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OFF IN RENEWED HK CLASHES

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2ND WHISTLEBLOWER FIRES  
MORE SALVO AT INFOSYS CEO

Published From  
DELHI LUCKNOW BHOPAL BHUBANESWAR  
RANCHI RAIPUR CHANDIGARH  
DEHRADUN HYDERABAD VIJAYWADA  
City Vol. 8 Issue 309  
\*Air Surcharge Extra if Applicable

RAIPUR, WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 13, 2019; PAGES 12-13

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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 threeday with Sharad Pawar's entry 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. This Government has violated the SC guidelines on President's Rule on several occasions in the last five 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



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

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 nagging 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.

## 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.



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

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.

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.

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 India 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 dismissal 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.

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.

### 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 Levy has outrightly disowned Corbyn's views on Jammu & Kashmir.

**LIP 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 Allipur area.

**EC'S SON UNDER SCANNER FOR FOREX VIOLATIONS**  
New Delhi: Election Commission 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.



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

## Fani feat charms Prince Charles to IMD Farm fires, sinking mercury may plunge Delhi air to 'emergency'

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.



how his 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

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. Large areas in the seaside pilgrim town of Puri and other places were submerged as heavy rain battered the entire coastal belt of the State.

Last week, the accurate prediction of cyclonic storm Bulbul also helped the State Governments — West Bengal and Odisha — to minimise the damage. The IMD predicted cyclone Bulbul to intensify into "very severe cyclonic storm" and alerted the two State Governments. In the case of Bulbul, the IMD predicted accurate landfall at coastal areas of the two States.

The weather department predicted possible damage to

thatched roofs, embankments and roads in the coastal districts of north Odisha and West Bengal.

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, 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 neighbour 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.

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, SAQR, 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 Kuldip Srivastava, head of the India Meteorological Department's regional weather forecasting centre.



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

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.

The levels of PM2.5 — 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.

## CJI within RTI Act ambit? SC verdict today

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

A five-judge Constitution Bench headed by Chief Justice Ranjan Gogoi will pronounce on Wednesday at 2pm its verdict on petitions challenging the Delhi High Court decision bringing the office of the Chief Justice of India (CJI) under the ambit of the Right to Information (RTI) Act, as per the notice on the SC's official website on Tuesday.

Other members of the bench are Justices NV Ramana, DY Chandrachud, Deepak Gupta and Sanjay Khanna.

A five-judge Constitution Bench had on April 4 reserved its verdict on the appeals filed in 2010 by the SC secretary general and its central public information officer against the HC and the central information commission's (CICSI) orders.

# ED launches enquiry 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,



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 Bommal 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 spokesperson.

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 President's Rule," he said. This is unashamedly dishonest and politically motivated, Surjewala alleged.

Party spokesperson Abhishek Singhi 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, backed by the BJP, said 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 pertaining 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 those who donate via electoral bonds.

# Venkaiiah to hold party leaders' meet on Nov 17

**PNS ■ NEW DELHI**

Rajya Sabha Chairman M Venkaiiah 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 24th 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 Venkaiiah



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 UTs 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 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 innovation, 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 will also attend the BRICS business forum closing ceremony and the 'closed' and 'open' 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 GDP. Domestic Product.

# 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, Sajat and Swami Vivekananda Educational Society, Karnataka.

"With the cancellation of the FCRA registration, all NGOs and academic institutions 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, National Institute of Virology, 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, APRAACA and Government of India, in New Delhi

# CSIR-CSIO develops tech to cut down pollutants

**ARCHANA JYOTI ■ NEW DELHI**

A 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.

# 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

Dharuheri, jamun and glyoxy whose properties to stimulate the production of insulin is well known. Dr AKS Rawat, excipient 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 spend 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.

# BJP failed to deliver promises on paddy but we'll not: Choubey

STAFF REPORTER ■ RAIPUR

Minister for Agriculture and Water Resources, Ravindra Choubey on Tuesday hit out at the BJP for its alleged failure to keep promises of giving paddy bonus to farmers during its 15-year regime.

Talking to media persons here at party's state headquarters, Rajiv Bhawan, he said the Congress was not like the BJP and claimed that it has fulfilled both its promises to farmers—first farm loan waiver and the second of procuring paddy at minimum support price (MSP) of ₹2500.



Choubey also lambasted the Narendra Modi-led Union government for its alleged failure in delivering the promise made to farmers. It had promised to provide 1.5 times the production cost of the crop as per Swaminathan committee recommendations but had failed to do so, he alleged.

He further charged that opposition BJP does not have now even a single issue to grill the ruling Congress. "Before asking any question to us, they must first tell us why they failed to provide ₹300 bonus to farmers during their regime," he said.

Replying to another query, Choubey further said that the Congress government in the state was well prepared to provide ₹2500 MSP for paddy this Kharif season. "We are ready to provide the MSP from our state resources and are not anticipating any support from the Centre," he said.

"It was our promise in the election manifesto and we will fulfill the promise. Last year there was procurement target of 80 lakh metric tons of paddy and this year it is increased to 85 lakh metric tons," he added.

# WHO team reviews tuberculosis elimination programme



STAFF REPORTER ■ RAIPUR

A joint team of World Health Organization (WHO) and Union Health Ministry arrived on a three-day visit to the state to survey the ongoing tuberculosis elimination programme.

It held a meeting at district hospital Kalibadi and reviewed the schemes being run by the state to eliminate the lethal disease.

The team was apprised that due to awareness increased in patients the

enrolment of patients has increased in the state. The CDNAAT is available in district tuberculosis hospital as well as Dr Bhimrao Ambedkar Medical College Hospital of the state capital to diagnose the tuberculosis.

