked Suresh to move to his designated seat and continue. As per the Lok Sabha schedule, question number 28 was listed against the name of Rahul.

The question pertained to Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana for Kerala.

INBRIEF

'CHINA HAS INTRUDED MORE THAN 50 KM IN ARUNACHAL'
New Delhi: Please don't allow the next Doklam in Arunachal Pradesh as China has encroached more than 50 km of land of the State, BJP member Tapir Gao claimed in Lok Sabha on Tuesday. Whenever the President, PM, Defence Minister or Home Minister visits the State, objections are raised by China, he said raising the issue during Zero Hour.

MODI PAYS TRIBUTE TO RANI LAKSHMIBAI
New Delhi: Describing Rani Lakshmbai as "brave and inspiring", Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Tuesday paid tributes to the warrior queen of Jhansi on her 191st birth anniversary. He said for millions of Indians, Rani Lakshmbai "personifies courage and fearlessness".

CBI BOOKS CUSTOMS OFFICIAL FOR BRIBERY
New Delhi: The CBI has registered a case against a customs official for allegedly accepting a bribe to give clearance to imported goods at the Chennai Port, an official said on Tuesday. The customs official-Munusamyworks as an appraiser for the Customs Department and allegedly accepted a bribe of ₹40,000 in Chennai on Nov 12, he said.

MARATHA QUOTA TRIAL IN SC ON JAN 22
New Delhi: The Supreme Court on Tuesday fixed January 22 to commence hearing a batch of pleas challenging the constitutional validity of a Maharashtra law granting reservation for Marathas in education and jobs in the State.

STUDENTS CELEBRATE WORLD TOILET DAY
New Delhi: Large number of students from schools and colleges formed a big "Human Chain" to celebrate World Toilet Day at Sulabh gram in national Capital on Tuesday. Well known Social Reformer and founder of Sulabh Sanitation Movement Padma Bhushan Dr. Bineshwar Pathak joined hands with these children and volunteers.

Mamata, Owaisi call each other RSS agent

SAUGAR SENGUPTA ■ KOLKATA

A day after Mamata Banerjee charged the BJP and All India Majlis-e-Ittehadul Muslimin for conspiring to lure the Hindu and Muslim population of Bengal into political extremism, war of words intensified between two sides with AIMIM chief Asaduddin Owaisi charging the Chief Minister with playing a host to the saffron outfit in the State while the Trinamool Congress hitting back by insisting that Hyderabad party was a paid agent of the RSS.

Slamming Banerjee, the AIMIM chief and one of the most noticeable minority faces in the country tweeted, "if Didi (read Mamata Banerjee) is worried about a bunch of us from Hyderabad then she should tell how BJP won 18/42 seats from Bengal."

By displacing the Left Front as the main Opposition party in Bengal the BJP wrested 18 out of 42 seats in this year's parliamentary elections. The TMC won 22 and the Congress bagged two seats. What was more in at least three other seats the margin of victory for the Trinamool was between five thousand and fifty thousand.

Telling reporters that Banerjee owed an explanation on the rise of the BJP in Bengal Owaisi on Tuesday said, the Chief Minister's nervous comments on the presence of AIMIM in her State was itself an admission in favour of his party's growing prowess her backyard.

"By making allegations against me you (Banerjee) are



Slamming Mamata, the AIMIM chief and one of the most noticeable minority faces in the country tweeted, "if Didi (read Mamata Banerjee) is worried about a bunch of us from Hyderabad then she should tell how BJP won 18/42 seats from Bengal"

Hitting back at Owaisi for his "outrageous statement against Mamata didi who is like a mother of crores of people," a senior Trinamool leader and Minister from South Kolkata on Tuesday said "those who are thinking of taking place of Mamata Banerjee in Bengal are living in a fools' paradise"

giving the message to Muslims of Bengal that AIMIM has become a formidable force in the State," Owaisi added, "Mamata Banerjee is showcasing her fear and frustration by making such comments."

Addressing a meeting in North Bengal town of Coochbehar bordering Assam the Chief Minister had on Monday made veiled reference to Owaisi and his party from Hyderabad which was



hand-in-glove with the BJP and was in its payroll.

She said a trap was being laid down by some Hindu and minority parties (from Hyderabad) "who are taking money from the BJP to spread extremist ideas in Bengal."

She said, "there is a political party which is trying to make inroads in Bengal by fanning a communal divide. Just like there are some extremists in Hindus, same with minorities. They take money from BJP. They stay in Hyderabad. They don't stay here. They come here and say I'll give you protection. Don't fall into this trap of my minority brothers."

Hitting back at Owaisi for his "outrageous statement against Mamata didi who is like a mother of crores of people," a senior Trinamool leader and Minister from South Kolkata on Tuesday said "those who are thinking of taking place of Mamata Banerjee in Bengal are living in a fools' paradise. Both the Hindus and Muslims worship her and a rank outsider, who is a filthy rich person not having broken bread with a poor man is dreaming to making inroads in this State. The people will not let him cross Dum Dum Airport."

JD(S) leader: All chances of our party backing BJP Govt if it falls short of numbers

Bengaluru: Senior JD(S) leader Basavaraj Horatti on Tuesday reaffirmed that there are "all chances" that his party may support the BS Yediyurappa-led-BJP Government, if it falls short of numbers after the December 5 bypoll results.

The MLC who met the Chief Minister felt that MLAs across political parties do not want mid-term polls.

"Kumaraswamy and Deve Gowda have said they will not let the Government collapse. On the basis of their statement I have said in case the BJP falls short of numbers there are all chances that JD(S) may support until his three and half year term ends, I still stand by it," Horatti said.

He said, no MLA from the three political parties -- the BJP, the Congress and JDS -- are ready to pull down the government as no one wants mid-term polls.

"Let any government be in power, our MLA post should remain for remaining three-

and-half years, is the feeling among MLAs," he added.

In what is being perceived as JD(S) softening of stand on the BJP, JD(S) patriarch H D Deve Gowda -- not wanting mid-term polls in Karnataka -- had said he wants the government to complete its term as it would give him time to build his party. His son and former Chief Minister H D Kumaraswamy too had recently said JD(S) would not try to dislodge the government.

Fifteen out of 17 assembly constituencies represented by disqualified Congress-JD(S) legislators, whose resignation and absence from trust vote had led to the collapse of the Kumaraswamy-led coalition government and paved way for BJP to come to power in July, will go to bypolls on December 5.

The BJP that has fielded disqualified MLAs as its candidates in 13 constituencies, will need to win at least six of those 15 seats to remain in power. **PTI**

Dec 5 K'taka bypoll crucial to BSY-led minority Govt

KESTUR VASUKI ■ BENGALURU

December 5 bypolls to fifteen constituencies in Karnataka are a litmus test to Chief Minister BS Yediyurappa who is heading a minority Government in the State. This election is also crucial for Leader of the Opposition of the Congress, Siddaramaiah who is facing internal and external rebellion.

Both the politicians are betting high stake in proving a point need no explanation. For the lingayat strongman Yediyurappa, he has to prove to the high command that he is indispensable in Karnataka politics and also consolidate himself to face political heat within the party. For Siddaramaiah, who is leading the Congress, being an outsider has to consolidate himself against the weakened high command.

Monday being the last day for filing of nominations, a total of 248 candidates including those belonging to the



Congress, JD(S) and ruling BJP have filed their nominations for December 5 bypolls to 15 Assembly constituencies

Among the total 248 candidates who have filed nominations till Monday, 56 are from National parties, 17 from State parties, 47 from registered unrecognised parties, and 128 are independents. While the highest 28 candidates have filed their nomination from Shivajinagar constituency, followed by Hoskote with 27 candidates; Krishnarajpet has least 8 candidates have filed their nominations.

Karnataka witnessed a high political drama and the bypolls was necessitated after the resignation and absence of 17

Congress-JD(S) legislators, which led to the collapse of H D Kumaraswamy headed coalition government of JDs and the Congress and paved way for BJP to come to power. Seventeen legislators were subsequently disqualified by the then Speaker K R Ramesh Kumar, however the Supreme Court that heard MLAs' petition challenging the disqualification, last week allowed them to contest the by-elections.

All of them have joined the saffron party and now 13 of them are contesting the bypolls setting the stage for their re-entry into the poll fray.

Bypolls to 15 of 17 seats represented by disqualified MLAs -- 14 of the Congress and three belonging to the JDS -- will be held on December five. Bypolls in the remaining two segments -- Maski and R R Nagar -- have not been declared due to the ongoing election-related cases in court. The strength of the assembly will be 222, post the bypolls.

Madras HC verdict in temple land case soon

KUMAR CHELLAPPAN ■ CHENNAI

The Madras High Court is all set to pronounce verdict on the August 30 order issued by the Tamil Nadu Government to facilitate the sale and transfer of missing lands owned by the temples in the State administered by the Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowment Department.

A Bench consisting of Justices M Sathyanarayanan and N Seshasayee completed on Monday the hearing of petition filed by TR Ramesh, president, Temple Worshipers Society, questioning the legality of the order which empowers the Government to issue pattas to the encroachers of the temple lands for a nominal amount.

More than 50,000 acres of prime land valued at thousands of crore rupees and owned by the temples under the HRCE Department has been missing for long. In February 2018, Justice R Mahadevan of the Madras High Court had asked



the HRCE Department to trace the missing lands and update the details in the website of the department.

But the Government and the HRCE Department remained unperturbed by the court verdict and came out with an order to bypass the February 2018 verdict.

The lands were donated to the temple for their upkeep and also for ensuring the welfare of the devotees coming under the jurisdiction of the

the temple land could be sold to the government and which could not be when all temple lands were actually private properties that had been given away by their owners for the benefit of temples and now belong to the deities of the temples concerned.

"The HECE Department was created to protect the temple lands and not to seal them away," said the judges.

Ramesh said that the whole episode speaks about "criminal dereliction of duties and responsibilities by the staff of the HRCE Department". There exists a criminal axis between the HRCE staff and encroachers which we could convince the court," said Ramesh. This is the eagerly awaited verdict by the temple worshippers and is equal in importance to the Ram Janmabhumi case, he said.

The Madras High Court is

hearing a number of petitions related to the misappropriation of temple properties by individuals in connivance with the officials of the HRCE officials. Jebamani Mohanraj, a former CBI official has filed a case in the MHC in December 2018 challenging the move by the trustees of the centuries old Agastheeswarar Temple at Nungambakkam in Chennai to sell the entire temple property to a private group.

The famous Kapaleeswarar Temple in the city is also in a controversy as the trustees are trying to sell off the leased land of the temple to private individuals. The Madras High Court is hearing this case too.

Ramesh told this newspaper that if the observations made by the court in the Government Order case are any indication, chances are that the officials of the HRCE Department are in for trouble for their failure in maintaining the data associated with the properties owned by the temple. **PTI**

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 [See proviso to rule 8(6)]
Notice for sale of immovable assets
 E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8 (6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.

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Sr. No.	Name of Borrower(s)/Co-Borrowers/Loan Account No.	Details of the Secured asset(s) with known encumbrances, if any	Amount Outstanding	Reserve Price Earnest Money Deposit	Date and Time of Property Inspection	Date & Time of Auction
(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	(F)	(G)
1.	Himanshu Khattar (Borrower) Divya Bakshi (Co Borrowers) LBNOD00002029807	Flat No. C-4/ 122, 12th Floor, Aravali Heights, Dharuhera, Dwarakadish, Rewari, Haryana Area- 1555 Sq. Ft.	Rs. 6018626/- (as on November 08, 2019).	Rs. 28,80,000/- (Rs. 2,88,000/-)	November 23, 2019 From 12 Noon to 3:00 PM	December 12, 2019 From 10:00 AM Onwards
2.	Dinesh Kumar Sukumaran (Borrower) Garima Sachdeva (Co Borrowers) LBNOD00002010573	Flat No B4/122 12th Floor, Sector-24 Aravali Heights, Dharuhera, Rewari Area-1590 Sq. Ft.	Rs. 60,41,230/- (as on November 07, 2019).	Rs. 29,50,000/- (Rs. 2,95,000/-)	November 23, 2019 From 12 Noon to 3:00 PM	December 12, 2019 From 10:30 AM Onwards
3.	Praveen Kumar Pintu (Borrower) Joyita Ghosh (Co Borrowers) LBNOD00002019451	Flat No. B-2/114 11th Floor Block- B2 Dwarakadish Aravali Heights Sector- 24 Dharuhera Rewari Haryana 123401, Area-1608 Sq. Ft	Rs. 57,77,167/- (as on November 07, 2019)	Rs. 29,80,000/- (Rs. 2,98,000/-)	November 23, 2019 From 12 Noon to 3:00 PM	December 12, 2019 From 11:00 AM Onwards
4.	Somya Jain (Borrower) LBNOD00002007549	Flat No. C-3/125, Aravali Heights, Dharuhera Dwarakadish, Rewari, Haryana, Area-1555 Sq. Ft.	Rs. 57,74,361/- (as on November 08, 2019).	Rs. 36,00,000/- (Rs. 3,60,000/-)	November 23, 2019 From 12 Noon to 3:00 PM	December 12, 2019 From 11:30 AM Onwards
5.	Anupm Agrawal (Borrower) Shashi Bala Agarwal (Co Borrowers)/ LBNOD00001994300	Flat No. C-3/121 12th Floor Aravali Heights Dwarakadish Dharuhera Rewari C3 Block Sector-24 Haryana- 123401, Area- 1548 Sq. Ft.	Rs. 55,73,570/- (as on November 08, 2019)	Rs. 28,70,000/- (Rs. 2,87,000/-)	November 23, 2019 From 12 Noon to 3:00 PM	December 12, 2019 From 12:00 Noon Onwards
6.	Shashi Kant Prasad (Borrower) Malti Prasad (Co Borrowers) LBNOD00001995795	Flat No. D-1/127 12th Floor Aravali Heights Sector- 24 D-1 Block Dharuhera Rewari Haryana 123401, Area-1223 Sq. Ft	Rs. 49,68,654/- (as on November 07, 2019).	Rs. 22,70,000/- (Rs. 2,27,000/-)	November 23, 2019 From 12 Noon to 3:00 PM	December 12, 2019 From 12:30 PM Onwards
7.	Aakaar Singh Bhatia (Borrower) Prikshit Singh (Co Borrowers) LBGUR00001971765	Flat No. D -1/16 First Floor Aravali Heights Sector 24 D-1 Block Dharuhera Rewari Haryana 123401, Area-1200 Sq. Ft.	Rs. 50,03,146/- (as on November 07, 2019).	Rs. 22,20,000/- (Rs. 2,22,000/-)	November 23, 2019 From 12 Noon to 3:00 PM	December 12, 2019 From 01:00 PM Onwards
8.	Dharmendra Kumar (Borrower) Sumita Singh (Co Borrowers) LBNOD00002029333	Flat No. C4/ 121, 12th Floor, Tower C4, Aravali Heights, Sector 24, Dharuhera, Rewari, Area- 1548Sq. Ft.	Rs. 55,20,932/- (as on November 07, 2019).	Rs. 28,70,000/- (Rs. 2,87,000/-)	November 23, 2019 From 12 Noon to 3:00 PM	December 12, 2019 From 01:30 PM Onwards
9.	Dharmendra Kumar (Borrower) Sumita Singh (Co Borrowers) LBNOD00002030018	Flat No. D-5/134, 13th Floor, Aravali Heights, Dharuhera, Haryana, Area- 1207Sq. Ft.	Rs. 49,42,125/- (as on November 08, 2019).	Rs. 28,00,000/- (Rs. 2,80,000/-)	November 23, 2019 From 12 Noon to 3:00 PM	December 12, 2019 From 02:00 PM Onwards
10.	Mange Ram Jain (Borrower) Anamika Jain (Co Borrowers) LBNOD00002011506	Flat No. D -2/134, 13TH Floor Aravali Heights Sector- 24 Block Dharuhera Rewari, Haryana Area - 1207 Sq. Ft.	Rs. 44,16,897/- (as on November 07, 2019).	Rs. 22,40,000/- (Rs. 2,24,000/-)	November 23, 2019 From 12 Noon to 3:00 PM	December 12, 2019 From 02:30 PM Onwards
11.	Mange Ram Jain (Borrower) Anamika Jain (Co Borrowers) LBNOD00002029715	Flat No. D-2/ 131, 13th Floor, Aravali Heights, Dharuhera, Haryana, Rewari 123401, Area-1207 Sq. Ft.	Rs. 43,09,266/- (as on November 8, 2019).	Rs. 28,00,000/- (Rs. 2,80,000/-)	November 23, 2019 From 12 Noon to 3:00 PM	December 12, 2019 From 03:00 PM Onwards

The online auction will be conducted on website (URL Link "https://e.auctions.samil.in") of our auction agency Shriram Automall India Ltd. The Mortgagors/noticee are given a last chance to pay the total dues with further interest till December 11, 2019, before 5:00 P.M else these secured assets will be sold as per schedule.

The Prospective Bidder(s) must submit their offer along with the earnest money deposit (refer column E) in a sealed envelope that mentions "Offer for purchase of property" to ICICI Bank Limited, 2nd Floor Videocon Tower, Block E-1, Jhandewalan Extension, Rani Jhansi Road, Delhi-110055 or to our marketing agent Shriram Automall India Ltd at 2nd Floor, Best Sky Tower, Netaji Subhash Place, Pitampura, New Delhi -110034 on or before December 11, 2019 before 5:00 P.M. The marketing agency has also been engaged as auctioneer for proper conduct of auction. Earnest Money Deposit DD/PO should be from a Nationalised/Scheduled Bank in favour of "ICICI Bank Limited" payable at Delhi.

For any further clarifications with regards to inspection, terms and conditions of the auction or submission of tenders, kindly contact ICICI Bank Limited on 8657549734/ 7304904154/8657476284 or Shriram Automall India Ltd on 9910453434. Tenders which are acknowledged by the Bank/e-auction vendor official and registered before the cut-off time with complete details shall only be considered for auction.

The Authorised Officer reserves the right to reject any or all the bids without furnishing any further reasons. For detailed terms and conditions of the sale, please visit www.icicibank.com/n4p4s

Date: November 20, 2019
 Place: Delhi/NCR
 Sd/-
 Authorised Officer
 ICICI Bank Limited.

Avoid comments on Guv-Mamata Govt verbal spats: BJP to Bengal unit

Kolkata: The West Bengal BJP unit has been asked by its Central leadership to refrain from getting into the frequent verbal spats between the State Government and Governor Jagdeep Dhankhar, a senior party leader said.

There is a general perception that the Governor and the saffron party "complement" each other through their statements, he said.

A verbal directive in this regard has been communicated to the State leadership from the top echelons of the party, the senior BJP leader said.

"We have been asked by our Central leadership to refrain from commenting on the war of words between the state Government and the governor. Henceforth, none of our state

leaders will make any comment on the verbal spat," he said.

According to party sources, the move is aimed to allay charges that the BJP is using the governor to "pinprick" the state Government.

"Whenever there has been a verbal spat between the state Government and Raj Bhawan, for obvious reasons, we have spoken in favour of the governor, be it the present governor Jagdeep Dhankhar or his predecessor K N Tripathi," he said.

The tussle between Dhankhar and the TMC Government reached Parliament on Monday when its Rajya Sabha MP Sukhendu Sekhar Roy raised the issue of the governor "exceeding his brief and trying to run a parallel administration" in the State. **PTI**

SC Ayodhya case verdict by no means complete justice, says MIM chief

PTI ■ HYDERABAD

AIMIM chief Asaduddin Owaisi on Tuesday claimed that the Supreme Court's verdict on the Babri Masjid-Ramjanmaboomi land dispute was by no means "complete justice" that the powers under Article 142 are required to be used for.

Article 142 of the Constitution deals with the apex court's power to exercise its jurisdiction and pass order as is necessary for doing complete justice in any cause or matter pending before it.

"The Supreme Court's judgement in the Babri Masjid title suit is by no means the complete justice that the powers under Article 142 are required to be used for. It is at best incomplete justice or at worst complete injustice," he tweeted.

Owaisi was responding to media reports on the Ayodhya verdict and whether judicial discretion and the resultant directions guarantee complete justice.

The SC, in its verdict in the Babri Masjid-Ram Janmabhoomi title case on November 9, said the entire 2.77 acres of disputed land should be handed over to the deity Ram Lalla, who was one of the three litigants.

The five-judge Constitution bench also directed the Centre to allot a five-acre plot to the Sunni Waqf Board in Ayodhya to build a mosque. **PTI**

Rajini: Ready to join hands with Kamal if situation arises

Chennai: Superstar Rajinikanth on Tuesday said he would join hands with actor-turned politician Kamal Haasan for the welfare of people of Tamil Nadu if such a situation arises.

Rajinikanth, who has announced he would launch his political party to contest the State Assembly elections due in 2021, was responding to questions from reporters on Haasan's remarks earlier on Tuesday that he (the latter) would join hands with him for Tamil Nadu's welfare.

"If a situation arises wherein me and Kamal have to join hands for the welfare of people of Tamil Nadu, we will surely come together," Rajinikanth said in a brief interaction with media at the airport here.

While backing Rajinikanth's comments on Chief Minister K Palaniswami, who has drawn the ire of ruling AIADMK, Haasan said he would "travel together" with his contemporary for Tamil Nadu's welfare.

However, Haasan gave no indications of the two aligning politically. **PTI**

OK PLAY INDIA LIMITED
 CIN : L28219HR1988PLC030347
 Regd. Office: Plot No. 17, Roz-Ka-Moo Industrial Estate, Tehsil Nuh, District - Mewat, Haryana -122103, India
 E-mail : investor.relations@okplay.in, Website: www.okplay.co.in

EXTRACT OF STANDALONE AND CONSOLIDATED UNAUDITED FINANCIAL RESULTS FOR THE QUARTER AND HALF YEAR ENDED 30TH SEPTEMBER, 2019
 (Rs. in Lacs)

Sl No	Particulars	Standalone						Consolidated					
		Quarter Ended		Half-Year ended		Year ended	Quarter Ended		Half-Year ended		Year ended		
		30.09.2019	30.06.2019	30.09.2018	30.06.2018	31.03.2019	30.09.2019	30.06.2019	30.09.2018	30.06.2018	31.03.2019		
1	Total Revenue from operations	1,112.41	2,946.50	2,695.17	4,058.91	5,610.27	12,316.40	1,530.28	3,461.65	3,803.87	4,991.93	7,468.12	15,771.90
2	Net Profit/(Loss) before Exceptional Items and tax	(160.00)	65.76	62.91	(94.24)	140.09	1,032.27	(171.96)	186.25	207.84	14.29	378.09	1,665.09
3	Net Profit/(Loss) for the period before tax (after Exceptional Items)	(165.24)	67.49	26.84	(97.75)	72.29	778.85	(177.20)	187.98	171.77	10.78	310.29	1,410.12
4	Net Profit/(Loss) for the period after tax (after Exceptional Items)	(151.35)	53.60	21.68	(97.75)	58.38	294.58	(158.30)	149.35	138.69	(8.95)	250.01	624.81
5	Total Comprehensive Income/ (Loss) for the period [Comprising Profit/ (Loss) for the period (after tax) and other comprehensive income (after tax)]	(151.35)	53.60	21.68	(97.75)	58.38	294.88	(158.30)	149.35	138.69	(8.95)	250.01	625.11
6	Equity Share Capital	1,920.81	1,920.81	1,920.81	1,920.81	1,920.81	1,920.81	1,920.81	1,920.81	1,920.81	1,920.81	1,920.81	1,920.81
7	Other Equity (Reserves excluding revaluation reserve)					4,264.27							3,899.72
8	Earning per share (of Rs.10/- each) (for continuing and discontinued operations)	(0.79)	0.28	0.11	(0.51)	0.30	1.54	(0.83)	0.78	0.72	(0.05)	1.30	3.26
	(a) Basic (in Rs.)	(0.79)	0.28	0.10	(0.51)	0.28	1.54	(0.83)	0.78	0.66	(0.05)	1.19	3.26
	(b) Diluted (in Rs.)	(0.79)	0.28	0.10	(0.51)	0.28	1.54	(0.83)	0.78	0.66	(0.05)	1.19	3.26

NOTES:
 1 The above is an extract of the detailed format of Unaudited Financial Results filed with the Stock Exchanges under Regulation 33 of the SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015. The full format of quarterly financial results are available on the Stock Exchange website (www.bseindia.com) and on the Company's website (www.okplay.co.in).
 2 The above standalone and consolidated financial results have been reviewed by the Audit Committee and approved by the Board of Directors at their meeting held on 18th November, 2019.

for OK Play India Limited
 Sd/-
 Rajan Handa
 Managing Director
 (DIN 01945990)

Place : New Delhi
 Date : 18th November, 2019

LORD AYYAPPA TEMPLE

Over 30K offer prayers, 12-yr-old girl barred

PTI ■ SABARIMALA(KER)

Around 32,000 devotees offered prayers at the Lord Ayyappa temple at Sabarimala on Tuesday, even as police prevented a 12-year-old girl from Pudukcherry to proceed to the hill shrine from Pamba.

