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Prez Rule in Maharashtra, parties relieved

More time for political manoeuvring to form Govt, feel parties, but Congress, NCP cry foul over Guv's haste; Sena to move SC

PNS ■ NEW DELHI/MUMBAI

Maharashtra was on Tuesday placed under President's Rule, which came as a major relief to all the four stakeholders who now have enough time to outdo each other in the race for Government formation in the State. The Shiv Sena and the NCP admitted this and said they were not in a hurry, while the Congress maintained it will talk to Uddhav's party after discussing threadbare with Sharad Pawar's entourage to reach a common ground.

Following the Centre's move, the Shiv Sena said it is readying a petition to challenge the President's Rule decision in the Supreme Court. A final call will be taken on Wednesday, Shiv Sena's advocate said. The SC may hear the petition challenging the Governor's decision on Wednesday.

Except for the BJP, the Shiv Sena, NCP and Congress all have cried foul over the Governor's role. "The way President's Rule was recommended, I condemn it. This Government has violated the SC guidelines on President's Rule on several occasions in the last 5 years," Ahmed Patel said.

Sena suffered a setback in its efforts to cobble up a non-BJP Government in Maharashtra with the Congress



Security outside Raj Bhawan in Mumbai on Tuesday after Maharashtra Governor Bhagat Singh Koshiyari recommended the imposition of President's Rule in the State in view of stalemate over Government formation PTI

at the last moment announcing its decision to hold more talks with ally NCP on supporting the Shiv Sena.

Interestingly, while the BJP, which had given up its claim, appeared once again on the scene to assert it was back in the contention, the Sena still showed signs of willingness to go with its longtime NDA ally if the BJP gave it what it wanted

— the Chief Ministership for two and half years.

"We have six months, we will sit down with the Congress and NCP," Uddhav told reporters after a meeting with his MLAs.

In a Press conference with Congress leaders, Pawar said they were in no hurry and will take a decision after holding further talks with the Congress.



Shiv Sena chief Uddhav Thackeray addresses a Press conference as his son and Yuva Sena chief Aaditya Thackeray looks on in Mumbai on Tuesday PTI

Senior Congress leader Ahmed Patel maintained his party will hold talks with the Sena only after its talks with the NCP culminate. But then, BJP leader Narain Rane came out to say that his party will try to form a Government and that former Chief Minister Devendra Fadnis is putting in all efforts in this direction.

Patel along with KC Venugopal and Mallikarjun Kharge was dispatched by Congress president Sonia Gandhi to hold talks with Pawar to thrash out all niggling issues that could make or mar the prospective alliance with an ideologically opposite party.

The political manoeuvring

continued till late evening. Earlier, the Centre imposed President's Rule after Maharashtra Governor Bhagat Singh Koshiyari recommended it five hours before the expiry of the 8.30 pm deadline given to the NCP to express its willingness to form the Government.

The Union Cabinet subsequently met and approved the recommendation before Prime Minister Narendra Modi's departure to Brazil for the BRICS Summit.

The Shiv Sena moved the SC challenging the Governor's decision to not grant it more time for the Government formation exercise.

NCP's delayed opinion left Cong in two minds on Sena

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

A reluctant Congress, which did not make its mind to back an ideologically different party in forming a Government in Maharashtra, got more confused when a day earlier its long time ally NCP chief Sharad Pawar communicated to Congress president Sonia Gandhi that "he (Pawar) will first assess the situation in joining hands with the Shiv Sena and get back to the party".

This made the grand old party send three top leaders — Ahmed Patel, Mallikarjun Kharge and KC Venugopal — to meet Pawar in Mumbai and comprehend the nitty-gritty further. The Congress has been extremely reluctant to back the Shiv Sena, given the severe ideological mismatch and the fact that the two parties fought bitterly as rivals in Mumbai and other parts of the State in the polls.

The leaders were supposed to visit early in the day to Mumbai but their plan deferred after, according to sources in AICC, Pawar conveyed that State leaders of both the parties will first discuss the "terms and conditions" of the Government formation in the State.



NCP chief Sharad Pawar, Congress leaders Ahmed Patel and Mallikarjun Kharge during a joint Press conference in Mumbai on Tuesday PTI

Both Sonia and Pawar had spoken earlier where both are believed to have discussed on a "common minimum programme" before giving any word to the Shiv Sena. Pawar also informed the Congress central leadership that he would come to Delhi and finalise details with them during the day. When Pawar expressed his inability to visit the national Capital, the Congress decided to send the leaders to meet Pawar.

Though the meeting remained inconclusive, leaders of the two allies said further discussions would be needed to decide on the issue of Government formation in the State. Congress' distrust for

Shiv Sena apart, it also did not want to go the whole hog on the advice of the NCP chief without plugging all loopholes.

NCP leader Ajit Pawar had stopped short of blaming ally Congress for the "delay" in deciding on whether to support the Shiv Sena in a non-BJP Government in Maharashtra. And sources said his uncle, Sharad Pawar, is upset with the Congress for it.

Congress held off on sending its leaders to Mumbai early morning, asking Pawar to come to Delhi instead and speak to Sonia. But Pawar declined, citing a meeting with his party MLAs, and the two then spoke on the phone.

Pawar angle common in all three Prez Rule

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Maharashtra is witnessing President's Rule for the third time in its history with the first being in 1980 and the second in 2014. Interestingly, Pawar has always been in the mix of things on all the three occasions, the Shiv Sena being an addition this time round.

It was the Sharad Pawar-led Progressive Democratic Front Government that the Congress had dismissed first in 1980 to impose President's Rule.

In 2014, the Congress Government led by Prithvi Raj Chavan was dismissed by the Narendra Modi dispensation after it lost majority following Sharad Pawar's NCP withdrawing support to it.

The longest duration that Maharashtra was under President's Rule was for 112 days from February 17, 1980, to June 8, 1980, despite then Chief Minister Sharad Pawar enjoying majority in the House. When Indira came back to power in 1980, she dismissed all non-Congress State Governments in Bihar, Gujarat, Odisha, Punjab, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, besides Maharashtra. She was retaliating for the dis-

missal of eight Congress Governments by the Janata Party dispensation in 1977.

She wanted to ensure the Congress majority in the country after the collapse of the Morarji Desai-led Janata Party Government at the Centre. Pawar was leading the coalition Government in Maharashtra at that time and he had won the majority. The President's Rule came to an end when Abdul Rehman Antulay took over as the Chief Minister of the State.

President's Rule was again imposed for 32 days from September 28, 2014, to October 31, 2014, after then Chief Minister Prithviraj Chavan resigned following the break-up of the 15-year-old Congress-NCP alliance. The NCP had pulled out of the alliance after blaming Congress for stalling talks over seat-sharing.

Article 356, known as President's Rule, deals with failure of constitutional machinery in the State. Under President's Rule, the Governor runs the State with the help of the Chief Secretary. But the Governor cannot take any policy decisions, which can only be taken by the Union Government with the assent of Parliament.



Sikh devotees participate in a religious procession at the birthplace of Sikhism founder Guru Nanak Dev Ji, Gurdwara Nankana Sahib, on the occasion of his 550th birth anniversary, in Nankana Sahib district of Pakistan on Tuesday PTI

Rajoana's death sentence commuted to life imprisonment

PNS ■ CHANDIGARH

Khalistani militant Balwant Singh Rajoana has escaped the gallows without asking for it. Even though Rajoana had made clear his intentions of not contesting the death penalty for eliminating the then Punjab Chief Minister and 16 others, the Centre on Tuesday commuted the same to life imprisonment.

Interestingly, the clemency orders came on the plea filed by the Shiromani Gurdwara Parbandhak Committee (SGPC) in 2012, and not by Rajoana, who had all along been defying any mercy.

It has been learnt that the orders have been conveyed to Punjab Government and the Chandigarh Administration. **Detailed report on P3**

CAPSULE

UK'S LABOUR DISOWNS CORBYN'S ANTI-J&K STAND
New Delhi/London: In a move that is surely going to embarrass Jeremy Corbyn, the Chair of the Labour Party Ian Lavery has outrightly disowned Corbyn's views on Jammu & Kashmir.

LJP TO FIGHT ON 50 SEATS IN JHARKHAND: CHIRAG
New Delhi: Lok Janshakti Party president Chirag Paswan announced on Tuesday that his party will contest 50 seats in the Jharkhand Assembly elections.

WOMAN KILLED BY MALE FRIEND IN DELHI HOTEL
New Delhi: A 33-year-old woman was allegedly killed by her male friend in a hotel room in Outer North Delhi's Alipur area.

EC'S SON UNDER SCANNER FOR FOREX VIOLATIONS
New Delhi: Election Commissioner Ashok Lavasa's son Abir and a firm linked to him have come on the radar of the ED for alleged violations of forex regulations.

President Kovind participates in Prakash Purab

PNS ■ SULTANPUR LODHI

When in Punjab, do as Punjabis do! Following the same, the President Ram Nath Kovind, during his visit to participate in Guru Nanak Dev's 550th birth anniversary celebrations at Sultanpur Lodhi

on Tuesday, sported a turban, and even delivered his speech in Punjabi.

The President, striking a balance between the Punjab Government and the Shiromani Gurdwara Parbandhak Committee who have all along been fighting

among themselves over the issue of organising main event, attended the events organised by both factions.

Kovind, along with his wife Savita Kovind, arrived at Sultanpur Lodhi in Kapurthala district to attend the 550th birth anniversary celebrations

of Guru Nanak Dev where he was received by Punjab Governor VP Singh Badnore, Chief Minister Capt Amarinder Singh and his wife and Patiala MP Preetneet Kaur.

Later, Kovind drove straight to historic Gurdwara Ber Sahib, where he and his wife paid obeisance.

The President then addressed religious gatherings at two events organised by the Congress-led Punjab Government and the SAD-led Shiromani Gurdwara Parbandhak Committee (SGPC).

Notably, the Punjab Government and the SGPC has been at loggerheads over the issue of joint celebrations of 550th birth anniversary of Guru Nanak Dev. The SGPC set up a separate stage at a stadium near Gurdwara Ber Sahib to hold the main event while the State Government set up its own "pandal" to hold the function.

Kovind first went to the stage set up by the Punjab Government, where he was honoured with a memento and a ceremonial sword in the presence of Capt Amarinder, Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot and Punjab

Governor Badnore.

Later he attended the SGPC's event where management body's head Gobind Singh Longowal, Punjab's former Chief Minister and Akali patriarch Parkash Singh Badal, SAD president and MP Sukhbir Badal were present among other leaders.

Greeting the gathering with "Sat Sri Akal", the President said: "Guru Nanak Dev lives in our hearts. He is our common legacy. He is the guiding light for the entire humanity. It is the responsibility of all of us to follow his ideals and work towards eliminating social disparities."

He called upon the people to follow the path shown by the Sikhism founder and work towards eliminating social disparities. He also impressed upon people to imbibe the teachings of all the 10 Sikhs Gurus to contribute in making our country and world a better place.

Guru Nanak Dev spread the light of wisdom with his teachings and preached "Sarbat Da Bhala" which means welfare of all, asking people to rise above inequalities, caste and creed, Kovind said.

Continued on Page 4

Farm fires, sinking mercury may plunge Delhi air to 'emergency'

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

Raging stubble fires in neighbouring States, fall in the temperature and wind speed pushed the national Capital's air quality in the "severe" zone on Tuesday with the Government's air quality monitor, SAFAR, forecasting that pollution levels in Delhi-NCR are expected to enter the "severe plus" or "emergency" category on Wednesday.

Meteorologists said Delhi recorded a minimum temperature of 11.7 degrees Celsius, the season's lowest so far on, Tuesday morning. It is two notches below normal for this time of the year. "A dip in wind speed and temperature makes the air cold and dense," leading to accumulation of pollutants in the air, said Kuldeep Srivastava, head of the India Meteorological Department's regional weather forecasting centre.

According to the Central Pollution Control Bureau (CPCB), Delhi's overall air quality index (AQI) was 425 at 4 pm on Tuesday. It was 360 at 4 pm on Monday.



Foreign tourists wear masks to save themselves from pollution as they cross a road in New Delhi on Tuesday AP

The levels of PM 2.5 — tiny particulate matter less than 2.5 microns in diameter that can enter deep into the lungs and even the bloodstream — shot up to 292 micrograms per cubic metre, around five times the safe limit of 0-60 micrograms per cubic metre.

The levels of PM10 increased to 436 micrograms per cubic metre, more than four times the safe limit of 100

micrograms per cubic metre. Most of the 37 air quality monitoring stations in Delhi recorded air quality in the severe category.

The spike in pollution came on a day when the Delhi Government lifted restrictions under its odd-even vehicle rationing scheme in view of the 550th birth anniversary of Sikhism founder Guru Nanak Dev.



President Ram Nath Kovind and Punjab Chief Minister Capt Amarinder Singh on 550th Prakash Purab of Sri Guru Nanak Dev ji at Sultanpur Lodhi on Tuesday Pioneer Photo

International Renuka fair Himachal CM presides over the closing ceremony

PNS ■ SHIMLA

Himachal Chief Minister Jai Ram Thakur on Tuesday presided over the closing ceremony of the International Shri Renuka Ji fair at Renuka, in Sirmour district saying that fairs and festivals were the integral part of our rich cultural repository and concerted efforts must be made to conserve the same for the generations to come.

He paid obeisance in the Lord Parshuram temple and Mata Renuka temple and also participated in the 'Dev Vaid' procession by giving shoulder to the palanquin of the Lord Parshuram.

Thakur said the present State Government was about to complete two years in office in December and during this period the State has witnessed unprecedented development. He said people of the State have given tremendous love and



affection to the State Government. BJP has won all the elections held during this period be it Lok Sabha or the bye elections of two constituencies of the State.

He said that during the last about two years the efforts of

the State Government was to ensure equitable and balanced development of the State, adding that on the day of assuming office, the State Government lowered the age limit for availing the benefit of old age pension without

income limit from 80 years to 70 years. He said that Janmanch programme launched by the State Government has been appreciated even by the political opponents and as many as 35,000 issues had been resolved

during this programme. He said that now the 1100 Chief Minister Sewa Sankalp Helpline was proving to be a boon to the people of the State for redressal of their grievances.

Thakur said under Ayushman Bharat Yojna for the people of the Country for providing insurance cover of upto Rs 5 lakh as many as 22 lakh people of the State have been covered. He said the State Government has launched HimCare scheme to provide health insurance cover to those families who have not been covered under Ayushman Bharat Yojna.

Chief Minister announced to increase the nazrana for palanquins (palkis) of four deities from Rs. 11 thousand to Rs. 21 thousand. He also visited the developmental exhibition in the fair installed by various departments and gave away prizes to participants and winners of the best exhibition.

District Rural Development Authority received the first prize, second prize went to Education Department whereas Ayurveda Department bagged the third prize in exhibition.

Earlier, the Chief Minister opened new Irrigation and Public Health Sub Division at Dadhau. This would benefit about 50,000 people of twenty-three panchayats of the area and would have four sections of Dadhau, Renuka ji, Parada and Giri Nagar. He also inaugurated water supply scheme to Sirguldhar and some villages of Nahau tehsil constructed with an amount of ₹3.60 crore.

This scheme would cover 46 habitats of four panchayats of the area.

Chief Minister also launched the 'Polythene Free Sirmour Scheme', an initiative of the district administration to make Sirmour district polythene free.

Himachal's cold desert to go for contract farming

Manali: Cold desert of Himachal Pradesh's Lahaul Valley that were once known for producing a bitter taste hops are going to experiment with exotic variety of barley that will be used for making malt whisky, say agriculture experts.

For this, the State Government has signed a memorandum of understanding with the Polish spirits producer Neilson Europe to initially involve nearly 200 farmers of Lahaul-Spiti, Kinnaur and Chamba districts to go for contract farming of a high-yield barley variety imported from Scotland.

Once known for producing a bitter taste hops, the contract farming of barley in the remote Lahaul Valley, which has a cultivation season for less than five months from May owing to heavy snowfall and extreme cold climatic conditions, will usher economic prosperity, Agriculture Minister and local legislator Ram Lal Markanda told.

Last week the State signed a pact with the Polish spirits producer that proposed to invest ₹110 crore to produce the organic Himalayan single malt whisky.

According to the producer of the award winning spirit ZOUK Vodka, world's only single estate rye vodka, the geographic and climatic conditions of Himachal Pradesh is on a par with the Scotland's and many other European regions which will lead to deriving a unique and special terroir.

Surveys by the agriculture department show that the area under cash crop potato cultivation in the Lahaul Valley has already declined in 10 years from 2,000 hectares to about 700 hectares.

Potato cultivation started in 1854 when missionary A. W. Hide from Germany established a farm near Keylong in the Lahaul Valley.

Likewise, there has been a near decline in the cultivation of hops, a key ingredient in brewing beer, as a major cash crop in the valley owing to



dumping of cheaper varieties from China, the US and Germany.

Currently, the area under vegetable cultivation in the valley is around 2,200 hectares. Ramesh Chand, an exotic vegetable grower in Sissu village in Lahaul district, said the contract farming of barley could bring economic prosperity.

"Last year, following news of detection of the Nematode virus in the seed potato samples, growers in Lahaul suffered a massive loss. Many a time untimely heavy snowfall is damaging our cash crops of peas and apples," he said.

Another farmer Deepak Both said the contract farming would benefit both the producers as well as the Agro-processing firm. He said in the past decade, locals have almost given up the cultivation of hops owing to poor demand.

"Barley is a cash crop here, but largely for local consumption and livestock. If there is a contract farming for high-yield barley, it is a good opportunity for the growers to get remunerative price," he added.

Currently, farmers are cul-

tivating cauliflower, cabbage and peas.

According to the Agriculture Department, the yield of cauliflower in the Lahaul Valley is as high as 400 quintal per hectare compared to 200 to 250 quintal elsewhere in the State.

Neilson Europe President Gaurav Rajput told IANS that initially 200 farmers would be involved in the contract farming. "If it is successful, 500-700 farmers would be involved."

He said the company would pay ₹50,000 to each barley grower for its produce on one acre. The amount is 25 per cent higher than the prevailing market rate.

The company would also set up a distillery-cum-bottling plant in the State. The Lahaul Valley, comprising over two dozen small, scattered villages, remains cut off from the rest of the world for over four months from December onwards owing to heavy snow accumulation in the Rohtang Pass (13,050 feet) — the only road link with Manali in the Kullu district.

It re-opens once snow starts thawing after mid-April. IANS

Bird park, veterinary hospital to come up in Chandigarh

NISHU MAHAJAN ■ CHANDIGARH

The Chandigarh Administration has written to the Union Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change seeking approval for the construction of a 'Bird Park' and 'Veterinary Hospital' in Nagar Van here.

To develop the Nagar Van as a major tourist attraction in the city, the UT Forest and Wildlife Department has proposed to develop 'Bird Park' housing exotic bird species. The vet hospital would be constructed adjacent to the park.

Spreading over 100 hectares in and around the Sukhna Lake reserve forest area, Nagar Van has facilities such as walkways, jogging trails, nature trails, shallow water bodies, visitors' shed among others. It was opened for the visitors last year.

Dr Abdul Qayum, Deputy Conservator of Forests, Chandigarh while talking to *The Pioneer* said, "We have sent a proposal to the Union Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change seeking approval for setting up the 'Veterinary Hospital' and 'Bird Park' in Nagar Van."

"One veterinary doctor, staff members and other wildlife experts will work in the hospital to treat wild animals and birds. The hospital to be developed in Nagar Van will be for wild animals only. At present, the injured wild animals are shifted to SPCA hospital premises in Sector 38 here for treatment," he said.

The 'Bird Park', proposed to be developed on the lines of Jurong Bird Park in Singapore, envisages creating a new tourist spot in Chandigarh and a place for bird lovers and aspiring ornithologists. Two aviaries including one for the exotic bird species and a waterfall is planned to be developed in the park.

SPREADING OVER 100 HECTARES IN AND AROUND THE SUKHNA LAKE RESERVE FOREST AREA, NAGAR VAN HAS FACILITIES SUCH AS WALKWAYS, JOGGING TRAILS, NATURE TRAILS, SHALLOW WATER BODIES, VISITORS' SHED AMONG OTHERS. IT WAS OPENED FOR THE VISITORS LAST YEAR

Notably, Jurong Bird Park, Asia's largest bird park houses more than 3500 bird across around 400 species including threatened species. Giving more details of the 'Bird Park', the UT DCF said, "The work on developing the park has already begun. In the first phase, two aviaries will be developed. Exotic bird species like Ostrich, Emu, Lorikeets, Parakeets and various water bird species will be kept in the aviaries." Both the park and hospital will be developed in around two acres land, he added.

Apart from a 'Birds Paradise' and vet hospital, the UT Forest and Wildlife Department is also developing three new attractions namely Rashi Van, Nakshatra Van and Navagraha Van in the Nagar Van. These three small groves are astro-themed gardens being developed on the lines of such similar gardens in Daman and Diu and Goa.

Devotees throng gurdwaras in Punjab, Haryana on Guruparb

PNS ■ CHANDIGARH

Lakhs of devotees flocked to the gurdwaras in Punjab, Haryana and Chandigarh to offer prayers on the 550th birth anniversary of Sikhism founder Guru Nanak Dev as hymns of Gurbani reverberated in the air.

President Ram Nath Kovind and his wife Savita were among the devotees who paid obeisance at the historic Gurdwara Ber Sahib in Sultanpur Lodhi, where Guru Nanak Dev spent 14 years of his life and attained enlightenment.

Dera Baba Nanak in Gurdaspur, Golden Temple in Amritsar and Nada Sahib in Haryana's Panchkula were equally crowded.

The main highlight of the celebrations was the events organised at Sultanpur Lodhi, where a cake weighing 550 kg was also cut to mark the occasion.

An arrangement of 550 kinds of sweets and other items were made for devotees at one of the "langars" (community kitchen).

At the event organised by the Punjab government at Sultanpur Lodhi, the "Bhog" (completion) of the "Sehaj Path" (recitation of complete Guru Granth Sahib with intervals) was performed.

A separate event was organised by the Shiromani Gurdwara Parbandhak Committee (SGPC).

Notably, the Punjab government and the SGPC has been at loggerheads over the issue of joint celebrations of 550th birth anniversary of Guru Nanak Dev. The SGPC set up a separate stage at a stadium near Gurdwara Ber Sahib to hold the main event while the state government set up its own "pandal" to hold the function.

The historic city was decked up with flowers, hoardings and several colourful gates to welcome pilgrims.

INBRIEF

HERC INVITES STAKEHOLDERS TO SHARE COMMENTS

Chandigarh: Haryana Electricity Regulation Commission (HERC) has invited various stakeholders to share their comments on draft Single Point Supply Regulations 2019. The stakeholders can submit their comments before November 28. A spokesman said, the HERC chairman DS Dhesi has sought comments/suggestions on the draft Regulations from various stakeholders. Single Point Supply Regulations were first time notified in the year 2013. These regulations covered only residential colonies of employers, group housing societies and residential or residential cum commercial complexes of developers. However, now considering demand of various consumers, HERC has added various other consumers like Commercial Complexes/Shopping Malls/ Industrial Estates/ IT Park/Universities/Hospitals/ Jail/Police/ Paramilitary establishment etc. in the new draft Regulations, the spokesman added.

67.03 LAKH MT PADDY ARRIVED IN HARYANA MANDIS

Chandigarh: More than 67.03 lakh metric tonnes (MT) of paddy has so far arrived in Haryana mandis as compared to over 64.81 lakh MT of paddy arrived during the corresponding period last year. A spokesman said, out of the total arrival of paddy, government agencies had so far procured over 62.10 lakh MT of paddy whereas the remaining quantity of over 4.93 lakh MT of paddy was procured by the millers and dealers. Over 33.59 lakh MT of paddy have purchased by the Food, Civil Supplies and Consumer Affairs Department, over 19.46 lakh MT by Hafeed, over 8.99 lakh MT have been purchased by the Haryana Warehousing Corporation and 4.572 MT have been purchased by the Food Corporation of India, he said.

MP LAYS FOUNDATION STONE OF SEWERAGE SYSTEM

Chandigarh: Kirron Kher, Member Parliament Chandigarh laid the foundation stone of the work strengthening/rehabilitation of sewerage system at Karsan Colony, Sector 52, here. She said, the sewer connection of each house shall be made independently with newly laid Municipal sewer and the blockage of sewerage system shall be solved permanently and residents will get clean potable water. It was informed about that the work shall be completed within 12 Months at an estimated cost of ₹3.47 crores.

EX-PGIMER PROF HEAD OF INDIAN ORTHO ASSO, NOW

Chandigarh: Central office of Indian Orthopaedic Association, New Delhi on Sunday announced to elect Dr (Prof) Ramesh Kumar Sen as Head of Indian Orthopaedic Association. Dr Sen is presently working as a senior director and head of institute of orthopaedics at Max Hospital, Mohali. In an online election conducted all over the country, Dr Ramesh Sen polled 81% of the total votes cast defeating two other candidates. He will first take over as vice president of association in 2019 and as president in 2021. Institute of Orthopaedics is a body of more than 14000 orthopaedic surgeons of India.

VR PUNJAB PAYS TRIBUTE TO GURU NANAK DEV

Mohali: Paying a befitting tribute to Guru Nanak Dev, the First Sikh Guru, on the occasion of his 550th birth anniversary, VR Punjab has depicted his teachings in the form of an artwork at a central location to remind people of his eternal message to the entire humanity. The artwork depicts the timeless teachings on earthen lamps with Ek Onkar (God is One) written in golden letters and the Guru's teachings inscribed on glowing earthen lamps portrayed on either side.

3 DAYS WORKSHOP ON PRINT MAKING CONCLUDES

Chandigarh: ArtaStudio devoted to eminent artist Late Prof Sunirmal Chatterjee who served two prestigious institutes - Govt College of Arts & Chandigarh College of Architecture, concluded its three-day long Print Making (Lino Cut) workshop in Sector 42 here. Rahul Dhiman, a well known young printmaker Rahul Dhiman from Govt College of Arts, Sector 10 conducted the workshop which was organised free of cost for artists. The workshop was aimed to carry on the legacy of Late Sunirmal Chatterjee who specialized in graphics (wood/lino cut) and to revive this dying art amongst the youth.

₹45 CR PROJECT TO PROVIDE LIVELIHOOD LAUNCHED

Chandigarh: A ₹45 crore pan India project to provide respectable livelihood to the poor titled "BHUA Kulcha" was launched on the second day of the #avenueonebehind International conclave on Human Rights, Community Welfare, Philanthropy and UN SDGs 2.0 being held at the Mulk Raj Anand English auditorium at the Panjab University. The project launched by the Human Rights Protection Group and MFP Federation will provide employment to 500 needy families who will also be stakeholders in the company. The 500 families will be recognised via a survey to be conducted by students of Centre for Human Rights and Duties and Centre for Social Work, Panjab University.

CAKE PREPARED AT GURDWARA SAHIB, SECTOR 19

Chandigarh: A 550 kg cake was prepared for Guruparb Celebration at Gurdwara Sahib, Sector 19 here. It was prepared by National Bakers, which has outlets in Chandigarh and Zirakpur. Around 15 cooks prepared the cake in two days to celebrate the 550th birth anniversary of Guru Nanak Dev. The guest of honour of the cake cutting programme was famous Punjabi singer Sukhshinder Shinda. Sanjay Tandon, state president, Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) Chandigarh and the star radio jockey of the city RJ Meenakshi also graced the occasion.



PUNJAB & SIND BANK
BRANCH: ISLAMABAD, AMRITSAR

SYMBOLIC POSSESSION NOTICE (FOR IMMOVABLE PROPERTY)

Whereas the undersigned being the "Authorised Officer" of Punjab & Sind Bank, under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of the Security Interest Act 2002 in exercise of powers conferred under section 13(2) read with security interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002, issued a demand notice on the date mentioned against account calling upon the respective borrowers / guarantors to repay the amount as mentioned against account within 60 days from the date of notice / date of receipt of the said notice.

The borrower / guarantors having failed to repay the amount, notice hereby given to the borrower / guarantors & the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the Property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him / her under section 13(4) of said Act read with Rule 9 of the said rule on the date mentioned against account. The borrower / guarantor in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the Property and any dealing with the Property will be subject to the charge of the Punjab & Sind Bank, for the amounts, other charges, costs and interest thereon.

The borrowers attention is invited to provisions of Sub Section (8) of the Section 13 of Act, in respect of time available to them, to redeem the secured assets.

Name of the NPA Account	Date of the Demand Notice	Date of the Possession	Amount Outstanding
Sh. Manjit Singh S/o Sh. Harcharan Singh	08-08-2019	07-11-2019	Rs. 14,13,201/63 as on 31-07-2019 + interest, other charges and less recovery
and Smt. Kulwinder Kaur W/o Sh. Manjit Singh and Guarantor Sh. Vasu Kumar S/o Sh. Lekh Raj			If any, till date affected

Description of the Immovable Property: Equitable Mortgage of Residential House / Plot 24 Length and 22.6' width, measuring area 60 sq. yards bearing Khassa no. 78 min, situated in the area of Rakha Sultanwind Shikri, Abadi Kot Harnam Dass, Sultanwind Road, Amritsar, Owned and Possessed by Sh. Manjit Singh S/o Sh. Harcharan Singh and bounded as East: Bazar, West: Property of Such Singh, North: Property of Joginder Singh, South: House of Harjan Singh

Date: 13-11-2019 Place: Amritsar Sd/- Authorised Officer

Chandigarh air quality turns 'poor' again

PNS ■ CHANDIGARH

With the farmers continuing burning stubble in the neighboring states of Punjab and Haryana, the air quality index in the joint capital of two states-Chandigarh has turned 'poor' again.

While rainfall for two consecutive days from November 7 had led to improvement in the air quality, it has again turned 'poor', which can cause breathing discomfort to most people on prolonged exposure.

Chandigarh recorded air quality index of 274 at 4 PM on Tuesday. An AQI between 0-50 is considered good, 51-100 satisfactory, 101-200 moderate, 201-300 poor, 301-400 very

poor and 401-500 severe.

As per the data observed at continuous ambient air quality monitoring station (CAAQMS) at Panjab University Sector 25 here, the PM 2.5 levels stood at an average of 274 µg/m and maximum of 320 µg/m on Tuesday while PM10 levels were 148 µg/m on an average and maximum of 220 µg/m in the city.

The permissible limit for PM2.5 is 60 µg/m3 while its 100 µg/m3 for PM10. Both PM 10-(particulate matters with diameter of 10 microns or less) and PM2.5 (particulate matters less than 2.5 microns)-form of air pollution, can cause severe health problems.

The concentration of sulphur dioxide (SO2) and NOx,

however, remained below the permissible levels. Last week, the AQI had turned 'satisfactory' in the city and was recorded between 51-100 after rainfall on November 7.

In neighboring Haryana, the AQI was recorded 410 in Gurugram at 6 PM, 410 in Faridabad at 6 PM and 351 in Ambala at 10 AM on Tuesday. Similarly in Punjab, the AQI was recorded 339 at 12 noon in Patiala and 370 in Bathinda at 6 PM on Tuesday.

Talking to *The Pioneer*, Surender Pal, Director Meteorological Department, Chandigarh said the AQI has turned 'poor' in the city and "severe" in various parts of Punjab and Haryana in last two

days. Due to calm winds, continuing stubble burning in neighboring states and high relative humidity, the air quality index has worsened in the last two days in the region, he said.

While rainfall had last week improved the AQI, the situation is likely to remain like this for few more days. Western disturbances are expected in the region after November 17 that could result in rainfall and improvement in air quality, he added.

Notably, the air quality index was recorded above 300, which is categorized as "very poor", at various locations in the city on Diwali, October 27.

Max temp recorded below normal level in the region

Chandigarh: The union territory of Chandigarh on Tuesday recorded minimum temperature of 12.7 degree Celsius and maximum of 25.7 degree Celsius, three notches below normal.

In Haryana, the minimum temperature recorded was 13 degree Celsius in Ambala, 9.2 degrees in Hisar, 9.8 degrees in Karnal and 12.1 degrees in Narnaul. The maximum temperature in Ambala was recorded at 26.2 degree Celsius, two degrees below normal, Hisar settled at 27.4 degree Celsius, three notches below normal, Karnal recorded 26.8 degree Celsius, two notches down the normal and Narnaul saw 28.2 degrees, down by two notches below normal.

Amritsar settled at minimum temperature of 12.6 degrees, Ludhiana recorded 11.6 and Patiala saw 11 degree Celsius. The maximum temperature recorded was 24.3 degrees in Amritsar, four degrees below normal. Ludhiana and Patiala recorded respective maximum temperatures of 25.9 and 27.7 degree Celsius.

Haryana Cabinet expansion in next 48 hours: Dushyant Chautala

PNS ■ CHANDIGARH

After days of delay and hard bargaining, the first expansion of the Manohar Lal Khattar-led Haryana Cabinet will take place within the next two days.

Deputy Chief Minister Dushyant Chautala on Tuesday said he had discussed cabinet expansion with Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar here.

The Jannayak Janta Party leader said there was also a discussion on allotment of departments with the chief minister. On how many independent MLAs will be made Ministers, he said the two coalition partners will decide this.

Asked when will the cabinet expansion take place, the deputy chief minister said, "It will take place in the next 48 hours (by Thursday)."

Earlier, the cabinet expansion was expected on Tuesday, but Maharashtra imbroglio was one of the factors that delayed the induction of ministers. On being asked whether two more



MLAs from the JJP will get the cabinet berth, Chautala said, "This is an internal matter of our party."

Asked if there had been any talk with the chief minister about the portfolios which

the ministers from the JJP camp will get, Chautala answered in the affirmative.

Khattar met BJP chief and Union Home Minister Amit Shah in Delhi on Sunday and

discussed with him about the first cabinet expansion of newly formed Government in the State. Senior BJP leaders were also present in the meeting. The names of those MLAs to be inducted as ministers were

finalised on Sunday itself, it is learnt.