The health team also inspected the enrolment register at microscopic lab of the tuberculosis hospital. CMHO Dr Mira Baghel informed that in case a patient is found TB positive then the patient is sent to Integrated Counseling and Testing Center (ICTC).

Baghel further informed the team that since January till October this year a total of 19800 sputum samples were tested and 4648 cases were found tuberculosis positive.

The team after conducting inspection of various hospitals across the district later handed over a detailed report to District Collector and according to the report a comprehensive plan would be chalked out for effective approach in tuberculosis elimination programme.

# 15L state farmers denied ₹900cr: Kaushik

STAFF REPORTER ■ RAIPUR

Leader of Opposition Dharamlal Kaushik alleged Congress is doing politics in the name of farmers.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has started 'PM-Kisan Samman Nidhi' for farmers but the state government has failed to run the scheme as more than 15 lakh farmers have not yet been registered, the BJP leader alleged.

He said there are 37 lakh farmers in the state out of which 21 lakh fall under marginal category while 8 lakh are small farmers. Till date, the Congress government has registered only 15 lakh farmers of the state under the scheme, while another 15 lakh are yet to be registered.

He pointed out that these farmers are running pillar to post for registration as in three instalments of ₹2000



each a total ₹6000 will be credited in their bank account directly. The state farmers have been denied a benefit of ₹900 crore due to non-registration, he claimed. Kaushik said who will take the responsibility for this laxity towards the farmers. He said the state government should be sensitive on the issue and ensure registration of remaining farmers, so that they can derive benefit of the scheme.

# PCC executive body to chalk out strategy on paddy stir today

STAFF REPORTER ■ RAIPUR

An important meeting of Chhattisgarh Pradesh Congress Committee (CGPCC) is called on Wednesday afternoon to chalk out its future strategy on its ongoing tirade against the Centre over paddy procurement.

A new date for its proposed demonstration at national capital against the Union government's stand over the issue could be finalized in the meeting.

Official sources informed that in the meeting, convened under chairmanship of PCC chief Mohan Markam, Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel would be present as a special guest.

Presidents of all the 27 district units of the party are also invited in the meeting to be held at its state headquarters Rajiv Bhawan, sources said.



Earlier, the PCC had decided that it would march to national capital with farmers of the state on November 13 so as to reach there on November 15. But the date was postponed following Supreme Court's verdict

on Ayodhya. As the date for commencement of paddy procurement is closing, it is expected that the PCC will finalize a new date of demonstration that would be within a week or so.

# OBC bodies call for 'Mahabandh' today

STAFF REPORTER ■ RAIPUR

Chhattisgarh All Backward Category, Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe Federation has called for statewide 'Mahabandh' on November 13 seeking to restore the 27% reservation in the state, as per the earlier announcement.

Chhattisgarh OBC Federation president Sughanlal Verma in a statement said under constitution Article 15 (4) and 16 (4) special constitutional rights have been given under Article 340 and others make provisions for OBC category development and welfare, including reservation. Chhattisgarh has 52% OBC population while only 14% reservation

is given but present government hiked it to 27%. This hike was challenged in the High Court, Chhattisgarh through filing of 20 petitions following which it has been stayed.

He pointed out that around 19 different organisations have given written assurance in support of bandh while all the preparation in 27 districts of the state has been made to make it successful.

The support of Chhattisgarh Chamber of Commerce and Industries and other trader bodies have been sought, he added.

He further said at 9.00 am a sit-in demonstration will be organised in front of the Dr B. R. Ambedkar statue near Collector Chowk, Raipur.



Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel on the occasion of Kartik Purni Mela (full moon day of Kartik month as per Hindu calendar) on Tuesday takes a holy dip at life-line river of capital city, Kharoon. Earlier he also performed puja at a temple at the bank of the river and prayed for the well being of the state's populace.

# Grounded Bhubaneswar-Mumbai flight needs new engine

STAFF REPORTER ■ RAIPUR

A new engine for Bhubaneswar-Mumbai bound Air India's flight that had to make emergency landing at Swami Vivekananda airport, Raipur on November 8 will be taken from another flight that is expected to arrive here on November 15, officials informed here on Tuesday.

"An airbus A319 will be routed to Raipur on November 15 for engine change. We will remove one of the engines of this aircraft and install it on grounded aircraft," Director, Swami Vivekananda airport Rakesh Ranjan Sahay said.

He further informed that on November 9, the grounded aircraft was inspected by a team of experts from Aircraft



Accident Investigation Bureau (Ministry of Civil Aviation). Another team from Air India's flight safety and Engineering Team too inspected the aircraft.

Meanwhile, necessary equipment and tools have been dispatched from Delhi and Mumbai that are expected to reach Raipur by November 14, Sahay said.

The A319 will remain grounded till it gets new engine, he added. Replying to the query about the fault in the engine that forced the

flight to make emergency landing in Raipur, Sahay said that all the teams that carried out inspection have recommended changing of engine so based on their inputs it can be inferred that fire was the cause of damage to the engine.

# Muktibodh National Drama Fest to commence today

STAFF REPORTER ■ RAIPUR

On the occasion of birth anniversary of renowned poet-writer Gajanan Madhav Muktibodh, a 5-day Muktibodh National Drama Festival will commence from November 13 at Open Theatre of Mahant Ghasidas Memorial Museum, Department of Culture, Raipur. It will conclude on November 17.

Chhattisgarh Film and Visual Art Society and culture department is jointly organising the event.

On the inaugural day, inaugural ceremony will be held at 6.30 pm, followed by staging of 'Draupadi' at 7.30 PM. Asmitha Bhatt of Mumbai has written the drama.

Second play 'Prem Politics' will be staged on November 14 at 7.00 pm. It is written and directed by Prasanna Soni. The play narrates a love story of two rivers.

