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SCIENCE STUDENTS CAN  
Pursue OTHER COURSES TOO

RANCHI, WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 20, 2019; PAGES 16 ₹3

CIRO IMMOBILE  
SHINES IN  
AZZURRI'S WIN  
15 SPORT

## CAPSULE

OWAISI SLAMS DIDI FOR 'MINORITY EXTREMISM'

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

SELFISHNESS IS BAD: BHAGWAT ON BJP-SENA

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

12-YEAR-OLD STOPPED ON WAY TO SABARIMALA

**Sabarimala:** A 12-year-old girl from Puducherry, who had come for darshan to Lord Ayyappa temple here along with her father, was not allowed to proceed to the shrine from Pamba on Tuesday morning.

AILING NAWAZ LEAVES FOR LONDON FOR TREATMENT

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

SUPERSTARS PACT IN OFFING IN TAMIL NADU?

**Chennai:** Superstar Rajinikanth on Tuesday said he would join hands with Kamal Haasan for the welfare of people of Tamil Nadu if such a situation arose.

# House rises to Delhi pollution challenge

MPs call for standing committee, demand integrated action

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

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

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

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

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

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

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



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



A man rides a bike against the background of Rashtrapati Bhawan

PTI

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

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

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

Earlier Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal used

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

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

Verma alleged that by blaming villagers for pollution, Kejriwal was only widening the urban-rural divide. The Speaker reminded Verma not to take the name of Kejriwal, but he went on attacking the Delhi CM.

Misra urged for combined efforts of the Centre and States in curbing the rising pollution

levels of water and air.

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

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

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

SAPNA SINGH ■ NEW DELHI

After a brief breather, air quality in Delhi deteriorated again on Tuesday with overall Air Quality Index (AQI) at 249 µgm-3, mainly due to wind losing speed and resumption of farm fires in neighbouring States.

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

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



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

2.5 and PM 10) were recorded 179 and 111 respectively.

Pollutant values will escalate three folds, according to pollution monitoring agencies. PM 10 will exceed 400 and PM 2.5 will cross 250 by Wednesday.

Delhi's 13 hotspot areas are facing tough time in dealing with air pollution. Dwarka Sector 8 recorded 460 µgm-3, Greater Noida (272), and Noida (256). RK Puram, Punjabi Bagh, Anand Vihar, Mandir Marg, Mundka witnessed toxic air.

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

## J'khand polls: Jamshedpur East constituency turns into hot seat

PNS ■ JAMSHEDPUR

Jamshedpur east Assembly constituency has turned into a hot seat following BJP leader Saryu Roy filing nomination against Chief Minister Raghubar Das. Now efforts are being made by the Opposition parties to declare Roy a common candidate to stop division of votes and ensure his victory.

At present, apart from Das and Roy, Congress party's national spokesperson Gourav Vallabh and JVM's central secretary Abhay Singh have also filed their candidature from the coveted seat.

"We need to fight unitedly, if we want to ensure victory from Jamshedpur East. Defeating incumbent Chief Minister is not an easy task. Though Congress Party's national spokesperson Gourav Vallabh and JVM's central secretary Abhay Singh have also filed their nomination but it is important that we field a common candidate against Das. We need to stop division of votes," said a district Congress leader, who wished not to be quoted.

He said that though last day for withdrawal of nomination papers is November 21 (Thursday) while the scrutiny will take place on Tuesday, they are keeping fingers crossed that some miracle to happen.

Some senior BJP leaders have also approached our party leaders and JVM. Meanwhile, BJP district head Dinesh



candidature of their respective aspirants. But, the leaders are yet to make an official announcement in this regard," he said.

Polls for all six Assembly seats — Jamshedpur West, Jamshedpur East, Jalsalai, Potka, Ghatsila and Baharamgarh are scheduled in the second phase on December 7. Meanwhile, the ground-level workers in BJP are also a confused lot after Saryu Roy filed nomination from Jamshedpur East.

"Though Raghubar Jee has a stronghold in Jamshedpur East but Saryu Roy can cash in on sentiments of the local people by raising issues like failure of Das to provide 'legal right' to the residents of 86 bastis. I think the Chief Minister only used the promise as an election jumble and nothing else. He has been misleading people on the issues concerning 86 bastis.

The slum dwellers are still waiting for the rights," said a local level BJP worker.

He said even closure of industries in Kolhan might work against the CM.

Meanwhile, BJP district head Dinesh

Kumar said that even in 2005, when party denied ticket to then heavyweight candidate Mrigendra Pratap Singh from Jamshedpur West seat, he joined RJD just before polls and Lalu Prasad gave him a ticket from the seat, which he lost to BJP's Saryu Roy.

He claimed that even Roy would also meet the same fate after quitting the party and contesting as an independent candidate. Meanwhile, senior Janata Dal (United) leader Rajiv Ranjan Singh on Tuesday said the party will support Saryu Roy, contesting as an independent candidate against Chief Minister Raghubar Das from Jamshedpur (East). When asked whether Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar will campaign for Roy, he said "if Roy request he will campaign in support of him."

JDU supporting Roy assume importance as he had recently said that his closeness with Bihar Chief Minister could be one of the reasons for BJP denying him the ticket.

Cong dominates Rajasthan urban bodies' elections

PTI ■ JAIPUR

The ruling Congress on Tuesday secured control over 20 local government bodies out of the 49 where elections were held last week in Rajasthan, with the BJP reaching the majority mark in only six. The Congress won 965 out of the 2,105 wards in the urban local bodies, leaving the BJP trailing at 736, according to the results declared by the state election office. The Bahujan Samaj Party won 16 wards, the CPI(M) got three and the Nationalist Congress Party two in the elections held on Saturday, the first municipal polls since the Congress came to power in the State last December.

Altogether, 385 independents won in the polls conducted across 24 of Rajasthan's 33 districts. The results translated into clear majority for the Congress in 20 of the 49 ULBs. The BJP crossed the halfway mark in six urban bodies and the independents formed the majority in 23. Both the Congress and the BJP claimed they could muster support from independents to control nine or 10 other municipalities, apart from the ones where they emerged as clear winners.

## Criticism spurs V-P to order review of marshals' uniform

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Following criticism by some Ex-Army officers and remarks of Opposition leaders, Rajya Sabha Chairman M Venkaiah Naidu on Tuesday ordered a review of the new military-style uniform of marshals in the House.

The uniform was restyled from traditional Indian attire comprising turbans to dark navy blue and olive green military-style outfits with caps. Naidu mentioned in the House that the Secretariat of the Rajya Sabha had come out with a new dress code for marshals. However, there have been suggestions and comments by politicians and well-meaning individuals on the same, he said.

"I have decided to ask the Secretariat to revisit the same," Naidu said. On Monday, when the marshals came wearing the new uniform together with aiguillette, some members commented if "marshal law was imposed".

Customarily, the presiding officer of the House is flanked by two marshals who march ahead of the chairman to announce the commence-



A marshal in the new uniform at Parliament during its ongoing Winter Session in New Delhi on Tuesday PTI

ment of proceedings and also assist the chair in organising the desk and bringing up order papers.

Marshals earlier wore safari suits during summer and Indian bandanas during the winter along with turbans.

The turbans were viewed by some as colonial legacy, leading to review of the uniform. On Monday, Congress leader Jairam Ramesh had sought to raise a point on the marshals' new uniform.

"Sir, the marshals..." he began only to be interrupted by Naidu.

Ramesh, however, insisted that there has been "a very significant change" in their attire. "Okay. You always make significant point at an insignificant time," Naidu had remarked on Monday.

Some former Army officers have also criticised the new uniforms for marshals, terming them illegal.

Former Indian Army chief Ved Malhotra too objected to the new uniform of Rajya Sabha marshals, and called it "illegal and a security hazard".

## Rising sea threatens watery grave for Indian coastal cities

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

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

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

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

question on whether several cities will be submerged as temperatures are rising due to global warming.

However, the coastal areas that might get inundated due to the rising sea level need to be evaluated based on their elevation above mean sea level.

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

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

The Minister further said that the rising sea levels can



Workers create a floating boundary to make it safe for sea bathers in Kanyakumari on Tuesday

local hazards", and will cause problems for the billions who rely on the water for drinking supplies and irrigation.

He cited a recent report by a research center that said the level of the oceans is rising much faster than what was forecasted because of climate change. The UN chief stressed that unless nations are able to reverse this trend, because climate change for the moment is running faster than actions being taken by Governments, the research forecasted that 300 million people will be flooded by sea water in the world by 2050.

"Dramatically, the most vulnerable areas are exactly in Southeast Asia, in Japan, China, Bangladesh and India," he said adding that Thailand risks to have 10 per cent of its population in flooded areas by the sea.

# 25-year-old woman hangs self at home in Nimiyakhand

PNS ■ GARHWA

A 25-year-old woman committed suicide by hanging herself at her home in Nimiyakhand, under Dandai police station, on Sunday night.

The deceased has been identified as Sarita Devi resident of villages Nimiyakhand under Dandai police station. A case was registered after her family alleged murder in their complaint. Later, police took her husband into custody.

According to police sources, Sarita, daughter of Laldhari Chaudhary, resident of Chausathia village under Chianpur police station of Palamu district, was married to Puran Chaudhary, son of Ram Gahan Chaudhary, about five years ago. The couple has a three years son and a one year old daughter.

According to sources, the couple used to quarrel often. On Sunday night, they had

another tiff. Sarita's parents, though, alleged that her husband Puran Chaudhary had murdered her and filed a complaint to that effect at Dandai police station, based on which, a case against her husband and father-in-law and mother-in-law was registered under Section 302 (murder) of the IPC, following which, Puran was arrested.

Sarita was found hanging in her room, which was locked from inside. Her husband broke the door to get in with the help of a neighbour, and alerted police. A team from Dandai police station, led by Thana in-charge Birendra Hansda soon reached the spot and carried out the initial investigation.

DSP headquarter Dilip Xalko said, "A probe is being conducted. Action will be taken according to the report" and adding "Puran sent to the judicial custody today."

**PNS ■ RANCHI**

The movement of electronic voting machines (EVMs) used in the Assembly elections-2019 will be tracked with GPS. Additional Chief Electoral Officer, Shailesh Kumar Chaurasia, today said in a one-day training programme for District Information Officer (DIO) of all districts regarding GPS tracking, that GPS will be installed in the vehicle of the deputed sector magistrate for carrying EVMs.

Under this, GPS tracking will be done till the EVM is taken to the polling station and it is brought after the polling is done. GPS tracking will also be done on the movement of reserve EVMs, if required on the day of the election.

In the training programme, District Informatics Officers were given technical information about monitoring of GPS installed in the Sector Magistrate's vehicle. They were told that they would be able to track the movement of EVMs through an app designed for this task. If the vehicle of the

# GPS tracking of EVM movement during polls

## CEO advises people to avoid cash transactions



Additional Chief Electoral Officer Shailesh Kumar Chaurasia along with senior officials during a meeting in Ranchi on Tuesday.

Sector Magistrate carrying the EVM diverts from the prescribed route, then it will be immediately available and they can be informed to this effect, so that they can return to their designated route. Control room will be created in all districts for GPS tracking of EVMs.

Through the mobile based GPS tracking system, along with the information about the actual location of the sector officer, the speed of the vehicle, the charge percentage of the battery of the Android phone used, it will also be known that the vehicles going in the prescribed route for the transport of the reserve EVM. Where was the stoppage of - and for how long.

For this, the sector officers have clear instructions that they will not keep their mobile phones switched off during the movement. It is to be known that with the help of GPS system, where the mobile phone of the sector officer will move, the information about the actual location will be available.

Meanwhile, Chief Electoral Officer, Vinay Kumar Choubey, today said that the Model Election Code of Conduct is effective in connection with the Assembly elections.

In order to maintain the transparency and transparency of the election process, the Election Commission of India has given several guidelines regarding election expenditure monitoring, which is to be followed in letter and spirit.

Under this, if during investigation, more than Rs 50,000 cash is found from any vehicle by the flying squad, static surveillance team or enforcement

agencies, or illegal liquor, drugs, drugs or illegal weapons or illegal goods are found from any vehicle or 10 gift material worth more than a thousand rupees is available, which is likely to be used to lure voters, then it will be subject to seizure.

The information of investigation and seizure of such vehicles will be given to the concerned. Videography of this entire process will also be done, he said.

The CEO said that during the election process, people should avoid cash transactions and should not carry large amounts of cash. He also said that a committee of three officers has been formed in every district to clear the grievances of common people.

In this committee, the Chief Executive Officer, the District Council / Deputy Development Commissioner, the Nodal Officer appointed for expenditure monitoring in the District Election Office and the District Treasury Officer will be members. The committee will look into all such cases and decide on the seizure.

# XRLI concludes 2nd edition of techno-event

**Conclave included various events & workshops with emphasis on technologies**

PNS ■ JAMSHEDPUR

Cygnus 2019, the 2nd edition of XRLI's Operations and IT conclave has successfully concluded. This edition of Cygnus was held under the theme Industry 4.0. A two-day symposium jointly organised by AXIOM—the Operations Club and SOCRATES—the IT Club of XRLI attracted a total footfall exceeding 1500 attendees and saw a participation of more than 50 pan India teams in its case study competition, Encephalon.