Meanwhile, when the council of ministers finally takes oath in the State on Wednesday or Thursday, it will mark the longest gap of 17 or

18 days between the swearing-in of the Chief Minister and other members of his ministry in the State.

Prior to this, such a situation was also witnessed in the state in 2009, when the Congress had also fallen short of a full majority and had to take outside support to form a government. Then, Bhupinder Singh Hooda took oath as the CM on October 25 but the other ministers had to wait for 13 days, until November 7, to be sworn in. The present situation in the State is another indicator of the struggles and tribulations that lie ahead for the Khattar government.

Khattar took oath as the chief minister for the second time on Diwali (October 27) and Dushyant, great grandson of former deputy prime minister, late Devi Lal, was sworn-in as his deputy as the BJP formed the government with the help of the JJP in Haryana. Seven Independents are also supporting the Government.

Independent MLAs meet in Delhi

Ahead of the cabinet expansion, five Independent MLAs — Nayan Pal Rawat, Sombir Sangwan, Randhir Singh Gollen, Dharampal Gonder and Balraj Kundu — held a meeting in Delhi on Tuesday.

All the seven Independent MLAs, including Ranjit Singh Chautala who was not present at the meet in Delhi, are supporting the present Khattar-led dispensation.

Majority of the Independent MLAs who were aspirants for a BJP ticket before the elections, but fought as independents.

"We have won as independents, but we are pro-BJP," Rawat said. He said Independent MLAs definitely aspire that some of them be accommodated in the cabinet expansion, but there's no greed

for the berth or any portfolio. "Expansion of the cabinet is the prerogative of the chief minister," he said while replying to a question.

Rawat also assured "full support" of the independents to the BJP-JJP combine in Haryana, saying "the government will run smoothly for five years".

In the 90-member assembly, the BJP had won 40, JJP 10, Congress 31, INLD and the Haryana Lokhit Party one each, while seven independents also won.

CM recently announced to set up a panel to monitor the implementation of the Common Minimum Programme of the BJP and the JJP. Both the coalition partners have said that they will provide a stable Government in Haryana.

Rajoana's death sentence commuted to life term

MONIKA MALIK ■ CHANDIGARH

Khalistani militant Balwant Singh Rajoana has escaped the gallows without asking for it. Even though Rajoana had made clear his intentions of not contesting the death penalty for eliminating the then Punjab Chief Minister and 16 others, the Centre on Tuesday commuted the same to life imprisonment.

Interestingly, the clemency orders came on the plea filed by the Shiromani Gurudwara Parbandhak Committee (SGPC) in 2012, and not by Rajoana, who had all along been defying any mercy. It has been learnt that the orders have been conveyed to Punjab Government and the Chandigarh Administration.

"The order from the Union Ministry of Home Affairs has been received at the Punjab Raj Bhawan, as the Punjab Governor VP Singh Badnore is also the UT Administrator. The Governor is away for 550th prakash purab celebrations at Sultanpur Lodhi, and any further action on the MHA orders would be taken up once he returns," a senior official told *The Pioneer*.

The MHA has sent the orders to the UT Administration as the "crime", for which Rajoana had been convicted, took place outside Punjab Civil Secretariat in Chandigarh, while the Punjab Government was also conveyed about the decision as Rajoana is currently lodged in Punjab's Patiala Central Jail.

Facing gallows in 1995 Beant Singh assassination case, Rajoana's death sentence has, since long, been in a state of suspended animation as a plea seeking his mercy, filed by the SGPC in 2012, was lying pending with the President. Escaping a death by a whisker, Rajoana was to be hanged on March 31, 2012. But the execution of his death warrants was stayed on March 28, 2012 on the clemency plea filed by the Sikh man-

agement body.

Even as the 'condemned man' wanted the death warrants to be executed and resisting any sort of clemency, the then SAD-BJP led Punjab Government, the SGPC, Sikh organizations and others left no stone unturned to secure life for him in 2012.

Rajoana and co-convict Jagtar Singh Hawara in the 1995 assassination case were initially sentenced to death by a Chandigarh court in July 2007. The death sentence in case of Hawara was modified to life imprisonment till death by the Punjab and Haryana High Court in October 2010.

Though the High Court gave Rajoana an opportunity of being heard, he refused to seek clemency, following which his death sentence was upheld.

Rajoana, who has all along been admitting for eliminating the then Chief Minister, always insisted on the execution of the death sentence. In fact, Rajoana had, in July 2018, had observed hunger strike protesting against the SGPC for "not pursuing" his appeal for commuting death sentence which is pending before the President since 2012 which is not allowing his execution.

Following this, the Akali Dal had raised the issue with the Centre seeking early disposal of the SGPC's clemency plea on Rajoana's death sentence.

Rajoana, in his official statement, stated, "I tied the bomb on the body of Bhai Sahib with my own hands and I do not regret my involvement in the murder. I am proud of the sacrifice made by him and I bow my head before him in respect." He was "second" human bomb in case Dilawar Singh — the human bomb — failed to complete the task. Now 24 years after he assassinated the then Chief Minister and more than seven years after stay on his execution, the President has finally signed the clemency plea to commute the

TURN OF EVENTS...

The Pioneer takes a look at the turn of events in the Beant Singh assassination case from the day of the blast, till the commutation of his one of the assassin's death sentence

- August 31, 1995 - Punjab Chief Minister Beant Singh and 17 others assassinated by human bomb Dilawar Singh outside Punjab and Haryana Civil Secretariat
- September 1995 - Chandigarh Police recovered an abandoned Ambassador car with Delhi registration number, which led to the arrest of Lakhwinder Singh following clues provided by a painter
- April 30, 1996 - Charges framed in the court of District and Sessions Judge, Chandigarh, against nine persons: Gurmit Singh (BPL Engineer), Nasib Singh (Agriculturalist), Lakhwinder Singh (Punjab Police Constable), Navjot Singh (Ranbaxy), Jagtar Singh Tara (Taxi Driver), Shamsher Singh (Truck Driver), Jagtar Singh Hawara (BKI), Balwant Singh (Punjab Police Constable), and Paramjit Singh Bheora. Three Mahal Singh, Wadhawa Singh and Jagroop Singh declared absconding.
- June 1998 - First Burali Jail break attempt foiled following timely recovery of RDX explosive, detonators and other incriminating material by the Jail staff
- January 22, 2004 - In a daring jail break, three of the nine accused in the assassination case escaped with another under trial, who was attached as a helper (langari), from the high security Burali Jail
- July 27, 2007 - Six accused, Jagtar Singh Hawara, Balwant Singh, Gurmit Singh, Lakhwinder Singh, Shamsher Singh and Nasib Singh convicted and Navjot Singh acquitted
- July 31, 2007 - Jagtar Singh Hawara and Balwant Singh awarded death sentence. Gurmit Singh, Lakhwinder Singh and Shamsher Singh given life imprisonment and Nasib Singh given 10 years imprisonment
- October 12, 2010 - Punjab and Haryana High Court commutes death sentence of Jagtar Singh Hawara to life imprisonment, upheld capital punishment to Balwant Singh and also upheld life imprisonment of three other accused Shamsher Singh, Gurmeet Singh and Lakhwinder Singh
- March 5, 2012 - Chandigarh District and Sessions
- March 19, 2012 - Patiala Jail administration returned the death warrant citing legal and jurisdiction issues, but the Court again sent death warrant as a ruling of High Court
- March 23, 2012 - Akal Takht (highest Sikhs temporal seat) asked Punjab Chief Minister Parkash Singh Badal to meet the President and the Prime Minister on the issue of Balwant's hanging. Akal Takht also asked Sikhs to wear saffron turbans or dupattas, or put up saffron flags with Khalsa insignia on March 28 in protest against hanging
- March 26, 2012 - SAD core committee asked the Shiromani Gurudwara Parbandhak Committee (SGPC), Sikh's mini parliament, to file clemency plea before the President. SGPC files plea seeking clemency for Balwant with the President Pratibha Patil. Badal categorically said that the state cannot hang Balwant owing to legal and constitutional loopholes. Patiala Central Jail Superintendent filed a petition seeking deferment of Balwant's hanging. Additional Advocate-General of Punjab and CBI counsel exchanged arguments over the death warrant in the Court
- March 27, 2012 - District Court upheld its orders maintaining that Balwant "must be" hanged on scheduled date, March 31, and issued show cause notice for contempt of court to the Patiala Jail Superintendent for returning death warrant earlier
- March 28, 2012 - Punjab fails to file plea against Chandigarh's local court orders upholding Balwant's execution warrants. Entire Punjab observed bandh, with the state painted saffron. Badals meet the President, Centre stayed Balwant Singh's execution
- June 6, 2012 - Akal Takht honours Balwant Singh with "Zinda Shaheed" title
- September 29, 2019 - Centre announces to commute Rajoana's death sentence into life to mark 550th prakash purab celebrations
- November 12, 2019 - MHA conveys the decision to Punjab and Chandigarh Administrations

death sentence of Babbar Khalsa International (BKI) terrorist to life imprisonment. Notably, to commemorate Sikhs' first mas-

ter Guru Nanak Dev's 550th birth anniversary, the Union Ministry of Home Affairs had announced to release "pre-

maturely" eight Sikh prisoners through special remission, besides commuting the death sentence of one.

Capt to urge PM to prevail upon Pak to open other historic gurudwaras to Indian Sikhs

PNS ■ CHANDIGARH/ SULTANPUR LODHI

Punjab Chief Minister Capt Amarinder Singh on Tuesday announced that he would take up with the Prime Minister Narendra Modi the issue of prevailing upon Pakistan to grant Indian devotees open access to more historic gurudwaras across the border.

The announcement was made during the 550th prakash purab of Guru Nanak Dev, where the President Ram Nath Kovind joined the Chief Minister in leading the historic celebrations in the State.

Punjab Governor VP Singh Badnore and Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot were among the galaxy of luminaries present at the state-level function to mark the auspicious occasion.

The Chief Minister, on the occasion, also announced the State Government's decision to honour Punjab Police personnel with 'Prakash Purb Tagma' (Medal) for their service to the state in the true spirit of Guru Nanak Dev Ji's ideology.

The Chief Minister also announced that the 550th prakash purb celebrations, which commenced last year, would continue till November 2020.

Capt Amarinder, addressing a religious congregation after the bhog of 'Sri Sehaj Path', said that as per his Government's decision to release 550 convicts prematurely to mark the historic occasion, 450 had already been freed, while others would be released over the next few months.

He also welcomed millions of devotees (sangat) who had



converged from different parts of the country and foreign shores to participate in the prakash purab celebrations with great enthusiasm and religious fervour.

The Sehaj Path, jointly organized by the Punjab Government, Sant Samaj, various Sikh religious organisations and Sikh Sangat on behalf of the people of Punjab at Guru Nanak Darbar, had commenced on November 5.

Once again expressing his gratitude to Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Pakistan Prime Minister Imran Khan for helping realise the Sikh community's dream of visiting the Kartarpur Gurudwara, Capt Amarinder hoped that this would be followed by more such gurudwaras in Pakistan being opened to Indian devotees.

"I would personally take up the matter with Modi and urge him to raise the issue with Imran to facilitate the realization of the Sikh community's dream to visit those gurudwaras, such as Panja Sahib and Nankana Sahib, also," he said.

Capt Amarinder acknowledged the support given by the Central Government in making the historic celebrations a success and expressed happiness at the participation

of people from different political parties, as a befitting tribute to pahl patshahi (first Sikh guru), who always spoke of Sarbat Da Bhala.

Dwelling on the teachings of Sri Guru Nanak Dev Ji, he underscored the significance of education, in line with Guru Ji's Bani that "Vidya Vichari, ta Parupkari". He exhorted one and all to emulate the great Guru's mantra of "Kirat Karo (earning a livelihood by honest means), Naam Japao (constant chanting of Name of God) and Vand Chhako (share the fruits of labour)".

The Chief Minister underlined the importance of following Sri Guru Nanak Dev Ji's message 'Pavan Guru, Pani Pita, Mata Dharat Mahat' that is air the guru, water the father and the earth the mother by protecting the environment for future generations.

Exhorting all to make judicious use of groundwater, which was swiftly depleting, and to refrain from burning paddy stubble and excessive use of fertilizers and pesticides, he appealed to everyone to preserve nature and natural resources to make Punjab clean, green and pollution-free.

Multi-pronged plan to achieve zero farm fires: Official

MANOJ KUMAR ■ CHANDIGARH

Haryana Government is working on a multi-pronged strategy to effectively deal with air pollution in various parts of the state, said Haryana Additional Chief Secretary (Environment and Climate Change) Dheera Khandelwal.

"Stubble burning contributes only 25-30 per cent to air pollution and 70-75 per cent impact is due to other factors like industries emissions, vehicular emissions, smoke from brick kilns, garbage burning among others in the state," senior IAS officer said while talking to *The Pioneer*.

The problem of air pollution also increases especially during winter due to the slow movement of the wind. The smoke and fog become stagnate near the ground, forming smog and increasing pollution levels, she added.

Khandelwal said, "To end the menace of stubble burning, the State Government has directed all thermal power plants to procure crop residue or agriculture waste from farmers and utilise it for generating power along with coal. Biomass co-firing has the potential to reduce emissions from coal-

fuelled generation without much cost escalation."

The Government has issued an advisory to all public and private power generating companies to endeavour to use 5 to 10 per cent biomass pellets primarily to meet demand of agro residue, along with coal, she said.

She said that as per reports, with coal-based generation of 1,96,098 MW, about 100 million tonnes of agro residue can be absorbed in coal-based power plants through 10 per cent co-firing with non-torrefied pellets, reducing carbon emission.

India generates about 145 million tonnes a year of surplus agro residue and this can generate 18,728 MW of electricity in a year.

The Additional Chief Secretary (ACS) said that with the implementation of multi-cornered strategy to check air pollution, the state would have zero stubble burning cases in the next two years.

"The State Government has been providing facilities to farmers so that they don't burn stubble. The government has been offering subsidy on agriculture equipments to farmers to curb stubble burning nuisance. The Government has also decided to pay its small and marginal farmers ₹100 per quintal for non-basmati pro-

duce against a commitment that they won't burn stubble," she said.

The officer said that Haryana State Pollution Control Board (HSPCB) has already engaged the Haryana Space Applications Centre (HARSAC) to monitor the seasonal stubble burning in areas where rice is grown. Incidences of burning of wheat stubble are also being monitored. HSPCB has adopted other strategies which include educating farmers and taking punitive measures under the law.

"Awareness among the farmers is being created to make use of stubble and cow dung. The Agriculture Department has also formulated an action plan for utilisation of paddy straw. There are technologies available to produce environment-friendly bricks by utilisation of waste material," she added.

On the incidents of stubble burning, she claimed that as per NASA satellite imagery and Haryana Space Applications Centre and other available reports, the incidents of crop burning in Haryana have significantly come down this year. Reports suggest that Haryana

has witnessed 5,463 cases of stubble burning so far this year, a bit lower than what it had seen in the corresponding period of the last year. Last year, 5,935 cases of stubble burning were reported. It is true that the national capital region of Haryana and its surrounding areas like Rohtak, Faridabad, Gurugram and others have been witnessing an alarming rate of air pollution especially during winter months, she said.

Notably, various districts of Haryana have reported air quality index in the 'severe' and 'very poor' category this past fortnight. An AQI between 0-50 is considered 'good', 51-100 'satisfactory', 101-200 'moderate', 201-300 'poor', 301-400 'very poor' and 401-500 'severe'. Above 500 falls in the 'severe-plus emergency' category.

Replying to a question on farmers in the agrarian states particularly Haryana continuing to set paddy residue on fire despite a ban on this practice, she said that many have been slapped with fines and others booked for stubble burning.

She said that a study, conducted by The Energy and

STUBBLE BURNING

Farmers 'gherao' agriculture dept officials in Punjab

PNS ■ CHANDIGARH

A four-member team of Punjab's Agriculture Department, which has been tasked with taking action against stubble burning incidents, was allegedly gheraoed by angry farmers in Sangrur district, even as officials denied to comment on the issue.

Farmers under the banner of Bharatiya Kisan Union (Ugrahan) held a protest on Monday evening after they came to know that the officials were going to take action against a farmer for violating the ban on stubble burning in Gharachon village.

"We staged a protest against the officials," BKU leader Manjit said, adding that they were allowed to go after assurances were given that farmers will not be harassed again. Among those who were gheraoed included an official of the rank of chief agriculture officer, the BKU leader claimed.

The protesting farmers alleged that their small and marginal counterparts were being harassed by the government officials.

They lamented over being forced to buy expensive farm equipment for the management of paddy straw.

When contacted, agriculture department officials denied to comment on the issue.

Meanwhile, farmers in Punjab continued to defy the ban as the state reported 48,155 incidents of stubble burning between September 23 and November 11, officials said.

Sangrur and Bathinda districts continue to be the worst-affected districts, they added. In the corresponding period last year, the state had witnessed 42,112 incidents of stubble burning. On Monday, a total of 794 incidents of farm fires were reported from Sangrur, Mansa and Bathinda districts witnessing 178, 162 and 158 cases respectively, an official of the Punjab Remote Sensing Centre said.

Paddy growers continue to set paddy straw afire despite Supreme Court directions for the government to pay ₹100 per quintal to those farmers who do not burn crop residue.

Haryana Govt constitutes EAC for industrial promotion

PNS ■ CHANDIGARH

Haryana Government has constituted an Economic Advisory Council (EAC) to promote industries in the State and to address issues related to various issues and policies of economic development.

A Government spokesman on Tuesday a notification to this effect has been issued by Industries and Commerce department, adding that the Economic Advisory Council (EAC) will comprise a membership-based Advisory Panel and will be headed by Haryana Chief Minister, while various representatives of the government, industry and Academia sector has also been included in the panel.

Among the government members of this council, the Chief Minister of Haryana will be the chairman, while the Finance Minister, Industries Minister and Chief Secretary will be the members of the EAC. Apart from this, Additional Chief Secretary/Principal Secretaries of Finance, Town and Country planning, Power, Revenue, Excise and Taxation, Labour, Environment and Industries, MD/HSIIDC and DIRECTOR/Director General, industries and Commerce, Haryana have been included in the panel.

The spokesman said that members of the private sector including, Real Estate leaders, chairman and managing direc-

tors of the headquarters of major banks in Haryana, management partners of leading consulting firms, country heads of major IT firms, Head of Apex Industry Association and Vice-chancellors of educational institutions, Chairman and Managing Director of Food Processing Units, top textiles, logistics, aerospace in Haryana have also been included in the panel.

This council will be constituted for 5 years, in which the government members would remain as permanent members of the council, while the members of the private sector would serve a term of 2 years. A report related to the achievements and contributions of the Council will be placed

before the Haryana Enterprise Promotion Board (HEPB) once a year. The Department of Industries and Commerce, Haryana will act as the nodal department.

The spokesman said that to adopt a sector-focused approach to development, Sub-Sectoral task forces/committees will be formulated and notified, comprising members from within the EAC itself or new members as proposed by existing members. He said that these Sub-Sectoral task Forces/committees will support with facilitating development and growth, job creation and investment promotion pertaining to key thrust sectors of Haryana.

He said the purpose of setting up this EAC will be to

act as the sounding board of the State Government on various economic issues and development strategies, advocacy on policy matters and other issues of economic development targeted at prosperity and job creation. The EAC will guide the development in the State based on the changing economic environment and market trends.

"This council will also give Haryana a platform to showcase its flagship projects targeting industrial and urban development, to a top-class professional network and further spread awareness about the investment available for private players in these projects," the spokesman said.

On the key functions of the

Council, the spokesman said that the Council will analyze and review the status of economic development and growth in the State. Apart from this, the Council will also discuss the macroeconomic developments and issues with implications for economic policy. The Council will also address issues of macroeconomic importance and present views thereon to the Government either through a suo-moto or a reference from the Chief Minister or anyone else.

The spokesman said that

the Council will advise on the policies, procedures, strategic direction for the purpose of encouraging job creation, sustaining employment and business development in Haryana. The Council will also create awareness about the State policies and initiatives for investment promotion.

Apart from this, the Council will also work for the promotion of flagship projects to leading private industry players. The council will also advise on the selection of market sectors supported by the

region with sector experts as they change, shift and expand and further advise on new business attraction opportunities, programs or strategies, on business expansion and retention opportunities, programs or strategies, on potential partnerships with other countries/States Identify barriers and opportunities in the community to direct strategic direction and on the dissemination of information from the region to the local business community and partners.

Classifieds

LOST AND FOUND

It is notified for the information that my original qualifying examination certificate of 10th CBSE, Roll No. 2200449 year 2008, 12th examination of year 2010 and Roll No. 271506 issued by CBSE has been lost. Name Rajat Raj Singh, S/O Sh. Kuldeep Singh R/o 505, Sector 45A, Chandigarh.

It is notified for the information that my original qualifying Examination Certificate of Senior Secondary Examination of year 2018 and Roll No. 2797526 issued by CBSE has been actually lost. Tanupreet Kaur D/o Jasbir Singh R/o H.No. 23601/1 Mariwala Town, Manimanjra, Chandigarh.

CHANGE OF NAME

It is for general information that I Nishikha Kharta S/o Fateh Singh Kharta, residing at V.P.O. Deoban, Distt. Kaithal, Haryana-136027 declare that name of my father has been wrongly written as Rambhagat Kharta in my Pan Card No. EXBP9423B. The actual name of my father is Fateh Singh Kharta, which may be amended accordingly.

I, Sant Bahadur S/o Bali Karan Singh R/o 236 Sector 9, Panchkula, Haryana have changed my name to Sant Bahadur Singh.

I, Deewakar S/o Sant Bahadur Singh R/o 236 Sector 9, Panchkula, Haryana have changed my name to Deewakar Singh.

I, Anjali Dahiya W/o Sh. Mukesh Dahiya R/o H. no.1291, Sector-15 Sonapat, Haryana-131001 have changed my name from Anjali to Anjali Dahiya, for all future references I shall be known by name of Anjali Dahiya.

I, Sandeep Kumar S/o Sh. Ramkishan R/o H.No.539, Ward No.4, Bajaja Colony, Gharanda, Karnal declare that I have changed my name from Sandeep Gupta to Sandeep Kumar. For all future purposes.

I, Shweta Kapoor D/O Shri Yashpal Kapoor W/O Shri Gaurav Dhooper R/O H.No-2111-A Housing Board Colony, Sector-6 Karnal declare that I have changed my name from Shweta Kapoor to Shweta Kapoor Dhooper. In Future, I Will be Known As Shweta Kapoor Dhooper.

I, Rajinder Kumar S/O Sh. Som Nath Sharma R/O H.No. 521, Old Housing Board, Sector-13, Karnal, Declare that I have Changed My Name From Rajinder Kumar To Rajinder Sharma.

I, Jitesh S/O Sh. Rajinder Sharma R/O H.No. 521, Old Housing Board, Sector-13, Karnal, Declare that I have Changed My Name From Jitesh To Jesh Sharma.

I, No. J6775955F Rank Nb/Sub Maura Samar Bahadur S/O Ram Naresh Sharma, Unit 640 Eme Bn C/O 56 Apo Permanent R/O VIII/PO Parvatpur, Teh-Gauriganj, P.S.-Jamon, Dist-Amethi (U.P.) Declare That Please Correct My Wife D.O.B.25.08.1981 Instead Of 25.10.1981 In My Army Service Record As Per Her Aadhar Card And Pan Card.

I, Simarjit Kaur W/o Anoop Singh R/o Budhakhera, Dist. Karnal informed that in some documents my name shown as Simarjeet Kaur has wrong. My correct name is Simarjit Kaur. Please note for future.

I, Bhagwat father of No. 14838762P Rank SEP Name Gaikewad Raychand Bhagwat posted at 686 COY ASC TKTPTR C/o 56 APO R/O VPO-Chobheppari, Teh-Madha, Distt-Solapur, State-Maharashtra-413208 hereby declare that I have changed my name from Bhagwat to Bhagwat Aa Gaikewad vide affidavit dated 09-11-2019 before session court Hisar.

I, No. 15626648X Rank LNK name Rajat Kumar Posted at 57 ARMD BDE C/o 56 APO hereby declare that I have change my mother's name from Anita Devi to Kumari Anita vide affidavit dated 12-11-2019 before Hisar court.

I, Sunita Sangwan W/o No. 168933W Ex LS Virender Kumar R/o House No. 04, Gali No. 01, Adrash Colony, Azad Nagar, Hisar (Haryana) have changed my name from Sunita Sangwan to Sunita Rani. My DOB is 10-04-1977 and Aadhar No. 9915 4638 3259.

I, No. 15626648X Rank LNK name Rajat Kumar Posted at 57 ARMD BDE C/o 56 APO hereby declare that I have change my mother's name from Anita Devi to Kumari Anita vide affidavit dated 12-11-2019 before Hisar court.

I, Gurmit Singh Sachdeva S/o Harbhajan Singh R/O 101-B, Rani Ka Bagh District Amritsar have changed my name to Gurmeet Singh.

I, Harjit Kaur D/o Balwant Singh W/o Sukhwinder Singh R/o 303, Guru Arjan Dev Nagar Tarn Taran Road District Amritsar have changed my name to Ramandeep Kaur.

I, Baljinder Singh Vedi S/o Gian Singh R/O VPO Cheema Kalan Tehsil and District Tarn Taran have changed my name to Baljinder Singh.

I, Baljit Singh Samra S/o Jaswant Singh R/O VPO Sultanwind Patu Bahinwal District Amritsar have changed my name to Baljit Singh.

I, Avleen Kaur Saroya D/o Harjinder Singh Saroya W/o Amritpal Singh Aujla R/o 9/94, NRI Colony, Loharka Road District Amritsar have changed my name from Avleen Kaur Saroya to Avleen Kaur Aujla.

I, Tajinder Kaur W/o Jasman Singh R/O 190, Phase-2, Sahibzade Juhar Singh Avenue Ajnala Road District Amritsar have changed my name from Tajinder Kaur to Tejinder Kaur.

I, Jobanpreet Singh S/O Balwinder Singh R/O VPO Dhadda PS Kathu Nangal District Amritsar have changed my name to Singh Jobanpreet.

I, Gagandeep Singh Ghai S/O Jaspal Singh R/O VPO Chetanpura Tehsil Ajnala Distt.Amritsar have changed my name from Gagandeep Singh Ghai to Gagandeep Singh. All concerned please note.

I, Ashish S/O Raj Kumar R/O Vpo. Khanpur Teh -Mukerian (Hoshiarpur) Pb.India. Changed My Name From Ashish To Ashish Kumar.

I, 14418546M, HAV, Manoj Kumar Shukla, Unit 10 MED Regt., C/O 56 APO Changed My Son Name Sourav Shukla To Saurabh Shukla.

I, Komalpreet D/o Sandeep Singh R/O H.No. B-5/53 Model Town Nurmahal Teh-Phillaur (Jalandhar) changed my name to Komalpreet Kaur.

I, Monika W/o Sunil Kumar R/O Vill: Ramgarh Po. Phillaur (Jalandhar) changed my name to Monika Gumber.

I, Lovedeep S/O Kashmir Lal R/O Vpo. Haripur Khalsa Teh-Phillaur (Jalandhar) changed my name to Lovedeep Mail.

I, Pawandeep Kaur D/o Kashmir Singh W/o Gurdav Singh Gill R/O Vpo. Mulhada Khurd Teh-Phillaur (Jalandhar) changed my name to Pawandeep Kaur Gill after marriage.

I, Rahul Rai S/O Jaswant Rai R/O H.No. 1421 Mohalla Ravidaspora Akalpur Road Phillaur (Jalandhar) changed my name to Rahul Rai Suman.

I, Dinesh S/O Ramesh R/O H.No. 497/23 Shastri Colony Panipat Declared That Originally I Belong To Hindu Religion By Birth And Now I Have Converted From Hindu Religion To Christian Religion With My Free Will And Without Any Kind Of Inducement Threat Or Undue Influence Or Pressure I Am Interested To Adopt The Christian Religion So That I Leaving Hindu Religion And Converted Into Christian Religion.

I, Chatter Singh S/O Sh. Ran Singh R/O Vill. Jindran, Tehsil & Distt. Rohtak declare that Sandeep Kumar is my real son & he is not obey in my & my family order. So I want to dispossess him from my moveable & immovable property. That I & my family will not responsibility for any legal or illegal activities of my said son.

I, Rajeev Kumar (UIDAI) No. Is 6963273658609 S/O Sh. Yograj Residence Of Mohalla Kashmirian Waia, Old City, Kottkapura, Tehsil Kottkapura, District Faridkot Hereby Declare That My Father's Name Mentioned On My Education Qualification, Government And Property Documents Is Yograj And Yograj S/O Sh. Daulat Ram Residence Of Kottkapura, (Punjab), Teh (Yograj) And Jograji Both Names Are Of My Father I.E. My Father Were Known As Yograj Alias Jograj S/O Daulat Ram.

I, No. 15626648X Rank LNK name Rajat Kumar Posted at 57 ARMD BDE C/o 56 APO hereby declare that I have change my mother's name from Anita Devi to Kumari Anita vide affidavit dated 12-11-2019 before Hisar court.

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Will push for getting 'proclaimed offenders' cases settled in special courts: Punjab CM to NRIs

PNS ■ JALANDHAR

Punjab Chief Minister Capt Amarinder Singh on Tuesday assured the Punjabi diaspora, settled abroad, that he would take up with the Chief Justice of the Punjab and Haryana High Court, as well as the Central Government, the



Chief Minister Singh also assured the visiting NRI of consulting the Centre to examine the feasibility of setting up such special courts in some overseas Indian missions like those in the UK, Canada, Germany, France and the USA, the home to a large Punjabi population.

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He gave the assurance while responding to a request from a group of NRIs, currently visiting Jalandhar in Punjab on the 55th birth anniversary of Guru Nanak Dev.

The Chief Minister honoured the NRIs by giving them books on the life and philosophy of the Sikhism founder, besides a commemorative coin and a memento each on Monday, an official statement said on Tuesday.

The NRIs expressed concern that many of the persons who had immigrated abroad were unable to visit Punjab and pay obeisance at the Golden Temple and other holy places in the state as they were declared proclaimed offenders on account of their inability to appear before courts in certain cases.

Kovind shed light on how Guru Nanak through his teachings enlightened the Indian society, which during the 15th century was plagued with social ills, including casteism, as darkness of ignorance prevailed.

At the SGPC event, where Punjab Governor Badnore, SGPC president Gobind Singh Longowal, Punjab's former Chief Minister Parkash Singh Badal and SAD president and MP Sukhbir Badal were present, the President delivered his speech in Punjab.

Kovind said that being in Sultanpur Lodhi on the 550th birth anniversary of Guru Nanak Dev is a matter of great pride as this is the land where Guru Nanak Dev attained enlightenment.

Guru Nanak Dev preached equality, brotherhood, good deeds and behaviour while making efforts to rid the society of various ills, Kovind said,

adding that the Sikhism founder used simple language to ensure his message reach maximum people.

"He broke the myth that if one has to attain moksha (salvation), one has to leave one's family. Through his life, he put before people an example of fusion of hard work and bairaag," the President said.

From the first Sikh Guru to the tenth master Guru Gobind Singh, there has been a tradition of being fearless for the cause of upholding justice and ensuring truth prevails, Kovind said adding that Guru Gobind Singh was the embodiment of devotion and strength, who inspired people to always stand up and fight injustice.

"We have to imbibe the teachings of the Gurus in making our country and world a better place. By doing so, we would give a real tribute to Guru Nanak Dev," he said.

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to notify all the concerned that on behalf of my client Aadhar Housing Finance Ltd., Branch Zirakpur, I hereby give notice to the general public that one customer, Smt. Manju Devi W/o Rajinder Pandit R/o Village Meerpur Tehsil Dera Bassi Distt. SAS Nagar, Mohali has applied for a loan vide application No. 337853 on 16/01/2019 at the office of Village Meerpur, Hadabst No. 356 Tehsil Dera Bassi and Distt. SAS Nagar, Mohali, area measuring 0-2 Marlas 5 Sarsahis i.e. 78 sq. yds, comprised in Khasra No. 87 Khatoni No. 108 Khasa No. 2/169/2/0-101(5-2), Khas 2 Total area 7 Kanals 2 Marlas out of which 0-2 Marlas 5 sarsahis i.e. 78 sq. yds in the name of Smt. Manju Devi W/o Sh. Rajinder Pandit vide sale deed No. 919 dated 02-08-2011 and mutation No. 2903 as per revenue record. The borrower stated that previous sale deed No. 8721 dated 19-07-2011 in the favour of Sh. Anil Kumar S/o Sh. Kasturi Lal has been lost and regarding this the DOR has been got lodged vide No. 40643/2019 dated 01-11-2019 in Police Station Dera Bassi Mohali. Aadhar Housing Finance, Branch Zirakpur, required this previous original sale deed No. 8721 dated 19-07-2011 to create equitable mortgage.

So through this public notice, it is notified that if any concern, bank or person having any claim, objection related to the said equitable mortgage of the above said property with Aadhar Housing Finance Ltd., Branch Zirakpur, may kindly contact with above said company or with me within 7 days from the date of this publication in below mentioned address, failing which no claim will be entertained later and AHFL will disburse the loan to proposed customer. Detail of the property is above mentioned.

Yours Sincerely
Rupinder Singh Advocate
Chamber No. 508, 4th Floor,
Yadwindra Complex,
Distt. Courts, Patiala
M. 99143-79170

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, HARPAL SINGH S/O UDAY SINGH R/O H.NO. 986/ 11 PANCHKULA, INTEND TO CREATE CHARGE VIA MORTGAGE ON BASIS OF LAMINATED ORIGINAL TITLE DEEDS HAVING NO.2989/1 SR NO 2005 DTD 15/02/1988 FOR AVAILING HOME LOAN TO UP FROM SBI, RACPC SECTOR 5, PANCHKULA.