'Titli' will be staged on November 15 at 7.00pm. It is written by Pankaj Soni while director is Sachin Verma, who is from Chhindwara,

Madhya Pradesh. On fourth and fifth day, Samagam Rangmandal, Jabalpur will present their two dramas written by late Girish Karnad, 'Agni' and 'Barkha'.

On concluding day, a seminar on theatre and cinema will be organised where Jayant Deshmukh and Alok Chatterjee will be holding interaction.

Drama 'Agarbatti' will also be staged. It is written by Ashish Pathak and directed by Swati Dubey of Jabalpur. There is no entry fee to watch the plays.

# CAIT to raise issue of FDI to MPs today

BUSINESS REPORTER ■ RAIPUR

Confederation of All India Traders (CAIT), Chhattisgarh unit, will hand over a representation addressed to Prime Minister Narendra Modi to all the members of parliament—both Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha—from Chhattisgarh seeking his intervention in alleged violation of FDI norms by Amazon and Flipkart.

The submission of the representation is part of the nation-wide movement cum strike the CAIT lined up from November 13 to January 10, 2020 against the e-commerce



CAIT national vice president Amar Parwani, when contacted, said as part of the agitations federations and associations of mobile retailers, consumer product distributors, aluminum utensils manufacturers, electronics,

toys, drug leaders, electrical goods and appliances, hardware manufacturers and around 40 other traders organisations under one banner have decided to hand over the representation to all the Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha MPs across the country to

take up the issue in parliament. The main point, Parwani said, is the online companies should be asked to follow the rules of the land and brought under its purview as their unethical trade is directly affecting seven crore traders and retailers of consumer business.

Even small and minor industries doing business of Rs 45 lakh crores annually in the country, are also affected, he said. It is a major source of revenue for the governments. Additional to it, the sector provides employment to around 40 crore people directly and indirectly.

Parwani said central government itself is violating the FDI policy and promoting the e-commerce companies. He further said as part of CAIT's national-level meeting, phase-wise agitation will be held on November 20, nation-wide protest at all state capitals will be held apart from the handing over of letter on November 13.

On November 25, National Protest March Day will be organised in around 500 districts of the country, followed by rally on December 2 covering 1000 cities of the country. The agitation will continue till January 10.

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# After Maha, NDA on verge of collapse in Jharkhand

## AJSU PARTY UNRELENTING ON SEATS, LJP ANNOUNCES TO CONTEST ALONE

PRANAV PRATYUSH ■ RANCHI

After a setback in Maharashtra, the BJP in Jharkhand too seems to be losing its long-term allies in Jharkhand. While the Suresh Mahto led AJSU party is unrelenting on its decision of fielding candidates for crucial seats, the Lok Janshakti Party (LJP) today announced to go alone in the year-end Assembly polls. Even when top BJP leaders continued convincing AJSU

Party chief Suresh Mahto to accept the offer to contest on 12 seats of the former's choice, the regional party dropped a bombshell on Monday by announcing candidates on 19 seats, many of which are crucial for the BJP. So much so, that the AJSU party fielded a candidate against State BJP president Laxman Gilua from Chakradharpur constituency. Mahto, holding a press conference, here on Tuesday said that he had apprised the

top BJP leadership of party's decisions, especially of common agenda of the alliance and the political base of AJSU party. "We had given the list of 19 seats to the BJP Central leadership and later a final list of 17 constituencies was provided to them. But, while the talks were continuing, they (BJP) announced their first list. So, we also announced our first list," said Mahto. "There are still 24 hours left and I am waiting for an official

reply. We have not hidden anything from the BJP. Even the nomination filing at Lohardaga seat was done after apprising the BJP leadership. The alliance is not just for contesting polls, it's for having a common ideology," said the AJSU Party chief. Notably, the BJP is unwilling to grant the AJSU Party more than 12 seats in the 81 member Assembly, while the AJSU is adamant on 17 seats including Chakradharpur, Lohardaga, Chandankiaryi,

Simariya, Mandu and Sindri. Both the parties have announced candidates for Chakradharpur, Mandu and Sindri making the situation even worse. The AJSU Party has remained an ally in almost all governments formed in Jharkhand and Suresh Mahto has handled plum portfolios throughout, including the post of Deputy CM. The Lok Jan Shakti Party, on the other hand, has also

announced names of candidates for four seats for the first phase and stated that the party will field its candidates on 50 seats. Party president Chirag Paswan, who was in Deoghar today, announced that the LJP will contest on 50 seats in State Assembly polls. We have given written proposal to the BJP National President Amit Shah, national executive president JP Nadda and State in-charge OP Mathur about seat sharing for the polls.

However, there was no word from the party. In such a situation the State unit of the party has decided to contest on 50 seats," said Paswan in Deoghar on Tuesday. The aggressive posture of the alliance partners has put the BJP on backfoot as no concrete decision on NDA seat sharing could be taken by the saffron party till the time of filing of the report. Senior BJP leaders including CM Raghubar Das, State BJP organisational secre-

tary Dharmraj Singh, State BJP election co-in-charge Nand Kishore Yadav are holding a crucial meeting to reach a consensus on the issue. The decision taken in the meeting would be apprised to the Central leadership, which will take a final call. Notably, the last date of filing of nomination for 13 seats in the first phase of polls in the State is November 13 and the NDA leaders in the State are still in a fix over format of alliance.