The conclave included various events and workshops with emphasis on technologies like IoT, Data Analytics and Blockchain and their implementation in Operations Management. The conclave kicked off with an interactive workshop on Industrial IoT conducted by Arup



Chakraborti—founder, Greenwave Solutions Pvt Ltd, attracting engineering and management minds alike. It was followed by a guest session on Tata Steel's journey in intelligent manufacturing, delivered by Ranjan Kumar Singh — head, Slab Casting and Akshay Khullar — chief, LD2

4.0 by Smriti Agrawal — head, digital and analytics, Tobacco Division, ITC.

The second day was attended by guest sessions on Digital Twin by Prof. Surjya K Pal—CoE on Advanced Manufacturing Technology, IIT Kharagpur and a workshop on Industry

and Sand Casters. Case competition, Encephalon was held on operations management, in association with Swiggy, where student teams from Delhi Technological University and NITIE Mumbai, took home the winners and runners up prizes respectively. A participative

session on Industry 4.0 by Shailender Singh, DGM-Business Excellence, from ITC Paperboards and Specialty Paper Division and the introduction of XRLI's IoT lab drew the event to a close.

Cygnus aimed to help management students become accustomed to new technologies and promote innovation in businesses. Technology promotes innovation, making businesses more efficient and competitive in the market.

Cygnus intended to provide students a valuable insight into the rapidly developing technological space, thereby helping them stay ahead of the game and make informed technology related decisions as future leaders.

AXIOM is an initiative, started in 2004 by the students and the faculty of XRLI to help the students gain an insight to the intricacies of industrial and operations management.

It is an attempt of this society to extend the understanding of the international best practices and develop interest among students for the same.

# People in Panki apprehensive of untoward incidents during polls

PNS ■ DALTONGANJ

Is Panki Assembly constituency heading towards pre poll, poll or post poll ugly scenes? Residents fear most and are too apprehensive of untoward scenes while police disperse all fears reiterating all will be peaceful and transparent.

The poll pitch is too queer here like Shashibhusan Mehta (from JMM to finally BJP) Devender K Singh alias Bitti Singh (Congress) and a host of 13 other candidates are trying their luck here with a fierceness and no cordiality of candidature. Sources said the way poll campaigning is done here by the contestants leaves hardly any space for good things to remain intact for any longer.

The constituency is clearly divided between forward and backward voters and as such polarization of votes is but inevitable which is acrimonious and bitter always.

It is not that this Panki constituency has any congestion of contestants as it has 15 candidates in the poll ring like 15 in Daltonganj constituency, 19 in

Bishnupur, 12 in Chhaterpur and 19 in Hussainabad. Poll aggression is the hallmark of this constituency and for this constituency's poll violence history cannot be overlooked.

Panki constituency is known for severe communalism, intense naxalism, acute feudalism and village bossism. It has history of beating up of political workers in sheer revenge of working for the rival by the candidates.

Here in this constituency indefinite curfew was imposed when communal riot broke out. On naxalism front the soil of this constituency has been ripe for Maoists, PLFI, JPC, TPC and JJMP.

Cases of bonded labourers from here have been a record of history, which is a vestige of feudalism here. And, as regards village bossism here it still works out when an affluent of village 'influences' voters to vote en masse for a particular candidate. One political worker even lost his life in what was most calculatedly painted as road accident when it was a murder cried the locals in this

This constituency will see 9 helicopter dropping of polling parties and security contingents for 9 most hypersensitive booths.

There are 2 such booths here out of 324 total polling booths where satellite phone calls will be launched as no cellular network is available!

Sources said Panki's topography is also a contributory factor towards it being 'unhealthy' in times like this. People of the constituency sounded more concerned about violence erupting a few days before the voting or on the day of polling which is Nov 30 or after the poll result which is December 23 when anything can happen like hurling of crude bomb, firing in air to create terror to restrict weaker sections from casting votes or even kidnapping as all these three had taken place here in the past Assembly elections.

# Man held for ₹39L jewellery theft in Mumbai



PNS ■ BERMO

The Balidih police on Tuesday morning arrested a 38-year-old man, who was employed as domestic help in Mumbai, for allegedly robbing gold ornaments worth Rs 39 lakh from his employer's home in Mumbai, said Officer-in Charge Sailesh Kumar Chauhan.

The complainant in case, 55-year-old RadhaRaman Tripathi lives in Thane area along with his family members. According to his complaint to Thane police in Mumbai, Tripathi said that on November 1, 2019, one Heral Gorai who was working as domestic help, cleaned his bedroom wardrobe, where ornaments were placed in a locker.

**जिला निर्वाचन पदाधिकारी-सह-उपायुक्त, गढ़वा का कार्यालय (प्रेक्षक कोषांग)**  
observercell2019garhwa@gmail.com

**आम-सूचना (संघोधित)**

विधानसभा (आम) चुनाव 2019 के सफल संचालन हेतु 80—गढ़वा एवं 81—भवनाथपुर विधान सभा निर्वाचन क्षेत्र के लिए भारत निर्वाचन आयोग द्वारा नियुक्त किये गये व्यवहार करने का विवरणी निम्नतत है:-

क्र०	प्रेक्षक का नाम	पदनाम	मोबाइल नं०	मिलने वालों का विवरण	मिलने का समय	स्थान
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	श्री रानेन्द्र सरकार (IA&AS)	व्यवहार के लिए	6202817550	प्रेस/मिडिया के लिए	कार्यालय अवधि समाहरणालय, गढ़वा।	
		व्यवहार के लिए		अन्य लोगों के लिए	10:00 AM से 11:00 AM	परिसरद भवन गढ़वा।

PR 222008 (Election)19-20#D

**कार्यालय जिला निर्वाचन पदाधिकारी -सह- उपायुक्त, लातेहार (निर्वाचन शाखा)**

**आम सूचना**

**लातेहार जिला के सभी मतदाता कृपया ध्यान दें**

- विधानसभा चुनाव 2019 के क्रम में मतदाता सूची में दर्ज आपको पर्याप्ती एवं पर्याप्त रजिस्टर लेकर संबंधित मतदाता केन्द्र के बीएलओओ आप के घर तक आयेंगे एवं आपको पर्याप्त उपलब्ध करायेंगे। इसके लिए 20.11.2019 से 24.11.2019 तक की तिथि निर्धारित की गई है।
  - सभी वोटर अपना वोटर कार्ड एवं बीएलओओ के पास उपलब्ध पर्याप्त रजिस्टर पर अपना पूर्ण हस्ताक्षर करें।
  - आप सभी मतदाताओं से अपील की अपने बीएलओओ से मतदाता पर्याप्त अवधि प्राप्त कर लें, ताकि मतदाता के अपने वोटर कार्ड के लिए परेशान न होना पड़े।
  - यदि किसी मतदाता को कोई संबंधित करें एवं इसके एवं पर्याप्त रजिस्टर में हस्ताक्षर प्राप्त करें।
- नोट:-
- सभी राजनीतिक दलों के अस्थिरियों/कार्यकार्ताओं से अपील है कि भारत निर्वाचन आयोग मतदाता पर्याप्त के संदर्भ में आम लोगों के लिए जारी की जाए।
  - सभी बीएलओओ को निर्देशित किया जाता है कि, निर्धारित अवधि के बीच शत प्रतिशत मतदाताओं को पर्याप्त उपलब्ध कराना सुनिश्चित करें एवं इसके एवं पर्याप्त रजिस्टर में हस्ताक्षर प्राप्त करें।

मतदाता पर्याप्त वितरण में शिकायत हो तो जिला मुख्यालय में स्थापित कंट्रोल रूम 06565-247981 एवं मतदाता संसदीय केन्द्र के टॉल फ़ाइल नं० नवंबर - 1950 में फोन कर शिकायत दर्ज करें।

जिला निर्वाचन पदाधिकारी -सह- उपायुक्त, लातेहार।

PR 221998 Latehar(19-20)D

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# Congress' base in State has ended, says BJP

PNS ■ RANCHI

State BJP spokesperson Pratul Shahdeo today said that the Congress' base in Jharkhand has ended, just like the entire country.

The biggest evidence of this is that three former presidents of the party, including the outgoing PCC chief, have opted out of the party.

Pradeep Balmuchi had been the State president for almost a decade. Dr. Ajay Kumar was the outgoing president and left the Congress comparing his fellow leaders to criminals. Pratul said that Sukhdev Bhagat also shied away from the Congress, being



impressed by the development work done by the Bharatiya Janata Party Government led by Raghuvar Das. He said that the State president is the face of a party in the State and when

three State presidents of the Congress are leaving the party, it shows all the situation of the Congress.

Pratul said that for how long the current State president of the Congress Rameshwar Oraonji will be able to stay in the Congress, it is very difficult to tell, given the recent record of former

Congress presidents. He said that the Congress had 14 seats in the 2009 election, which reduced to half in 2014 and the Congress will be eliminated from State in 2019.

# ECI holds training on Booth App for BLOs

## Webcasting of 25% booths

PNS ■ RANCHI

A three-member team of the Election Commission of India (ECI) on Tuesday visited Jamshedpur to conduct an orientation workshop at XISS auditorium for block level officers on the use of Booth App.

While addressing the block level officials Deputy Election Commissioner Sudeep Jain said that a large share of the credit for successfully conducting elections in India goes to the BLOs.

"You have an important role of making voters aware and ensuring that they cast their votes. There are polling booths in India which have only one voter in the list. This shows the importance of every vote," said Jain. Chief Electoral Officer, Jharkhand, Vinay Kumar Choubey congratulated the BLOs for adding a large number of women and young voters to the electoral roll. He said that the Booth App will be



Deputy Election Commissioner Sudeep Jain, CEO Jharkhand Vinay Kumar Choubey, Election Commission Secretary Arvind Anand alongwith senior officials releases voters awareness calendar during a workshop in Jamshedpur on Tuesday

PNS

used in 10 Assembly constituencies spread across nine districts during the elections here. Praising the voters' awareness jingle released by East Singhbhum district administration, Choubey said that it would be linked to the Systematic Voters' Education and Electoral Participation (SVEEP) program of the state. Booth app will be used in 49-Jamshedpur West and 48-

time status of their polling booth and time their visit accordingly in order to avoid waiting in queue. The BLOs will also be able to use the App and know the real-time status of voter turnout in a particular polling station. The App was used in pilot projects during the Uttar Pradesh, Maharashtra and Haryana elections.

Booth app will be used in 49-Jamshedpur West and 48-

Jamshedpur East Assembly Constituencies in this district.

Meanwhile, officials from the Chief Electoral Officer's office in Ranchi on Tuesday said that the polling process in at least 25 per cent of polling stations in all the districts will be webcasted. Deputy Secretary in CEO's office, Shabbir Ahmad said that all necessary arrangements are being made for live streaming of voting in Jharkhand ECI has said.

related activities inside the polling stations. On the polling day, the office of the CEO and dedicated control rooms in all the districts will monitor live webcasting at polling stations.

The control rooms, he added, will have a nodal officer and technical assistant. Timely and quick fixes for any error during live monitoring of webcasting will be ensured by the control rooms. For this, a police officer with a wireless set will also be deployed in the control room.

The flow of live streaming will be tested two days in advance in order to ensure zero lapses in the process on the day of polling. Elections for the 81 assembly constituencies in Jharkhand will begin on November 30 and end on December 20.

The final counting will be done on December 23 and the results will be declared on the same day.

According to figures with the ECI, at least 67 of the 81 constituencies here are Left Wing Extremism affected. Central forces and local police will be deployed in sufficient numbers across all the constituencies to maintain law and order and ensure peaceful polls in Jharkhand ECI has said.

Babulal Marandi to contest from Dhanwar

## 9 more names announced by JVM-P

PNS ■ RANCHI



JVM-P Chief Babulal Marandi latest in his series of defeats since 2009. Dhanwar Assembly segment is part of the Koderma Parliamentary constituency.

JVM-P – recently separated from the UPA Mahagathbandhan of Congress party, Jharkhand Mukti Morcha (JMM) and Rashtriya

Janata Dal (RJD) – released its fourth list of nine candidates on Tuesday. Besides Marandi, the list included names of Ramesh Harshdhar, Bateshwar Mehta, Munna Singh, Durgacharan Prasad, Umesh Mahto, Antu Tirkey, Sunil Kumar Gupta and Kamlesh Ram.

While Harshdhar, Mehta and Singh have been fielded from Koderma, Barkatta and Hazaribag respectively, Prasad, Mahto and Tirkey will contest from Barkagaon, Silli and Kharjiri respectively. Gupta will contest from Ranchi and Ram will contest from Kanke.

Marandi, who served as the Chief Minister for 28 months, has not won an Assembly election in the past decade. In 2014 elections, the party won eight Assembly seats. However, seven of its legislators joined the BJP

later, reducing the party's say in the State Assembly here.