कार्यालय नगर निगम, पंचकुला (कालका जोग) सार्वजनिक सूचना आम जनता को सूचित किया जाता है कि अधिकार नं. 113/2, अपर मोहल्ला जो नगर निगम रिकॉर्ड अनुसार भी बूट नंबर S/O श्री मंस राम के नाम दर्ज है जो प्रायः वर, शव्य पर, मृत्यु प्रमाण पर सम्पत्ति हस्तान्तरण विवेक के आधार पर श्रीमती सुनीता देवी W/O श्री जोगिन्दर कुमार से अपने नामों में तब्दील करवाने पर अनुरोध किया है। यदि इस प्रकार की सूचना के सम्बन्ध में किसी अधिकारी को कोई परेशान हो तो वह 15 दिन के अन्दर अन्दर अपना चरित्र सही सौतेल निम्नलिखित स्थानों को भेजे।
सचिव नगर निगम, पंचकुला, कालका जोग

That My Client Nareesh Kumar S/O Jashmer Singh declares that I am owner of Plot No. 2048, Block-C, Situated in Sector -32, Ansal Properties & Infrastructure Ltd., Sushant City Kurukshetra, Measuring 238.26 Sq. Mtr / 284.95 sq. yards, being owner vide Vaska no. 23013/31 dated 26-3-2012. Now raising loan from LICHL against it, Original Plot Buyers Agreement dated 1-10-2007 [endorsed dated 29-11-2011] in favour of Nareesh Kumar S/O Jashmer Singh is missing if any individual/Institution is having any information / charge / lien then contact undersigned within 15 days, Hemant Sharma Advocate (for LICHL) #1581, sector-7, U.E.Karnal 9986260977.

PUBLICATION

HEMANT SHARMA Advocate

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is notified for the information of the general public and all concerned that the Final Registration No. 110, BPL, HBC Sector 8, Jind stand in the name of Late Sh. Deepak Parkash Maini as per record of this office it has been reported by the applicant that Late Deepak Parkash Maini who was late successful applicant in the draw, died on 29.08.2015 applied for the transfer for the said registration in his name on the basis of instate death of Deepak Parkash Maini. If anybody have any objection for the transfer of the said registration in favour of the applicant Anshul Maini they may furnish their objection in writing in the office of the undersigned within 15 days from the date of publication of the notice, failing which, this property shall be transferred accordingly and no further claim whatsoever shall be entertained later on.

Estate manager Housing Board Haryana Panipat

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is general public notice that Mr. Jitender Kumar S/O Sh. Ranbir Singh S/O Sh. Kishna Ram, Resident of Village Gunana, Tehsil Narsing, District Karnal (hereinafter referred to as 'customers') have approached Au Small Finance Bank Karnal branch for availing a Secure Business loan of Rs. 5,00,000/- (Rupees Five Lakh Only) and the same has been sanctioned by Au Small Finance Bank vide its application no. RLOS-687881 and sanction letter dated 25/10/2019 duly accepted by the Jitender Kumar by deposit his original Title document on Shop having area 25 Sq. Yards, bearing No. No. 203, property No. 7/155 situated at Narsing, Tehsil Narsing, District Karnal within Municipal Limits, Narsing District Karnal. Initially Suresh Kumar S/O Sh. Jai Naryana S/O Sh. Kalu Ram has been shown to be recorded owner of property in question detail above along with some more property vide assessment register with serial no. 202, Property No. 7/155 for the year 2010-2014. Sh. Suresh Kumar S/O Sh. Jai Naryana sold away his property 25 Sq. Yards in question in favour of Sh. Jaspal S/O Sh. Jasbir Singh vide registered Sale Deed No. 8261 dated 21.07.2015. Sh. Jaspal S/O Sh. Jasbir Singh sold away his property 25 Sq. Yards in question in favour of Sh. Jitender Kumar S/O Sh. Ranbir Singh vide registered Sale Deed No. 7851 dated 14.09.2018. Since then Sh. Jitender Kumar aforesaid is owner in possession of above said Property as its full owner. No record is available before 2010. If anybody having claim or claiming any prior rights or interest in any manner in this property and submit objection within 7 days from the date of this public notice. After the expiry of period of this no claim shall be entertained and such claim shall be deemed to be false, fake, frivolous, fraudulent and baseless claim and shall have no value in the eyes of law.

PRINCIPAL-1

• Assistant Professor - (i) Perspective in Education - 4 (ii) Pedagogic Subjects - 8 (All Subjects) (iii) Physical Education-1, Fine Arts- 1, Music/Dance/ Theatre / Performing Arts-1

ADMINISTRATIVE & PROFESSIONAL STAFF

• Librarian-1, • Assistant Librarian-1, • Technical Assistant-1, • Office cum account Assistant-1, • Lab Asstt.-1, • Helpers/Support staff

Qualification & pay scale as per latest norms of NCTE/IGU/STATE GOVT.

Apply within 21 days of publication date of advertisement. Send one copy to the Secretary of the college and one copy to D.C.D.C., IGU- Meerpur, Rewari through regd. post by hand. SECRETARY

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Economic anarchy in Haryana: Selja

Haryana Congress president Kumari Selja on Tuesday accused BJP-led Government of creating economic anarchy in the State, leading to the closure of various industries and loss of lakhs of jobs.

She said, "Instead of providing employment, now the employees in the State are so fearful that even those who have been working for decades are losing their jobs."

Selja said that under this directionless BJP government, the thousands of factories

established during the Congress regime in the State continue to shut down and production has been cut due to dwindling consumption and therefore falling demand.

The State Congress president alleged that thousands of employees have been sacked at the Honda company set up in Manesar in the State. A few days ago, many workers were fired from Nerolac Paints Company based in Rewari.

As part of their conspir-

acy, the government has locked thousands of factories in the name of causing pollution in the entire state, due to which, in just a fortnight these industries have suffered majorly and have lost thousands of crores.

She claimed that it is the result of the BJP-led government anti-people policies that has ruined the industrial business and which has led to record level of unemployment in the State which actually is the highest in the whole country.

Fani feat charms Prince Charles to IMD

RAJESH KUMAR ■ NEW DELHI

India will showcase its specialised meteorological skills — especially against the backdrop of the global accolades the country received for its handling of cyclone Fani, which was considered one of the strongest in the last 20 years — to Prince Charles during his two-day visit beginning November 13.

Top sources said Prince Charles will visit the regional specialised Meteorological Centre for Tropical Cyclone at India Meteorological Department (IMD) building at Lodhi Road to see the progress and models of forecast being used for cyclone prediction by India.

Prince Charles will also discuss with IMD about its accurate prediction of cyclone Fani in Odisha this year.

"Prince Charles will witness how India makes use of innovation to respond to natural disasters. What methodology and model is being adopted by it? How it is managed to coordinate with disaster management agencies during cyclone predictions and how its clean technology is helping deal with the challenges of climate change," said the sources.

A low-pressure area is the initial stage of the formation of a cyclone. During Fani, the National Institute of Ocean Technology (NIOT), Chennai, collected data on rainfall, temperatures below the sea and above, wind speed and used satellite data in running the models.

"The island observatories also provided data which helped to predict accurate cyclonic storm," said officials. This year, so far India witnessed over five cyclonic storms which include Fani, Kyarr, Titli, Vayu and Bulbul.

Recently, the UN agency for disaster reduction commended the IMD's "almost



pinpoint accuracy" of early warnings that helped authorities conduct a well-targeted evacuation plan and minimise the loss of life as the extremely severe cyclonic storm Fani made landfall near the coastal city of Puri.

The powerful cyclone in Odisha had killed at least eight people, damaged properties worth hundreds of crores and displaced over 11 lakh people.

The visit by Prince Charles, heir apparent to the British throne, will be his 10th trip to India and his second in two years. Prince Charles and his wife Camilla, Duchess of Cornwall, had visited India in 2017, as part of their 10-day tour to Asian countries, including Singapore, Malaysia and Brunei.

Earlier, Prince Charles' elder son Prince William and wife Kate Middleton had embarked on a visit to neighbouring Pakistan from October 14 to 18 this year.

As per schedule, Prince Charles will participate in a discussion on how to strengthen disaster resilience and tackle the effects of climate change at the IMD. He will visit a Sikh temple to celebrate the 550th birth anniversary of Guru Nanak and mark the contribution of the Sikh community in the UK. He will then attend a military service to commemorate the sacrifices of soldiers from India, the UK and across the Commonwealth in World War One and World War Two.

The weather department predicted possible damage to thatched roofs, embankments

and roads in the coastal districts of North Odisha and West Bengal.

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ED launches inquiry against Lavasa's son

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

The Enforcement Directorate has launched a probe under the Foreign Exchange Management Act (FEMA) against Election Commissioner Ashok Lavasa's son Abir and a firm linked to him for alleged violation of foreign exchange regulations.

The agency has filed a case under FEMA to probe Abir Lavasa and a fund to the tune of ₹7.25 crore raised early this year by the firm Nourish Organic Foods Pvt Ltd, linked to him.

Through the probe, the agency is seeking to ascertain if the FEMA law was violated in bringing the funds from a Mauritius-based company identified as Saama Capital, officials said.

Abir Lavasa is said to be the Director of Nourish Organic Foods Pvt. Ltd.

The fund infusion into the company is under probe and the agency recently questioned Abir about these transactions.

While Abir has been cooperative with the probe so far,



Election Commissioner Ashok Lavasa

the agency has also summoned other persons connected to the case for further probe into the issue.

The trouble for Ashok Lavasa's family began a few months back when his wife, Novel Singhal Lavasa, came under the ambit of the Income Tax Department probe on charges of alleged tax evasion.

The IT Department had reportedly issued a notice asking her to explain certain details in her I-T Returns (ITR) with regard to holding directorship in about 10 companies.

After preliminary investigation, the I-T department asked her to provide more

documents related to her personal finances to ascertain if her income has escaped assessment in the past or something has been concealed from tax authorities.

Novel Singhal Lavasa's ITRs are under scrutiny for alleged tax evasion and holding of directorship in multiple firms assessment period of 2015-17. Some other family members of Lavasa are also under the scanner of the IT Department.

Ashok Lavasa was appointed as Election Commissioner on January 23, 2018, after his superannuation from service as Union Finance Secretary in the previous year.

Maha Guv made mockery of constitutional process: Cong

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Congress on Tuesday hit out at Maharashtra Governor Bhagat Singh Koshiyari for recommending President's Rule in the State, alleging that he has committed a "grave travesty" and made a "mockery" of the Constitutional process. Congress Chief Spokesperson Randeep Surjewala also questioned the Governor for the "arbitrary" allotment of time to the NCP, Shiv Sena and the BJP to prove support for Government formation.

"Governor Koshiyari has committed a grave travesty of democracy and made a mockery of the Constitutional process in recommending President's Rule in Maharashtra," he said. Surjewala alleged that four grave violations of the Constitutional scheme, as expressed in the SR Bommai judgment, stand out.

Senior Congress leader and Former Union Minister Sushilkumar Shinde echoed a similar view, saying, "Once we have letters of support, the President's rule can be lifted."

Another Congress leader and former Chief Minister Prithviraj Chavan said the Governor should have invited his party to indicate "willingness and ability" to form

Congress Chief Spokesperson Randeep Surjewala questioned Guv for the "arbitrary" allotment of time to NCP, Shiv Sena and BJP to prove support for Govt formation

Government. "In absence of any single party having majority in Maharashtra, Governor should have called; 1. Single largest pre-poll alliance i.e. BJP-Shiv Sena together; Then 2. Second largest post poll alliance i.e. Congress-NCP," said Congress spokesman.

"In case Governor called individual parties, why did he not call INC. And above all why the completely arbitrary allotment of time? 48 hours to BJP, 24 hours to Sena and not even 24 hours to NCP, before the Presidents Rule," he said. This is unashamedly dishonest and politically motivated, Surjewala alleged.

Party spokesperson Abhishek Singhvi also slammed the Governor for his actions, saying this is not President's rule

but the "malicious BJP's" political rule. A statement tweeted by Koshiyari's office said, "He is satisfied that the Government cannot be carried on in accordance with the Constitution, (and therefore) has today submitted a report as contemplated by provision of Article 356 of the Constitution."

Koshiyari, who had given the Nationalist Congress Party (NCP) time till 8.30 pm on Tuesday to express its "willingness and ability" to form Government in Maharashtra and time being of the essence, has submitted a report to President Ram Nath Kovind recommending President's rule in the State.

In Mumbai, State Congress spokesperson Sachin Sawant said, "I condemn this action which has been taken in a hurry without exhausting all options. This raises questions about the Governor's impartiality. This also raises doubt whether the Governor is acting under pressure."

Another senior Congressman Vijay Wadettiwar, who was the leader of the opposition in the 13th State Assembly, the tenure of which expired on November 9, felt that President's rule will not be a roadblock in Government formation.

BJP receives ₹356 cr donation by Tata Group during '18-19

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The BJP received ₹356 crore in donations from the electoral trust controlled by the Tata Group during 2018-19. According to documents submitted by the BJP before the Election Commission on October 31, it received a total of over ₹700 crore in donations through cheques and online payments during the financial year 2018-19.

Around half the contributions - ₹356 crore - were made by the Tata-controlled Progressive Electoral Trust, India's richest trust - The Prudent Electoral Trust - gave ₹54.25 crore in donations to the party, according to the documents.

The Prudent Trust is backed by top corporate houses including Bharti Group, Hero MotoCorp, Jubilant Foodworks, Orient Cement, DLF, JK Tyres, among others.



The information provided pertains to donations of ₹20,000 and above each that were received by the party through cheques or online payments.

Donations received in the form of electoral bonds were not included in the filing. The BJP received donations from individuals, companies as well as electoral trusts, the document said.

As per the election code, political parties are mandated to disclose all donations they receive in a financial year. At present, political parties are not required to declare the names of individuals and organisations giving less than ₹20,000 or of those who donate via electoral bonds.

Venkaiah to hold party leaders' meet on Nov 17

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Rajya Sabha Chairman M Venkaiah Naidu has convened a meeting of leaders of various parties in the House on November 17, ahead of the historic 250th session of Rajya Sabha. The meeting will be held at Naidu's residence.

The ensuing session also coincides with the 70th anniversary of adoption of the Constitution by the Constituent Assembly and celebration of the 150th birth Anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi.

This session also follows a highly productive 249th session of Rajya Sabha, the best in last many years.

The Winter session of Parliament begins on November 18 and is to end on December 13.

Parl panel urges Govt to upgrade Tata Cancer Centre infrastructure

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Expressing concern over 68 per cent of cancer patients dying in the country, a Parliamentary Committee has strongly urged the Government to expand and upgrade cancer treatment infrastructure for affordable and quality care by enlarging the network of Mumbai based Tata Memorial Centre.

The Department-related Standing Committee on Science and Technology, Environment, Forest and Climate Change submitted its Report on "An expanded role for the Department of Atomic Energy in Cancer Treatment in India through an Enlarged Network of the Tata Memorial Centre. Chairman of the Committee, Jairam Ramesh along with other Members presented the report to Rajya Sabha Chairman M Venkaiah



Tata Memorial Centre, Mumbai

Naidu. Naidu complimented the committee for being the first to submit a report after re-constitution of DRSCs in September this year and also for examining and reporting on an important health-care issue.

The panel recommended setting up of a High Level Steering Committee headed by the Minister of State for Atomic Energy, the Chief Secretaries/Administrators of all the States and UT's and Director of TMC as Members to

work out modalities for rolling out of Hub and Spoke Model in a time bound manner to not only contain patient migration but also to ensure state-of-the-art facilities as close as possible for cancer patients.

The Committee noted with concern the very high incidence of cancer in all North-Eastern States and recommended that Dr. B. Barooah Cancer Institute at Guwahati should be upgraded as a common Hub for the region.

BRICS summit will strengthen ties among 5 nation: PM Modi

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Detailing his trip to Brazil, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Tuesday said that the BRICS summit will focus on strengthening ties among the world's five major economies in key areas such as digital economy, science and technology, and also build mechanisms for counter-terrorism cooperation. Modi, who left for Brazil in the afternoon, will be in that country on November 13-14 to attend the 11th BRICS summit.

"I look forward to exchanging views with other BRICS leaders with the aim to further strengthen intra-BRICS cooperation, particularly on the theme of the summit 'Economic growth for an innovative future,'" Modi said in his departure statement.

During the summit, the five major economies of the world will aim to significantly strengthen their cooperation in science, technology and inno-

vation, he said.

The BRICS countries will also look to enhance cooperation on digital economy and build mechanisms for counter-terrorism cooperation within the BRICS framework, Modi said. "Our business and industry play an important role in Intra-BRICS ties. I will be addressing BRICS Business Forum and interacting with BRICS Business Council and New Development Bank," he said.

On the bilateral meeting with the Brazilian President Jair Bolsonaro, he said Brazil and India share close and ever expanding bilateral relations, including in the spheres of defence, security, trade, agriculture, energy and space. Close cooperation between the two countries in multilateral forums has been a significant aspect of our strategic relationship, Modi said.

"BRICS summit will also provide me with the opportu-

nity to hold useful bilateral interactions with leaders of other BRICS countries," he said.

This will be the sixth time Modi will be participating in the BRICS summit, his first being at Fortaleza, also in Brazil in 2014.

The Prime Minister is scheduled to hold separate bilateral meetings with Russian President Vladimir Putin and Chinese Premier Xi Jinping. He would also attend the BRICS business forum closing ceremony and the 'closed' and plenary sessions of the XI BRICS Summit.

BRICS is the acronym coined for an association of five major emerging national economies - Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa. The grouping brings together five major emerging economies comprising 42 per cent of the world's population, having 23 per cent of the global Gross Domestic Product.

INSHORT

NIA ARRESTS MAN FOR RAISING FUNDS FOR LET

New Delhi: The NIA on Monday arrested a man accused of raising funds for the Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) through Hawala channels to sponsor terrorist activities in the country. Javed (40) was arrested from Delhi on Sunday for his alleged role in funding LeT operative Sheikh Abdul Nayeem alias Sohel Khan who was held and chargesheeted earlier for criminal conspiracy to carry out subversive activities in the country. Javed was absconding since 2017.

PRODUCT TO TACKLE STUBBLE BURNING LAUNCHED

New Delhi: KanBiosys, an agri-biotech company has launched Speed Kompost, an eco-friendly product that tackles the problem of stubble burning. Speed Kompost is microbial formulation which consists of a unique stabilised blend of cellulose degrading, starch degrading, protein degrading bacteria and fungi. These microbes when added to the raw compost heap, germinate to produce hyphae or cells.

Govt bans 1800 NGOs to receive foreign funds

PNS/PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Over 1,800 NGOs and academic institutes found to be violating laws have been banned by the Government from receiving foreign funds this year, officials said on Tuesday.

Among those whose registration under the Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act has been banned include University of Rajasthan, Allahabad Agricultural Institute, Young Men's Christian Association, Gujarat and Swami Vivekananda Educational Society, Karnataka.

"With the cancellation of the FCRA registration, all NGOs and academic institutes were prohibited from accepting foreign contribution," a Home Ministry official said.

The FCRA registration of these organisations were cancelled mostly due to their failure to submit annual income and expenditure statement on foreign funding for up to six years despite repeated reminders.

As per FCRA guidelines, registered associations are required to submit electronically an online annual report

with scanned copies of income and expenditure statement, receipts and payment account, balance sheet, etc., for every financial year within nine months of the closure of the financial year.

Associations which do not receive foreign contribution during a particular year are also required to furnish a 'NIL' return for that financial year within the aforesaid period, read the guidelines.

Other associations whose FCRA registration has been cancelled include Institute of Pulmocare and Research, West Bengal, National Geophysical

Research Institute, Telangana, Maharashtra, Rabindra Nath Tagore Medical College Hospital and Research, West Bengal and Baptist Christian Association, Maharashtra.

In addition to 1,807 associations, registration of one more organisation - Bengaluru-based NGO Infosys Foundation - was also cancelled this year following a "request" of the NGOs itself. Earlier, an official of the Infosys Foundation had said its de-registration from the FCRA followed a request it proactively made to the Ministry of Home

Affairs.

"This (request) was done as the Infosys Foundation does not come under the purview of the FCRA following the amendment made to the act in 2016. We had approached the ministry to consider this, and thank them for granting our request," the official had said.

Ever since the Narendra Modi government came to power in 2014, the Ministry of Home Affairs has cancelled the FCRA registration of over 14,800 NGOs, thus banning them from receiving foreign funding.



Union Minister for Finance and Corporate Affairs Nirmala Sitharaman lights the lamp to inaugurate 6th World Congress on Rural and Agricultural Finance, organised by the NABARD, APRACA and Government of India, in New Delhi

CSIR-CSIO develops tech to cut down pollutants

ARCHANA JYOTI ■ NEW DELHI

Low-cost indigenous electrostatic spraying technology developed by the researchers from Central Scientific Instruments Organisation (CSIR-CSIO), Chandigarh, might come handy for metro cities like the national capital to cut down dust and smog pollutants.

The electrostatic spray-based multipurpose dust mitigation tech is a modification of the pesticide spraying technology that the researchers had developed after intensive research spanning seven years.

This technology uses electrostatic field to generate charged spray droplets which recombine with naturally occurring oppositely charged dust and smog particles and settle down onto the ground very efficiently and effectively.

Dr Manoj K Patel, scientist and principal investigator of the project, said, "Suppression of dust is very much necessary to



Central Scientific Instruments Organisation, Chandigarh

live a healthy life and protect us from communicable diseases like Asthma, TB, and other airborne diseases. Moreover, dust also creates hindrance in the operation of machinery and industries, so it becomes inevitable to suppress the dust and foreign particles in the working environment."

The field and laboratory trials of the dust mitigation

device are in progress. Soon, the device will be deployed at field scale for commercialisation, according to an official from the Department of Science and Technology under the Science and Technology Ministry.

The pesticide spraying technology has already been well received among the scientific fraternity of the country.

For this societal innovation, Dr Patel and his team has been awarded NRDC National Societal Innovation Award 2017. He has also been awarded Gandhian Young Technological Innovation Award 2016.

The researchers said pesticides spraying technology is different from the conventional spraying technologies as it can control the excessive use of pesticides by reducing the droplet size and ensuring even distribution of spray.

The tech has been transferred to Dashmesh Industries, Alwar, Rajasthan and the product is available in the market for the end user by a brand name eSPRAY, being used in India as well as overseas.

Professor RK Sinha, Director, CSIR-CSIO, Chandigarh said, "The technologies developed in the field of electrostatic spraying have great socioeconomic impacts which are directly linked to our farmers and the common man."

National workshop on Ayurveda to be held

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

As India is all set to become a diabetes capital of the world, medicinal herbs besides disciplined lifestyle couple with yoga are increasingly being seen as an answer to tackle the menacing disorder caused by the absence of insulin. India is a treasure trove of over 7000 medicinal plants.

In this connection, a two-day national workshop is being held from November 14, 2019 wherein experts from across the country will come together to discuss the role of the Indian systems of medicine such as Ayurveda in tackling the lifestyle disease which is estimated to grip around 100 million Indians by 2030.

The event on November 14 (marked as World Diabetes Day) is being held at the All India Institute of Ayurveda (AIIA) in Delhi which was inaugurated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi in 2017. The institute has mandate to bring in the synergy between tradi-



The event on Nov 14 is being held at the AIIA in Delhi

tional wisdom of Ayurveda and modern diagnostic tools and technology.

A senior official from the AIIA said that the workshop aims to create awareness as well as showcase various scientific

researches being undertaken and ongoing in the sector to prove the efficacy of the traditional medicine systems such as panchkarma and herbs in managing the 'silent killer'. For instance, some of the CSIR labs like Lucknow-based National Botanical Research Institute (NBRI) and Central Institute for Medicinal Plants (CIAMP), both Lucknow based have jointly developed herbal product BGR-34.

It is a formulation of extracts of herbal plants like sadabahar, Vijayasar, gurmaar, Dharuhedi, jamun and gilyo whose properties to stimulate the production of insulin is well known. Dr AKS Rawat, ex-scientist from NBRI said that the BGR-34 has been found to have antioxidant properties, enhance immunity, help repair the pancreas and increase production of insulin within the body.

In a country like India, where more than ₹500 crore rupees is spent on diabetes medicine and treatment each year, promoting researches in ayurveda is expected to have significant implications. Experts warn that Type 2 diabetes can increase risk of complications such as high blood pressure, kidney ailments and stroke which in turn can impact the life expectancy of the patient. Today, 425 million people live with diabetes worldwide - about 1 in every 11 adults - according to the International Diabetes Federation, and the number is rising.

16 killed after vehicle skids off J&K highway

PNS ■ JAMMU

At least 16 people, including three children and four women, died when a passenger vehicle skidded off the hilly link road in Doda district on Tuesday.

According to official sources, the ill-fated passenger vehicle was on its way to Marmat from Doda when the accident occurred at Khellani around 2.45 p.m.

SSP, Doda, Mumtaz Ahmad told reporters, "the vehicle with 17 passengers on board rolled 500 feet down on main Batote-Doda highway from a link road around 2.45 pm". He said, "16 passengers including driver died in the accident".

Lone survivor was referred to the Government medical



college and hospital in Jammu for specialised treatment.

Earlier on July 1, a minibus carrying 52 passengers against seating capacity of 28 plunged into a gorge at Keshwan in adjoining Kishtwar district

killing 35 passengers and leaving 17 others injured.

Local officers claimed "often overloading, absence of crash barriers, bad roads and inadequate buses/rickety fleet account for frequent road accidents in hilly Doda region."

LeT terrorist eliminated in Ganderbal

PNS ■ JAMMU

A Pakistani terrorist of Lashkar-e-Tayyiba (LeT) terror outfit was eliminated by the joint team of security forces in Gund area of Ganderbal on early Tuesday morning.

The operation was launched by the security forces after receiving specific input about their presence in the area. According to police the killed terrorist has been identified as Khalid alias Zeban, a Pakistani national. Security forces also recovered arms and ammunition from the encounter site even as search operation was still going on in the area.

Earlier, on Monday, two

terrorists were killed in Bandipora after a 12-hour-long gun battle with the security forces. Both the gunmen were identified and belonged to the Lashkar-e-Toiba outfit.

Meanwhile, Pakistan army violated ceasefire agreement along the line of control in Shahpur and Kirni sectors of Poonch district. Several civilian areas were hit by Pakistan army with mortar shelling, official sources said.

Defence PRO in Jammu said, "the Pakistan Army initiated 'unprovoked' ceasefire violation by firing of small arms and shelling with mortars along the LoC in Shahpur and Kirni sectors around 3.15 p.m.". He said, the Indian Army retaliated befittingly.

Day 100: Journalists in Kashmir protest against continued suspension of internet services

PTI ■ SRINAGAR

Journalists in the Valley took out a protest march here against the continued suspension of internet services which completed 100 days on Tuesday since the abrogation of the Jammu & Kashmir's special status on August 5.

Scores of journalists working with different media organisations assembled at the Kashmir Press Club here and took out a protest march against the snapping of internet services in the Valley on the night of August 4, hours before the Centre revoked the State's special status under Article 370 and abrogated it into two Union Territories.

The journalists demanded immediate restoration of the services to facilitate the media persons to discharge their professional duties.

"We took out the protest against the suspension of internet services for 100 days now.



Internet is a basic tool for journalists to discharge their professional duties and we demand its immediate restoration," senior journalist Pervez Bukhari told reporters after the protest.

The Centre's August 5 decision led to an unannounced shutdown in the Valley even as authorities imposed severe restrictions, including on communication, which were later gradually eased out.

Postpaid mobile services on all networks were restored in the

Valley on October 14, 72 days after they were snapped.

However, pre-paid mobile phones and all internet services continue to remain suspended since August 5.

The Government has set up a 'Media Facilitation Centre' at a conference hall of a local hotel here for journalists to discharge their professional duties. But the media persons complain that it has not enough computers and they have to wait for hours for their turn.

Kashmir rail services resume, mini buses on roads in Valley

PTI ■ SRINAGAR

Rail services in Kashmir resumed on Tuesday — over three months after being suspended due to security reasons in view of the Centre's decision to abrogate Article 370, officials said.

Few mini-buses also plied on the Batwara-Batamalo route through the city centre, while inter-district cabs and auto-rickshaws plied in the city and elsewhere in the Valley.

Private transport was plying unhindered. A railway official told PTI that a train chugged between Baramulla and Srinagar this morning.

He said the train made only two trips on the Baramulla-Srinagar



Srinagar-Banihal stretch of the railway line would resume in a few days after checking track safety and conducting trial runs.

The train service in the valley was suspended due to security reasons on the morning of 5 August — hours before the Centre announced its decision to abrogate Article 370 of the Constitution and to bifurcate the erstwhile state into two Union territories.

The Centre's decision led to an unannounced shutdown in the valley — which completed 100 days on Tuesday — even as authorities imposed severe restrictions which were later gradually eased out.

Yogi says Nankana Sahib to follow Kartarpur Sahib

PTI ■ LUCKNOW

Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath on Tuesday said the day is not far when people from the country would be able to visit Nankana Sahib in Pakistan's Punjab province, as he congratulated Prime Minister Narendra Modi for opening of the Kartarpur Sahib corridor.

"I congratulate Prime Minister Narendra Modi and all of you for this (opening of Kartarpur Sahib corridor). The day is not far when we will be able to go to Nankana Sahib," the CM told a gathering on the 550th birth anniversary of Sikhism founder Guru Nanak Dev.

Situated in the Punjab province of Pakistan, Nankana Sahib is named after the first Sikh



guru, Guru Nanak Dev, who was born in the city and began preaching there.

It is a popular pilgrimage site for Sikhs from across the world and carries high historic and religious value.

Extending wishes on the occasion of Guru Purab, Adityanath

said the country and humanity can never forget the sacrifices of Sikh gurus.

"Around 550 years ago, when the country was facing foreign invasions, religions and truth were being destroyed. During that period, Guru Nanak Dev Ji had paved the way for the welfare of humanity through his divine light," he said.

The Chief Minister said that because of the sacrifice of Sikh gurus, the nation and religion are alive today. "Due to this great contribution, every Indian residing in any part of the world pays tribute to Guru Nanak Dev Ji through 'Prakashotsav'."

Mughal emperor's atrocities," he said, adding that a large section of society was afraid of practising their religion, the truth and the respect for their sisters and daughters.

"When the country and religions came under threat, the Sikh gurus never bowed or turned back. The sacred tradition of the sacrifice of Sikh gurus is written in golden words in the history of India and every Indian expresses gratitude towards this," he said.

The Chief Minister said that because of the sacrifice of Sikh gurus, the nation and religion are alive today. "Due to this great contribution, every Indian residing in any part of the world pays tribute to Guru Nanak Dev Ji through 'Prakashotsav'."

KARTIK PURNIMA

Devotees throng ghats in UP to take holy dip

PTI ■ LUCKNOW

A sea of devotees thronged ghats across Uttar Pradesh to take a holy dip in the Ganga, Gomti and Saryu rivers on Kartik Purnima.

In the temple town of Ayodhya, people began flocking to the ghats of the Saryu since early morning amid chants of "Sita Ram" playing on loudspeakers in the streets, while many devotees who came from neighbouring districts of the State camped overnight near the river.

This is the first religious congregation in the holy city since the Supreme Court's judgment in the Ram Janmabhoomi-Babri Masjid case.

Devotees in the State capital took a dip at Mankameswar ghat on the banks of the Gomti. A huge crowd also gathered on the banks of Ganga and Yamuna in Allahabad.

Elaborating on the significance of Kartik Purnima, the convenor of Allahabad-based organisations Ram Naam Bank and Ram Sewa Trust, Ashutosh Varshney, said, "It is the full moon day in the month of Kartik".

"It is also known as Dev Deepavali, a Diwali celebrated by Gods. The festival is celebrated 15 days after Diwali," he added.

Earthen lamps are lit at all temples and the bank of the Ganga on the auspicious occasion.



Devotees crowd the bank of the River Ganga to take dips and offer prayers during Karthik Purnima festival in Varanasi on Tuesday

10 drown, two go missing in Bihar

PTI ■ PATNA

At least 10 people, including three girls, drowned in Bihar in separate incidents and two others went missing on Tuesday when they had gone to take a dip in the river on the occasion of Kartik Purnima.

According to the disaster management department, three persons each drowned in Nawada and Nalanda, while one each died in Sitamarhi, Aurangabad, West Champaran and Saran.

In Nalanda district, three minor girls drowned while

taking bath in Sakri river near Ghosarwa village.

The deceased have been identified as Anshu Kumari (17), Sonam Kumari (15) — both siblings — and another Priti Kumari (17), a police officer said.

Their bodies were fished out by NDRF personnel and sent to sadar hospital for autopsy, the officer said.

In Nawada, two 18-year-old women were among the three who met their watery grave near a sun temple in Kauwakol police station area, near Ghosarwa village.

AIMIM not in favour of five-acre land: Owaisi

PTI ■ HYDERABAD

AIMIM president Asaduddin Owaisi on Tuesday said his party is not in favour of the five acres of land to be allocated for building a mosque under the Supreme Court verdict in the Ayodhya issue as the fight was for a legal right and Babri Masjid.

"...I speak for my party, we do not want this 'khairat' (donation or charity). Our fight was for a legal right, for a Babri Masjid. Our fight was not for, to get this piece of

land..." he told reporters here.

He was asked about the comments of some Muslim leaders that the five acre land allotted should be given within the 67 acres acquired by the government.

The whole struggle for so many years was not for a piece of land, he said.

"...Why did we have this patience so much. We went to the court, if it was a piece of land we could have accepted it somewhere else. But, from last 50 years, we have been fighting this case in a court of law with



all the patience," he said.

The RSS raised a bogey that a temple was demolished, but Supreme Court ruled otherwise, he claimed.

He reiterated his claim that

the country is going on the path of "Hindu Rashtra".

"...How attempts are being made to make Muslims in India as second class citizens. Keep watching. Political disempowerment is happening.

Nobody can deny this...Bring NRC, citizen amendment bill, what message you are giving. My regret is that all the secular parties, their mouths are shut," he said.

He asked why the Congress, NCP, BSP and others are silent and that the silence needs to be broken.