While two women in the barred age group of 10-50 years were stopped by police on Monday from visiting the shrine, on Saturday, when the temple opened, at least 10 young women from Andhra Pradesh were sent back.

Approximately 32,000 devotees offered worship on Tuesday, Travancore Devaswom Board (TDB) sources said.

There was a dip in the arrival of pilgrims against the heavy rush seen since November 16 evening, when the shrine was opened.

There was heavy rain in the afternoon, causing difficulties to the pilgrims. Unmindful of the heavy

showers, policemen standing on the 18 holy steps, helped the devotees climb and offer prayers.

A total of 9.6 lakh devotees have made virtual Q booking for darshan till 10 am this morning, sources said.

The 12-year-old had come with her father to offer prayers at the shrine.

The age of the girl, with "irrumudikettu" (offerings to Lord Ayyappa) had been shown as 10 in the virtual Q booking.

When women police personnel checked her Aadhaar card it was found that she was 12-years-old following which they did not allow her to proceed further from Pamba to the temple complex, police said.

After those accompanying the child were informed about the current situation in Sabarimala, her father and other relatives proceeded to the temple.

Supporting the shrine's tra-



The Pamba base camp is at the foothills of Sabarimala, about 5 km from the shrine.

The Ayyappa temple had opened on November 16 evening for the two-month long Mandala-Makaravillakku puja.

base camps on Tuesday to have a first hand experience of the facilities for the pilgrims, said they were inadequate.

The delegation led by Thiruvanchoor Radhakrishnan and P J Joseph said parking facilities were not enough and the LDF government had failed to provide enough facilities for pilgrims.

Radhakrishnan said the arrival of devotees may be increase, but facilities like toilets and drinking water were lacking at the base camps.

litres would be distributed 70 lakh litres would be supplied at Sannidhanam, a KWA press release said.

The state and temple precincts had witnessed protests by right wing outfits and BJP workers last year after the LDF government decided to implement the Supreme court's verdict of September 28, 2018 allowing women of all age groups to offer prayers at the shrine.

Though the apex court did not stay its earlier order allowing entry of women in the Lord Ayyappa temple, the LDF government in Kerala this time said the shrine is not a ground for activism and made it clear that it would not encourage women who want to visit the temple for publicity.

A five-judge bench of the Supreme Court had referred to a larger bench the matter related to entry of women into the hill temple and other issues related to various faiths.

Vehicle parking will not be permitted on roadside from Nilackal to Pamba: HC

PTI ■ KOCHI

The Kerala High court on Tuesday made it clear that vehicle parking shall not be allowed on the roadside from Nilackal to Pamba during the Sabarimala pilgrimage season as the Government informed that light vehicles of 12-seater capacity will ferry devotees till Pamba.

A division bench of Justices C T Ravikumar and N Nagesh said the police can take appropriate action against unauthorised parking.

The State Government informed the court that 12-seater capacity light vehicles can take passengers till Pamba, which is five km from the shrine, and they have to return to Nilackal for parking.



The court also permitted the Kerala State Road Transport Corporation to employ 1386 drivers temporarily from the Public Service Commission list during the Sabarimala season.

The order was issued on an application filed by KSRTC seeking permission to appoint experienced drivers for 504 buses during the season.

The court permitted KSRTC to employ drivers from PSC list from November 16, 2019 to January 31, 2020.

16 farmers held in Mathura for stubble burning

Mathura (UP): Sixteen farmers have been arrested for allegedly burning stubble and two lekhapals suspended for dereliction of duty in Uttar Pradesh's Mathura district, officials said on Tuesday.

District Magistrate Sarvagya Ram Mishra said a total fine of ₹ 13.05 lakh is being realized from the guilty farmers through talsil.

While 300 cases of stubble burning have been identified, two lekhapals (revenue officer) have been suspended for failing to prevent the farmers from burning their crop residue, the DM told reporters.

He said the lekhapals were responsible for preventing stubble burning but they failed in their mission, resulting in punitive action against them.

The district magistrate said farmers were given full opportunity for preventing stubble burning.

Through 'Kisan Pathashala', they were not only apprised of hazardous effects of stubble burning, but also tutored on alternative use of stubble, Mishra added.

He said, these 'pathashalas' have helped reduce stubble burning cases.

While last year 1,046 cases of stubble burning were identified using satellite images, the number has gone down to 459 so far this year, he said.

Manipur: 18-hour strike against CAB cripples life

Imphal: Normal life was crippled in Manipur on Tuesday in an 18-hour shutdown called to protest against the proposed Citizenship Amendment Bill (CAB) which is likely to be introduced in the ongoing winter session of Parliament.

The shutdown was called jointly by Manipur People Against Citizenship Amendment Bill (MANPAC) and North East Forum for Indigenous People (NEFIP) and there was no report of any untoward incident during the strike, which ended at 6 pm Tuesday, the police said.

Official sources said all business establishments, shops, vendors, hotels, motels, entertainment houses and oil depots were closed in response to the call for the shutdown. No educational institutions functioned during the bandh, the sources said.

Attendance in Government offices was thin despite the strict orders of the State chief secretary

to Government employees and education institutions to carry out normal duties or face action.

Inter-State and inter-district buses did not play. Taxis and autorickshaws too kept off the road.

Manipur police arrested MANPAC convenor Yumnancha Dilipkumar along with three other associates from Manipur's Imphal West district during the bandh.

Police also arrested three women leaders of Khwairamban Keithel, the biggest women market of the country which had remained closed during the day.

The North East has been on the boil against the proposed CAB, which the people fear will create a huge demographic imbalance as millions of illegal immigrants from Bangladesh reside in the area.

The CAB was passed by the Lok Sabha on January 8 this year but was not tabled in Rajya Sabha and lapsed.

New State coordinator yet to join, NRC Authority headless for over a week

Guwahati: Newly appointed NRC State Coordinator Hitesh Dev Sarma, who is embroiled in a row over his alleged social media posts criticising the updation work of the National Register of Citizens, has not joined office, official sources said on Tuesday.

Sarma, an Assam Civil Service officer, was appointed on November 9 as the NRC State Coordinator in place of Prateek Hajela who was released from his duties two days later.

The office of the NRC Authority is headless for more than a week.

"The new State Coordinator has not joined yet. We have not received any official communication regarding his date of joining," an official at the NRC Authority told PTI. Sources said Sarma has not stepped into the office of the NRC Authority here after his new appointment. He had earlier served as its executive director from 2013 to 2016.

"We are clueless about when he will join. We have come to know from media reports that he is on a month-long leave," the official said.

Repeated calls to the Commissioner of the Personnel Department which is responsible for appointments of government officials, remained unanswered.

At present, NRC Authority Executive Director Chandana Mahanta is in-charge of the NRC Authority and looking after the day-to-day affairs since Hajela, the previous State Coordinator, was released.

Hajela, an IAS officer, was transferred to his home state Madhya Pradesh following a direction from the Supreme Court which supervised the updation of the National Register of Citizens (NRC).

Published on August 31, the updated final NRC, which validates bonafide Indian citizens of Assam, has left out over 19 lakh applicants.

Pak in no way friend of J&K people, it has only brought destruction: Police chief

Srinagar/Jammu: Jammu & Kashmir police chief Dilbag Singh on Tuesday asserted that Pakistan is in no way a friend of the people of the Union territory and said the neighbouring country has only brought death and destruction to them.

He also said Pakistan's proxy war against India is not over yet and the police force will continue fighting the enemy to ensure the nation's safety.

Singh made the remarks in an official statement after a visit to Handwara town of Kupwara district and Ganderbal district.

During his visit, the director general of police (DGP) reviewed the law and order situation in different areas, inter-

acted with the respective jurisdictional officers and also addressed 'darbars' of police personnel.

"Pakistan is in no way a friend of the people of Jammu & Kashmir as it has brought death and destruction, and disrupted the peace and order here," Singh said.

The proxy war that Pakistan is waging against India is not over yet and "we will continue our fight to defeat the enemy for the security and integrity of our nation," he said.

He also called on officers and jawans to foil the "wicked acts or designs" of elements inimical to the peace and prosperity of Jammu & Kashmir.

Drass shivers at minus 11.5° as mercury dips in J&K, Ladakh



Jammu: Drass emerged as the coldest place in Jammu & Kashmir, and Ladakh, recording a low of minus 11.5 degrees Celsius, as the mercury dipped in most parts of the two Union Territories on Tuesday, a Meteorological (MeT) department spokesman said.

The weatherman has predicted light to moderate rain or snow in plains and moderate snow over higher reaches of the two Union Territories on Thursday and Friday with possibility of temporary disruption of traffic on Srinagar-Jammu and Srinagar-Leh highways.

Drass town, popularly known as 'the gateway to Ladakh', recorded a minimum of minus 11.5 degrees Celsius, making it the coldest recorded place in the region, the spokesman said.

He said Leh town of Ladakh continue to freeze at a low of minus 6.8 degrees Celsius, while Kargil town recorded a night temperature of minus 3.2 degrees Celsius.

Several schools reopen in Srinagar, life inching towards normalcy in Kashmir

Srinagar: Several schools reopened here on Tuesday after remaining closed for over three months due to the announced shutdown following the Centre's decision to abrogate Article 370 provisions, even as life was inching towards normalcy in Kashmir, officials said.

The move by several private schools to resume classes came as public transport has started to ply in the Valley and life was fast returning to normalcy, they said.

The managements have decided to open the schools from 10 am to 1 pm and students have been asked to come without wearing the uniform, the officials said.

The city and most areas elsewhere in the valley saw a significant improvement in the movement of public transport on Monday. The officials said the intra-district as well as the inter-district connectivity has improved significantly.

Auto-rickshaws and inter-district cabs have been plying for a while now, but in the last few days, the movement of intra-district cabs across the valley has also increased, they added.

The officials said the private transport was plying unhindered. On Sunday, the rail service from Srinagar to Banihal also resumed.

The train service in the valley was suspended due to security reasons on August 3 — days before the Centre abrogated the Jammu & Kashmir's special status under Article 370 of the Constitution and bifurcated the State into two Union territories.

NORTHERN RAILWAY NOTICE INVITING TENDER

Name of work: Removal of existing defective MS panel door and manufacturing, supply, fixing, testing & commissioning of SS grade 304 Switch Board Cabinet door for LHB type STB/Raj AC Coaches.

Tender No: 30-Elect-9T-Chg-2019-20

Approx. cost of the works in (Rs.): Rs. 31,87,500/-

Cost of tender form: Rs. 3,540/-

Address of the office: Sr. Divl. Elect. Engineer/Cng/Northern Railway, New Delhi

Earnest Money: Rs. 63,800/-

Period of completion of work: 05 Months

Last date & time of submission of tender: 12.12.2019 up to 15.00 Hrs.

And opening of tender: 12.12.2019 at 15.01 Hrs.

Website & notice board: www.irps.gov.in & Sr. DEE/Chg/DLI

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

DELHI JAL BOARD: GOVT. OF N.C.T. OF DELHI

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER (CENTRAL)-I, NEAR UGR & BPS RAMLILA GROUND JLN MARG, NEW DELHI-110002.

Short Press NIT No. 47 (2019-20)

S. No.	Name of Work	Estimated Cost in Rs.	Date of release of tender on e-procurement solution	Last date/time for receipt of tender through e-procurement solution
1.	Providing and laying of 500 mm dia DWC pipe from 3551 Kutub Road to T-Point Idgah Road Kasabpura Ward under EE (Central)-I, AC-22. (Re-invite)	₹ 26,96,496.00	18/11/2019 03.00 PM onwards	28/11/2019 upto 3:00 PM

Further details in this regard can be seen at <https://govtprocurement.delhi.gov.in>

ISSUED BY P.R.O (WATER) Advt. No. J.S.V. 541/2019-20

Sd/- EE (Central)-I

POLICE HEADQUARTERS J&K

Phone/Fax No: 0194-2443331/2443332 (Sp), 0191-2450223/2450225 (JMU)

Website: www.jkpolice.gov.in, Email: jkpolice@jkpolice.gov.in

Due to administrative and technical reasons NIT No. 59 of 2019 dated 30.07.2019 floated to procure Mobile Command Centers is extended as follows:-

i) Last date for online tender submission = 23.11.2019

ii) Online opening of technical bids = 25.11.2019

Detailed tender documents with terms and conditions are available on J&K State e-Procurement Portal www.jktenders.gov.in

No. 0194-2443919 Sd/- Major Lalraj Singh AG (Personnel/Tender) Date: 18.11.2019 For Director General of Police, J&K, Jammu

NORTHERN RAILWAY NOTICE INVITING TENDER

Name of work and its location: 30-ELECT-16-T-2019-20-E3 Electrical work in connection with: i) Provision of new construction of first floor RPF barrack, RPF office at PF no. 3-4 station and scout & guide complex booth side GZB. ii) Improvement and up raising of Gulshar and Duhai halt platform. iii) Work to be executed in flash Butt welding plant Meerut Cantt.

Approx cost of the works in: Rs.34.83 lacs

Address of the office: Sr. Divl. Elect. Engineer/General, New Delhi.

Earnest Money: Rs.69700.00

Date & time of submission of tender: 16.12.19, 15.00 Hrs.

Opening of tender: 16.12.19, 15.00 Hrs

Website & notice board: www.irps.gov.in & Sr. Divl. Elect. Engineer/General, New Delhi.

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

NORTHERN RAILWAY NOTICE INVITING TENDER

Name of work and its location: 30-Elect-28-T-2019-20-E3 Electrical work in connection with i) Renovation of dialysis, male/female changing room, ultrasound room, x-ray registration room at Northern Railway Central Hospital New Delhi. ii) Providing oxygen & vacuum pipe line with accessories in almost all beds but NRDH in the section of SSE/with under ADE/NE-III

Approx cost of the works in: Rs 13.64 lacs

Address of the office: Sr Divl. Elect. Engineer/General, New Delhi.

Earnest Money: Rs.27300.00

Date & time of submission of tender: 16.12.2019, 15.00 Hrs.

Opening of tender: 16.12.2019, 15.00 Hrs.

Website & notice board: www.irps.gov.in & Sr. Divl. Elect. Engineer/General, New Delhi.

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e-NIT No. 122 of 2019 NOTICE INVITING e-TENDER Dated: 13-11-2019

For and on behalf of the Governor, Jammu and Kashmir State, e-Tenders (In Two Cover System) Supply Erection, Testing & Commissioning of Double Ckt 11 KV Line on Rabbit Conductor for Bifurcation of 11 KV feeders Old Arnia, & Sai II at Bishnah area under Languishing projects sanctioned by JKIDFC on turn key basis are hereby invited from Self Help Groups/ A Class Electrical Contractors of J&K having Valid Registration Certificate for the year 2019-20 and meeting eligibility criteria as per terms, conditions, technical specifications and schedules forming part of this tender document.

S.No.1, Name of Work :- Supply, Erection, Testing & Commissioning of Single Ckt 11 KV Line for Bifurcation of 11 KV feeders of Old Arnia, & Sai II at Bishnah area on turn key basis

Cost of document (in Rs.) :- 1000/-, Earnest Money (in Rs.) :- 80000/-, Estd. Cost :- Rs 40.00 lacs, Date & Time of Downloading of Bidding Documents :- 14.11.2019 from 1700 hrs, Last Date of e-bid Submission :- 29.11.2019 (up to 1600 Hrs), Time and Date of Opening of tender :- 30.11.2019 (at 1400 Hrs)

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

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

Sd/- Executive Engineer, Electric Division-I JPDC, Gandhi Nagar, Jammu

No. DIP/J-928/19 Date: 18-10-2019

DELHI TRANSCO LIMITED

(An undertaking Govt. of NCT of Delhi)

CIN - U40103DL2001SGC111529 Shakti Sadan, Kotla Road, New Delhi-110002 website : www.dtl.gov.in

NOTICE INVITING e-tender

Delhi Transco Ltd, a Government of NCT of Delhi Undertaking, invites tender for the following work:

Tender No. T19P090451: Turnkey Package for following Augmentation works:-

(a) Supply, Erection, Testing & Commissioning of 02 Nos. 66 KV bays along with equipments and associated Civil works at 220/66 KV Sub-Station Ghazipur, New Delhi.

(b) Supply, Erection, Testing & Commissioning of 02 Nos. 66 KV bays along with equipments and associated Civil works at 220/66 KV Sub-Station Wazirabad, New Delhi.

(c) Supply, Erection, Testing & Commissioning of 02 Nos. 66 KV bays along with equipments and associated Civil works at 220/66 KV Sub-Station Sarita Vihar, New Delhi and

(d) Supply, Erection, Testing & Commissioning of Equipments of Loading of Tertiary winding of 400/220/33 KV, 315 MVA Auto Power Transformer along with associated Civil works at existing 400 KV Sub-Station Bawana and Bannaui.

Last date & time for receipt of e-tender: 13.12.2019 at 10:30 a.m.

For further details please logon Delhi Govt website <https://govtprocurement.delhi.gov.in> (Tender ID No.2019_DTL_183454_1 and DTL website www.dtl.gov.in (Unique No. DTL-7006-191119)

All Corrigendum/Addendum/ Amendments/Date of Extension/Clearifications, if any, to the above e-tender would appear only on the above mentioned websites.

BEFORE DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL-II, DELHI

4th Floor, Jeevan Tara Building, Parliament Street, New Delhi-110001

OA No. 1457/18 Date: 11.10.2019

STATE BANK OF INDIA Versus APPLICANT

Sh. ANIL SINGH & ORS. Versus RESPONDENT

TO, DEFENDANT

2. M/s Idea Builder Pvt. Ltd., C-294, 1st Floor, Near Park Vivek Vihar, Delhi-95 Also At : C-10, Ramprastha, Ghaziabad, UP Also At : Khasra No. 998, Red Apple Residency National Highway-58, Near KDP Circle Ranjigar Extension, Ghaziabad, UP

3. Sh. Akshay Kumar, C-294, 1st Floor, Near Park Vivek Vihar, Delhi-95 Also At : R/o House No. 10, Block-C, Ramprastha, Ghaziabad, UP-201011

4. Sh. Tarun Kumar, C-294, 1st Floor, Near Park Vivek Vihar, Delhi-95 Also At : R/o 125/1 Bhandari Bagh, Dehradun-248001 Uttarakhand

Whereas the above named applicant has instituted a case for recovery of Rs.36,41,578/- (Rupee Thirty Six Lakh Forty One Thousand Five Hundred And Seventy Eight Only) against you and whereas 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 26.12.2019 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, Delhi

Student uprising

The JNU fee hike could be reasonably negotiated but using force on students means undoing what we teach them to do



Student movements have had transformative and revolutionary power in world history, from 13th century Paris to the climate activism of Greta Thunberg. That's how our societal and education systems have raised our young to be, question the status quo if it is unjust, create a liberal order, chase passions and ideals that are yet uncorrupted by politics and do so with a "can do" spirit that has not yet been bartered away to compromise. That's why students have overturned regimes

across the world, because all they need is a generational contiguity to override everything else and generate a populist swell. At home, the Nirbhaya and Jessica Lal vigils, Dalit or gay rights would not have changed outcomes had the students not taken the lead. And they have all begun as non-violent, peaceful sit-ins and marches till retaliation was forced by State repression. However, one must cite the college students versus Government protests in Iran of 1999 during which Ayatollah Khamenei had to instruct the police to restrain itself even if it meant that students burnt his posters or tore them apart. This was remarkable in a regime intolerant of any kind of alternative discourse or dissent but Khamenei was aware that student activism had freed itself from State fear and politics and in the long-term could be a challenge if not accommodated. Suppression would only beget harsher rejection and counter-reaction. Therefore, such pragmatism should have also dawned on authorities in New Delhi before they used the police to literally beat up protesting JNU students wanting to march to Parliament and be heard on a surprise fee hike. Cracking down on them mercilessly has not only emboldened them further but shown us the Modi Government as a bulldozer of what JNU stands for, an institution of excellence and learning that attempts classlessness in thought and action, encourages free and radical thinking and a convergence of ideas fearlessly. The ostensible row over a fee hike has taken a back seat due to such mishandling. The Modi Government has clearly overlooked the practicality of raising fees and used it as a ruse to suppress what it really wants, take over and crush a seat of Left-leaning liberalism, one that its proponents dismiss as a despicable clan called "JNU type." Particularly, malign a university that bears the name of India's first Prime Minister. The Government is making a classic mistake of resorting to symbolism. Negotiations could have taken care of much of the problem. But the suddenness of the fee hike was clearly meant to provoke students and make them look like perennial trouble-makers who needed to be taught a lesson. The students' angst over the almost 300 per cent hike is understandable as it's astronomical and insensitive, instead of being graded and phased out as all transitions to a new protocol should be. For long, JNU has been offering succour to the poorest of families, who could not afford a respectable education for their children due to the hefty fees charged by other eminent institutions. It is also a fact that JNU had been operating under a differential fee regime compared to its counterparts. A room rent of just ₹20 per month for a single-seater or ₹10 per month for a double seater, that, too without any utility or service charge, is a dream in the heart of Delhi. This is the reason why students prolonged their stay at the hostels, enrolling in course after course while working part-time. Old students overstaying led to a chronic hostel shortage for newcomers. In this sense, it is welcome that the varsity has finally woken up to the dangers of big subsidies. Yet it must be accepted that a steep hike, coming after 19 years, is an injustice when not reasonably executed. No consultations were made with the stakeholders or the management council to arrive at a common ground. The partial rollback, again swiftly ordered, was cosmetic, according to students. And clamping them down with police action frankly gives more credence to their story of persecution than issues that matter.

Going by the recent past, students have won — those at Jadavpur University forced their Vice-Chancellor to resign, FTII students challenged the appointment of chairman Gajendra Chauhan and women students across the country began the Pinjra Tod movement when Jamia Millia Islamia cancelled late nights for its girl hostellers. The Government may want to compartmentalise every part of our public life, saffronising education being a big part of it. Even if we were to follow the spirit of Vedanta truly as it wants, then we would realise that "each man is the power. There is no king. I see everybody equally the same." That's why Professor Firoz Khan of Banaras Hindu University may be a celebrated Sanskritist, who received awards in his subject, but is now considered untouchable.