In the Lok Sabha elections earlier this year, Marandi contested from Koderma as a candidate of the Mahagathbandhan, but failed to impress voters with his promises of tribal welfare and jibes of corruption on BJP. The incumbent legislator of Dhanwar constituency, Rajkumar Yadav, represents the CPI (ML).

Before Yadav, JVM-P's Nizamuddin Ansari won from the constituency in 2009. Besides Marandi, no other candidate in the list released by JVM-P on Tuesday has held any important portfolio or won elections in the past. Bateshwar Mehta, the party's Barkatta candidate, served the position of General Secretary in Janata Dal (United). He joined the party in Hazaribag earlier this month. Ranchi, Kharjiri, Hatia and Kankar are important Assembly segments in Jharkhand.

JVM-P is likely to face tough competition from ruling BJP in all these constituencies. The latter has incumbent legislators in the aforementioned Assembly segments. BJP's CP Singh has won from the Ranchi constituency five consecutive times. This will be his sixth shot at the Ranchi Assembly seat. Besides, sitting Hatia legislator Navin Jaiswal won on a JVM-P ticket in 2014 and later moved to the BJP. The BJP is yet to announce its candidate for Kanke constituency, where party's Jeetu Charan Ram is the sitting legislator. JVM-P Chief Babulal Marandi



JMM Chief Sibu Soren gives blessing to the party's State woman cell president and candidate for Ranchi constituency Mahua Majhi before she filed her nomination papers for Assembly polls in Ranchi on Tuesday

# Mathur oversees BJP poll preparations

PNS ■ RANCHI

BJP election strategist Om Prakash Mathur under whose guidance the BJP won Uttar Pradesh Assembly elections is camping in Jharkhand overseeing election preparations. Mathur, who is seen as confidant of Prime Minister Narendra Modi is likely to carry out microscopic planning so that BJP sails the year end election.

Mathur, reached State Capital today, had series of meeting with BJP leaders overseeing election preparations. A senior BJP leader requesting anonymity said, "Mathur will camp in State for next few days as Prime Minister Narendra Modi is to visit State participating at an election rally in State this week.

The leader also said that the state BJP has prepared the



itinerary under which Modiji is likely to hold election rallies in every phase. Modi is likely to address five to six election rallies. Apart from Modiji's rally, Union Home Minister and BJP president Amit Shah, BJP executive president JP Nadda, Union surface transport and highway minister Nitin Gadkari will be visiting the State this week.

While Shah will address election meeting at Manika and Lohardaga on Thursday, Nadda will address election meeting at Latehar on Friday. Similarly, Gadkari will address election meeting at Bishrampur in support of health Minister Ramchandra Chandravanshi.

Sources said that Mathur in the election sought feedback from leaders about preparation

on PM and other senior leader visit. Mathur also sought feedback on mission 65 plus which the BJP has set target in Jharkhand.

The BJP leader said, "Mathur is good omen for BJP as he has been recording victories for BJP in states where he has been assigned the task. He was election in-charge of Maharashtra in 2014 and Uttar Pradesh in 2017."

We are hopeful that Mathur's strategy and election management will once again work in Jharkhand too."

Meanwhile, Mathur speaking to media persons at Birsa Munda International Airport on the issue of rebel BJP leader Surya Roy contesting election in Jamshedpur East said that in democracy everyone has the right to contest the election.

Mathur the BJP Rajya Sabha member from Rajasthan was groomed by late Bhairo Singh Shekhawat but later he became a leader on his own in BJP. He was a Pracharak with the RSS and later General Secretary- in charge of the Gujarat BJP.

## IN BRIEF

### SCIENCE EXHIBITION HELD AT SCS

With different innovative projects and models on display, the Annual Science Exhibition was held at Surendranath Centenary School on Tuesday. The chief guest was Brigadier Sanjeev Kumar, Commander 61 Infantry Brigade who inaugurated the grand annual Science Exhibition by lighting the lamp. Principal Samita Sinha was also present to grace the occasion. Under the guidance of their teachers' 240 students from classes 9 to 12 made 120 stunning display of their innovative projects and models based on various topics from Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry, Biology and Computer Science. Few models that attracted the audience were the Mobile Applications, Presentation on Waste Water treatments, and Fun with Chemistry etc.

**114TH FOUNDATION DAY OF CANARA BANK**  
The 114th Foundation Day of Canara Bank was celebrated on Tuesday in the presence of Circle Head Subodh Kumar. The ceremony was organized in 3 regional offices and all branches under it including Canara Bank

Ranchi circle. The ceremony at Canara Bank, Circle Office, Ranchi began with lighting the lamp and paying homage to our founder Late Ambebal Subba Rao Pai. Remembering the thoughts of Amambal Subba Rao Pai, Kumar encouraged the employees. On this occasion Anita Ekka, Assistant General Manager, Shailesh Kumar Singh, Assistant General Manager and Head of Regional Office, Ranchi also addressed and motivated the employees for business development of the organization and achieving past glory of Canara Bank.

**MEDICAL CAMP ORGANISED BY CMPDI**  
Under the aegis of CSR of CMPDI, a Free Medical Camp was organized at Birsa High School, Hithia Gonda, Dam Side, Ranchi. The Camp was inaugurated by Meeta Saran W/o Shekhar Saran, Chairman-cum-Managing Director, CMPDI. On this occasion, Alok Kumar, GM (HRD/CSR), CMPDI; SK Sinha, Jasvir Singh, Safina Parvin and Smt. Sushma Tiwari, Principal were also present. The normal medical check-up of the Girls and boys of school and nearby villagers was conducted in this camp.

# Specially-abled citizens hold voter awareness rally

DIVYA MODI ■ RANCHI

In a bid to create voter awareness for the upcoming elections no stone is being left unturned this election season. One such step taken in this direction was in the form of a rally held on Tuesday by the differently-abled people in the State capital.

A voter awareness tricycle rally was organised under SVEEP (Systematic Voters Education and Electoral Participation) from Zila School to Firyalal Chowk in Ranchi as per the directions of the District Elections Officer cum Deputy Commissioner Rai Mahimpat Ray. PWD district icon Mukesh Kanchan along with more than 100 PWD participants was a part of the campaign. The rally was flagged



Specially-abled people at a voter awareness tricycle rally ahead of the forthcoming Assembly polls, organised by district administration at MG Marg in Ranchi on Tuesday

Ratan Lal | Pioneer

also present on the occasion. "The rally organised under SVEEP was to create voter awareness across all sections of the society for inclusive voting. It was also aimed to make the specially abled aware of the facilities made for them at the polling booths. It is also a symbol of empowerment for the differently abled to come out and participate in the elections," said Shukla.

On reaching Firyalal Chowk the participants distributed pamphlets and posters to the passersby urging them to cast their vote. "I appeal to all those who are specially abled to use their right and participate in voting. Voting is not only our right but also our responsibility towards the country," said the district icon. The district administration has

taken various for the convenience of the differently abled voters. The voters can register online at the PWD App and a vehicle will be provided to take them to their polling booth.

The voters will also be given priority at the voting stations and will have not to stand in the queues for their turn.

Wheel chair facility is also being provided at the booths. Special assistance will be ensured to the voters with visual impairment while the EVM machines will also have brail stickers.

For every 10 voters there will be one ramp at the polling stations. The voting booths will also have suitable furniture for the voters and railing for the convenience of the voters.

**Chairman-cum-Managing Director, CMPDI** On this occasion, Alok Kumar, GM (HRD/CSR), CMPDI; SK Sinha, Jasvir Singh, Safina Parvin and Smt. Sushma Tiwari, Principal were also present. The normal medical check-up of the Girls and boys of school and nearby villagers was conducted in this camp.



# No progress in Sena-NCP-Cong Govt formation efforts

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■  
NEW DELHI

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

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

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

In the meeting Congress

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

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

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

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

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

moving forward to an official announcement.

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

called to discuss and decide on the removal of the Sena from the alliance? What was the basis for the removal of the Sena from the NDA?" "The seventh death anniversary of late Balasaheb came to be mired in politics. On a day when the nation was paying homage to the late Sena chief, the BJP perpetrated the nasty act of showing door to late Balasaheb's party from the NDA, an alliance founded by the very same leader," the "Saamana" editorial stated.

Holding Prime Minister Narendra Modi virtually responsible for erosion in the importance of the NDA during the last five and a half years, the "Saamana" editorial said: "Without any notice or discussion, the Shiv Sena was removed from the NDA, an entity whose existence has been diminished systematically during the last five and a half years. This is the beginning of the end of politics of arrogance and

arbitrariness. We are saying this deliberately. The decision taken by the BJP in the land of Chhatrapati Shivaji will definitely boomerang on the party itself".

Parliamentary Affairs Minister and BJP leader Pralhad Joshi, it may be recalled, had announced on Sunday that the Shiv Sena had ceased to be a part of the NDA after its move to align with the Congress and NCP to form a government in Maharashtra, and said: "So it is natural that they will be allotted seats on the opposition side in both houses".

Drawing parallels between the BJP and Muhammad Ghori (1149–1206), an invader who laid

foundation for Muslim rule in the country, the Sena editorial stated; "Of the total 18 small and big battles he fought with the Muslim invader, legendary Hindu king Prithviraj Chauhan defeated

Mohammed Ghori 17 times. Every

time, Prithviraj Chauhan spared

Ghori of his life. Later Prithviraj paid heavy price for his generosity. Ghori came well prepared for the 18th battle and defeated Prithviraj.

Forgetting the generosity shown to him by the Hindu king earlier, an ungrateful Ghori took Prithviraj as a prisoner and executed him".

"In Maharashtra, we pardoned similar forces that indulged in betrayal and ungratefulness on several occasions in the past. The same forces are trying to stab us in the back. But the Shiv Sena will not easily spare such forces that stab Maharashtra in the back. If it realised that the Shiv Sena was aligning with the Congress, what was holding the BJP from calling a meeting of the NDA and issuing a charge-sheet against the Sena? Had the BJP been done that, things would have been established as to who is right or wrong," the editorial said.

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

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

The Sena's insistence of

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

Bhagwat, without naming the two former partners of the

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

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

Senas

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The conference was the

part of regular interactions of

the President with such institutions in his capacity as a visitor to 152 Central Universities and institutions of higher learning.

The president said that after the government's efforts to improve India's ranking on the Ease of Doing Business Index, the aim is now to improve the Ease of Living for all citizens.

"How can we move forward in that direction, and make life easier for all, especially those on the margins of society? Later this week, Governors of states will be here in Rashtrapati Bhavan and this will be one of the major points of deliberation in their conference. I am sure there are solutions in the area of Governance," he said.

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

PTI

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Yet, we will have to find alternatives," President Kovind said.

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## LORD AYYAPPA TEMPLE

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

PTI ■ SABARIMALA(KER)

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

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

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

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

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

Unmindful of the heavy

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

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

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

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

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

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

Supporting the shrine's tra-



dition, a nine-year-old Keralite girl, who came to the temple complex from Karnataka on Monday, had a placard around her neck inscribed with the words "Ready to wait. Will visit the shrine after attaining 50 years."

A UDF delegation, which visited Pamba and Nilackal

the foothills of Sabarimala, about 5 km from the shrine.

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

During the two-month long pilgrimage season, the Kerala Water Authority has decided to provide 130 lakh litres of water daily.

While at Pamba 60 lakh litres would be distributed 70 lakh litres would be supplied at Sanndhanam, a KWA press release said.

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

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

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

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

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

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

During the two-month long pilgrimage season, the Kerala Water Authority has decided to provide 130 lakh litres of water daily.

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

PTI ■ KOCHI

The Kerala High Court on Tuesday made it clear that vehicle parking shall not be allowed on the roadside from Nilackal to Pamba during the Sabarimala pilgrimage season as

the Government informed that light vehicles of 12-seater capacity will ferry devotees till Pamba.

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

The State Government informed the court that 12-seater capacity light vehicles can take passengers till Pamba, which is 5 km from the shrine, and they have to return to Nilackal for parking.

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

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

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

## 16 farmers held in Mathura for stubble burning

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

## Manipur: 18-hour strike against CAB cripples life

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

"The new State Coordinator has not joined yet. We have not received any official communication regarding his date of joining," an official at the NRC Authority told PTI.

Sources said Sarma has not stepped into the office of the NRC Authority here after his new appointment. He had earlier served as its executive director from 2013 to 2016.

"We are clueless about when he

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

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

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

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

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

## Defamation case: Special court issues production warrant against Lalu

**Patna:** A special court here has issued a production warrant against RJD chief Lalu Prasad, who is lodged in a jail in Ranchi, in connection with a defamation case.

Special MP/MLA court judge Kumar Abhinav on Monday issued the production warrant against Prasad in the case filed by Uday Kant Mishra, a member of Bihar State Disaster Management Authority, for making objectionable comments against him.

The court asked the author-

ies of Birsa Munda jail in Ranchi to produce Prasad before it on December 2, 2019, which is the next date of hearing in the case, Mishra's coun-

sel V S Dubey told PTI.

The Rashtriya Janata Dal (RJD) supremo is in the high security jail following his conviction in several fodder scam cases.