On Saturday when the apex court announced its judgment in the Ayodhya issue, Owaisi had said he personally felt that the offer of the five acre plot to the Muslim side should be rejected.

Owaisi reaffirmed that his party, which has two MLAs in Maharashtra, would not support the government led by the BJP or Shiv Sena.

Asked for his party's stance in a scenario of a NCP leader becoming Chief Minister, he said, "let marriage happen first."

Hyderabad train collision: Human error suspected, train driver booked

PTI ■ HYDERABAD

The train collision that left 17 people injured here occurred due to "human error" on the part of a loco pilot, now in a critical condition in a hospital, and he has been booked on charges including endangering public safety, railway and police officials said on Tuesday.

A day after the mishap involving two slow moving



trains at Kachegowda Railway station, a South Central Railway official said that according to the preliminary information, suspected human

error appeared to be the cause of the accident as the MMTS train had overshot the signal.

Prima facie it appears to be human error as per available evidences. The Commissioner of Railway Safety will dig deep and go into the complete details of the train operation and inspect all the available records and evidences and come to a final conclusion, the official told PTI.

Babul Supriyo to visit cyclone-hit areas of WB today

PTI ■ KOLKATA

Union Minister Babul Supriyo on Tuesday said he has been asked by Prime Minister Narendra Modi to visit the cyclone-hit areas in West Bengal on Wednesday to look into the ground level situation.

Supriyo said his visit is not an inspection of the relief work being carried out by the West Government but to find out the ground level situation as a Union Minister and MP from Bengal.

He urged the ruling TMC "not to do politics" over his visit and said that the State Government has been officially informed about his visit to coastal areas

of South 24 Parganas district which was lashed by Cyclone Bulbul.

"I have been asked by Prime Minister Narendra Modi to visit the areas and look into the ground situation. It is not at all any sort of inspection or any other political visit to the cyclone-hit areas. It will be purely a normal visit to look into the situation post cyclone," Supriyo told PTI over phone.

Both Modi and Union Home Minister Amit Shah had spoken to West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee on Sunday and had assured all help to the State Government, he said.

The TMC leadership when contacted declined to comment on Supriyo's visit.

Bengal Gov gets Central protection, State unhappy

SAUGAR SENGUPTA ■ KOLKATA

Much to the chagrin of the Mamata Banerjee Government, the Centre on Tuesday provided Z category protection for Bengal Governor Jagdeep Dhankhar and sent in the first posse of Central Protection Force for the purpose.

A decision regarding the "upgradation" of the Governor's security network was taken in the month of October by the Union Home Minister amid repeated run-ins between Raj Bhavan and the Nabanna (State Secretariat) with the TMC Government accusing Dhankhar of breaking federal norms by repeatedly interfering in administrative affairs.

A posse of 28 CPF personnel on Tuesday accompanied the Governor to at SAI Stadium at Salt Lake and a religious function at Baranagar in North Kolkata where

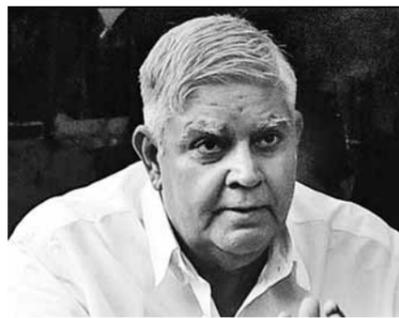
during a short speech on Guru Nanak's message for peace he raised his voice against the ongoing political clashes which was not doing the State any good.

After Tuesday's development a separate control room of the CRPF will be set up at the Raj Bhavan sources said adding the central forces would hence forward mind the inner security ring of the Governor.

The State police will only be required to handle the outward ring and associated duty, sources said.

Bringing in the Governor under central protection only opens a new front of conflict between the Centre and the State Governments whose equations are anything but cordial, experts say.

Vide an order dated October 15, the North Block had directed



the CPF headquarters to take charge of Dhankhar's security that will be valid in all parts of the country.

Following this, the State Government urged the Home Ministry to take back its decision to entrust the security of Governor Jagdeep Dhankhar to CPF saying

this would only demean the credibility of the State as also harm the federal structure.

The State's appeal was however turned down by the Centre.

According to sources in Raj Bhavan New Delhi was concerned about the repeated stand offs between the two sides that started with the Dhankhar's official car and convoy being blocked at Jadavpur University in September when he went to "rescue" Union Minister Babul Supriyo who was gheraoed

by a section of the students following an altercation with him.

Subsequently Dhankhar had been involved in repeated confrontation with the State Government locking horn with the Trinamool Congress in a war of words over a number of issues ranging from allegations that he was not accorded adequate honour during the Durga Puja carnival to his comments on the State's law and order situation.

The State Government had been critical of the Governor allegedly for his repeated interference in the administrative affair.

Meanwhile Dhankhar on Tuesday once again disapproved of the ongoing political violence saying, "political violence is not good for the society and goes against the preaching of Guru Nanak Dev Ji who preached global unity. Such violence should stop as it is not good for the State."

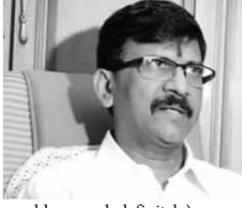
MAHARASHTRA IMPASSE Will succeed, says Raut after setback over Govt formation

PTI ■ MUMBAI

Even as the Shiv Sena failed to muster numbers to stake claim for Government formation in Maharashtra, its ailing leader Sanjay Raut on Tuesday quoted lines of legendary poet Harivansh Rai Bachchan to reaffirm his party's resolve to succeed and not give up.

Raut, who on Monday underwent angioplasty at a hospital here, tweeted two lines from Bachchan's famous poem: "Lehron se dar kar nauka paar nahi hoti, himmat karne waalon ki kabhi haar nahi hoti" (the boat that quails the waves never gets across, those who dare do not lose).

The Rajya Sabha member further tweeted, "Hum hong kamyab, zaroor hong" (we would succeed, definitely).



The 57-year-old firebrand leader, who led the Sena's charge to seek equal share in power with the BJP after the Assembly poll results in Maharashtra, complained of chest pain on Monday following which he underwent angioplasty at the Lilavati Hospital here.

The Shiv Sena on Monday suffered a setback in its efforts to cobble up a non-BJP Government in

Maharashtra with the Congress at the last moment announcing its decision to hold more talks with ally NCP supporting the Uddhav Thackeray-led party.

While Sena leader Aaditya Thackeray said two parties (Congress and NCP) have agreed "in-principle" to support the Sena-led Government, Governor Bhagat Singh Koshiyari refused additional time sought by his party to muster numbers.

Later, the NCP, which is the third largest party in the state, got an invite from the governor, asking it to express "willingness and ability to form Government".

With 54 MLAs, the NCP is the third largest party after the BJP (105) and the Shiv Sena (56) in the 288-member House, where the halfway mark is 145. The Congress has 44 MLAs.

Uddhav, BJP leaders visit ailing Sena leader Raut

PTI ■ MUMBAI

Shiv Sena chief Uddhav Thackeray on Tuesday met party leader Sanjay Raut, who underwent angioplasty at Lilavati Hospital here, and later said the Rajya Sabha member was recovering fast but refused to comment on the political crisis in Maharashtra.

BJP leaders Harshvardhan Patil and Ashish Shelar also met 57-year-old Raut at the hospital here following which the latter said it was a courtesy visit with "no political angle".

The visit came in the backdrop of the stalemate over Government formation continuing in the State even 19 days after the Assembly poll results were declared. Thackeray met Raut along with Patil. Later, talking to reporters, Thackeray said, "Things are taking shape, I will speak about it at the right time. I cannot comment on politics right now."

Asked about Raut's health, he said, "He is recuperating fast. He has also resumed

work as the executive editor of (Sena mouthpiece) 'Saamana'."

Former Mumbai BJP chief Shelar also met the Sena MP and later said, "Doctors have advised Raut to speak less. I met him out of courtesy. It is Maharashtra's culture, we meet unwell people irrespective of political differences."

"There was no political angle to this meet. A senior BJP office-bearer is also admitted in the same hospital, I also met him," he added.

Earlier, NCP chief Sharad Pawar also met Raut at the hospital in the morning.

Raut, who led the Sena's charge to seek equal share in power with the BJP after the Assembly poll results in Maharashtra, complained of chest pain on Monday following which he underwent angioplasty, a procedure to restore blood flow through the artery. The ailing Sena leader in the morning took to Twitter to quote lines of legendary poet Harivansh Rai Bachchan to reaffirm his party's resolve to succeed and not give up.

Thackeray meets Sena's MLA-elects at resort

Mumbai: Even as the Congress-NCP were in a huddle over Government formation in Maharashtra, Shiv Sena president Uddhav Thackeray on Tuesday met his party legislators at a suburban resort where they are staying for the last few days.

Sena legislators told Thackeray they would abide by whatever decision he takes, Bhaskar Jadhav, one of the MLA-elects, told reporters after the meeting.

Thackeray was accompanied by senior leaders and his sons Aaditya, the newly-elected MLA from Worli in central Mumbai, and Tejas.

Jadhav said the NCP was given time till 8.30 pm on Tuesday to express its "ability and willingness" to stake claim to form Government in the State, but the President's rule

was imposed at 5.30 pm. "This is surprising," he said. When Thackeray reached the resort, he was heard saying he wanted to make "some important calls" before the meeting with MLA-elects.

The Sena's newly-elected MLAs have been staying at the resort for the last few days.

In the last month's assembly election, the BJP emerged as the single largest party with 105 seats followed by the Shiv Sena 56, the NCP 54 and the Congress 44.

On Monday, the Sena claimed the NCP and Congress have agreed "in-principle" to back its Government without the BJP, but failed to get letters of support from the political rivals before the deadline set by Governor B S Koshiyari who rejected its plea for three more days to do so. PTI

No decision on backing Shiv Sena yet: Cong, NCP

TN RAGHUNATHA ■ MUMBAI

Hours after the President's Rule was imposed in Maharashtra, the Congress and the NCP on Tuesday bought some more time in taking a decision on extending support to the Shiv Sena to form a Government in Maharashtra, on the ground that they need certain clarifications from each other before going ahead.

On a day when Governor Bhagat Singh Koshiyari went ahead and recommended the President's rule more than six hours ahead of the deadline of 8.30 pm he had set for the NCP to revert to him on the Government formation issue, senior Congress leaders

Ahmed Patel, Mallikarjun Kharge and K C Venugopal held 90-minute-long discussions with NCP chief Sharad Pawar in Mumbai.

Addressing a news conference after he and his party colleagues had with NCP chief Sharad Pawar, Ahmed Patel said: "Shiv Sena president Uddhav Thackeray formally reached out to Congress president Sonia Gandhi and Me only yesterday for support to form a Government in the state. Since it involved a major decision, we need to meet our pre-poll alliance partner NCP first and seek certain clarifications on Government formation in the State. Once we are through with the discussion, we



will hold talks with the Shiv Sena leadership".

Reiterating that the two parties had not arrived at any decision on extending the support to the Sena, Patel said that

the issues on which they needed clarifications from the NCP included formulation of a Common Minimum Programme (CMP). "We want to clear between ourselves

before talking to the Shiv Sena," Patel said.

Responding on similar lines, Pawar said: "After we received request from the Shiv Sena for our, we decided to discuss among ourselves first the issues relating to the government formation first before holding talks with the Sena leaders. We would like things to proceed smoothly till the formation of Government," he said.

Queried as to how the Congress and NCP had reconciled with the ideological differences with the Shiv Sena while going in for power-sharing with the Shiv Sena, Pawar

said: "When we reach the stage of holding discussions with the Shiv Sena, we will proceed in the matter while keeping our common ideology in mind".

Replying to another question, Pawar said: "The issue of power distribution is not before us at this juncture. The issue before us is whether to form a Government or not. If the government is to be formed, what should be the agenda of the Government is our immediate objective".

Alluding to the President's rule imposed in the State, Pawar said: The Governor has given us enough time to discuss all issues relating to Government formation in the coming days".

Udhav: Will work out plan for Govt formation with Cong, NCP

PNS ■ MUMBAI

Shiv Sena president Uddhav Thackeray said here on Tuesday that because of the Governor Bhagat Singh Koshiyari's recommendation for President's rule in the State, his party had sufficient time on hand to discuss all Government formation-related issues with the Congress and NCP, including the formulation of a Common Minimum Programme (CMP) which were essential for providing a stable Government to the State.

Talking to media persons after the Congress and NCP leaders addressed a joint news conference, Uddhav said: "Because of the Governor, we have enough time on hand. All three parties — Congress, NCP and Shiv Sena — will sit across and formulate CMP and sort out other issues relating to the government formation".

"Like the Congress and NCP, the Sena has also some issues on which we need clarification. We — all three parties — sit across and thrash them out before forming a government," the Sena president said.

"It is not a joke to form a Government in state like Maharashtra. This is especially so when the parties of different ideologies come together to form a Government. There is need for discussion on certain issues," Uddhav said.

"You may have at the Congress-NCP news conference, Ahmed Patel and Sharad Pawar said that for the first time, I approached them for support yesterday. This clears the misunderstanding sought to be created by the BJP that I had no time to talk to them, but I was in touch with the Congress and NCP. In the BJP's case, I was not interested in talking to them. I told them that in case we need to need to something different for the country, we can do it," the Sena president said.

Replying to a question, Uddhav said that it was not the Shiv Sena but the BJP finished the option of going together and forming a Government in the State. Asked if the alliance with the BJP ended fully, Uddhav told the questioner: "Why are you such a hurry? It is politics. The Governor has given us six months."

Stalin now all powerful in DMK

KUMAR CHELLAPPAN ■ CHENNAI

Sixty-six-year-old MK Stalin has become the undisputed and unquestionable leader of the DMK, Tamil Nadu's principal Opposition party. This has been made possible by amending the bylaws dealing with the powers vested on the party president in the general council meeting of the party held earlier this week at Chennai.

With the new amendments enacted by the general council, Stalin need not consult the general secretary of the party to take any decision or break any logjams.

According to a member of the general council, the new rule has empowered the president to take decisions ranging from the district unit to the party head quarters. The amendments were drafted by Stalin's close confidante P Wilson, the newly elected Rajya



Sabha member of the party who is also a legal luminary. The amendment has literally sidelined Kalyanasundaram Anbazhagan, the general secretary of the party, who is bed ridden for quite some time now. Prior to the amendment, Stalin had to consult the general secretary for each and every decision he had to take. Anbazhagan, 97, has been the general secretary of the party since 1977 and is credited with the record for being the longest serving and oldest second-in-command of a political party in the country.

Anbazhagn, the last surviving founder-member of the party, is in a state of comatose, according to party insiders. "He has become senile and rest of the party leaders are shocked why he is not being replaced," said Govindarajan Satyamurthy, columnist who has been a keen observer of the DMK for the last four decades. Though the general secretary is a powerful position in the party, former president late M Karunanidhi saw to it that Anbazhagan, a trusted family loyalist was appointed to the post and ensured his continuation despite indifferent health.

But a section of leadership in the DMK is feeling that the latest move by Stalin to usurp the powers of the general secretary is an attempt to being the entire party structure under his family. "Durai Murugan, the party treasurer, has been eye-

ing the post of the general secretary for sometime and it is said that he is thoroughly disappointed with Stalin for ignoring him. It seems Stalin is keeping the post of general secretary hot for his son Udhayanidhi Stalin, the chief of the DMK youth wing," said Satyamurthy. But Murugan, 81, is also not in the best of health though he moves around the State without any physical support.

A party insider confided to The Pioneer that all was not well within the DMK. "Since the day Karunanidhi took over the reigns of the party following the death of C N Annadurai in 1969, he has gradually and systematically made it into a family enterprises," said the leader on condition of anonymity. The recent setback suffered by the DMK in the assembly by-election could be a fall out of this discontentment, say many political commentators.

TN CM says Haasan's political innings will end in a fiasco

PTI ■ SALEM (TN)

Tamil Nadu Chief Minister K Palaniswami on Tuesday ticked off actor-politician Kamal Haasan for "showing off" as a leader despite lack of knowledge in basic politics and claimed that his political innings will end in a fiasco.

A day after taking on superstar Rajinikanth who is expected to foray into politics, the Chief Minister targeted the Makkal Needhi Maiam chief, saying he founded a political party as he does not have suitable opportunities in Tamil cinema in view of his advancing age.

On Monday, Palaniswami hit out at Rajinikanth for his comment that there was a lead-

ership vacuum in Tamil Nadu, saying he was just an actor and not a political leader.

While no political leader claimed a vacuum, the remark came only from the actor, he had said.

A perception is prevalent among some that a vacuum exists in politics after AIADMK stalwart J Jayalithaa and DMK patriarch M Karunanidhi died in 2016 and 2018 respectively.

Taunting Haasan, the Chief Minister said, "he is a big leader," and wondered why his MNM did not contest the recent bypolls to Vikravandi and Nanguneri Assembly constituencies. He wanted to know the votes polled by MNM in the recent Lok Sabha polls.

Elections to 14 urban local bodies conclude in Karnataka

PTI ■ BENGALURU

Barring a few incidents of skirmishes involving BJP and Congress workers, elections to the 14 urban local bodies in Karnataka were held peacefully on Tuesday, officials said.

The local bodies that went to polls are two major municipal corporations of Mangaluru and Davangere and six city municipal councils, three town

municipal councils and three town Panchayats in seven districts.

These ULBs comprised 418 wards where till 3 pm, 55.27 per cent polling was registered, sources in the State Election Commission said.

As many as 1,587 candidates, including 386 from Congress, 363 from BJP and 233 of JD(S), contested the polls.

There were 475 indepen-



dent candidates, the sources added.

The counting of votes will take place on November 14.

There was a face-off between the BJP and Congress supporters at Kanakapura but police intervened and diffused the situation.

A similar incident was reported in Mangaluru where also security personnel brought the situation under control, police said.

BJP state president Nalin Kumar Kateel, BJP MLA Ved Vyas Kamath and Congress veteran Shamanur Shivshankarappa are among the prominent people who exercised his franchise in Mangaluru.

Speaking to reporters in Mangaluru, Kateel expressed confidence that BJP would win Mangaluru and Davangere corporations and also in a large number of other ULBs.

Pilot: Raj Govt committed to providing maximum job opportunities to youth

PTI ■ JAIPUR

Rajasthan Deputy Chief Minister Sachin Pilot on Tuesday said his Government is committed to providing maximum job opportunities to the youth in the State.

The remarks came after Pilot met some young men who had been protesting in the State for the past six days, demanding recruitments from the Government.

He also spoke to their representative Upen Yadav who was on a six-day-long hunger strike.

The Minister said the country's economy was suffer-

ing and the State was also being affected due to the policies of the Centre.

"The State Government is committed to providing maximum job opportunities to youths according to their qualification. We are going to fill the backlog in services and will ensure that youths get jobs as per their educational qualification," he told reporters.

After speaking to the deputy chief minister, Yadav ended his hunger strike and drank juice offered by Pilot.

"I have promised that the government will look into the demands of unemployed youths," the Minister added.

Gehlot reaches Jaipur resort to meet Maha Cong MLAs

PTI ■ JAIPUR

Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot on Tuesday night reached the resort where newly elected Congress MLAs of Maharashtra are staying.

Gehlot arrived here from Punjab and headed to the resort on the Delhi Road where he is meeting with the party MLAs.

AICC general secretary Avinash Pande and other leaders are also present inside the resort, sources said.

The Congress MLAs have been staying in the resort here since Friday.

Like Ayodhya, go by SC verdict on Sabarimala: Minister to BJP

PTI ■ THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

Kerala Devaswom Minister Kadakampally Surendran on Tuesday asked the BJP, which has welcomed the recent Supreme Court order on Ayodhya, to also respect the apex court verdict on Sabarimala permitting women of all ages to pray at the Lord Ayyappa shrine.

Surendran, who was replying to a question posed by the lone BJP legislator O Rajagopal, also asked the saffron party not to encourage "goons and anti-socials" to go to Sabarimala.

Rajagopal had sought reply from the Devaswom Minister on the arrangements made at the hilltop shrine ahead of the

annual pilgrimage season.

The BJP member alleged that the number of devotees to the hill shrine came down last year and wondered why the Left government supported the entry of "atheist, Left activists" and others into the temple.

Countering it, the Minister said: "Please don't encourage anti-socials and goons to go to Sabarimala like last time," an apparent reference to violence during the protest against entry of young women.

"Society expects more from a personality like you (Rajagopal). Now, the Ayodhya case verdict has come, your party has welcomed it with open arms. Hope the same attitude will be there with respect

to the Sabarimala issue," Surendran said.

The Minister said facilities have been arranged for keeping the sacred offerings of around 6,500 devotees while a total of 1,161 toilets, 160 bathrooms and 150 urinals had been set up.

"Five emergency medical centres have also been readied. Three incinerators and 600 waste bins are also there," Surendran told the House. The hill shrine had witnessed protests by devotees and right outfits against the LDF Government's decision to implement the Supreme Court verdict in 2018 allowing all women, including those in the menstruating age, to offer prayers at the hill shrine.

DMI Finance Private Limited			
CIN - U65929DL2008PTC182749			
Express Building, 9-10, Bahadur Shah Zafar Marg, New Delhi 110002			
STATEMENT OF UN-AUDITED FINANCIAL RESULTS FOR THE HALF YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2019			
		in Million	
S. No.	Particulars	Un-audited Half year ending September 30, 2019	Un-audited Half year ending September 30, 2018
1.	Total Income from Operations	2,774.25	1,581.68
2.	Net Profit / (Loss) for the period (before Tax, Exceptional and/or Extraordinary Items)	970.41	451.62
3.	Net Profit / (Loss) for the period before tax (after Exceptional and/or Extraordinary items)	970.41	451.62
4.	Net Profit / (Loss) for the period after tax (after Exceptional and/or Extraordinary items)	714.24	306.13
5.	Total Comprehensive Income for the period (Comprising Profit / (Loss) for the period (after tax) and Other Comprehensive Income (after tax))	751.07	269.87
6.	Paid up Equity Share Capital	5,667.06	3,244.18
7.	Reserves (excluding Revaluation Reserve)	18,881.69	8,028.44
8.	Net worth	24,548.74	11,272.62
9.	Paid up Debt Capital / Outstanding Debt	9764.82	11,626.97
10.	Outstanding Redeemable Preference Shares	0.00	0.00
11.	Debt Equity Ratio	0.39	1.03
12.	Earnings Per Share (of Rs. 10/- each) (for continuing and discontinued operations)		
1.	Basic:	1.35	0.81
2.	Diluted:	1.34	0.81
13.	Capital Redemption Reserve	81.21	81.21
14.	Debenture Redemption Reserve	N.A.	N.A.
15.	Debt Service Coverage Ratio	N.A.	N.A.
16.	Interest Service Coverage Ratio	N.A.	N.A.

Notes to the Financial Results:

- The above financial results of DMI Finance Private Limited ("the Company") for the half year ended September 30, 2019 have been reviewed by the Audit Committee and subsequently approved at the meeting of the Board of Directors held on November 11, 2019. The standalone financial results have been subjected to a limited review by the Statutory Auditors of the Company.
- The above results is an extract of detailed format of the half yearly financial results filed with the stock exchange under Regulation 52 of SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015. These financial results are available on the website viz. www.dmifinance.in and on the website of BSE (www.bseindia.com).
- The financial results have been prepared in accordance with requirement of Regulation 52 of (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015 as modified by Circular No. CIR/CFD/FAC/62/2016 dated July 5, 2016 read with C/IMD/DF/169/2016 dated August 10, 2016.
- For items referred in sub clauses (a), (b), (d) and (e) of the Regulation 52 of (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015, the pertinent disclosures have been made to BSE Limited (BSE) and can be accessed on the website of BSE (www.bseindia.com) and on the Company's website i.e. www.dmifinance.in.
- There is no Debenture Redemption Reserve created as Non-Banking Finance Companies (NBFC) registered with Reserve Bank of India are not required to create DRR for privately placed debentures.
- Figures for the prior year / period have been regrouped and / or reclassified wherever considered necessary.

For DMI Finance Private Limited
Sd/-
Yuvraj Chanakya Singh
Joint Managing Director

Date: November 11, 2019
Place: New Delhi

This is no endgame

The Maharashtra Governor has ticked off boxes rather than honouring the spirit of a federal, democratic system



As Maharashtra hurtles towards Presidential Rule, it has shown how a valid electoral verdict and ethics can be subverted by political greed of the day. Not only that, it shows how a centrist party, no matter what the verdict in States, can use the offices under its purview to turn any result in its favour. And justify its act as only following a precedent of Congress or its coalition governments at the Centre instead of correcting it. Although the BJP and Shiv Sena had worked out a pre-poll alliance, which was even endorsed by voters,

the former's arrogance as the lead partner and the latter's insistence on an equal role tore it apart. The former willingly let its junior partner drift away and challenged its ability to prop up an alternative coalition. The Sena tried its best but with ideological divergences paring down its chances of forming a stable Government with the Opposition Congress-Nationalist Congress Party (NCP), it is out in the cold without the numbers. No matter how tempting the opportunity to use the electoral window to jump into governance, the Congress and the NCP are looking beyond local legislators to the larger impropriety of convenience tarnishing their national image. The BJP, which is a keen believer of one-party homogeneity across the nation, is having the last laugh as the only possible choice. So it has lost no time in overturning the ethics of the Governor's office and emanating a democratic federal structure. The Governor, while giving ample time to the BJP to stake a claim, didn't even ask for a floor test and gave in to Chief Minister-elect Devendra Fadnis' inability to procure requisite numbers, which he ought to have done according to the rules and spirit of parliamentary democracy. While Governor BS Koshiyari ticked off the boxes on technicality, he did not give adequate time to the Opposition parties and even an adrift Sena for crystallising their adjustments before committing to furnishing letters of support. One must remember that individually none of them had the moral right to begin such exercises given the decisive nature of the verdict in favour of BJP-Sena. Yet the Sena got 48 hours to furnish proof and the NCP just 24 hours, the last a bigger travesty as reports emerged that the Governor had recommended President's Rule even before the latter's deadline expired. Constitutionally, the Governor should have insisted on floor tests in the House as according to the judgment in the Bommai vs Union of India case in 1994, "the assessment of the strength of the Ministry is not a matter of private opinion or any individual, be he the Governor or the President." The ruling is very clear about "demonstrating" strengths and not relying on subjective assessments. This has only lent credence to theories that President's Rule anyway was an extension counter of the ruling party and the State would still be at BJP's command, with or without Fadnis. While Sena has moved the Supreme Court questioning the Governor's role, the State may appear to be in limbo but in reality, is in the BJP's kitty.

Going by latest precedents in States, the BJP has assumed power despite not emerging as the single-largest party, be it by cobbling up post-poll alliances, breaking Opposition ranks or devouring any claimants. Goa, Manipur and Meghalaya stand out as examples where the Congress was actually the single-largest party. Then there was the embarrassment of March 2016, when Congress rebels and BJP MLAs challenged the Harish Rawat-led Congress Government in Uttarakhand over the Finance Bill. The rebel MLAs were later disqualified. Governor KK Paul asked the Modi Government to impose President's Rule in the State, but Uttarakhand High Court Judge KM Joseph quashed it and Rawat proved his majority in the House. All these examples of violations prove there is an internecine plot to erode the spirit of alliance politics in general and the regional partners in particular, making them look like puppets in a shadow play, so facile that the voter changes his/her pattern in the next round of elections. As political parties hide their ambitions with the fig leaf of responsibility, Maharashtra is indeed in a crisis. It still records the most farmer suicides — more than 12,000 in the four years from 2015-2019. The largest State economy in the country is in the middle of a halting slowdown, a collapsed real estate sector, agrarian distress and loss of jobs and manufacturing. All talk of Marathi pride is actually a condensation of deeper aspirations to ride out this morass. And that surely cannot happen with an imposition of authority but stakeholderhood.

Fee hike unjust

It's not that JNU students are unreasonable, it's just that due process must be followed



One wonders whether certain moves are made to malign the image of Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU) as the premier institute of the country, knowing full well that its students won't stop questioning or give up without a fight. This time the students, led by their unions, are protesting against a slew of decisions taken by its administration, which includes a steep hike in tuition fees, enforcement of a dress code and curfew timings for hostellers. So much so that water cannons had to be used to disperse agitating protesters, some of whom were detained. The students' angst over the almost 300 per cent hike in fees 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 come to be recognised as one of the most liberal institutions, which provides quality education at affordable rates. It has provided 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, which are only getting more expensive by the day.

On the other hand, it is also a fact that JNU's fee policy had been operating under a differential regime — its fee structure was nothing when compared to its counterparts. Could one imagine staying in one of the prime locations of Delhi, paying 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? That's something that was unimaginable back in the decade and even now. Perhaps, this is the reason why students here over-extended their duration of degrees so that they could prolong their stay at the hostels, which is comfortable and cheap, the inexpensive food coming as an additional benefit. Some even take short-term courses while working part-time. Then there are also others, who stay on campus without permission. The accumulation of old students led to a chronic hostel shortage for newcomers. The university, too, was at ease for a lot of its budget came either from the taxpayers' money or from international donations. In this sense, it is welcome that the varsity finally woke up to the dangers of big subsidies. Yet it must be accepted that a steep hike, coming after a span of 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. Dress codes or hostel timing rules for students, too, are downright silly. The students admitted to this varsity are adults and must be treated as such.

False data mechanism

GDP as a measure of human well-being and progress is flawed. A new set of metrics that can be implemented across the world is the need of the hour



RK PACHAURI

The entire focus and preoccupation on Gross Domestic Product (GDP) as a measure of human progress and advancement has obviously been taken much too far. It was in 1930 that Lord Keynes came up with the statement, "For at least another 100 years, we must pretend to everyone that fair is foul and foul is fair; for foul is useful and fair is not. Avarice and usury and precaution must be our gods for a little longer still. For only they can lead us out of the tunnel of economic necessity into daylight."

It must be remembered that this was a period when the global economy was in the doldrums and, perhaps, a measure which recorded the output of goods and services would have been useful as a response to the distress that the US in particular and other parts of the world were suffering from. But perhaps Keynes never anticipated that a system, which became ingrained in the minds of every individual and which defined the systems for measuring human progress, would hardly be easy to replace after a 100 years. We know today that reliance on GDP hides a lot of negative effects and externalities and its flawed effects keep growing.

The extent of waste and the impacts on the environment, which the modern economy generates, are, unfortunately, not factored into GDP at all. Damage to the environment and the stock of natural resources should, even on the basis of common sense, be deducted from any compilation of GDP for a particular society or economic system. Further, it is a well-accepted principle that when environmental damage takes place, the polluter must pay. This, unfortunately, is not the case all across the world.

The problem of climate change is the result of Cumulative Emissions of Greenhouse Gases (GHGs) since the beginning of industrialisation. The sole responsibility for this lies essentially with the industrialised countries and it is for this reason that the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) clearly came up with the condition of "Common but differentiated responsibility." This was accepted and agreed on essentially because the developing countries are no doubt at a stage where their energy consumption would perhaps outstrip that of the developed world. Yet, the stock of carbon dioxide and other GHGs has been the cumulative contribution of the industrialised countries to an overwhelming extent. The developed nations are now conveniently forgetting the historical responsibility that they must accept fully.

The International Monetary Fund (IMF) came out with a study earlier this year where it estimated the extent of subsidies that the world is responsible for in the pricing of fossil fuels. "Globally, subsidies remained large at \$4.7 trillion (6.3 per cent of the global GDP) in 2015 and are projected at \$5.2 trillion (6.5 per cent of GDP) in 2017."

The study further states, "About three



quarters of the global subsidies are due to domestic factors — energy pricing reform thus remains largely in countries' own national interest — while coal and petroleum together account for 85 per cent of the global subsidies. Efficient fossil fuel pricing in 2015 would have lowered global carbon emissions by 28 per cent and fossil fuel air pollution deaths by 46 per cent and increased Government revenue by 3.8 per cent of GDP."

In other words, the world, instead of reducing the emissions of carbon dioxide — the primary GHG which causes climate change — is generously rewarding the production and use of fossil fuels and, hence, of carbon dioxide. This represents a distortion, which clearly reflects the power of the fossil fuel lobby over decision-making in most countries.

It was in 2008 that the then President of France, Nicolas Sarkozy, set up a commission on the Measurement of Economic Performance and Social Progress under the chairmanship of Joseph Stiglitz, the Nobel Prize winning economist, the report from which was submitted in September 2009. While the Stiglitz Commission analysed the flaws and shortcomings of GDP as a measure, it also came up with some recommendations, which would help modify and refine this metric. It was

“ IF WE HAVE TO OVERHAUL THE MEASURE OF GDP AND ELIMINATE ITS FLAWS, EFFORTS NEED TO BE LED BY THE UN SECRETARY-GENERAL. THE EFFORT SHOULD INVOLVE SETTING UP A GROUP OF EXPERTS WHICH WOULD PROVIDE A ROADMAP WITHIN A PERIOD OF THREE MONTHS ON HOW TO ENSURE THAT THE WORLD MOVES ITS SYSTEMS TO A NEW SET OF METRICS BY 2030 ”

brought out that statistical indicators are important for designing and assessing policies aimed at advancing the progress of society as well as for assessing and influencing the functioning of economic markets.

It is well-known that what gets measured, gets managed. Hence, when we get measures that are flawed, then decisions will also be flawed or biased and we may then deviate substantially from what constitutes human welfare.

The first recommendation of the Stiglitz Commission was based on coming up with a measure reflecting material living standards, which would be closely associated with net national income, real household income and consumption. Hence, there is a large range of variables that would provide a sharp deviation between GDP and the well-being of a household or society.

Another recommendation emphasises the fact that citizens' material living standards are better followed through measures of household income and consumption. In fact, data for OECD countries show that real household income has grown quite differently from real GDP per capita and typically at a lower rate. Another recommendation relates to considering income and consumption jointly with wealth. It may be inferred

that if we were to apply this principle, we should also include estimates of natural wealth.

