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Relief for Adani in coal scam

Bombay HC quashes DRI's letter rogatories; big firms hope similar treatment

PNS ■ MUMBAI

The Bombay High Court on Thursday provided a big relief to Adani group in a coal scam and also paved the way for many other corporate entities to seek similar relief. The court ordered quashing of all letter rogatories (LRs) sent by Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (DRI) to countries, including Singapore, against three Adani group companies accused of overvaluing Indonesian coal imports between 2011 and 2015.

A division bench of justices Ranjit More and Bharati H Dangle allowed the Adani Enterprises Ltd's (AEL) writ petition which questioned the procedural legality involved in issuing the LRs. The petitioner pointed out that LRs were issued "without any notice and hearing the companies". It also said that at that point of time

- The court order virtually brings down the curtain on the ongoing probe against Adani group of companies and also comes handy for over three dozen other companies
- All of them are also facing DRI probe for alleged overvaluation of coal imports from Indonesia
- The DRI had demanded around ₹29,000 crore from these companies for alleged overvaluation of coal imports
- The Thursday order is big setback for the DRI and all those who had alleged that the Adanis and several other companies made huge money by overpricing the Indonesian coal imports between 2011 and 2015



the DRI had not taken any cognisance of offence under the Customs Act 1962 against the group firms.

The court order virtually brings down the curtain on the ongoing probe against Adani group of companies and also comes handy for over three dozen other companies such as Essar group, JSW Energy and

JSW Steel, Hyderabad — based NSL Group, India Cements, NTPC, MMTC, Tamil Nadu SEB and Karnataka Power Corporation. All of them are also facing DRI probe for alleged overvaluation of coal imports from Indonesia.

The DRI had demanded around ₹29,000 crore from these companies for alleged

overvaluation of coal imports. The Customs, Excise & Service Tax Appellate Tribunal had already rejected this plea.

In June this year, the DRI charged AEL of attempting to block its probe into the overvaluation charge.

The DRI filed an affidavit in the Bombay High Court on June 13 questioning the logic

behind the AEL decision to question the "well-settled procedure of issuance of Letter Rogatory".

A letter rogatory is generally dispatched to another country by the Central Government to seek the help of foreign judicial authorities in probing an offshore entity in connection with an ongoing domestic probe.

The Thursday Bombay High Court order is big setback for the DRI and all those who had alleged that the Adani and several other companies made huge money by overpricing the Indonesian coal imports between 2011 and 2015.

The other aspect of the coal scam probe related to allotment fraud had also generated a big controversy when the role of former CBI chief Ranjit Sinha had come under scanner for allegedly helping the accused companies.

Delhi's odd-even rules announced

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal on Thursday announced rules for odd-even scheme that will be effective from November 4 to 15 to tackle air pollution.

The list of exempted people include President, Vice President, Prime Minister, Lok Sabha Speaker, Deputy Chairman of the Rajya Sabha, Governors, Chief Justices of India and Judges of the Supreme Court and the Delhi High Court. Emergency, enforcement, defence, paramilitary and embassy vehicles will also be exempted.

Violations of the rule will be punished with a fine of Rs 4,000 which was earlier Rs 2,000.

Two-wheelers will also be exempted under the scheme.

Vehicles driven or carrying women and those carrying physically disabled persons will be exempted. But private CNG vehicles won't be exempted.

Parking fee hike will militate against car rationing: Kejriwal

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal on Thursday said that hiking parking fees during the implementation of the odd-even vehicle rationing scheme will be counterproductive.

Kejriwal's statement came after the Supreme Court-mandated Environment Pollution (Prevention and Control) Authority (EPCA) chairman Bhure Lal had asked the Delhi Government last week to fix parking charges as per the new parking policy so that it could be hiked in view of growing air pollution.

Addressing media persons, the Chief Minister said, "It will become very difficult for people to travel if the odd-even scheme is implemented and parking fees are also hiked."

"We are asking people to share their vehicles during



odd-even days and if parking fees are increased, they will be deterred to take their vehicles out. There will be threat of chaos," he said.

Speaking on the issue, Transport Minister Kailash Gahlot refused that a report on parking fees was submitted to him. "I do not have information that any such report has been submitted. We will examine it whenever the report is

submitted," he said.

Meanwhile, officials of the Delhi Municipal Corporations said they are waiting for the final approval of the authorities on new parking norms, but they also assured that whatever be the new rules, no additional burden would be put on people by the civic bodies.

Chairman of the Standing Committee of the SDCM Bhupender Gupta said the Base

EPCA directs new parking policy; Min says no report for hike received yet

Parking Fee (BPF) committee has recommended a hike in the fee by a "factor of 1-3" depending on peak hours and crowded areas such as markets. "Since, it is suggested to be increased by a factor of 1-3, we (SDMC) can increase it by a factor of one, so that it effectively the fee would remain the same. We do not want to put burden on the people unnecessarily," Gupta said.

North Delhi Mayor Avtar Singh said the BPF committee has made recommendations to the apex monitoring committee for its final approval. "We will take steps from our side, once the final picture emerges. Whatever happens, we will take steps accordingly in a way that there is balanced approach so that we neither put burden on the people nor incur loss to the corporation," Singh said.

Brexit deal inked, Parliament nod a challenge for UK

Johnson Govt, EU agree on pact, but ally Northern Irish DUP against deal

PTI ■ LONDON

The UK and the European Union (EU) on Thursday declared that they have agreed a new Brexit deal for Britain's withdrawal from the 28-member economic bloc within the October 31 deadline.

While UK Prime Minister Boris Johnson hailed the agreement as a 'great new deal', EU President Jean Claude-Juncker

branded it a "fair and balanced agreement" as he recommended it for member-countries to be ratified at an EU summit under-way in Brussels this week.

However, the new deal continues to hang in the balance as it remains to be seen if Johnson would have the required numbers in Parliament to get it through. He is faced with an open revolt by the Northern Irish Democratic Unionist Party (DUP), which supports his Conservative Party Government in the Commons.

"We've got a great new deal that takes back control," Johnson tweeted, just before heading to Brussels to join other EU leaders for the crucial summit.

Saved by a (big cat) whisker



A 25-year-old (above) mentally-unstable man leapt into the enclosure of a lion at the Delhi zoo on Thursday, and came face to face with the big cat and moved around unconcerned about the lurking danger, before the zoo staff rescued him after tranquillising the lion. (Left) The combo of 4 photos show the man inside the lion's enclosure at Delhi Zoo on Thursday

PTI

Karnataka tops NITI Aayog's innovation list



NITI Aayog Vice-chairman Rajiv Kumar, with others, launches the India Innovation Index prepared by NITI Aayog in New Delhi on Thursday

IANS ■ NEW DELHI

Karnataka has been ranked as the most innovative State in the country while the top ten States are concentrated in southern and western India.

These rankings were released by NITI Aayog on Thursday under the India Innovation Index 2019. Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra, Telangana, Haryana, Kerala, Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal, Gujarat, and Andhra Pradesh form the

remaining top ten major States respectively.

The top ten major States are majorly concentrated in southern and western India.

Sikkim and Delhi take the top spots among the north-eastern & hill States, and union territories.

Delhi, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, Telangana, and Uttar Pradesh are the most efficient States in translating inputs into output. Detailed report on P10

CAPSULE

BENGAL GOV ACCORDED 'Z' CLASS SECURITY COVER

New Delhi: West Bengal Governor Jagdeep Dhankar has been accorded a 'Z' category VIP security cover by the Union Government in the wake of "potential threats" to him, officials said on Thursday.

COURT ALLOWS ED TO QUIZ PC TILL OCT 24

New Delhi: A Delhi court on Thursday sent former Finance Minister P Chidambaram to the custody of the Enforcement Directorate till October 24 in the INX Media money laundering case. Special judge Ajay Kumar Kuhar allowed the ED to quiz Chidambaram and also granted the former Finance Minister permission to have home cooked food, western toilet, medicines in the ED custody.

PAK SCRAMBLES F-16S TO 'HIT' DELHI FLIGHT

New Delhi: Pakistan last month scrambled two F-16 jets in its airspace to intercept a SpiceJet plane, assuming it to be a military aircraft, which was heading to Kabul from Delhi with around 120 passengers, a senior Government official said.

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Nitish to lead JD(U)-BJP in Bihar polls, says Shah

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Questions raised by some of the BJP leaders in Bihar recently over the party not taking leadership in the State and playing a second fiddle to the JD(U) were unambiguously set aside by the BJP president Amit Shah, who, on Thursday, affirmed that the JD(U)-BJP alliance would contest Assembly polls together under the leadership of incumbent Chief Minister Nitish Kumar.

Shah asserted that their alliance is "atal" (firm) and that it will fight the Bihar Assembly elections next year under Kumar.

A section of BJP leaders from Bihar pitched for Kumar making way for a BJP leader at the helm in the State, Union Minister Giriraj Singh has been



repeatedly criticising the Bihar Government for its "inept" handling of water-logging in several parts of Patna following heavy rainfall to which he also received an acid retort from the JD(U) leaders who sought him to mind his own central Ministry.

"The JD(U)-BJP alliance is 'atal'. Both parties will go to the elections together and we will fight under the leadership of Nitish Kumar. This is clear as far as Bihar is concerned," Shah told a news channel.

He was asked if the BJP is considering fighting the State election, slated to be held by the

end of next year, on its own. Shah played down the unease in the alliance, saying it is natural for some differences to crop up at the local level and that this is an indication of a healthy alliance.

"Matbhed" (difference of opinion) has not changed into 'manbhed' (change of heart), he said. JD(U) has been on an uneasy term with the BJP after it opted out from the Modi Government for its not including two of its leaders in the union cabinet and making space for only one cabinet berth for its alliance partner. JD(U) has also not been backing triple taluq bill and objected to the criminalization clause in it. The discord between the two had at one time set off speculations of Kumar again drifting to the opposition camp.

Let 7L jawans spend 100 days with families annually: Govt

PNS ■ NEW DELHI



Union Home Minister Amit Shah has directed the Central paramilitary forces including CRPF, BSF, ITBP and others to undertake a mega manpower planning and ensure that around 7 lakh jawans get to spend at least 100 days with their families in a year.

Shah was given a presentation last month about the functioning of the Forces in the Ministry, following which he directed that the deployment details of the troops of these forces should be "digitised" so that better manpower rationalisation can be done, officials said.

The Union Home Ministry has now asked all the Directors General of the Forces to undertake the exercise and implement a regime where a jawan or a con-

and deploy their troops.

The digital format will also help in ensuring that a large grievance of personnel regarding their transfer and posting to a place near to their parents or family home will be addressed up to a limit, he said.

The forces have been given a deadline of two months to implement the directive.

According to reports, an average jawan spends 75 days with his family in the BSF. Similar situation prevails in other forces due to lack of reserve component and continuous deployment. Lack of family connect has been attributed to one of the many reasons putting the jawans under stress. Stressed out jawans also. At times, tend to indulge in fratricidal incidents even leading to casualties.

The move will give a significant relief to the jawans.

Fadnavis Govt fulfilled over 96% poll promises, claims BJP

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Devendra Fadnavis Government in Maharashtra has "fulfilled over 96 per cent of the promises" made by the party in its 2014 Assembly elections manifesto, the BJP claimed on Thursday asserting that good Governance has been the cornerstone of the ruling dispensation.

Releasing a report by the Public Policy Research Centre (PPRC), which analysed implementation of the BJP's 2014 assembly elections manifesto, days before the polling in the state, BJP vice-president Vinay Sahasrabudhe said the BJP-led government gave the State stability which created an environment for unleashing the economic transformation.

INSHORT

RAHUL ACCUSES MODI OF SELLING PSUs



New Delhi: Using the moniker 'BechendraModi', Congress president Rahul Gandhi on Thursday attacked Prime Minister Narendra Modi alleging that he is sharing the 'spoils' of PSUs with his 'suit-boot' friends. He posted a cartoon of the Prime Minister 'selling' Air India, BPCL and India. "#BechendraModi" is sharing spoils (bandar baant) of PSUs with his suit-boot friends. The PSUs (public sector undertakings) were set up by the country after years of hard work," he said in a tweet in Hindi, using 'Bechendra' as a play on the Hindi word 'bechna' or selling.