# Cong plays 'sympathy' card in 3rd list of candidates

## Fields Niraj Singh's widow, Yogendra Saw's daughter

PNS ■ Ranchi

The third list of candidates for Jharkhand elections released by the Congress party on Monday late night included daughter of tainted former Minister Yogendra Saw and widow of murdered ex Dhanbad Deputy Mayor Niraj Singh - a move that experts see as a sympathy card played by the party to garner the support of voters. The party has fielded a political greenhorn Amba Prasad Sahu, daughter of former Barkagaon legislator Yogendra Saw from the constituency. Saw, a former minister, was arrested on charges of running a banned Left Wing Extremist outfit Jharkhand Tiger in 2014. His supporters, however, believe that he was innocent and became a victim of vendet-

ta politics. He is currently out of State on the Apex Court order. On the other hand, Poomima Niraj Singh, widow of Niraj Singh, who was allegedly shot dead by gunmen hired by his cousin - a Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) leader Sanjeev Singh - will contest the Jharia constituency with a Congress ticket. Sanjeev, a former legislator, is in jail since 2017 in connection with the case.



"Sympathy card often works for political parties. If we talk in context of the Jharia seat, the Congress candidate will not only get the support that she enjoys because of her political-influential family, but also get sympathy votes as her husband was murdered in an infamous incident," said Dr. VP Sharan, political expert and academician. Interestingly, Saw's wife Nirmala Devi con-

tested the Barkagaon election for the first time in 2014 after her husband's incarceration and won the seat with a Congress ticket. The Saw family enjoys immense support in Barkagaon and Amba Sahu will benefit from it, said Sharan. The list of candidates also included the names of Congress Legislative Party (CLP) leader Alamgir Alam, incumbent Jantara legislator Irfan Ansari,

former Dhanbad legislator Mannan Malik and former Ranchi Deputy Mayor Ajay Nath Shahdeo. Alam and Ansari will contest from Pakur and Jantara seats respectively, while Shahdeo will contest from Hatia constituency. The All India Congress Party (AICC) has by now released names of 25 candidates for the Jharkhand elections. The party, as per a seat sharing equa-

tion unanimously decided by allies in the Mahagathbandhan, will field candidates for 31 constituencies here. Jharkhand Mukti Morcha (JMM), which has the second highest representation in the State Assembly, will field candidates for 43 seats in Jharkhand will be held in five phases from November 30 to December 20. The Mahagathbandhan here will take on the NDA alliance of BJP and AJSU Party.

# Voter literacy clubs to make voters aware



PNS ■ RANCHI

In view of the upcoming Elections voter literacy clubs are to be set up in various schools, colleges, Government departments, voluntary organisations and corporate institutions. The clubs are to be set up under SVEEP with an aim to sensitize voters through various activities and ensuring their participation in the elections. It will also work towards informing the future voters about the procedures related to the voting process.

regular intervals. The Election Commission of India has directed the formation of a voter literacy club in all schools and colleges. Through these clubs students will be educated about their franchise, voter registration, election process and related subjects through various activities. It will also facilitate their participation in the election process. Classroom based activities will be organised for the members. Schools and colleges can contact the Deputy Commissioner cum District Election Officer for setting up these clubs. As per the guidelines set by the Election Commission of India facilities will be provided to the organisations. Forums are also to be set up in various Government departments, corporate institutions and voluntary organisations where senior officials will be appointed as nodal officers. The forum will be responsible for conducting a wide range of activities for ensuring participation in the election.

# Lakhs throng Haridwar for Kartik Poomima Snan



PNS ■ HARIDWAR

Lakhs of devotees thronged Haridwar and Rishikesh to take ritual bath in the Ganga river on the occasion of Kartik Poomima on Tuesday. According to the authorities in Haridwar, it is estimated that about 20 lakh people arrived here to take in the Ganga on

this pious occasion. Kartik Poomima is linked with Prabodhini Ekadashi which marks the end of Chaturmas, a four-month period when Lord Vishnu is believed to rest. Prabodhini Ekadashi marks the awakening of the god and the end of the restrictions and austerities observed especially by members of the reli-

gious fraternity during the Chaturmas period. In Haridwar, the devotees started their ritual bath in the Ganga at about 4 am. The police under the supervision of the district's senior superintendent of police Semhli Awoodai maintained a sharp vigil on Har ki Paudi and various other ghats where the devotees arrived in multitudes

on the occasion. However, despite the police presence, various areas of the city experienced major traffic congestion. Both the visitors and local residents had to suffer considerable inconvenience due to the traffic congestion despite the efforts made by the police to manage the traffic situation.

# NHAI aiming to complete Kumbh Mela works by June 2020

KARAN KHURANA ■ HARIDWAR

With the state government focusing its efforts on ensuring a grand Kumbh Mela slated to be held during 2021 in Haridwar, the National Highways Authority (NHAI) is also striving to overcome the roadblocks that have caused delays in completion of various construction works. According to sources, the company tasked with the construction works in the past was blacklisted later. Due to this, the NHAI is now working to finish the tasks left incomplete by the blacklisted company. The authority is working to complete works on four national highways before the Kumbh Mela 2021. These works include

work on 80 kilometres of national highway 58 from Narsant to Shantikuni, works on national highway 73 from Roorkee towards Chutmalpur, Saliyar bypass, national highway 72 A and national highway 74 from Chidiyapatn to Najibabad. After the Era Infrastructure company got blacklisted, NHAI is completing the tasks. The earlier deadline for the tasks was October 2019 but various major construction works are yet to be completed. Union Transport and Highways minister Nitin Gadkari had in the past expressed confidence that the works would be completed by mid 2019. Officials in the NHAI also feel that execution of the works needs to be expedited.

# Himachal's cold desert to go for contract farming

Manali: Cold desert of Himachal Pradesh's Lahaul Valley that were once known for producing the best quality apples 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 Neilon Europe to initially invest 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. Likewise, there has been a 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.

Currently, 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 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 Bodi 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 cultivating 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. Neilon 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 farmer 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.