The court on Monday issued fresh production warrant against Prasad as he could not be produced before it via video conferencing, Dubey said.

### NORTHERN RAILWAY NOTICE INVITING TENDER

**Name of work & its location :** 30-Elect-28-T-2019-20-E3 Electrical work in connection with i) Renovation of dialysis, male-female changing room, ultrasound room, x-ray registration room at Northern Railway Central Hospital, New Delhi. ii) Providing oxygen & vacuum pipe line with accessories in almost all beds at NRHD in the section of SSEW/TH under ADEN-E-III. **Approx cost of the works in : Rs 13.64 lacs** **Address of the office :** Sr. Divl. Elect. Engineer/General, New Delhi. **Earliest Money :** Rs.27300.00 **Date & time of submission of tender :** 16.12.2019, 15.00 hrs. **Website & notice board :** www.ireps.gov.in & Sr. Divl. Elect. Engineer/General, New Delhi. **3700/19**

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

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

**S.N.1. Name of Work :-** Supply, Erection, Testing & Commissioning of Single Ckt 11 KV Line for bifurcation of 11 KV feeders of Old Arnia, & Sai II at Bishnah area on turn key basis

**Cost of document (in Rs.) :- 100/-, Earnest Money (in Rs.) :- 8000/-, Estd. Cost :- Rs 40.00 lacs, Date & Time of Downloading of Bidding Documents :- 14.11.2019 from 1700 hrs, Last Date of e-bid Submission :- 29.11.2019 (up to 1600 Hrs), Time and Date of Opening of tender :- 30.11.2019 (at 1400 Hrs)**

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

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

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

**No. DPJ/9289/19 Dated : 18-10-2019**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Auto-rickshaws and inter-district cabs have been plying for a while now, but in the last few days, the movement of

intra-district cabs across the valley has also increased, they added.

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

The train service in the valley was suspended due to security reasons on August 3 — days before the Centre abrogated the Jammu & Kashmir's special status

## Student uprising

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



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

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

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

## Hong Kong crisis

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



**W**hen the People's Republic of China (PRC) took over the administration of Hong Kong in 1997, it laid to rest a painful chapter of colonialism on the Chinese mainland. The UK had sought and won certain rights for the citizens of Hong Kong. The Chinese Government had promised "One country, two systems" for the city-state, which still maintained its judicial, economic and cultural identity. It even competes at global sporting meets independent of the PRC. Initially, the system worked well. Officials in Beijing had a tough time grasping the concepts of free speech and expression in Hong Kong. They realised that the city and its vibrant stock markets and access to the Western capital allowed huge fund inflows into the PRC. Indeed, the PRC's massive growth in the decade following Hong Kong's return was fuelled by money that was routed through the city. However, things have taken a dark turn here under China's new strongman Xi Jinping, who wants the "Sinification" of the city to progress much faster than the promised 50 years. Instead of Hong Kong hoping that some of its free and open culture will be imbibed by China, Xi wants it to be under his thumb. He wanted to achieve this by essentially subverting Hong Kong's unique judicial system to that of China. Easy, peasy he must have thought, but he had not accounted for the citizens, particularly the students. They were loathe to give up the freedoms they have become accustomed to. Even under the heavy hand of the Hong Kong police, who used some of the latest facial recognition technology, the students have continued to resist. Xi's predicament has worsened because of Hong Kong's vibrant and free media, making the city's crisis a public relations nightmare for Xi and his minions.

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

# opinion

## Power shift in Colombo

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



ASHOK K MEHTA

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

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

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

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

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



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Like Nepal, geography and history militate against Sri Lanka being hostile to India.

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

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

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

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### SOUND BITE

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

**President**  
—Ram Nath Kovind

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

**Actor**  
—Emraan Hashmi

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

**US Secretary of State**  
—Mike Pompeo

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

**RSS chief**  
—Mohan Bhagwat



### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

#### What a U-turn?

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

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

Jayatheertha SA  
Hyderabad

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

#### A whiff of Assam movement

T he Assam Songrami Mancha, a platform of civil society leaders and activists, has threatened the BJP that it will launch a massive stir if it goes ahead with the Citizenship (Amendment) Bill in Parliament. It has strictly warned the Centre of a great movement bigger than the 1980s' Assam students' agitation. The Bill proposes to grant citizenship to refugees from minority communities like Hindus, Sikhs, Buddhists, Jains, Parsis, and Christians. Muslims have been excluded from the scheme of things. This goes against the basic principles of "secularism" as enshrined in the Constitution, particularly Articles 14 and 15, which guarantee equality before the law and forbid discrimination on grounds of religion.

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

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

TK Nandan  
Chennai

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

**R Narayanan**  
Navi Mumbai

#### Troubling times ahead

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

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

**Shivansh**  
Via email

Send your feedback to:  
[letterstopioneer@gmail.com](mailto:letterstopioneer@gmail.com)

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

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

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

## Being systematic has its benefits

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



HIMA BINDU KOTA

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

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

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

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

However, since share prices fluctuate frequently, regular investments by Ram will increase his buying power when the share price falls and he ends up buying more stocks and vice versa. With a drop in the share price to ₹90, he can buy 11 shares, whereas if it rises to ₹110, Ram will end up with nine.

Hence, by regular, small and pre-determined value of investments, Ram would be in a position to buy more shares when the price falls, thereby bringing down the average cost of purchase. When the stock price recovers to ₹100 in the last month, Ram's original investment would be worth ₹10,300. This means Ram would be ₹300 richer by investing regularly, compared to a lump sum investment in the first month by buying 100 shares.

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

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

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

(The writer is Assistant Professor, Amity University)

Minister, sooner than later.

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

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

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

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

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

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

# analysis

09

## POINT COUNTER POINT

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



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

## A man-made crisis

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



KK PAUL

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

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

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

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

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

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

sible for about 37 per cent of the pollution, which is more or less of a seasonal nature. For the remaining, it is understood that two-wheeler, whose number in Delhi alone is 8 lakh, happen to be the source of about 33 per cent of the pollutants, while four-wheeler, whose number is about 35 lakh are responsible for just about 15 per cent of it.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



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

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

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

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

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

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

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



THE WORLD IS WATCHING CHINA

Since 1989, when it crushed the pro-reform protests that began in Tiananmen Square and witnessed the beginning of the end for the Soviet Union, Beijing has calculated that bloody suppression should be avoided if possible — but not by offering concessions. It will angrily dismiss any criticism, as it has that from Britain.

Ignored or not, foreign leaders have a duty to remind China that they are watching the action in Hong Kong.

(The *Guardian* editorial)

## What lies ahead for Sri Lankan Tamils?

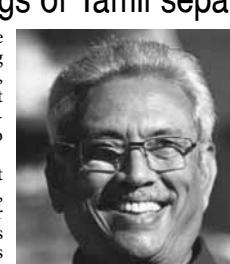
The new President, known as 'terminator' for his role in wiping out the LTTE a decade ago, has faced lawsuits in Sri Lanka and in the US over allegations of staged killings of Tamil separatists, critics and journalists during the civil war



KALYANI SHANKAR

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

Gotabaya's victory would mean the return of the powerful Rajapaksa family as he is expected to appoint his brother Mahinda as the Prime



ning with the hare and hunting with the hound.

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

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

As for the last phase of the

Elam War IV, Gotabaya noted, that even at the last minute

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

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

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# Will raise tariffs in next few weeks: Jio

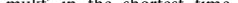
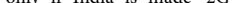
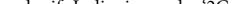
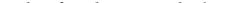
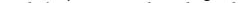
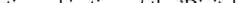
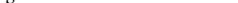
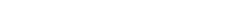
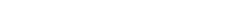
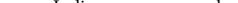
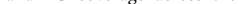
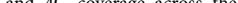
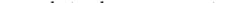
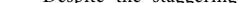
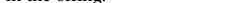
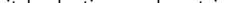
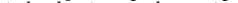
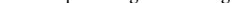
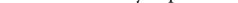
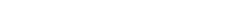
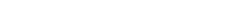
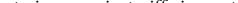
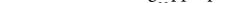
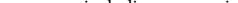
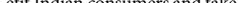
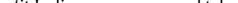
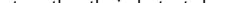
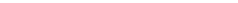
**New Delhi:** Billionaire Mukesh Ambani's Reliance Jio on Tuesday said it will increase mobile phone call and data charges in the next few weeks in compliance with rules, as it followed similar announcements by Bharti Airtel and Vodafone Idea on tariff hike.

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

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

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

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



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

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

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

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

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

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



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

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

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

Sources said the Government envisages that the Government can bring down

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

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

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

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

This would have a pos-

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

PTI ■ MUMBAI

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

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

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

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

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

## Bulgaria seeks investments from Indian businesses

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

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

Addressing the India-Bulgaria Business Forum here, Nikolova said the nation offers attractive conditions and environment conducive to the development of successful business and investment projects.

"One of the things we are particularly proud is our tax policy, we have some of the lowest tax rates in the European Union. Besides having a corporate tax of only 10 per cent, we do not tax profit reinvested in municipalities with high unemployment rates," the Bulgarian Deputy Prime Minister said.

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

## RCom's committee of creditors to meet on Nov 20

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

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

The company posted a consolidated loss of Rs 30,142 crore for September 2019 quarter due to provisioning for liabilities after the Supreme Court ruling on statutory dues. This had marked the second highest loss posted by any Indian corporate till date, after VIL's Rs 50,921 crore losses. "... we wish to inform you that the 11th meeting of Committee of Creditors of Reliance Communications Limited is scheduled to be convened on Wednesday, November 20, 2019," RCom said in a BSE filing.

During July-September 2019, RCom set aside Rs 28,314 crore on account of provisioning following the Supreme Court order on calculation of annual adjusted gross revenue (AGR) of tele-

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

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

NIFTY 50					
SCRIPT	OPEN	HIGH	LOW	LTP	CHANGE
NIFTY 50	11919.45	11958.85	11881.75	11940.10	55.60
INFRATEL	227.95	259.85	227.70	251.65	24.85
BHARTIARTL	426.90	445.65	421.45	446.35	35.45
AXISBANK	725.00	750.20	725.00	749.80	26.85
RELIANCE	1467.00	1514.90	1465.00	1511.55	52.35
POWERGRID	191.00	196.00	190.20	195.95	5.30
CPILA	461.20	477.50	459.55	473.30	12.70
GRASIM	775.00	793.50	772.00	789.00	19.50
SBIN	325.80	331.80	322.10	331.40	6.30
TECHM	754.00	766.00	752.00	765.25	11.45
INDUSINDBK	1382.00	1409.00	1374.55	1395.00	20.60
EICHERMOT	2160.00	2179.95	2142.43	2178.05	30.62
INFY	709.90	714.00	705.20	712.80	7.60
HDFCBANK	1263.30	1275.00	1261.10	1274.75	12.70
IOC	132.40	133.60	131.75	133.50	0.95
BAJAJFINSV	907.00	918.00	906.00	916.00	58.75
DREDDY	2741.00	2764.05	2724.50	2751.00	14.00
TITAN	1158.80	1167.80	1153.10	1164.00	5.20
WIPRO	248.20	251.15	247.70	250.45	1.00
GAIL	124.70	125.80	123.15	125.30	0.50
LT	1364.50	1378.20	1361.50	1369.50	5.00
UPCL	551.00	556.75	548.00	557.00	1.25
PVR	551.00	556.75	538.10	559.20	1.20
GRUNPHARMA	425.00	429.90	421.60	425.20	0.65
NESTLEIND	14110.00	14219.00	14009.60	14100.00	14.45
NTPC	117.75	118.30	116.80	117.50	0.05
BAJAJ-AUTO	3156.00	3171.50	3120.10	3156.30	-0.60
HINDALCO	193.60	194.00	190.65	193.25	-0.35
DPL	520.65	521.90	513.50	520.70	-1.05
KOTAKBANK	1629.90	1631.10	1614.15	1623.00	-4.20
COALINDA	200.95	201.30	198.25	199.75	-0.55
BAJFINANCE	4165.00	4182.15	4126.25	4140.00	-14.90
ADANIPORTS	367.50	368.15	361.55	364.00	-1.65
BRITANNIA	3140.90	3158.35	3110.00	3124.50	-16.40
ONGC	135.00	135.10	132.80	133.10	-0.80
ITC	251.75	251.80	248.80	249.25	-1.50
HCLTECH	1139.00	1143.50	1128.65	1133.90	-7.20
MARUTI	7146.00	7155.00	7032.00	7054.00	-44.45
JSWSTEEL	249.40	250.85	246.60	248.00	-1.60
ULTRACEMCO	4130.00	4130.00	4085.25	4097.00	-29.35
VEDL	143.75	143.90	140.40	142.30	-1.10
ICICIBANK	497.95	502.00	489.85	494.30	-4.05
HINDUNIVIR	2060.05	2060.05	2030.00	2039.00	-17.20
HDFCBANK	2235.60	2238.75	2202.20	2215.70	-20.60
ASIANPAINT	1747.95	1748.00	1718.50	1723.00	-16.00
HINDUNILVR	2055.00	2055.00	2029.50	2036.95	-
TATAMOTORS	170.80	171.75	167.10	169.70	-2.20
TATATEEL	414.00	414.85	400.00	403.00	-7.05
TCS	2153.00	2154.65	2105.00	2110.00	-42.60
ZEEL	293.75	293.75	282.50	288.00	-6.15
M&M	573.75	575.00	561.60	561.00	-12.70
YESBANK	65.00	67.25	63.05	64.20	-1.65

BSE 500					
Script	Open	High	Low	LTP	Change
SBILIFE	957.80	966.00	934.85	965.25	RAJESHEXPO
BHARTIARTL	427.00	445.45	421.55	439.25	GRAPHITE
YESBANK	65.50	67.25	63.00	64.15	MFLS
SUNTECK	394.00	402.75	375.00	390.65	NBCC
RELIANCE	1467.50	1514.95	1465.50	1509.80	MOTHERSUMI
CHOLAFIN	329.20	333.90	322.60	325.15	ESCORTS

## China says only it can rule on Hong Kong constitution

AFP ■ BEIJING

China insisted on Tuesday it alone held the authority to rule on constitutional matters in Hong Kong, as it condemned a decision by the city's high court to overturn a ban on

face masks worn by pro-democracy protesters.