Hong Kong crisis

Protests here have intensified and most citizens are in support of the young activists. Beijing is in a quandary



When the People's Republic of China (PRC) took over the administration of Hong Kong in 1997, it laid to rest a painful chapter of colonialism on the Chinese mainland. The UK had sought and won certain rights for the citizens of Hong Kong. The Chinese Government had promised "One country, two systems" for the city-state, which still maintained its judicial, economic and cultural identity. It even competes at global sporting meets independent of the PRC. Initially, the system worked well. Officials in Beijing had a tough

time grasping the concepts of free speech and expression in Hong Kong. They realised that the city and its vibrant stock markets and access to the Western capital allowed huge fund inflows into the PRC. Indeed, the PRC's massive growth in the decade following Hong Kong's return was fuelled by money that was routed through the city. However, things have taken a dark turn here under China's new strongman Xi Jinping, who wants the "Sinification" of the city to progress much faster than the promised 50 years. Instead of Hong Kong hoping that some of its free and open culture will be imbibed by China, Xi wants it to be under his thumb. He wanted to achieve this by essentially subverting Hong Kong's unique judicial system to that of China. Easy, peasy he must have thought, but he had not accounted for the citizens, particularly the students. They were loathe to give up the freedoms they have become accustomed to. Even under the heavy hand of the Hong Kong police, who used some of the latest facial recognition technology, the students have continued to resist. Xi's predicament has worsened because of Hong Kong's vibrant and free media, making the city's crisis a public relations nightmare for Xi and his minions.

Letting the students have their way would be akin to admitting defeat by Xi. However, he should learn that compromise is sometimes the best policy as is keeping one's promises, no matter how much one may not like them. Hong Kongers are proud to be citizens of the PRC as well but they were promised two systems and they want that much and no further. The sight of teargas shells being lobbed at students will not serve Xi well in the long run and might even make his economic diplomacy goals such as the rehabilitation of Huawei and selling the Belt and Road Initiative much more difficult.

Power shift in Colombo

Sri Lanka's new President Gotabaya has vowed to maintain neutral but friendly relations with foreign powers. He must be judged by his deeds, not words



ASHOK K MEHTA

Gotabaya (Gota) Rajapaksa's decisive victory in the presidential election was not entirely surprising though it has shocked the liberals in Colombo, becoming the most ethnically polarised verdict. Gota has shown that presidential elections can be won without the ethnic minority vote. Ever since the Mahinda Rajapaksa regime was voted out of power in 2015 and following the passage of the 19th Amendment, Gota's choice was natural as 19A had ruled out a third term for the President and raised the bar for age to 35 years, thus rendering Mahinda and his son Namal Rajapaksa ineligible for contesting the presidential election.

For an Army Colonel, Gota's decade as the Defence Secretary to elder brother and former President Mahinda Rajapaksa facilitated the straightening of many wrinkles in defence and national security, though many of his Army colleagues and friends had turned adversaries. By the time Gota became a presidential hopeful, he was accused of corruption, human rights violations during the war, "white van" disappearances, murder of the editor of a newspaper and linkages to a Buddhist extremist group targeting Muslims. But his image as a war hero endured.

Gota won exclusively on the plank of national security. The catastrophic Easter Sunday bombings by radical Islamists linked to Islamic State (IS) were the result of infinite bungling by an incumbent Government already charged with lackadaisical performance. The clamour for return of the Rajapaksas, who had ushered in a decade of peace, began to pick up. Gota sensed his moment. He blamed the Government for dismantling the intelligence apparatus he had established across the country for surveillance and early warning. The bombings were a clear systemic failure.

As President, Commander-in-Chief of the armed forces, Defence Minister or whichever portfolio he assigns to himself, Gota's first task will be to ginger up the intelligence network and reinstate the intelligence grid and to eliminate the residual sleeper cells of the IS linked to radicalised Muslims in Sri Lanka. The reorganisation of higher defence management, which had become esoteric under his predecessor, is bound to be revamped. The post-Easter Sunday appointments of the chief of national intelligence, Inspector General of Police and Defence Secretary, who report directly to the President, will be reviewed.

Gen Shantha Kottegoda, whose term as Army Commander was prematurely terminated in mid-2000 to accommodate Gen Sarath Fonseka, is current Defence Secretary. The extended term of Chief of Defence Staff, Admiral Ravi Wijegunaratne, a war hero who had to go to jail, ends next month and he may get an extension. Army Chief, Lt Gen Shavendra Silva, another war hero



whose appointment in August attracted Western criticism on account of alleged human rights violations, will certainly get an extension beyond December.

As pledged, Gota will likely arrange the release from jail of military intelligence officials under trial. Similarly, he will end speculation over any domestic or international investigation about alleged war excesses and also close the United Nations Human Rights Council (UNHRC) resolution dated January 30, 2015, co-sponsored with the US — which has already quit the council — on post-war transitional justice and reconciliation. Most of the military is jubilant about Gota's return. So excited was the Army that it reportedly endorsed Gota's presidential candidature in a newspaper advertisement.

Simultaneous with alterations in defence and security architecture, Gota will use his executive and persuasive powers to change the Government and make Mahinda the Prime Minister. This can happen in two ways: First by Prime Minister Ranil Wickremesinghe and his Cabinet resigning in the aftermath of his party's electoral defeat. Ministers aligned with the presidential loser Sajith Premadasa have already resigned and have urged

Wickremesinghe to quit, who said he will consider. A snap election could follow.

Second, according to the 19th Amendment, the President can dismiss the Government four-and-a-half years into its term, which is sometime in February 2020 to pave the way for a new Parliament by August 2020.

Either way, Mahinda will now certainly be the next Prime Minister. And as he recently told a Tamil newspaper: "PM is the real power." The last and only time two brothers have been President and Prime Minister together was a decade ago in Poland with twins — the Kaczynskis. By abolishing the 19th Amendment with a two-thirds majority, the Rajapaksas and the Sri Lanka People's Party (SLPP) may rule, preferably by taking minorities along, till kingdom come.

Gota must also attend to the declining economy crippled by the IS-linked terrorist attacks. Soon after the war, the economy was zipping at eight per cent growth. The central bank bonds scam under the Wickremesinghe Government was the proverbial last straw that broke the people's confidence in the Government.

Multi-lateral financial agencies are uniformly predicting GDP slipping below the

International Monetary Fund's (IMF) growth forecast of 3.5 per cent for 2019.

The Governor of the Central Bank of Sri Lanka has warned of a Greece-like crisis unless deep structural reforms are implemented. Colombo's total indebtedness to Beijing is unknown but is estimated at 60 per cent of all foreign borrowings. Mahinda had given very generous concessions to China, resulting in both Hambantota and the Colombo Port City projects being leased to Chinese companies for 99 years. China and Sri Lanka decided last month to establish an international financial centre — to rival India's planned international financial centre in Gandhinagar — halfway between Dubai and Singapore. Notwithstanding its viability, the financial centre will give China another foothold in Sri Lanka.

Where does the landmark regime change in Sri Lanka leave India given that it was instrumental in dislodging Mahinda in 2015? This time around, India's non-interference is impeccable. With the Rajapaksa redux, it is easy to paint doomsday scenarios. The Rajapaksa's indebtedness to Beijing started during the war when New Delhi rejected several requests from Colombo for

military hardware to fight the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE). It was China and Pakistan, who bailed them out. Upon which India had mocked Lanka for approaching these countries when it was willing to supply only non-lethal stores in deference to domestic political compulsions in Tamil Nadu. The strategic cost of India's hedging lingers though that constraint is gone. Gota famously described New Delhi's non-interference in the war as "management" of India. China's ingress in Sri Lanka predated Rajapaksas. Hambantota was offered twice to India. The rest is history.

It will be unwise to go by the track record of a feisty wartime defence secretary, who as part of the famed *troika* with brother Basil and Secretary to President Lalith Weeratunga, dealt with an intransigent India. Now President Gotabaya Rajapaksa, who has said he will be "neutral but friendly" in foreign relations, must be judged by his deeds not words. Like Nepal, geography and history militate against Sri Lanka being hostile to India.

(The writer, a retired Major General, was Commander IPKF South, Sri Lanka and founder member of the Defence Planning Staff, currently the Integrated Defence Staff.)

SOUNDBITE

I am sure that IITs and NITs, with their specialisations will be able to find solutions to address the air pollution problem.



President — Ram Nath Kovind

I want to strike a balance between films and web. I haven't given much thought about working more on streaming platforms.



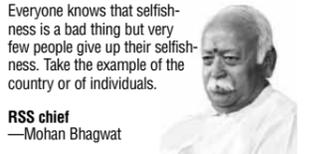
Actor — Emraan Hashmi

The US is gravely concerned about deepening unrest and violence in Hong Kong. The Government must take clear steps to address public concern.



US Secretary of State — Mike Pompeo

Everyone knows that selfishness is a bad thing but very few people give up their selfishness. Take the example of the country or of individuals.



RSS chief — Mohan Bhagwat

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

What a U-turn?

Sir — This refers to the editorial, "Dealing with a new Lanka" (November 19). In 2015, voters seemingly *en masse* voted to defeat a supposedly corrupt Rajapaksa regime, which was blamed for many negatives, including nepotism of the highest degree. This, with utter disregard to the fact that it was the very same leader, who along with the defence guidance of his own brother, had been responsible for the defeat of the most feared terrorist organisation.

Five years on, people apparently sought the very people to salvage the country from the abyss it is said to find itself in. Sri Lankans feel that Gotabaya Rajapaksa is their saviour and they pinned new hopes from the new President.

Jayatheertha SA
Hyderabad

Tread with care

Sir — This refers to the editorial, "Dealing with a new Lanka" (November 19). India's relations with neighbouring countries have

A whiff of Assam movement

The Asom Garmahi Mancha, a platform of civil society leaders and activists, has threatened the BJP that it will launch a massive stir if it goes ahead with the Citizenship (Amendment) Bill in Parliament. It has strictly warned the Centre of a great movement bigger than the 1980s' Assam students' agitation. The Bill proposes to grant citizenship to refugees from minority communities like Hindus, Sikhs, Buddhists, Jains, Parsis, and Christians. Muslims have been excluded from the scheme of things. This goes against the basic principles of "secularism" as enshrined in the Constitution, particularly Articles 14 and 15, which guarantee equality before the law and forbid discrimination on grounds of religion.

Indigenous people in the State are apprehensive and vociferous about granting citizenship to such a huge number of migrant refugees because this may alter the State's demography. It is also a fact that India has always welcomed and given asylum to all those who have been persecuted. But considering the number of refugees and migrants will be huge, it will send the already slowing economy into a tailspin. If the BJP is still adamant, the Union Government must rehabilitate the migrants in other States, too. The All Assam Students Union (AASU)-led



agitation was a mass movement against the influx of foreigners, especially from neighbouring Bangladesh. It started in 1979 and ended with signing of the 1985 Assam Accord. The Union Government must take stock of the situation and discern the consequences of their zeal to legislate the Citizenship Bill instead of acting hastily. It must refrain from introducing the Citizenship Amendment Bill as it is bound to heap untold miseries on the people.

TK Nandan
Chennai

always remained wanting. One can understand the thorny historical issues with those in the landlocked arc of the Northwest to the Northeast, the gateway of our invaders. There was no reason for the recurrent indifferent ties with Sri Lanka.

We were naive to be over involved in the Indian Peace Keeping Force (IPKF) operation. This peace-keeping exercise not only alienated our own Tamil sentiment but also earned the displeasure of the Sinhalese. Former Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi

paid the ultimate price. Things may look better today. But in the election of Gotabaya Rajapaksa as the Sri Lankan President, we have a proponent of majoritarianism, much like our own present dispensation and, thus, they could vibrate well.

That said, the dormant Tamilian schism, both at home and in Sri Lanka, may well find cause for resurgence. This is where we need to tread with care lest we repeat history.

R Narayanan
Navi Mumbai

Troubling times ahead

Sir — This refers to the editorial, "Dealing with a new Lanka" (November 19). The election of Gotabaya Rajapaksa as the Sri Lankan President will have serious repercussions back home. It is the political shift that is a cause of worry. If Mahinda Rajapaksa becomes the Prime Minister, the Tamil and Muslim populations over there will suffer the most.

But it will be better for the Rajapaksa brothers to focus on issues plaguing the country, most importantly the economy. India, too, needs to pay close attention to the developments in the island nation and protect the interests of the Tamil population there.

Shivansh
Via email

Send your feedback to:
letterstopioneer@gmail.com

FIRST COLUMN

Being systematic has its benefits

Putting in money regularly through SIPs rather than trying to time a lump sum investment can help one become a more disciplined investor



HIMA BINDU KOTA

A Systematic Investment Plan (SIP) is an investment option offered by mutual funds to people where they can put in small amounts periodically instead of lump sums. They can do this by directly debiting a fixed amount of money from their bank accounts and investing in a specific mutual fund and allocating several units according to the current Net Asset Value (NAV). The frequency of investment could be anywhere from weekly, to monthly or quarterly.

There is no fixed period of investment in a SIP and it could range from as small as six months to forever. However, the shorter the investment period in equity mutual fund SIPs, the higher the potential gain. However, this is not without a higher risk. Research shows that there is a 16 per cent chance of losing more than 20 per cent in an equity mutual fund over a six-month horizon, whereas, there is a 90 per cent chance of positive returns in an average equity fund SIP of three years or more, making long-term investments more desirable.

Although most investors associate SIPs with equity mutual funds, investments into debt SIPs can be as effective. One of the fundamental principles of investing is to make money work as soon as possible. An investment needs time to grow, so the longer the money is in the market, the more chance one has of achieving one's goals. An SIP is an option for small investors who want to take advantage of investing for a longer-term but cannot put in a large amount or a lump sum. Surprisingly, sometimes making regular and small investments in the form of SIP can work in the favour of small investors, because of a concept known as "Rupee Cost Averaging."

Rupee Cost Averaging is an approach in which a person invests a fixed amount of money at regular intervals. This, in turn, ensures that they buy more shares when the prices are low and less when they are high. Let's take an example. Suppose Ram has a lump sum of ₹10,000 that he wants to invest in a particular stock or fund, valued at ₹100. He has two options: First, he can invest the full ₹10,000 in one go, buying 100 shares, at ₹100 each. But by doing this Ram is fully exposed to the movements of the market and the value of his investment will rise and fall in line with any share price changes. His second option is to invest his money gradually and Ram may choose to invest ₹1,000 a month over 10 months. If the stock price stays the same, he will be able to buy 10 scrips each month at ₹100.

However, since share prices fluctuate frequently, regular investments by Ram will increase his buying power when the share price falls and he ends up buying more stocks and vice versa. When the stock price recovers to ₹100 in the last month, Ram's original investment would be worth ₹10,300. This means Ram would be ₹300 richer by investing regularly, compared to a lump sum investment in the first month by buying 100 shares.

However, there is a flip side to it as well. Ram could also lose money if the share price moves up and he ends up purchasing at a higher price for most of the months. However, we all know that stock markets rarely move in a straight line and price fluctuations are the norm rather than an exception.

By systematic investments over some time, one can invest across a range of prices and effectively end up paying the average price over a fixed period, which can help smooth out market volatility. Trying to buy an asset when it is considered cheap, which is known as market timing, is tricky even for the most experienced investors. Just because a share has already fallen steeply in value, doesn't mean it won't drop further. Because of many market forces at play, nobody can predict perfectly how and when the price would change.

The decision to invest should be based upon market conditions and putting in money regularly through SIPs rather than trying to time a lump sum investment, can help one become a more disciplined investor and earn better returns in the long run. SIPs help in hedging the risk of getting the market timing wrong. They are also a good option for people with a regular income who want to allocate a fixed amount for mutual funds every month. Further, the choice of mutual funds should be based on one's risk appetite and investment objective.

(The writer is Assistant Professor, Amity University)

POINT COUNTERPOINT

ARVIND KEJRIWAL MUST NOMINATE A REPRESENTATIVE TO TEST DELHI WATER SAMPLES AGAIN. WE CHOOSE PRAMOD TIWARI AND J ROYCHOWDHURY FROM BIS.
 — CONSUMER AFFAIRS MINISTER
 RAM VILAS PASWAN



WE CAN GET WATER TESTED BY ANY INDEPENDENT AGENCY. STRANGELY, THE CONSUMER AFFAIRS REPORT BELIES THAT OF JAL SHAKTI MINISTRY.
 — AAP MP
 SANJAY SINGH

A man-made crisis

Authorities were aware of the impending environmental hazard but instead of a well thought out long-term strategy to tackle air pollution, our approach appears to be a classic case of ad-hocism



KK PAUL

The London smog of November 1952 is considered to be the worst-ever such case of environmental hazard which led to the death of a few thousand people. Winston Churchill, who was the Prime Minister at that time, himself suffered a bronchial attack due to the toxic air. Even though the Clean Air Act came up only in 1956, stringent action had been initiated by the local authorities well before that, bringing in a dramatic improvement in the state of the environment in the city.

Back home, even though the National Green Tribunal (NGT), in the case of Ganga Lalwani vs Union of India (2015), had made burning of crop stubble a penal offence and additionally, formulated a National Policy for Management of Crop Residue, the result of the enforcement effort has been rather half-hearted and its dismal and disastrous results are being experienced by all of us in the form of a health emergency being declared in the Delhi-National Capital Region (NCR). According to medical experts, air pollution in Delhi-NCR is no longer just a health risk, it has become a hazard. Everyone in Delhi, particularly asthma patients, infants, children and the elderly are affected by this pollution. It doesn't matter whether a person is a smoker or not, the toxic air people are breathing in is equivalent to smoking 15 to 20 cigarettes a day.

Except for the States of Odisha, Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu, where some seriousness has been shown in combatting air pollution, the enforcement of the NGT's orders and follow-up on the policy in some of the other States, particularly in Punjab and to some extent in Haryana, has been very poor.

However, according to an affidavit filed by the Central Government in the Supreme Court (SC), stubble burning has gone up by seven per cent in Punjab and gone down by 17 per cent in Haryana. In order to address this problem, a new Central scheme, "Promotion of Agricultural Mechanisation for In-Situ Management of Crop Residue in the States of Punjab, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh and NCT of Delhi," was approved in 2018.

This provided for subsidising machinery required for in-situ management of the biomass, for which a sum of ₹1,151.80 crore has been allocated for the period of 2018-2023. Out of this provision, Punjab has got the largest share. The objective of the scheme was to procure agricultural machinery and equipment for in-situ management of crop residue, create farm machinery banks and conduct multi-media awareness campaigns.

Delhi, leading the NCR with a combination of adverse factors, has already broken the world record for Air Quality Index (AQI), making the headlines bold and telling. But perhaps waking up will take some time. There is no dearth of authorities who are, and were aware of the impending environmental hazard, but instead of a well thought out long-term strategy or some short-term relief our approach appears to be a classic case of ad-hocism. For instance, it is now known that the burning of stubble is respon-



sible for about 37 per cent of the pollution, which is more or less of a seasonal nature. For the remaining, it is understood that two-wheelers, whose number in Delhi alone is 88 lakh, happen to be the source of about 33 per cent of the pollutants, while four-wheelers, whose number is about 35 lakh are responsible for just about 15 per cent of it.

In these circumstances, forcing some four-wheelers to be off the roads is bound to have just a marginal impact.

On the other hand, as is well known, the two-stroke two-wheelers and three-wheelers emit a far more hazardous mixture of hydrocarbons and nitrogen oxides, some of which like benzene are known to be carcinogenic, but their numbers continue to increase.

In respect of automobile emissions, complete combustion within the engine is essential to reduce the extent of pollutants. The four-stroke engine is cleaner because it burns pure petrol; the two-stroke engine, on the other hand, burns a combination of lubricating oil and petrol and a fair amount of the oil is emitted as unburnt vapour.

Some 94 per cent of the two-and three-wheelers in India are powered by two-stroke engines that are simple and compact in design, cheap and easy to maintain. But the conventionally-designed two-stroke engines produce high levels of hydrocarbons in exhaust emissions — 5,500 parts per million (ppm), compared to 850 ppm from four-stroke engines. According to a research at the Indian Institute of Petroleum at Dehradun, four-stroke engine-powered motor cycles have been observed to emit just one-sixth to one-tenth of the hydrocarbons emitted by two-stroke engines. In addition, their fuel economy is better by 20 to 50 per cent. However, manufacturers prefer two-stroke engines because they are more powerful and

EXCEPT FOR THE STATES OF ODISHA, ANDHRA PRADESH AND TAMIL NADU, WHERE SOME SERIOUSNESS HAS BEEN SHOWN IN COMBATTING AIR POLLUTION, THE ENFORCEMENT OF THE NGT'S ORDERS AND FOLLOW-UP ON THE POLICY IN SOME OF THE OTHER STATES, PARTICULARLY IN PUNJAB AND TO SOME EXTENT IN HARYANA, HAS BEEN VERY POOR

have greater pick-up. In the long run, electricity-powered two-wheelers could be a suitable alternative. The latest figures available for usage of public transport in Delhi indicate that the Delhi Transport Corporation (DTC) and Delhi Metro carry just 12 and 10 per cent respectively of the entire commuter traffic.

This is an extremely low proportion and obviously leading to a much greater usage of highly polluting two-wheelers. Obviously, we have to create conditions for encouraging greater ridership on public transport. At the same time we must ensure a larger number of Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) fuel stations so as to reduce the waiting time, since mostly these cater to public transport vehicles or taxis.

Last year a group of industries had conducted a pilot project in two districts of Punjab covering an area of 16,000 acres of farm land, where 25,000 tonnes of rice straw were processed and converted into fibre-based cellulosic products. The details of the project need to be analysed to enlarge its scope.

The apex court has pulled up the Government of India as well as the Delhi Government for "passing the buck" even as Delhi and nearby areas face a public health emergency due to the severe air pollution.

Further, the Centre has been asked to call environmental experts including those from the Indian Institutes of Technology so that their views on the current situation could be taken into account for suitable directives. It can thus be easily observed that a rational public policy based on scientific inputs needs to be operationalised while ensuring its stringent implementation and monitoring.

(The author is a former Governor and a Senior Advisor at the Pranab Mukherjee Foundation)

What lies ahead for Sri Lankan Tamils?

The new President, known as 'terminator' for his role in wiping out the LTTE a decade ago, has faced lawsuits in Lanka and in the US over allegations of staged killings of Tamil separatists, critics and journalists during the civil war



KALYANI SHANKAR

Sri Lankan People's Front candidate Gotabaya Rajapaksa, younger brother of former President Mahinda Rajapaksa, has now taken over as the country's President. A retired Lieutenant-Colonel, who presided over the country's Defence Ministry for a decade during his brother's tenure (2005-2014), Gotabaya swept the polls in the Sinhala-majority districts, while his main opponent Ranasinghe Premadasa, garnered most of the votes from the Tamil-dominated north and east of the country.

Minister, sooner than later.

The new Sri Lankan President, known as "terminator" for his role in wiping out the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) a decade ago, has faced lawsuits in Sri Lanka and in the United States (US) over allegations of staged killings of Tamil separatists, critics and journalists during the civil war.

In a fascinating interview with this journalist in 2014, Gotabaya revealed many things, including how he the then government finished off the LTTE. Giving a graphic description of what happened in the last days of the LTTE War IV, (the name given to the fourth phase of the armed conflict between the Sri Lankan military and the separatists), he pointed out that the biggest advantage was that his brother had full trust in him and the then Army chief Sarath Fonseka. Mahinda had the political will to neutralise the LTTE.