IAF EXERCISES WITH OMANI AIR FORCE

New Delhi: The Indian Air Force (IAF) is participating in a 10-day bilateral exercise with its Omani counterpart at the Air Force base Masirah from Thursday, the IAF said. The IAF contingent comprises MiG-29 fighter jet and C-17 transport aircraft. It is for the first time that the MiG-29 fighter aircraft will be participating in an international exercise outside India. MiG-29 will be exercising from October 17 to 26 with Royal Air Force Oman's Eurofighter Typhoon, F-16 and Hawk.

SC TO HEAR JAYPEE GROUP'S APPEAL

New Delhi: The Supreme Court Thursday said it would first hear the appeal of Jaypee Group against the NCLAT order that barred it from participating in the auction of its debt-ridden group firm, Jaypee Infratech Ltd (JIL). The bench, comprising Justices A M Khanwilkar and Dinesh Maheshwari, said it would deal later with the revised proposal of state-owned NBCC to complete the stalled projects of debt-laden Jaypee Group to address the grievances of thousands of harassed homebuyers.

Cut road construction costs: Road Ministry to NHAI

DEEPAK KUMAR JHA ■ NEW DELHI

In the wake of funds crunch hitting major road projects, the Road Ministry has asked the Central road making agency NHAI (National Highways Authority of India) to explore reducing the road infrastructure construction costs through new technology and innovative means in a bid to make projects financially viable.

The moves comes after Road Transport and Highways Minister Nitin Gadkari in a review meeting last week suggested the Ministry and NHAI officials to ponder over the idea of rationalising the construction costs.

According to official sources, in an effort to boost the morale of officials involved in highway constructions, Gadkari conveyed them to focus on delivering projects rather than getting stuck in procedures.

In the current fiscal, NHAI has set a target of constructing 4,200 kms of roads and awarding projects of cumulative 6,000 kms. The Ministry has projected a revenue deficit of over ₹37,000 crore to the finance ministry.

According to the Ministry, per-kilometre cost of developing a two-lane highway was between ₹11- 12 crore, while four-lane highway was around ₹30 crore per km till three years ago and this costing has cumulatively gone up by 30 per cent.

"The Minister assured us (officials) there is no dearth of funds for projects, and even long-term financial institutions are willing to lend to the authority and don't get demotivated by baseless rumours with no substance. He (Gadkari) shared that that PMO is in full cooperation and that they want delivery," said the official.

The PMO in August this year had questioned the

Gadkari led Ministry for unplanned and excessive expansion of roads by declaring state highways as national highways which ultimately impacted the central exchequer.

Ministry sources said NHAI has initiated discussions with the Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs) for research and development to bring down the cost of road construction with improved quality.

IITs will do a comprehensive study on the alternative environment friendly methods for road and highway constructions and simultaneously maintaining the quality. In the last couple of years construction cost has increased by almost 30 percent by the given materials, substances and methods in practice now.

To keep up with the pace of highway development of 40 km a day the road Ministry sources said that projects spread across 10 states will now come up on the public-private partnership (PPP)

model on build-operate-transfer (toll) basis. The stretches have been selected after consultations with bidders in States including Haryana, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, West Bengal, Chhattisgarh and Madhya Pradesh.

This exercise is NHAI's attempt at reviving the BOT model of construction. Under BOT, private players build, operate and maintain the road for a specified period of time before transferring the asset back to the Government. In the case of HAM, the central Government bears 40 per cent of the project cost and the remaining amount is arranged by the developer.

The Centre has made fund allocation to NHAI for works under the Bharatmala Project and the money will come from the Central Road Infrastructure Fund (CRIF), Permanent Bridges Fee Fund (PBFF) and Monetisation of National Highways Fund (MNHFF).

Action sought against Dhavan for tearing Ayodhya map

New Delhi: A Hindu party Thursday sought action from the Bar Council against senior advocate Rajeev Dhavan, representing Muslim litigants in the Ayodhya case, for his "highly unethical act" of tearing the pictorial map purportedly showing the birthplace of Lord Ram during the Supreme Court hearing on Wednesday.

One of the factions of the All India Hindu Mahasabha (AIHM) wrote to the Bar Council of India condemning Dhavan's action on the concluding day of the 40-day hearing in the Ram-Jambhoomi-Babri Masjid land dispute case before a 5-judge Constitution bench headed by Chief Justice Ranjan Gogoi. PTI

INX MEDIA CASE Trial court sends PC to 7 days ED custody

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The trial court on Thursday sent former Finance Minister P Chidambaram to seven days of custody of Enforcement Directorate in the INX Media bribery case. This visibly upset Chidambaram, who would have to spend the time in the Tughlak Road police station lock-up room during the ED's custody as the agency has no custody room facilities. Chidambaram thus sought air conditioning facility and even requested that he be sent to CBI's custody room.

The Special Court Judge Ajay Kumar Kuhar, however, rejected the demand and approved of home-cooked food, western toilet and medicine etc to the former Finance Minister who has to be in the ED's custody till October 24.

Arguing for Chidambaram, noted lawyer

Kapil Sibal accused ED and the Government for cleverly timing up the ED arrest to settle political vendetta. He said that ED even told the court that they don't want to arrest Chidambaram few weeks back when former Finance Minister filed a surrender application.

Solicitor General Tushar Mehta countered that the accused person doesn't decide the timings of the investigating agencies. He said that ED's case is different from CBI and the agency was preparing to get some statements from crucial witnesses to confront Chidambaram regarding the money laundering.

Mehta objected to Chidambaram's demand for air conditioning facility in ED custody and said that they should provide all security and has no objection in allowing home cooked food and meeting of family members.

Govt banks on researchers to end malaria by 2030

ARCHANA JYOTI ■ NEW DELHI

Faced with an ambitious target to end malaria by 2030, the Union Health Ministry is looking towards researchers to help address gaps and challenges to tackle the vector-borne disease.

For instance, it has asked the researchers to conduct studies on the changing behaviour of mosquito vectors such as feeding and resting behaviour, to find out frequency and level of vector resistance to the insecticides that are in use for malaria vector control in high risk and residual transmission areas.

According to the Government, a total of 842,095 cases and 104 deaths were reported in 2017. However, the World Health Organization (WHO) in its 2017 Global Report has put the estimation at 13.1 million cases and 23,990 malarial deaths in India for the same year.

In fact, as per the WHO, in 2017, five countries accounted for nearly half of all malaria cases worldwide: Nigeria (25 per cent), the Democratic Republic of the Congo (11 per cent), Mozambique (5 per cent) and India and Uganada (4 per cent each). India is high-



ly endemic to malaria and shoulders the burden of two major malaria parasites, Plasmodium falciparum and P. vivax.

A senior official from the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) said that a programme has been launched with an aim to bring the various stakeholders on a single platform to identify and prioritise research work needed to meet the target to eliminate the disease by 2030.

Called Malaria Elimination Research Alliance India (MERA India), the programme took off on April 24 under which various innovative stud-

ies and tools are being sought to take the vector headon.

As the emergence and spread of drug and insecticide resistance is undermining the efficacy of existing tools, the ICMR is seeking new improved tools and approaches for disease surveillance, diagnosis, treatment and tackle the vector. Proposals have been sought to conduct studies to assess and quantify outdoor/residual transmission by vectors that feed outdoors or biting early in the evening or are resistant to insecticides.

Also, the researchers have been asked to look into socio-cultural behavior of the human

population residing permanently or temporarily in forest ecosystem in relation to malaria transmission and vector control interventions.

Studies on community behavior, accessibility and utilization of current vector control operations under the national programme, including study of logistic supply chain.

The ICMR is also looking towards development and testing of new insecticides and formulations to increase efficacy of sprays/LIN/larviciding assessment of feasibility and cost effectiveness of new vector control strategies/products that are at the development stage.

Also, field testing of novel tools such as toxic sugar-baited traps, endectocides, and targeted larviciding has been proposed for interrupting residual (outdoor) transmission or reducing the receptivity.

According to the Ministry, nearly 70 per cent malaria cases in India are contributed by five of 36 States and Union Territories. These include Odisha (36 per cent), Chhattisgarh (12 per cent), Jharkhand (9 per cent), Madhya Pradesh (9 per cent) and Maharashtra (5 per cent).

Collegium recommends transfer of Patna High Court judge

New Delhi: The Supreme Court Collegium has recommended the transfer of Patna High Court judge Rakesh Kumar, who had recently courted controversy following his stinging observations over alleged corruption in the judiciary, to the Andhra Pradesh High Court.

The Collegium has also recommended transfer of Patna High Court Chief Justice A P Sahi to the Madras High Court as its chief justice.

The apex court Collegium, headed by Chief Justice of India Ranjan Gogoi, held a meeting this week and decided to recommend the transfer of chief justice Sahi and justice Kumar.

"The Supreme Court Collegium in its meeting held on October 15, 2019, has decided to recommend transfer of Justice Rakesh Kumar, Judge, Patna High Court to Andhra Pradesh High Court," a statement uploaded on the apex court website said.

Justice Kumar had made stinging observation over the alleged corruption in judiciary

and had ordered a CBI probe and an inquiry by the Patna district judge into how a former IAS officer, whom he had denied anticipatory bail in a corruption case last year, was granted regular bail by a trial court.

Justice Kumar had also directed that copies of his August 28 order be sent to the Chief Justice of India, the apex court Collegium and the Prime Minister's Office besides the Union Law Ministry.

Later, a full bench of the Patna High Court, headed by Chief Justice A P Sahi, had set aside Justice Kumar's order, terming it as an instance of judicial and administrative overreach and a complete nullity.

Justice Kumar was divested of his judicial work by the high court administration on the day he had passed the order. However, a day later his judicial work was restored by a special 11-judge bench. PTI



Collegium recommends names for elevation as CJs of Jharkhand, Meghalaya HCs

New Delhi: The Supreme Court Collegium has recommended elevation of two high court judges — Justice Ravi Ranjan and Justice Mohammad Rafiq — as the chief justices of the Jharkhand and Meghalaya High Courts respectively.

While Justice Ranjan is a sitting judge of the Punjab and Haryana High Court, Justice Rafiq is posted at the Rajasthan High Court.

The apex court Collegium, headed by Chief Justice of India Ranjan Gogoi, decided this in its meeting held on October 15, a statement uploaded on the top court website said.

The Collegium also recommended transfer of Meghalaya High Court Chief Justice A K Mittal to the Madhya Pradesh High Court as its chief justice.

It had earlier recommended that Justice Mittal be transferred to the Madras High Court as chief justice.

His name was recommended to replace the then Chief Justice of Madras High Court V K Tahilramani, who was transferred to the Meghalaya High Court. However, she refused to go there and tendered her resignation which was accepted.

The Collegium has also recommended the transfer of Tripura High Court Chief Justice Sanjay Karol to Patna High Court as its chief justice.

The Collegium also approved the proposal for elevation of advocates Moksha Kazmi (Khajuria) and Rajnesh Oswal as judges of the Jammu & Kashmir High Court.

It also approved the proposal for elevation of judicial officers — Parthivijyoti Saikia and S Hukot Swu — and advocate Soumitra Saikia as judges of the Gauhati High Court.

It approved the proposal for elevation of judicial officer Wanlura Diengdoh as a judge of the Meghalaya High Court. PTI

PG medical students may have to serve in district hospitals to be eligible to appear in final exam

New Delhi: All postgraduate medical students will have to serve in district hospitals for at least three months in order to be eligible to appear in the final exam, the Board of Governors (BoG), vested with the powers of the Medical Council of India (MCI), has proposed.

Currently, students pursuing undergraduate medical courses are attached to primary health centres or urban health centres for three months as part of a compulsory rotating internship.

The BoG has written to the Health Ministry to develop guidelines for implementation of the proposal for postgraduate students in partnership with it and the state governments. It has also sought that this provision comes into force from the next academic session.