The statement raised hackles among activists in Hong Kong after months of violent protests over concerns that Beijing is chipping away at the autonomy of the financial hub.



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

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

R. C. No. 406/2015

**ICICI BANK VS MR. HARISH KUMAR GOSWAMI****PROCLAMATION OF SALE UNDER RULE 52(2) OF SECOND SCHEDULE TO THE INCOME TAX ACT, 1961 READ WITH THE RECOVERY OF DEBTS DUE TO BANK AND FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS ACT, 1993**

CD#1 Mr. Harish Kumar Goswami, H/No. 410/0, Punjab Line Railway Colony, Ghaziabad-200001.  
Also At: Mr. Harish Kumar Goswami, House No. 1007, Khasra No. 204, NH-24, Bhim Nagar, Village Mawai, Loni, Ghaziabad-200001.  
CD#2 Ms. Asha Devi Goswami, H/No. 410/0, Punjab Line Railway Colony Ghaziabad-200001.  
Whereas as per Recovery Certificate No. 406/2015 drawn by the Presiding Officer, Debts Recovery Tribunal-II mentioning a sum of Rs. 11,15,124/- (Rs. Eleven Lacs Fifteen Thousand One Hundred And Twenty Four Only), CDS are jointly and / or severally liable to pay the amount of Rs. 11,01,124/- (Rs. Eleven Lacs One Thousand One Hundred And Twenty Four Only) alongwith future interest @9.75% p.a. from the date of filing of the OA, i.e. 05.01.2015 until recovery with cost.

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

3. Notice is hereby given that in absence of any order of postponement, the said property shall be sold by **e-auction and bidding shall take place through "Online Electronic Bidding" through the website www.bankeauctions.com on 18.12.2019 between 03:00 p.m. to 04:00 p.m.** with extensions of 5 minutes duration after 12 noon, if required.

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

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

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

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

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

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

Description of property	Reserve Price (in Rs.)	Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) (in Rs.)
House No. 1007, Khasra No. 204 NH-24, Bhim Nagar, Mawai, Loni, Ghaziabad-200001	9,23,000/-	92.300/-

7.3 The interested bidders, who have submitted their bids not below the reserve price, alongwith documents including PAN Card, identity proof, address proof, etc., and in the case of company, copy of resolution passed by the board members of the company or any other document confirming representation/attorney of the company also, latest by **16.12.2019 before 4.00 PM** in the Office of the Recovery Officer-II, DRT-II, Delhi, shall be eligible to participate in the e-auction to be held from **03.00 PM to 04.00 PM on 18.12.2019**. In case bid is placed in the last 5 minutes of the closing time of the auction, the closing time will automatically get extended for 5 minutes.

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

7.5 The unsuccessful bidder shall take the EMD directly from the **Office of Recovery Officer-II, DRT-II, Delhi** immediately on closure of the e-auction sale proceedings.

7.6 The successful/highest bidder shall have to prepare Demand Draft/Pay Order for 25% of the bid/sale amount, after adjusting the EMD, favoring Recovery Officer-II, DRT-II, Delhi, A/c R.C. No. 406/2015 by next bank working day i.e. by **04.00 PM** with this Tribunal, failing which the EMD shall be forfeited.

7.7 The successful/highest bidder shall deposit, through Demand Draft/Pay Order favoring Recovery Officer-II, DRT-II, Delhi or on before 15th day from the date of auction of the property, exclusive of such day, or if the 15th day be Sunday or other holiday, then on the first office day after the 15th day alongwith the poundage fee @ 2% upto Rs. 1,000 and @ 1% on the excess of such gross amount over Rs 1000/- in favour of Registrar, DRT-II Delhi (in case of deposit of balance amount of 75% through post the same should reach the Recovery Officer as above).

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

8. The property is being sold on **"AS IS WHERE BASIS"** and **"AS IS WHAT'S BASIS"**.

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

**SCHEDULE OF PROPERTY**

Description of the property to be sold	Revenue assessed upon the property or any part thereof	Details of any encumbrance to which property is liable	Claims. If any, which have been put forward to the property Other known paritaur bearing on its nature and value
House No. 1007, Khasra No. 204 NH-24, Bhim Nagar, Mawai, Loni, Ghaziabad-200001	Not known	Not known	Not known

Given under my hand and seal on **26.10.2019**.

(Awinesh Chandra)  
Recovery Officer-II,  
DRT-II, Delhi

RC 406/2015  
**E-AUCTION SALE NOTICE**  
**ICICI BANK VS MR. HARISH KUMAR GOSWAMI**

Dated: 26.10.2019

As per my order dated **26.10.2019**, the under mentioned properties will be sold by public auction sale on **18.12.2019** in the said Recovery Certificate.

The auction sale will be "online e-Auctioning" through website [www.bankeauctions.com](http://www.bankeauctions.com)

Date and Time of Auction: **18.12.2019 between 03.00 pm and 04.00 pm (With extensions of 5 minutes duration after 04:00 P.M., if required)**

**DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY**

Description of property	Reserve Price (in Rs.)	Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) (in Rs.)
House No. 1007, Khasra No. 204 NH-24, Bhim Nagar, Mawai, Loni, Ghaziabad-200001	9,23,000/-	92.300/-

**TERMS AND CONDITIONS**

1. The auction sale will be "online through e-auction" through website portal: [www.bankeauctions.com](http://www.bankeauctions.com).

2. The EMD shall be paid either through Demand Draft/Pay Order in favour of the "Recovery Officer-II, DRT-II, Delhi/A/c R.C. No. 406/2015". The said Demand Draft/Pay Order qua EMD, alongwith self-attested copy of identity (voter I-card/driving license/passport), which should contain the address for future communication, and self-attested copy of PAN card, and in the case of company, copy of resolution passed by the board members of the company or any other document confirming representation/attorney of the company also, **must reach the Office of the Recovery Officer-II, DRT-II, Delhi latest by 16.12.2019 before 4.00 PM**. The EMD or original proof of EMD received thereafter shall not be considered.

3. The envelope containing EMD, along with details of the sender, i.e. address, e-mail ID and mobile number, etc., should be super-scripted "RC No. 406/2015".

4. The property is being sold on **"as is where basis"**.

5. The bidders are advised to go through the portal [www.bankeauctions.com](http://www.bankeauctions.com) for detailed terms and conditions for e-auction sale before submitting their bids and taking part in the e-auction sale proceedings and/or contact Sh. Mohit Chadhaa, Zonal Debt Manager, ICICI Bank Ltd, 2nd Floor, Videocom Tower, Jhandewalan Exten, Delhi, Mobile no. 9650957770. Email ID: [mohit.chadhaa@icicibank.com](mailto:mohit.chadhaa@icicibank.com).

6. Prospective bidders are required to register themselves with the portal and obtain login ID and Password well in advance, after deposit of EMD, which is mandatory for bidding in the above e-auction, from M/s. C1 India Pvt. Ltd. Udyog Vihar, Phase-2, Building No. 301, Gurugram Haryana-122015. Telephone No. 7291981124/25/26 Contact Person: Mr. Vinod Chauhan, Mobile no. 9813887931 Email id: [delhi@c1india.com](mailto:delhi@c1india.com) and support@bankeauctions.com.

7. The interested bidders may avail online training on e-auction, after deposit JEMD from M/s. C1 India Pvt. Ltd. Udyog Vihar, Phase-2, Building No. 301, Gurugram Haryana-122015. Telephone No. 7291981124/25/26 Contact Person: Mr. Vinod Chauhan. Mobile no. 9813887931 Email id: [delhi@c1india.com](mailto:delhi@c1india.com) and support@bankeauctions.com.

8. Only those bidders holding valid user ID & Password and confirmed payment of EMD through demand draft/pay order shall be eligible to participate in on line auction.

9. The prospective buyer may inspect the site on **09.12.2019 and 10.12.2019 from 10.30 AM to 04.00 PM**.

10. The interested bidders, who have submitted their bids not below the reserve price by **16.12.2019** in the office of the Recovery Officer-II, DRT-II, Delhi shall be eligible to participate in the e-auction to be held from **03.00 PM to 04.00 PM on 18.12.2019**. In case bid is placed in the last 5 minutes of the closing time of the auction, the closing time will automatically get extended for 5 minutes.

11. The bidders shall improve their offer in multiples of **Rs. 50,000/- (Rupees Fifty Thousand Only)**.

12. The unsuccessful bidder shall take the EMD directly from the **Office of Recovery Officer-II, DRT-II, Delhi** immediately on closure of the e-auction sale proceedings.

13. The successful/highest bidder shall have to prepare Demand Draft/Pay Order for 25% of the bid/sale amount after adjusting the EMD, favoring Recovery Officer-II DRT-II, Delhi, A/c R.C. No. 406/2015 by next bank working day i.e. by **04.00 PM** with this Tribunal, failing which the EMD shall be forfeited.

14. The successful/highest bidder shall deposit, through Demand Draft/Pay Order favoring Recovery Officer-II, DRT-II, Delhi or on before 15th day from the date of auction of the property, exclusive of such day, or if the 15th day be Sunday or other holiday, then on the first office day after the 15th day alongwith the poundage fee @ 2% upto Rs. 1,000 and @ 1% on the excess of such gross amount over Rs. 1000/- in favour of Registrar, DRT-II Delhi (in case of deposit of balance amount of 75% through post the same should reach the Recovery Officer as above).

15. CHFI/CH Bank is directed to serve the Sale proclamation on CDs through Dasti suced post, courier and by affixation at the conspicuous part of the property and by beatut drum in its vicinity and a copy of the same be placed on the notice board of the Tribunal in the office of the Recovery Officer-II, DRT-II, Delhi or on before 15th day from the date of auction of the property, exclusive of such day, or if the 15th day be Sunday or other holiday, then on the first office day after the 15th day alongwith the poundage fee @ 2% upto Rs. 1,000 and @ 1% on the excess of such gross amount over Rs. 1000/- in favour of Registrar, DRT-II Delhi. (in case of deposit of balance amount of 75% through post the same should reach the Recovery Officer as above).

16. Sale proclamation shall also be published in the Newspapers in English as well as in vernacular language, having adequately wide circulation in the area.

17. CHFI/CH Bank is directed to confirm the publication of advertisement in the Newspapers and original proofs of the publication be filed before next date of hearing.

18. The undersigned reserves the right to accept any or reject all bids, if not found acceptable or to postpone the auction at any time without assigning any reason whatsoever and his decision in this regard shall be final.

**SCHEDULE OF PROPERTY**

Description of the property to be sold	Revenue assessed upon the property or any part thereof	Details of any encumbrance to which property is liable	Claims. If any, which have been put forward to the property Other known paritaur bearing on its nature and value
House No. 1007, Khasra No. 204 NH-24, Bhim Nagar, Mawai, Loni, Ghaziabad-200001	Not known	Not known	Not known

Matter be listed on **29.11.2019** for filing affidavit of service of E-auction sale notice with proofs of service (including track results qua speed post and dasti, original proofs of publication in newspapers and wider publicity including website for the purpose of - auction).

(Awinesh Chandra)  
Recovery Officer-II,  
DRT-II, Delhi**OFFICE OF THE RECOVERY OFFICER-II DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL-II, DELHI  
R. C. No. 406/2015 / ICICI BANK VS MR. HARISH KUMAR GOSWAMI**

Item No. 10  
Dated Present: 26.10.2019  
Present: Sh. Anuj Kumar, Proxy counsel for Sh. Gautam Singh, Counsel for the CH Bank

Proxy counsel for the CH Bank submitted that the sale 09.09.2019 has not been published as the officer of the CH Bank Sh. Mukesh Sharma has been transferred and Sh. Mohit Chadhaa has taken his charge. He requested to issue a sale proclamation notice after incorporation of the name of the Sh. Mohit Chadhaa, Zonal Debt Manager (Mobile No. 9650957770). Request allowed.