Second, the leadership agreed with the defence assessment that a large-scale expansion was needed within a very short period. "We briefed the President. It was not an easy thing to achieve. You need to recruit people, train them and also

equip them. But, we did it," he said. Giving more details, Gotabaya said that the President also created a core group to cut down red tape.

"From our side it was Basil Rajapaksa, Lalith Chandrakumar Weeraratna, who was the President's Permanent Secretary and me. From the Indian side it was their National Security Advisor MK Narayanan, Foreign Secretary Shivshankar Menon and Defence Secretary VJ Singh, who were in the loop. We coordinated everything. We went to India and they came to Sri Lanka. And we discussed everything, even the operational plan and intelligence inputs."

Gotabaya also exposed the double face of the then Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M Karunanidhi, who put tremendous pressure on the Manmohan Singh Government to stop the war on the LTTE, while the ruling DMK adopted a strategy of run-

ning with the hare and hunting with the hound.

Shivshankar Menon in his book, titled *Choices: Inside the making of India's Foreign Policy*, confirms that New Delhi was in "intense" and "constant" touch with Colombo.

"I vividly remember the atmosphere of the crisis that built up during that period and repeated visits from and to Colombo in the first five months of 2009," Menon notes in his book, adding that by mid-January 2009, the Sri Lankan Army and leadership were convinced that they had the measure of the LTTE and the victory would be theirs. As a strategy, the Sri Lankan Army strongly occupied the north and the south so that the Tigers were kept away and were stopped from procuring military supplies.

As for the last phase of the Eelam War IV, Gotabaya noted, that even at the last minute

Thiruvankadam Velupillai Prabhakaran, the founder and leader of the LTTE, broke from the line and went into the small island with his bodyguards.

"Kandasamy Pathmanabha, a Sri Lankan Tamil rebel, founder of the Eelam People's Revolutionary Liberation Front and the LTTE's financier, spoke to Prabhakaran in January 2009 over the phone asking him to escape. We intercepted the conversation. Prabhakaran refused to hide at that time. Two weeks before the war ended KP spoke to him again and asked him to escape. The LTTE Tiger again refused," he said.

Gotabaya pointed out that, "Do you think that such a person will come out holding his hands up and surrender?"

The then Army chief Sarath Fonseka, in an interview to this journalist also observed that the strategy was to take on the LTTE in the jungles. "By May 17, 2009 the troops cornered the LTTE within an area of 400X400 metres. That night when they tried to escape they were prevented from doing so, by all three lines of defence put up by the Army.

"On the night of May 18, the top LTTE leadership divided itself into three groups. They attacked the Army's forward defence line along the Nandikadal lagoon and did manage to break through. Jeyam, Pottu Amman and Soosai led these three groups. Prabhakaran and his closest guards thought they would manage to escape but in reality all these LTTE fighters (around 250) had got trapped between the Army's first and second line of defence. "After fierce fighting that night, almost the entire leadership of the LTTE was eliminated in that area. "We discovered Prabhakaran's body on the morning of May 19. I got the news of his death around 11 AM. I got a phone call from the Commander who gave me the information. Looking back, I was confident. I said I would finish the LTTE in three years and I did it in two years and nine months," Fonseka said.

Those were different times but today it is a time for peace and as President how will Gotabaya deal with the Tamil minorities in Lanka now? The fact that the Tamils did not vote for him reveals their apprehensions. (The writer is a senior journalist)



FOREIGN EYE



THE WORLD IS WATCHING CHINA

Since 1989, when it crushed the pro-reform protests that began in Tiananmen Square and witnessed the beginning of the end for the Soviet Union, Beijing has calculated that bloody suppression should be avoided if possible — but not by offering concessions. It will angrily dismiss any criticism, as it has that from Britain. Ignored or not, foreign leaders have a duty to remind China that they are watching the action in Hong Kong. (The Guardian editorial)

Will raise tariffs in next few weeks: Jio

New Delhi: Billionaire Mukesh Ambani's Reliance Jio on Tuesday said it will increase mobile phone call and data charges in the next few weeks in compliance with rules, as it followed similar announcements by Bharti Airtel and Vodafone Idea on tariff hike.

Jio, which had stormed the telecom sector with free voice calls and dirt cheap data, had for the first time last month decided to charge phone calls by its users to rival phone networks to compensate for interconnect usage charges.

In a statement on Tuesday, Jio said that the telecom regulator TRAI is likely to initiate consultation process for revision in telecom tariffs.

The company underlined its commitment to bringing the 40 crore 2G customers to experience and participate fully in the Digital India eco-system, and pledged its full support to providing the best quality and experience to all its customers.

"Like other operators, we will also work with the Government and comply with



the regulatory regime to strengthen the industry to benefit Indian consumers and take measures including appropriate increase in tariffs in next few weeks in a manner that does not adversely impact data consumption or growth in digital adoption, and sustains investments," Jio said.

The company did not divulge the extent of price hike in the offering.

"Despite the staggering growth in data-consumption and 4G coverage across the country, there are still over 40 crore Indian consumers who have not benefitted from the advent of the latest technologies. We believe that the ambitious objectives of the 'Digital India' mission can be achieved only if India is made '2G-mukt' in the shortest time-

frame possible," Jio said.

The Government and the sector regulator TRAI should mandate this through policy, it added.

"This requires continued investment at an industry level. The whole industry needs to come up the curve and raise standards to meet the aspirations of Indian citizens and fulfill the nation's digital agenda," the statement added.

The operator - known for its aggressive stance on pricing since it launched services in 2016 - said it is committed to bringing the 40 crore 2G customers to experience and participate fully in the Digital India eco-system.

The company said it will continuously innovate in the digital eco-system to provide affordable services and products to Indian consumers.

"Jio is committed to always being regulatory compliant, and work with the industry to keep the telecom sector a vibrant part of the Indian economy and a vital engine for our country's growth," it said. **PTI**

Trai to wait for telcos to report revised pricing

PTI ■ MUMBAI

The telecom regulator will wait for operators to report their new tariffs to the authority before taking a view on whether the revised pricing is within the regulatory framework, according to a Trai source. Confronted with intense competition and unprecedented statutory dues, Bharti Airtel and Vodafone Idea on Monday announced a hike in mobile phone call and data charges from December saying the increase was warranted for viability of their business. The two, however, did not quantify the increase in rates but said that the hike will be effective beginning next month.

A senior Trai official told PTI that the regulator will wait and watch to see the finer details of the announcement. "Let them report the tariffs, and we will see. Also, the tariffs are under for provisioning by telecom companies. Another official said that as

things stand now there is no move to initiate any consultation on floor price. On Monday evening, Vodafone Idea, in a statement, announced plans to raise tariffs for the first time in 3 years only to be followed by a similarly-worded statement minutes later from Airtel. Vodafone Idea and Bharti Airtel, the two large telecom operators, last week had reported a combined loss of ₹74,000 crore for the second quarter ended September 2019, mainly on account of statutory dues arising from the recent Supreme Court order on adjusted gross revenue (AGR).

The apex court has upheld the government's position on including revenue from non-telecommunication businesses in calculating the annual AGR of telecom companies, a share of which has to be paid as licence and spectrum fee to the exchequer. The ruling over statutory liabilities had prompted a rush for provisioning by telecom companies.

No intention to revise fiscal deficit target: Govt

New Delhi: The Government on Tuesday categorically stated that it does not intend to revise its fiscal deficit target of 3.3 per cent of gross domestic product (GDP) for the current financial year notwithstanding slowdown in economic activities.

"No sir," Minister of State for Finance Anurag Thakur said in a written reply in the Rajya Sabha to a query if the Government intends to revise fiscal deficit in view of the economic slowdown.

The Minister further said

expenditure of various Ministries and departments of the Government is as per the estimates approved by Parliament.

In the first half of the financial year, 53.4 per cent of Budget Estimates was spent by various ministries and departments.

Thakur also listed out the steps taken by the Government to boost economic activities.

The real GDP growth slowed to an over six-year low of 5 per cent in the first quarter of the current financial year.

Replying to another question, Singh said non-performing assets of banks, after reaching a peak of ₹10,36,187 crore as on March 31, 2018, have declined ₹97,996 crore to ₹9,38,191 crore as on June 30, 2019.

Banks have also "effected record recovery" of ₹4,27,115 crore over the last four financial years and the first quarter of the current financial year, including recovery of ₹1,56,702 crore during the financial year 2018-19. **PTI**

₹ recovers 13 paise to end at 71.71 against \$

Mumbai: The rupee recovered from initial losses to settle higher by 13 paise at 71.71 against the US currency on Tuesday, propped up softening crude oil prices and gains in domestic equity markets.

Forex traders said the rupee consolidated in a narrow range following lack of cues on the domestic as well as the global front. During the day, the domestic unit fluctuated between a high of 71.68 and a low of 72.

"The Indian rupee opened lower at 71.97 a dollar, tacking cues from most Asian currencies as a lack of progress in US-China trade talks had an impact on risk appetite. However, the rupee recovered from day's low amid stronger domestic equity and lower crude oil prices," said VK Sharma, Head - PGC & Capital Market Strategy, HDFC securities. **PTI**

Was cheated by scam-hit PMC: RBI to Bombay HC

TN RAGHUNATHA ■ MUMBAI

In a candid admission that the Punjab & Maharashtra Cooperative (PMC) Bank had taken it for a ride, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) on Tuesday informed the Bombay High Court that the PMC Bank had submitted "fraudulently manipulated data" to it for sample checks.

In a detailed affidavit filed before a HC bench of Justices Satyanjan Dharmadhikari and Riyaz Chagla, the RBI stated: "Since transaction testing is not done in the RBI inspection, and the bank submitted fraudulently manipulated data to RBI for sample checks, the sample of accounts picked for inspection did not contain undisclosed HDIL related accounts. The disclosed HDIL related accounts were seen and majority of them were assessed as NPAs"

In an affidavit filed before the high court, Rajlaxmi Sethi, Assistant General Manager,

Department of Co-operative Bank Supervision, RBI, stated: "Further, non-monitoring of end use of funds despite instructions to this effect contained in the Master Circulars on Advances and conflict of interest of Shri Waryam Singh as Chairman of PMC bank and as a former director of HDIL group was also commented upon in the report along with the attempt by the bank to show disclosed accounts of HDIL group as standard by sanction of new loans to close/regularise the old NPA accounts in non-adherence to RBI Master Circular (MC) dated July 1, 2015 on IRAC norms."

"The bank had also sanctioned mortgage overdraft limits to a wholly owned group company of HDIL while the present Chairman (then director) of the bank was one of the Directors in the company. This was a violation of para 5.1 of the then RBI Master Circulars on Board of Directors dated July 1,

2010 and July 2, 2012," the RBI stated, in its inspection report that has been made part of its affidavit filed before the high court.

"Waryam Singh chaired the Board meeting to ratify the approval of the mortgage overdraft, in which he was directly interested in non adherence to para 2.3 (b) (iii) of RBI Master Circular on Board of Directors - UCBs, requiring non-participation by the Directors concerned Board discussion, if a proposal in which they are directly or indirectly interested, comes up for discussion/to disclose their interest, well in advance, to the Board of the bank," the affidavit stated.

"The Inspection team had also established the relationship between the Chairman of the bank and HDIL promoters, which might have acted as the primary consideration for sanction of credit facilities and resulted in their utilisation to payoff one-time settlement dues with

other lenders," the affidavit stated.

The high court is hearing a PIL seeking the removal of restrictions on the withdrawal amount from PMC Bank came up for hearing. The HC bench heard the matter and scheduled the next hearing of the case for December 4.

The RBI's affidavit before the high court should be seen in the context of a finding during the ongoing investigations that the PMC Bank's exposure to the HDIL group was nearly 73 per cent of its total loan book size of Rs 8,880 crore as of September 19, 2019.

The Economic Offence Wing (EOW) of the Mumbai police, which is investigating the case, suspects a nexus between some of the accused and realty group HDIL, whose mammoth loan defaults are said to have caused a liquidity crisis at the bank, leading to appointment of administrator and restrictions on withdrawal of funds.

Yes Bank posts lower net profit for FY19 due to NPA divergence

New Delhi: Yes Bank on Tuesday reported a lower net profit of ₹1,084.03 crore for 2018-19 compared to ₹1,720.28 crore announced earlier due to higher non-performing assets assessed by the Reserve Bank.

The divergence in net non-performing assets (NPAs) of the bank — the difference in bad loans reported by the bank and the assessment done by the RBI — stood at ₹2,299 crore for 2018-19, Yes Bank said in a regulatory filing.

The private sector lender had reported a net profit of ₹1,720.28 crore in 2018-19.

"The adjusted (notional) net profit after tax for the year ended March 31, 2019 after taking into account the divergence in provisioning was at ₹1,084.03 crore," it said.

The divergence in provisioning was at ₹978 crore.

Additionally, the bank said that it intends to convene a meeting of its board of directors by the end of this month to finalise its capital raise.

Market regulator Sebi has put in place tighter disclosure norms, directing all listed banks to disclose any divergence in bad loan provisioning within 24 hours of receiving RBI's risk assessment report, rather than waiting to publish the details in their annual financial statements. **PTI**

Tata Steel confirms job cuts of up to 3,000 across European operations

London: Tata Steel has confirmed cuts of up to 3,000 jobs across its European operations as part of a wider restructuring and cost-cutting strategy to counter stagnant steel demand in Europe and global overcapacity.

The Indian steel giant said it plans to lower employment costs with the "estimated reduction" in employee numbers, about two-thirds of which are expected to be office-based white-collar roles — a majority expected at its Netherlands unit.

"The information shared with the European Works Council select committee lays out the case for change, explains our transformation programme and gives a first overview of the organisational impact," a company statement said.

"A transformation is needed to mitigate the current struc-

tural and cyclical headwinds and create the foundation for the company's future success. Stagnant EU steel demand and global overcapacity have been compounded by trade conflicts which have turned the European market into a dumping ground for the world's excess steel capacity," it noted.

Through its proposed transformation programme, Tata Steel Europe said it is initially targeting a positive cash flow by the end of its financial year ending March 2021. It is also aiming for an EBITDA margin of around 10 per cent throughout the market cycle. "We intend to align on our approach and the process going forward and engage with various stakeholders to develop the proposed decisions and ensure compliance with all European and national obligations. **PTI**

BUSINESS CORNER

INSOLVENCY CASES: CREDAI GZB RAISES CONCERN

Ghaziabad: CREDAI Ghaziabad on Tuesday raised its concern over the increasing number of insolvency cases against the developers as till date more than 1,000 cases have been filed under insolvency since June 2018 against real estate companies. The agency was of the view that the insolvency law is being implemented in a wrong way and steps should be taken to stop misuse of the law, which is being used to arm twist developers and causing delays in the delivery of projects. Highlighting the matter, the industry association has written to the Prime Minister's office demanding that the consent of 2/3rd of allottees of a real estate project should be required to trigger IBC proceedings against a promoter. In July 2019, the Government had shown intent that it would amend the 2016 insolvency law, a signature reform of PM Narendra Modi's first term. The legislation was getting mired in frustrating legal delays and bizarre judgments, threatening to scare off global investors.



BHARTI AXA LAUNCHES 'LET THEM SHINE' DRIVE

Mumbai/New Delhi: Bharti AXA Life Insurance, a joint venture between Bharti Enterprises, one of India's leading business groups, and AXA, one of the world's largest insurance companies, launched a video campaign 'Let Them Shine' to celebrate the dreams of the country's shining stars on this Children's Day.



DAKSH VARMA TO ENTHRAL VISITORS WITH MUSICAL BAND

The frenetic 14 days of India International Trade Fair (Nov 14-27, 2019) at Pragati Maidan attracts visitors due to its business dimension as well as vibrant cultural hue. This year, the fair marks the State Day Celebration with mesmerising performances of some artists and magician. In these music programmes, vocalist Mr. Daksh Verma of the "Swar Engine" Musical Band will perform his songs along with Mr. Tarun, Tusshar, Bhanu on Guitars and Jassi on drums. Visitors can enjoy the programme on 22nd November 2019 from 2.30 pm to 4.00 pm at Hamsadhvani Theatre, near Hall 7 Pragati Maidan.

SEARCH FOR MISSING/KIDNAPPED



General Public is hereby informed that a person namely Lal Bahadur Chadara S/o Pari Chadara R/o H.No.3286, Mahindra Park, Shakur Basti, Rani Bagh, Delhi. Age-26 years, Height-5'6" Face-Round, Complexion-Sallow, Wearing- Black Colour Shirt-Black Colour Pant and Blue Colour Cap & Black Colour Chappal in his feet has been missing/kidnapped from the area of P.S Rani Bagh, Delhi since dated 02.09.2019. In this regard a vide DD No. 26-A Dated 03.09.2019 has been lodged at P.S. Rani Bagh, Delhi

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

E-mail : cic@cbi.gov.in
Ph.: 011-24368638, 24368641
Fax : 011-24368639

SHO
P.S. Rani Bagh, Delhi
Ph.: 011-27015329
870870225

DP/2860/OD/19

APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION



General public is hereby informed that an unidentified dead body of female, Age: 45 years, Complexion: Wheatish, Height: 5'2", Face: Oval, was wearing Black colour T-Shirt & Black Colour Legging, was found unconscious in front of Gate No. 4, emergency building of S.J. Hospital. She was declared brought dead by the doctors. In this regard a DD No. 24A, dated 28.10.2019 has been lodged at P.S. Safdarjung Enclave, Delhi.

Any person having any information or clue about the deceased may kindly inform to the undersigned on the following address or telephone nos.

SHO
P.S. Safdarjung Enclave, Delhi
Ph.: 011-24106345, 24106346

DP/1752/SW/19

APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION



General public is hereby informed that an unidentified male Age : About 40 years, Height: 5'6", Complexion: Sallow, Face: Round, Build: Normal, wearing white linedar shirt, grey colour pant and brown colour sandle in feet, was found unconscious on 17.11.2019 opp. J-14/44, Street No. 44, Beadonpura, Karol Bagh, Delhi. He was admitted in RML Hospital, where doctor declare him brought dead. In this regard a DD No. 22-A dated 17.11.2019 has been lodged at P.S. Karol Bagh, Delhi. The dead body has been preserved for identification for 72 hours in the mortuary of RML Hospital, Delhi.

Any person having any information or clue about the deceased may kindly inform to the undersigned on the following address or telephone nos.

SHO : P.S. Karol Bagh, Delhi
Ph.: 011-28726870, 28721115

DP/6745/CD/19

UTTAR HARYANA BIJLI VITRAN NIGAM

SR. NO.	NAME OF DEPARTMENT/ BOARD/ CORP./ AUTH	NAME OF WORK/ NOTICE/ TENDER	OPENING DATE/ CLOSING DATE (TIME)	AMOUNT/ BID/ (APPROX) (in Rs.)	WEBSITE OF THE DEPARTMENT	NODAL OFFICER/ CONTACT DETAILS/ EMAIL	TENDER REF. NO / TENDER NO
1	Uttar Haryana Bijli Vitran Nigam Limited	Empanelment of firms for design, manufacture, supply & installation of Super efficient Split Inverter Air Conditioners of 1.5 tonne capacity with ISEER 5.4 or above as per Nigam's specifications with 1 year of complete equipment and 5 years of compressor warranty to be used for New installations/ replacement of 3 star or below rated ACs installed in State of Haryana.	Start Time: 15-11-2019 at 17:00 Hrs Last Date: 09-12-2019 Upto 13:00 Hrs.	280.0 Cr / BMD-2:00 Lacs	uhvvn.org.in enders.hry.nic.in	oem@uhvvn.org.in 9357189013	EOI No. 08/40429/ P-I/11/M dated 14-11-2019

RO NO. 79227 Dt. 18-11-2019

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given to the public that Mrs. Shashi Srivastava is the owner of Duplex Flat No. 9014, on First & Second Floor, Pocket-9, Sector-C, Vasant Kunj, New Delhi. The said property on the basis of Co-ownership deed dated 31.03.2010 registration no. 4490, has been misappropriated. Original Allotment Letter, Agreement Letter, Agreement deed dated 02.01.1995 all, last page of conveyance deed containing registration particulars, with respect of the said property. All persons are hereby informed not to deal or carry out any transaction with anyone on the basis of the missing document. If anyone has already carried out or being carried out kindly inform the undersigned in writing on the below mentioned address within 7 days of the present.

For Kumar & Associates (Advocate & Consultants)
200, Second Floor, 23, Shivaji Marg, Moti Nagar, New Delhi-15 Ph : 011-41112527-28 kumarassociates.advocate@gmail.com

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER PHE MECH. DIVISION NORTH JAMMU

NOTICE INVITING TENDER
e-NIT No. 78 of 2019-20

For and on behalf of President of India, Executive Engineer, PHE Mech. Division North Jammu, invites tenders by e-tendering mode from the reputed/registered firms for the below mentioned work:-

S. No. 1, Name of Work :- Replacement of major components of 167 HP VT pumpset of 1.80 Lakh GPH x 34.5 M head at unit-I & III of Intake-I Silttee under Languishing project LUP2347.

Name of Division :- PHE Mech. Division North Jammu
Cost of document / tender fee (in Rs.) :- 500/-
Earnest money :- 02% of quoted rates
Validity of Rates :- 180 days
Bid validity :- 180 days
Position of funds :- Demanded
Date of Publishing :- 15-11-2019 02.00 pm.
1. Bid documents can be seen at and downloaded from the website <http://ktenders.gov.in> from 15-11-2019 (02.00 pm) to 29-11-2019 (02.00 pm).
2. The Bids shall be deposited in electronic format on the website <http://ktenders.gov.in> from 15-11-2019 (02.00 pm) to 29-11-2019 (02.00 pm).
No. DIP/J-9280/19
Dated: 18.11.2019

Sd/- Executive Engineer
PHE Mech. Division North Jammu

SEARCH FOR MISSING/KIDNAPPED



General Public is hereby informed that one Lady namely Rani W/o Vinod Kumar R/o Indra Aawas, Village Nahari, Sonipat, Haryana, has been missing/kidnapped since 22.10.2019 from the area of P.S. Narela, Delhi. In this regard a case vide DD No. 49-A dated 25.10.2019 has been registered at P.S. Narela, Delhi. The description of missing/kidnapped Lady is as under :-

Name : Rani, Husband's Name : Vinod Kumar, Age : 35 yrs., Height : 5'2", Face : Round, Complexion : Wheatish, Wearing : Blue Colour Suit & Red Colour Laggi and Black Colour Shoes in feet. If anyone having any clue/information, kindly inform the undersigned.

SHO
P.S., Narela, Delhi
Ph.: 011-27282350
27285839

DP/765/ON/19

PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF ACCUSED PERSON

(See Section 82 Cr.Pc.)
Whereas complaint has been made before me that Sunil Kumar, S/o Lt. Ganesh Kumar R/o Pandit Enclave, Gali No.03, Mukundpur, Delhi has committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence in case FIR No. 213/12 u/s 380/411/34 IPC, P.S. Bhalswa Dairy, Delhi and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest thereupon issued that the said accused Sunil Kumar cannot be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said accused Sunil Kumar has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant).

Proclamation is hereby made that the said accused Sunil Kumar of FIR No. 213/12 u/s 380/411/34 IPC, P.S. Bhalswa Dairy, Delhi is required to appear before this Court to answer the said complaint on or before 23.12.2019.