"The move is aimed at providing practical experience to future specialists in real-life setting of the country's public health system. Also, this will help address shortage of specialist doctors in district hospitals of rural and remote areas, and help strengthen services at such hospitals," a senior Government official said.

The note sent to the Union Health Ministry said all postgraduate students shall undertake a rotation in designated district hospitals/health system for a period of three months as a part of the course curriculum.

For postgraduate students of community medicine, the requirement can be posting at primary health centres and field experience in addition to activities at the district hospital.

"Satisfactory completion of this rotation shall be an essential condition before the candidate is allowed to appear in the final examination of the respective postgraduate course. The Ministry of Health is requested to develop guidelines for the scheme in partnership with the State Government and BoG in three months," it read.

For the purpose of the proposed programme, a district hospital will be defined broadly as a functional public sector or publicly-funded hospital of about 200 beds or more, with facilities for specified specialities, designated by the Centre or State Governments.

Medical colleges, both government as well as private, will place their post-graduates at the disposal of the government for rotation/posting for the duration of the course. PTI

Pakistan sent two F-16 fighter planes last month to intercept SpiceJet flight to Kabul

New Delhi: Pakistan last month scrambled two F-16 jets in its airspace to intercept a SpiceJet plane, assuming it to be a military aircraft, which was heading to Kabul from Delhi with around 120 passengers, a senior Government official said.

The incident came in the backdrop of tension between India and Pakistan that had escalated after the Indian Government revoked Jammu & Kashmir's special status on August 5 and bifurcated it into union territories.

"On the morning of September 23, the SpiceJet flight SG 21 left Delhi airport and was going through Pakistan's airspace to Kabul. Pakistan scrambled two F-16 planes and intercepted the flight mid-air," said the official.



The SpiceJet pilot was asked by F-16 pilots to lower the altitude and give flight details, the official added.

Another senior Government official said, "On September 23, Pakistan assumed that the SpiceJet flight, which had around 120 passengers, is an Indian Air Force plane. Once Pakistan realised that it is commercial flight, the F-16s escorted the SpiceJet plane till the Afghanistan airspace."

"There was some mix up at the end of Pakistan's Air Traffic Control (ATC)," the second official added. SpiceJet did not respond to the query sent by PTI on this matter.

Pakistan had fully closed its airspace on February 26 after the Indian Air Force (IAF) struck a Jaish-e-Mohammed (JeM) terrorist training camp in Balakot in retaliation to the Pulwama attack on February 14 and fully opened it for all civilian traffic on July 16. PTI

India asks Pak not to levy \$20 fee on Kartarpur pilgrims

New Delhi: India on Thursday asked Pakistan not to insist on levying a fee of USD 20 per Indian pilgrim and hoped that an agreement to operationalise the Kartarpur corridor will be inked soon between the two countries.

External Affairs Ministry Spokesperson Raveesh Kumar said both India and Pakistan reached an agreement on the corridor except on the matter of the service fee.

"After several rounds of discussion with Pakistan, we have reached an agreement on all other issues, except the matter of service fee. Pakistan insists on levying a fee of USD 20 (approx. ₹1420) on all pilgrims," he said.

Kumar said India has urged Pakistan not to levy the fee in the interests of devotees, and also because the opening of the corridor is a people-to-people initiative.

"We hope that the agreement can be concluded and signed in time for the great event," said Kumar.

Pakistan has been insisting on levying the service fee of USD 20 per pilgrim to meet the operational costs of the corridor linking the historic Gurdwara Darbar Sahib in Pakistan's Kartarpur with Dera Baba Nanak shrine in Gurdaspur district in Punjab. PTI

Diarrhea outbreak hits Bastar's Pithapur, claims two lives

STAFF REPORTER ■
JAGDALPUR

An outbreak of diarrhea has hit Pithapur village of Bakawand block, claiming the life of two including a child on Thursday. Twenty three more persons are found suffering from it and are being treated in the health camps at the village.

District Collector Ayyaj Tamboli talking to The Pioneer confirmed the two deaths due to diarrhea and informed that the outbreak came to light when the 3-4 persons of a family complaint about

“There was a Bhandara on the occasion of Navratri and Dusshera on October 7-8 and thereafter the deceased were suffering from symptoms of diarrhea. They were detected of diarrhea on October 13 this month and there after a team of health department was constantly monitoring the situation by holding health camps there”

suffering from loose motions and vomiting, and died later. “There was a Bhandara on the occasion of Navratri

and Dusshera on October 7-8 and thereafter the deceased were suffering from symptoms of diarrhea. They were detected of diarrhea on October 13 this month and there after a team of health department was constantly monitoring the situation by holding health camps there”, the official said.

Panic created among the villagers after the detection of diarrhea and more than 60 persons complaining about similar symptoms were examined. Among them, 23 persons were suffering from diarrhea, the official added.

Ban on sale of fruits with stickers attached



STAFF REPORTER ■ RAIPUR

Food and Drugs administration, Government of Chhattisgarh has made an appeal to all the fruit sellers not to sell the fruits by pasting stickers on it. The people have also been urged not to procure or purchase fruits which have stickers.

Controller, FDA said if any food trader is found to store unsafe food materials, indulge in its distribution or its sale, then under Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) Act 2006,

section 59, imprisonment and fine will be imposed by taking necessary legal action.

Office of Controller FDA has intimated the fruits being sold in market mainly apple, mango, orange, guava, banana, sitaphal (custard apple), nashpati (pear) and others are pasted with stickers. The fruit sellers generally claim it to be premium brand or to conceal the damaged part of the fruit. Generally, the stickers carries the traders' brand, OK tested, best quality or name of the fruit.

It is reported that the stickers have

gums which is generally made by chemicals due to which the chemicals damage the fruits. Then, it becomes unfit for human consumption. As per the FSSAI Act standards, the traders and fruit sellers are not allowed to store, distribute or sell such fruits in the market. Even they are not allowed to sell the fruits and vegetables which have started to decay.

Similarly, the sale of fruits covering a layer with wax, mineral oil, colours, ripening the fruits using calcium carbide is also banned.

Chief Minister invites Nobel laureate Abhijit Banerjee Chhattisgarh

STAFF REPORTER ■
RAIPUR

Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel has written a letter to economist Abhijit Banerjee, congratulating him on receiving 'The Nobel Memorial Prize' in Economics, and invited him to Chhattisgarh on behalf of the people of the state.

Chief Minister stated in the letter to Banerjee that “it is a proud moment for every Indian across the globe, which is inspiring us to achieve such greatness that is recognized across the world at highest-level. Your research on context-based solutions on issues such as 'Relationship between bare-foot children, whooping cough and school drop outs' will provide practical and implementable solutions to many and will help them tackle the underlying complex behavioural issues.”

Chief Minister stated in the letter that government of Chhattisgarh is committed to bring the development



and empowerment to the last person of the society.

“The idea of 'Minimum Income Scheme' (NIYAY) has been a guiding principle to our endeavours to eradicate poverty and disparity. The state has embarked upon its journey of poverty eradication and rural development through 'Narva, Garva, Ghurva and baadi', the CM said.

“The state government

has taken many initiatives for uplift of rural economy through context-based employment activities. I am sure that your guidance on the state vision and future roadmap will reaffirm our methods and beliefs, motivating us to continue on the path of development and empowerment of every single person of the state,” stated Chief Minister in the

letter to the Nobel laureate. Chief Minister, in his letter to Banerjee, has extended a cordial invitation on behalf of the people of the state to visit Chhattisgarh as per his convenience. He stated that an “insightful conversation with you over the current policies of the state and the steps required to accelerate poverty alleviation will be an uplifting and lasting experience.”

Three suspected Naxals arrested in Sukma

STAFF REPORTER ■ SUKMA

Three suspected Naxals, wanted in connection with attack on a police party, were arrested during an anti-Naxal operation carried out by security forces in a forested patch of insurgency-hit Sukma district, police said here on Thursday.

“A joint team of 227 battalion

CRPF, and district police had launched an area domination exercise from Tongpal police station limits about 400 km south of state capital Raipur and nabbed the three from a forested patch between Uplanka and Junapani villages,” a local police officer said.

They were identified as Kawasi Aaytu (27) (Maoist Panchayat

Committee President), Podiyam Hidma (26) and Madkami Deva (25) both Janmilita members, police said while adding they were all residents of Tongpal Sukma.

They were involved in an IED blast which happened on February 2 this year at village Marjum in Tongpal police station limits wherein a police jawan was injured, police claimed.

BJP's dual stand on Mahatma Gandhi unmasked: Congress

BJP promises Bharat Ratna to Savarkar in its manifesto

STAFF REPORTER ■ RAIPUR

State Congress claimed that BJP's dual character and anti-Gandhi ideology was unmasked by its promise of 'Bharat Ratna' to Vinayak Damodar Savarkar in its manifesto.

In a statement Congress's state general secretary and chairman communication wing Shailesh Nitin Trivedi backed the statement of Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel and said the foot-marches held by BJP on Mahatma's birth anniversary were just political gimmick.

Citing findings of Kapoor Committee about involvement of Savarkar in conspiracy of Gandhi's assassination, Trivedi said it was painful that BJP even thinks of felicitating a person who was responsible for Gandhi's assassination. It is more disappointing that the BJP has chosen the 150th anniversary year of Mahatma for hon-



ouring Savarkar.

Honouring Savarkar is an insult to Gandhi and reveals the dual character of BJP, he further said.

Notable the Maharashtra unit of BJP in its election manifesto promised honouring Savarkar with highest civilian award of the country Bharat Ratna.

Hardcore Naxals give up arms in Dantewada

STAFF REPORTER ■
DANTEWADA

Two hardcore Naxals carrying cash reward of Rs 5 lakh each on their heads gave up arms before police and district administration officers here on Thursday, police said.

“Both Naxals, who were dissatisfied with the violence and Maoist ideology, gave up arms during a district level 'Kabbadi' event. They were involved in various serious Maoist attacks that had claimed lives of over 20 men,” Superintendent of Police (SP) Dantewada Abhishek Pallav said.

They were identified as Hadma Mandavi alias Hariram alias Midkom alias Raju (28)

and Mada Madkami alias Hadma (22) both residents of Katekalyan police station limits in the district, police informed.

Hadma Mandavi was Katekalyan area committee member and Peddras LOS (local organizing squad) commander, while Mada Madkami was also a member of Katekalyan area committee and Katekalyan area Janmilita commander, police said.

Hadma had joined Maoist cadre in 2010 as a Sangham member and by 2018 he was promoted as LOS commander. In 2014 he was involved in killing of Toylanka Sarpanch and in 2015 he was part of Maoists team that killed a man suspecting him as police informer in Tongpal vil-

lage. Police was searching him in connection with murder of Metapal Turrempara Sarpanch Dharmu Kurami and Kosa Madvi in Chhindgarh. Both were killed in 2016.

Apart from killings in 2018, and 2019 he was also wanted for his involvement in blowing up vehicles through IEDs and attacking police party, police claimed.

According to police, Mada Madkami was involved in blowing up a CISF vehicle in Kirandul on May 13, 2012 wherein 5 CISF jawan and a civilian was killed. He was also part of Maoist team that executed deadly ambush in Shyamgiri hills wherein 6 jawans were killed.

Baghel govt's directives on 'Gauthan Diwas' celebration

STAFF REPORTER ■ RAIPUR

The Chhattisgarh government on Thursday issued directives to all collectors and CEOs of the state on how to celebrate 'Gauthan Diwas' at various 'gauthans' (cowsheds) developed under the Chief Minister's flagship project 'Suraji Gaon Yojana'.

The instructions have been issued by the Department of Agriculture Cooperation and Farmers Welfare to celebrate "Goverdhan Puja", on second day after Diwali, as 'Gauthan Diwas'. Collectors and CEOs have also been asked to ensure formation of 'Gauthan Sewa Samiti' before the event as these committees will be formally given the charge of 'Gauthan Diwas'.

Other instruction issued

by the department include immediate opening of bank accounts of these committees so that the process of providing allocation in these accounts begins from November. They have been directed to provide names and bank details of all the members of 'Gauthan Sewa Samiti' in various districts to the Director, Animal Husbandry by November 10.