Direction 1. Let the property bearing House No. 1007, Khasra No. 204, NH-24, Bhim Nagar, Mawai, Loni, Ghaziabad-200001 be put on sale through E-auction on earlier reserve price and sale proclamation qua the same be issued.

2. CH Bank is directed to serve the same through all prescribed modes and file service report on or before the next date of hearing. The CH Bank is also directed to serve sale proclamation notice upon the concerned e-auction service provider well in time.

3. The detailed order of E-auction be seen on the separate order sheet.

4. CH Bank is also directed to file on affidavit memo of cost giving details of all expenses incurred in connection with the auction including publication of advertisement after completion of auction proceedings.

Let a copy of this order be given dasti to the CH Bank for compliance.

Let this matter be listed on **29.11.2019**

(Awinesh Chandra)  
Recovery Officer-II,  
DRT-II, Delhi
**GLOBE TROTTING**
**ONE DEAD IN S KOREAN FISHING BOAT BLAZE**



# LOOK BEYOND SCIENCE

Class XII Science students need not pursue engineering or medicine. There are other lucrative options that they can look at after their Boards, says ANKIT KAPOOR

**S**cience has been one of the most popular streams among most of the students. It is the stream which opens gates to popular courses including Engineering, Medicine and other allied disciplines. The majority of students with science background (medical and non-medical) in Class XII are inclined towards engineering and medical career options. These courses attract most of the aspirants as they offer high salary packages and high esteem of respect in the society. If not engineering and medicine then what are other career opportunities for Science stream students? Students don't explore other career options. They are generally pressurised by their parents/friends/society to believe that engineering and medicine are only two options available after studying PCM and PCB in Class XII.

There was a time when the craze for engineering and medicine was at its peak as option in other streams was limited. But now the scenario is changing exponentially. The number of applicants is increasing as the number of seats available is limited. As per a report the selection in the last five years is around only a per cent. This is because engineering students lack advanced digital skills including artificial intelligence, machine learning, data science and wireless technologies among others that the companies require.

But still most of the science stream students tend to go for medical and engineering option. The two disciplines of the stream have reached the saturation point. This has made students to opt for other academic avenues to satisfy their creative aspects while offering great career prospects in the future. Many generations have been and are a part of this vicious circle. But now, more and more students are opting for unconventional courses like management, law and hotel management. Not only opportunities in private sector and MNCs, these courses provide a gateway for the Government jobs as well.

#### MANAGEMENT

Management as a career choice offers a solid foundation for a rewarding career. The statistics suggest that the postgraduate management colleges have witnessed an upswing in the number of students from the science background opting for it.

After completing MBA and graduation degree in management many students aspire for the jobs in Public Sector Units (PSU).

Along with higher pay, transparency in promotion and medical facilities, job security is the prime reason that makes a government job a lucrative option. Some of the job opportunities that a student can opt after completing management degree include:

#### GLOBAL INDUSTRY, HOSPITALITY OFFERS EXCITING OPPORTUNITIES TO GRADUATES WHO WISH TO TRAVEL AND TAKE UP CAREERS BOTH NATIONALLY AND INTERNATIONALLY

■ **Banking sector:** Banking sector offers number of job opportunities for management graduates in the public sector which includes personnel officer, marketing officer, and additional programme officer. These are recruited via competitive exams like Institute of Banking Personnel Selection (IBPS) while some banks like State Bank of India and other PSU's conduct their own exam for the recruitment.

■ **Management and operational manager:** Various PSU's offers vacancies in different departments such as managerial role, operations, HR and Finance etc. The criteria for this position are either on entrance or merit basis which are conducted by few

#### PSU's.

#### LAW

Law, as a career, is more than black and white but is now one of the most promising career options with immense opportunities.

The exam for it is called Common LAW Admission Test (CLAT). Along with private sector and entrepreneurship, there are some career opportunities in Public sector. Some of them include:

■ **Legal Advisors and Consultants in legal departments:** A student possessing qualification required by department of legal affairs and legislative department can practice as a legal advisor and consultant. These officers can reach the level of secretary to the Government with the passage of time and their performance.

Legislative counsels are also appointed in the official wing of legislatures department for Hindi and regional languages.

All these posts are filed through UPSC exam and State Public Service Commission on regular basis. These officers are also recruited in the legal branches of Indian Army, navy and Air force.

■ **Judiciary:** A person holding a law degree can also work at a junior cadre posts of Magistrate or sub-Judge. These are generally recruited through UPSC exam or through Public service Commissions.

#### HOTEL MANAGEMENT

A global Industry, Hospitality offers exciting opportunities to graduates who wish to travel, and take up careers both nationally and internationally. Over the last decade and a half, as the Indian economy has grown, the hospitality industry in our country has also grown by leaps and bounds.

The hospitality industry in India will need 3.5 million skilled employees over the next five years, with an international investment of ₹3,300 crores, a wide range of jobs will be created. Job opportunities for hotel management graduates in public include

■ **Marketing and sales executive:** A person holding a degree in hotel management can apply in various hotels operated by government. The role of marketing and sales executive involves maximising hotel's revenues by developing programmes to increase occupancy making profitable and accommodation.

■ **Client Executives and other allied opportunities:** Various Government authorities like sports authority of India, Indian navy hospitality services and State Tourism department invites applications for various posts including client executives and other job opportunities for hotel management graduates. The recruitment is done through interviews only.

The writer is Managing Director, Pratham Test Prep, New Delhi

#### QUOTE OF THE DAY

**The secret of education lies in respecting the pupil. It is not for you to choose what he shall know, what he shall do. It is chosen and foreordained and he only holds the key to his own secret.**

— Ralph Waldo Emerson

#### HOTEL MANAGEMENT

Lakshya Bhartee Institute of International Hotel Management invites applications for admissions to its under graduate programmes and post graduates programmes in Hotel Management.

**Eligibility:** For BSc in Hotel Management, applicants must have passed Class XII from recognised central/State board or from a recognised university. Selection will be based on personal interview. For MSc in Hotel Management, applicants must complete their graduation from a recognised university.

**Duration:** Three years for BSc and two years for MSc.

**How to apply:** Log on to [www.lbiihm.com](http://www.lbiihm.com).

**Last date to apply:** November 29, 2019.



<https://ask.careers/courses/professional-diploma-in-banking-management/> or contact — 022 6670 1111/91 99300 88330.

**Last date to apply:** November 29, 2019.

**MANUFACTURING MGMT**  
The University of Strathclyde, Glasgow invites applications for admissions to its new MSc Manufacturing Management course.

**Eligibility:** First or upper second-class honours degree, or equivalent, in a relevant engineering, technology, science or business-related discipline.

**IELTS:** 6.0 overall with no individual component below 5.5.

**Fee:** £20,900 for international students for 2020/21.

**How to apply:** Log on to <https://www.strath.ac.uk/courses/postgraduatedtaught/manufacturingmanagement/whythiscourse/contact-eng-admissions@strath.ac.uk>.

#### CONTENT WRITING

Education and Career Times invites applications for admissions to its content writing courses for 2019-2020 session.

**Eligibility:** Anyone who has appeared for or passed Class XII exam can enroll for content writing courses at ECT. You should be able to read and understand English language to be eligible to attend the class.

**How to apply:** Log on to <https://ect.co.in> or contact 7827916060.

**Last date to apply:** November 29, 2019.

## Be on Cloud 9

The demand for cloud computing services is on an exponential rise. DR VENKATESHWARAN LOGANATHAN lists out jobs to look out for

A growing domain in the tech industry, cloud computing involves the delivery of services such as servers, storage, databases, networking software, analytics and intelligence over the internet. A popular option for businesses to increase productivity, performance and security of their services, cloud computing reduces the requirement for large upfront investments in hardware.



Offering valuable services to organisations, the demand for cloud computing services is on an exponential rise. As per IDC, the Indian cloud computing market is expected to grow to \$4 billion by 2020 with an annual growth of more than 30 per cent, thereby creating one million new jobs in India.

Here are few job roles one can take up to advance their career in this domain.

**DevOps:** A set of applications that automates the processes between software development and IT teams, DevOps builds, tests, and releases software faster and more reliably. A DevOps manager needs to manage the infrastructure, ensuring that everything is perfectly in tune with the needs of the application. A DevOps manager should be adept with managerial skills to maximise the predictability, efficiency and security of the opera-

tional processes.

**Cloud Architect:** Responsible for bridging the gap between complex business problems and solutions in the cloud, a Cloud Architect converts the technical requirements of a project into the architecture that will guide the final product. They manage the cloud computing architecture in an organisation including the front-end platforms, servers, storage, delivery and networks.

**Cloud Software Engineer:** Responsible for any duties related to cloud computing, including design, planning, management and support, the roles of a Cloud Software Engineer can be broken into multiple divisions. A Cloud Software Engineer is responsible for overseeing the development of the programming systems, maintaining

them and ensuring that they function correctly.

**Cloud System Administrator:** With primary job responsibilities of configuring the cloud management service and manage these services, a Cloud System Administrator works in a mixed Windows and Unix software environment. They also lead, oversee and maintain multi-user computing environment as per the organisation's requirements. They are required to possess strong technical knowledge of virtual machines such as IaaS, PaaS and SaaS. These professionals are usually responsible for the design and development of disseminated software modules that combine with cloud service providers.

The writer is Head of Technical Training, KGSL Institute of Technology

## 'Maintaining transparency among employees is key'

The slow down has a percolating effect on employee engagement and performance. There is high pressure to deliver on business results, demands are high and resources are low, says SONICA ARON



riencing a slowdown, we will experience a boom as well. And we suggest that organisations and individuals spend this time preparing for the boom.

#### What should organisations do during the slowdown?

We understand the budgets are tight and some tough calls might need to be taken. But it is at this time that the true mettle or organisational culture and leadership is tested. Maintaining transparency and ongoing communication to avoid any sudden big decisions is key. This will help in ensuring that employees continue to trust the management and integrity is kept at bay.

Managers and leaders will play an important role, and organisations will see the emergence of new leaders. Managers who hold teams together

in these difficult times are your leaders of tomorrow.

This is also the time to think innovatively and invest in employee development. Use technology, open sources, in house resources, leaders from other companies to come and hold guest lectures. These are zero budget initiatives but will keep employees engaged. Reskilling, redeployment, cross-functional projects are easy wins.

Carry out those internal development projects that one never found the time for. Streamline processes, use internal resources to automate, develop apps. Create internal communication and involvement platforms. Work on improvement areas. Work on the intranet, update your policies and communicate, communicate & communicate. Keep the atmosphere

positive. Gear up for the future. What will you need when the economy starts to look up? Focus the attention of employees in that direction and get everyone working towards hope.

#### What can Employees do?

The onus is not entirely on the organisation. Every employee has a role to play. We are responsible for our skill development as well. Read, explore new developments in your fields, and attend industry events and conferences, volunteer for cross-functional/location projects.

Work on your branding, leverage social media, publish opinions, take guest lectures at institutes, do social work, contribute to society.

Grow your Network. Professional networking platforms and events are good areas to find peers with common interests as well as industry mentors.

On a personal front, spend more time with your family. Connect with friends from school, college or wherever last you met them. Focus on your health. Join the gym again. Take that bucket list holiday. Rekindle that hobby that you never had the time for!

In a nutshell, take charge and prepare yourself for tomorrow.

The writer is Managing Partner, Marching Sheep, an HR consulting & Diversity Firm

## Free supplemental learning

#### PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Bringing the structural fundamentals of a classroom through the wide reach of digital technology, PaperVideo — India's first digital classroom for supplementary learning, has launched its Math curriculum for Classes VIII to XI. PaperVideo's digital classroom, which is free for all students, offers a comprehensive and holistic Math programme congruent with CBSE, ICSE, HSC, SSC and all State Education Boards of India.

Research has stated that the lack of quality teachers and curriculum are the primary reasons why India consistently ranks low in all global education indexes. The Annual Status of Education Report for 2018 mentions that 61 per cent of Indian eight graders strug-

gle with simple Math. Another shocking observation made by the researchers suggests that only 26.6 per cent of Class VIII students are fluent in subtraction — a fundamental arithmetical function.

Chirag Arya, Founder, PaperVideo, said: "The education sector has a critical role to play in driving the economic and social development in the country. Lack of access to quality education has been a persistent barrier for students beyond metro cities. Through PaperVideo, we want to bridge this gap and bring academic resources to those who need it."

The curriculum is based on a structured learning method which helps students to harness their optimum potential, resulting in a high-quality personalised learning arena.

## Three-day national convention

The three-day 47th National Convention of Company Secretaries of the Institute of Company Secretaries of India was inaugurated at Jaipur, Rajasthan on November 14, 2019 and was concluded on November 16, 2019 with much gusto.

Attended by more than 1,800 participants from across the nation and abroad, the National Convention comprised Technical Sessions on areas of professional interest and various Motivational and Special Sessions. Two special sessions were dedicated to artificial intel-

ligence and appearance before quasi-judicial bodies. The valedictory session of the convention was graced by Dr Sudhantha Trivedi, National Spokesperson of Bharatiya Janata Party, Dr Satish Poonia, State

President, Bharatiya Janata Party, Rajasthan and Ashish Chauhan, Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer, BSE Limited.