With the recent burning of the Amazon forest in Brazil, any measure of GDP would be over-estimated if we were to ignore the massive destruction of nature's wealth that Brazil owns. Still another recommendation highlights greater prominence be given to the distribution of income, consumption and wealth.

On a practical basis, if we have to overhaul the measure of GDP and eliminate its flaws such an effort needs to be led by the Secretary General of the United Nations (UN). The effort should involve setting up a group of experts which would provide a roadmap within a period of three months on how to ensure that the world moves its systems to a new set of metrics by 2030. This effort should then be taken up by the UN General Assembly to ensure that a new system is designed for implementation across all the countries of the world during its first phase of design and detailing during 2020 to 2022. The following eight years would then be given to full implementation and to ensure that by 2030 we give GDP a burial after a hundred years of dominant existence.

(The writer is former chairman, Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, 2002-15)

SOUNDBITE

The Congress leadership always puts the party before the nation. Now they are giving Maharashtra on a platter to the BJP. Its moribund attitude will decimate it soon.

AAP leader —Preeti Sharma



The ability to say no is very important which I have realised. I'd never go back and disrespect my certain professional choices because at that point for me, they mattered.

Actor —Yami Gautam



India and China are a good example of the difference between the threat posed by free versus unfree Governments.

Former UN Ambassador to the UN —Nikki Haley



Governor Koshiyari has committed a grave travesty of democracy and made a mockery of the Constitutional process in recommending President's Rule in Maharashtra.

Congress leader —Randeep Surjewala



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Judicial reforms

Sir — This refers to the article, "Big ticket reforms need of the hour" (November 8) by VK Bahuguna. The writer must be complimented for stressing on the need for reforms in our justice system to ensure faster and efficient delivery of justice to the citizens. As the writer said, the need is to review the closed method of selection of judges to the high judiciary. But there are also many other issues that matter to the rest of us.

First, besides the enormous delay in the listing of cases, one of the prime concerns pertains to the scanty time given to the common man for hearing his/her appeal/writ petition even if they relate to some gross error committed by the lower court in reading a particular file/document.

Second, it is but natural for the common man to get frustrated when he/she finds that no reason has been cited for the dismissal of the petition, thus negating the basic premise of justice that not only must it be done; it must also be seen to be done.

A serious thought must be given to the shortcomings that

Migratory birds need a safer world

It was sad to learn that as many as 1,500 migratory birds of over a dozen species were found dead in Sambhar Lake, the country's largest inland saltwater lake near Jaipur. Officials suspect water contamination as one of the reasons for their death but are waiting for the viscera test reports. Such a large number of deaths of migratory birds is rare in recent history.

Earlier, a medical team from Jaipur had collected a few carcasses and water samples for examination. Ashok Rao, a veterinary doctor who was part of the investigation team, ruled out the possibility of bird flu saying no secretion had been found. Other possibilities like toxicity of the water and bacterial or viral infection are being looked into. A few days ago, a hail-storm had hit the area, which could also be a possibility for the cause of death. Birds form a major part of the earth's ecosystem. Migratory birds come mainly from Siberia and Europe when harsh winter season sets in there. These birds migrate to India every year



for food, breeding and nesting. After the passage of winter, when it gets hot here, they again migrate to cooler areas. Authorities must take necessary steps to make the environment clean and unpolluted to welcome these winged guests.

TK Nandanani Chennai

plague the judicial system of the country.

B P Srivastava Noida

Respect the police

Sir — This refers to the editorial, "For the sake of law" (November 7). Clashes between the public and the police must not

be allowed to become a trend. Policemen are servants of the Government when in uniform. On the other hand, lawyers are professionals, who, too, have protection of law while on duty.

But a lawyer is with an attire and not uniform. Any assault on a police officer in uniform is categorised in statutes — even a rough argument with him/her can attract the charge of misde-

meanour. This is built on the thesis that the men in uniform represent the face of a transferred authority by the Government, which is paramount.

Without such construct, the Government will be seen as powerless to discharge its primary remit of maintaining peace and order. While the Government must invariably sustain the authority of the uniform, the

police has the greater onus of preserving its dignity. Else, there can be no closure to such aberrations in a democracy.

R Narayanan Navi Mumbai

Balanced verdict

Sir — This refers to the editorial, "Return of maryada" (November 11). The unanimous verdict delivered by the Supreme Court not only paved the way for the construction of Ram mandir in Ayodhya but also put an end to a decade-long dispute. It is disheartening that the issue had to drag on for far too much. The truth remains that the wheels of our judicial system runs very slow. The court's directive to the Uttar Pradesh Government to allot five acres of land within Ayodhya for the construction of a new masjid must not be viewed as charity but a recognition of their right to worship. The court's ruling is sound and balanced. People must accept the judgment wholeheartedly.

Nimai Charan Swain Bhubaneswar

Send your feedback to: letterstopioneer@gmail.com

FIRST COLUMN

Choose merit, not patronage

Civil servants, both principled and spineless, exist in the system; the former serve the country and the latter politicians and themselves



DEBASHISH BHATTACHARYYA

In the administrative system, the bureaucracy plays a key role as civil servants or babus function to implement the policies of the elected Government in a rational, efficient and non-partisan manner. However, people have often experienced that when it comes to implementation and delivery, the performance is disappointing, leading to almost non-delivery or poor public services. And, one of the many factors attributed to this is the unholy nexus between politicians, bureaucrats and other vested interests. There are compelling reasons to believe that this is true. And, it is little wonder, the cost is stupefying. While many feel that the bureaucracy saps initiative, inhibits risk-taking and crushes creativity; there are others who feel that in a vast and diverse country like ours the bureaucracy is unavoidable. And, there is yet another group of people who feel colonial hangovers in bureaucracy represent an utterly frustrated scenario as it can't meet the social and economic challenges that a welfare State like India faces.

It seems worthwhile, however, to quote Queen Elizabeth-I. After making Lord William Cecil her secretary, Elizabeth advised him, "This judgement I have of you, that you will not be corrupted by any manner of gift and that you will be faithful to the state and that, without respect of my private will, you would give me that counsel which you think best." Even though policies, projects and programmes drawn up by the Government aim at the development of the country and well-being of the people, successive governments failed to appreciate the fact that leadership may change, but the engine of governance does not falter on account of having a new driver in a Government that possesses a relatively-famed bureaucracy. However, in demanding political systems, there is less pretence that the country's bureaucracies are deeply influenced by people's interests. Civil servants, both principled and spineless, exist in the system; the former serve the country and the latter politicians and themselves. Thus a section of bureaucracy appears to act as a cog in a political machine that seeks loyalty to the regime as a means to maintain its hold on power, identify solely with the rulers and the official ideology.

Incidentally, there are not many Ashok Khemkas (the IAS officer transferred over 50 times in 27 years of service and still counting) who have the guts to stand up against hidden agenda, poor policies, corruption and exploitation to remain aligned with democratic ideals. Put differently, there are civil servants wishing to sail with confidence, competence, courage and commitment but are being hounded for doing their duty. Let's not lose sight of the Punjab and Haryana High Court's recent observation about Khemka who secured a grading of 9.92/10 by the Reviewing Authority: "We are of the view that a person of such professional integrity needs to be protected as the professional integrity in our political, social and administrative system is depleting very fast..." That being said, I am reminded of a statement by a retired upright IAS officer and writer and columnist whom I met at India International Centre (IIC). As I congratulated him for writing a bold article against a powerful Central Minister, he laughed in that very contagious way he had. I also gave him unsolicited advice that if he continued writing such pieces, he could not aspire to become a Governor or head a Government-appointed committee or organisation. And in response, he said, "I am not among those crafty bureaucrats who enjoy the trust of unscrupulous politicians and ministers. I was sidelined, transferred for not being politically convenient and pliable. But I never gave in to temptation."

However that may be, just a few days ago, speaking at a panel discussion on 'Has the steel frame rusted', former Chief Secretary of Delhi Government, Shalaja Chandra said, "It is easy to say that politicians have failed the IAS officers. But I feel this is not entirely correct. Those in the service need to introspect. If they do not have any extraneous interests, nothing can stop them from serving the people."

So far, the feeble accountability of public and political processes, have defined the character of public administration in India. The challenge ahead lies in finding and meeting the balance between serving citizens while upholding the rule of law without falling prey to either obstructionist and lacklustre bureaucracy or clientelism.

Nevertheless, even as we complain about red tape, paperwork and excessive bureaucratic rigmarole the fact remains that eventually people rely on it to structure our country. The NDA Government in its second term, infused churning in the Indian civil services by pushing for the lateral entry of domain experts and forced retirements of officers, but it continues to face enormous social and political challenges. In order to effectively deal with these trials we need an efficient bureaucracy. And, to find that, the Central Government has to think and act big.

Righting the country's administrative machinery steadfastly is the only way it's going to happen. Indian ethos and the laws of the land mandate an efficient bureaucracy. It is now up to lawmakers, the Ministers — whom the bureaucracy is supposed to report to — to ensure the country gets it. It's time for transition from a patronage-based to merit-based bureaucracy, with which will come accelerated progress.

(The writer is former DGM, IIC, New Delhi and GM, International Centre Goa)

NARAYANASAMY 'SELF-APPROVED' HIS VISIT TO SINGAPORE BYPASSING THE PROTOCOL OF OBTAINING PERMISSION FROM THE AUTHORITIES CONCERNED.

— PUDUCHERRY LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR KIRAN BEDI

POINT COUNTERPOINT



I WAS A CENTRAL MINISTER AND AM FULLY AWARE OF THE NEED TO GET APPROVAL FROM THE CENTRAL GOVERNMENT BEFORE FLYING ABROAD.

—PUDUCHERRY CHIEF MINISTER V NARAYANASAMY

Learn from great CEOs

Their greatness lies in the fact that not only have they created profitable enterprises; they have also created brands that are etched forever in the imagination of consumers



HIMA BINDU KOTA

One can decidedly differentiate between an ordinary Chief Executive Officer (CEO) and a great one. Great CEOs are exemplary visionaries, with superlative managerial and leadership skills. They are admired by colleagues and common men alike and are considered idols by millions of young aspiring leaders dreaming of making it big in the corporate world. Their greatness lies in the fact that not only have they created profitable enterprises; they have also created brands that are etched forever in the imagination of consumers. So what are the leadership principles and management philosophies that drive these icons and enable them to take their organisations to stellar heights?

As Brad Feld, an American entrepreneur and venture capitalist, said, "Don't be afraid to have a big vision, but make sure it's a clear one", clarity of vision is one of the main traits of great CEOs.

Taking an example of Steve Jobs, an unconventional leader who demanded excellence from his staff and was controversial for his blunt delivery of criticism. However, his sheer genius; his amazing ability to articulate his vision and dexterity to take his people, investors and customers with him on his journey made him an exceptional leader. Jobs had an exceptional clarity of vision and excelled at designing minimalist devices that broke barriers in computer speeds. He created an ecosystem which could stand alone or work together in an interconnected way-like an iPod connected to a Mac connected to an iTunes store. Apple could manage vast amounts of information through division of labour among the systems. For example, the Mac controlled system administration while iTunes fetched content from cloud storage, freeing the device to concentrate on playing the music. Jobs was motivated more than anything to feel he had made a solid and positive impact on the world during his lifetime. And since he had such high expectations from himself, he was able to achieve excellence.

Jack Welch, perhaps the greatest corporate leader of the 20th century, was the youngest CEO of General Electric (GE) when he took over in 1981. He followed an incremental leadership style and during his two-decade stint, the net worth of GE improved by a whopping 4,000 per cent. He is a management theorist and strategic thinker who championed new initiatives like Six Sigma quality, differentiation and e-business.

Bill Gates, listed as the richest person on this planet for 12 consecutive years, is also a man of colossal vision. He envisioned every person on this planet to have a computer and every computer, a programme, designed by Microsoft. Since then, he has worked tirelessly to achieve his vision. In this process, he has been instrumental in the IT revolution that the world has witnessed. Great CEOs, apart from adding to the bottomline of the company contribute to the society in a big way. It would be hard to talk about the life of Bill Gates and not discuss philanthropy and humanitarianism. Heading to his mother's advice before she passed away due to breast cancer, Gates has always taken a selfless approach to his leadership, spending considerable money and time in philanthropic efforts to give to others. The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation has donated billions of dollars to causes all over the



GREAT CEOs, BECAUSE OF THEIR INNATE QUALITY OF PERSEVERANCE AND CONTRIBUTION TO SOCIETY, ENSURE STABILITY AND GROWTH OF THEIR ORGANISATIONS, MAKING THEM THE BEST IN THE WORLD. THEY LIVE BY THEIR PRINCIPLES AND LEAD BY EXAMPLE. MAKING THEM EXEMPLARY LEADERS OF THE CORPORATE WORLD

world, making significant differences in the lives of children and adults. This level of giving back illustrates Gates' character and focus on social responsibility as a global corporate citizen. It also shows that his pursuit of solutions and making life better went beyond just making a profit. Instead, it was about driving significant change in the world that would make a difference for those who need it the most.

Indra Nooyi, who is an iconic leader, consistently ranked among the 100 most powerful women, when she was the CEO of PepsiCo, the world's second largest food and beverage company in the world, and was at the helm of managing an employee strength of 30,000 and selling in around 200 countries around the world. She believed in developing two balance sheets: One was to provide return to shareholders and the other was to provide return to the environment. Under her leadership, PepsiCo focussed on people and planet in addition to profit. Nooyi had worked tirelessly to reduce the use of energy, water and packaging and simultaneously providing a great workplace for its employees and associates.

Great CEOs show that great works are performed not by strength but by perseverance. "It's not where you start out in life that matters, but where you end up".

This adage fits Ursula Burns perfectly. Born in the poor neighbourhood of Manhattan to immigrant parents and raised by a single mother, she rose to become the first female African American CEO of a Fortune 500 company, Xerox and also holds the honour of being the first woman to succeed another woman CEO, Anne Mulcahy. Having joined Xerox in 1980 as a mechanical engineering summer intern, Burns progressed through the

corporate echelons to become the CEO from 2009 to 2016. At present, she is the Chairperson and CEO of VEON, a senior advisor to Teneo, and a non-executive director of Diageo since April 2018. She is also the member of the board of directors of Uber. She worked very hard to rise above her underprivileged background and did not use her background as an excuse. She worked with perseverance to reach the top of the corporate world and worked hard to return Xerox to profitability. NR Narayan Murthy, a role model for every Indian, is an apt example of "Simple living, high thinking". He is a billionaire with net worth of about \$230 crore but still flies economy and drives around in a simple car. Murthy's life is an inspiration to all of us and gives a strong message that world-class businesses can be created based on transparency and good governance. Born in a middle class family in Sidlaghatta, Karnataka, the odds of life were no match to this brilliant and enthusiastic person, who, through his discipline and determination created a "Great Indian IT Success Story".

Infosys, today, is one of most respected IT companies in the world with footprints all across the globe and is the second-largest IT company in India by revenue. But did you know that his first entrepreneurial venture, Softronics, failed to take off? One of the initial challenges faced by Murthy was the inability to take admission in the prestigious Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) even after earning a high rank and scholarship as the grant was not enough to cover his studies. Since his father was unable to fund his education, he enrolled into a local engineering college but later did his post-graduation from IIT.

Similarly, the failure of his first

entrepreneurial venture, Softronics, did not stop him from establishing Infosys and lead it to stellar heights. Murthy follows Mahatma Gandhi's policy of "practice what you preach." He has always led by example and believes that the primary responsibility of a leader is to give hope and confidence in the face of adversity.

Taking care of people is one of the biggest attributes of great CEOs. Murthy has been generous in rewarding employees with stock options. Personally, he has given away stocks worth of ₹50,000 crore to his employees. He reiterates that performance should be rewarded suitably. In Infosys, drivers, electricians and secretaries are among millionaires due to their stock options. Indra Nooyi was also a caring, humane CEO who took care of her employees by being in touch with them and understanding their concerns. She even wrote "thank you" letters to the parents of the employees to show her appreciation to them.

Similarly, Ken Chenault, the former CEO of American Express, believed in reaching out to each employee. He made it a point to answer to each and every mail he received from any of his employees. He travelled around the world to meet staff at different locations from around the globe. To further connect personally with his people, he used to run an open operation where anyone could talk to him.

Great CEOs, because of their innate quality of perseverance and contribution to society, ensure stability and growth of their organisations making them the best in the world. They live by their principles and lead by example, making them exemplary leaders of the corporate world.

(The writer is Assistant Professor, Amity University)

A litmus test for medical bureaucracy

The biggest problem with the CGHS is excessive red tape, harassment and too much paperwork, which bogs down the patients, the wellness centres as well as empanelled hospitals, laboratories and drug suppliers



VK BAHUGUNA

The Central Government Health Scheme (CGHS) is one of the largest health care systems in the country, which caters to serving and retired Central Government employees, their dependents, pensioners and also Members of Parliament. On paper and intention-wise it is one of the best welfare schemes in the country.

Present in 71 locations in the country, it caters to 35 lakh beneficiaries and the number is always increasing. Due to unplanned expansion to new cities each year, the infrastructure, manpower and other resources of the CGHS are

getting strained.

In places like Dehradun more than 25,000 beneficiaries (including from distant places like Haridwar and Roorkee) throng the wellness centres daily and many have to wait from 5 AM to 2 PM for their turn to be examined by the doctor. However, many have to return home without even getting to meet the doctor, as the main server in Delhi closes at 2 PM and there is no provision for manually handling the paperwork. It was complete chaos till a few months ago, when the Survey of India Dispensary was merged with it and things eased a bit. There has been a long-standing demand to improve the CGHS system by all quarters and from all over the country. The biggest problem with the CGHS is excessive red tape, harassment and too much paperwork, which bogs down the patients, the wellness centres as well as empanelled hospitals, laboratories and drug suppliers.

Taking note of the shortcomings in the CGHS, Union Health Minister Harsh Vardhan had solicited suggestions from all stakeholders for improving the scheme and submitting these proposals latest by November 30.

To make any scheme effective, the Government needs to ensure that it can sustain the patient pressure and be innovative and patient-centric rather than procedure-centric. Today, the biggest management problem in CGHS is lack of proper infrastructure and manpower. The Health Ministry has been opening new wellness centres without proper assessment of the infrastructure and the result is the utter chaos that prevails in these new dispensaries and the endless suffering of patients. The plight of senior citizens is particularly bad as they have to wait long hours just to get treatment despite their failing health and weakened condition. The doctors and nursing staff are also under

tremendous pressure. Now the question is how to overcome this situation as it is also necessary to extend the CGHS scheme to cover new areas in the country.

The other problem relates to rates of various tests and treatment procedures for the empanelled hospitals and delay in payments to the laboratories, that is forcing many diagnostic centres to refuse patients. The third issue relates to the lack of proper and honest monitoring of private empanelled hospitals as sometimes, due to the mischief of a few, the entire scheme is put in limbo.

It is therefore, necessary to take some innovative policy decisions. To cope with the ever-growing number of CGHS centres the Government should enter into a public private partnership (PPP) mode and select private hospitals, who in turn should be allowed to have collaborative partnership with the CGHS on pre-determined

aspects and also appoint private doctors for a few hours on contract to treat the patients. At present this provision of hiring exists but it is cumbersome and the wellness centre gets caught in the web of red-tapism. There should be an upfront decision to fix the number of doctors based on the number of beneficiaries and requirement of doctors and support staff and powers should be delegated up to the Chief Medical Officer (CMO) level to allow hiring on contract basis.

The rates of pathological tests and radiological procedures should not be fixed in an arbitrary manner and should be periodically revised. The payments should be made bi-monthly for which an adequate budget should be sanctioned upfront for the whole year.

Many private hospitals indulge in malpractices and there is a need for constant and transparent monitoring. If the Government innovates and ropes in private hospitals,

enhances the powers of CMOs and regional heads and involves private medical professionals, the CGHS medical bureaucracy can be used for better monitoring of these hospitals.

There are two-pronged problems faced by the patients. First, the administrative hassles at the wellness centres due to too much red-tapism and poor infrastructure. Also, many times, empanelled hospitals harass the patients with too much paperwork and deny admission or treatment on flimsy grounds.

Second, is the harassment patients face in running from the empanelled hospitals to the wellness centres, as each time one needs to endorse the expert advice. To rectify this, the Government could allow patients to directly approach the empanelled hospitals for specifically identified diseases, including chronic ones like diabetes and so on. The Government had allowed senior citizens above 75 years of age

to approach empanelled hospitals directly without referral. This provision should also be allowed for senior citizens above 60 years, to make things easier for them and reduce the pressure on doctors. The collection of medicines and distribution should also be streamlined.

Though it is a welfare scheme yet there is no involvement of the beneficiaries. This is especially necessary in cases involving cashless pensioners and the Government might consider setting up a mechanism for this as it will bring in more transparency and expertise of private hospitals and doctors.

The Prime Minister and Health Minister must take this initiative to its logical end as already, the Government is spending on an average, nearly a lakh annually on the health care of each of its employees. Fine tuning of CGHS is essential to make the scheme succeed.

(The writer is retired civil servant.)

2nd whistleblower fires more salvo at Infosys CEO

IANS ■ BENGALURU

Unleashing a barrage of charges against Infosys Chief Executive Officer Salil Parekh, the second whistleblower fired more salvos at him, with the allegations ranging from his unaccounted travels to grabbing the company's sponsored vantage point seats at the ATP tournaments for personal use.

"Salil Parekh keeps visiting the US every month in order to retain his Green Card status. I have also heard that he has on several occasions gone to the US but has not visited any client or our offices. Then, what is the purpose of his visits? It is evident that he is telling you a lie," said the whistleblower in an unsigned and undated letter to the company's Chairman and co-founder Nandan Nilekani and Independent Directors on the Board.

Claiming to be an employee in the company's finance department, the whistleblower complained that he was unable to disclose his identity fearing retaliation for the damning disclosures he was making against Parekh.

"I am an employee working in the finance department. I am submitting this whistleblower complaint as the matter is so volatile that I fear retaliation if I disclose my identity. Please excuse me for the same, but matter is of grave importance," said the employee in the complaint, accessed by IANS through sources on Monday night.

In a belated response on the second whistleblower's letter to the board, the city-based Infosys on Tuesday told IANS in an e-mail that "the undated whistleblower's complaint largely deals with allegations relating to the CEO's international travels to the US and Mumbai.



"One board member received two anonymous complaints on September 30, one dated September 20, titled 'Disturbing unethical practices' and the second undated with the title 'Whistleblower Complaint,' said the company, attributing the admission to Nilekani's statement on October 21-22.

Attacking the second non-promoter CEO after Vishal Sikka, the whistleblower alleged that Parekh was abusing his

high office to endear himself to high profile universities in the US, promising donations with a view to guaranteeing admissions to his children.

"He (Parekh) is also using the connections of the company's Global Academic Relations (GAR) team to secure seats in reputed institutions for his children," the whistleblower claimed.

As part of the industry-academia relationship, the GAR team liaises the compa-

ny's links with top universities the world over, as part of InStep, its flagship internship programme.

According to the aggrieved Infosys, a woman employee is renowned for proudly bragging internally about Parekh's academic exploits with the American universities.

"This is a gross violation and misuse of his power and Infosys finances. You may want to trigger an investigation to see all the locations visited by the CEO, institutions where Infosys has invested and why?" the complainant said.

The whistleblower also said it was shameful of Parekh to "project" his performance and grab 108 per cent bonus in April 2019, way before other subordinates who toiled and received bonus only in the range of 70-90 per cent in July/August 2019.

"How fair is that? Earlier,

the founders would always ensure that all the people who worked hard would get rewarded and only then accept anything themselves. This is a huge let down," the complainant noted.

Referring to the concessions offered to Parekh by Nominations and Remuneration Committee (NRC), the whistleblower alleged that the CEO's stock vesting lock-in period had been advanced to the end of first year than the three-year lock-in period agreed initially.

"This was even taken up as a resolution that was passed at the annual general meeting (AGM) in June 2019. This is a very unfair practice and needs to be reversed," asserted the whistleblower.

Targeting Parekh's personal ethics, the complainant alleged that the CEO is a liar who sets up individuals against each other and seldom documents his decisions.

Tata Motors' India operations face acute challenges: Moody's

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Tata Sons infusing USD 914 million (around Rs 6,542 crore) equity in Tata Motors is credit positive for the company but the country's largest automobile manufacturer faces acute challenges in sluggish economic growth, weak liquidity, and tight financing norms, Moody's Investors Service said on Tuesday.

Moody's assigned a Ba3 rating to the proposed senior unsecured notes to be issued by Tata Motors. The rating outlook is negative, Moody's said in a statement.

"The Ba3 ratings reflect Tata Motors Ltd's (TML) leading market position in commercial vehicles (CVs) in India, 100 per cent ownership of the premium/luxury car manufacturer Jaguar Land Rover Automotive Plc, and ownership by Tata Sons, which results in a one-notch uplift, reflecting our expectation of continued parental support, when needed," says Kaustubh Chhabal, a Moody's Vice President and Senior Credit Officer.

On October 25, TML

announced that it will make a preferential allotment of equity shares and convertible warrants to Tata Sons for a USD 914 million equity injection, of which USD 548 million will be paid immediately, and the balance over a period of 18 months.

Pro-forma the preferential allotment and the conversion of the warrants, Tata Sons' shareholding in TML will increase to 46.4 per cent from the current 38.4 per cent. "We view the preferential allotment as a credit positive because TML plans to apply the proceeds towards reducing its debt," adds Chhabal, who is also Moody's Lead Analyst for TML.

"The equity injection also reflects Tata Sons' continued support, and will somewhat reduce the pressure on TML's balance sheet stemming from the weak operating performance of its India business, even as JLR delivers some improvement."

JLR continues to make progress on its cost savings and efficiency plan with the aim to achieve GBP1.0 billion in cost savings by March 2020, having delivered GBP0.5 billion up to September 2019. In addition, JLR has achieved GBP1.5 billion of its GBP1.7 billion target on capital expenditure and working capital improvements as of September 2019.

Looking ahead, Moody's expects JLR's adjusted debt/EBITDA to improve from 10.6x at March 2019 to 6.0x over the next 12 months.

Tata Motors' Oct global wholesale down 19 per cent

Mumbai: Automobile major Tata Motors Group on Tuesday reported a fall of 19 per cent in its global wholesales during October to 89,108 units, including the off-take for the Jaguar Land Rover (JLR).

According to the group, its global wholesales of all 'Tata Motors' commercial vehicles and the 'Tata Daewoo' during the month under review declined by 36 per cent to 28,478 units as compared to October 2018.

"Global wholesales of all passenger vehicles in October 2019 were at 60,630 nos., lower by 7 per cent as compared to October 2018," the statement said. "Global wholesales for JLR were 47,278 vehicles. Jaguar wholesales for the month were 12,367 vehicles, while Land Rover wholesales for the month were 34,911 vehicles." IANS

JLR sales dip 6 pc in Oct to 41,866 units

New Delhi: Jaguar Land Rover (JLR), a part of Tata Motors, on Tuesday reported 5.5 per cent decline in total retail sales at 41,866 units in October as compared with the year-ago period. Sales of Jaguar brand were at 10,605 units during the month, down 22.9 per cent from October 2018, Tata Motors said in a statement.

Land Rover sales were at 31,260 units, up 2.4 per cent from the same month last year, it added. "The automotive trading environment remains challenging globally. Against this background, it is all the more encouraging to see our China turnaround strategy and work with the local retailer network generating positive results as sales have improved in China for the fourth consecutive month," JLR Chief Commercial Officer Felix Brautigam said. PTI

Finance panel grills FinMin on DeMo, state of economy

IANS ■ NEW DELHI

Demonetisation came to haunt Finance Ministry officials all over again with a section of the lawmakers choosing the subject to grill the executive while raising questions whether the move taken three years ago was the prime reason for the current slowdown.

The subject came up for discussion at the meeting of Parliamentary Standing Committee on Finance last week. But what was meant as a one-off mention soon became a full-blown issue with several members terming the move as bad for the economy.

At the meeting, the MPs also questioned senior Finance ministry officials on the likely

revenue shortfall, lack of investment and lack of confidence in Indian economy.

Officials were asked to reason with the current poor economic growth and deceleration in all macro indicators, sources said. Some members asked the officials if the demonetisation step of three years back by the government is the reason behind the current slowdown, said sources.

Economic Affairs Secretary Atanu Chakraborty, Revenue Secretary AB Pandey, Finance Secretary Rajeev Kumar, Chief Economic Adviser K Subramanian were among those who attended the panel's meetings along with Central Board of Direct Taxes chief PC Mody.

India's GDP likely to grow 5% this fiscal: SBI report

New Delhi: An SBI research report on Tuesday sharply cut the country's GDP growth forecast to 5 per cent for FY 2019-20 from the earlier projection of 6.1 per cent.

The second quarter GDP growth rate is likely to slip to 4.2 per cent on account of low automobile sales, deceleration in air traffic movements, flattening of core sector growth and declining investment in construction and infrastructure, according to Ecowrap — the report from the Economic Research Department of State Bank of India (SBI).

The report, however, said the economic growth rate will pick up pace in 2020-21 to 6.2 per cent. To propel economic growth, it said, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) may go for "larger rate cuts" in December monetary policy review.

Last month, while reducing the key policy rate (repo) by 25 basis points for the fifth time in a row, the RBI had also reduced its growth forecast to 6.1 per cent for 2019-20 from 6.9 per cent. PTI

Some e-retailers indulged in predatory pricing, says Goyal

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Union Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal on Tuesday said some e-commerce companies are indulging in predatory pricing which is adversely impacting millions of small retailers.

"I would like to highlight the adverse impact of predatory pricing indulged by some e-commerce players which adversely impact millions of small retailers. It is important for the letter and spirit of the law," he said at the BRICS trade ministers meeting in Brasilia.

The Minister said the need of the hour is to develop digital infrastructure, digital skills and institutions particularly in the developing and less developed world.

The global economic outlook is facing grave challenges amidst growing protectionism

and rising trade tensions manifested in unilateral measures, Goyal noted.

"In this uncertain world, India continues to offer economic opportunities," he said mentioning several steps taken by the union government to attract investments.

The Minister said increasing trends of protectionism in the form of non-tariff barriers (NTBs), both stated and unstated, deny market access, particularly for developing countries. "The developed world advocates open and free trade with emphasis on removal of tariffs in developing countries, while in reality, they are raising more barriers in the form of NTBs," he said.

These developments are contributing to enhancing economic uncertainties and raising the cost of doing trade in developing and least developed countries, Goyal said.

72% Indians believe country headed in right direction: Survey

IANS ■ NEW DELHI

At least 72 per cent urban Indians believe that India is headed in the right direction compared to 61 per cent global citizens who feel their country is on the wrong track, says a survey by market research firm Ipsos.

While people in China (93 per cent), Saudi Arabia (82 per cent) and India (72 per cent) are the most optimistic about the future, those in South Africa (15 per cent), Italy (17 per cent) and Spain (21 per cent) are the most negative about the prospects of their country. Among the issues that both Indians the most are unemployment, financial/political corruption and crime & violence, according to the Ipsos "What Worries the World" survey. These are also the top three issues that both global citizens as well — though not in the same order.

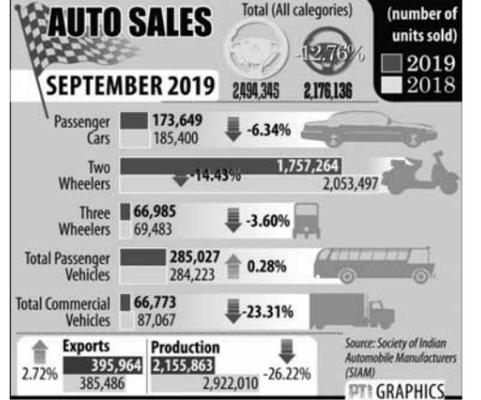
"Urban Indians have faith in the overall trajectory for the country and overall there is a sense of optimism among citizens," Amit Adarkar, CEO, Ipsos India & Operations Director, Ipsos APEC (Asia Pacific Excluding China), said in a statement.

Crisis-hit Nissan chops forecasts, net profit worst for a decade

Yokohama: Crisis-hit Japanese automaker Nissan on Tuesday slashed its full-year forecast for both sales and profit as it struggles with weak demand in Japan, the US and Europe, as well as fallout from the arrest of former boss Carlos Ghosn.

Nissan downgraded its net profit forecast to 110 billion yen (\$1 billion) for the fiscal year to March 2020, compared with an earlier estimate of 170 billion yen. Full-year sales are now estimated at 10.6 trillion yen, down from a previous forecast of 11.3 trillion yen.

Nissan blamed the poor outlook on weak first-half earnings, a strong yen, an uncertain global outlook and the stagnation of the car industry in general. Incoming chief financial officer Stephen Ma said: "Sales in China outpaced the market but sales in other key regions including the US, Europe and Japan underperformed in those markets. This resulted in the overall decrease of our market share." Net profit for the six months to September plunged 73.5 per cent to 65.4 billion yen, the worst first-half result since the global financial crisis a decade ago.



"Nissan is in a very severe situation at a time when competition in the global auto market is further intensifying," said Satoru Takada, auto analyst at TIW, a Tokyo-based research and consulting firm. It was Nissan's first earnings announcement since the appointment last month of Makoto Uchida as new chief executive, elevating the insider heading the firm's China unit as it overhauls its leadership after the Ghosn scandal. AFP

Airtel submit bids for RCom spectrum; Jio seeks deadline extension by 10 days

New Delhi: Bharti Airtel, Bharti Infratel and private equity firm Varde Partners have submitted bids for assets of debt-laden Reliance Communications, while Reliance Jio has sought extension of the asset sale deal deadline by another 10 days.

Airtel has placed conditional bid to buy spectrum of RCom while Bharti Infratel has submitted bids for mobile towers, a Bharti spokesperson said. Banking sources involved in the process told PTI that a total of six bids have come for assets of Anil Ambani-led RCom on Monday.