By Order,
Ms. Richa Sharma
Metropolitan Magistrate (North)
Room No.306, Rohini Courts, Delhi

DP/780/ON/19 - (Court Matter)

PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF ACCUSED PERSON

(SECTION 82 Cr.Pc.)
Whereas complaint has been made before me that the accused person Riham, S/o Abdula Rahman R/o H.No. 49, J-Block, Near Seemapuri, Delhi has committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence in case FIR No. 495/15 u/s 354-D/506 IPC, P.S. Welcome, Delhi and it has been returned to warrant of arrest there upon issued that the said accused person Riham, cannot be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said accused Riham, has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of said warrant).

Proclamation is hereby made that the said Riham, Under FIR No. 495/15 u/s 354-D/506 IPC, P.S. Welcome, Delhi, is required to appear before the court on or before 24.12.2019.

By order
Ms. Deepti Dvshesh
Ld MM-01, Room No. 55
Karkardooma Courts,
Shahdara, Delhi

DP/7449/NE/19

APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION



General public is hereby informed that an unidentified dead body of male namely Raju, S/o Unknown, R/o Unknown, Age: 40 years, Complexion: Wheatish, Height: Approx 5', Built: Thin, Face: Long, was wearing Blue colour T-Shirt & Grey colour Pant, was found at Gali No. 6, Sat Nagar, Ravi Dass Marg, Karol Bagh, Delhi. In this regard a DD No. 12A, dated 31.10.2019, has been lodged at P.S. Prasad Nagar, Delhi.

His dead body has been preserved in MAMC mortuary for 72 Hours. Any person having any information or clue about the deceased may kindly inform to the undersigned on the following address or telephone nos.

SHO
P.S. Prasad Nagar, Delhi
Ph.: 011-25751048, 25725652

DP/6741/CD/19

TO BRING DOWN STAKE BELOW 51% IN CPSEs Union Cabinet likely to consider proposal soon

New Delhi: The Union Cabinet will soon consider a proposal to bring down Government stake in central public sector enterprises (CPSEs) to below 51 per cent even while retaining the State control, sources said.

Besides, the Cabinet headed by Prime Minister Narendra Modi is likely to take a call on the merger of public sector general insurance companies.

The Budget for 2018-19 had proposed the merger of three public sector general insurance companies and subsequent listing of the merged entity on stock exchanges.

Last week, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman said the Government would move forward on the merger of the three State-owned general insurance companies — National Insurance Company, United India Insurance and Oriental Insurance Company — as announced in the previous Budget.

In her Budget Speech of 2019-20, Sitharaman had announced the Government has been following the policy of disinvestment in non-financial public sector undertakings



maintaining the Government's stake not to go below 51 per cent.

"The Government is considering, in case where the undertaking is still to be retained in Government control, to go below 51 per cent to an appropriate level on a case-to-case basis. The Government has also decided to modify present policy of retaining 51 per cent Government stake to retaining 51 per cent stake inclusive of the stake of the Government controlled institutions," she had said.

Such a move is possible by amendment to Section 241 of the Companies Act.

Sources said the Government envisages that the Government can bring down

its stake in a public sector undertaking by roping in other State-owned entities to retain the public sector nature.

For example, the sources said, if LIC picks up stake which lowers the Government holding below threshold level of 51 per cent, the companies still are majority controlled by the Government.

The Government fixed an ambitious disinvestment target of ₹1.05 lakh crore for the current financial year, up from ₹90,000 crore projected in Interim Budget 2019-20 in February.

In 2018-19, the Government raised ₹84,972 crore from CPSE disinvestment, while in 2017-18, the figure was ₹1,00,056 crore.

Sensex rises 186 pts; RIL rallies 4 pc to all-time high

PTI ■ MUMBAI

Market benchmark Sensex rose by 186 points on Tuesday, driven by substantial gains in Reliance Industries, Bharti Airtel and HDFC Bank amid positive trends in global equities. The 30-share index ended 185.51 points, or 0.46 per cent, higher at 40,469.70 with 11 of its constituents closing with gains. The broader Nifty of the National Stock Exchange rose by 55.60 points, or 0.47 per cent, to end at 11,940.10. Reliance Industries led the gains, rallying nearly 4 per cent to its life-time high of ₹1,514.95 (intra-day) on BSE. It became the first Indian company to hit the Rs 9.5 lakh-crore market capitalisation level. Telecom stocks surged after two older players announced a hike in data and mobile telephony plans from next month.

Bharti Airtel jumped to a fresh 52-week high before settling up 7.36 per cent on BSE. Vodafone Idea rallied 34.68 per cent. The two players have announced a hike in mobile phone call and data charges from next month. "The increase in tariffs will help the telecom industry players service huge debt on their balance sheets. This would have a positive

impact on the banking sector which fuelled a sharp rally in PSU banks," Sunil Sharma, Chief Investment Officer, Sanctum Wealth Management.

Among banking stocks, Axis Bank rose by 3.43 per cent, SBI by 1.57 per cent, IndusInd Bank by 1.26 per cent and HDFC Bank by 1 per cent. Among other gainers, PowerGrid jumped 2.44 per cent, Tech Mahindra by 1.84 per cent and Infosys by 1 per cent. On the other hand, Yes Bank dropped 2.66 per cent to emerge as the biggest Sensex loser, M&M fell by 2.19 per cent, and Tata Steel by 2.02 per cent. TCS, Tata Motors and Hero MotoCorp also declined.

"Domestic indices ended higher on the back of buying seen in the PSU bank, infra and energy stocks. Telecom stocks also edged higher after talks of raising tariffs from December onwards while energy stocks were lifted by a sharp fall in crude oil prices," Saras Bothra, President of Equity Research, Ashika Stock Broking, said. Sectorally, BSE telecom rallied 8.52 per cent, followed by BSE energy, power, teck, oil and gas, utilities and bankex. However, BSE metal, auto, FMCG and IT indices fell up to 0.94 per cent.

Bulgaria seeks investments from Indian businesses

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Bulgaria's Deputy Prime Minister for Economic and Demographic Policy Mariyana Nikolova on Tuesday invited businesses from India to invest in the nation, pitching it as a gateway to the European Union, thereby offering duty free access to a market with 500 million consumers.

Addressing the India-Bulgaria Business Forum here, Nikolova said the nation offers attractive conditions and environment conducive to the development of successful business and investment projects. "One of the things we are particularly proud is our tax policy, we have some of the lowest tax rates in the European Union. Besides having a corporate tax of only 10 per cent, we do not tax profit reinvested in municipalities with high unemployment rates," the Bulgarian Deputy Prime Minister said.

She said the country's labour market has a skilled workforce and operating costs are reasonable. "Our strategic geographic location and our membership in the European Union provide unhindered and duty free access to a market with 500 million consumers," she added.

RCom's committee of creditors to meet on Nov 20

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Reliance Communications' (RCom) Committee of Creditors (CoC) will hold a meeting on November 20, the company said in a regulatory filing on Tuesday. Last week, Reliance Communications Chairman Anil Ambani along with four directors had resigned from the company, that is going through insolvency process.

The company posted a consolidated loss of Rs 30,142 crore for September 2019 quarter due to provisioning for liabilities after the Supreme Court ruling on statutory dues. This had marked the second highest loss posted by any Indian corporate till date, after VIL's Rs 50,921 crore losses. "... we wish to inform you that the 11th meeting of Committee of Creditors of Reliance Communications Limited is scheduled to be convened on Wednesday, November 20, 2019," RCom said in a BSE filing. During July-September 2019, RCom set aside Rs 28,314 crore on account of provisioning following the Supreme Court order on calculation of annual adjusted gross revenue (AGR) of tele-

com companies. The apex court, last month, upheld the government's position on including revenue from non-telecommunication businesses in calculating the annual AGR, a share of which has to be paid as licence and spectrum fee to the exchequer.

RCom's total liability includes Rs 23,327 crore licence fee and Rs 4,987 crore spectrum usage charges. The company is going through insolvency proceedings following an application filed by Swedish telecom gear maker Ericsson. The National Company Law Tribunal has handed over control of the company to an insolvency resolution professional. Sources estimate that RCom Group's total secured debt is around Rs 33,000 crore. Lenders have submitted claim of around Rs 49,000 crore in August. RCom has put its all assets for sale which include spectrum holding of 122 MHz that the company before insolvency proceedings estimated to be around Rs 14,000 crore, towers business for Rs 7,000 crore, optical fibre network Rs 3,000 crore and data centres worth Rs 4,000 crore.

SCRIP	OPEN	High	LOW	LTP	CHANGE
NIFTY 50	11919.45	11958.85	11881.75	11940.10	55.60
INFRATEL	227.95	259.85	227.70	251.65	24.85
BHARTIARTL	426.90	445.65	421.45	444.65	35.45
AXISBANK	725.00	750.20	725.00	749.80	26.85
RELIANCE	1467.00	1514.90	1465.00	1511.55	52.35
POWERGRID	191.00	196.00	190.20	195.95	5.30
CIPLA	461.20	477.50	459.55	473.30	12.50
GRASIM	775.00	793.50	772.00	789.30	19.70
SBIN	325.80	331.80	322.10	331.40	6.30
TECHM	754.00	765.30	752.00	763.25	11.45
INDUSINDBK	1382.00	1409.00	1374.55	1395.00	20.60
EICHERMOT	2160.00	2179.95	2142.20	2178.05	30.65
INFY	709.90	714.00	705.00	712.80	7.60
HDFCBANK	1265.30	1275.00	1261.10	1274.75	12.70
IOC	132.40	133.60	131.75	133.50	0.95
BAJAJFINSV	9070.00	9189.00	9066.30	9163.00	58.75
DRREDDY	2741.00	2760.45	2724.50	2751.00	14.00
TIITAN	1158.80	1167.80	1153.10	1164.00	5.20
WIPRO	248.20	251.15	247.70	250.45	1.00
GAIL	124.70	125.80	123.15	125.30	0.50
LAL	1364.50	1378.20	1361.50	1369.50	5.00
UNPL	451.00	556.75	538.10	550.20	1.20
SUNPHARMA	425.00	429.90	421.60	425.20	0.65
NESTLEIND	14110.00	14211.90	14009.60	14100.00	14.45
NTPC	117.75	118.30	116.80	117.50	0.05
BAJAJ-AUTO	3156.00	3171.50	3122.10	3156.30	-0.30
HINDALCO	193.60	194.00	190.65	193.25	-0.65
BKPL	520.65	521.90	513.50	520.70	-1.05
KOTAKBANK	1629.90	1631.10	1614.15	1623.00	-4.20
COALINDIA	200.95	201.30	198.25	199.75	-0.55
BAIFINANCE	4165.00	4182.15	4126.25	4140.00	-14.90
ADANIPORTS	367.50	368.15	361.55	364.00	-1.65
BRITANNIA	3140.90	3158.35	3110.00	3124.50	-16.40
ONGC	135.00	135.10	132.80	133.10	-0.80
ITC	251.75	251.80	248.80	249.25	-1.20
HCLTECH	1139.00	1143.50	1128.65	1133.90	-7.20
MARUTI	7146.00	7155.00	7032.00	7054.00	-44.45
JSWSTEEL	249.40	250.85	246.60	248.80	-1.60
ULTRACEMCO	4130.00	4130.00	4085.25	4097.00	-29.35
VEDL	143.75	143.90	140.40	142.30	-1.10
ICICIBANK	497.95	502.00	489.85	494.30	-4.00
HINDUNILVR	2060.05	2060.05	2030.00	2039.00	-17.20
HDFC	2235.60	2238.75	2202.20	2217.00	-20.60
ASIANPAINT	1747.95	1748.00	1718.50	1723.00	-16.00
HEROMOTOC	2520.00	2520.00	2463.10	2473.00	-29.90
TATAMOTORS	170.80	171.75	167.10	167.90	-2.20
TATASTEEL	414.00	414.85	400.00	403.00	-7.05
TCS	2153.00	2154.65	2105.00	2110.00	-42.60
ZEELE	293.75	293.75	282.50	288.00	-6.15
M&M	573.75	575.05	559.65	560.00	-12.70
YESBANK	65.00	67.25	63.05	64.20	-1.65

BSE 500

SCRIP	OPEN	High	LOW	LTP	CHANGE
SRILIFE	957.80	966.00	934.85	936.25	-21.55
BHARTIARTL	427.00	445.45	421.55	439.25	17.70
YESBANK	65.50	67.25	63.00	64.15	1.15
SUNTECK	394.00	402.75	375.00	390.65	15.65
RELIANCE	1467.50	1514.95	1465.50	1509.80	42.30
CHOLAFIN	329.20	333.90	322.60	325.15	2.55
IDEA	4.91	6.39	4.91	6.02	1.11
TECHM	754.00	765.30	749.95	763.25	3.30
BALKRISND	836.00	846.95	831.40	834.50	3.10
LEMONTREE	58.55	61.00	58.05	58.55	0.50
SBIN	325.80	331.75	322.20	330.30	4.50
IBULHSGFIN	210.00	217.90	210.00	212.70	2.70
AAVAS	1679.00	1699.00	1660.40	1689.90	19.90
TATASTEEL	412.00	414.85	400.20	401.90	-11.10
MARUTI	7200.00	7200.00	7031.00	7044.00	-159.00
ASIANPAINT	1740.10	1746.75	1719.20	1721.00	-19.10
DRREDDY	2741.00	2760.45	2726.45	2751.00	-14.00
GLENMARK	373.00	373.85	347.50	350.45	26.95
ICICIBANK	498.90	502.00	489.80	493.15	0.95
INFY	710.90	714.40	706.00	712.80	1.90
RBLBANK	324.80	327.60	319.15	322.50	2.65
HDFCAMC	3454.00	3604.15	3454.00	3583.10	-170.90
BANKBARODA	96.00	99.50	95.85	98.90	3.05
INFRATEL	228.95	256.25	228.50	250.10	21.15
RNAM	350.65	376.60	350.65	364.95	14.30
JUSTDIAL	530.00	565.50	530.00	559.70	29.70
TATAMOTORS	171.00	171.85	167.15	167.75	-3.25
TCS	2152.00	2153.95	2105.10	2108.30	-44.70
INDUSINDBK	1380.00	1408.65	1375.00	1392.10	17.10
HDFCBANK	1266.00	1275.00	1262.00	1272.40	6.40
JINDALSTEL	145.40	145.90	138.30	139.10	0.80
ZEELE	294.05	295.00	282.60	285.75	3.15
LT	1367.30	1378.25	1362.00	1365.35	3.35
FLFL	396.00	411.85	396.00	404.65	8.65
L&T	98.00	101.95	97.80	99.90	2.10
CANBK	213.00	222.90	209.55	221.10	11.55
ASHOKLEY	82.80	82.50	80.20	82.00	1.80
DMAT	1829.00	1864.95	1806.60	1841.05	34.45
HINDUNILVR	2055.00	2055.00	2029.00	2036.95	-18.05
GRASIM	775.00	793.20	772.00	785.70	8.70
PETRONET	275.00	275.00	271.05	272.05	0.95
SIEMENS	1553.20	1590.65	1546.50	1579.70	33.10
BHEL	54.20	56.00	52.50	55.60	3.10
ACC	449.00	450.80	441.00	449.55	8.55
PNB	62.00	64.85	62.10	64.15	2.05
BANKINDIA	71.50	75.35	70.85	74.20	2.65
HDFC	2238.50	2238.50	2203.00	2213.15	-25.35
LICHSGFIN	425.00	430.75	418.00	422.90	2.90
ULTRACEMCO	4125.00	4125.00	4084.80	4099.15	-25.85
DELTA CORP	200.00	208.75	195.10	197.45	13.30
M&M	216.50	217.75	212.15	215.20	3.05
BAYERCROP	3625.00	3734.35	3625.00	3709.85	24.50
MGL	1030.00	1058.20	1030.00	1046.30	16.30
DCAL	122.00	127.70	121.25	124.60	3.35
PNBHOUSING	525.30	575.00	525.30	562.30	37.00
ASHOKA	95.25	95.55	94.00	94.10	0.10
BAIFINANCE	4153.00	4182.00	4125.10	4137.10	-44.90
KOTAKBANK	1631.00	1631.00	1614.85	1623.30	-16.65
VEDL	143.90	143.95	140.45	141.60	1.15
ADANI	202.00	202.40	196.40	199.75	3.35
CONCOR	570.90	572.55	564.80	567.85	2.95
UNIONBANK	54.80	60.00	54.80	59.50	4.70
RITES	30.00	32.80	30.00	31.45	1.45
NAUKRI	2713.50	2716.65	2583.05	2640.60	133.55
HDFCLIFE	571.85	577.60	560.60	570.25	7.05
LITTS	1434.10	1434.10	1414.10	1419.80	5.70
BATAINDIA	1701.00	1707.00	1681.00	1686.45	5.45
TATAELXI	794.35	830.00	793.80	809.	

China says only it can rule on Hong Kong constitution

AFP ■ BEIJING

China insisted on Tuesday it alone held the authority to

rule on constitutional matters in Hong Kong, as it condemned a decision by the city's high court to overturn a ban on

face masks worn by pro-democracy protesters. The statement raised hackles among activists in Hong

Kong after months of violent protests over concerns that Beijing is chipping away at the autonomy of the financial hub.



Injured protesters huddle under blankets as they walk at the Hong Kong Polytechnic University in Hong Kong on Tuesday. AP

Protesters explore sewers in HK campus escape bid

Hong Kong: Arms covered in cling film and torches in hand as they drop into the sewers, clusters of pro-democracy protesters still inside a Hong Kong campus are plotting increasingly ingenious — and desperate — ways to escape a police siege.

Among the detritus of a scorched and graffiti-sprayed concourse at Hong Kong Polytechnic University, several plastic covers — some with torches placed above them — betray extraordinary underground escape plans.

Protesters have removed metal manholes, some making exploratory forays into the fetid tunnels, following rumours of successful exfiltrations from a campus ringed for three days by baton-wielding police determined to arrest them.

Pockets of protesters, some with thick bandages wrapped around their knees in anticipation of a long crawl to freedom, knot the holes discussing an unlikely — and highly dangerous — breakout.

AFP reporters saw one group on their stomachs practising crawling. Another group hugged each other in consolation after apparently agreeing not to take the route down into the unknown.

"The people outside can't help us," a protester told local television as he prepared to descend into a sewer. "So what

can we do?" One protester, gas mask on, and cling film wrapped around his arms, carried a torch as he descended with his backpack down the metal rungs into the subterranean gloom. AFP

US gravely concerned by deepening political unrest in HK, says Pompeo

Washington: The US is gravely concerned by the deepening political unrest and violence in Hong Kong, Secretary of State Mike Pompeo has said, urging the city's government to address public concerns and China to honour its promises of liberties.

Pompeo's remarks came amid a dramatic escalation in unrest, with Hong Kong police threatening to fire live bullets if demonstrators did not stop using weapons in the latest anti-government protests. PTI

OFFICE OF THE RECOVERY OFFICER-II DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL-II, DELHI

4TH FLOOR, JEEVAN TARA BUILDING, PARLIAMENT STREET, NEW DELHI-110001

SALE PROCLAMATION NOTICE

R. C. No. 406/2015

ICICI BANK VS MR. HARISH KUMAR GOSWAMI

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 Mr. Harish Kumar Goswami, H/No. 410/0, Punjab Line Railway Colony, Ghaziabad-200001.
Also At: Mr. Harish Kumar Goswami, House No. 1007, Khasra No. 204, NH-24, Bhim Nagar, Village Mawai, Loni, Ghaziabad-200001.
CD#2 Ms. Asha Devi Goswami, H/No. 410/0, Punjab Line Railway Colony Ghaziabad-200001.
Also At: Ms. Asha Devi Goswami, House No. 1007, Khasra No. 204, NH-24, Bhim Nagar, Village Mawai, Loni, Ghaziabad-200001

Whereas as per Recovery Certificate No. 406/2015 drawn by the Presiding Officer, Debts Recovery Tribunal-II mentioning a sum of Rs. 11,15,124/- (Rs. Eleven Lacs Fifteen Thousand One Hundred And Twenty Four Only), CDS are jointly and / or severally liable to pay the amount of Rs. 11,01,124/- (Rs. Eleven Lacs One Thousand One Hundred And Twenty Four Only) alongwith future interest @9.75% p.a. from the date of filing of the OA, i.e. 05.01.2015 until recovery with cost.

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 www.bankerauctions.com on 18.12.2019 between 03:00p.m. to 04:00 p.m. with extensions of 5 minutes duration after 12 noon, if required.

4. The sale shall be of the property of the CD(s) 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 offer or other person, having any duty to perform in connection with sale, however, either directly or indirectly bid for 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, mis statement or omission in this proclamation.

7.2 The reserve price below which the properties shall not be sold and the Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) are as under:

Description of property	Reserve Price (in Rs.)	Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) (in Rs.)
House No. 1007, Khasra No. 204 NH-24, Bhim Nagar, Mawai, Loni, Ghaziabad-200001	9,23,000/-	92,300/-

7.3 The interested bidders, who have submitted their bids not below the reserve price, alongwith documents including PAN Card, identity proof, address proof, etc., and in the case of company, copy of resolution passed by the board members of the company or any other document confirming representation/attorney of the company also, latest by 16.12.2019 before 4.00 PM in the Office of the Recovery Officer-II, DRT-II, Delhi, shall be eligible to participate in the e-auction to be held from 03.00 PM to 04.00 PM on 18.12.2019. In case bid is placed in the last 5 minutes of the closing 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-II, DRT-II, Delhi 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, after adjusting the EMD, favoring Recovery Officer-II, DRT-II, Delhi, A/C R.C. No. 406/2015 by next bank working day i.e. by 04.00 PM with this Tribunal, failing which the EMD shall be forfeited.

7.7 The successful/highest bidder shall deposit, through Demand Draft/Pay Order favoring Recovery Officer-II, DRT-II, Delhi, A/C R.C. No. 406/2015, the balance 75% of the sale proceeds before the Recovery Officer-II, 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 day after the 15th day alongwith the poundage fee @ 2% upto Rs. 1,000 and @ 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 re-sold, after the issue of fresh proclamation of sale. The deposit, after defraying the expenses of the sale, may, 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" and "AS IS WHAT IS BASIS".

9. The undersigned reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids if found Unreasonable or 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 partur bearing on its nature and value
House No. 1007, Khasra No. 204 NH-24, Bhim Nagar, Mawai, Loni, Ghaziabad-200001	Not known	Not known	Not known

Given under my hand and seal on 26.10.2019.

(Awinesh Chandra)
Recovery Officer-II,
DRT-II, Delhi

OFFICE OF THE RECOVERY OFFICER-I DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL-II, DELHI

4TH FLOOR, JEEVAN TARA BUILDING, PARLIAMENT STREET, NEW DELHI-110001

E-AUCTION SALE NOTICE

ICICI BANK VS MR. HARISH KUMAR GOSWAMI

"O R D E R"

RC 406/2015

Dated: 26.10.2019

As per ny order dated 26.10.2019, the under mentioned properties will be sold by public auction sale on 18.12.2019 in the said Recovery Certificate:

The auction sale will be "online e-Auctioning" through website www.bankerauctions.com

Date and Time of Auction: 18.12.2019 between 03.00 pm and 04.00 pm (With extensions of 5 minutes duration after 04:00 P.M., if required)

DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY

Description of property	Reserve Price (in Rs.)	Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) (in Rs.)
House No. 1007, Khasra No. 204 NH-24, Bhim Nagar, Mawai, Loni, Ghaziabad-200001	9,23,000/-	92,300/-

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

1. The auction sale will be "online through e-auction" through website portal: www.bankerauctions.com.

2. The EMD shall be paid either through Demand Draft/Pay Order in favour of the "Recovery Officer-II, DRT-II, Delhi-A/C R.C. No. 406/2015". The said Demand Draft/Pay Order qua EMD, alongwith self-attested copy of identity (voter I-card/driving license/passport), which should contain the address for future communication, and self-attested copy of PAN card, and in the case of company, copy of resolution passed by the board members of the company or any other document confirming representation/attorney of the company also, must reach the Office of the Recovery Officer-II, DRT-II, Delhi latest by 16.12.2019 before 4.00 PM. The EMD or original proof of EMD received thereafter shall not be considered.