Foundation laying ceremony of new selected and sanctioned 'gauthans' will also take place at panchayat and gram level on 'Gauthan Diwas'. Traditional rituals of 'Goverdhan Puja' will be performed along with participation of women self-help groups, which will be working in these 'gauthans', at the celebration.

State's scientific models selected for innovative ideas

STAFF REPORTER ■
RAIPUR

Three scientific models of Chhattisgarh, made by students of Government Multipurpose Higher Secondary School, Bilaspur at 46th Jawaharlal Nehru National Science, Mathematics, Environment Exhibition for Children-2019 has been selected by the Niti Ayog out of the 15,000 projects across the country. Out of which 25 students and 5 teachers will be selected to represent the country at Sochi, Moscow from November 24 to



December 5, 2019.

The selected model is a green shield which uses a technology where waste plastic is used to control room temperature without

using air-condition in a bid to recycle plastic and help the environment. It has been designed by Prakash Nirmalkar, Harish Choudhary and Prince

Kashyap.

Atal Krishi Mitra model is an agricultural robot, which carries out all workers like ploughing, seeding, harvesting, separation of foodgrains, levelling, spraying of pesticides, irrigation and even transportation.

Mechanical Smart Bio-toilet model, which is a solution to the railway bio-toilet system that is facing problem of over-flow, smell and choking. The students had exhibited it to mechanical engineers of Railway based at Bilaspur. The model has a sensor where

automatically the pad opens and also flushes. When the user comes out it flushes once more. If any person throws plastic bottle inside it, it has a sensor and blade which will cut the bottles into pieces. The lower portion has six-level tank having azo-bacteria which consumes the feces and converts into liquid form. Alum is added to it, which release the pure water which can be used for flushing again. It has been designed by Yogesh Das Manikpuri, Manish Yadav and Nikhil Prajapati.

C'garh govt running on 'Digvijaya Model': Kaushik

STAFF REPORTER ■ RAIPUR

Reacting on the financial status of government of Chhattisgarh, Leader of Opposition and BJP leader Dharamlal Kaushik said Chhattisgarh is in same situation as was in undivided Madhya Pradesh where across departments developmental works had come to a standstill.

He said Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel was then minister in Digvijaya Singh cabinet and that he should recall the moment when only claim of developmental works was made.

Even the then Chief Minister Digvijaya Singh claimed election



cannot be won on developmental works plank. Kaushik claimed government in continuously taking loan thus the farmers are being duped in the name of loan waiver. The funds sent for developmental works are being recalled. Same situation prevailed during Digvijaya government so

the statements issued by the state governments cannot be believed. The conditions of roads itself speak volumes of claims of development, he pointed out.

Meanwhile, Raipur Member of Parliament Sunil Soni on civic bodies' election said state government has been violating the democratic and constitutional norms.

Soni said as a general process, the cabinet sub-committee should have submitted its recommendations to the cabinet which could have passed it after a meeting. Based on it, the Governor signs the ordinance. But without discussion in cabinet and signature of Governor, the state government is indulging in politicking.

Rajnath slams RaGa over Rafale 'puja'

IAN S ■ HARYANA

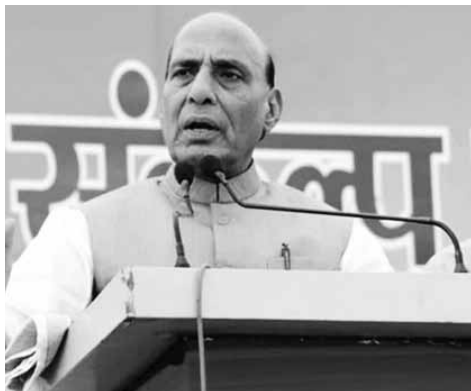
Slamming Congress leader Rahul Gandhi over the Rafale puja (worship) controversy, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh on Thursday asked what should he have written on the fighter jet if not "Om", a word with spiritual relevance.

"When I wrote Om on the Rafale jet, people said why did he write (the word). I would like to ask Rahul Gandhi if not 'Om', what should I have written on the aircraft," Singh said at an election rally here in Bhiwani district of Haryana that will go to the polls for 90 Assembly seats in a single phase on October 21.

Rahul Gandhi has said that the Defence Minister had gone to Paris to receive

I WANT A REPLY FROM THE CONGRESS. KASHMIR IS OUR INTERNAL MATTER. WILL THERE BE A DISCUSSION ON IT IN OTHER COUNTRIES...WILL YOU BE DISCUSSING KASHMIR MATTER IN OTHER COUNTRIES

delivery of the first Rafale jet because there was "guilt" in the minds of Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) leaders over the Rs. 59,000 crore deal for the



purchase of 36 Rafale fighter jets, manufactured by Dassault Aviation of France. At the election rally, Singh

also accused the Congress of internationalising the Kashmir issue, saying "it is an internal matter".

"I want to ask Congress leaders where human rights violations are taking place. Human rights violations were taking place when terrorist activities were occurring (in Kashmir). Why did you not speak at that time?" the senior BJP leader asked the Congress.

"I want a reply from the Congress. Kashmir is our internal matter. Will there be a discussion on it in other countries...Will you be discussing Kashmir matter in other countries?" he said.

Many people have lost their lives in terrorist attacks in Jammu and Kashmir.

"They (Congress leaders) have created a strange situation. What has happened to them? It seems they have lost their minds," he added.

Bokaro boy in PM Modi advisory team

PNS ■ BOKARO

Bringing honour to his alma mater and to the State of Jharkhand, former student of DPS Bokaro (1993 batch) Neelkanth Mishra has been appointed as the member (Part Time) in the Economic Advisory Council to the Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

The letter No. 1/31/1/2017/CAB, dated 16th October sent by Director, Bhaskar Das Gupta from Cabinet Secretariat sent to CEO NITI Aayog, Amitabh Kant states,

"In continuation of secretariat communication of even number dated 24th September 2019 regarding reconstitution of the Economic Advisory Council to the Prime Minister (EAC-PM), the Prime Minister has approved the appointment of three economists, Neelkanth Mishra, Nilesh Shah and V. Ananth Nageswaran as part time members in the EAC-PM for a period of two years from the date of the constitution of



the present EAC-PM."

Neelkanth Mishra who passed out of the DPS Bokaro in 1993 came fourth in IIT entrance test as well. Presently he is the Managing Director, the India Strategist and Co-Head of Equity Strategy, Asia Pacific, for Credit Suisse.

He has been rated among the best analysts in India by the Institutional Investor and Asia Money polls.

He is also a part of the Advisory Council to the Fifteenth Finance Commission and has been an advisor to committees appointed by the

Neelkanth Mishra who passed out of DPS Bokaro in 1993 came 4th in IIT entrance test as well. Presently he is Managing Director, India Strategist and Co-Head of Equity Strategy, Asia Pacific, for Credit Suisse

Government of India such as the RNR Committee on GST and the FRBM Review Committee. Delighted on the achievement of his student, A. S. Gangwar, Principal, DPS Bokaro said, "Neelkanth had always been a keen learner; excited to explore and innovate. Even as a student he exhibited leadership qualities and was sensitive to changes around.

I am indeed happy and proud to have him as my student. May he achieve greater heights in life.

SOUTH EASTERN COALFIELDS LIMITED
"A MINI RATNA COMPANY"

E-TENDER NOTICE

1. **NIT No: SECL/GM/KSM/ENM/O-Tender/19-20/51, Date 11.10.2019**, Tender ID: 2019_SECL_152352_1, Location of work: Kusmunda Project, Estimated Cost: 14,70,707.00/- (Excluding GST). Description of Work: Contractual help for backshift work of power line and other electrical related jobs at Quarry KOCOP. Start Date & Time of Submission of bid: 14.10.2019 at 10.00 AM, Last Date & Time for Submission of bid: 28.10.2019 at 05.00 PM. Date & Time for Opening of bid: 30.10.2019 at 11.00 AM. **GM/ISO(ENM), Kusmunda Area**

2. **NIT No: SECL/GM/KB/MMW/O-Tender/19-20/94, Date 10.10.2019**, Tender ID: 2019_SECL_152195_1, Location of Work: Regional Store, Korba Area. Estimated Cost: 6,04,160.00/- Description of Work: LDCC Chain Assembly. Start Date & Time for Submission of bid: 11.10.2019 at 10.00 AM, Last Date & Time for Submission of bid: 02.11.2019 at 05.00 PM, Date & Time for Opening of bid: 04.11.2019. **Dy GM/ISO(MM), SECL, Korba Area**

3. **NIT No: SECL/KB/GM/ENM/19-20/E-Tender/42, Date 11.10.2019**, Tender ID: 2019_SECL_152047_1, Location of Work: Korba Area, Estimated Cost: 1230000.00/- (Excluding GST). Description of Work: Structure stability & Non-destructive test of Cage winder & Head gear structure at Surakachhar Main mine, SRKBLG Sub Area, Korba Area, Start Date & Time for Submission of bid: 14.10.2019 at 10.00 AM, Last Date & Time for Submission of bid: 30.10.2019 at 05.00 PM. **GM/ISO(ENM), Korba Area**

4. **NIT No: SECL/GM/GA/ISO(ENM)/E-T/19-20/72, Date 11.10.2019**, Tender ID: 2019_SECL_152462_1, Location of Work: Gevra Area, Estimated Cost: 32,60,910.00/- Description of Work: Hiring of 01 Nos (24 to 26) seats capacity minibus on rental basis with drivers (Khalasi as applicable) for a period of Three years (36 months/1095 days) in tip top running conditions. Vehicles will be used at Gevra & outside tour (including all areas of SECL & SECL HQ, Bilaspur on as and when required basis as per Hours of Engagement of per. Per day 12 (General shift/day), Fuel efficiency-7km/Ltr, Avg running-2000Km per month/ Vehicle, Last Date & Time for submission of bid: 05.11.2019 at 05.00 PM, Date & Time for opening of bid: 07.11.2019 at 11.00 AM. **SO(E&M), Gevra Area**

Note: For details and submission of bid please visit website www.eprocure.gov.in, and e-procurement portal of CIL https://coalindiatenders.nic.in and www.secl-cil.in. In Case of any Misprinting/Error, details as per website document will be considered as final.

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E-TENDER NOTICE

1. **NIT No: SECL/GM/BHAT/ISO(M)/E-Tender/19-20/98, Date 09.10.2019**, Tender ID: 2019_SECL_152100_1, Location of work: Bhatgaon Area, Estimated Cost: 16,39,681.76 Description of Work: Hiring of 01 nos. of Diesel operated Light Vehicle/Car (Verna or equivalent) on rental basis, with 01 driver for a period of 3 yrs/1095 days for use in Bhatgaon Area. As per following details: Hours of Engagement of vehicle per day - 12 hours, (in General Shift/day including staggered rest) fuel efficiency- 15 km/litre, Average running 5000 km per month/ vehicle. Start date & time for submission of bid: 21.10.2019 at 09 AM, Last date & time for submission of bid: 01.11.2019 at 11 AM, Date & time for opening of bid: 02.11.2019 at 11 AM. **SO(Mining), Bhatgaon Area**

2. **NIT No: SECL/GM/BHAT/ISO(M)/19-20/99, Date 10.10.2019**, Tender ID: 2019_SECL_152457_1, Location of work: SECL Bhatgaon Area, Estimated Cost: 7,96,438 Description of Work: Repair and maintenance of 3 Nos. D-type and 3 Nos. C-type quarters at Shaktinagar Colony of Bhatgaon Area (Shifting case). Start date & time for submission of bid: 16.10.2019 at 10 AM, Last date & time for submission of bid: 30.10.2019 at 05 PM, Date & time for opening of bid: 01.11.2019 at 11 AM. **SO(Civil), Bhatgaon Area**

4. **NIT No: SECL/CHRM/APC/ET/OTE/19-20/19046/113, Date 11.10.2019**, Tender ID: 2019_SECL_152336_1, Location of work: SECL Chirimiri Area, Estimated Cost: 18,13,158 Description of Work: Procurement of Auto Fire Suppression Kit for IDW 70 Drills Sl. No. 107, 108 and 165. Start date & time for submission of bid: 12.10.2019 at 10 AM, Last date & time for submission of bid: 09.11.2019 at 04 PM, Date & time for opening of bid: 11.11.2019 at 04.30 PM. **SO(MM), Chirimiri Area**

5. **NIT No: GM/HSD/C/E-Tender/19-20/49, Date 10.10.2019**, Tender ID: 2019_SECL_152200_1, Location of work: JKD Sub Area of Hasdeo Area, Estimated Cost: 10,19,412 Description of Work: Repair and maintenance of existing pipe line for supply of drinking water day to day at B-seam colony under JKD Sub Area (for one year). Start date & time for submission of bid: 14.10.2019 at 10 AM, Last date & time for submission of bid: 02.11.2019 at 05 PM, Date & time for opening of bid: 04.11.2019 at 11 AM. **SO(Civil), Hasdeo Area**

Note: For details and submission of bid please visit website www.eprocure.gov.in, and e-procurement portal of CIL https://coalindiatenders.nic.in and www.secl-cil.in. In Case of any Misprinting/Error, details as per website document will be considered as final.