"Six bids have come for assets of Reliance Communications. This includes bid from Bharti Airtel, Bharti Infratel, private equity firm Varde Partners. RCom committee of creditors is scheduled to meet on November 13, 2019 to take call on the bids opening," a banking source said. PTI

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CIN NO. : U65990GJ1991PLC064603

APPENDIX IV
[See Rule 8 (1) of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002]
POSSESSION NOTICE (FOR IMMOVABLE PROPERTY)

WHEREAS
The undersigned being the authorized officer of the Aditya Birla Finance Limited, 2nd Floor, UCO Bank Building, 5, Parliament Street, New Delhi-110001 under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (Act No. 54 of 2002) and in exercise of powers conferred under section 13(1)(d) read with rule 8 and 9 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued a demand notice dated 07.09.2019 Calling upon the Borrowers/Co-Borrowers of M/s Dangus RM India Company, Mr. Sanjay Singh, Archana Singh to repay, he amount mentioned in the notice being Rs. 1,41,01,652.72 (Rupees One Crore Forty One Lakhs One Thousand Six Hundred Fifty Two and Seventy Two Paise Only) within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.

The borrower having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrower/ co-borrower and the public in general that the undersigned has taken Possession of the Property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him/her under section 13(4) of the said Act read with rule 8 and 9 of the said rule on this 8th Day of November the year Two Thousand and Nineteen.

The borrower / co-borrower in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of the Aditya Birla Finance Limited, 2nd Floor, UCO Building, 5, Parliament Street, New Delhi-110001 for an amount Rs. 1,41,01,652.72 (Rupees One Crore Forty One Lakhs One Thousand Six Hundred Fifty Two and Seventy Two Paise Only) and interest thereon.

The borrowers attention is invited to provisions of sub-section (8) of Section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the Secured Assets.

DESCRIPTION OF THE IMMOVABLE PROPERTY :-
All piece and parcel of Residential property being House No. H-16, SF, measuring area 1720 Sq. Ft. Situated at Mayfield Gardens, Sec. - 57, Gurgaon, Haryana which is owned by Mr. Sanjay Singh and Mrs. Archana Singh.

ADITYA BIRLA FINANCE LIMITED
Sd/-
PLACE : NEW DELHI
DATE : 13-11-2019
AUTHORIZED OFFICER

PARIJAT PAPER MILLS LIMITED
CIN: L21012UP1989PLC010589
Reg. Off: Vill-Jat Mujhera 10.6 Km Stone Bhopa Road, Muzaffarnagar-251308, (U.P)
Website: www.parijatpapermills.com, Email id: parijatpapermills@yahoo.com

STATEMENT OF STANDALONE UNAUDITED FINANCIAL RESULTS FOR THE QUARTER & HALF YEAR ENDED 30.09.2019

Sr. No.	PARTICULARS	STANDALONE (Amount in Lakhs)			
		Quarter Ended 30.09.2019 (Unaudited)	Half Year Ended 30.09.2019 (Unaudited)	Quarter Ended 30.09.2018 (Unaudited)	Year Ended 31.03.2019 (Audited)
1.	Total income from operations (Net)	1205.16	2931.99	310.92	5580.08
2.	Net Profit/(Loss) for the period (before Tax, Exceptional and/or Extraordinary Items)	(21.42)	(20.48)	(137.36)	44.43
3.	Net Profit/(Loss) for the period before tax (after Exceptional and/or Extraordinary Items)	(21.42)	(20.48)	(137.36)	44.43
4.	Net Profit/(Loss) for the period after tax (after Exceptional and/or Extraordinary Items)	(27.16)	(26.48)	(137.86)	42.05
5.	Total Comprehensive Income for the period (Comprising Profit/(Loss) for the period (after tax) and Other Comprehensive Income (after Tax))	(27.16)	(26.48)	(137.86)	42.05
6.	Paid-up Equity share capital (Face value Rs. 10/- each)	329.00	329.00	329.00	329.00
7.	Other Equity (Reserves (excluding Revaluation Reserves)	488.21	488.21	494.57	514.69
8.	Earnings per share of (Rs. 10/- each) (for continuing and discontinued operations)	(0.82)	(0.80)	(4.19)	1.28
	a) Basic				
	b) Diluted				

Notes:
1. The above results were reviewed by an Audit Committee and thereafter taken on record by the board of Directors in their meeting on November 11, 2019 after review by an Audit Committee.
2. The above is an extract of the detailed format of quarterly & year to date financial results filed with the stock exchange under Regulation 33 of the SEBI (Listing and Other Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015. The full format of the quarterly & year to date financial results are available on the Stock Exchange website (www.mse.in) and the company's website (www.parijatpapermills.com).

For and on behalf of Parijat Paper Mills Limited
Amit Mittal (Whole Time Director)
DIN:00754471
Date : 11.11.2019
Place: Muzaffarnagar

ANS INDUSTRIES LIMITED
(CIN-L15130HR1994PLC032362)
Regd Office : 136 KM, Vill & P.O.-Shamgarh, District-Karnal, Haryana-132116
Website : www.ansfoods.com, E-mail id - ansagro.limited@gmail.com

EXTRACT OF UNAUDITED STANDALONE FINANCIAL RESULTS FOR QUARTER & HALF YEAR ENDED 30th SEPTEMBER, 2019 (Rs. in Lakhs)

Sr. No.	Particulars	Quarter Ended 30.09.2019 Unaudited	Half Year Ended 30.09.2019 Unaudited	Quarter Ended 30.09.2018 Unaudited
I	Total Income from operations	4.67	11.42	7.00
II	Net Profit/(Loss) for the period (before tax and exceptional items)	-15.79	-36.97	-29.4
III	Net Profit/(Loss) for the period before tax (after exceptional items)	-15.79	-36.97	-29.40
IV	Net Profit/(Loss) for the period (after tax & exceptional items)	-15.79	-36.97	-29.40
V	Total Comprehensive income for the period (comprising profit/(loss) for the period after tax & other comprehensive income)			
VI	Paid-up equity share capital (Face Value Rs.10 per share)	925.56	925.56	925.56
VII	Other Equity as shown in Audited Balance sheet of previous year			
VIII	Earnings per equity share of Rs.10 /each (not annualised)			
	(a) Basic	0.00	0.00	0.00
	(b) Diluted	0.00	0.00	0.00

NOTES:
1. The above result is an extract of detailed format of quarter and half year ended 30th September, 2019 filed with Stock Exchange (BSE) as per Reg 33 of SEBI (LODR) Regulations, 2015 and full format is available on the website of the company and BSE Company www.ansfoods.com and BSE www.bseindia.com.
2. The above results were reviewed by the Audit Committee and approved by Board of Directors in its meeting held on held on 12/11/2019.
3. Figures for the previous year / period have been re-arranged wherever necessary.

For ANS industries Limited
Sd/-
(Mehinder Sharma)
Managing Director
DIN-00036252
Date : 12.11.2019
Place : New Delhi

PASUPATI ACRYLON LIMITED
CIN : L50102UP1982PLC015532
Regd. Office: Kashipur Road, Thakurdwara, Distt. Moradabad (U.P.)
Corp. Office: M-14, Connaught Circus (Middle Circle), New Delhi- 110 001
Tel.No. 91-11-47627400. Fax No. 91-11-47627497; Email: delhi@pasupatiacrylon.com
Website: www.pasupatiacrylon.com

STATEMENT OF UNAUDITED FINANCIAL RESULTS (Reviewed)
FOR THE QUARTER AND HALF YEAR ENDED 30th SEPTEMBER 2019 (Rs. in Crores)

Sl. No.	Particulars	Quarter Ended Un-Audited		Half Year Ended Un-Audited		Year Ended Audited
		30.09.2019	30.06.2019	30.09.2018	30.09.2018	
1	Total Income from operations	151.55	193.92	211.33	345.47	412.31
2	Net Profit for the period (before Tax, Exceptional and/or Extraordinary Items)	(7.28)	22.20	12.06	14.92	27.48
3	Net Profit for the period before tax (after Exceptional and/or Extraordinary Items)	(7.28)	22.20	12.06	14.92	27.48
4	Net Profit for the period after tax (after Exceptional and/or Extraordinary Items)	(4.80)	14.43	7.54	9.63	17.73
5	Total comprehensive income for the period (Comprising Profit for the period (after tax) and other comprehensive income (after tax))	(4.81)	14.42	7.49	9.61	17.63
6	Paid up Equity Share Capital (Face Value Rs.10/-)	89.14	89.14	89.14	89.14	89.14
7	Other Equity (excluding Revaluation Reserve)					87.56
8	Earnings Per Share (Rs. 10 each)					
	Basic	(0.54)	1.62	0.85	1.08	1.99
	Diluted	(0.54)	1.62	0.85	1.08	1.99

NOTE: The above is an extract of the detailed format of quarterly Financial Results filed with the Stock Exchanges under Regulation 33 of the SEBI(Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015. The full format of the Quarterly Financial Results are available on the Company's Website (www.pasupatiacrylon.com) and BSE Limited(www.bseindia.com).

For Pasupati Acrylon Limited
Sd/-
Vineet Jain
Managing Director
Date : 12 November, 2019
Place : New Delhi

BUSINESS CORNER

AAI HOSTS ACI ASIA-PACIFIC REGIONAL HR PANEL MEET



New Delhi: AAI is hosting ACI Asia-Pacific Regional HR Committee Meeting during 12th-14th November, 2019 in New Delhi. The ACI Asia-Pacific Regional HR Committee comprises of HR professionals representing respective airport members in the region. Committee members gather twice-yearly to discuss and share best practices with a view to promote HR excellence and standards among airports in Asia-Pacific. The theme for this meeting is "HR Readiness for Future Airports". Around 30 delegates across 10 countries and regions are participating in the meeting.

TOPPERS

Scheme	NAV	1Yr %	2018	2019	2018	2019
Tata Banking & Financial Services Fund-Reg(G)	20.69	29.64	231.48	13.33	231.48	13.33
Sundaram Fin Serv Opp Fund(G)	46.62	28.93	53.21	13.30	53.21	13.30
Kotak World Gold Fund(G)	9.72	27.74	36.63	13.30	36.63	13.30
Baroda Banking & Fin Serv Fund(G)	25.15	25.50	15.17	13.29	15.17	13.29
SBI Banking & Financial Services Fund-Reg(G)	19.40	25.46	255.55	13.28	255.55	13.28
Invesco India Financial Services Fund(G)	61.53	23.50	102.60	13.13	102.60	13.13
SBI Tax Advantage Fund-III-Reg(G)	27.59	23.37	22.02	12.90	22.02	12.90
BNP Paribas India Consumption Fund-Reg(G)	12.60	23.17	19.98	12.86	19.98	12.86
Axis Bluechip Fund(G)	31.55	22.71	117.11	12.81	117.11	12.81
DSP World Gold Fund-Reg(G)	13.27	22.57	33.49	12.78	33.49	12.78
Edelweiss ETF - Nifty Bank	3170.37	21.25	35.80	12.72	35.80	12.72
Axis Multicap Fund-Reg(G)	12.58	21.08	377.47	12.69	377.47	12.69
Canara Rob Consumer Trends Fund-Reg(G)	42.64	20.79	16.55	12.58	16.55	12.58
Sundaram Services Fund-Reg(G)	12.18	20.55	41.21	12.57	41.21	12.57
BNP Paribas Large Cap Fund(G)	96.49	20.16	94.36	12.56	94.36	12.56
DSP Equity Fund-Reg(G)	42.33	20.10	10.41	12.52	10.41	12.52
JM Multicap Fund(G)	34.74	20.07	67.81	12.42	67.81	12.42
Sundaram Multi Cap Fund-Sr I-Reg(G)	11.01	19.42	29.31	12.38	29.31	12.38
Motilal Oswal Focused 25 Fund-Reg(G)	23.65	18.89	99.95	12.25	99.95	12.25
DSP Focus Fund-Reg(G)	25.18	18.84	94.36	12.56	94.36	12.56
SBI Tax advantage Fund-II(G)	39.41	18.73	10.41	12.52	10.41	12.52
Aditya Birla SL Banking & Financial Services Fund-Reg(G)	30.47	18.70	67.81	12.42	67.81	12.42
Axis Long Term Equity Fund(G)	48.88	18.53	29.31	12.38	29.31	12.38
SBI Focused Equity Fund-Reg(G)	150.16	18.29	94.36	12.56	94.36	12.56
JM Tax Gain Fund(G)	18.20	18.22	10.41	12.52	10.41	12.52
Axis Focused 25 Fund(G)	30.38	18.07	67.81	12.42	67.81	12.42
Aditya Birla SL India GenNext Fund(G)	90.08	18.06	29.31	12.38	29.31	12.38
Franklin Asian Equity Fund(G)	23.35	17.41	99.95	12.25	99.95	12.25
DSP Tax Saver Fund-Reg(G)	51.21	17.18	10.41	12.52	10.41	12.52
DSP Top 100 Equity Fund-Reg(G)	221.12	17.06	67.81	12.42	67.81	12.42
Axis Growth Opp Fund-Reg(G)	11.77	17.00	29.31	12.38	29.31	12.38
ICICI Pru Banking & Fin. Serv Fund(G)	67.25	16.77	94.36	12.56	94.36	12.56
SBI Magnum Equity ESG Fund-Reg(G)	111.41	16.57	10.41	12.52	10.41	12.52
Canara Rob Bluechip Equity Fund-Reg(G)	26.62	16.55	67.81	12.42	67.81	12.42
BNP Paribas Long Term Equity Fund(G)	40.50	16.36	29.31	12.38	29.31	12.38
HDFC Sensex ETF	4246.50	16.03	99.95	12.25	99.95	12.25
Sundaram Select Small Cap Series-VI-Reg(G)	10.35	15.97	147.62	12.22	147.62	12.22
Sundaram Select Focus(G)	189.83	15.97	10.79	12.16	10.79	12.16
Tata India Tax Savings Fund-Reg(G)	18.93	15.91	26.25	12.11	26.25	12.11
IDFC Sensex ETF	416.42	15.78	32.36	11.91	32.36	11.91
SBI LT Advantage Fund-V-Reg(G)	10.60	15.73	13.72	11.89	13.72	11.89
Sundaram Select Small Cap Series-V-Reg(G)	10.57	15.61	10.65	11.87	10.65	11.87
IDBI Banking & Financial Services Fund-Reg(G)	11.08	15.54	49.17	11.82	49.17	11.82
HDFC Index Fund-Sensex(G)	359.09	15.51	61.74	11.66	61.74	11.66
Sundaram Select Small Cap Series-III-Reg(G)	15.19	15.44	10.09	11.65	10.09	11.65
Mirae Asset Emerging Bluechip-Reg(G)	56.12	15.40	10.62	11.64	10.62	11.64
Tata Index Fund-Sensex Plan(G)	99.66	15.36	54.15	11.59	54.15	11.59
IDBI India Top 100 Equity Fund(G)	25.41	15.19	10.66	11.52	10.66	11.52
Tata Large & Mid Cap Fund(G)	216.15	15.18	26.78	11.37	26.78	11.37
Sundaram Select Small Cap Series-IV-Reg(G)	15.21	15.17	16.00	11.36	16.00	11.36
Kotak Bluechip Fund(G)	245.99	15.14	12.56	11.35	12.56	11.35
Mirae Asset Tax Saver Fund-Reg(G)	18.66	15.14	282.57	11.33	282.57	11.33
JM Core 11 Fund(G)	9.43	15.11	10.04	11.18	10.04	11.18
Nippon India US Equity Opp Fund(G)	16.66	15.11	139.53	11.13	139.53	11.13
Axis Midcap Fund(G)	39.26	15.06	33.46	11.13	33.46	11.13
ICICI Pru Sensex Index Fund(G)	12.56	15.05	13.98	11.12	13.98	11.12
PGIM India Large Cap Fund(G)	175.94	14.99	16.45	10.98	16.45	10.98
Mirae Asset Great Consumer Fund-Reg(G)	37.01	14.74	13.21	10.93	13.21	10.93
SBI Infrastructure Fund-Reg(G)	15.66	14.72	16.44	10.84	16.44	10.84
Parag Parikh Long Term Equity Fund-Reg(G)	26.41	14.67	47.54	10.71	47.54	10.71
Nippon India Index Fund - Sensex Plan(G)	19.86	14.62	52.73	10.68	52.73	10.68
Tata Large Cap Fund(G)	228.87	14.46	41.18	10.63	41.18	10.63
ICICI Pru Value Fund-18(G)	12.04	14.45	289.71	10.54	289.71	10.54
Motilal Oswal Long Term Equity Fund-Reg(G)	18.39	14.42	11.63	10.45	11.63	10.45
ICICI Pru LT Wealth Enhancement Fund(G)	11.26	14.20	10.64	10.43	10.64	10.43
ICICI Pru US Bluechip Equity Fund(G)	30.82	14.11	14.65	10.40	14.65	10.40
Kotak Standard Multicap Fund(G)	36.87	14.10	178.32	10.33	178.32	10.33
Kotak Equity Opp Fund(G)	124.69	14.02	14.21	10.28	14.21	10.28
HDFC Nifty 50 ETF	1250.41	14.02	125.64	10.27	125.64	10.27
Axis Nifty ETF	1228.30	13.98	13.65	10.26	13.65	10.26
Invesco India PSU Equity Fund(G)	18.79	13.95	14.08	10.23	14.08	10.23
SBI Magnum Multicap Fund-Reg(G)	50.69	13.95	100.07	10.16	100.07	10.16
BNP Paribas Focused 25 Equity Fund-Reg(G)	10.02	13.88	16.00	10.15	16.00	10.15
UTI Nifty Index Fund-Reg(G)	78.22	13.81	92.73	10.08	92.73	10.08
Canara Rob Equity Diver Fund-Reg(G)	139.20	13.81	41.22	10.07	41.22	10.07
IDFC Nifty ETF	123.21	13.75	56.24	10.05	56.24	10.05
Edelweiss Large Cap Fund(G)	37.26	13.70	9.82	9.81	9.82	9.81
L&T Focused Equity Fund-Reg(G)	11.37	13.66	110.30	9.73	110.30	9.73
L&T India Large Cap Fund-Reg(G)	28.51	13.64	26.98	9.72	26.98	9.72
Kotak Tax Saver Fund(G)	45.62	13.58	12.74	9.72	12.74	9.72
HDFC Index Fund-NIFTY 50 Plan(G)	108.87	13.55	14.80	9.55	14.80	9.55
IDFC Nifty Fund-Reg(G)	24.73	13.42	62.59	9.52	62.59	9.52
Tata Index Fund-Nifty Plan(G)	72.28	13.41	156.93	9.50	156.93	9.50
Canara Rob Equity Tax Saver Fund-Reg(G)	67.35	13.35	89.26	9.46	89.26	9.46
SBI LT Advantage Fund-VI-Reg(G)	10.98	13.34	10.25	9.45	10.25	9.45
ICICI Pru Nifty Index Fund(G)	115.57	13.34	20.95	9.43	20.95	9.43
ICICI Pru Bharat Consumption Fund-4(G)	10.40	9.24	91.66	9.43	91.66	9.43
Kotak Emerging Equity Fund(G)	39.24	9.22	43.57	9.31	43.57	9.31
Aditya Birla SL Frontline Equity Fund(G)	229.51	9.01	9.31	9.24	9.31	9.24
Aditya Birla SL Resurgent India Fund-2-Reg(G)	12.23	9.00	9.31	9.24	9.31	9.24
Sundaram TOP 100-Sr VI-Reg(G)	12.68	8.99	9.31	9.24	9.31	9.24
Aditya Birla SL Equity Advantage Fund(G)	415.67	8.97	9.31	9.24	9.31	9.24
Aditya Birla SL MNC Fund-Reg(G)	775.98	8.93	9.31	9.24	9.31	9.24
Sundaram TOP 100-Sr VII-Reg(G)	12.46	8.89	9.31	9.24	9.31	9.24
Aditya Birla SL Equity Fund(G)	744.33	8.77	9.31	9.24	9.31	9.24
ICICI Pru NV20 ETF	57.06	8.71	9.31	9.24	9.31	9.24
HDFC Top 100 Fund(G)	496.34	8.58	9.31	9.24	9.31	9.24
SBI LT Advantage Fund-I-Reg(G)	13.61	8.53	9.31	9.24	9.31	9.24
Canara Rob Emerg Equities Fund-Reg(G)	94.24	8.48	9.31	9.24	9.31	9.24
Nippon India Focused Equity Fund(G)	47.09	8.48	9.31	9.24	9.31	9.24
SBI Large & Midcap Fund-Reg(G)	224.30	8.46	9.31	9.24	9.31	9.24
Sundaram Diversified Equity(G)	102.39	8.40	9.31	9.24	9.31	9.24
ICICI Pru Smallcap Fund(G)	25.13	8.37	9.31	9.24	9.31	9.24
UTI Infrastructure Fund-Reg(G)	53.04	8.28	9.31	9.24	9.31	9.24
Kotak India Growth Fund-Sr 5(G)	9.95	8.22	9.31	9.24	9.31	9.24
Axis Emerging Opp Fund-1-Reg(G)	12.71	8.17	9.31	9.24	9.31	9.24
HDFC Equity Fund(G)	667.08	8.01	9.31	9.24	9.31	9.24
Tata Resources & Energy Fund-Reg(G)	14.77	8.01	9.31	9.24	9.31	9.24
ICICI Pru Bharat Consumption Fund-4(G)	10.40	9.24	9.31	9.24	9.31	9.24
DSP Global Allocation Fund-Reg(G)	13.02	5.42	9.31	9.24	9.31	9.24
UTI-Nifty Next 50 ETF	292.30	5.40	9.31	9.24	9.31	9.24
Principal Global Opportunities Fund(G)	30.49	5.38	9.31	9.24	9.31	9.24
Edelweiss Mid Cap Fund-Reg(G)	26.61	5.36	9.31	9.24	9.31	9.24
ICICI Pru Growth Fund-3(DP)	10.43	5.35	9.31	9.24	9.31	9.24
Kotak Small Cap Fund(G)	71.38	5.30	9.31	9.24	9.31	9.24
Invesco India Feeder - Invesco Global Equity Income Fund(G)	13.62	5.08	9.31	9.24	9.31	9.24
JM Large Cap Fund(G)	67.60	5.05	9.31	9.24	9.31	9.24
Kotak Infra & Eco Reform Fund(G)	19.69	4.99	9.31	9.24	9.31	9.24
Templeton India Equity Income Fund(G)	45.84	4.97	9.31	9.24	9.31	9.24
Edelweiss Eur Dynamic Equity Off-shr Fund-Reg(G)	11.47	4.95	9.31	9.24	9.31	9.24
ICICI Pru Large & Mid Cap Fund(G)	327.49	4.94	9.31	9.24	9.31	9.24
Aditya Birla SL Intl. Equity Fund-B(G)	18.65	4.90	9.31	9.24	9.31	9.24
L&T Equity Fund-Reg(G)	82.60	4.90	9.31	9.24	9.31	9.24
ICICI Pru Value Fund-14(G)	10.72	4.89	9.31	9.24	9.31	9.24
ICICI Pru Value Fund-15(G)	10.78	4.86	9.31	9.24	9.31	9.24
BNP Paribas Mid Cap Fund(G)	31.84	4.73	9.31	9.24	9.31	9.24
Tata Digital India Fund-Reg(G)	14.75	4.60	9.31	9.24	9.31	9.24
Nippon India Vision Fund(G)	531.43	4.57	9.31	9.24	9.31	9.24
Sundaram Emerging Small Cap-Sr-VI-Reg(G)	10.53	4.57	9.31	9.24	9.31	9.24
L&T Large and Midcap Fund-Reg(G)	47.46	4.56	9.31	9.24	9.31	9.24
ICICI Pru Nifty Next 50 ETF	28.67	4.56	9.31	9.24	9.31	9.24
PGIM India Euro Equity Fund(G)	14.24	4.55	9.31	9.24	9.31	9.24
IDFC Focused Equity Fund-Reg(G)	37.34	4.54	9.31	9.24	9.31	9.24
Franklin India Bluechip Fund(G)	460.11	4.48	9.31	9.24	9.31	9.24
Invesco India Smallcap Fund-Reg(G)	10.53	4.46	9.31	9.24	9.31	9.24
IDFC Core Equity Fund-Reg(G)	44.86	4.45	9.31	9.24	9.31	9.24
ICICI Pru Multicap Fund(G)	293.79	4.44	9.31	9.24	9.31	9.24
ICICI Pru Value Fund-10(G)	11.58	4.42	9.31	9.24	9.31	9.24
Nippon India Multi Cap Fund(G)	95.48	4.42	9.31	9.24	9.31	9.24
ICICI Pru Value Fund-16(G)	11.20	4.38	9.31	9.24	9.31	9.24
UTI Nifty Next 50 Index Fund-Reg(G)	10.14	4.3				

Police, protesters face off in renewed HK clashes

AP ■ HONG KONG

Police and protesters battled outside university campuses and several thousand demonstrators blocked roads as they took over a central business district at lunchtime on Tuesday in another day of protest in Hong Kong.

The clashes followed an especially violent day in Hong Kong's five months of anti-government demonstrations, in which police shot one protester and a man was set on fire.

Protesters littered streets with bricks and disrupted train service during the morning rush hour on Tuesday. Commuter train passengers were escorted along the tracks, and subways were shut because of disruptions.

Police used tear gas in

faceoffs with protesters in and around universities, where classes were canceled.

A few thousand protesters took over several blocks of the central business district at lunchtime. The demonstrators chanted "Five demands, not one less" holding up one hand with five outstretched fingers.

Their demands include democratic changes and investigation of police treatment of protesters.

Traffic was blocked on two major roads by the crowds, with half a dozen of Hong Kong's famous trams lined up unable to move. The words "Join Us" were spray painted on the front window of a halted double-decker bus abandoned by the driver and passengers and one of its windows was broken.

Office workers filled the sidewalks and overhead walkways to watch the action, with some joining the protesters in chanting.

One 24-year-old man, who would not give his name, said he was there to support the protesters and accused the police of using excessive force, a common complaint among the city's 7.4 million people.

Recent weeks have been marked by escalating vandalism against shops linked to mainland China and train stations, and assaults by both protesters and pro-Beijing supporters.

Hong Kong leader Carrie Lam, speaking to news media after a weekly meeting with advisers, called the blocking of the morning commute "a very selfish act."

Clinton criticises UK Govt for blocking Russian report

AP ■ LONDON

Former US Secretary of State Hillary Clinton says she's "dumbfounded" the UK Government has failed to release a report on Russian influence in British politics as the country prepares for national elections.

Clinton told the BBC in an interview broadcast Monday that the public needs to know what is in the report by Parliament's Intelligence and Security Committee.

The Government said it needs more time to consider the report before releasing it to the public, but critics claim the report has been withheld until the next Parliament because it is embarrassing to Prime Minister Boris Johnson's

Conservative Party.

"I'm dumbfounded that this government won't release the report... Because every person who votes in this country deserves to see that report before your election happens," Clinton said.

An American investigation into the 2016 US presidential election found "sweeping and systemic" interference. Bill Browder, a former investment manager in Russia, told the BBC he gave the committee evidence on wealthy Russians working to influence British politics.

The Intelligence and Security Committee report was sent to the prime minister on October 17, and it needs government approval before it is made public.

Af to release Taliban prisoners in apparent swap

Kabul: Afghan President Ashraf Ghani announced on Tuesday that three high-ranking Taliban prisoners would be released, in an apparent exchange for two Western hostages who were kidnapped by the insurgents in 2016.

The three Taliban prisoners include Anas Haqqani, who was seized in 2014 and whose older brother is the deputy Taliban leader and head of the Haqqani network, a notorious Taliban affiliate.

"We have decided to conditionally release three Taliban prisoners who... Have been in Bagram prison in the custody of the Afghan government for some time," Ghani said in an announcement at the presidential palace.

IMPEACHMENT WITNESS

Ukrainians asked about holdup of aid

AP ■ WASHINGTON

Transcripts in the newest batch from testimony in the House impeachment hearings are chipping away at a key Republican defense of President Donald Trump.

At issue is Trump's decision to tie military aid for Ukraine to investigations of Joe Biden and the Democrats. Allies of the president say he did nothing wrong because the Ukrainians never knew the aid was being delayed.

The special adviser for Ukraine at the State Department, Catherine Croft, says she fielded inquiries from Ukraine about the holdup.

In the transcript of her testimony to House investigators, released Monday, Croft says

officials in Ukraine were clear in their concern over the assistance as they battled Russian aggression.

Witnesses in the impeachment inquiry are set to begin testifying in public on Wednesday.

Israeli airstrike kills Islamic Jihad commander in Gaza

Jerusalem/Gaza: Israeli security forces on Tuesday assassinated a commander of Islamic Jihad described by them as "a ticking bomb", leading to retaliatory attacks from the Gaza Strip that pushed major areas in Israel to closure and escalated tensions in the region.

A joint statement by the Israel Defence Forces (IDF) and Israel's internal security agency, the Shin Bet, announced that Baha Abu al-Ata was neutralised in a targeted strike at around 4:30 am in an operation that was approved by Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu.

"[Ata] was behind multiple attacks and rocket launches against Israel in recent months and intended to carry new immediate attacks," the Army and Shin Bet said.

"The operation was recommended by the IDF Chief of Staff and the Shin Bet and approved by the Prime Minister and Minister of Defence, after

it was presented and endorsed by (the security) cabinet," it said. Ata and his wife were killed as they slept on the third floor of a building in Shejaiya district of Gaza City, Palestinian sources said.

Palestinian health officials said that four of their children and a neighbour were injured. The Israeli Army however rejected speculations that the killing marked return to Israel's policy of targeted assassinations.

Train crash kills 16 people in Bangladesh

Dhaka: At least 16 people were killed and 60 others injured in a head-on collision between two trains in Brahmanbaria district in central Bangladesh on Tuesday, railway officials said.

A railway spokesman said the pre-dawn accident appeared to have occurred when Chittagong-bound Udayan Express was changing tracks at Mondobhag railway station in the district and the Dhaka-bound Turna Nishita coming from the opposite direction collided with it.

"The salvage campaign is nearly completed as Railways Minister Nurul Islam Sujan and our senior officials visited the scene to oversee the rescue drives," the spokesman said.

Hayat-ud-Dowla Khan, Brahmanbaria Deputy Commissioner was quoted as saying by the Dhaka Tribune that the accident occurred because the loco masters did not obey the signals.

GLOBE TROTTER

SHARIF'S DEPARTURE TO LONDON DELAYED AGAIN
Islamabad: Former Pakistan Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif's departure to London was delayed once again as a sub-committee of the Federal Cabinet headed by Law Minister Farogh Naseem could not decide on removing Sharif's name from the Exit Control List.

TEENAGE ANXIETY LEADS TO HARMFUL DRINKING
London: Researchers at the University of Bristol have found evidence of an association between generalised anxiety disorder at age 18 and harmful drinking three years later.

POLL OBSERVERS' TEAM TO ARRIVE IN SRI LANKA
Colombo: The Election Commission (EC) of Sri Lanka on Tuesday announced that a team consisting of 17 foreign poll observers was expected to arrive in the island nation later in the day and also on Wednesday ahead of Saturday's presidential election.

PERFORMERS STABBED ON STAGE IN SAUDI CAPITAL
Riyadh: A Yemeni man has stabbed three performers during a live play in the Saudi capital, police said, in the first such attack since the ultra-conservative kingdom began easing decades-old restrictions on entertainment.

AUSTRALIA READIES FOR 'CATASTROPHIC' BUSHFIRES
Winmalee (Australia): Thousands of firefighters fanned out across eastern Australia Tuesday as gale-force winds, scorching temperatures and tinder-dry bushland brought "catastrophic" fire conditions.

PUBLIC NOTICE
This is to inform that M/s Mera Baba Realty Associates Pvt. Ltd. located at DMail, Plot No-A1, Netaji Subhash Place, District Centre, Wazirpur, Pitampura, Delhi-110034 has been accorded with Environmental Clearance vide Ref. No. No 21-62/2019-IA-III dated 18-10-2019 from Ministry of Environment, forest and Climate Change, Government of India. The copies of the clearance letters are available with the Ministry of Environment & Forests and can also be seen on their website www.environmentclearance.nic.in
For Mera Baba Realty Associates Pvt. Ltd.

ELECTRIFICATION WORKS
E-Tender Notice No. Dy/CEE/CON/HQ/MLG/07/2019; Dated: 07-11-2019.
Works tender through e-Tendering system are invited from valid electrical contractor licensed for the following work. Tender No.: EL/CON/SL/10/2019/JJ. Name of work: Electrification and 33 kV/11 kV substation at tunnel No.3 in connection with Jiribam - Imphal New BG line project. Tender value: ₹29,21,78,057/-, Earnest money: ₹16,10,900/-, Completion period: 11 Months. E-tender will be closed at 14:30 hrs. on 04-12-2019 and opened at 15:30 hrs. on 04-12-2019. The complete information with the tender document of above e-tender will be available in website www.irps.gov.in & www.nfrpsconstruction.org
Dy. CEE/CON/HQ, Maligaon, NORTHEAST FRONTIER RAILWAY (Construction Organisation).
"Serving Customers with a smile"

STORES E-PROCUREMENT
E-Procurement Tender Notice No. 04/2019; Dated: 11-11-2019. Sealed tenders are invited for the following works: - E-Tender No. 01196014. Description of work: Metal Liner Drg. No. T-8616 & T-8617. Approximate Tender Value: ₹12,19,26,304.00; Tender Quantity: 12,85,600 Sets; Tender Due on: 22-11-2019. NOTE: For full details of Tender notice and tender documents, Tenderer may log on to the website (www.irps.gov.in) prospective bidder who intend to participate in above tenders are required to log in themselves with the above website and submit their offer electronically, if they are already registered with IREPS. In case they are not registered with IREPS, they are advised to obtain class-III Digital Signature Certificate from the certifying agencies under Govt. of India IT Act 2000 and participate in the above tenders.
Principal Chief Materials Manager/Con NORTHEAST FRONTIER RAILWAY (Construction Organisation).
"Serving Customers with a smile"

EASTERN RAILWAY
Open e-Tender No.: TM20196016, dated 06.11.2019. Open e-tender is invited by Dy Chief Engineer, TMC, 2nd Floor, G.M. office, Eastern Railway, 17, N.S.Road, Fairlie Place, Kolkata-700001 for supply of the following item: Name of Supply: Supply of Track Machine Spare: Wear Plates etc. Quantity: Total 43 items, quantity of each item as per tender document. Make: Plasser or equivalent or firm's own make. To be delivered at: CDMS/TMC/Belighata, Sealdah, Eastern Railway. Tender Value: Rs. 20,06,012/-. Earnest Money: Rs. 40,120/-
Delivery Period: Within 90 days of P.O. Date & Time for Closing of e-tender: On 12.12.2019 at 15:30 hrs. Website particulars for complete details: <http://www.irps.gov.in>
No manual offers sent by post / fax or in person shall be accepted against such e-tender. Complete information including e-tender document of the above tender is available in website www.irps.gov.in
MISC-213/2019-20
Tender Notice is also available at websites: www.e.indianrailways.gov.in / www.irps.gov.in

MAGMA FINNCORP LIMITED
REGD. OFFICE: DEVELOPMENTHOUSE, 24 PARK STREET, KOLKATA 700016
APPENDIX IV (SEE RULE 8(1) POSSESSION NOTICE (FOR IMMOVABLE PROPERTY)

Whereas, the undersigned being the Authorized Officer of Magma Fincorp Limited of above Corporate office under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (hereinafter referred as the "said Act") and in exercise of the powers conferred under Section 13 (2) of the said Act read with Rule 9 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002, issued a demand notice dated 10/01/2019 (sent on 11/01/2019) calling upon the below Borrowers to repay the amount mentioned in the notice within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.