3. The envelope containing EMD, along with details of the sender, i.e. address, e-mail ID and mobile number, etc., should be super-scribed "RC No. 406/2015".

4. The property is being sold on "as is where is basis".

5. The bidders are advised to go through the portal www.bankerauctions.com for detailed terms and conditions for e-auction sale before submitting their bids and taking part in the e-auction sale proceedings and/or contact Sh. Mohit Chadhaa, Zonal Debt Manager, ICICI Bank Ltd. 2nd Floor, Videcom Tower, IInd Avenue, Delhi. Mobile no. 9650957770. Email ID: mohit.chadhaa@icicibank.com.

6. Prospective bidders are required to register themselves with the portal and obtain login ID and Password well in advance, after deposit of EMD, which is mandatory for bidding in the above e-auction, from M/s. C1 India Pvt. Ltd. Udyog Vihar, Phase-2, Building No. 301, Gurugram Haryana-122015. Telephone No. 7291981124/25/26 Contact Person: Mr. Vinod Chauhan, Mobile no. 9813887931 Email ID: delhi@c1india.com and support@bankerauctions.com.

7. The interested bidders may avail online training on e-auction, after deposit JEMD from M/s. C1 India Pvt. Ltd. Udyog Vihar, Phase-2, Building No. 301, Gurugram Haryana-122015. Telephone No. 7291981124/25/26 Contact Person: Mr. Vinod Chauhan, Mobile no. 9813887931 Email ID: delhi@c1india.com and support@bankerauctions.com.

8. Only those bidders holding valid user ID & Password and confirmed payment of EMD through demand draft/pay order shall be eligible to participate in online auction.

9. The prospective buyer may inspect the site on 09.12.2019 and 10.12.2019 from 10.30 AM to 04.00 PM.

10. The interested bidders, who have submitted their bids not below the reserve price by 16.12.2019 in the office of the Recovery Officer-II, DRT-II, Delhi shall be eligible to participate in the e-auction to be held from 03.00 PM to 04.00 PM on 18.12.2019. In case bid is placed in the last 5 minutes of the closing time of the auction, the closing time will automatically get extended for 5 minutes.

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

12. The unsuccessful bidder shall take the EMD directly from the Office of Recovery Officer-II, DRT-II, Delhi immediately on closure of the e-auction sale proceedings

13. The Successful / highest bidder shall have to prepare Demand Draft/Pay Order for 25% of the bid/sale amount after adjusting the EMD, favoring Recovery Officer-II DRT-II, Delhi, A/C R.C. No. 406/2015 by next bank working day i.e. by 04.00 PM with this Tribunal, failing which the EMD shall be forfeited.

14. The successful/highest bidder shall deposit, through Demand Draft/Pay Order favoring Recovery Officer-II, DRT-II, Delhi, A/C R.C. No. 406/2015, the balance 75% on the sale proceeds before the Recovery Officer-II, 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 day after the 15th day alongwith the poundage fee @ 2% upto Rs. 1,000 and @ 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). In case of default of payment within the prescribed period, the property shall be re-sold after the issue of fresh proclamation of sale. The deposit, after defraying the expenses of the sale, may, 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.

15 CH/FC/BK is directed to serve the Sale proclamation on CDs through Dasti succed post, courier and by affixation at the conspicuous part of the property and by beat ut drum in its vicinity and a copy of the same be placed on the notice board of the Tribunal

16 Sale proclamation be also published in the Newspapers in English as well as in vernacular language, having adequately wide circulation in the area.

17 CH/FC/BK is directed to confirm the publication of advertisement in the Newspapers and original proofs of the publication be filed before next date of hearing.

18. The undersigned reserves the right to accept any or reject all bids, if not found acceptable or to postpone the auction at any time without assigning any reason whatsoever and his decision in this regard shall be final.

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 partur bearing on its nature and value
House No. 1007, Khasra No. 204 NH-24, Bhim Nagar, Mawai, Loni, Ghaziabad-200001	Not known	Not known	Not known

Matter be listed on 29.11.2019 for filing affidavit of service of E-auction sale notice with proofs of service (including track results qua speed post and courier) and dasti, original proots of publication in newspapers and wider publicity including website for the purpose of - auction.

(Awinesh Chandra)
Recovery Officer-II,
DRT-II, Delhi

OFFICE OF THE RECOVERY OFFICER-II DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL-II, DELHI

R. C. No. 406/2015 / ICICI BANK V/S MR. HARISH KUMAR GOSWAMI

Item No.10

Dated Present: 26.10.2019

Present: Sh. Anuj Kumar, Proxy counsel for Sh. Gautam Singhal, Counsel for the CH Bank

Proxy counsel for the CH Bank submitted that the sale 09.09.2019 has not been published as the officer of the CH Bank Sh. Mukesh Sharma has been transferred and Sh. Mohit Chadhaa has taken his charge. He requested to issue a sale proclamation notice after incorporation of the name of the Sh. Mohit Chadhaa, Zonal Debt Manager (Mobile No. 9650957770).

Request allowed.

Direction

1. Let the property bearing House No. 1007, Khasra No. 204, NH-24, Bhim Nagar, Mawai, Loni, Ghaziabad-200001 be put on sale through E-auction on earlier reserve price and sale proclamation qua the same be issued.

2. CH Bank is directed to serve the same through all prescribed modes and file service report on or before the next date of hearing. The CH Bank is also directed to serve sale proclamation notice upon the concerned e-auction service provider well in time.

3. The detailed order of E-auction be seen on the separate order sheet.

4. CH Bank is also directed to file on affidavit memo of cost giving details of all expenses incurred in connection with the auction including publication of advertisement after completion of auction proceedings.

Let a copy of this order be given dasti to the CH Bank for compliance.

Let this matter be listed on 29.11.2019

(Awinesh Chandra)
Recovery Officer-II,
DRT-II, Delhi

Subpoena requesting Trump's financial records temporarily blocked

Washington: US Chief Justice John Roberts said that the Supreme Court has issued a temporary stay of a federal appeals court ruling that granted a House Committee access to eight years of President Donald Trump's financial records from his accounting firm.

The ruling was set to go into effect on Wednesday. The subpoena from the House Oversight and Reform Committee will be unenforceable while the Supreme Court decides whether to take up the case, reports Xinhua news agency.

The House panel said on Monday in a letter to the Supreme Court that it would agree to the temporary stay to allow the justices to weigh in.

Trump's legal team on November 15 had asked the Supreme Court to put a hold on the panel's subpoena, arguing that if the lower court rulings are allowed to stand, any committee of Congress could subpoena any personal information it wants from a President. IANS

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform to the general public that my client Dina Nath, S/o Shri Shankar Lal, R/O- House No-99, Vijn Garden Extension, North Block, Road-17, New Delhi-59, has ejected his elder son Sani Varma, age about 25 years and the wife of Sani Varma Smt. Shipri, age about 23 years, from their properties due to shift behavior toward my client Sh. Dina Nath (Mother & Father of Sani Varma), Sani Varma/Smt. Shipri wants to capture/occupy the movable and immovable property of the family father and mother.

If any person has made any transaction with Sani Varma/Smt. Shipri, the family/father and mother will not be responsible for any transactions and for any act. No person can claim from family/father and mother about the transactions or act of Sani Varma & Smt. Shipri.

Any act of Sani Varma & Smt. Shipri, only Sani Varma/Shipri are responsible for any act. The family/father and mother will not be responsible for any act of Sani Varma/Smt. Shipri.

This Notice is published on behalf of my client Dina Nath to inform and warn the general people not to make any transaction with Sani Varma/Smt. Shipri. If any person does this that only person and Sani Varma/Smt. Shipri shall be responsible.

Manoranjan Sharma (Advocate)
M - 9953730457

LOST & FOUND

This is to state that we, Mr. Divesh Mehta and Mr. Nitesh Mehta S/O Late Shri Niamat Rai Mehta residents of Flat No. 45-A, Ground Floor, Block-C2, Lawrence Road, Keshav Puram, Delhi-110035 have lost the original allotment cum demand letter, possession letter, site possession slip and water & electric NOC at INA Market, New Delhi, for above mentioned flat. The FIR (LR No: 1012908/2109) has been lodged with the SHO, Crime Branch, Delhi dated 03-05-2019. Any unauthorized use of the above mentioned original papers would be illegal and would attract legal consequences. If documents are found please return to Mr. Divesh Mehta or Mr. Nitesh Mehta at their above mentioned address and contact us on +91-9811154793.

In new pro-Israel shift, US no longer calls settlements illegal

AFP ■ WASHINGTON

The United States no longer believes that Israeli settlements in the Palestinian territories are illegal, Secretary of State Mike Pompeo announced on Monday, in the latest pro-Israel shift by Washington.

The statement puts the United States at odds with virtually all countries as well as UN Security Council resolutions and was hailed by Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, a close ally of President Donald Trump who is days away from potentially losing office.

"After carefully studying all sides of the legal debate," Pompeo told reporters, the United States has concluded that "the establishment of Israeli civilian settlements in the West Bank is not, per se, inconsistent with international law."

"Calling the establishment of civilian settlements inconsistent with international law

hasn't worked. It hasn't advanced the cause of peace," Pompeo said.

Pompeo said that the United States was not necessarily considering the settlements legal either but instead would defer to the judgment of Israeli courts.

The Palestinian Authority — which has refused negotiations through the Trump administration, which it considers biased — denounced the latest decision.

Washington is "not qualified or authorized to cancel the resolutions of international law, and has no right to grant legality to any Israeli settlement," Palestinian presidential spokesman Nabil Abu Rudeinah said in a statement.

But Netanyahu said that the US shift "rights a historical wrong" for the 600,000 Israeli settlers who live in the West Bank and east Jerusalem among around 2.9 million Palestinians.

Sharif leaves for London in air ambulance

Lahore: Ailing former Pakistan Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif on Tuesday left for London from here in an air ambulance for further treatment. He was accompanied by his brother, Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) President Shehbaz Sharif and other personnel, including his personal physician Adnan Khan, reports Dawn news.

The air ambulance, which arrived from Doha on Tuesday morning, is equipped with an intensive care unit and an operation theatre, with a team of doctors on board. IANS

Rajapaksa seeks resignation of PM Wickremesinghe

Colombo: Sri Lanka's former strongman President Mahinda Rajapaksa has sought the resignation of Prime Minister Ranil Wickremesinghe after his younger brother Gotabaya Rajapaksa became the President, asserting that governance will improve if the President and the Cabinet are from the same party.

Addressing the media after a religious ceremony organised for his 74th birthday on Monday, the Opposition Leader in Parliament said it would be more effective to have a Government where the President and the Cabinet are from one party. PTI

No talks until US drops hostile policy: N Korea

IANS ■ PYONGYANG

A senior North Korean official has put forward new conditions for talks with the US, saying Washington should give up its hostile policy before coming to the negotiation table with Pyongyang.

"The US always calls for negotiation for denuclearization, but there is no room to say

about the negotiation before the complete and irrevocable withdrawal of its hostile policy toward the DPRK, the root cause of the nuclear issue of the Korean peninsula," the state-run Korean Central News Agency reported on Tuesday citing Kim Yong Chol, chairman of the Korea Asia-Pacific Peace Committee, as saying on Monday night.

GLOBE TROTTER

ONE DEAD IN S KOREAN FISHING BOAT BLAZE

Seoul: One fisherman was killed and 11 others reported missing after their boat caught fire off South Korea's southern coast, authorities said on Tuesday. The coast guard said the accident happened west of Jeju island.

14 TALIBAN MILITANTS KILLED IN AF AIR STRIKE

Kunduz (Afghanistan): At least 14 Taliban militants, including a militants' divisional commander, were killed in an air strike carried out by Afghan Air Force in Afghanistan's northern Kunduz province, police said.

TALIBAN RELEASES TWO WESTERN HOSTAGES IN AF

Kandahar: The Taliban released two Western hostages in Afghanistan on Tuesday, handing them over to US forces more than three years after they were abducted in Kabul, insurgent sources and police told AFP.

3 KILLED IN OKLAHOMA WALMART SHOOTING

Houston: Three people, including the suspected gunman, were killed in a shooting outside a Walmart store in Duncan, midwestern US state of Oklahoma, Police said.

Majority of US people favour Trump impeachment: Poll

Washington: A slim majority of Americans believe President Donald Trump should be impeached and removed from office for his controversial Ukraine actions, according to the first poll after the launch of public hearings in Congress.

Fifty-one per cent of those asked said they think Trump should be tried and convicted in the US Senate, while another six per cent favour impeachment but not removal, according to the ABC News-Ipsos poll released Monday.

That appeared to represent an increase from before the hearings in the House Intelligence Committee began Wednesday. An average of previous polls showed about 48 per cent supported Trump's removal, according to the website FiveThirtyEight.

The ABC-Ipsos poll suggested as well a drop in the number of people opposing impeachment, to 38 per cent, compared to the FiveThirtyEight average of about 46 per cent. But a quarter of all those polled did not think Trump did anything wrong. AFP

BEFORE DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL - II, DELHI 4TH FLOOR, JEEVAN TARA BUILDING, PARLIAMENT STREET, NEW DELHI-110001
CA No. 103/E DATE: 25.10.2019
ICICI BANK LTD..... Applicant
VERSUS MR. AMIT KUMAR GOYAL
ORS.....Respondent

To: DEFENDENT
1. Amit Kumar Goyal S/o. Ashok Kumar Goyal (Borrower) R/o. Flat No. E-1107, Ground Floor, CDA Flats, Sect.-11, Rohini, Delhi



Class XII Science students need not pursue engineering or medicine. There are other lucrative options that they can look at after their Boards, says ANKIT KAPOOR

Science has been one of the most popular streams among most of the students. It is the stream which opens gates to popular courses including Engineering, Medicine and other allied disciplines. The majority of students with science background (medical and non-medical) in Class XII are inclined towards engineering and medical career options. These courses attract most of the aspirants as they offer high salary packages and high esteem of respect in the society. If not engineering and medicine then what are other career opportunities for Science stream students? Students don't explore other career options. They are generally pressurised by their parents/friends/society to believe that engineering and medicine are only two options available after studying PCM and PCB in Class XII.

There was a time when the craze for engineering and medicine was at its peak as option in other streams was limited. But now the scenario is changing exponentially. The number of applicants is increasing as the number of seats available is limited. As per a report the selection in the last five years is around only a per cent. This is because engineering students lack advanced digital skills including artificial intelligence, machine learning, data science and wireless technologies among others that the companies require.

But still most of the science stream students tend to go for medical and engineering option. The two disciplines of the stream have reached the saturation point. This has made students to opt for other academic avenues to satisfy their creative aspects while offering great career prospects in the future. Many generations have been and are a part of this vicious circle. But now, more and more students are opting for unconventional courses like management, law and hotel management. Not only opportunities in private sector and MNCs, these courses provide a gateway for the Government jobs as well.

MANAGEMENT

Management as a career choice offers a solid foundation for a rewarding career. The statistics suggest that the postgraduate management colleges have witnessed an upswing in the number of students from the science background opting for it.

After completing MBA and graduation degree in management many students aspire for the jobs in Public Sector Units (PSU).

Along with higher pay, transparency in promotion and medical facilities, Job security is the prime reason that makes a government job a lucrative option. Some of the job opportunities that a student can opt after completing management degree include.

GLOBAL INDUSTRY, HOSPITALITY OFFERS EXCITING OPPORTUNITIES TO GRADUATES WHO WISH TO TRAVEL AND TAKE UP CAREERS BOTH NATIONALLY AND INTERNATIONALLY

■ **Banking sector:** Banking sector offers number of job opportunities for management graduates in the public sector which includes personnel officer, marketing officer, and additional programme officer. These are recruited via competitive exams like Institute of Banking Personnel Selection (IBPS) while some banks like State Bank of India and other PSU's conduct their own exam for the recruitment.

■ **Management and operational manager:** Various PSU's offers vacancies in different departments such as managerial role, operations, HR and Finance etc. The criteria for this position are either on entrance on merit basis which are conducted by few

PSU's.

LAW

Law, as a career, is more than black and white but is now one of the most promising career options with immense opportunities.

The exam for it is called Common Law Admission Test (CLAT). Along with private sector and entrepreneurship, there are some career opportunities in Public sector. Some of them include:

■ **Legal Advisors and Consultants in legal departments:** A student possessing qualification required by department of legal affairs and legislative department can practice as a legal advisor and consultant. These officers can reach the level of secretary to the Government with the passage of time and their performance.

Legislative counsels are also appointed in the official wing of legislative department for Hindi and regional languages.

All these posts are filled through UPSC exam and State Public Service Commission on regular basis. These officers are also recruited in the legal branches of Indian Army, navy and Air force.

■ **Judiciary:** A person holding a law degree can also work at a junior cadre posts of Magistrate or sub-Judge. These are generally recruited through UPSC exam or through Public service Commissions.

HOTEL MANAGEMENT

A global Industry, Hospitality offers exciting opportunities to graduates who wish to travel, and take up careers both nationally and internationally. Over the last decade and a half, as the Indian economy has grown, the hospitality industry in our country has also grown by leaps and bounds.

The hospitality industry in India will need 3.5 million skilled employees over the next five years, with an international investment of ₹3,300 crores, a wide range of jobs will be created. Job opportunities for hotel management graduates in public include

■ **Marketing and sales executive:** A person holding a degree in hotel management can apply in various hotels operated by government. The role of marketing and sales executive involves maximising hotel's revenues by developing programmes to increase occupancy making profitable use of accommodation.

■ **Client Executives and other allied opportunities:** Various Government authorities like sports authority of India, Indian navy hospitality services and State Tourism department invites applications for various posts including client executives and other job opportunities for hotel management graduates. The recruitment is done through interviews only.

The writer is Managing Director, Pratham Test Prep, New Delhi

QUOTE OF THE DAY

The secret of education lies in respecting the pupil. It is not for you to choose what he shall know, what he shall do. It is chosen and foreordained and he only holds the key to his own secret.

— Ralph Waldo Emerson

HOTEL MANAGEMENT

Lakshya Bhartee Institute of International Hotel Management invites applications for admissions to its under graduate programmes and post graduates programmes in Hotel Management.

Eligibility: For BSc in Hotel Management, applicants must have passed Class XII from a recognised central/State board or from a recognised university. Selection will be based on personal interview. For MSc in Hotel Management, applicants must complete their graduation from a recognised university.

Duration: Three years for BSc and two years for MSc.

How to apply: Log on to www.lbihm.com.

Last date to apply: November 29, 2019.

BANKING MANAGEMENT

Thadomal Shahani Centre for Management invites applications for admissions to its Professional Diploma in Banking Management course.

The bankers of tomorrow will need the skills to manage these new innovations along with having knowledge of core banking applications. This course provides highly subsidised banking programme to fresh college graduates and create the bankers of the future.

In keeping with this, the course includes a smart phone enabled Banking Mobile App through which students can view banking jobs available and see how their skills match with the job requirements and learn the subjects needed to get the desired job. The lectures are conducted only on weekends which are taught by the real time Bankers on various subjects such as Core Banking, Banking Processes, Consultative Selling, Interview Preparedness and Language & Communication.

Duration: Four months
How to apply: Log on to



<https://ask.careers/courses/professional-diploma-in-banking-management/> or contact — 022 6670 1111/91 99300 88330.

Last date to apply: November 29, 2019.

MANUFACTURING MGMT

The University of Strathclyde, Glasgow invites applications for admissions to its new MSc Manufacturing Management course.

Eligibility: First or upper second-class honours degree, or equivalent, in a relevant engineering, technology, science or business-related discipline.

IELTS 6.0 overall with no individual component below 5.5.

Fee: £20,900 for international students for 2020/21.

How to apply: Log on to <https://www.strath.ac.uk/courses/postgraduate/taught/manufacturingmanagement/#whythiscourseorcontact-eng-admissions@strath.ac.uk>.

CONTENT WRITING

Education and Career Times invites applications for admissions to its content writing courses for 2019-2020 session.

Eligibility: Anyone who has appeared for or passed Class XII exam can enroll for content writing courses at ECT. You should be able to read and understand English language to be eligible to attend the class.

How to apply: Log on to <https://ect.co.in> or contact 7827916060.

Last date to apply: November 29, 2019.

'Maintaining transparency among employees is key'

The slow down has a percolating effect on employee engagement and performance. There is high pressure to deliver on business results, demands are high and resources are low, says SONICA ARON

The last six months have been tough on the Indian economy, which is adversely impacting employees and individuals across the industry. GDP touched a six-year low. The auto sector and FMCG were the main sectors that were severely impacted. Infrastructure projects slowed down, unemployment increased, investments reduced.

One can see and feel the impact of the slowdown. Reports say around 2.30 lakh jobs have been lost in the auto sector. The majority of the fast-moving consumer goods (FMCG) companies have reported a decline in volume growth in the April-June quarter.

The slow down has a percolating effect on employee engagement and performance. There is high pressure to deliver on business results, stress is high, demands are high, resources are low. There are budget cuts. Training, travel is frozen. News of layoffs, decrease in consumption, shut down days at factories further impact sentiments. Low motivation further impacts productivity, retention and triggers the vicious downward spiral.

This brings us to the question, how can organisations, and employees as individuals tide over this period. Well, in our opinion, the economy has its cycles, and if we are expe-



riencing a slowdown, we will experience a boom as well. And we suggest that organisations and individuals spend this time preparing for the boom.

What should organisations do during the slowdown?

We understand the budgets are tight and some tough calls might need to be taken. But it is at this time that the true mettle or organisational culture and leadership is tested. Maintaining transparency and ongoing communication to avoid any sudden big decisions is key. This will help in ensuring that employees continue to trust the management and insecurity is kept at bay.

Managers and leaders will play an important role, and organisations will see the emergence of new leaders. Managers who hold teams together

in these difficult times are your leaders of tomorrow.

This is also the time to think innovatively and invest in employee development. Use technology, open sources, in house resources, leaders from other companies to come and hold guest lectures. These are zero budget initiatives but will keep employees engaged. Reskilling, redeployment, cross-functional projects are easy wins.

Carry out those internal development projects that one never found the time for. Streamline processes, use internal resources to automate, develop apps. Create internal communication and involvement platforms. Work on improvement areas. Work on the intranet, update your policies and communicate, communicate & communicate. Keep the atmosphere

positive.

Gear up for the future. What will you need when the economy starts to look up? Focus the attention of employees in that direction and get everyone working towards hope.

What can Employees do?

The onus is not entirely on the organisation. Every employee has a role to play. We are responsible for our skill development as well. Read, explore new developments in your fields, and attend industry events and conferences, volunteer for cross-functional/location projects.

Work on your branding, leverage social media, publish opinions, take guest lectures at institutes, do social work, contribute to society.

Grow your Network. Professional networking platforms and events are good areas to find peers with common interests as well as industry mentors.

On a personal front, spend more time with your family. Connect with friends from school, college or wherever last you met them. Focus on your health. Join the gym again. Take that bucket list holiday. Rekindle that hobby that you never had the time for!

In a nutshell, take charge and prepare yourself for tomorrow.