# Ranchi gets self-service liquor stores for elite customers

SAURAV ROY ■ RANCHI

Catching up with metro cities, Ranchi has fast adopted the idea of self-service liquor stores - a set up that allows consumers to choose from a variety of premium liquor brands, compare them with each other and buy the bottle of their choice in the comfort of an air conditioned shop. The new stores bring an all new experience to the consumers of premium liquor and give a much-needed break from the hustle and bustle of the old-school liquor shops that had fewer options for the elite class. At least two such stores - one on Kanke Road - the other at Nucleus Mall - have opened in the past couple of weeks. The staffs at the stores say that the outlets have received a warm response since their opening day. The sale, they say, is likely to increase when more people get to know about the concept, which is relatively new to Ranchi. Moreover, the Excise Department is hopeful that more such stores will come up in the days to come and encourage healthy drinking habits. Excise Commissioner Bhor Singh Yadav said that the extension in the validity period of liquor licence from one year to three years has given retailers the option to invest in infrastructure.

# Rajoana's death sentence commuted to life term

MONIKA MALIK ■ CHANDIGARH

Khalistan 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 Shitromani Gurudwara Parbandhak Committee (SGPC) in 2012, and not by Rajoana, who had all along been denying any mercy. It has been learnt that the orders have been conveyed to Punjab Government and the Chandigarh Administration.

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 court in July 2007. 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 the death warrants was stayed on March 28, 2012 on the clemency plea filed by the Sikh management 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 clemency. 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 death sentence of Babbar Khalsa International (BKI) terrorist to life imprisonment. Notably, to commemorate Sikh's first master Guru Nanak Dev's 500th birth anniversary, the Union Ministry of Home Affairs had announced to release "prematurely" eight Sikh prisoners through special remission, besides commuting the death sentence of one.

# 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 fifth 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 tram 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 Amas 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 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.

The targeted commander was in Israel to discuss and intended to carry new immediate attacks," the Army and Shin Bet said.

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 Shejaya 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.

PTI

# Train crash kills 16 people in Bangladesh

Dhaka: At least 16 people were killed and 60 others injured in a head-on collision between 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.

**SHARIF'S DEPARTURE TO LONDON DELAYED AGAIN**  
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.

**TENAGE 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 draconian restrictions on entertainment.

**AUSTRALIA READIES FOR 'CATASTROPHIC' BUSHFIRES**  
Winnipeg (Australia): Thousands of firefighters fanned out across eastern Australia Tuesday as temperatures, soaring temperatures and tinder-dry bushland brought "catastrophic" fire conditions.

# Morales leaves for Mexico as Bolivia military pledges to tackle violence

La Paz: Evo Morales has left Bolivia for Mexico, which has granted him political asylum, as the armed forces agreed to help police curb violence that has erupted after the president's stunning resignation left a power vacuum.

The senator set to succeed Morales as interim president, Jeanine Anez, pledged to call fresh elections to end the political crisis.

The United Nations Organisation of American States (OAS) earlier vowed fears

of a breakdown in security in a country that appeared increasingly rudderless after dozens of officials and ministers resigned along with embassies.

Morales fled Mexico's Foreign Minister Marcelo Ebrard on Monday to request asylum and later tweeted that he was "heading to Mexico."

AFP

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# US top brass to mediate between S Korea, Japan

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IANS

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LONDON: Labour Party platforms which had the intention of taking over systems entirely offline.

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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.

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IANS

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"While US presidents traditionally mark the day by laying a wreath at a vast military cemetery in Arlington, near Washington, Trump travelled 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. AFP

**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 10/11/2019 (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 6 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 NOTICE (SENT ON 11/01/2019)	AMOUNT IN DEMAND (RUPEES)
1.	B H U M I S A G A R INFRASTRUCTURE PVT LTD (BORROWER), NEETU, GANGA SAGAR CHAUHAN, SUKH SAGAR & KIRANCO-BORROWER	ALL THAT PIECE AND PARCEL OF ENTIRE SECOND FLOOR (STILT BUILDING AT GROUND FLOOR) WITHOUT ROOF RIGHTS OF PROPERTY BEARING NO. 10 (ADMEASURING 180 SQ METERS), BLOCK-C, SECTOR-1, ROHINI, DELHI-110085.	RS. 1,56,44,616/- (RS. FIFTY SIX LAKHS FORTY FOUR THOUSAND SIX HUNDRED TEN ONLY) PAYABLE AS ON 10/01/2019 ALONG WITH FUTURE INTEREST @ 14.50% PER ANNUM	

Sd/- (AUTHORIZED OFFICER) MAGMA FINNCORP LIMITED

**ATLAS JEWELLERY INDIA LIMITED**  
Reg. Off.: D17-718, 7/F, DLF Tower-6, Plot No. 11, Jasola, New Delhi-110025  
Email: info@atlaspjewelleryindia.com, Phone: 9114814148/40541077, Web: www.atlaspjewelleryindia.com

**EXTRACT OF STATEMENT OF STANDALONE UN-AUDITED FINANCIAL RESULTS FOR THE SECOND QUARTER AND HALF YEAR ENDED 30<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER 2019**

(Rs. in Lacs except per share data)

S. No.	Particulars	Quarter ended		Corresponding Quarter ended in the previous year
		30 <sup>th</sup> September 2019	30 <sup>th</sup> September 2018	
1.	Total income from operations (net)	26.22	97.62	50.96
2.	Net Profit / (Loss) for the period (before Tax, Exceptional and Extraordinary Items)	158.61	95.21	743.15
3.	Net Profit / (Loss) for the period before tax (After Exceptional and Extraordinary Items)	158.61	95.21	743.15
4.	Net Profit / (Loss) for the period after tax (After Exceptional and 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 (IndAS) notified under the Companies (India Accounting Standards) Rules, 2015 as amended by the companies (India 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 no contingent liability.  
5. Figures relating to the previous periods/year has been reclassified/rearranged wherever necessary, to conform to the current period's presentation.