The borrowers having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrowers and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him/her under Section 14 of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the said rules on this 08 day of November, 2019.

The borrowers in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of Magma Fincorp Limited for the amount and interest thereon.

SR. NO.	NAME OF BORROWERS	DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY	DATE OF STATUTORY DEMAND NOTICE	AMOUNT IN DEMAND NOTICE RS.
1.	B H U M I S A G A R INFRASTRUCTURE PVT LTD (BORROWER), NETU, GANGA SAGAR CHAUHAN, SUKHA SAGAR & KIRAN (CO-BORROWER). LOANACCOUNTNUMBER-HL/0031/H/13/000109	ALL THAT PIECE AND PARCEL OF ENTIRE SECOND FLOOR (STILT BEING AT GROUND FLOOR) WITHOUT ROOF RIGHTS OF PROPERTY BEARING NO.10 (ADMEASURING 180 SQ. METERS), BLOCK-E, SECTOR-1, ROHINI, DELHI-110085.	10/01/2019 (SENT ON 11/01/2019)	RS. 1,56,44,610/- (RS. RUPEES ONE CRORE FIFTY SIX LAKHS FORTY FOURTHOUSAND SIX HUNDRED TEN ONLY) PAYABLE AS ON 10/01/2019 ALONG WITH FUTURE INTEREST@ 14.50% PERANNUM

PLACE: DELHI
DATE: 13.11.2019

Sd/-
(AUTHORIZED OFFICER)
MAGMA FINNCORP LIMITED

ATLAS JEWELLERY INDIA LIMITED
CIN: L74140DL1989PLC131289
Reg. Off.: DTJ-719, 7th Floor, DLF Tower-B, Plot No: 11, Jasola, New Delhi-110025
Email: info@atlasjewelleryindia.com, Phone: 011-41041149/40541077, Web: www.atlasjewelleryindia.com

EXTRACT OF STATEMENT OF STANDALONE UN-AUDITED FINANCIAL RESULTS FOR THE SECOND QUARTER AND HALF YEAR ENDED 30th SEPTEMBER 2019
(Rs. in lacs except per share data)

S. No.	Particulars	Quarter ended	Year to date	Corresponding
		30 th September 2019	30 th September 2019	Quarter ended in the previous year 30 th September 2018
		Un-Audited	Un-Audited	Un-Audited
1.	Total income from operations (net)	26.22	97.62	50.96
2.	Net Profit / (Loss) for the period (before Tax, Exceptional and/or Extraordinary items)	158.61	95.21	743.15
3.	Net Profit / (Loss) for the period before tax (after Exceptional and/or Extraordinary items)	158.61	95.21	743.15
4.	Net Profit / (Loss) for the period after tax (after Exceptional and/or Extraordinary items)	173.55	116.36	729.80
5.	Total Comprehensive Income for the period [Comprising Profit / (Loss) for the period (after tax) and Other Comprehensive Income (after tax)]	173.55	116.36	729.80
6.	Equity Share Capital	10065.45	10065.45	10065.45
7.	Reserves (excluding Revaluation Reserve) as shown in the Audited Balance Sheet of the previous year	-	-	-
8.	Earnings Per Share (face value of Rs. 10 each) (before and after extraordinary items) -			
	1. Basic:	0.17	0.12	0.73
	2. Diluted:	0.17	0.12	0.73

Notes:
(1) The financial results of the company have been prepared in accordance with Indian Accounting Standards (Ind AS) notified under the Companies (India Accounting Standards) Rules, 2015 as amended by the companies (Indian Accounting Standards) Amendment Rules.
(2) The above results were reviewed by the Audit Committee and approved by the Board of Directors at its meeting held on November 12, 2019.
(3) The Statutory auditors of the company have carried out the limited review of the financial results in accordance with the requirement of Regulation 33 of the SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015, for the quarter and half year ended September 30, 2019.
(4) The company has only one segment of revenue.
(5) Figures relating to the previous periods/year has been reclassified/rearranged wherever necessary, to conform to the current period's presentation.

For ATLAS Jewellery India Ltd
Sd/-
Mohan Das K
Director
DIN: 07321049

Place: New Delhi
Date: November 12, 2019

US top brass to mediate between S Korea, Japan

Washington: A top US military officer will be trying to contain the fallout between Seoul and Tokyo on his first overseas trip on the job.

"It is in our interests to keep all three of us very closely aligned," US Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Mark Milley said of South Korea and Japan while en route to the region, according to a Press release from the US Department of Defence on Monday, Xinhua reported.

The overseas trip, the first since he assumed office on September 30, reflected concern among US officials over the straining relationship between its two Asian allies.

UK's Labour Party hit by 'cyber-attack'

IAN S ■ LONDON

The UK's Opposition Labour Party has revealed it became the target of a "large-scale and sophisticated cyber-attack" on its digital platforms, the media reported.

The attacks did not lead to any data breach as, according to the party, its "robust" security system foiled the attempt to disrupt the functioning of the party's digital systems, the BBC reported on Tuesday.

In a letter sent to Labour campaigners, Niall Sookoo, the party's executive director of elections and campaigns, said: "Yesterday afternoon our security systems identified that, in a very short period of time, there were large-scale and sophisticated attacks on

Labour Party platforms which had the intention of taking our systems entirely offline.

"Every single one of these attempts failed due to our robust security systems and the integrity of all our platforms and data was maintained."

The attack was a "real concern", Labour's General Secretary Jennie Formby said on Twitter.

Reports suggest that it was just a Distributed Denial of Service (DDoS) attack which floods a computer server with traffic to try to take it offline.

DDoS attacks are not normally recognised as being a hack as they do not involve breaking into a target's systems to insert malware, said the BBC reporter, adding that

Labour is using software by the technology company Cloudflare to protect its systems.

"We have experienced a sophisticated and large-scale cyber-attack on Labour digital platforms. We took swift action and these attempts failed due to our robust security systems. The integrity of all our platforms was maintained and we are confident that no data breach occurred," a spokeswoman of Jeremy Corbyn's party was quoted as saying by The Register.

"Our security procedures have slowed down some of our campaign activities, but these were restored this morning and we are back up to full speed. We have reported the matter to the National Cyber Security Centre."

France, UK, Germany, EU 'extremely concerned' by Iran's N deal breach

Paris: France, Germany, Britain and the European Union have said they are "extremely concerned" by Iran's decision to re-start nuclear activities at one of its key sites, in breach of a landmark 2015 deal with international powers.

"The Foreign Ministers of France, Germany and the United Kingdom and the High Representative of the European Union are extremely concerned by the latest announcements that Iran is restarting uranium enrichment activities at the Fordow facility, as confirmed by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) in its November 11 report," they said in a joint statement on Monday.

Paris, Berlin, London and Brussels said that Iran's action was "inconsistent" with the 2015 Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action, or JCPOA, under which Tehran had agreed to curb some of its nuclear activities — notably uranium enrichment — in return for a lifting of economic sanctions.

N Korea assails US, South Korea and UN nuclear agency

United Nations: North Korea on Monday accused the United States of "political and military provocations" and South Korea of "double-dealing behaviour". North Korea's UN Ambassador Kim Song made the accusations in a speech to a General Assembly meeting on the International Atomic Energy Agency, which he accused of "ignorance of the prevailing reality of the Korean peninsula."

Kim said relations between the US and North Korea "have made little progress" since the June 2018 summit between their leaders, "and the situation of the Korean peninsula has not extricated itself from the vicious cycle of aggravated tension."

Trump says Baghdadi successor in US crosshairs

New York: US President Donald Trump placed the Islamic State group's new chief in the crosshairs on Monday as he marked Veterans' Day by celebrating the killing of the jihadists' former leader Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi.

While US presidents traditionally mark the day by laying a wreath at a vast military cemetery in Arlington, near Washington, Trump traveled to New York where he made an address ahead of the city's annual parade of veterans.

Trump was widely criticised after announcing a full withdrawal of US troops from Syria last month.

ADITYA BIRLA CAPITAL
PROTECTING INVESTING FINANCING ADVISING
Aditya Birla Housing Finance Limited
Registered Office: Indian Rayon Compound, Veraval, Gujarat - 382 266

APPENDIX IV (SEE RULE 8(1) POSSESSION NOTICE (FOR IMMOVABLE PROPERTY)

WHEREAS
The undersigned being the authorized officer of Aditya Birla Housing Finance Limited under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (54 of 2002) and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13(12) read with rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued a demand notice dated 23/07/2019 calling upon the borrower Mr. VINAY CHANDRA JHA, Mrs. NIBHA JHA (Borrower/Co-Borrowers/Guarantors) to repay the amount mentioned in the notice being Rs. 11,42,963.00 (Rupees Eleven Lakh Forty Two Thousand Nine Hundred Sixty Three Only) within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.

The borrower having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrower and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of the powers conferred on him/her under Section 13(4) of the said act read with rule 8 of the Security Interest Enforcement Rules, 2002 on this 09th day of November of the year 2019.

The borrower in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of the Aditya Birla Housing Finance Limited for an amount of Rs. 11,42,963.00 (Rupees Eleven Lakh Forty Two Thousand Nine Hundred Sixty Three Only) and interest thereon.

The borrowers attention is invited to provisions of sub-section (8) of Section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the Secured Assets.

DESCRIPTION OF THE IMMOVABLE PROPERTY :-
All that part and parcel of the property consisting Flat. No. 4, Property No. C/9/6, Left Hand Back Side, Upper Ground Floor Without Roof Rights, DLF Ankur Vihar, Sadullabad, Pargana Loni, Tehsil & Distt. Ghaziabad, Bharat Nagar S.O. (Ghaziabad), Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh-201102 Measuring Area 37.16 Square Meter, Which is bounded as below:- East: Other Land, West: 9 Meter Wide Road, North: Plot No. C-9/5, South: Plot No. C-9/7

ADITYA BIRLA HOUSING FINANCE LIMITED
Sd/-
PLACE : GHAZIABAD
DATE : 13-11-2019
AUTHORIZED OFFICER

'Ghost' footprints hiding since end of Ice Age found

Using a special type of radar, researchers have discovered the invisible footprints hiding since the end of the last ice age — and what lies beneath them.

The fossilised footprints reveal a wealth of information about how humans and animals moved and interacted with each other 12,000 years ago, according to the study published in the journal Scientific Reports.

"We never thought to look under footprints, but it turns out that the sediment itself has a memory that records the effects of the ani-

mal's weight and momentum in a beautiful way," said study lead author Thomas Urban from Cornell University in the US.

"It gives us a way to understand the biomechanics of extinct fauna that we never had before," Urban said.

The researchers examined the footprints of humans, mammoths and giant sloths in the White Sands National Monument in New Mexico.

Using ground-penetrating radar (GPR), they were able to resolve 96 per cent of the human tracks in the area under investigation, as well as all of the larger vertebrate tracks.



Big data is the keyword for the future. And its unprecedented relevance even today is the very reason for its prominence. Organisations today are gathering digital impressions of customers to observe their interpretation through machine learning and distributed computing. Data analytics in the education segment opens numerous doors for instructors to connect and facilitate education in new ways. It will give them a more profound comprehension of the student's learning experience, and therefore manage the process appropriately.

Here are a few ways data analysis has already started influencing the Indian educational system:

Improved test results

The general thought of utilising data inside the instructive framework is to improve the results of the students. Right now, the only estimation of the learner's performance is their response to assignments and tests. While this holds true, every learner produces a remarkable data trail. Dissecting this information trail continuously will help increase a superior comprehension of the individual student journey, and in devising the ideal learning conditions for them.

Customisable programmes

With the assistance of data analysis, customised programmes for every individual learner can be made. Regardless of whether schools and colleges have lakhs of students, tailor-

MAKE IT BIG

Data analytics opens numerous doors for instructors to connect and facilitate education in better and newer ways, says DR PRATIMA SHEOREY

made programmes can be made for every one of them. This is conceivable with the assistance of 'blended learning' — a blend of online and offline pedagogies. This offers the chance to pursue classes that the learners are keen on and furthermore work at their very own pace, and also connecting with educators/facilitators/mentors.

Analysing educators

Instructors can receive the greatest number of rewards from data analytics, because of the handling of information-driven frameworks that can enable educators to make learning experiences as indicated by a learner's learning capacity, and inclination. Different projects can be cultivated that will urge every person to pick what they want to realise. Through this, numerous reports can be produced about the life of a student and what they might want to do or want to pursue in the

WITH BIG DATA, INSTITUTES CAN LOOK AT THE PROGRESS OF A STUDENT AND THROUGH HIS BEHAVIOUR AND INSIGHT, PREDICT APPROPRIATE CAREER ALTERNATIVES

future. Instructors can also understand what will and what will not work with a certain set of students, thereby improving their efficacy. **Reduce the number of dropouts**

As data analytics in the training

part would help improve students' results, dropout rates at schools and universities would likewise decrease. Instructive organisations can utilise prescient examination on every one of the information that is gathered to give them fragments of knowledge on future understudy results. Such expectations can help investigate a course program before it is brought into the educational plan; limiting the scope for experimentation. Truth be told, enormous amounts of information can likewise be utilised to screen how students are performing in the real world after moving on from school. This would help the future students in picking the correct school and course, reducing the number of dropouts.

Gateway for cross-country exchange programmes

With huge information in the training area, establishments can all the

more precisely foresee candidates and furthermore break down the potential factors that influence the application procedure. Such information will enable organisations to manage their enrollment procedures to get better results. Such an influx of information will also enable understudies to investigate data about schools internationally, accelerating the quest and application process for global students as well.

Career prediction

Closely analysing a student's presentation report will assist the facilitator to understand his/her advancement and their qualities and shortcomings. The reports will propose the areas in which the student is interested, and they can seek a vocation in a similar field. If a student is enthusiastic about learning a specific subject, at that point, the decision ought to be valued and the student ought to be urged to pursue what they wish to pursue. With big data, educational institutions can look at the progress of a student and through their behaviours and insights, predict appropriate career alternatives.

Data analytics is bound to revolutionise the education sector, by allowing students to have a more positive impact on society and the future of the country. And embracing this very field will open up numerous possibilities in the Indian pedagogy system.

The writer is Director, Symbiosis Centre for Management and Human Resource Development, Pune

QUOTE OF THE DAY

A good head and good heart are always a formidable combination. But when you add to that a literate tongue or pen, then you have something very special.

— Nelson Mandela

Admissions OPEN

UG COURSE
The NRAI School of Mass Communication invites applications for admissions to its degree course in Bachelor of Business Administration.

The degree is designed to give a broad knowledge of the functional aspects of a company and their interconnection, while also allowing for specialisation in a particular area. The degree also develops the student's practical, managerial and communication skills, and business decision-making capability.

Duration: Three years
Eligibility: Candidates who have recently passed Class XII from any recognised board.
How to apply: Log on to www.nraismc.com or application forms & brochure may be obtained from admission office of NRAI School of Mass Communication, Gautam Nagar, New Delhi-110049.
Last date to apply: November 28, 2019.

EGG IN TECHNOLOGY
Delhi Paramedical and management Institute (DPMI) invites applications for admissions to its full time Diploma in Electrocardiogram Technology (ECG).

This course provides syllabus that combines theory and practice, covering important background on the anatomy and physiology of the heart and chest, electrical conduction system of the heart and basic ECG interpretation. Electrocardiogram technicians monitor and test a patient's cardiovascular performance using ECG equipment.

Duration: One year
Eligibility: Candidates who have recently passed Class XII from any recognised board and wants to work in Health industry can enroll for these courses.
How to apply: Log on to www.dpmiindia.com or forms & brochure may be obtained from admission office of Delhi Paramedical & Management Institute, New Ashok Nagar, Delhi.
Last date to apply: November 22, 2019.

VITEEE-2020 application form

The sale of printed application forms for VIT Engineering Entrance Examination (VITEEE-2020) for BTech programmes was launched by Founder-Chancellor of VIT, Dr G Viswanathan at the Head Post Office, Vellore on November 8, 2019.

VIT Vice President Dr Sekar Viswanathan, VIT Executive Director Dr Sandhya Pentareddy, VIT Pro-Vice Chancellor Dr S Narayanan, Dr G Kalaiichelvan, Director (UG Admission) among others participated in the event.

A valid VITEEE rank is mandatory for admission to BTech programmes offered in VIT Vellore, VIT Chennai, VIT-AP and VIT-Bhopal. The exam will be held from April 13 to April 19, 2020 as Computer Based Test in 120 cities in India as well in Dubai, Kuwait, Muscat and Qatar.

The application forms can be obtained by providing a demand draft for ₹1,250 drawn in favour of Vellore Institute of Technology, payable at the respective campus or by cash payment at selected post offices across the country. The last date for applying is February 29, 2020. For more details log on to www.vit.ac.in.

'Technology is reshaping learning practices'

MUSBA HASHMI speaks with MUKESH SHARMA about the importance of personalised learning and how a holistic curriculum is the need of the hour

What made you come up with Prometheus?

The idea to build the school came into being because there was a need to create an institute that helps students realise their true potential. The school is meant to be that institute, which sets the course for students to receive a high-quality holistic education and become a greater part of the community.

The inspiration for naming the school was drawn from the Greek titan, Prometheus, who gave fire to mankind and initiated the dawn of civilisation. Hence, the name. We want to give students an education that ignites their potential.

How do you plan, to best use your experience in e-learning domain for the students?

We are incorporating the best educational pedagogies and introducing new age tech-enabled practices in line with these pedagogies. I will use my experience to keep the focus on new age learning and introduce latest pedagogies as and when needed.

What different aspects of personalised learning can be used by schools to overcome the age-old learning strategy?

Personalised learning is aimed at meeting the needs of every stu-

dent and drawing out their individual talents and strengths. The first step is moving away from the 'one-size-fits-all' model and creating individual 'learner profiles', which is a key element of personalised learning.

Once learner profiles have been established, it is possible to utilise 'personal learning paths', which focus on the students' strengths to help them improve. Additionally, the use of 'flexible learning environments' helps students to take control of their education.

Today technology is seen as means of leapfrogging in both teaching, learning as well as in knowledge transactions...

All the way from kindergarten to universities, technology is reshaping teaching and learning practices. This specially applies to the use of gadgets like laptops, mobiles and tablets. Information has become accessible at the click/tap of a finger or through voice commands. Students can easily connect with educators across the globe using the means of technology. International tie-ups for e-learning and offering course material that don't have experts physically available are now possible; which means the child is not bound by a classroom to learn.



Mukesh Sharma
Founding Chairman, Prometheus School, Noida

This is a feat in itself and has expanded the boundaries of the knowledge transactions.

A curriculum with overall development is the need of the hour, do you think customisation can be its tool?

Overall development is essential in raising well-rounded individuals that are endowed with the capabilities to handle the needs of the future. In line with our core-beliefs, customisation of the curriculum is an important aspect of nurturing capable students.

Curriculum that are focused on the outcome of an entire class, as a whole, cannot plan for diversified paths to work ahead. To bring out the best in students, we need to customise the curriculum and their education to enable a well-rounded growth. Customisation of the curriculum can help meet the specific needs of a demography and provide room for growth that can help maximise the students' potential for success.

What are your long term goals?

Within the next five years, the school will have established its name as a top premium school in the country front lining the new age holistic education, encompassing — academics, co-curricular activities, sports education and life skills learning. We aim to educate and empower the students to help them grow into aesthetically rich, intellectually aware and integrated young people capable of fulfilling their dreams and aspirations.

Catalyst of growth

Demand for chemical engineers is on the rise as their contribution is required in several sectors, says AJAY KAPUR

One of the evergreen profession is engineering and why not as engineering forms the foundation for innovation and technology. And chemical engineering is one such branch that has always been in demand. A much sought-after stream among engineering aspirants, chemical engineering promises a bright career scope as the range of related professions is wide. From biotechnology and aerospace to biomedical and petroleum industries, the career provides a wide range of opportunities. A highly profitable branch, it provides good growth not only in India but abroad also.

The branch deals with the engineering and development of chemicals/processes to identify and/or solve technical glitches. It combines the knowledge of Chemistry and Engineering to produce chemicals and related by-products. Aspirants should get a degree in Chemical Engineering from a reputed university or college to get a strong backing for their profile.

Responsibilities: The job requires the person to design and invent chemical processes or products, plan and operate industrial plant facilities, create environment-friendly health and safety standards, provide safety measures for chemical



industry work conditions, R&D in the Bio-Tech firms, create chemical materials for industrial production, processing of food and agricultural products, cosmetics, and mineral based industries.

Scope: Earlier it was only about industrial-scale production of chemicals, but the field has seen a vast change as the chemical engineers now cover various fields and industries. A broad field, Chemical Engineering has applications in plastics, textile, food, pharmaceuticals, petroleum, and many more. All these sectors and industries hire Chemical Engineering graduates thus opening a huge scope for them in India as well as abroad.

Chemical engineering gradu-

ates can find jobs in petroleum refineries, petrochemical industries, food processing units, cement factories, pharmaceutical industries, fertiliser factories, biotechnology sector and many others.

Pay Scale: Salaries in this field of Engineering are lucrative where freshers can earn on an average ₹25,000 to ₹30,000 per month. With experience and depending on the skills, the salaries reach ₹5-₹7 lakh per year. If one is willing to go abroad and work in Petroleum industry then one can expect high-end salaries. Competent professionals with few years of experience can expect salaries between ₹1 lakh and ₹3 lakh per month.

The writer is MD, Shubham Chemicals

MoU to foster entrepreneurial education

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

To foster entrepreneurial spirit of its students, JP International School, Greater Noida signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Atal Incubation Centre — BIMTECH, Greater Noida. The agreement aims at building opportunities for students and faculty at both campuses.

AIC BIMTECH is supported by Atal Innovation Mission, NITI Aayog, GOI and BIMTECH. JP International School also has Atal Tinkering Lab, supported by NITI Aayog.

The broad framework of the two partnerships will focus on to help or incubate ideas/start ups which will be curated by AIC-BIMTECH team, faculty exchange pro-



Amit Saxena, Vice President of Sparsh Group & JP International School signs MoU with Chitransh Verma, AVP of AIC-BIMTECH

gramme, student exchange programmes, participation in seminars and academic meetings and others.

15th convocation at SRMIST

Challenges are always there, but are you ready to face them? Questioned A Rajarajan, Director of Satish Dhawan Space Centre SHAR, ISRO, Sriharikota to an enthusiastic crowd of 5000 students who had come to receive their medals, ranks, and degrees at the 15th Annual Convocation at SRM Institute of Science & Technology, Kattankulathur on November 10, 2019.

The chief guest for the event added that hard work and dedication would yield better results. He said: "Remember your par-



KN Vyas, Chairman of Atomic Energy Commission and Secretary of Department of Atomic Energy receives Honorary Degree of Doctor of Science from Founder-Chancellor, SRMIST and Member of Parliament, Dr TR Paarvendhar at the 15th convocation

ents, teachers, and all those who have played a role in your life. The process of traversing from college life to the outer world will be different and difficult. The value systems that you learn from your institution is what will help you overcome these situations."

He also urged students not to give up on their dreams. "If India has to become the best country in the world, it needs all-round development and the primary focus is education. SRM has been contributing massive-ly in this endeavour.

'Teaching is a service'

Manish Sisodia, Delhi Deputy Chief Minister, was the chief guest at the workshop *Millennium Development Goals 2030: Role of Education and Universities* organised by the University School of Education, IP University to mark the occasion of National Education Day on November 11, 2019.

Speaking at the occasion, Sisodia said: "Teaching is a service, not a profession. The service of the teacher is round the clock and completely 360 degree work. This unique



Delhi Deputy CM Manish Sisodia along with Prof K K Aggarwal, Founder VC & Prof Mahesh Verma, VC, IP University

attribute of the teacher differentiates him from other services."

He further added, quality education can be achieved through active role of universities.



MAKE FUTURE BRIGHT

Corporate banking offers lucrative option for those who are just starting off, says AMIT GOYAL

Banking professionals handle client's money. In simplistic terms, they help individuals and corporate with their investments, loans and all other money related issues. When we hear the words corporate banking, you might immediately think of loans. Or, we might be confused about what corporate banking means and how it's different from commercial banking and investment banking. In either case, your thinking would be justified. In India corporate banking is now the better career option for the younger student.

Take for example a small mom and pop shop in your neighbourhood, the likely services the business would require would be depositing their daily sales proceeds and making payments to their suppliers. On the other extreme a large global corporate with presence in multiple geographies will have different set of challenges like bidding for projects or requirement for international payments in different currencies.

Job profile

The bankers deal with companies rather than everyday people. Their clients range from small and medium sized companies to huge conglomerates. The products they offer include treasury services, loans and credit, trade finance, and employer services.

Corporate banker's responsibilities include: Meeting with and interviewing corporate and personal customers, discussing their financial requirements, and providing appropriate financial advice. They are advising corporate clients about mergers, acquisitions, capi-

tal markets etc. preparing lending agreements promoting the bank's services planning and problem solving writing reports managing projects training and supervising junior banking staff.

Responsibilities

- Interacting with the business customer, understand their underlying needs and provide them solutions in a timely fashion
- Corporate/business banking also involves business development and new income generation for the bank by way of deepening existing customer wallet and by winning new customer to the bank.
- If and when a customer faces challenges in the bank, they usually contact their designated Relationship Manager and request them to get involved in the situation and resolve it for them.
- Working closely with the Relationship Manager to deliver the right solution.
- Maintaining strong working relationships with all team members and stakeholders.

What to study?

Although there is no prescribed specialisation that one must have in order to be a corporate banker. However, for few roles the hiring manager may prefer a particular stream or background. For instance, for an analyst role, a degree in mathematics, statistics may be desired due to the analytical nature of the job. Similarly, for a customer-facing role that involves business development, a specialisation in sales and marketing or finance may be desired. Ideally a post graduate diploma in banking and finance from a reputed institute is the next best step to start a career in corporate banking.

is enthusiastic, keen to learn on the job and can connect well with the customers.

Other skills, which can go a long way in a banker's career, are being proactive, attention to details, creative and customer focused. There are many key skills:

- Analytical ability
- Numeracy skills
- Verbal and written communication skills
- Very good interpersonal skills
- Negotiation skills
- Discretion
- Attention to detail
- Ability to priorities, manage time and work under pressure
- Willingness to work long and unusual hours.

Skills

Be a trouble-shooter for the customer. Customer service is at the heart of banking. Good communication skill, a can do attitude and an affable personality is what is looked for when selecting a candidate. Technical knowledge in banking can be added bonus for lateral recruitment. For a fresher, it is imperative that the candidate

Remuneration

A corporate banker can work in a variety of fields and locales. The annual salary for corporate bankers ranges between ₹5 lakh to ₹8 lakh and is dependent upon the level of experience, type of industry, and geographic location.

The writer is director of TKWs Institute of Banking and Finance

GATE to success

Only three months are left for the GATE 2020 exam. AS PANDIT tells aspirants what they can do to secure a seat in institutes like IITs and NITs

It's a crucial period for the aspirants of the Graduate Aptitude Test in Engineering (GATE) 2020 scheduled on February 1, 2, 8 and 9. Conducted jointly by the Indian Institute of Science and seven Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs) headed by one institute every year, candidates who end up qualifying the exam are not just eligible to secure a seat in IITs/NITs for higher education courses like MTech and PhD but can also get hired by various Public Sector Undertakings for high-paying engineering-related jobs.

No wonder, the competitive exam is gaining popularity among the students day by day. However, with just 3 months left for the exam, many of you might have started panicking over how to crack GATE 2020 exam with a good rank. Fret not.

Here is a preparation strategy you must follow to ace the GATE:

Focus on the syllabus

While you all must be familiar with the syllabus of the exam and the subjects involved, make sure you are thoroughly aware of the latest one and the topics being covered. All questions asked in the examination are directly related to the topics mentioned in the syllabus.

Subject and topic weightage

Analyse the question papers from the previous 10 years and research on the marks distribution of each subject. This will give you an idea about the core topics to prepare as in the GATE exam, questions are generally asked from the core area of the syllabus, which has to be prepared well.

Keep the fundamentals clear

Unlike other competitive examinations, while preparing for GATE, it is important to clear your basic concepts rather than cramming the formulas. Since simple questions are asked in a tricky format, be thorough with your concepts in order to understand and solve the questions.

Solving previous years' papers

Now that you have understood the pattern of the questions, start with solving as many mock test papers as possible, followed by the previous year's question papers. This will help in adapting to the online pattern and your preparation.

Based on the test analysis, you can focus on their weak areas. However,



Akhand Swaroop Pandit
Co-founder-CEO, Catalyst Group

keep in mind that the pattern of the examination has changed for the next year.

Focus on high return and easy questions

During preparations, lay emphasis on topics like Engineering Mathematics and General Ability as they carry 30 per cent of the total marks and are fairly easier to score in. You could look at some online lectures to prepare for these topics.

Attempt the easier questions first

You should go through all questions and try solving those questions first, which you find easy and require less time to score qualifying marks. Beware of attempting questions you are not confident of as there is negative marking too.

Unwind before the exam

When it's just one day left before GATE, stop bothering much about it. Go out for a drive or do anything that relaxes you. Sit for the exam with a rejuvenated mind.

With 90 days in your hand, follow the aforementioned strategy and start your preparation for GATE 2020 exam considering it as your only attempt. However, remember this isn't the end of the world. So, go ahead and give your best shot.

There has been a dramatic shift in the way HR approaches talent acquisition. Talent shortage and the rapid consumerisation of HR technology have compelled HR departments to treat their candidates like customers. High performing organisations are putting the candidate experience at the front and centre of their recruiting strategy. And technology is a key driver enabling this shift.

Most of us might have at least one negative recruitment experience where the recruiter disappeared after the interview or worse, after filling up a hundred forms and interviewing for a day, you're told that you've not made it. No further explanation provided.

However, HR technology is changing that.

From helping recruiters make faster, more objective decisions to providing real-time updates to candidates, HR technology is helping organisations make recruiting a more candidate-centric process.

Let's look at how HR technology is helping organisations make recruitment more effective:

Recruitment Marketing

The talent landscape today is much more competitive than ever before. The days of placing an ad and waiting for candidates to pour in are long gone. Today, recruiters must sell jobs to candidates in order to fill

MINDIT

positions faster. And candidates are more likely to have multiple offers when they are interviewing. Which makes it critical for recruiters and organisations to invest in building a strong employee value proposition that encourages candidates to choose their organisation over others.

Online presence coupled with active social handles are one way to building a great employer brand. Dedicated technologies for employee advocacy or recruitment marketing can help organisations tap into diverse, richer talent pools and hire top talent. Many HCM or ATS

solutions also provide modules for career page development and optimisation which is also a big driver of successful recruitment marketing.

Most HR tech solutions also offer some level of automation, helping organisations with smaller budgets and HR teams remain competitive in the talent market. Email marketing and drip campaign capabilities offered by HR technology vendors can prove to be invaluable branding and marketing tools. Again, these capabilities can be offered as a bundle with suite solutions or stand-alone offerings.

Smarter sourcing

The one area in recruitment where technology has had the most pronounced effect is talent sourcing. Access to Internet in the country is on the rise. Social platforms, job boards and CRM platforms are enabling recruiters to tap into a rich pool of talent. ATS and HCM software typically provide capabilities for talent sourcing and help recruiters automate sourcing on platforms like Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, Indeed, and Monster.

Objective Talent Assessment

Unconscious bias has been a major hurdle in effective recruitment however, technology is helping recruiters overcome it.

Talent assessment tools help recruiters make an objective, data-driven decision about a candidate's potential fit for an open position.

Talent assessment tools help ensure a fairer recruiting process and deliver a positive candidate experience — helping build the employer brand and position organisations competitively in the talent market.

HR technology is transforming how organisations think about talent acquisition. It is helping recruiters become enablers of the employment experience rather than perform only transactional activities.

The writer is Vidhya Sam, HR Head, Adrenalin Systems



The Macquarie University, one of Australia's top 10 universities announced scholarship worth AUD \$15 million to reward outstanding students in India, with a focus on providing financial support for students across all courses.

The university offers up to \$40,000 scholarship for Indian students enrolling in undergraduate programme and up to \$25,000 scholarship for PG programmes. The scholarships will be disbursed as \$10,000 annual scholarship towards tuition fees covering all coursework programmes commencing in 2020. This would mean a student enrolling in a four-year undergraduate degree would receive \$40,000 over four years or approximately 25-30% off their total tuition fees.