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IDFC FIRST Bank Limited
(Formerly known as IDFC Bank Limited) CIN: L65110TN2014PLC097792
Registered Office: KRM Towers, 8th Floor, Harrington Road, Chetpet, Chennai - 600031. Tel: +91 44 4564 4000 | Fax: +91 44 4564 4022.

(Notice Under Section 13(2) of the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of the Security Interest Act, 2002)

The following borrowers and co-borrowers availed the below mentioned secured loans from IDFC First Bank Limited (Formerly known as IDFC Bank Limited). The Loans of the below mentioned borrowers and co-borrowers have been secured by the mortgage of their respective properties. As they have failed to adhere to the terms and conditions of the respective loan agreements and had become irregular, their loans were classified as NPA as per the RBI Guidelines. Amounts due by them to IDFC First Bank Limited (Formerly known as IDFC Bank Limited) are mentioned as per respective notices issued more particularly described in the following table and further interest on the said amounts shall also be applicable and the same will be charged as per contractual rate with effect from their respective dates.

Sr No.	Loan Account No.	Type of Loan	Name of borrowers	Outstanding as per 13(2) notice	Notice date	Details of secured asset
1.	13599057	Mortgage Loan	1. Dynamic Hair Solution 2. Arogeya Da Physiofit 3. Shatrughan Sondhi 4. Sujata Sondhi	Rs. 1,41,34,123.54	30/09/2019	Khasra No. 149/36, Potiyakala, Ward No.52, Ric Durg-1, Tehsil and District Durg, Chattisgarh-491001.

You are hereby called upon to pay the amounts due to IDFC First Bank Limited (Formerly known as IDFC Bank Limited) as per the details shown in the above table with contracted rate of interest thereupon from their respective dates and other costs, charges etc., within 60 days from the date of this publication, failing which the undersigned shall be constrained to initiate proceedings U/s 13(4) and Sec. 14 of the SARFAESI Act, against the mortgaged properties mentioned hereinabove to realize the amount due to IDFC First Bank Limited (Formerly known as IDFC Bank Limited). Further you are prohibited U/s 13(13) of the said Act from transferring the said secured asset either by way of sale/lease or otherwise.

Sd/-
Date : 18.10.2019
Place : Raipur

Authorised Officer
IDFC First Bank Ltd
Formerly Known as IDFC Bank Ltd

IDFC FIRST Bank Limited
(Formerly known as IDFC Bank Limited) CIN: L65110TN2014PLC097792
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Sr No.	Loan Account No.	Type of Loan	Name of Borrowers	Outstanding as per 13(2) notice	Notice date	Details of Secured Asset
1.	10322328 13036034	Home Loan	1. Shama Fatma 2. Abdul Shakil HL	Rs. 2366009.37/-	25.09.2019	Plot KH No. 250/36, PH No. 105/61, Ward No. 52, Chandrasekhar, Azad Ward, Mathpurna, Raipur (CG).

You are hereby called upon to pay the amounts due to IDFC First Bank Limited (Formerly known as IDFC Bank Limited) as per the details shown in the above table with contracted rate of interest thereupon from their respective dates and other costs, charges etc., within 60 days from the date of this publication, failing which the undersigned shall be constrained to initiate proceedings U/s 13(4) and Sec. 14 of the SARFAESI Act, against the mortgaged properties mentioned hereinabove to realize the amount due to IDFC First Bank Limited (Formerly known as IDFC Bank Limited). Further you are prohibited U/s 13(13) of the said Act from transferring the said secured asset either by way of sale/lease or otherwise.

Sd/-
Date : 18.10.2019
Place : Raipur

Authorised Officer
IDFC First Bank Ltd
Formerly Known as IDFC Bank Ltd

Haryana polls: Hooda, Khattar intensify campaign

PNS ■ CHANDIGARH

They are the show stoppers for their respective parties BJP and Congress—Manohar Lal Khattar and Bhupinder Singh Hooda—in Haryana and they are leaving nothing to chance as they intensify their campaign ahead of the October 21 elections.

Khattar on Thursday addressed as many as eight rallies starting from 10.20 am to 9.30 pm from various parts of the State including Ateli, Loharu, Kilo, Pundri, Siwan, Kaithal, Asandh and Karnal.

In his rallies, Chief Minister Khattar is focussing on equal development of state without any regional discrimination claiming that even opposition leaders are astonished the way development in Haryana has taken place in the last five years.

On the other hand, Congress Legislative Party leader and former chief minister Bhupinder Singh Hooda addressed around half dozen rallies in the state emphasising that Unemployment is the biggest issue and has increased 10 times to 28 per cent, highest in the country. He says no new industry is coming up and the government is busy in event management.

EQUAL DEVELOPMENT ACROSS THE STATE, SAYS KHATTAR

Chief Minister Khattar, speaking at a Vijay Sankalp Rally in Mahendragarh to support party candidate Sitaram Yadav said that on forming the government in Haryana, all the MLAs of 90 constituencies were asked to make a list of development projects they wish to execute in their areas within a range of Rs five crores. Since, the allocation was made without any discrimination, all the opposition leaders were surprised on the way of working of this government.

Even the supporters and volunteers of BJP were surprised because no one had earlier seen this model of development. He said that the poli-

cy of development was equal for the people of BJP as well as for the MLAs of other parties.

Drawing the attention of the gathering towards the performance of his government, Khattar said that in the state there have been governments of many parties including some of the alliance governments, but if the comparison is made in the development of the state these five years would certainly be leaving behind the performance of the previous governments in 48 years. He said that we have changed the meaning of politics altogether. Corruption has been totally removed from the state and the poor man is living a comfortable life in the state.

He said that while the congress party kept shouting slogans of "Garibi Hatao" it actually never worked in this direction. In fact, they should have taken steps to educate the poor so that they can try to explore employment opportunities. He said the government has provided LPG gas in 9 lakhs households. He said that in spite of code of conduct being in force at present, still anyone not having LPG cylinder in the state can apply and it is assured that the LPG would be provided to him in a matter of 48 hours. He further stepped forward and said that since it is the festival of lights on 27th, if any application of LPG is not taken care of, he will take the official concerned to task on 28th itself.

CM said that there are 300 end points of the water drains that carries the water to fields. Nothing happened in the last 48 years.

However, in the rule of BJP the matter was taken on priority and now all these three points are getting water.

He said that his government is committed to provide water and electricity to every field. Comparing the commitment towards social good, Khattar informed the gathering that while the BJP Government in Haryana has announced 7900 people centric schemes in its five year tenure, Congress made only 6000 announcements that too in the period of

ten years. Regarding actual implementation 80 per cent of all the announcements made reached actual implementation and others to be followed soon.

Accusing the congress party for shattering the education system in the state, CM said that one of the major reasons of the debacle of system was that the teachers were not happy with the transfer policy of the congress government. He said that in Congress regime, any teacher not casting vote to Congress was transferred to some remote area. On the contrary, the BJP government has made necessary changes to the transfer and posting policy in which the basic principle is to transfer the teachers to the place of their choice. This will make them happy and they will devote much attention to their work, which, in-turn will strengthen the education system.

Haryana CM Manohar Lal Khattar said that the BJP Government in state is working in the direction to enhance the income of the farmers to double. He said that if the people of Haryana want to witness the growth of the state continuing in future also, they should vote to BJP only.

HOODA COUNTERS NATIONALISM PITCH OF BJP

Countering BJP's national-cism pitch in the Haryana Assembly polls, former chief minister Hooda says the Congress is the party which secured Independence and it was under its rule that Pakistan split into two. Hooda said the October 21 assembly polls are a direct fight between the Congress and the BJP in the Haryana polls as both the BJP and the INLD have become "irrelevant".

Hooda's remarks dismissing the Jannayak Janta Party and the Indian National Lok Dal as having "no role" post polls comes after Congress' former Haryana unit president Ashok Tanwar announced his support for Dushyant Chautala-led JJP.

shubham HOUSING DEVELOPMENT FINANCE CO. LTD.
Corporate Office : 425, Udyog Vihar Phase IV, Gurgaon-122015 (Haryana)
Ph.: 0124-4212530/31/32, E-Mail : customercare@shubham.co Website : www.shubham.co

POSSESSION NOTICE (FOR IMMOVABLE PROPERTY)

Whereas the undersigned being the authorized officer of the Shubham Housing Development Finance Company Limited (hereinafter called Shubham) under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of the Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13(12) read with rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued demand notice calling upon borrowers to repay the amount within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.

The borrowers having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrowers and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described hereinbelow in exercise of powers conferred on him under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with rule 8 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.

The borrowers in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealing with the property will be subject to the charge of Shubham Housing Development Finance Company Limited for an amount detailed below and interest thereon.

The borrower's attention is invited to provisions of sub section (8) of section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets. Details are as below:

S. No.	Name of Borrowers	Demand Notice Amount	Date of Demand Notice	Secured Asset	Affixation Date
1	Prakash Singh Chouhan, Geetanjali Chouhan	Rs. 8,77,599/-	30-03-2019	Part of Kh No 272/8, PC No.05 RIC Bhilai-3, Tahsil Patan, Dist. Durg, Chhattisgarh 491001.	17.10.19
2	Usha Jatav, Amit Jatav, Rambai Johre	Rs. 3,39,068/-	30-03-2019	PH No - 16 Khasra No - 1007/19, & 1008/15 Sarti para R.N.M Durg 1 Tehsil & Dist-Durg, Chhattisgarh 491001	17.10.19
3	Balram Tandi, Kaviraj Tandi, Manoj Tandi, Jayamani Tandi	Rs. 5,76,591/-	07-06-2019	Part Of Kh. No-549, 558/1-2, P. H. No.109, Pandari Tarai, Raipur-1 Teh. & Dist.-Raipur Chhattisgarh 492001	17.10.19
4	Saman Gupta, Shanti Gupta	Rs. 4,58,402/-	07-06-2019	Khasra No 342/407, Village Baghera Ward No.55, P.H.No 06 RNM Durg-2, Tehsil Dist. Durg, Chhattisgarh 491001	17.10.19

Place : Gurgaon
Date : 17.10.2019

Authorised Officer
Shubham Housing Development Finance Company Limited

US asks Turkey to stop Syria op, Erdogan defiant

AFP ■ CEYLANPINAR (TURKEY)

US President Donald Trump has dispatched his deputy Mike Pence to Turkey to demand a ceasefire in Syria, as Ankara rebuffed international pressure to curb its deadly offensive against Kurdish forces.

President Recep Tayyip Erdogan vowed on Wednesday that Turkey's operation -- which has been facilitated by the withdrawal of US troops from northern Syria -- would continue.

That came as an extraordinary letter emerged in which Trump warned Erdogan: "Don't be a fool".

Sent the day Turkey launched its incursion into northeastern Syria, Trump said history risked branding him a "devil".