In his concluding address for the event, CS Ranjeet Pandey, President, ICSI thanked all the delegates for their tremendous participation saying that: "We have made great progress so far as a profession. In the last 51 years of our history, we have become a profession to reckon with. Our membership has doubled and the members are taking up roles of insolvency professionals and registered valuers."

## Study UK fair

#### PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The British Council, UK's international organisation for educational opportunities and cultural relations, is hosting 'Study UK Fair' on Saturday, November 23, 2019 at British Council, 17, Kasturba Gandhi Marg, New Delhi.

The education fair will host anyone who aspires to study in the UK and wants to be a part of its rich and vibrant culture. Representatives from over 40 UK universities will be present at the fair to address

face-to-face queries.

The fair also welcomes parents, teachers and educationists.

The education fair provides a unique opportunity to meet academic institutions from the UK under one roof and seek information on application procedure, shortlisting of courses and institutions, scholarships and financial assistance, post-study work opportunities, IELTS and much more.

Interested candidates can register at the venue or online on British Council's website.



With varied surroundings turning into canvases, art is expanding beyond galleries. In the realm of art and technology, visual art and immersive lighting is an emerging career platform which is grasping the attention of the youth today. It is a thought process that knows no boundaries which culminate into a visual language.

The dynamic world with an intersection of art, design and technology provides an array of career opportunities from set-designing to creating 3-D models with projection-mapping. These range of careers open new doors to every creative enthusiast.

If you are creative and imaginative, a degree in visual arts could be just what you are looking for to express yourself. Students interested in this field can apply for the visual arts degree — Bachelor of Visual Arts or Bachelor of Design and Bachelor of Fine Arts. Some of the popular specialisations are animation, digital composition, game developing, fine arts, multimedia, and many more.

If you'd like to make a living through art and design, keep reading and looking out for common paths with the major careers they lead to.

There's a growing need for people who can understand, operate, and provide innovation through 3D printing and modelling concepts. This rapidly advancing technology calls for engineers who can understand, maintain, and operate this equipment.

Mechanical, industrial, or software engineers will have a better grasp of what's involved in producing accurate working

# LIGHT IT UP

**Visual arts is dynamic and provides an array of lucrative opportunities. HITESH KUMAR shares options to pursue**

models and components for manufacturing architectural designs.

#### EXHIBITION DESIGNER

An exhibition designer is someone who creates displays and fixtures for large exhibitions, shows, businesses, museums, libraries, and galleries. They are specially trained in the art involved in the layout design and may work exclusively for a museum, gallery, or a private firm.

Activities inherent to the career include concept and design development, schematic design, construction documentation development, fabrication and installation.

#### GAME DESIGNER

Video game developer



opers, also known as video game programmers, write code for games for various platforms such as PCs, consoles, web browsers, and mobile phones. They take inputs from game designers with ideas sketches, dynamics and mechanics and develop a final playable game. Creativity and strong analytical frame of mind are the crucial key skills required to be a developer in the field of digital gaming.

#### PROGRAMMERS

Programmers develop software and the chief process involves writing various lines of code.

Coding (a common phrase used for programme development) is achieved by analysing and implementing algorithms, understanding data structures, solving logical problems, and more. It is the role of a computer programmer to assure that the software responds appropriately to users/viewers and provide the desired functionality.

#### VISUAL ART CONSULTANT

An artist's constant struggle to commercialise his artwork in the mainstream market is not new to us. This is where the guidance and mentorship of a visual art consultant can prove extremely beneficial.

Art consultants are required to have in-depth knowledge of various forms of art and different artistic techniques and language. Although there are no absolute academic requirements, and it is possible for a person who is an art enthusiast to start their own firm and work in this role, formal post-secondary training is

an asset. Strong sales skills, negotiation skills, and customer service skills are a great add-on to art consultants.

#### INSTALLATION ARTIST

Installation art is an artistic category which uses three-dimensional works that often are site-specific and designed to transform the outlook towards space or to give away certain messages.

In order to be an installation artist, students can choose a specialisation in the following creative expressions: Sculpting, painting, applied art or art history in their graduation courses. Installation artists are hired by several firms, museums, galleries, toy industries, and even film industries to create and beautify atmospheres, mould figures and provide artistic advice for film direction and sets.

#### SET DESIGNERS

Set designers pick backgrounds, lighting, props, and other items to create the environment for stage productions, films, and shows. They work with directors and production crews to design or recreate the appearance and atmosphere of a specific era, place or location according to the theme.

Set-designers play many roles and most commonly have expertise such as knowledge of design software and computer-aided design (CAD) programmes, awareness of properties of various materials as well as the ability to use construction tools, read blueprints, draw set sketches and construct set models.

The writer is founder, Artillum

# Need to take vocation training seriously'

Vocational and skill training go a long way in bridging the skill gap and make the youth employable, says RACHIT JAIN



Rachit Jain  
Founder-CEO, Youth4Work

vision. With vocational training, young professionals wouldn't shy away from taking the initiative to work.

**Cultivates communication and critical thinking:** Irrespective of whichever segment you work for, communication skills are the kernel of growth and development.

Vocational training improves the level of communication as it exposes the students to a plethora of people from all walks of life—both novices and veterans, therefore giving them industry experience and exposure needed to enhance their portfolio. As for critical thinking, students would learn the process of actively and skillfully conceptualizing, applying, analyzing, and/or evaluating information gathered. This would further urge them to expand their thinking and function aptly.

**Why Government and private entities need to work together to harness this trend:** There is a requirement for the proper administration of vocational education by various states government and better co-ordination between different state departments and agencies, to secure relevant talent.

While there is a place for promises, what the Indian educational scenario needs is an actionable approach, which organizations like Youth4work are trying to bring in, via providing a variety of skill-building courses to enhance career and growth. Soon the draught of employability will meet the right skilled force to empower the nation that is as vivid as India.

India is at a strange crossroad. Education is evolving at the speed of lightning, the rate of unemployment is also skyrocketing, doubling in the past two years. According to the State of India's Environment report (2019), the unemployment rate has gone up from 4% to 7.6% in the last two years. This can be contributed to the fact that one should not blame the employers but the lack of employability amongst students. The complaint is unanimous—a lack of employability is rampant as students get entrenched in bookish knowledge while failing to grasp basic practical skills like as communication, aptitude, ability to think on their feet and so on.

There is an evident skill gap that is required to be bridged to harness prosperity for the nation and at the pace at which hiring is evolving, it is even more essential to pick up the pace, rather remaining behind. Yet, institutions and schools, as well as parents/students, aren't aware of the importance of inculcating vocational training and nurturing skills in the regular curriculum.

Here are a few salient reasons why vocational and skill training is essential for the present scenario:

**Cultivates learning style:** Every person comes with his style of learning that remains incomparable to the rest and this holds for students as well. Some students can simply read and understand a concept, while others have a penchant for probing further to unearth an interesting feature that would encourage the assimilation of knowledge.

Yet, our curriculum is molded in such a way that individual minds are forced to be slot-ted into a particular type of learning that is fit for society.

In such situations, it is the students who are unable to learn properly as their natural pace of learning faces a severe roadblock, inhibiting them to apply their faculties to the fullest. Vocational training provides the space for learning at one's own pace.

**Cultivates job readiness:** The transition that one goes through from educational to occupational level is huge as one move to a stage where he has to apply all the lessons learnt all this while. And yet, more often than not, they fail at grasping every basic that is required from them, making work even more difficult.

Adapting to the corporate world, with its set of ups and downs, remains a challenge that people fail to tackle. Vocational training enables students to adapt to the corporate world at a much faster rate; adding depth their portfolio and helping them materialize their

per cent over the recorded satisfaction level of 75 per cent in 2017.

Education and research have registered the steepest fall in the satisfaction level to 53 per cent in 2018 from 73 per cent in 2017.

Manufacturing and Financial Services, Banking and Insurance sectors have registered a six per cent and a four per cent fall in the level of satisfaction by the respondents. The analysis presented in this report is based on the WageIndicator dataset covering the period of three years, from January 2016 to December 2018. This report provides a comparison of wage and working conditions figures for three years, January 2016 to December 2018. The wage analysis

is based on data collected from Paycheck.in, the Salary Calculator and Monster Salary Index from the period.

#### Highlights of the study:

■ Majority respondents indicated being happy about job satisfaction in 2018

■ Respondents believed satisfaction with the relationship with superiors was good

■ Pay-satisfaction recorded the lowest and continued to decrease

■ Satisfaction on salary saw 21 per cent fall

■ Pay, job security and life-as-a-whole-satisfaction are the only values below 70 showing a rather satisfying work life.

## MIND IT

attrition rates. It is a positive sign that only three among all the recorded industries have the satisfaction levels less than 70 per cent and none below 50 per cent. This will help the respective sectors instill optimism in the economy, in-turn helping in improvement of the general sentiment."

An analysis of the findings regarding satisfaction with work and life reveals that employees in the Construction and Technical Consultancy, Healthcare, Caring services and Social Work, Information and Communication Technology Services, Legal

and Market Consultancy & Business Activities sectors are highly satisfied with their jobs.

Legal and Market Consultancy sectors have shown the highest levels of job satisfaction at 84 per cent while respondents from the Construction and Technical Consultancy have registered a close 83 per cent level of satisfaction.

Information & Communication Technology Services has registered the highest growth in level of satisfaction amongst all recorded sectors, gaining three

per cent over the recorded satisfaction level of 75 per cent in 2017.

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## STUDY ABROAD

### 'We take a holistic approach to strategise'

ALISON CAMPBELL, Deputy Director, Future Students, University of Queensland tells students why they should study here

#### ■ How is India important as a market for University of Queensland (UQ)?

The UQ identified India as a strategic country for engagement. Getting our India strategy right will both enhance the prosperity and security of Australians and

help realise the aspirations of the 1.3 billion Indians who sense their time has come and a better life is within their grasp.

■ How many Indian students are currently studying at UQ and what is the average number of enrolments from India every year?

Since 2013, more than 1,200 Indian students have enrolled in programmes at UQ, with more than 700 students enrolled in 2018. Indian student numbers have increased by around 40% since 2017 and by more than 200% since 2013.

The majority of students from India currently enrolled are studying PG programmes. The UG commencements have seen consistent growth in recent years.

■ How has the ease in visa policies affected the overall

#### enrollments from India?

Students have global opportunities, so it is difficult to predict how decisions are likely to be made when conditions change. The university already has in place a comprehensive application process.

#### ■ How does UQ plan to leverage the opportunity?

The UQ aims to operate with an overarching, holistic and long-term strategy that aligns the university with Indian Government, academia and industry and supports PhD and collaborative research with strategic partners. Our flagship strategic partnership with IIITD will drive other activities in teaching and learning, research and research training with our partners to achieve long-term, mutually beneficial outcomes.

#### ■ What kind of cross-cultural opportunities does UQ offer to students from abroad?

In 2018, UQ signed an agreement partnering with IIITD to launch a joint Academy of Research (UQIDAR) which will pave the way for students and academics to partner on projects addressing some of the most pressing issues affecting India, Australia and global communities.

## IN BRIEF

### TOOL FOR IDENTIFYING MOST GIFTED STUDENTS

The Asset Talent Search (ATS) is an assessment tool for identifying the most gifted students. In its ninth year, the ATS exam by Educational Initiatives identifies the extent of giftedness in students and develops the career path for your child! It contains three sections – English, Mathematics and Sciences.

The test that measures student's conceptual understanding, benchmarks

school's performance at an international, national and regional level with actionable insights through easy-to-understand reports.

**Register:** Before November 25, 2019

**Test dates:** Sunday, December 1, 2019 and December 8, 2019

**Register:** At [assettalentssearch.com](http://assettalentssearch.com)

The ATS is a talent recognition programme. It identifies the finest talents in Math, Science and English.

### MYNEET EXAM FOR MEDICAL ASPIRANTS

The Era Foundation, the organiser of COMED-K (Karnataka's Engineering seat selection and counselling program)

launched MyNEET, the only national-level mock exam for NEET.

The exam aims at giving candidates an experience of writing the real national eligibility cum entrance test in a simulated environment.

MyNEET will be conducted on January 4, 2020, at

400 centres across the country.

The NEET is one of the most competitive exams in India with a success rate of only 15 per cent. Every year over 15 lakh students attempt NEET competing for 75,000 seats in medical colleges across India.

Muralidhar, CEO, Era Foundations said: "The experience of writing NEET for the first time can be unnerving for the

students, considering its scope and scale. We strongly feel giving a mock exam in a simulated environment can be invaluable to these students. The questions in the mock exam are set by educators keeping in mind the same difficulty level and complexity as NEET.

The educators are subject matter experts who have experience in setting questions for all India entrance exams."

### FORE SCHOOL STUDENTS SHINE

The students of FORE School of Management showcased their management skills at national level competitions organised by various campuses of Indian Institute of Management.