Place: New Delhi  
Date: November 12, 2019

For ATLAS Jewellery India Ltd  
Sd/-  
Mohan Das K  
Dir. (C)  
DIN: 07321949

# 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, 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.

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Trump was widely criticised after announcing a full withdrawal of US troops from Syria last month. AFP

**ADITYA BIRLA CAPITAL**  
PROTECTING INVESTING FINANCING ADVISING

Registered Office: Indian Rayon Compound, Veraval, Gujrat - 362 268

**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 Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (as 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, MR. NIBHA JHA** (Borrower/Co-Borrowers/Guarantors) to repay the amount mentioned in the notice being Rs. 11,42,963.00 (Rupees Eleven Lakh Four 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(14) of the said Act read with Rule 6 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 **Aditya Birla Housing Finance Limited** for an amount of Rs. 11,42,963.00 (Rupees Eleven Lakh Four 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 of No. 4, Property No. C-81, Left Hand Back Side, Upper Ground Floor Without Plot, DLF Anir Vihar, Sadullabad, Pargana Loni, Tehsil & Distt. Ghazalbad, Bharat Nagar, S.O. (Ghazalbad), Ghazalbad, Uttar Pradesh-201112 measuring Area 27.16 Square Meter, Which is bounded as below: East: Other Land, West: 9 Meter Wide Road, North: Plot No. C-81, South: Plot No. C-87

**PLACE : GHAZIABAD ADITYA BIRLA HOUSING FINANCE LIMITED**  
**DATE : 13-11-2019 AUTHORIZED OFFICER**

**ATLAS JEWELLERY INDIA LIMITED**  
Reg. Off.: D17-718, 7/F, DLF Tower-6, Plot No. 11, Jasola, New Delhi-110025  
Email: info@atlaspjewelleryindia.com, Phone: 9114814148/40541077, Web: www.atlaspjewelleryindia.com

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4. The company has no contingent liability.  
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Place: New Delhi  
Date: November 12, 2019

For ATLAS Jewellery India Ltd  
Sd/-  
Mohan Das K  
Dir. (C)  
DIN: 07321949

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
This is to inform that Mrs. Meera Bala Reddy Associates Pvt. Ltd. located at D/Mall, Plot No-A1, Netaji Subhash Place, District Centre, Wazirpur, Pitampura, Delhi-110054 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 Mrs. Bala Reddy Associates Pvt. Ltd.

**ELECTRIFICATION WORKS**  
E-Tender Notice No. DY/CE/CON/10054 dated 11-11-2019. Sealed tenders are invited for the following work: Tender No. E-L/CON/SCL/10/2019/JA. Name of work: Electrification and 33 KV/11 KV sub-station, Tunnel No. 18 in connection with Jubilee - Imprial New BG line project. Tender value: ₹29,21,78,067/-, Earnest Money: ₹2,92,17,807/-, Completion period: 15 Months. E-tender will be closed at 14.30 hrs. on 04-12-2019 and opened at 11.30 hrs. on 04-12-2019. The complete information with the tender document of above e-tender will be available in website www.eprs.in

**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. 01190014, Description of work: E-tender No. 01190014, Name of work: Approximate Tender Value: ₹12,19,28,304.00. Tender Quantity: 12,85,800 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.eprs.in and download the tender notice if they are already registered with IREPS. In case they are not registered with IREPS, they are invited to obtain class III P.O. Signature Certificate from the certifying agencies under Govt. of India (T-2000 Tender Notice) and also download the Principal Chief Materials Manager/CON, NORTHEAST FRONTIER RAILWAY (CONSTRUCTION ORGANISATION) "Serving Customers with a smile"

**EASTERN RAILWAY**  
Open e-Tender No. 17M20190015, 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, Faridpur, Kolkata-700001 for supply of the following material: Name of Supply: Supply of Track Machine Spare Parts. 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: COMS/TMC/Balighat, 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 a Tender: On 12.12.2019 at 15:30 hrs. Website particulars for complete details: http://www.ireps.gov.in No manual offers sent by post/ fax or in person shall be accepted against e-tender. Complete information including e-tender document of the above tender is available in website www.ireps.gov.in  
Tender Notice is also available at website: www.eprailways.gov.in/www.ireps.gov.in

# '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 reach 95 per cent of the human tracks in the area under investigation, as well as all of the larger vertebrate tracks.

## This is no endgame

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



**A**s 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 vot-

ers, 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 emulating 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, it 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 deavouring 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 RAWL-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 interecne 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 stakeholder'ship.

## Fee hike unjust

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



**O**ne 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.

# Opinion 06

## 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

**T**he 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 their historical responsibility that they must accept fully.

The International Monetary Fund (IMF) came out with a study earlier this year when 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 to 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 sooner.  
**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 US Ambassador to the UN**  
 —Nikki Haley

Governor Koshiyari has committed a grave travesty of democracy and made 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 visera 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 unpoluted to welcome these winged guests.

**TK Nandanam**  
 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 turn 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](mailto: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 unhealthy nexus between politicians, bureaucrats and other vested interests. There are complaints 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 II. After making Lord William Cecil her secretary, Elizabeth advised him, "This judgment 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-farmed 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 Khemka (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. This 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 obstructionists and lacklustre bureaucracy or clientelism.

Nevertheless, even as we complain about red tape, paperwork and excessive bureaucratic rigidity 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 be used 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 contained 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.

Indira 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 focused 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 not 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. Indira 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 Borkhile) through 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-tape. 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-tape 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 specially 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.)