On Wednesday, Kurdish forces struck a desperate deal

with Damascus and stepped aside to allow Syrian regime troops and allied Russian soldiers enter the border town of Kobane, according to the Syrian Observatory for Human Rights.

Kobane is a highly symbolic town for Syria's Kurds, whose forces had in 2015 wrested it from the Islamic State (IS) group in an epic battle backed by the US-led coalition.

Days after American troops abruptly began withdrawing, clashes continued across the region, with Kurdish fighters in the border town of Ras al-Ain burning tyres in a bid to blind Ankara's warplanes and digging in against a ground offensive by Turkish-backed Syrian rebels.

The Turkish operation, now in its second week, has triggered a flurry of diplomacy among major powers.

Trump sent Pence along

with his top diplomat Mike Pompeo to Turkey amid the greatest crisis in relations for decades between the NATO allies, with talks due in Ankara early Thursday.

Facing a barrage of criticism in Washington for abandoning the Kurds, Trump has imposed sanctions on three Turkish ministers and raised tariffs on its steel industry.

Pence's office said the US would pursue "punishing economic sanctions" unless there was "an immediate ceasefire".

In the missive to Erdogan dated October 9 -- whose authenticity was confirmed to AFP by the White House -- Trump wrote: "You don't want to be responsible for slaughtering thousands of people, and I don't want to be responsible for destroying the Turkish economy -- and I will."

Kurdish commander: Trump approved deal with Russia, Damascus

AP ■ CEYLANPINAR (TURKEY)

The US President Donald Trump did not oppose a deal struck between the Syrian Kurdish-led forces, Russia and the Syrian government in Damascus to protect against a Turkish offensive in northeastern Syria, the commander of the force said as his fighters battled a new push by Ankara-backed fighters to seize a strategic border town.

The commander of the Kurdish-led forces, Mazloum Abdi, said Trump essentially gave the go-ahead for the deal in a phone call Monday.

The Kurds' deal, announced Sunday, came after Trump ordered US troops to step aside as Turkey launched its attack last week.

Under the agreement, forces of Syrian President

Bashar Assad effectively replace the US troops on the ground in the border areas, with Moscow guaranteeing the deal.

"We told (Trump) that we are contacting the Syrian regime and the Russians in order to protect our country and land," Abdi, better known by his nom de guerre Mazloum Kobani, told a local TV station, Ronahi TV.

"He said, 'We are not against that. We support that.'"

Vice President Mike Pence, heading a US delegation that includes Secretary of State Mike Pompeo, is set to arrive in Turkey Thursday afternoon, aiming to press Turkey to accept a cease-fire in its offensive.

Before their arrival, Turkish Foreign Minister Mevlut Cavusoglu met with White House national security adviser Robert O'Brien.

Opp protests suspend HK Assembly session



Security officers pursue pro-democracy lawmaker Au Nok-hin as he leaps across desks to chase Hong Kong Chief Executive Carrie Lam as Lam leaves a question and answer session with lawmakers at the Legislative Council in Hong Kong on Thursday

AP ■ HONG KONG

Hong Kong leader Carrie Lam was again forced from the legislative chamber because of protests Thursday by opposition members following a bloody attack on a leader of the nearly 5-month-old protest movement.

Pro-democracy lawmakers shouted and waved placards depicting Lam with bloodied hands, prompting their removal by guards and the suspension of proceedings.

A day earlier, Lam was forced to abandon an annual policy address in the chamber, later delivering it by television.

Disruption in the chamber and the attack Wednesday night on Jimmy Sham by assailants wielding hammers and knives marked the latest dramatic turn in the unrest that has rocked the city since June.

Angry emojis flood Hong Kong leader's Facebook Live chat

AFP ■ HONG KONG

Hong Kong's embattled leader took to Facebook Live late Thursday in a bid to reach out to citizens after months of political unrest -- and the emoji count was far from kind.

Carrie Lam -- the city's unelected Chief Executive -- currently boasts record low approval ratings as the financial hub convulses with more than four months of huge, increasingly violent pro-democracy protests.

Aid groups scramble to reach Syrians as battle lines shift

AP ■ BARDARASH

Humanitarian groups in northeastern Syria are scrambling to provide aid to hundreds of thousands of people as rapidly shifting battle lines make it increasingly difficult to reach them.

Nearly all foreign aid workers have been evacuated because of security concerns, and there are fears that local staff could face reprisals, either at the hands of Turkish-led

forces pushing in from the north or Syrian troops fanning out across territory held by the embattled Kurds.

The front lines are being rapidly redrawn as more than 160,000 people flee the fighting, including many who were displaced by earlier battles in Syria's eight-year civil war.

The offensive has created a new refugee crisis in a region where some 1.6 million people already rely on humanitarian aid.

US politics at new low as Trump, Pelosi indulge in war of words over Syria

PTI ■ WASHINGTON

American domestic politics has experienced a new low with President Donald Trump and House Speaker Nancy Pelosi engaging in an unprecedented war of words on the issue of pull out of US forces from Syria, a move that paved the way for Turkey to launch cross-border military operations against US-ally Kurdish forces.

The war of words on Wednesday between the two leaders started after the White House had invited the leadership and top committee members of both Democrats and Republicans, and the Congress to brief them about their policy on Syria.

Emerging out of a meeting at the White House, the two leaders accused each other of a serious meltdown.

Trump denies giving Turkey 'green light' for invasion

AFP ■ WASHINGTON

President Donald Trump on Wednesday defended his decision to pull US troops out of Syria, calling it "strategically brilliant," and denied giving Turkey a "green light" to launch operations against Kurdish militants.

"President (Recep Tayyip) Erdogan's decision didn't surprise me because he's wanted to do that for a long time," Trump told reporters at the White House.

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF FASHION TECHNOLOGY
(Ministry of Textiles, Govt. of India)
NIFT Campus, SIDCO Electronic Complex, Rangreth, Srinagar-191132, J&K

Recruitment of Group-C posts on Long Term Contract Basis
NIFT Srinagar invites applications for the various posts of Group-C. For more details, please log onto NIFT Srinagar website www.nift.ac.in/srinagar/. Last date for receipt of application is 30.11.2019.

Director

PUBLIC NOTICE

"It is to inform to the public at large that Mrs. Kamaljeet Kaur and Mr. Amardeep Singh acquired the property 1e Property bearing No. D-4/12 Model Town Phase-III, Delhi, vide Relinquishment Deed dt. 20.02.2015 executed by Mrs. Meenal Kumar, regd. as document no. 1576, and Sale Deed dated 30.12.1974 by Mrs. Raj Rani Bhandari in favour of Mr. Mangal Sain Tandon for 200 Sq. Yds, Sale Deed dated 30.12.1974 by Mrs. Raj Rani Bhandari in favour of Mr. Hira Singh for 82 Sq. yds., Registered General Power of Attorney dated 20.09.1975 executed by Mr. Hira Singh in favour of Mr. Mangal Sain Tandon along with ATS and will for 82 Sq. yds., Sale Deed dated 09.10.1975 executed by Mr. Hira Singh through his attorney Mr. Mangal Sain Tandon in favour of Mr. Ishar Dass Kumar for 82 Sq. yds, Sale Deed dated 19.11.1975 executed by Mr. Mangal Sain Tandon in favour of Mr. Ishar Dass Kumar in respect of area measuring 200 Sq. Yds., are lost in Original.

OR

Any person / firm / institution / company having any claim or right in respect of the said Property by way of inheritance, share, sale, agreement, lease, license, gift, possession, legal heirs, partners or encumbrance howsoever or otherwise is hereby required to intimate in writing to the undersigned within 7 days from the date of publication of this notice of his/her/their share or claim, if any, with all supporting documents at below mentioned address. After expiration of notice period, the claims, if any, of such person shall be treated null and void and also treated as waived and not binding on our client.

"H.No. 26/161, LGF, Vikram Vihar, Lajpat Nagar 4, New Delhi 110024"

Ajay Kumar Giri
Advocate
Ph.-40513964, 42444932

NORTHERN RAILWAY
TENDER NOTICE
Invitation of Tender through E-Tendering (E-Procurement Systems)

NIT No.	93195643B
Name of work and its location	AFTC Tuning unit style TI 21 for frequencies A/6 +6 Nos., B/6 +6 Nos., C/6 +6 Nos. & D/4 +4 Nos. Make -Bambardier or similar
Approx Cost of work	With Approximately cost is Rs. 2908786 86/-
Earnest Money	Rs. 56180/- (Note : It should be in the form of net banking or gateway only.)
Quantity	22 Nos.
Date and Time for submission of tender and opening of tender	Upto 11.00 hrs on 11.11.2019, Opening of Tender at 11.00 hrs.
Website particulars notice board location complete details of tender can be seen	Above tender available on IREPS site i.e. www.ireps.gov.in
No. Sr. DMM/NS/LP/93195643/2019, Date : 16.10.2019	3320/2019

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

NORTHERN RAILWAY
TENDER NOTICE
Invitation of Tender through E-Tendering (E-Procurement Systems)

NIT No.	93195449A
Name of work and its location	AFTC End Termination unit (ETU) style TI-21 for different frequencies A/4, B/6, C/6 & D/6, Make -Bambardier or similar.
Approx Cost of work	With Approximately cost is Rs. 37,77,911/-
Earnest Money	Rs. 75,560/- (Note: It should be in the form of net banking or gateway only.)
Quantity	23 KMS
Date and Time for submission of tender and opening of tender	Upto 11.00 hrs. on 11.11.2019, Opening of Tender at 11.00 hrs.
Website particulars notice board location complete details of tender can be seen	Above tender available on IREPS site i.e. www.ireps.gov.in
No.:Sr. DMM/NS/LP/93195449/2019 Date: 16.10.2019.	3319/2019

Serving Customers with a Smile

EASTERN COALFIELDS LIMITED
(A Subsidiary of Coal India Limited)

E-TENDER NOTICE FOR ON LINE BIDDING

01) Name of Area: MM Deptt, ECL (HQ). 02) Tender No. & date: ECL/HQ/Pur/ Open/21953060-RC/2019-20/IV Fluid/061. 03) Name of Rate: Conclusion of Rate Contract for 2 years for supply of TV Fluids (Inflations). 04) Estimated Cost: Rs.71,71,447.80. 05) Tender document download start date: 25.10.2019 (From 11.00 hrs IST). 06) Tender document download end date: 18.11.2019 (11.00 hrs IST). 07) Tender opening date & Time: 19.11.2019 (11.00 hrs IST). NB: Details of tenders can be seen in ECL website www.easterncoalfields.gov.in or <https://eprocure.gov.in> or <https://coalindiatenders.nic.in>.

VISIT US AT www.easterncoalfields.nic.in

N Ireland's DUP oppose UK Govt's Brexit plan

AFP ■ LONDON

Northern Ireland's Democratic Unionist Party announced Thursday it cannot support Boris Johnson's current Brexit plan, dealing a major blow to the British prime minister just hours before a crunch EU summit.

"As things stand, we could not support what is being suggested on customs and consent issues, and there is a lack of clarity on VAT (value added tax)," the DUP, which backs Johnson's Government, said in a brief statement on Twitter.

"We will continue to work with the government to try and get a sensible deal that works for Northern Ireland and protects the economic and constitutional integrity of the United Kingdom." The statement was seen as a major setback for Johnson, who would most likely need the support of his DUP allies in parliament for any deal agreed in Brussels.

It came as British and EU negotiators worked late into the night in the hopes of presenting a last-minute Brexit deal to

leaders meeting for a European summit. Both sides said they were close to finding a basis for a treaty to ensure Britain heads for a managed withdrawal from the European bloc it has been part of for nearly half a century.

EU's Juncker says no need for more delay

AFP ■ BRUSSELS

European Commission chief Jean-Claude Juncker congratulated Prime Minister Boris Johnson on their Brexit withdrawal deal Thursday and said it meant there should be "no further delay".

"We have a deal, and this deal means there is no need for any kind of prolongation," Juncker told reporters as he welcomed the British leader to EU headquarters ahead of summit talks. British MPs are expected to vote on the deal on Saturday.

But officials had to iron out details on how Northern Ireland, which is part of the UK, would remain under the European scheme for sale tax.