Applicants for all 2020 scholarships will be required to meet the English and academic requirements for the course they have selected and accept their offer by the deadlines listed below:

For students commencing a degree in February 2020 the deadline is December 20, 2019. For students commencing a degree in July 2020 the deadline is June 19, 2020. For details on application and eligibility please visit:

<https://www.mq.edu.au/>

The University of Sheffield, UK is offering 50 international UG merit scholarships in 2020. The scholarships are competitive awards worth 50% of the tuition fee for an undergraduate degree programme starting in September 2020. The scholarship is available for new international (non-EU) students who meet the eligibility criteria.

You will be able to apply for a scholarship via MUSE for applicants. You must hold an offer to study at the University of Sheffield. Scholarship results will be announced by 16:00 (UK time) on Friday May 22, 2020.

Eligibility: Your programme must be scheduled to commence at the University of Sheffield in September 2020.

You must receive an offer for a course studied in full at the university. All UG degree courses are eligible with the exceptions of Medicine (A100/A101) and Dentistry (A200). For tuition fee purposes you must be self-funded and eligible to pay the overseas tuition fee. You must not be a sponsored student.

For more information visit: <https://www.sheffield.ac.uk/international/fees-and-funding/scholarships/undergraduate-merit-scholarship>
Application deadline: Last date is 13:00 (UK time) May 4, 2020.

ACCOUNTS AT JENOME BIOPHAR

Location: Delhi
Stipend: ₹15,000 per month
Link: internshala.com/i/2014510
Application deadline: November 21, 2019

FRONT END DEVELOPMENT AT TECHCRUZERS SOFTWARE DEVELOPMENT LLP

Location: Delhi
Stipend: ₹6,000-₹8,000 per month
Link: internshala.com/i/2014511
Application deadline: November 20, 2019

GRAPHIC DESIGN AT PATA HAI MEDIA LABS

Location: Delhi
Stipend: ₹10,000 per month
Link: internshala.com/i/2014512
Application deadline: November 21, 2019

WEB DEVELOPMENT AT BLU SAVIORS

Location: Work From Home
Stipend: ₹11,000 per month
Link: internshala.com/i/2014513
Application deadline: November 21, 2019

OPERATIONS AT ANTHILL CREATIONS

Location: Bengaluru
Stipend: ₹15,000-₹20,000 per month
Link: internshala.com/i/2014507
Application deadline: November 20, 2019

DIGITAL MARKETING AT DXMINDS TECHNOLOGIES INCORPORATION

Location: Bengaluru
Stipend: ₹7,000-₹10,000 per month
Link: internshala.com/i/2014508
Application deadline: November 20, 2019

HUMAN RESOURCES (HR) AT D'FRENZ CONSULTING

Location: Bengaluru
Stipend: ₹12,000 per month
Link: internshala.com/i/2014509
Application deadline: November 20, 2019

STUDY ABROAD

Brexit, a boon or bane for Indian students?

ROHIT SETHI, Director, ESS Global, gives a low down on what does Brexit mean for international students eyeing UK universities

With the deadline for the withdrawal now extended till January 31, 2020, the uncertainty still prevails around whether Brexit will have any effect over the academic aspirations of international students willing to study in the UK.

Post-Brexit plans will not only bring bad news for UK students willing to study in mainland Europe but will also affect the EU students. Proposals from Britain's education ministry have stated that from 2021 the UK may start charging overseas EU students the same fees as charged to the other international students. This means that EU students would have to pay somewhere between £10,000 and £35,000 a year to attend a university in Britain.

Moreover, Britain's exit from the EU can possibly affect the country's reputation as one of the top study abroad destinations. It can complicate the student visa process, making it more difficult for international graduates to secure jobs in the country due to fluctuations in

work visa policies.

There is also a possibility of getting no scholarships in the case of certain universities in the UK. While Brexit may not impact the UK based scholarships like Commonwealth or Great, it may hinder the probabilities of international students planning to participate in EU-based grants through programmes like Erasmus+.

A recent study by the GMAT council reported that international students are still keen to study business in the UK. In fact, Brexit is expected to bring a considerable positive impact on Indian students interested in pursuing higher education in the UK, especially those willing to register for the postgraduate programmes at UK universities. With the British Government revealing its ambitious immigration plan underlining the need for skilled professionals in the UK economy, the admission of Indians and other migrants from the non-EU regions will hugely benefit from such a demand and favourable immigration policies.

Changing policies might be a boon for Indian and non-EU students.

The writer is a Study-Abroad Consultant

IN BRIEF

YOUNG DESIGNERS SHOWCASE THEIR TALENT

The JD Institute of Fashion Technology participated in a theme-based fashion show #KnotsOfInspiration/Education organised by the Italian Embassy at the Italian Embassy Cultural Center and showcased their design collections.

The institute participated in the event along with other fashion schools in the country. The fashion show was followed by the Young Italy-India Fashion Lab

contest in which winners stand a chance to pursue higher studies on scholarship and attend the Milan Fashion Week.

Commented on the event, Harsh Dalal, Director, JD Institute of Fashion Technology, said, "I am delighted to be a part of this event. I wish good luck to all the growing young talents of India and being the part of this industry we will always support and enhance their skills to make Indian fashion, a global identity."

GREEN BUILDING COUNCIL STUDENT CHAPTER

The BMS College of Engineering, Assetz Property Group said: "It is quite visible that green properties are environment friendly and helps people and makes a better place for people to stay. This initiative taken by the college has been an eye-opener for the other institutions in Bangalore to have a better understanding of the green technology and its needs in the current world scenario."

Arun Rao, Head

Engineering, Assetz Property Group said: "It is quite visible that green properties are environment friendly and helps people and makes a better place for people to stay. This initiative taken by the college has been an eye-opener for the other institutions in Bangalore to have a better understanding of the green technology and its needs in the current world scenario."

the student-community to be more responsible towards the society and even the environment." The IGBC student chapter will involve activities like presentations and lectures by experts on Green buildings, opportunities to participate in IGBC events, internship opportunities for students on green building, design competition, participation in chapter meetings.

WORKSHOP ON PHOTOGRAPHY AT IAD

The Indian Institute of Art and Design (IAD) organised a two-day photography workshop at its Okhla campus for Communication Design Students. The aim of the workshop, facilitated by Canon Photo Mentor and a Lifestyle and Commercial Photographer Ravi Dhangra, was to provide the students a chance to learn about the basics of photography from light sources to various lighting types and techniques.

The workshop provided the students with a platform to talk about the various aspects to keep in mind while taking a

photograph and how to use reflectors and light modifiers in order to create the appropriate atmosphere and environment to visually express themselves.

Dhangra said: "Picture capturing is an art in which you need to gauge the details such as light, frame, exposure etc. to create an art piece. Shadow plays an important role in adding volume and dimension to any frame." He stressed on the importance of the absence of colors in a time of so much sensory overload, as a way of disrupting the monotony and asserting one's individuality.

Federer alive at ATP Finals

AFP ■ LONDON

Roger Federer kept alive his hopes of a seventh ATP Finals crown on Tuesday, beating Italian debutant Matteo Berrettini 7-6 (7/2), 6-3 at London's O2 Arena.

The Swiss third seed put himself under enormous pressure by losing his first match on Sunday in straight sets in Group Bjorn Borg to Dominic Thiem.

The six-time champion was not at his fluent best on Tuesday but ultimately had too much for Berrettini, who won just three games against Novak Djokovic in his opener.

Both players were solid on serve in the first set, with Federer struggling to make inroads against the eighth seed.

The Swiss eventually earned himself the sniff of a chance in the 12th game, winning the first break point of the match but Berrettini snuffed out the danger and held to take it into a tie-break.

Federer upped the level of his game in the shootout, helped by some wayward shots from his opponent plus a Berrettini double-fault and won it comfortably 7-2.

The Swiss, clad in black, broke immediately at the start of the second set to leave the Italian with a mountain to climb.

Berrettini earned a clutch of break points in the eighth game but Federer eventually served himself out of trouble.

Federer, as usual enjoying the lion's share of support from the crowd, broke in the next game to seal the set 6-3.

The 20-time Grand Slam champion said he had remained calm and tried to stay positive after the Thiem defeat.

"There's no reason to be too down on yourself," he said. "We came here to play three matches and give it all we have. It was the big goal of the season to come here and qualify which we did, plus I had a day off."

"Not everything was bad (in the Thiem match) but of course if you over-analyse it, all of a sudden it can be," he added. "I was ready, I was prepared today and that's what matters the most."



Roger Federer plays a return to Matteo Berrettini during their ATP World Tour Finals singles match at the O2 Arena in London on Tuesday

AP



Rafael Nadal plays a return to Alexander Zverev

'NO EXCUSES'

On Monday night, Rafael Nadal refused to make excuses after being outplayed by defending champion Alexander Zverev.

The Spanish top seed, who has never won the season-ending event, came into the tournament under an injury cloud and was well short of his imperious best as he went down 6-2, 6-4.

He is locked in a battle with Novak Djokovic to finish as the year-end number one but was not serving flat out in practice last week due to an abdominal strain that forced him to pull out of the Paris Masters at the semi-final stage.

The 33-year-old led Germany's Zverev 5-0 in head-to-head contests coming into the match but was uncharacteristically sloppy in the first set, conceding two breaks of serve.

Buoyed by his dominant start,

Zverev, seeded seventh, broke in the first game of the second set to take an iron grip on the match.

Nadal dug deep, urging himself on but his 22-year-old opponent proved too strong. He did not concede a single break point in the entire match.

Zverev hit a total of 26 winners—double his opponent's tally — and Nadal managed just three forehand winners in the entire match.

"The physical issue was not an excuse at all," said the Spanish 19-time Grand Slam champion, who said he did not feel any pain from his abdominal injury. "The only excuse is I was not good enough tonight."

"What really matters is I need to play much better in two days. That's the only thing," he added. "We knew that it was going to be tough, because the period of time since the injury until

today is very short, but we are here trying."

Zverev, one of four players under the age of 24 at the event in London, was delighted to recapture his best form after a mixed season.

"This means so much, playing here again after winning my biggest title so far in my career here last year," he said. "This means everything to me."

"Playing here, playing in front of you all, playing in the O2 is something that we don't have during the year, and this is so special."

Nadal faces a tough task now to qualify for the semi-finals from the group phase, with matches still to come against Tsitsipas and Medvedev.

The Spaniard has qualified for the year-end championships for 15 years in a row but has only made nine appearances due to injuries.



Liverpool's Roberto Firmino reacts after VAR cancels his opening goal against Aston Villa during Premier League game

PL/Twitter

VAR must improve: Klopp

AFP ■ LAUSANNE

The day after Liverpool beat Manchester City in a crunch match where VAR decisions were hotly disputed, the Premier League leader's coach Jurgen Klopp and other top football figures have suggested improvement is needed to the fledgling system.

Klopp, his City opposite number Pep Guardiola, Real Madrid coach Zinedine Zidane, and Thomas Tuchel of Paris Saint-Germain all attended the UEFA coaches forum in Nyon, Switzerland on Monday, where the VAR (Video Assistant Referee) system was a hot topic.

"It is clear it's a process where they have to keep on improving," Klopp said.

"It can be improved, a lot of things have to be done by human beings and we are not 100 percent (either)."

"There is space for some mistakes, nobody asks for perfection, just to have the right decision, that's all."

His comments were made a day after the marquee game of the Premier

League season so far saw a controversial VAR call after six minutes when City could easily have had a penalty when the ball ricocheted around the Liverpool area and hit the Reds' defender Trent Alexander-Arnold on the arm.

Not only did VAR fail to overturn the referee's decision not to award City a penalty, but they were doubly punished 22 seconds later when Liverpool midfielder Fabinho fired home a brilliant strike to give the Reds a 1-0 lead.

UEFA assistant general secretary Giorgio Marchetti said uniformity was needed but called for time for the promising new system to bed in.

"Now we have VAR, it's quite useful that coaches and representatives of referees can speak together," Marchetti said.

"Let's not forget VAR is very young and it's a revolution in the game. What we all need is uniformity."

"There are points which need to be fine-tuned, but you have to look at the positive points that VAR brings," he said.

Sai Praneeth enters top 10

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Indian shuttler B Sai Praneeth jumped one spot to 10th while Kidambi Srikanth slipped three places to be at 13th in the latest BWF rankings issued on Tuesday.

Sai Praneeth, who had won Bronze at the World Championships in August, moved to top 10 while Srikanth, who was at 10th in the previous week, dropped out of the top bracket.

Sameer Verma also moved up one place to be at 16th in the men's singles rankings headed by Japanese Kento Momota.

In the women's singles rankings, P V Sindhu and Saina Nehwal remained unchanged at sixth and ninth respectively.

In the men's doubles, the pair Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty rose two places to be at seventh. The Indian duo have been in fine form in recent months, reaching the final of the French Open in October and the semi-final of the China Open recently.

SRIKANATH GETS WALKOVER HONG KONG: Top Indian shuttler Kidambi Srikanth advanced to the men's singles second round without playing a shot after his opponent Kento Momota's pull-out while Sourabh Verma entered the main draw of the Hong Kong

Open after clinching straight-game wins in his two qualifying clashes here on Tuesday.

Srikanth was to play against Momota in the first round today but the Japanese world number one pulled out of the tournament on Tuesday. The reasons for his withdrawal were not known.

World number 10 Srikanth will now face either compatriot Sourabh or Frenchman Brice Leverdez, who will clash in the second round today, to reach the quarterfinal.

Sourabh, seeded fourth in the qualifiers, first defeated Thailand's Tanongsak Saensomboonsuk 21-15, 21-19 before getting the better of Lucas Claerbout of France 21-19, 21-19 in the final qualifying round.

In the mixed doubles, the Indian pair of Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Ashwini Ponnappa rallied from a game down to beat the Thailand duo of Nipiphon Phuangphapet and Savitree Amitrapai 16-21, 21-19, 21-17 in a 55-minute match and advance to the second round.

But in another mixed doubles first round match, the Indian duo of Pranaav Jerry Chopra and N Sikki Reddy lost 10-21, 18-21 to the third seeded Dechapol Puavaranukroh and Sapsiree Taerattanachai to bow out of the tournament.

Creating chances not enough, we have to score from them: Chhetri



Indian players warm up during team's practice session in Dubai ahead of FIFA World Cup 2022 qualifier against Afghanistan in Dushanbe

Indian Football/Twitter

PTI ■ DUBAI

Talismanic captain Sunil Chhetri on Tuesday asked his team-mates to pull up their socks and produce an improved performance in the team's crunch World Cup qualifying round match against Afghanistan tomorrow.

After inspiring performance against Asian champions Qatar (0-0 draw), India played out a 1-1 draw against lower-ranked Bangladesh, who were on the verge of running away with the match before the home side's late equaliser in Kolkata on October 15.

Igor Stimac's side are now at the fourth spot in the Group E table with two points and tomorrow's match at Tajikistan capital of Dushanbe will be a crunch game for India to remain in the hunt in the qualifying round. The war-ravaged Afghanistan chose Dushanbe as their home venue for the second round qualifiers of the World Cup.

Chhetri said "converting chances" was an area where the team needs to work more. India had a slew of chances against Bangladesh and all of them they wasted except for the 88th minute header from Adil Khan.

"We are creating chances. But that is not enough. We have to try our best to convert them and try to be a tougher unit while defending. We have missed against Bangladesh and we need to pull up our socks against

Afghanistan," Chhetri said after a short training stint at the Dubai Sports City.

"At the end of the day, if we can do better on the pitch, we'll be happier," Chhetri mentioned.

Fullback Subhashish Bose said, "Maintaining clean sheets will be of paramount importance in order to stay alive in the race of the World Cup Qualifiers. We will need to be sharper in the absence of Sandesh-bhai (Jhingian)."

"The team is upbeat. We will leave no stone unturned to make the most out of the remaining games. We were able to do the same against Qatar. If we play to our true potential, there's no reason not to repeat it against Afghanistan and Oman again," he added.

Seasoned defender Anas Edathodika, who paired with Adil Khan at the heart of the defence against Bangladesh, sounded optimistic about the "defensive solidarity" that the Blue Tigers have shown so far.

"There are no easy games at the International level but we have shown defensive solidarity so far. We have to continue to believe in ourselves. We really need to get some good results in the next two games and all that starts with our performance at the back," he said.

"It always makes your job easier to win a match if you can come out with a clean sheet. If we can maintain our shape and hold the defensive line as per our plans, we can pull it off against them," he explained.

'Astro turf, near sub-zero conditions will make it tough'



Sunil Chhetri chats with Igor Stimac at airport before leaving

IFT/Twitter

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Bracing up for an unfamiliar astro-turf, sub zero temperatures and a sprightly opponent in Afghanistan, India's football coach Igor Stimac on Tuesday conceded that his team's winless streak in the World Cup qualifiers won't be easy to break in Dushanbe, Tajikistan.

"The climatic condition in Dushanbe is very different from what we have experienced in India at this time. It's very cold and mercury level drops to closer to sub-zero," Stimac said.

The Group E match will be played on artificial turf amid near freezing temperatures.

"Moreover, the match is scheduled on an artificial turf which our players are not used to. Afghanistan have chosen the venue to make others' lives difficult and we have an uphill task in front of us to overcome it," he added.

Stimac said a victory against Afghanistan will boost his side and will help build the momentum for the clash against Oman in the away matches in Muscat on November 19.

"We have improved a lot since our first game (against Oman). We can show what we are capable of without our key players sometimes (defender Sandesh Jhingian and midfielder Rowlin Borges). The result against Afghanistan in Dushanbe will have a major impact on the entire team. A win will boost our confidence by manifold before we head to Muscat."

Asked what will he do differently against Afghanistan, he said, "We have to avoid injuries. We have already lost Sandesh and Rowlin due to injuries and we can't afford to have anymore. We have to execute our plans in the right way. The boys are up and running and they are confident."

STERLING & GOMEZ

What happened at St George's Park

Joe Gomez was the first Liverpool player to get to St George's Park and was in the player canteen when Sterling arrived.

A group of England players, including Gomez, were laughing when Sterling walked in.

Sterling said to Gomez: "You think you're the big man now?"

There was further laughter, as other players thought it was "banter".

Sterling walked up to Gomez and tried to grab him round the neck. Gomez reacted angrily, and the two players were separated by team mates.

Gomez and Sterling met elsewhere in St George's Park and apologised and they put the matter behind them.

Gomez went to see the England boss to plead on Sterling's behalf, saying that he didn't think it was in the team's interests for Sterling to be sent home.

Southgate dropped him from the Montenegro game as punishment.



Liverpool's Joe Gomez, right, and Man City's Raheem Sterling clash during the Premier League match

AFP ■ LONDON

Raheem Sterling said he allowed his "emotions" to get the better of him leading to a brief altercation with Liverpool's Joe Gomez that resulted in the Manchester City player being dropped for tomorrow's Euro 2020 qualifier against Montenegro.

Sterling admitted on Instagram on Tuesday he and Gomez "had words" when they met up at the England camp the day after Liverpool's 3-1 win over defending champions Manchester City which left the latter nine points adrift of Jurgen Klopp's side.

"Both Joe and I have had words and figured things out and moved on," Sterling said.

"We are in a sport where emotions run high and I am man enough to

admit when emotions got the better of me.

"This is why we play this sport because of our love for it — me and Joe Gomez are good, we both understand it was a five to 10-second thing... it's done, we move forward and not make this bigger than it is.

"Let's get focus on our game on Thursday," Sterling added.

The Daily Mail reported that Gomez and Sterling had to be separated by teammates on Monday after a "physical confrontation".

The pair had also clashed on the field towards the end of Sunday's match.

England manager Gareth Southgate moved quickly to deal with the issue — arguably one of his achievements during his time in the

post has been to erase the rivalries between members from different clubs which plagued previous England squads.

The likes of former star defender Rio Ferdinand have spoken about how when they used to join the England camp he and Manchester United players would stick together and find it hard to mix with Chelsea or Liverpool stars.

Southgate said in a hastily-organised press conference on Tuesday he would rather deal with the matter publicly now than let it fester till his usual meeting with the media on the eve of matches.

The 49-year-old, clearly irked by how the information had leaked out regarding the set-to, said Sterling's emotions had run over but "it is not

the same for Joe (Gomez)".

However, he emphasised a line had been drawn under the incident.

"We are like a family and all families have disagreements. The important thing is for a family to communicate and work through problems."

Despite being dropped for Thursday's match Sterling took part in England squad training as did Gomez.

Sterling, who according to some reports had packed his bags but changed his mind when Liverpool midfielder Jordan Henderson intervened and persuaded him to stay, has been one of the stars of England's qualification campaign, scoring eight goals in six games.

A draw against Montenegro at Wembley will be enough to guarantee England's place at Euro 2020.

Mix and Match

Kohli & Co take pink ball throw downs in between red ball nets



Indian players during a practice session ahead of their first Test match against Bangladesh in Indore on Tuesday

PTI ■ INDORE

Skipper Virat Kohli had his first experience of negotiating a pink ball as Indian cricketers took turns to get used to the new colour during the net session ahead of the first Test against Bangladesh, starting from Thursday (tomorrow).

The Indian team did not train under the lights and the throwdowns with the SG pink ball was part of the traditional red-ball practice session.

Usually, three adjacent nets are placed — for pacers, spinner and throwdowns — for Indian team's practice. However, on team's request, the throwdown-net was created on the other side of the ground on separate practice turfs with a black sight-screen. It was skipper Kohli, who first faced the pink ball.

With throwdown specialists Raghavendra and Sri Lankan Nuwan Senaviratne hurling the pink stuff at express pace, the skipper looked comfortable. He looked more intent on playing defensive shots.

Once Kohli was done and went into the main nets, the other top-order batsmen including Cheteshwar Pujara mixed and matched, facing red and pink ball simultaneously.

Young reserve opener Shubman

PINK BALL LESSONS

Need to play late against pink ball: Rahane | Visibility at twilight could be difficult: Pujara

PTI ■ INDORE

The pink ball is going to be a very "different ball game", India vice-captain Ajinkya Rahane asserted on Tuesday, saying its extra lateral movement compared to the red cherry will force batsmen to play late and closer to their bodies.

Rahane had a couple of practice sessions with the pink ball under the watchful eyes of NCA Director Rahul Dravid in Bengaluru building up to the historic Day/Night Test starting November 22.

"We had two good practice sessions, actually four but two with pink ball — one during the day and one under lights. It was actually exciting," Rahane said ahead of the first Test.

"For me, it was the first time I played with the pink ball and definitely it's a different ball game as compared to red ball. Our focus was to look into the swing and seam movement and also play close to our body," Virat Kohli's deputy observed.

Rahane's assessment after his initial sessions was that the batsmen will have to tweak their technique slightly. "What we found out after the practice session was that the (new) pink ball does a lot more than the red ball. You have to play slightly late and close to your body. We had a word with Rahul bhai as he was also there."



Cheteshwar Pujara & Ajinkya Rahane train at NCA

PTI/File Picture

BENGALURU: Top batsman Cheteshwar Pujara feels "visibility at twilight" could be an issue when India and Bangladesh venture into the uncharted territory called Day/Night Tests later this month in Kolkata.

The Test at Eden will not only be the first day/night affair for both the sides but it will also mark the first official appearance of SG pink balls.

"I have played earlier with pink ball in the Duleep Trophy, that was good experience. Playing with pink ball at the domestic level could come in handy," Pujara told 'bcci.tv'. Majority of the cricketers will be playing with the pink ball for the first time in their careers.

However, the likes of Pujara, Mayank Agarwal, Hanuma Vihari, and Kuldeep Yadav have experience of playing with the Kookaburra pink ball in Duleep Trophy.

"Visibility is not an issue during the day, it will be an issue in twilight and under lights, the twilight could be a little difficult. Those sessions will be crucial." Pujara added, "Most players have said that picking the wrist spinners' wrong 'un is a little difficult.'" For another senior player, Ajinkya Rahane, training ahead of the match will come in handy as far as acclimatisation is concerned.

PTI

Bhuvi trains to test fitness

PTI ■ INDORE

Recovering from a hamstring injury and a side strain, pacer Bhuvneshwar Kumar assessed himself for a comeback when he participated in a "skill session" during Indian team's practice.

The Indian team management seem to have taken charge of Bhuvneshwar's final phase of rehabilitation.

His injury has been a concern for the Indian team since he came back from the West Indies after the limited overs series. He followed a rehabilitation programme at the National Cricket Academy.

"Bhuvi is here for a skill session with the team. The team management just wants him to get into the groove," a team source said about the pacer's presence at the net session.

He had a catching session with fielding coach R Sridhar and then participated briefly in the net session. He bowled a few deliveries from full run-up but it was evident that he wasn't going full tilt.

However Bhuvneshwar's presence at the session is a welcome news considering that the 29-year-old is still an important member as far as India's white ball cricket is concerned.



Gill seemed to have taken a hit when one of the deliveries bounced extra but it was not serious.

The Indian team will get only two full training days ahead of their first day/night Test at the Eden Gardens, starting November 22.

Aware that not much time is in hand, the BCCI had arranged a couple of pink ball sessions under lights for the Test specialists like Ajinkya Rahane, Mayank Agarwal, Pujara, Mohammed Shami at the NCA under Rahul Dravid's guidance.



Bangladesh Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina and West Bengal chief minister Mamata Banerjee are likely to watch 1st day of D/N Test

PTI/File Picture

Hasina, Mamata likely to watch together in President's Box

PTI ■ KOLKATA

Bangladesh Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina and West Bengal chief minister Mamata Banerjee are likely to watch India's first ever Day/Night Test together after ringing the customary Eden Bell to start the proceedings on November 22.

A four-member team led by Bangladesh's Deputy High Commissioner Toufique Hasan did a recce of the Eden Gardens on Tuesday and checked the seating arrangements for the Prime Minister and her 80-odd delegates who will grace the historic occasion.

As per the schedule, Hasina will be on a one-day visit and she will watch the match for some time after ringing the Bell and once again will come back at the closing time 8pm when the Cricket Association of Bengal will present a grand felicitation.

Hasan did not confirm whether Hasina and Mamata will watch the match together but a CAB official indicated that they would be seen together in one of the President's box at BC Roy Club House.

Giving the details of Hasina's programme, Hasan said: "Prime Minister will arrive in the morning on the same day and will come to the Eden to ring the Bell just before the start at 1pm. She

will leave to take rest after watching the match for some time and will return again at 8pm for the main felicitation programme."

"She will be seated in one of the central President Boxes near the Bell. We are happy with the arrangements and looking forward to be part of the historic occasion. Eden is known as the Mecca of Cricket and for the first time both the countries will play a Day/Night match. Bangladesh people are really excited," he added.

Hasina will leave on the same day after the felicitation. The schedule of her political programmes of the day is not yet finalised.

Hasina and Mamata will be accompanied by BCCI President Sourav Ganguly, BCCI Secretary Jay Shah, cricket icon Sachin Tendulkar, Rahul Dravid, Naimur Rehman, BCB President Nazmul Hasan along with CAB office bearers.

"Following the first day's play, the players who played the first Test between India and Bangladesh will be felicitated by speeches by the hon'ble dignitaries," CAB Secretary Avishek Dalmiya said.

In the break, there are plans for a chat show featuring the fabulous five of Sourav Ganguly, Sachin Tendulkar, Rahul Dravid, Anil Kumble and VVS Laxman.



Kolkata's iconic stadium Eden Gardens

PTI/File Picture

D/N Test to start at 1 pm & end at 8 pm

PTI ■ KOLKATA

Keeping in mind the dew factors that comes into play at the Eden Gardens post sunset on winter evenings, the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) has agreed to the Cricket Association of Bengal's (CAB) request to start the game at 1 pm and end the day's play by 8 pm in the Day-Night Test.

A BCCI official confirmed the development and said that sessions have been re-planned keeping in mind the need to call stumps by 8 pm as the ball would get really wet if play carried on post 8 pm in Kolkata in late November.

"Keeping in mind the dew factor, the BCCI approved CAB's request to change the playing hours in the second Test. While play will start at 1 pm, the first session will end at 3 pm. The second session will start from 3:40 pm and continue till 5:40 pm. The final session will be played from 6 pm till 8 pm," the official said.

Babar has potential to be compared to Kohli, Smith

PTI ■ PERTH

Having managed to end as the highest run-getter for Pakistan in the just concluded T20I series against Australia, it will be important for Babar Azam to turn on the screws in the longer format as his team gets ready to take on the Aussies in a two-match Test series, which also includes a Day-Night game at Adelaide.

And former Australia batsman Michael Hussey believes that the talented batsman can be spoken of in the same sentence as that which has stalwarts like Virat Kohli, Steve Smith and Kane Williamson if he improves his Test record.

"I honestly believe this guy can be in the same conversation when we start talking about the best players in the world," Hussey was quoted as saying by Fox Sports. "We start talking about (Virat) Kohli, Steve Smith, Kane Williamson, Joe Root gets floated around."

"I think if he can start putting together some big hundreds like this in the Test arena, he's that good... he's a brilliant, brilliant player," he added.

Babar made a brilliant start to the preparation for the two-Test series as he hit a masterful 157 in the practice game against Australia A. This after scoring two fifties in the three-match T20I series that saw the hosts win the series 2-0 as the first game saw no result thanks to rain.

Tigers preparing to tackle Ashwin-Jadeja

PTI ■ INDORE

It's India's fast bowling unit which is now feared in Tests but Bangladeshi batsmen are more concerned about handling spin twins Ravichandran Ashwin and Ravindra Jadeja during the two-match series, top-order player Mohammed Mithun said on Tuesday.

Mohammed Shami, Umesh Yadav and Ishant Sharma are expected to be more than a handful during the series but Mithun seemed more wary about the Ashwin-Jadeja threat.

"We all know the strength of their bowling line-up. We are working on how to tackle their spinners as it is batting-friendly for the first two days but afterwards their spinners come into play as they try to attack the opposition," he said.

"We are working on some technical aspects keeping our focus on how to handle them," Mithun said.

They are expecting that batting coach Neil McKenzie will help them decode the Indian spinners.



Daniel Vettori supervises Bangladesh's training session in Indore on Tuesday

BCB/Twitter

"Let the technical things remain inside the dressing room," he said without parting with the trade secrets.

Asked to comment on India's weakness, Mithun said that he preferred to look at his own strength than opponent's weakness.

Chahar almost takes hat-trick in Mushtaq Ali Trophy

PTI ■ THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

Medium-pacer Deepak Chahar followed up his hat-trick in the final India-Bangladesh T20 international with almost a repeat, taking three wickets in the space of four balls for Rajasthan against Vidarbha in a Group B match of the Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy T20 tournament here on Tuesday.

However, his heroics (four wickets in an over) went in vain as Rajasthan went down by 1 run (via the VJD method) finishing with 105 for 8 in a game to reduced to 13 overs due to rain.

The fast-improving Deepak Chahar, who on Sunday last became the first India player to take a T20 international hat-trick and also the best ever bowling figures (6 for 7), picked up the wickets of Darshan Nalkande, Shrikant Wagh and Akshay Wadkar off the



Deepak Chahar celebrates after hat-trick

fourth, fifth and sixth balls of the final over of Vidarbha's innings, but missed the three-peat as he bowled a wide in between.

His performance helped Rajasthan restrict the opponent to 99 for 9 in 13 overs.

After scalping the wicket of Rupesh Rajkumar of the first ball of the over, he dismissed Nalkande off the fourth.

However, he delivered a wide the next ball and then dismissed Wagh and Wadkar off the next two to finish with figures of 4 for 18 in 3 overs.

Chahar began the over by picking up the wicket of Rupesh Rajkumar Rathod to finish with superb figures of 4 for 18 in 3 overs.

Earlier, Vidarbha chose to bat after winning the toss and after some middling performances by the batsmen, the Vidarbha innings

imploded and Deepak Chahar triggered the collapse.

His first victim was Rathod, who was caught by his cousin Rahul Chahar.

He then had Nalkande caught by Rajnesh Bishnoi, before having Wagh caught by Chandrapal Singh Chundawat.

He then bowled Wadkar to complete a hat-trick.

Chasing 106 for victory, Rajasthan faltered after a bright start provided by Manender Singh, who smashed 6 sixes in 17 balls before falling for 44.

Opener Ankit Lamba (15, 11 balls, 1 four, 1 six) and Arjit Gupta (12, 9 balls, 1 four, 1 six) were the only other batsmen to reach double figures as the team could make only 105 in 13 overs.

Vidarbha tops the points table with 16 points from 4 matches in an all-win record.

Mumbai record 4th win

PTI ■ MUMBAI

Mumbai registered its fourth win in the league stage at Wankhede stadium on Tuesday after beating Pondicherry by 27 runs.

The title favourites have beaten Mizoram, Haryana and Madhya Pradesh in their first three games.

Asked to bat, Mumbai rode on a blazing half century by skipper Suryakumar Yadav (57 off 37 balls) to post a descent 171/6 on the board.

Their inform openers Jay Bista (29 off 21 balls) and Aditya Tare (20 off 14 balls) conjured 48 runs for the first wicket.

Chasing 172, Pondicherry had a pathetic start and were reeling at 29-2.

But then Parag Dogra (45 off 35 balls) and opener Arun Karthik (27 balls) tried to resurrect the innings with 28-run stand, before Karthik



was dismissed by Shivam Dube. Anand Subramanian (39 off 31 balls) and Dogra gave a scare to Mumbai, but their bowlers held their nerves to eke out a win.

Pacer Tushar Deshpande (2-29) and Shams Mulani (2-25) shared the spoils.

There are no matches on Wednesday and the action resumes on Thursday.

In the first game at the Wankhede Stadium, Meghalaya stunned Assam by four wickets.

At BKC, Madhya Pradesh defeated Mizoram by 86 runs.

In the second game, Haryana defeated Bengal by five wickets as they chased the 123-run target with 17 balls to spare.

India spinner Yuzvendra Chahal, who came back to the Haryana team after national duty, returned with figures of 1-21.