# 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-Tayyeba (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 Zebrana, 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 Shabpur and Kirni sectors of Poonch district. Several civilian areas were hit by Pakistani 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 Shabpur and Kirni sectors around 3.15 pm". 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



stretch as authorities have directed Railways to ply trains between 10 am and 3 pm only due to security reasons.

The Railways conducted the trial run of the service on the stretch on Monday for the first time in over three months since the unannounced shutdown in the valley. The official said the

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 its people can never forget the sacrifices of Sikh gurus.

"Around 550 years ago, when the country was facing foreign invasions, reli-

gions 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.

"Guru Nanak Dev had the courage to call Babur a 'Jahar' (atrocious) at the time when the people were reeling under the

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

"When the country and 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 Sarayu rivers on Kartik Purnima.

In the temple town of Ayodhya, people began flocking to the ghats of the Sarayu 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 Mankameshwar 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 convener of Allahabad-based organisations Ram Naam Bank and Ram Sewa Trust, Ashutosh "Rashney" said, "It is the full moon day in the month of Kartik".

"It is also known as Dev Deepawali, 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 Kartik 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 Ghoswara 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 Kauwaki police station area, near Ghoswara 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-acre 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, but for a legal right."

"...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 Kacheegowda 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 Dhanekar 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 Dhanekar 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 Dhanekar'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 Dhanekar to CPF saying

this would not 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 Dhanekar'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 Dhanekar had been involved in repeated confrontation with the State Government locking horns 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 Dhanekar 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.



Sanjay Raut would succeed, definitely).

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

The Rajya Sabha member further tweeted, 'Hum honge kamyab, zaroor honge' (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 on 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 Koshyari 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 (106) 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

Chiv 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 recovered 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) 'Saamant'."

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 well 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 party legislators at a suburban resort where they are staying for the last few days.

Sena legislators took Tuesday to Twitter 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. Koshyari 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 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 Koshyari was 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." Retiating 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 need clarifications from the NCP included formulation of a Minimum Programme (CMP). "We wanted 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

PN ■ MUMBAI

Shiv Sena president Uddhav Thackeray said here on Tuesday that because of the Governor Bhagat Singh Koshyari'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 was 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.

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 in 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 K. L. Vasanthakumari, a 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 bring the entire party structure under his family. "Durai Murugan, the party treasurer, has been eye-

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 leadership 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. Jayalalitha and DMK patriarch M. Karunanidhi died in 2016 and 2018 respectively.

Touting 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 ■ BANGALURU

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 a poll, 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 independent 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 Shivanur Shivashankarappa 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 Pandey 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 Devaswam Minister Kadakkampally 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 Ayappa 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 Devaswam 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.

Table with 3 columns: S. No., Particulars, Un-audited Half year ending September 30, 2019, Un-audited Half year ending September 30, 2018. Includes financial data for DMI Finance Private Limited.

# 2nd whistleblower fires more salvo at Infosys CEO

IANIS ■ BENGALURU

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

"Sali 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 Infosian, 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 complaint 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 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 Ba2 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 Ba2 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 Chaula, 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 Chaula, 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 IJR delivers some improvement."

IJR 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, IJR 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 IJR's adjusted debt/EBITDA to improve from 10.6x at March 2019 to 6.0x over the next 12 months.

# Finance panel grills FinMin on DeMo, state of economy

IANIS ■ NEW DELHI

Demonsitration 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. The meeting was presided over by Union Minister for Finance. But what was meant as 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 Atanand Kumar, Union Minister Secretary AB Pandey, Finance Secretary Rajeev Kumar, Chief Economic Adviser K Subramanian were among those who attended the panel's meeting 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 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.

The report, however, said the economic growth rate will pick up pace in 2020-21 to 6.2 per cent. To prop 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 e-commerce to follow 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

# 72% Indians believe country headed in right direction: Survey

IANIS ■ 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 survey. "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 of the country and overall there is a sense of optimism among citizens," Amit Adarkar, CEO, Ipsos India & Operations, says. Ipsos APAC (Asia Pacific) is leading China, Asia Pacific, and India.

# 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 of 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 10,606 units during the month, down 22.9 per cent from October 2018, Tata Motors said in a statement.

"Retail 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

**ADITYA BIRLA CAPITAL**  
PROTECTING INVESTING FINANCING ADVISING

Aditya Birla Finance Limited  
Registered Office: Indian Rayon Compound, Veraval, Gurnjar - 362 266  
CIN NO.: U65990GJ1991PLC064603

[See Rule 8 (1) of Securities 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) in exercise of powers conferred under section 13(1)(2) read with rule 8 and 9 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 (Rules) has issued a demand notice dated 07.09.2019 calling upon the Borrowers/Co-Borrowers of M/s Diangus 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 Fourty One Lakh 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/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 Fourty One Lakh 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, admeasuring area 1720 Sq. Ft. Situated at Mayfield Gardens, Sec-8, Gurgoan, Haryana which is owned by Mr. Sanjay Singh and Mrs. Archana Singh.

**ADITYA BIRLA FINANCE LIMITED**  
PLACE - NEW DELHI  
DATE - 13.11.2019  
AUTHORIZED OFFICER

**PARIJAT PAPER MILLS LIMITED**  
CIN: L21012UP1989PLC010589  
Reg. Off: Vill-Jat Muihara 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**

Sl. No.	PARTICULARS	STANDALONE (Amount in Lakhs)			
		Quarter Ended	Half year	Quarter	YEAR
		30.09.2019	30.09.2019	30.09.2018	31.03.2019
		(Unaudited)	(Unaudited)	(Unaudited)	(Audited)
1.	Total income from operations (Net)	1205.16	2591.99	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 including Revaluation Reserves)	488.21	488.21	494.57	514.69
8.	Earnings per share (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.sebi.in) and the company's website (www.parijatpapermills.com).