The pound fell 0.5 per cent against the dollar and the euro within minutes of the announcement.

Envoy key to Ukraine debate is due up in impeachment inquiry

AP ■ WASHINGTON

The US ambassador to the European Union is expected to tell House lawmakers conducting an impeachment inquiry that he was merely repeating President Donald Trump's reassurances when he told another envoy that there was no quid pro quo in the administration's dealings with Ukraine. Gordon Sondland, scheduled to appear Thursday, would be the latest in a series of witnesses to be interviewed behind closed doors by House lawmakers.

Trump blocked his appearance last week, but Democrats promptly subpoenaed Sondland.

His appearance is especially anticipated since text messages and other witness testimony place him at the center of a foreign policy dialogue with Ukraine that forms the basis of the impeachment inquiry and that officials feared circumvented normal channels.

Part of that effort involved pushing the former Soviet republic to commit to politically charged investigations sought by Trump, including into a gas company connected to the son of Democratic rival Joe Biden.

Iran warns to reduce nuclear commitments

IRNS ■ TEHRAN

Iran on Thursday said it would further reduce its commitments under the 2015 nuclear deal, unless its interests are secured by the signatories.

Iran is determined to take further steps to suspend its nuclear commitments under the pact, officially known as the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA), and the policy "will remain unchanged until the desired conditions are met and Iran's economic interests from the JCPOA are ensured," Iranian Deputy Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi was quoted as saying by local media.

Araghchi made the remarks in a meeting on Wednesday with his Swedish counterpart Anika Soder in Tehran, Xinhua reported.

He said despite Washington's withdrawal from the JCPOA and reimposition of sanctions, "Iran tried to keep the windows of interaction and diplomacy open, while Europe has only relied on political support and refused to keep the accord alive".

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, Vineeta Kumar w/o Sh. Anil Kumar R/o B-1, 1001, Uniwold City, Sector-30, Gurgaon-122001 Haryana do hereby solemnly affirm that I have got Flat No. 03 from Late Mrs. Kuashalya Singh W/o late Mr. R.P. Singh in the Cooperative Group Housing Society popularly known as Upkar Apartments, through the instrument of a Registered Will. That I confirm that, I shall abide by the Bylaws of the Society applicable to the members. That I also undertake to share liability if any of the original member in respect of the dues towards the society past or present. That I hereby indemnify the society from any claim on account of original share certificate or any other documents of the original member.

Vineeta Kumar

CORRIGENDUM

ICICI Bank Limited
Branch Office: ICICI Bank Limited, Plot No.7, Community Centre, S D Towers, Sector 8, Rohini, New Delhi-110085.

Notice is hereby given for the addition of terms in tender cum auction for sale of secured asset of Ms SAIGON INFRA TECH PRIVATE LIMITED (Lan No. LQND00035280620) as published on page no 13 The Pioneer (Eng) (Delhi/ NCR) Edition on Oct 11, 2019. For E-Auction fixed for secured asset on November 04, 2019.

1. Last date/time for submission of tender- November 03,2019, Before 05:00PM.

Dated: 18-10-2019

Place : Delhi/NCR

Sd/-

Authorized Officer

On behalf of secured creditor

PUBLIC NOTICE

We, 1. Praveen Kr. Jain S/o Late Sh. M.P. Jain, Smt. Sneha Jain W/o Sh. Praveen Kr. Jain R/o E-4/67, Sec-7, Rohini, Delhi-110085 and 2. Arun Kr. Jain S/o Sh. Sagar Chand Jain, Manisha Jain W/o Sh. Arun Kr. Jain Sagar Chand Jain S/o Late Sh. Bhulan Singh Jain, Smt. Sushila Jain W/o Sh. Sagar Chand Jain and Manish Jain S/o Sh. Sagar Chand Jain are the owner of the Built Up Property area 90Sq.Mtr. in Block and Pocket A-2/2, Sec-5, Rohini, Delhi-110085 having three chains / papers notary in hand. The three papers above said original. If any person found the same pls. contact 9250539198 or send the papers by post on the address mentioned herein above.

PUBLIC NOTICE

The General Public is hereby informed that my clients Sh. Ravi Sahni, S/o Late Sahni Sahni and Mrs Neeta Sahni W/o Ravi Sahni R/o H.No. E-3/140, Sutanpur New Delhi-110086, My clients have disowned their son Rahul Sahni and Daughter in law Heena W/o Rahul Sahni from all their movable/ immovable properties and severed all their relations both legal & social with them due to disrespectful behavior. Any person dealing with them, they shall be doing so at his/her own risk, and my clients shall not be responsible for the same.

ADVOCATE : KULDEEP KUMAR

B-22, B.G.S. Block, Tis Hazari Courts, Delhi-54

Public Notice

This is to inform to the public at large that my client, **Md Shoaib S/o Md Mohsin, R/o S-9, Nafees Road, Pahalwan Chowk, Jogabai Ext, Jamia Nagar, Okhla, New Delhi-25** along with his wife and all their relatives have refrained all of their relationships with their own son Aamir Khan and disowned (AAQ) him and his wife Subi Naaz and debarred them from all of their movable and immovable properties. He or any of his family member is not liable for any of their mis-deeds.

(On behalf of Md. Shoaib)
Nehal Siddiqui (Adv)
Delhi High Court
Office: I-97, Batla House, Jamia Nagar Okhla, New Delhi -110025

ICICI Bank Limited
Regd. Office: ICICI Bank Tower, Near Chakki Circle, Old Padra Road, Vadodara 390 007
Corporate Office: ICICI Bank Towers, Bandra- Kurla Complex, Bandra (E), Mumbai 400 051
Branch Office: ICICI Bank Ltd, Videocon Tower, Jhandewalan, New Delhi-110055

PUBLIC NOTICE - TENDER CUM AUCTION FOR SALE OF SECURED ASSET

[See provision to rule 3(i)]
Notice for sale of immovable assets
E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8 (6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower(s) and Guarantor(s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, the physical possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of ICICI Bank Ltd. will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is" as per the brief particulars given hereunder.

Sr. No.	Name of Borrower(s) / Co-Borrowers/ Guarantors/ Loan Account No.	Details of the Secured asset(s) with known encumbrances, if any	Amount Outstanding	Reserve Price/ Earnest Money Deposit	Date and Time of Property Inspection	Date & Time of Auction
(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	(G)	(H)
1.	Bhoopendra Singh (Borrower), Renu Singh (Co-Borrower) LBNOD00002141352	Apartment No.1609,16th Floor, Block Maple, Paramount Symphony Group Housing Plot No. 06, Crossing Republik Dundaheera, Ghaziabad, UP. Area-1485 Sq. Ft.	Rs. 55,77,655/- as on Oct 10,2019	Rs. 40,00,000/- Rs. 4,00,000/-	Nov 12, 2019, From 03:00 P.M. to 04:00 P.M.	Nov 26, 2019, From 11:00 A.M. to Onwards

The online auction will be conducted on website (URL Link "https://eauctions.samil.in"), of our auction agency **Shriram Automall India Ltd.** The Mortgagee's notices are given a last chance to pay the total dues with further interest till **Nov 25, 2019, before 5:00 P.M** else these secured assets will be sold as per schedule. The Prospective Bidder(s) must submit their offer along with the earnest money deposit (refer column E) in a sealed envelope that mentions "Offer for purchase of property" to **ICICI Bank Limited, 2nd Floor Videocon Tower, Block E-1, Jhandewalan Extension, Rani Jhansi Road, Delhi-110055** or to our marketing agent **Shriram Automall India Ltd at 2nd Floor, Best Sky Tower, Netaji Subhash Place, Pitampura, New Delhi-110034** on or before **Nov 25, 2019 before 5:00 P.M.** The marketing agency has also been engaged as auctioneer for proper conduct of auction. Earnest Money Deposit DD/ PO should be from a Nationalised/Scheduled Bank in favour of "ICICI Bank Limited" payable at Delhi.

For any further clarifications with regards to inspection, terms and conditions of the auction or submission of tenders, kindly contact ICICI Bank Limited on **8657549734/ 9650193259** or **Shriram Automall India Ltd on 9910453434**. Tenders which are acknowledged by the Bank/ e-auction vendor official and registered before the cut-off time with complete details shall only be considered for auction.

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

Date: October 18, 2019

Place: Delhi/ NCR

Sd/-

Authorized Officer

ICICI Bank Limited.

APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION



General public is hereby informed that an unidentified deadbody of male Age : Approx. 45 years, Height : 57", Complexion : Wheatish, Face : Round, Identification : A tattoo of Dil alike on right side of chest, tattoo alike a star on right hand and tattoo SP written on chest, wearing black colour printed shirt and fauji colour pant, was found dead on 10.10.2019 behind Libaspur bus stand, Delhi. In this regard DD No. 57-A dated 10.10.2019 has been lodged at PS Samaipur Badli, Delhi.

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

SHO - P.S. Samaipur Badli, Delhi.
Tel. No. 011-27854799, 27854757

DP/709/ON/19

STORES E-PROCUREMENT

Tender Notice No. S/Tender/07/2019, dt. 16-10-2019. (1) All tenders have been uploaded on Indian Railways E-Procurement portal (IREPS):- www.ireps.gov.in For details & necessary guidelines for quoting against e-tender, Please visit IREPS Procurement portal. (2) The prospective tenderers are advised to get them registered on the website <http://www.ireps.gov.in> online. This registration is mandatory for participation in e-tendering and is free of charge. (3) Offers are to be submitted online only. Offers sent/submitted against such e-tenders through e-mail, post/fax or in person will be rejected summarily without any consideration. (4) This notice is for information during initial phase only. In future, no such notice shall be published. Vendors are requested to get registered with IREPS and visit portal www.ireps.gov.in for future tenders. (5) Please submit offers online for the following materials: SN-1 Tender No.: 30/19/1680C/T/02019 Brief Description: Shock absorber Quantity: 462 Nos. Closing/Opening Date: 08-11-2019.

PCMM

NORTHEAST FRONTIER RAILWAY

"Serving Customers with a smile"

Ayodhya closure

The issue can hardly churn up emotions the way it did in the 1990s. Now that it has been flogged enough, what next?



A context effect is an aspect of cognitive psychology that describes the influence of environmental factors on one's perception of a stimulus. That's exactly what has happened in the Ram-Janmabhoomi-Babri Masjid tussle at Ayodhya. At one time, it embodied the beginning of identity politics, the accommodative Hindu *versus* the appeased Muslim swiftly turning into a disparate equation based on denial for a new narrative. Therefore, the "rightist" Hindu wanted a historical revision of being the original claimants

of civilisational land, in this case the birthplace of one who defined the ultimate ethics of being human and behavioural propriety, *Maryada Purushottam*, or Lord Ram. One that had been ordained by faith than historical evidence and the mysticism of which, many felt, should override every human construct and deprecation, in this case a mosque built in the Mughal era of Babar. That thought process, claimed by the BJP, posited itself against the liberal-secular matrix of the time as a bequeathed colonial legacy. It codified nationalism or *Bharatiyata* for a generation that was far removed from the freedom struggle and was fast finding its feet in a globalised world. What it also did was separate Hinduism, the philosophy, from Hindutva, the practice of it. That has come full circle and now that the BJP has got a mammoth verdict, it has legitimised the majoritarian discourse. To that extent, there is a general acceptance of the reality of the temple. Even residents of Ayodhya are tired of being circumscribed by a political context that doesn't help their aspirations and are accepting of any solution, so long as there is closure. With jobs and education on their mind, an entire generation, be it Hindu or Muslim, born under the shadow of the dispute is ready to cast away a beast of burden. This changed perspective then has dulled much of the appeal of Ayodhya.