The writer is Managing Partner, Marching Sheep, an HR consulting & Diversity Firm

Be on Cloud 9

The demand for cloud computing services is on an exponential rise. DR VENKATESHWARAN LOGANATHAN lists out jobs to look out for

A growing domain in the tech industry, cloud computing involves the delivery of services such as servers, storage, databases, networking software, analytics and intelligence over the internet. A popular option for businesses to increase productivity, performance and security of their services, cloud computing reduces the requirement for large upfront investments in hardware.

Offering valuable services to organisations, the demand for cloud computing services is on an exponential rise. As per IDC, the Indian cloud computing market is expected to grow to \$4 billion by 2020 with an annual growth of more than 30 per cent, thereby creating one million new jobs in India.

Here are few job roles one can take up to advance their career in this domain.

DevOps: A set of applications that automates the processes between software development and IT teams, DevOps builds, tests, and releases software faster and more reliably. A DevOps manager needs to manage the infrastructure, ensuring that everything is perfectly in tune with the needs of the application. A DevOps manager should be adept with managerial skills to maximise the predictability, efficiency and security of the opera-



tional processes.

Cloud Architect: Responsible for bridging the gap between complex business problems and solutions in the cloud, a Cloud Architect converts the technical requirements of a project into the architecture that will guide the final product. They manage the cloud computing architecture in an organisation including the front-end platforms, servers, storage, delivery and networks.

Cloud Software Engineer: Responsible for any duties related to cloud computing, including design, planning, management and support, the roles of a Cloud Software Engineer can be broken into multiple divisions. A Cloud Software Engineer is responsible for overseeing the development of the programming systems, maintaining

them and ensuring that they function correctly.

Cloud System Administrator: With primary job responsibilities of configuring the cloud management service and manage these services, a Cloud System Administrator works in a mixed Windows and Unix software environment. They also lead, oversee and maintain multi-user computing environment as per the organisation's requirements. They are required to possess strong technical knowledge of virtual machines such as IaaS, PaaS and SaaS. These professionals are usually responsible for the design and development of disseminated software modules that combine with cloud service providers.

The writer is Head of Technical Training, KGISL Institute of Technology

Free supplemental learning

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Bringing the structural fundamentals of a classroom through the wide reach of digital technology, PaperVideo — India's first digital classroom for supplementary learning, has launched its Math curriculum for Classes VIII to XI. PaperVideo's digital classroom, which is free for all students, offers a comprehensive and holistic Math programme congruent with CBSE, ICSE, HSC, SSC and all State Education Boards of India.

Research has stated that the lack of quality teachers and curriculum are the primary reasons why India consistently ranks low in all global education indexes. The Annual Status of Education Report for 2018 mentions that 61 per cent of Indian eight graders strug-

gle with simple Math. Another shocking observation made by the researchers suggests that only 26.6 per cent of Class VIII students are fluent in subtraction — a fundamental arithmetical function.

Chirag Arya, Founder, PaperVideo, said: "The education sector has a critical role to play in driving the economic and social development in the country. Lack of access to quality education has been a persistent barrier for students beyond metro cities. Through PaperVideo, we want to bridge this gap and bring academic resources to those who need it."

The curriculum is based on a structured learning method which helps students to harness their optimum potential, resulting in a high-quality personalised learning arena.

Three-day national convention

The three-day 47th National Convention of Company Secretaries of the Institute of Company Secretaries of India was inaugurated at Jaipur, Rajasthan on November 14, 2019 and was concluded on November 16, 2019 with much gusto.

Attended by more than 1,800 participants from across the nation and abroad, the National Convention comprised Technical Sessions on areas of professional interest and various Motivational and Special Sessions. Two special sessions were dedicated to artificial intel-



Dignitaries present at the 47th National Convention of Company Secretaries

ligence and appearance before quasi-judicial bodies.

The valedictory session of the convention was graced by Dr Sudhanshu Trivedi, National Spokesperson of Bharatiya Janata Party, Dr Satish Poonia, State

President, Bharatiya Janata Party, Rajasthan and Ashish Chauhan, Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer, BSE Limited.

In his concluding address for the event, CS Ranjeet Pandey, President, ICSI thanking all the delegates for their tremendous participation said that: "We have made great progress so far as a profession. In the last 51 years of our history, we have become a profession to reckon with. Our membership has doubled and the members are taking up roles of insolvency professionals and registered valuers."

Study UK fair

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The British Council, UK's international organisation for educational opportunities and cultural relations, is hosting 'Study UK Fair' on Saturday, November 23, 2019 at British Council, 17, Kasturba Gandhi Marg, New Delhi.

The education fair will host anyone who aspires to study in the UK and wants to be a part of its rich and vibrant culture. Representatives from over 40 UK universities will be present at the fair to address

face-to-face queries.

The fair also welcomes parents, teachers and educationists.

The education fair provides a unique opportunity to meet academic institutions from the UK under one roof and seek information on application procedure, shortlisting of courses and institutions, scholarships and financial assistance, post-study work opportunities, IELTS and much more.

Interested candidates can register at the venue or online on British Council's website.



With varied surroundings turning into canvases, art is expanding beyond galleries. In the realm of art and technology, visual art and immersive lighting is an emerging career platform which is grasping the attention of the youth today. It is a thought process that knows no boundaries which culminate into a visual language.

The dynamic world with an intersection of art, design and technology provides an array of career opportunities from set-designing to creating 3-D models with projection-mapping. These range of careers open new doors to every creative enthusiast.

If you are creative and imaginative, a degree in visual arts could be just what you are looking for to express yourself. Students interested in this field can apply for the visual arts degree — Bachelor of Visual Arts or Bachelor of Design and Bachelor of Fine Arts. Some of the popular specialisations are animation, digital composition, game developing, fine arts, multimedia, and many more.

If you'd like to make a living through art and design, keep reading and looking out for common paths with the major careers they lead to.

There's a growing need for people who can understand, operate, and provide innovation through 3D printing and modelling concepts. This rapidly advancing technology calls for engineers who can understand, maintain, and operate this equipment.

Mechanical, industrial, or software engineers will have a better grasp of what's involved in producing accurate working

LIGHT IT UP

Visual arts is dynamic and provides an array of lucrative opportunities. HITESH KUMAR shares options to pursue

models and components for manufacturing architectural designs.

EXHIBITION DESIGNER
An exhibition designer is someone who creates displays and fixtures for large exhibitions, shows, businesses, museums, libraries, and galleries. They are specially trained in the art involved in the layout design and may work exclusively for a museum, gallery, or a private firm.

Activities inherent to the career include concept and design development, schematic design, construction document development, fabrication and installation.

GAME DESIGNER
Video game devel-



opers, also known as video game programmers, write code for games for various platforms such as PCs, consoles, web browsers, and mobile phones. They take inputs from game designers with ideas sketches, dynamics and mechanics and develop a final playable game. Creativity and strong analytical frame of mind are the crucial key skills required to be a developer in the field of digital gaming.

PROGRAMMERS
Programmers develop software and the chief process involves writing various lines of code.

Coding (a common phrase used for programme development) is achieved by analysing and implementing algorithms, understanding data structures, solving logical problems, and more. It is the role of a computer programmer to assure that the software responds appropriately to users/viewers and provide the desired functionality.

VISUAL ART CONSULTANT
An artist's constant struggle to commercialise his artwork in the mainstream market is not new to us. This is where the guidance and mentorship of a visual art consultant can prove extremely beneficial.

Art consultants are required to have in-depth knowledge of various forms of art and different artistic techniques and language. Although there are no absolute academic requirements, and it is possible for a person who is an art enthusiast to start their own firm and work in this role, formal post-secondary training is

an asset. Strong sales skills, negotiation skills, and customer service skills are a great add-on to art consultants.

INSTALLATION ARTIST
Installation art is an artistic category which uses three-dimensional works that often are site-specific and designed to transform the outlook towards space or to give away certain message.

In order to be an installation artist, students can choose a specialisation in the following creative expressions: Sculpting, painting, applied art or art history in their graduation courses. Installation artists are hired by several firms, museums, galleries, toy industries, and even film industries to create and beautify atmospheres, mould figures and provide artistic advice for film direction and sets.

SET DESIGNERS
Set designers pick backgrounds, lighting, props, and other items to create the environment for stage productions, films, and shows. They work with directors and production crews to design or recreate the appearance and atmosphere of a specific era, place or location according to the theme.

Set-designers play many roles and most commonly have expertise such as knowledge of design software and computer-aided design (CAD) programmes, awareness of properties of various materials as well as the ability to use construction tools, read blueprints, draw set sketches and construct set models.

The writer is founder, Artillum

‘Need to take vocation training seriously’

Vocational and skill training go a long way in bridging the skill gap and make the youth employable, says RACHIT JAIN

India is at a strange crossroad. Education is evolving at the speed of lightning, the rate of unemployment is also skyrocketing, doubling in the past two years. According to the State of India's Environment report (2019), the unemployment rate has gone up from 4% to 7.6% in the last two years. This can be contributed to the fact that one should not blame the employers but the lack of employability amongst students. The complaint is unanimous — a lack of employability is rampant as students get entrenched in bookish knowledge while failing to grasp basic practical skills like as communication, aptitude, ability to think on their feet and so on.

There is an evident skill gap that is required to be bridged to harness prosperity for the nation and at the pace at which hiring is evolving, it is even more essential to pick up the pace, rather remaining behind. Yet, institutions and schools, as well as parents/students, aren't aware of the importance of inculcating vocational training and nurturing skills into the regular curriculum.

Here are a few salient reasons why vocational and skill training is essential for the present scenario:

Cultivates learning style: Every person comes with his style of learning that remains incomparable to the rest and this holds for students as well. Some students can simply read and understand a concept, while others have a penchant for probing further to unearth an interesting feature that would encourage the assimilation of knowledge.

Yet, our curriculum is molded in such a way that individual minds are forced to be slotted into a particular type of learning that is fit for society.

In such situations, it is the students who are unable to learn properly as their natural pace of learning faces a severe roadblock, inhibiting them to apply their faculties to the fullest. Vocational training provides the space for learning at one's own pace.

Cultivates job readiness: The transition that one goes through from educational to occupational level is huge as one move to a stage where he has to apply all the lessons learnt all this while. And yet, more often than not, they fail at grasping every basic that is required from them, making work even more difficult.

Adapting to the corporate world, with its set of ups and downs, remains a challenge that people fail to tackle. Vocational training enables students to adapt to the corporate world at a much faster rate; adding depth their portfolio and helping them materialize their



Rachit Jain
Founder-CEO, Youth4Work

vision. With vocational training, young professionals wouldn't shy away from taking the initiative to work.

Cultivates communication and critical thinking: Irrespective of whichever segment you work for, communication skills are the kernel of growth and development.

Vocational training improves the level of communication as it exposes the students to a plethora of people from all walks of life- both novices and veterans, therefore giving them the industry experience and exposure needed to enhance their portfolio. As for critical thinking, students would learn the process of actively and skillfully conceptualizing, applying, analyzing, and/or evaluating information gathered. This would further urge them to expand their thinking and function aptly.

Why Government and private entities need to work together to harness this trend: There is a requirement for the proper administration of vocational education by various states government and better co-ordination between different state departments and agencies, to secure relevant talent.

While there is a place for promises, what the Indian educational scenario needs is an actionable approach, which organizations like Youth4work are trying to bring in, via providing a variety of skill-building courses to enhance career and growth. Soon the draught of employability will meet the right skilled force to empower the nation that is as vivid as India.

At a time when the sentiment in the job market is not positive to say the least, it has been revealed that most employees in various industries are satisfied with their jobs. The Monster Salary Index, 75 per cent respondents believed that they are satisfied with their respective jobs.

Out of the various factors that are responsible for this level of satisfaction, employees were most satisfied with the relationship with colleagues and superiors, at a level of 92 per cent and 87 per cent respectively in 2018.

It has been observed that the satisfaction with the level of pay has fallen to 21.6 per cent. However, pay, job security and

life-as-a-whole-satisfaction are the only values below 70, indicating a rather satisfying work life even if, overall, we observe a slight decrease of satisfaction in all the categories in comparison with 2017.

Sharing his views on the findings of the latest MSI, Krish Seshadri, CEO, Monster.com, APAC & Middle East said: "Analysing employees' job satisfaction-levels is essential to understand and measure the perceived quality of working conditions. This is pivotal as the working population spends close to one-third of the day at work.

Moreover, studying these developments also allows for HR managers to implement processes and improvements to control

MINDIT

attrition rates. It is a positive sign that only three among all the recorded industries have the satisfactions level less than 70 per cent and none below 50 per cent. This will help the respective sectors instill optimism in the economy, in-turn helping in improvement of the general sentiment."

An analysis of the findings regarding satisfaction with work and life reveals that employees in the Construction and Technical Consultancy, Healthcare, Caring services and Social Work, Information and Communication Technology Services, Legal

and Market Consultancy & Business Activities sectors are highly satisfied with their jobs.

Legal and Market Consultancy sectors have shown the highest levels of job satisfaction at 84 per cent while respondents from the Construction and Technical Consultancy have registered a close 83 per cent level of satisfaction.

Information & Communication Technology Services has registered the highest growth in level of satisfaction amongst all recorded sectors, gaining three

per cent over the recorded satisfaction level of 75 per cent in 2017.

Education and research have registered the steepest fall in the satisfaction level to 53 per cent in 2018 from 73 per cent in 2017

Manufacturing and Financial Services, Banking and Insurance sectors have registered a six per cent and a four per cent fall in the level of satisfaction by the respondents. The analysis presented in this report is based on the WageIndicator dataset covering the period of three years, from January 2016 to December 2018. This report provides a comparison of wage and working conditions figures for three years, January 2016 to December 2018. The wage analysis

is based on data collected from Paycheck.in, the Salary Calculator and Monster Salary Index from the period.

- Highlights of the study:**
- Majority respondents indicated being happy about job satisfaction in 2018
 - Respondents believed satisfaction with the Relationship with superiors was good
 - Pay-satisfaction recorded the lowest and continued to decrease
 - Satisfaction on salary saw 21 per cent fall
 - Pay, job security and life-as-a-whole-satisfaction are the only values below 70 showing a rather satisfying work life.

The last date to apply is November 30, 2019. Interested candidates can apply at <http://bit.do/cfhe-application2019-11>.

The IIT Hyderabad's Center for Healthcare Entrepreneurship (CfHE) invites Applications for its Fellowship for 2019-20. The fellowship is dedicated to achieving universal healthcare solutions through entrepreneurship and providing successful applicants with training and incubation opportunities.

The fellowship is dedicated to achieving universal healthcare solutions by igniting the spark of entrepreneurship and providing successful applicants with training and incubation opportunities.

The Center is inviting applications for admission to the prestigious CfHE fellowship for the year 2020 starting from January 2020.

The Fellowship provides a stipend of ₹50,000 per month during the first year of training, which includes deep clinical immersions in private and public hospitals and exposure to the healthcare industry.

The Erasmus Mundus award is now available to pursue a master degree programme. The University of Glasgow is the leading partner in the consortium of universities that have developed this multiple master programme.

Nationality: All nationalities (Programme and partner countries).

Eligibility: Copy (or copies) of your official degree certificate(s); copy (or copies) of your official academic transcript(s), showing full details of subjects studied and grades/marks obtained; Official English translations of the certificate(s) and transcript(s); Two reference letters on headed paper; CV; Evidence of your English Language ability (if your first language is not English); copy of the photo page of your passport (Non-EU students only)

How to apply: Applicants can apply as an Erasmus Mundus scholarship student and a self-funded student through the online application. **Application deadline:** It is January 31, 2020.

MARKETING AT THE DESIGN CART
Location: Delhi
Stipend: ₹4,000 per month
Link: internshala.com/2095836
Application deadline: November 25, 2019

PSYCHOLOGY AT MY CAREER IDEA
Location: Delhi
Stipend: ₹5,000 per month
Link: internshala.com/2095837
Application deadline: December 16, 2019

SPORTS MANAGEMENT AT SPORTZCONSULT
Location: Delhi, South Goa, North Goa, Goa Velha
Stipend: ₹6,000 per month
Link: internshala.com/2095838
Application deadline: November 26, 2019

DATA ENTRY AT BELHEM HOSPITALITY
Location: Work From Home
Stipend: ₹5,000 per month
Link: internshala.com/2095839
Application deadline: November 26, 2019

DIGITAL MARKETING AT LEADGENERATOR.IO
Location: Bengaluru
Stipend: ₹10,000 per month
Link: internshala.com/2095833
Application deadline: November 25, 2019

BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT (SALES) AT BALLYHOOD TODAY
Location: Bengaluru
Stipend: ₹10,000-₹15,000 per month
Link: internshala.com/2095834
Application deadline: 25th November 2019

OPERATIONS AT LODESTAR CAREER GUIDANCE
Location: Bengaluru
Stipend: ₹5,000 per month
Link: internshala.com/2095835
Application deadline: November 25, 2019

STUDY ABROAD

‘We take a holistic approach to strategise’

ALISON CAMPBELL, Deputy Director, Future Students, University of Queensland tells students why they should study here

How is India important as a market for University of Queensland (UQ)?

The UQ identified India as a strategic country for engagement. Getting our India strategy right will both enhance the prosperity and security of Australians and help realise the aspirations of the 1.3 billion Indians who sense their time has come and a better life is within their grasp.

How many Indian students are currently studying at UQ and what is the average number of enrollments from India every year?

Since 2013, more than 1,200 Indian students have enrolled in programmes at UQ, with more than 700 students enrolled in 2018. Indian student numbers have increased by around 40% since 2017 and by more than 200% since 2013. The majority of students from India currently enrolled are studying PG programmes. The UG commencements have seen consistent growth in recent years.

How has the ease in visa policies affected the overall

IN BRIEF

TOOL FOR IDENTIFYING MOST GIFTED STUDENTS

The Asset Talent Search (ATS) is an assessment tool for identifying the most gifted students. In its ninth year, the ATS exam by Educational Initiatives identifies the extent of giftedness in students and develops the career path for your child! It contains three sections – English, Mathematics and Science.

The test that measures student's conceptual understanding, benchmarks

school's performance at an international, national and regional level with actionable insights through easy-to-understand reports.

Register: Before November 25, 2019
Test dates: Sunday, December 1, 2019 and December 8, 2019

Register: At assettalentsearch.com
The ATS is a talent recognition programme. It identifies the finest talents in Math, Science and English.

MYNEET EXAM FOR MEDICAL ASPIRANTS

The Era Foundation, the organisers of COMED-K (Karnataka's Engineering seat selection and counselling forum) launched MyNEET, the only national-level mock exam for NEET.

The exam aims at giving candidates an experience of writing the real national eligibility cum entrance test in a simulated environment. MyNEET will be conducted on January 4, 2020, at

400 centres across the country. The NEET is one of the most competitive exams in India with a success rate of only 15 per cent. Every year over 15 lakh students attempt NEET competing for 75,000 seats in medical colleges across India.

Muralidhar, CEO, Era Foundations said: "The experience of writing NEET for the first time can be unnerving for the

students, considering its scope and scale. We strongly feel giving a mock exam in a simulated environment can be invaluable to these students. The questions in the mock exam are set by educators keeping in mind the same difficulty level and complexity as NEET. The educators are subject matter experts who have experience in setting questions for all India entrance exams."

FORE SCHOOL STUDENTS SHINE

The students of FORE School of Management showcased their management and business skills at national level competitions organised by various campuses of Indian Institute of Management. The victory comprised of six consecutive winnings which started from IIM Ahmadabad, IIM Udaipur, IIM Raipur, SRCC, and IIFT to IIT Bombay, SJMSOM.

Every year, different branches of IIM organise events for the students to come and showcase their management skills, HR skills, as well as business

management strategies to touch the cherished milestone envisioned ever since the foundation of the institutions.

The winners were given trophies as well cash prizes along with many certificates after analysing the given problem, providing the management strategies and HR skills to come up with a positive and profitable outcome for the organisation.

The events offered a platform to students who allowed them to perform their best and prepare them for positions of greater responsibility in their career.

Azzurri hit 9 past Armenia

Mancini's side maintain perfect record with 9-1 rout; Danes, Swiss through to Euro 2020



Ciro Immobile (11) hugs Nicolò Zaniolo after Lazio striker scores his second goal against Armenia



Christian Eriksen celebrates with teammates after Denmark qualifies for Euro 2020

AFP ■ PALERMO

Denmark and Switzerland secured spots at Euro 2020 at the expense of the Republic of Ireland on Monday as Roberto Mancini's Italy completed a perfect qualifying campaign by scoring nine.

Ireland needed to beat Denmark in Dublin to clinch qualification for next year's 24-team European Championship finals, but Matt Doherty's late header was only enough to earn Mick McCarthy's men a 1-1 draw at the Aviva Stadium.

A closely-fought contest, low on technical quality, swung the visitors way when the unmarked Martin Braithwaite stuck out a boot to divert a Henrik Dalsgaard cross into the net on 73 minutes.

However, Ireland scored a late equaliser to draw 1-1 in Copenhagen in June and they repeated the feat here as Wolverhampton Wanderers right-back Doherty headed in an Enda Stevens cross with five minutes left.

Needing to win, the home side

then threw everything at their opponents in the dying moments, but Denmark held on to clinch second place in Group D behind Switzerland.

"We had opportunities but I am not going to criticise the lads," McCarthy told Sky Sports.

"They have been brilliant. We lost one game out of eight. I am very proud of them. We can beat anyone in the play-offs."

The Danes, European champions in 1992, can now look forward to playing at home during the finals, with Copenhagen one of the 12 host cities chosen for the tournament.

Switzerland secured top spot with a 6-1 away win against minnows Gibraltar as Cedric Itten scored twice. Skipper and Arsenal outcast Granit Xhaka netted their final goal.

Italy had already wrapped up qualification from Group J but they saved their best for last, making it 10 wins from 10 by hammering Armenia 9-1 in Palermo with seven different scorers.

Serie A top scorer Ciro Immobile and Nicolò Zaniolo both scored braces, while Nicolò Barella and Alessio Romagnoli found the net before Chelsea midfielder Jorginho converted a penalty.

Riccardo Orsolini came off the bench to score on his Italy debut and Federico Chiesa finished off the scoring after Edgar Babayan had pulled one back for Armenia.

It was an 11th straight win in all for Mancini's side, with Italy scoring nine times in a game for the first time since beating the USA 9-0 at the London Olympics in 1948.

"We had the right approach to the game and you don't score nine goals by chance," Mancini purred.

"We need to improve various aspects of the game but for me it will be really difficult to leave some people at home when I select the squad for the finals. They would all deserve to be there."

Having wrapped up a historic first qualification for a major tournament three days earlier, Finland lost 2-1 to Greece in Athens despite Norwich City striker Teemu Pukki giving them a first-half lead with his 10th goal in eight international games.

Bosnia and Herzegovina finish fourth in the group despite a 3-0 win in Liechtenstein, but they will have another chance to qualify via the play-offs next March.

LAST GAME FOR MORENO

Meanwhile, Group F winners Spain rounded out their qualifying campaign with a 5-0 destruction of Romania at a barely half-full Metropolitan Stadium in Madrid.

Gerard Moreno scored twice after Napoli midfielder Fabian Ruiz opened the scoring. Adrian Rus put through his own net in first-half stoppage time and Real Sociedad striker Mikel Oyarzabal wrapped up the win amid reports the match was Robert Moreno's last as coach.

Having already qualified as runners-up in the same group, Sweden defeated the Faroe Islands 3-0, while Norway, who go into the play-offs, won 2-1 in Malta.