Date: 11.11.2019  
Place: Muzaffarnagar

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

**PASUPATI ACRYLON LIMITED**  
CIN: L91920UP1989PLC015532  
Regd. Office: Kashipur Road, Tharadur, Distt. Haridwar (U.P)  
Corp. Office: M-14, Connaught Circle (Middle Circle), New Delhi-110001  
Tel.No. 91-11-4827409; Fax No. 91-11-4827497; Email: dsh@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				Half Year Ended			
		30.09.2019	30.09.2019	30.09.2019	30.09.2019	30.09.2019	30.09.2019	31.03.2019	
		Un-audited	Un-audited	Un-audited	Un-audited	Un-audited	Audited		
1.	Total Income from operations	191.55	193.92	211.33	345.47	412.31	834.66		
2.	Net Profit/(Loss) for the period (before Tax, Exceptional and/or Extraordinary Items)	(7.28)	22.20	12.06	14.92	27.48	43.12		
3.	Net Profit/(Loss) for the period before tax (after Exceptional and/or Extraordinary Items)	(7.28)	22.20	12.06	14.92	27.48	43.12		
4.	Net Profit/(Loss) for the period after tax (after Exceptional and/or Extraordinary Items)	(4.80)	14.43	7.54	9.63	17.73	27.38		
5.	Total Comprehensive Income for the period (Comprising Profit/(Loss) for the period (after tax) and other comprehensive income (after tax))	(4.81)	14.42	7.49	9.61	17.63	27.14		
6.	Paid-up Equity Share Capital (Face Value Rs. 10/-)	89.14	89.14	89.14	89.14	89.14	89.14		
7.	Other Equity (including Revaluation Reserves)						97.56		
8.	Earnings Per Share (Rs. 10/- each)						3.37		
	a) Basic						3.37		
	b) Diluted						3.37		

NOTE: The above is an extract of the detailed format of quarterly & year to date 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).

Date: 12 November, 2019  
Place: New Delhi

For Pasupati Acrylon Limited  
Vivek Managing Director

**ANS INDUSTRIES LIMITED**  
(CIN:15130HR1904PLC032362)  
Regd Office: 136 KM. VIL P.O. Shamgarh, District-Karnal, Haryana-132116  
Website: www.ansind.com, E-mail id: ansinfo.limited@gmail.com

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

Sl. No.	Particulars	Quarter Ended			
		30.09.2019	30.09.2019	30.09.2019	30.09.2019
		Unaudited	Unaudited	Unaudited	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 (after 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 30<sup>th</sup> 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.ansind.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 12/11/2019.  
3. Figures for the previous year / period have been re-arranged wherever necessary.

Date: 12.11.2019  
Place: New Delhi

For ANS Industries Limited  
(Mehinder Sharma) Managing Director  
DIN:0038252

**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 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.

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"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 TSI, 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 their 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 back to 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

**AIH HOSTS AAI ASIA-PACIFIC REGIONAL HR PANEL MEET**

New Delhi: AAI is hosting AAI Asia-Pacific Regional HR Committee Meeting during 12th-14th November, 2019 in New Delhi. The AAI 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 HR Readiness for Future Airports. Around 30 delegates across 10 countries and regions are participating in the meeting.

**BUSINESS CORNER**

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# 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 shoot-out, 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 AP

## '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."

# Sai Praneeth enters top 10

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

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 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.

**SRIKANTH 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

# 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 crucial 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 (Jhingjan)."

"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 to repeat it against Afghanistan and Oman again," he added.

Seated defender Anas Eddhodika, 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.

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 Jhingjan 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 be the difference 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."

# '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 spightly opponent in Afghanistan, India's football coach Igor Stimac on Tuesday conceded that his team's wireless 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' life difficult and we have an uphill task in front of us to overcome it," he added.

## 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 cabinet 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 from behind.

Gomez reacted angrily, and the two players were separated by team mates.

Gomez and Sterling met elsewhere in St George's Park and they put the matter behind them.

Gomez went to see the England boss to press 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 Liverpool 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



Sterling confronts on Instagram that he & Gomez "had words" when they met up at England camp

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 matches.

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 Senarivaratne 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

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."

#### Visibility at twilight could be difficult: Pujara

PTI ■ INDORE

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 'Dccr.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.

## Bhuvni 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.

"Bhuvni 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 Srihar 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.



Bangladesh Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina and West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee are likely to watch 1st day of D/N Test

## 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 Commissioner Toufique Hasan did a recon 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 BCB 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 followed by speeches by the hon'ble dignitaries," CAB Secretary Avishkek Dalim 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.

## Babar has potential to be compared to Kohli, Smith

IANS ■ PERTH

Having managed to end as the highest run-getter for Pakistan in the just concluded T20 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 T20 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 Bangladesh 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

"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.

"We are looking at our strength more than focusing on their weakness because no team could do well against them at their home (in the recent past). We are looking forward to do well here. Obviously it won't be easy and we need to work really hard," he said.

"The five bowlers they (India) have, we cannot take anyone lightly, because everyone is world class." Mithun has belief in his young bowling unit that it can take 20 wickets to win a Test match.

"Any batsman can get out anytime. If we can bowl as a unit with discipline I feel we can pick 20 wickets."

While India are favourites by a distance, Mithun feels that the T20 win in Delhi gives them hope of enjoying a good result.

"If we look at the past no one gave us any chance when it comes to beating India in the T20 and that too in their own backyard."

"But our players had that belief. We are disappointed that we could not win the last game (in Nagpur) despite creating chances at the same time now we are looking forward to do well in Test series."

## 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 VID 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

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 Chandawar.

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 decent 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 BCC, 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.

Deepak Chahar celebrates after hat-trick

Mumbai skipper Suryakumar Yadav celebrating after his half-century