The victory comprised of six consecutive winnings which started from IIM Ahmedabad, IIM Udaipur, IIM Raipur, SRCC, and IIFT to IIT Bombay, SJMSOM.

Every year, different branches of IIM organise events for the students to come and showcase their management skills, HR skills, as well as business

management strategies to touch the cherished milestone envisioned ever since the foundation of the institutions.

The winners were given trophies as well cash prizes along with many certificates after analysing the given problem, providing the management strategies and HR skills to come up with a positive and profitable outcome for the organisation.

The events offered a platform to students who allowed them to perform their best and prepare them for positions of greater responsibility in their career.

### The IIT Hyderabad's Center for Healthcare Entrepreneurship (CfHE)

invites Applications for its Fellowship for 2019-20. The fellowship is dedicated to achieving universal healthcare solutions through entrepreneurship and providing successful applicants with training and incubation opportunities.

The fellowship is dedicated to achieving universal healthcare solutions by igniting the spark of entrepreneurship and providing successful applicants with training and incubation opportunities.

The Center is inviting applications for



# Wrist spinners difficult to pick with Pink ball: Harbhajan

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

**A**t the floodlit Eden Gardens, wrist spinners landing the pink ball with scrambled seam will be far more difficult to pick than finger spinners, feels senior off-spinner Harbhajan Singh.

India will be playing its much-awaited first Day/Night Test against Bangladesh at the Eden Gardens from Saturday and there is a lot of curiosity regarding how the pink ball would behave.

"Wrist spinners will have one advantage if you see because it's going to be very difficult to pick the seam (with black stitches) of pink ball," Harbhajan told PTI during an interaction.

India has a wrist spinner in Kuldeep Yadav but Harbhajan didn't want to talk on selection matters.

"Well, that's the team management's call and I can't comment. But then Bangladesh need to play the Indian pacers on the seamer friendly track before spinners are fully operational," he said, referring to their performance against Mohd Shami and Co. In the first Test.

"And also between 3.30 and 4.30 pm, the time of sunset in Kolkata where seamers are known to do maximum damage. But yes we need to figure out more about spinners if we want to play more D/N Tests in future."

He reminded how Kuldeep turned out to be lethal during the 2016 Duleep Trophy, played with the pink ball.

"If you remember Duleep Trophy, no one could effectively read Kuldeep from his wrists. Leg spinners got lot of wickets during that edition," Harbhajan said.

He explained why wrist spinners are more effective.

"When a finger spinner bowls, the ball is released with seam so that there is turn and bounce. When you are bowling the googly, the seam will be scrambled and very difficult to pick," he explained.

However, someone like a Muttiah Muralitharan might just be very effective.

"But there are exceptions like Muttiah Muralitharan, who could have been a killer with the pink ball despite being a finger spinner



Ravichandran Ashwin, center without cap, celebrates with teammates the dismissal of Bangladesh's Liton Das during the third day of first Test between India and Bangladesh in Indore

## Nur-Sultan to host Ind-Pak Davis Cup tie

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

**D**ismissing Pakistan's review appeal, the International Tennis Federation (ITF) on Tuesday announced Kazakhstan's capital Nur-Sultan as the neutral venue for the upcoming Davis Cup tie between India and Pakistan.

Pakistan Tennis Federation (PTF) had filed an appeal contesting the ITF Davis Cup Committee's November 4 decision to shift the November 29-30 tie to a neutral venue.

PTF had argued that if Indian pilgrims can visit Pakistan without any security threat, why can't the Indian team play matches in Islamabad, but the Independent Tribunal of the world governing body kept the games at a neutral venue.

The Pakistan Tennis Federation (PTF) appealed the Davis Cup Committee decision to move the tie from Islamabad. The appeal was dismissed by an independent tribunal on Monday 18 November," ITF said in a statement.

Further to the decision of the PTF not to nominate a neutral venue, in accordance with Davis Cup regulations, the Davis Cup Committee has voted in favour of the tie being hosted by the ITF on neutral ground at the National Tennis Centre in Nur-Sultan (previously Astana), Kazakhstan on 29-30 November," the statement added.

The matches will be played on indoor courts since extreme cold conditions there won't allow them to be staged outside.

"Playing indoor suits our players. It will work in our favour, not that our players can't play on grass but they a lot more comfortable on hard courts. The weather conditions are harsh and though we are playing indoors, it still affects the body," India coach Zeeshan Ali said.

"The quality of tennis is better playing indoors because factors like sun and wind do not affect the matches." The tie was scheduled to be held in Islamabad in September but was pushed to November 29-30 after India expressed concerns about the safety of their players due to diplomatic tensions between the two nations.

He then went on to explain the fundamental difference between bowling with white ball and pink ball when the dew sets in.

"A lot of people think that the ball will be like a slippery soap bar as it happens with white ball in D/N games. It's not the same. The white ball becomes slippery because the white lacquer goes off the skin of the ball gets wet.

"With extra lacquer, pink ball's skin wont get wet but the stitches will be very soggy. And therein lies problem with finger spinners.

**When a finger spinner bowls, the ball is released with seam so that there is turn and bounce.**

**When you are bowling the googly, the seam will be scrambled and very difficult to pick**

Also the format of the game makes it difficult.

"In 50 overs or 20 over cricket, whenever the ball gets wet, you can just alter the length a bit and let the batsmen play on backfoot getting those singles.

"But in a Test match, you will not have a field setting like that. You have to pitch it up. Now landing six deliveries on one spot while trying to grip a wet seam can be a challenge because trying the ODI length will be easy meat for batsmen."

For spinners to be more effective, they have to play more games at the domestic level.

"If BCCI creates a window so that all top national players are available for a couple of specific rounds in Ranji Trophy, then you can learn more."

"Even Duleep can go back to pink ball but only if stars play. With no disrespect to any player, if top players dont play here, the purpose is lost and no advantage gained while playing next pink Test," he concluded.

## Shami alters length to keep batsmen guessing

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

**I**ndia speedster Mohammed Shami said altering length to keep the batsmen guessing would be key when India take on Bangladesh in their maiden Pink-ball Test.

Shami, who has been in terrific form, returned with the figures of 3/27 and 4/31 in the first Test at Indore to achieve his career-best ranking, said he intends on keeping things simple for the historic Test.

"What one thing bowlers should do is keep an eye on the wicket and how is it behaving, so what I do is as the pitch gets slower I keep pushing myself and when I notice that the batsman is uncomfortable I go over the top... So the length has to keep changing," Shami said on *Nerolac Cricket Live on Star Sports*.

Meanwhile, former India cap-



son Sunil Gavaskar cautioned Mayank Agarwal, who scored a double century in the Indore Test, saying opposition would be better-prepared to counter him in future matches.

"He is enjoying Test cricket, this is his first year and hopefully he keeps scoring on the second year also because in the second sea-

"If you see other oppositions, some teams have got quality fast bowling attacks, some have quality spinners but if you look at this Indian side, they've got two quality spinners, three quality seamers plus Jasprit Bumrah and Bhuvneshwar Kumar who are not in the playing 11."

"So they've got proper 5 seamers plus Kuldeep Yadav."

## Coach Langer throws weight behind Warner



Australia coach Justin Langer has reckoned opener David Warner will put his bad form in the Ashes this year behind him in the upcoming Test series against Pakistan. Warner had a horrible outing during the Ashes campaign this year as he managed just 95 runs at an average of 9.5 from five games.

"I cannot wait to see him play well."

When he simplifies the game, stays still and watches the ball, keeps his mind clear, we know there's no more destructive player in the world, probably," Langer was quoted as saying by *cricket.com.au*.

"He loves batting in Australia, he loves batting, basically. We are looking forward to him having a great summer. I know how important he is to our team, that's why I had no doubt after the Ashes that he'd be in the first Test of the summer," he added.

When Pakistan last toured Australia, Warner averaged 71.20 across three Test matches.

Earlier, Aussie spinner Nathan Lyon felt that Warner would come out all guns blazing in the two-Test series against Pakistan.

"Dave is a world-class player. I'm expecting him to come out here and play exceptionally well," Lyon had told reporters on Saturday.

"No doubt, he would have been down and disappointed about the Ashes that he had. But he was still part of the side to go over there and retain the Ashes, which is pretty bloody special, if you ask me," he added.

## Babar's best yet to come: Ponting

IANS ■ BRISBANE



Babar Azam in a file picture

With Pakistan set to challenge Australia in a two-Tests series starting Thursday, former Australia skipper Ricky Ponting believes that Babar Azam could be a threat for the home team as the World Cup-winning skipper feels that Babar is yet to play to potential.

"We haven't seen the best of him yet," Ponting told *cricket.com.au*. "Twenty-odd Tests for an average of 35 – he's better than that. He averages 54 in one-day cricket at a strike-rate of about 90. He's a very, very classy player."

"He's a really exciting talent and probably the guy I'm looking forward to seeing the most this summer. I've seen the Aussies a lot and I've seen a lot of the Kiwis, but I'm really excited to see him. He could be anything," he added.

## Kiwis & Eng put rivalry to Test

AFP ■ MOUNT MAUNGANUI

**N**ew Zealand and England will take their cricketing rivalry into the Test arena on Thursday after finding themselves evenly matched in recent limited-overs thrillers.

England have bragging rights after winning a rollercoaster World Cup final in July, then edging the Black Caps 3-2 in a desperately close Twenty20 series completed earlier this month.

Both the one-day decider and T20 series needed tie-breakers to find a winner and there will be no shortage of mutual respect when the rivals face off again on Thursday in the First Test at Mount Maunganui.

On paper, there again appears to be little to separate the teams, with New Zealand second in the Test rankings and England third.

But England skipper Joe Root is painfully aware that his team underperformed when it lost a two-Test series in New Zealand last year after underestimating the Black Caps' bowlers on their home turf.

Pacers Trent Boult and Tim Southee bundled the tourists out for 58 in the first innings of the opening Test as England tried to play what Root described as "fast forward" cricket.

England's skipper said his team would be taking a more measured



New Zealand and England players watch as local maori perform a haka during an official welcome

AP

approach this time, with batsmen placing an emphasis on protecting their wickets.

"We have to be prepared to play some attritional cricket at times," he said.

"We have to try to bat longer... it would be nice to get used to batting for 120 overs more regularly, especially in the first innings."

The series will not count towards the World Test Championship, giving new England coach Chris Silverwood room to experiment in his first Test series in

it," Wagner said.

New Zealand will also be bolstered by the return of captain Kane Williamson, who sat out the T20 series with a nagging hip injury.

It will be the first Test match ever staged at Mount Maunganui's Bay Oval, which has been hosting limited-overs internationals since 2014.

The beachside venue is Wagner's home ground and he said the wicket could take time to get used to.

"It's been a pretty good wicket that's tended to be on the flatter side but there's always pace and bounce that you can work with," he said.

"It's also got its own unique challenges with wind that swirls around a bit."

### SQUADS

**New Zealand:** Kane Williamson (capt), Todd Astle, Tom Blundell, Trent Boult, Colin de Grandhomme, Lockie Ferguson, Matt Henry, Tom Latham, Henry Nicholls, Jeet Raval, Mitchell Santner, Tim Southee, Ross Taylor, Neil Wagner, BJ Watling

**England:** Joe Root (capt), Jofra Archer, Jonny Bairstow, Stuart Broad, Rory Burns, Jos Buttler, Zafar Crawley, Sam Curran, Joe Denly, Jack Leach, Saqib Mahmood, Matthew Parkinson, Ollie Pope, Dominic Sibley, Ben Stokes, Chris Woakes.

## Misbah working on plans to shut Smith

IANS ■ BRISBANE

Pakistan coach Misbah-ul-Haq said that pitching the ball consistently on the blind spot or near the top of the off stump would be key to dismissing Australian stalwart Steve Smith.

Smith returned to Test cricket by taking the Ashes by storm earlier in the year. In the five-match series that was held across August and September in England, Smith scored a whopping 774 runs at an average of 110.57. He carried the good form into the recently concluded T20I series against Pakistan at home.

"As far as Steve Smith goes, there's a blind spot for every top batsman in the world; as a bowler you're always interested in pitching the ball there," Misbah is quoted as saying by *ESPNcricinfo*.

"It's important that we bowl with consistency there."

Our bowlers are executing the plans very well right now, and hopefully we'll be able to build that kind of a pressure, and stay disciplined especially early in the innings. No matter how good a batsman is batting, it's about consistency and bowling the maximum balls in those areas that build pressure and the batsman respects you, and you force

him to make a mistake."

Pakistan are going into the series with a pace attack that consists of Mohammad Abbas, Shaheen Afridi, Muhammad Musa and the 16-year-old Naseem Shah.

"All the batsmen you talk to, any batsman in the world, that's the area where you have to defend a ball, and that is a six to eight metre spot where you have to play the top of off stump," he said. "That's the area from where it's happening then that creates a great chance. Even if it's not happening, you have less chances to do anything with the ball."

"So it's about consistency, and top players in the world, if you miss those areas, that special length and line, then they are good enough to just cash in on that. So you have to be very, very disciplined, just keep the ball there, and if it's happening you are already in the game."