The final automatic qualifying berth will be decided after Wales host Hungary with the winner going through from Group E, while a draw in Cardiff could allow Slovakia to pip both of them by beating Azerbaijan.



Spain coach Luis Enrique in a file picture

Enrique returns as La Roja boss

AFP ■ MADRID

Luis Enrique will return as coach of Spain and replace Robert Moreno ahead of Euro 2020, the Spanish Football Federation (RFEF) confirmed on Tuesday.

Moreno took charge in June after Luis Enrique had resigned to take care of his daughter Xana, who died in August of bone cancer.

"Today we can confirm Luis Enrique returns to his position of work," RFEF president Luis Rubiales said in a press conference at the national team's training base in Las Rozas.

Rubiales said Luis Enrique has a contract until the 2022 World Cup in Qatar and that it will be up to him whether Moreno is offered a chance to resume his previous role as assistant coach.

The pair were close friends and also worked together at Barcelona, Celta Vigo and Roma but Moreno appears upset at the manner of his departure.

"Luis Enrique stepped down because of the worst possible thing that can happen to a father," Rubiales said.

"He has always been the leader of our project and he has a contract until (the) World Cup in Qatar."

Luis Enrique was appointed Spain's coach after the 2018 World Cup and his readiness to return will be welcomed, after the death of his nine-year-old daughter three months ago.

But the RFEF's handling of the change has been clumsy, with reports emerging before Spain's 5-0 win over Romania on Monday that he would not lead the team at next year's finals.

Moreno did not appear for his post-match press conference and reportedly left the players' dressing room in tears.

Rubiales said Moreno also chose not to show up for a meeting with the RFEF on Tuesday.

"We had a meeting set up with Robert Moreno at 10am this morning," Rubiales said.

"But he did not come, only his two lawyers."

Moreno said in September he would be "the first and most delighted to step aside" if Luis Enrique decided he wanted to come back but he may have hoped for more transparency around the decision.

Rubiales rejected accusations of dishonesty, insisting he spoke to Luis Enrique in October and then again on Monday, having learned he was ready to return through Moreno.

"It was clear that as soon as Luis Enrique felt strong enough to return, the door would be open for him," Rubiales said.

"I have been honest about that. Nobody can feel tricked."

Rubiales added: "We thank Robert Moreno for his work, he did a very good job, and we are very happy with what he did."

"But I repeat that Robert Moreno told us that he had spoken to Luis Enrique, who told him he wanted to return. We found out Luis Enrique wanted to come back through Moreno."

Pep's agent rules out Munich return



Former Bayern Munich coach Pep Guardiola during team's training session in Allianz Arena

Manchester City's agent has ruled out a return to Bayern Munich at least until the Spaniard's contract expires at Manchester City in 2021, according to reports.

The German champions are currently looking for a new head coach following the sacking of Niko Kovac after a 5-1 thrashing at Eintracht Frankfurt at the start of the month.

Caretaker boss Hansi Flick will remain in charge at least until Christmas when the Bundesliga goes into recess but the Germans are already on the lookout for a possible high profile replacement.

"Pep is content and very happy in Manchester. His contract is until June 2021," Guardiola's agent Josep Maria Orobitg told German daily Bild on Wednesday, having also been quoted by websites SPOX and Goal.

"Guardiola always fulfils his contracts."

"I haven't spoken with anyone in Germany about him — neither with intermediaries nor club bosses."

"Pep has good memories of Munich and still has friends there, but at the moment he has shown no interest in returning to Germany as a coach."

"That is something that is just as impossible at the moment as it was last summer with Juventus."

"I deny all rumours."

Guardiola won the German league and cup double in his final season at Bayern in 2016 having lifted the Bundesliga title in each of his three seasons at the Munich club, who he joined in 2013.

Ajax coach Erik ten Hag and Paris Saint-Germain's Thomas Tuchel have been linked to Bayern, but both have made it clear they will not leave their respective clubs this season.

AFP ■ TEL AVIV

Lionel Messi scored a late penalty as Argentina drew 2-2 with Uruguay in a friendly held in Israel on Monday, with the Jewish state considering the match a victory.

The game pitted Messi against his Barcelona teammate Luis Suarez, and it looked as though the Uruguayan had gotten the better of him as he scored one goal and set up another to give his team a 2-1 lead going into injury time.

But a ball into the box was handled by a Uruguayan defender, and Messi calmly slotted the resulting penalty home to ensure an engaging friendly ended all square.

The 32-year-old had earlier teed up Manchester City striker Sergio Agüero to make it 1-1, after Edinson Cavani

Barca boys star in 2-2 draw



Lionel Messi attempts to score via free kick against Uruguay

had opened the scoring.

Suarez scored a free-kick from outside the box to give his side the lead before Messi's late intervention.

The game had been dubbed by organisers as an important moment for Israel, following the cancellation of another Argentina match a year earlier after pressure from pro-Palestinian campaigners.

On the pitch at times it felt like the Messi show, with the crowd chanting his name and every mazy run greeted by vociferous cheering.

While not at his electric best, he showed moments of quality — slaloming past defenders and forcing Uruguay goalkeeper Martin Campana into a number of smart saves.

The match comes after the cancellation of a pre-World Cup friendly fixture between Argentina and Israel in June 2018 after boycott calls.

That match had been due to be played in Jerusalem, sparking Palestinian anger and criticism of Argentina online.

Israel considers Jerusalem its "indivisible" capital, while Palestinians claim the eastern part of the city — occupied by Israel in 1967 and later annexed — as the capital of their future state.

Monday's game was held in the Israeli commercial capital Tel Aviv.

Henry ready for Montreal challenge

AFP ■ MONTREAL

Newly-appointed Montreal Impact boss Thierry Henry vowed to learn from the mistakes of his disastrous reign at Monaco on Monday but called for patience as he attempts to revive the fortunes of the struggling Major League Soccer outfit.

Speaking at his first press conference since his appointment by Montreal last week, the 42-year-old former France and Arsenal superstar insisted he is ready for the challenge despite his troubled tenure with Ligue 1 side Monaco.

Henry was sacked by Monaco in January after only 100 days in charge as the team nosedived into the relegation zone following his appointment, with just five wins in 20 matches.

"For me, the way I put it is always [either] you win or you learn, and I learned a lot there," Henry said of his spell at Monaco.

"It's about coming back, always. You have to get up and be in front of what happens. The only mistake that you can make is not learning from what happened."

Henry, who was also an assistant coach to Belgium during the country's 2018 World Cup campaign, where they finished third, said his experiences were part of his evolution as a manager.

"You have to start somewhere," he said of his time with Belgium and Monaco.

"I learned a lot about myself. It's about fighting. This isn't just my story but the story of everyone in life. Everyone falls. It's about how you get up."

The Impact's sporting director Olivier Renard said Henry beat out several candidates under consideration for the Montreal position.

After meeting Henry in mid-October, it was decided then that he should take on the job of rebuilding the foundering franchise, he said.

Henry, who spent four years in MLS with the New York Red Bulls at the tailend of his playing career, meanwhile urged Montreal's fans to be patient, saying success won't come overnight.

କୃଷ୍ଣ ରୋଗ ଚିହ୍ନ ଅଭିଯାନ ୨୦୧୯

ନାସନାଲ୍ ହେଲ୍ଥ ମିସନ୍

ରାଜ୍ୟର ସମସ୍ତ ସହରାଞ୍ଚଳରେ ଏହି ଅଭିଯାନ ଚଳିତ ମାସ ନଭେମ୍ବର ୧୮ ରୁ ୩୦ ତାରିଖ ପର୍ଯ୍ୟନ୍ତ ଚଳୁ ରହିବ । ଏହି ସମୟରେ ତାଲିମ୍ ପ୍ରାପ୍ତ ଆଶା ଓ ସ୍ୱାସ୍ଥ୍ୟକର୍ମୀମାନେ ଘରକୁ ଘର ଯାଇ କୃଷ୍ଣ ରୋଗ ସର୍ବେକ୍ଷଣ କରିବେ । ଏଣୁ ଏହି ଅଭିଯାନରେ ସମସ୍ତେ ସାମିଲ ହୋଇ କୃଷ୍ଣ ରୋଗ ଚିହ୍ନ କାର୍ଯ୍ୟକ୍ରମକୁ ସଫଳ କରିବାକୁ ଅନୁରୋଧ ।

ନିଜେ ଜାଣନ୍ତୁ ଓ ଅନ୍ୟମାନଙ୍କୁ ଜଣାନ୍ତୁ :

- କୃଷ୍ଣ ଏକ ଜୀବାଣୁ ଜନିତ ସାଧାରଣ ରୋଗ, ଏହି ରୋଗ ଛୁଇଁବା ଦ୍ୱାରା ବ୍ୟାପେ ନାହିଁ କିମ୍ବା ଏହା ଏକ ଅଭିଶାପ ଜନିତ ରୋଗ ନୁହେଁ ।
- ବୟସ ଛାଡ଼ି, ଚର୍ମ ମୋଟା ହୋଇ ଚେଲିଆ ବା ଚିକ୍ନିଶ ଦେଖାଯିବା, କାନ ବା ଶରୀରରେ ଛୋଟ ଛୋଟ ଗୁଲି ସୃଷ୍ଟି ହେବା, ହାତ ପାଦ ଶୁଖିଲା ହୋଇ ବୟସ ଲାଗିବା ବା ଆଖି, ହାତ ଓ ପାଦର ମାଂସପେଶୀ ଦୂର୍ବଳ ଲାଗିବା କୃଷ୍ଣ ରୋଗର ପ୍ରାଥମିକ ଲକ୍ଷଣ ।
- ପ୍ରାଥମିକ ଅବସ୍ଥାରୁ ଚିକିତ୍ସା କଲେ ରୋଗୀ ବିକଳାଙ୍ଗ ହୁଏ ନାହିଁ ।
- ଏମ୍.ଡି.ସି. ଦ୍ୱାରା କୃଷ୍ଣରୋଗ ସମ୍ପୂର୍ଣ୍ଣ ଆରୋଗ୍ୟସାଧ୍ୟ । ଏହା ସମସ୍ତ ସରକାରୀ ସ୍ୱାସ୍ଥ୍ୟକେନ୍ଦ୍ରରେ ବିନାମୂଲ୍ୟରେ ଉପଲବ୍ଧ ।

ଅଧିକ ସୂଚନା ପାଇଁ ଆଶା, ସ୍ୱାସ୍ଥ୍ୟକର୍ମୀ କିମ୍ବା ସହରାଞ୍ଚଳ ପ୍ରାଥମିକ ସ୍ୱାସ୍ଥ୍ୟକେନ୍ଦ୍ର ସହ ପରାମର୍ଶ କରନ୍ତୁ ।

ସ୍ୱାସ୍ଥ୍ୟ ଓ ପରିବାର କଲ୍ୟାଣ ବିଭାଗ, ଓଡ଼ିଶା

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Wrist spinners difficult to pick with Pink ball: Harbhajan

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

At the floodlit Eden Gardens, wrist spinners landing the pink ball with scrambled seam will be far more difficult to pick than finger spinners, feels senior off-spinner Harbhajan Singh.

India will be playing its much-awaited first Day/Night Test against Bangladesh at the Eden Gardens from Saturday and there is a lot of curiosity regarding how the pink ball would behave.

"Wrist spinners will have one advantage if you see because it's going to be very difficult to pick the seam (with black stitches) of pink ball," Harbhajan told PTI during an interaction.

India has a wrist spinner in Kuldeep Yadav but Harbhajan didn't want to talk on selection matters.

"Well, that's the team management's call and I can't comment. But then Bangladesh need to play the Indian pacers on the seamer friendly track before spinners are fully operational," he said, referring to their performance against Mohd Shami and Co. in the first Test.

"And also between 3.30 and 4.30 pm, the time of sunset in Kolkata where seamers are known to do maximum damage. But yes we need to figure out more about spinners if we want to play more D/N Tests in future."

He reminded how Kuldeep turned out to be lethal during the 2016 Duleep Trophy, played with the pink ball.

"If you remember Duleep Trophy, no one could effectively read Kuldeep from his wrists. Leg spinners got lot of wickets during that edition," Harbhajan said.

He explained why wrist spinners are more effective.

"When a finger spinner bowls, the ball is released with seam so that there is turn and bounce. When you are bowling the googly, the seam will be scrambled and very difficult to pick," he explained.

However, someone like a Muttiah Muralitharan might just be very effective.

"But there are exceptions like Muttiah Muralitharan, who could have been a killer with the pink ball despite being a finger spinner



Ravichandran Ashwin, center without cap, celebrates with teammates the dismissal of Bangladesh's Liton Das during the third day of first Test between India and Bangladesh in Indore

because unlike other finger spinners, both his off break and doosra were released with scrambled seam," said one of India's greatest spinners.

However, the pink SG in general will be a challenge for the spinners with the extra lacquer that will be applied to keep its colour intact under lights.

"More lacquer means that you will not have a good grip on the ball, especially finger spinners. And the ball starts skidding from the hand."

He then went on to explain the fundamental difference between bowling with white ball and pink ball when the dew sets in.

"A lot of people think that the ball will be like a slippery soap bar as it happens with white ball in D/N games. It's not the same. The white ball becomes slippery because the white lacquer goes off the skin of the ball gets wet.

"With extra lacquer, pink ball's skin won't get wet but the stitches will be very soggy. And therein lies problem with finger spinners.

When a finger spinner bowls, the ball is released with seam so that there is turn and bounce. When you are bowling the googly, the seam will be scrambled and very difficult to pick

Also the format of the game makes it difficult.

"In 50 overs or 20 over cricket, whenever the ball gets wet, you can just alter the length a bit and let the batsmen play on backfoot getting those singles.

"But in a Test match, you will not have a field setting like that. You have to pitch it up. Now landing six deliveries on one spot while trying to grip a wet seam can be a challenge because trying the ODI length will be easy meat for batsmen."

For spinners to be more effective, they have to play more games at the domestic level.

"If BCCI creates a window so that all top national players are available for a couple of specific rounds in Ranji Trophy, then you can learn more.

"Even Duleep can go back to pink ball but only if stars play. With no disrespect to any player, if top players don't play here, the purpose is lost and no advantage gained while playing next pink Test," he concluded.

Nur-Sultan to host Ind-Pak Davis Cup tie

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Dismissing Pakistan's review appeal, the International Tennis Federation (ITF) on Tuesday announced Kazakhstan's capital Nur-Sultan as the neutral venue for the upcoming Davis Cup tie between India and Pakistan.

Pakistan Tennis Federation (PTF) had filed an appeal contesting the ITF Davis Cup Committee's November 4 decision to shift the November 29-30 tie to a neutral venue.

PTF had argued that if Indian pilgrims can visit Pakistan without any security threat, why can't the Indian team play matches in Islamabad, but the Independent Tribunal of the world governing body kept the games at a neutral venue.

"The Pakistan Tennis Federation (PTF) appealed the Davis Cup Committee decision to move the tie from Islamabad. The appeal was dismissed by an independent tribunal on Monday 18 November," ITF said in a statement.

"Further to the decision of the PTF not to nominate a neutral venue, in accordance with Davis Cup regulations, the Davis Cup Committee has voted in favour of the tie being hosted by the ITF on neutral ground at the National Tennis Centre in Nur-Sultan (previously Astana), Kazakhstan on 29-30 November," the statement added.

The matches will be played on indoor courts since extreme cold conditions there won't allow them to be staged outside.

"Playing indoors suits our players. It will work in our favour, not that our players can't play on grass but they a lot more comfortable on hard courts. The weather conditions are harsh and though we are playing indoors, it still affects the body," India coach Zeeshan Ali said.

"The quality of tennis is better playing indoors because factors like sun and wind do not affect the matches." The tie was scheduled to be held in Islamabad in September but was pushed to November 29-30 after India expressed concerns about the safety of their players due to diplomatic tensions between the two nations.

Shami alters length to keep batsmen guessing

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

India speedster Mohammed Shami said altering length to keep the batsmen guessing would be key when India take on Bangladesh in their maiden Pink-ball Test.

Shami, who has been in terrific form, returned with the figures of 3/27 and 4/31 in the first Test at Indore to achieve his career-best ranking, said he intends on keeping things simple for the historic Test.

"What one thing bowlers should do is keep an eye on the wicket and how is it behaving, so what I do is as the pitch gets slower I keep pushing myself and when I notice that the batsman is uncomfortable I go over the top... So the length has to keep changing," Shami said on *Nerolac Cricket Live* on Star Sports.

Meanwhile, former India cap-



Shami, who has been in terrific form, returned with the figures of 3/27 and 4/31 in the first Test at Indore to achieve his career-best ranking, said he intends on keeping things simple for the historic Test.

son there is a lot more data available of you to the opposition.

"But he has been batting beautifully, the way he balances himself without falling on the offside as he plays so straight and his movement of the front and back foot has been fantastic making him the man in form who is full of confidence," Gavaskar said.

Former India opener Gautam Gambhir said the Men in Blue have a complete bowling unit with quality spinners and pacers in their ranks.

"If you see other oppositions, some teams have got quality fast bowling attacks, some have quality spinners but if you look at this Indian side, they've got two quality spinners, three quality seamers plus Jasprit Bumrah and Bhuvneshwar Kumar who are not in the playing 11.

"So they've got proper 5 seamers plus Kuldeep Yadav."

Coach Langer throws weight behind Warner



IAANS ■ BRISBANE

Australia coach Justin Langer has reckoned opener David Warner will put his bad form in the Ashes this year behind him in the upcoming Test series against Pakistan. Warner had a horrible outing during the Ashes campaign this year as he managed just 95 runs at an average of 9.5 from five games.

"I cannot wait to see him play well.

When he simplifies the game, stays still and watches the ball, keeps his mind clear, we know there's no more destructive player in the world, probably," Langer was quoted as saying by *cricket.com.au*.

"He loves batting in Australia, he loves batting, basically. We are looking forward to him having a great summer. I know how important he is to our team, that's why I had no doubt after the Ashes that he'd be in the first Test of the summer," he added.

When Pakistan last toured Australia, Warner averaged 71.20 across three Test matches.

Earlier, Aussie spinner Nathan Lyon felt that Warner would come out all guns blazing in the two-Test series against Pakistan.

"Dave is a world-class player. I'm expecting him to come out here and play exceptionally well," Lyon had told reporters on Saturday.

"No doubt, he would have been down and disappointed about the Ashes that he had. But he was still part of the side to go over there and retain the Ashes, which is pretty bloody special, if you ask me," he added.

Babar's best yet to come: Ponting

IAANS ■ BRISBANE

With Pakistan set to challenge Australia in a two-Tests series starting Thursday, former Australia skipper Ricky Ponting believes that Babar Azam could be a threat for the home team as the World Cup-winning spinner feels that Babar is yet to play to potential.

"We haven't seen the best of him yet," Ponting told *cricket.com.au*. "Twenty-odd Tests for an average of 35 — he's better than that. He averages 54 in one-day cricket at a strike-rate of about 90. He's a very, very classy player.

"He's a really exciting talent and probably the guy I'm looking forward to seeing the most this summer. I've seen the Aussies a lot and I've seen a lot of the Kiwis, but I'm really excited to see him. He could be anything," he added.



Babar Azam in a file picture PCB

Kiwis & Eng put rivalry to Test

AFP ■ MOUNT MAUNGANUI

New Zealand and England will take their cricketing rivalry into the Test arena on Thursday after finding themselves evenly matched in recent limited-overs thrillers.

England have bragging rights after winning a rollercoaster World Cup final in July, then edging the Black Caps 3-2 in a desperately close Twenty20 series completed earlier this month.

Both the one-day decider and T20 series needed tie-breakers to find a winner and there will be no shortage of mutual respect when the rivals face off again on Thursday in the First Test at Mount Maunganui.

On paper, there again appears to be little to separate the teams, with New Zealand second in the Test rankings and England third.

But England skipper Joe Root is painfully aware that his team underperformed when it lost a two-Test series in New Zealand last year after underestimating the Black Caps' bowlers on their home turf.

Pacemen Trent Boult and Tim Southee bundled the tourists out for 58 in the first innings of the opening Test as England tried to play what Root described as "fast forward" cricket.

England's skipper said his team would be taking a more measured



New Zealand and England players watch as local maori perform a haka during an official welcome

approach this time, with batsmen placing an emphasis on protecting their wickets.

"We have to be prepared to play some attritional cricket at times," he said.

"We have to try to bat longer... it would be nice to get used to batting for 120 overs more regularly, especially in the first innings."

The series will not count towards the World Test Championship, giving new England coach Chris Silverwood room to experiment in his first Test series in

charge. He is expected to hand opening batsman Dom Sibley his debut, partnering Rory Burns, with Root moving down to fourth in the order.

New Zealand will take the opportunity to blood speedster Lockie Ferguson, who has already excelled in limited overs internationals and was described as "an extreme talent" by short-ball specialist Neil Wagner.

"I know he's raring to go. If he gets the opportunity he'll make the most of

it," Wagner said.

New Zealand will also be bolstered by the return of captain Kane Williamson, who sat out the T20 series with a nagging hip injury.

It will be the first Test match ever staged at Mount Maunganui's Bay Oval, which has been hosting limited-overs internationals since 2014.

The beachside venue is Wagner's home ground and he said the wicket could take time to get used to.

"It's been a pretty good wicket that's tended to be on the flatter side but there's always pace and bounce that you can work with," he said.

"It's also got its own unique challenges with wind that swirls around a bit."

SQUADS

New Zealand: Kane Williamson (capt), Todd Astle, Tom Blundell, Trent Boult, Colin de Grandhomme, Lockie Ferguson, Matt Henry, Tom Latham, Henry Nicholls, Jeet Raval, Mitchell Santner, Tim Southee, Ross Taylor, Neil Wagner, BJ Watling

England: Joe Root (capt), Jofra Archer, Jonny Bairstow, Stuart Broad, Rory Burns, Jos Buttler, Zak Crawley, Sam Curran, Joe Denly, Jack Leach, Saqib Mahmood, Matthew Parkinson, Ollie Pope, Dominic Sibley, Ben Stokes, Chris Woakes.

Misbah working on plans to shut Smith

IAANS ■ BRISBANE

Pakistan coach Misbah-ul-Haq said that pitching the ball consistently on the blind spot or near the top of the off stump would be key to dismissing Australian stalwart Steve Smith.

Smith returned to Test cricket by taking the Ashes by storm earlier in the year. In the five-match series that was held across August and September in England, Smith scored a whopping 774 runs at an average of 110.57. He carried the good form into the recently concluded T20I series against Pakistan at home.

"As far as Steve Smith goes, there's a blind spot for every top batsman in the world; as a bowler you're always interested in pitching the ball there," Misbah is quoted as saying by *ESPNcricinfo*.

"It's important that we bowl with consistency there.

Our bowlers are executing the plans very well right now, and hopefully we'll be able to build that kind of a pressure, and stay disciplined especially early in the innings. No matter how good a batsman is batting, it's about consistency and bowling the maximum balls in those areas that build pressure and the batsman respects you, and you force

him to make a mistake."

Pakistan are going into the series with a pace attack that consists of Mohammad Abbas, Shaheen Afridi, Muhammad Musa and the 16-year-old Naseem Shah.

"All the batsmen you talk to, any batsman in the world, that's the area where you have to defend a ball, and that is a six to eight metre spot where you have to play the top of off stump," he said. "That's the area from where if it's happening then that creates a great chance. Even if it's not happening, you have less chances to do anything with the ball.

"So it's about consistency, and top players in the world, if you miss those areas, that special length and line, then they are good enough to just cash in on that. So you have to be very, very disciplined, just keep the ball there, and if it's happening you are already in the game."