Of course, the Supreme Court must be appreciated for stripping down the complexity of religiosity to the titular nature of land ownership and attempting a mediation. The three main parties — the Nirmohi Akhara, Ram Lala Virajman and the Sunni Waqf Board — have presented their points of view. Nirmohi Akhara lays its claim by virtue of being servitors of Lord Ram for generations while the Sunni Waqf Board has based its case on the fact that the Babri Masjid stood till 1992. Yet some of its members have reportedly softened up to settle for an alternative mosque, a counter assurance that no other mosque will be touched and that ASI would restore other mosques in the area. Ram Lalla, who became a legal party in the title suit only in 1989 when former Allahabad High Court judge Deoki Nandan Agrawal moved the High Court, claimed the entire birthplace as divinity reincarnate. So, now the court has to sift through issues like memory, continuity, belief systems, tradition and historical evidence, howsoever little of the last. But weighing abstractions and perceptions may be an extremely delicate matter. The Ram Mandir was an emotionally galvanising force that had got the Sangh Parivar close to claiming political power through the BJP. And though the Atal Bihari Vajpayee era, by virtue of its coalition pressures, demanded pragmatism in governance, the current Narendra Modi regime has no such reason to compromise. There are also expectations of it to translate ideological reverence into action, considering it has to justify the core of its being, the committed Sangh Parivar cadres. The party brass is hoping it will at least be seen as attempting a closure within legal perimeters, even if not entirely successful. Perhaps, Modi is in a rush to foreground Hindutva concerns like abrogation of Article 370, Ram temple, immigrants and uniform civil code so that they do not remain irritants to his definition of the Hindu Rashtra and by implication development. That itself is fraught with grave challenges as without sales pitches and illusionary diversions, he will have to now walk the talk on real issues. Modi's bigger concern is the electorate which feels betrayed on livelihood and comprises the poor, both rural and urban, and the middle classes. That job is tougher if indeed the BJP pursues the idea of Ram Rajya. For Lord Ram willingly sacrificed Ayodhya's throne for harmony in the kingdom, avoided any criticism and stood firm on his principles. He also gave back Lankans their land after the war with Ravana. Yet the Ayodhya dispute has only entrenched divisiveness in the country. Perceived justice over historical injustice may not be walking in his path.

Still too hungry

India has slipped from the 95th to the 102nd rank behind neighbours on a global index of nutrition



Digest this! According to estimates by the United Nations Development Programme, nearly 40 per cent of the food produced in India is wasted or lost and this costs the country one lakh crore rupees every year. And, yet, according to the Global Hunger Index (GHI), that measures the level of hunger and under-nutrition worldwide, India has slipped from the 95th rank in 2010 to the 102nd in 2019, behind its neighbours Nepal, Bangladesh and Pakistan. The four indicators for the index are undernourishment, child stunting, child wasting and child mortality. Alarmingly over one in every five children in India is "wasted" (low weight for height), the highest for any country. This damning report is full of irony as from being an importer of food in the 1960s, when India had to rely on shipments from the US, today the country has become the largest exporter of rice in the world. We are the second-largest producer of both rice and wheat. Between 2012 and 2015, three years, India exported 63 million tonnes of grains. Besides, now we have a smart buffering capacity to deal with shortages and crisis. Why then are we slipping on hunger targets?

First, we need to adopt better strategies for storage and avoid rotting. Latest data shows 4,135,224 metric tonnes of foodgrains were wasted. We could learn from advance food strategies of China, which has invested in state-of-the-art storage facilities. We need to curb food wastage at every level, right from harvesting, transporting, processing, packaging to consuming that is caused due to the loopholes in the transport and infrastructure system. Plus, we have the archaic public distribution system to blame for the inadequate and patchy supplies. Many times, even those who are the right candidates for the food subsidy are excluded on the basis of differential BPL (Below Poverty Line) status as the criteria for identifying a household is arbitrary and varies from State to State. Undoubtedly, several nutrition schemes are in operation but aren't properly implemented. For instance, in Bihar and Odisha, where the poverty ratio is very high, poor implementation of the Mid Day Meal Scheme has a major impact on food security. After 2024 we will have the largest population on this planet. The average household spends 40 to 45 per cent of its budget on food. So, for the next 30 years, the demand for food will spiral. If nothing is done at the policy level in terms of coordination and rationalisation, we will continue to hang our heads in shame and never be able to shed the tag of a nation with starving millions.

Who is an Indian?

Ghulam Dastagir, who saved hundreds of lives during the Bhopal gas tragedy, and Nobel Prize winner Abhijit Banerjee are true Indians who continue to inspire us



AJOY KUMAR

One of my favourite ways to travel around the country is to board a train. Unfortunately, due to pressing engagements and the urgency of modern life, I have not been able to take as much advantage as I would want of this uniquely Indian way of travelling. There's something quintessentially Indian about taking the train, getting to know the fellow passengers and chatting with them over a cup of tea as they head to their respective destinations. While writing these lines, there is a vivid image in my mind of one such journey I made and I'm certain, a similar image must have appeared in the minds of the readers, too.

An interesting aspect of train travel is the diversity on display during the journey. One gets to hear of so many languages, accents, smell a variety of food and absorb different perspectives. Once, it got me thinking about what it means to be an Indian.

Unlike other nations like Pakistan, India is not defined by a particular religion. Some may argue that being a Hindu-majority country, an Indian's identity is primarily driven by this majoritarian outlook. Such an argument does not hold ground because not only does India contain a multiplicity of religions but significantly also a multiplicity of castes. Therefore, a Brahmin Hindu (approximately five per cent of the Hindu community) can hardly claim to represent all Hindus. It's the same with languages as well.

The recent debate about Hindi becoming a "national" language does not hold water because of the variety of languages spoken in our country. If you do not believe me, just ask a Maharashtrian or a Tamilian about how they feel about "Hindi" being a national language. The truth really is that "Indian identity is forged in diversity and everyone of us is a minority", as Congress leader Shashi Tharoor put it eloquently.

But this still doesn't explain what it means to be an Indian. The story of Ghulam Dastagir, however, does. Dastagir was the deputy station superintendent on duty at the Bhopal Railway station on December 2, 1984 — the day when the Bhopal gas tragedy took place. By midnight, the railway station, which was extremely close to the Union Carbide plant, was filled with poisonous gases that killed everything in its path.

On that fateful night, the brave deputy station master stepped on the platform with itchy feeling in the throat and a burning sensation in his eyes. Immediately, he knew something was wrong. Unaware that 23 of his colleagues had already succumbed to the gas leak, he tried to get clarity on what was happening and sought further instructions.



With none forthcoming, Dastagir took matters into his own hands and informed his superiors to suspend all trains that were headed to Bhopal. He then summoned his staff. While he was barely able to stand or breathe and against all protocol, he directed his staff to clear the Gorakhpur train for departure even though 25 minutes were left for it to roll out. He assured his staff that he would take full responsibility for any blowback that may follow.

In doing so, Dastagir saved hundreds of lives. He did not, however, stop here. As terror spread across Bhopal, large crowds of the affected population descended on to the station in an attempt to escape the gas chamber. Dastagir went from platform to platform, attending to and consoling victims and sent an SOS to all nearby railway stations to send ambulances and doctors.

He himself suffered terribly due to the gas leaks. He died in 2003 and a large part of his life was spent in the hospital due to exposure to toxic fumes. He also lost his son in the tragedy. However, through his bravery and courage, he

ensured that hundreds of fathers didn't suffer the same fate as he did.

Dastagir was a true Indian. In such moments, we forget about which religion a person belongs to, which caste he was born into or which language he speaks. All that we care about and all that we remember is the great sacrifice of an Indian brother. In reality, this is what it means to be an Indian. It means recognising that at the time of independence, we promised ourselves and our future generations that we would set aside all that divides, to forge a better India. The poignant story of Dastagir reminds us of this core value.

Another value that forms the core of being an Indian is the respect and admiration for knowledge. This is evident from the fact that whenever a book falls down to the ground, we almost unknowingly touch it to our forehead as a sign of respect. It is this core value that has enabled India to be blessed with brilliant minds. We have had leaders in the field of mathematics, literature, technology and philosophy among others and I believe that one of the prima-

ry reasons for our intellectual prowess is the manner in which our culture respects knowledge and the pursuit of the same.

The most recent example is that of Indian-origin economist Abhijit Banerjee, one of the winners of the Nobel Prize for economics. His win adds to a very rich list of Indian luminaries.

Sadly, however, some of our leaders attempt to replace these values with those that are antithetical to Indian core values. We are told now to focus on our differences rather than strengths and our leaders repeatedly show disdain for knowledge with an affinity for dogma. This is not the idea of India we cherish and it is not what it means to be an Indian.

I imagine most of us swell with pride when we recount the story of Dastagir or when we talk about the contributions made by Banerjee to the field of economics. We must ensure that we retain our core values and try to inspire similar pride in others. After all, that's what it means to be an Indian.

(The writer is a former IPS officer, an MP and currently a member of the AAP)

“WE ARE TOLD TO FOCUS ON OUR DIFFERENCES RATHER THAN STRENGTHS AND OUR LEADERS REPEATEDLY SHOW DISDAIN FOR KNOWLEDGE WITH AN AFFINITY FOR DOGMA. THIS IS NOT THE IDEA OF INDIA WE CHERISH AND IT IS NOT WHAT IT MEANS TO BE AN INDIAN”

SOUNDBITE

Both, me and Kantilal Bhuria have reached an age where we should retire. The time has come for youngsters to come forward.



Senior Congress leader —Digvijaya Singh

I am proud that whether it's Farhan's first film *Dil Chahata Hai* or Zoya's first, they don't have any reflection of my poetry. They are their own voices.



Screenwriter —Javed Akhtar

We've got a great new deal that takes back control. Now, Parliament should get Brexit done so that we can move on to other priorities.



UK Prime Minister —Boris Johnson

Parliament of India will not allow malicious efforts to succeed. We expect better from parliamentarians than vituperative mudslinging.



Congress leader —Shashi Tharoor

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Bridge the gap

Sir — This refers to the editorial, "Bangla pride" (October 15). The Nobel Prize for Economics awarded to Indian-American Abhijit Banerjee, his French-American wife Esther Duflo and Michael Kremer for "their experimental approach to alleviating global poverty" underlines the renewed concern over global poverty and ways to alleviate it. The husband and wife have spent considerable time studying various poverty alleviation programmes. Welcome as much this is, we will perennially regret the decision of the wise men to deny a Nobel prize to the Mahatma despite the fact that he was nominated thrice.

We revel in the general feeling of happiness among Indians that one of them, albeit with an American passport, is a Nobel laureate yet again. Indians are competent to excel in any field but for that, a conducive environment is required, which unfortunately is not available in our universities. It is a sad fact that needs serious introspection by our politicians, academicians and policy makers.

JS Acharya
Hyderabad

Ganguly has an onerous task at hand

This refers to the editorial, "Bangla pride" (October 15). Sourav Ganguly is described as a good cricket tactician. His experience on the cricket field — as a batsman who played the game fearlessly and as a captain who groomed many a talent — has made him a legend. His aura can be gauged from the love and respect he commanded both on and off the field. Given his talent to spot and groom cricketers, his elevation as the head of the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) bodes well for Indian cricket. Though his tenure is short, he can work wonders even in the 10 months he has at hand.

Ganguly's election has come at a crucial time when the BCCI's functioning needs to be streamlined. The cricket body has been hit by scandals, infighting and short-sightedness. Consolidation of affairs is what is required. The issue of "conflict of interest" has become a stick to ridicule and browbeat some famed cricketers. Imagine a man like Rahul Dravid being asked to quit his job at India Cements to retain the junior head coach post. What and what not constitutes a job for profit must be defined clearly. However, bringing in the much-required "trans-



parency" and "accountability" into the daily functioning of the BCCI must be Ganguly's priority. One hopes only professionals occupy the BCCI top post. Most importantly, Dada, as he is fondly referred to, has an onerous task of taking all stakeholders — players, coaches, State-level bodies and administrators — together.

Ganapathi Bhat
Akola

sector can go up, too, by retrieving unaccounted money through the Voluntary Disclosure Scheme, whereby those declaring may be asked to invest 50 per cent of the amount in other long-term infrastructural bonds with nominal interest to be issued by public sector undertakings like the IRCTC.

Madhu Agrawal
Delhi

Poll rhetoric

Sir — Prime Minister Narendra Modi's statement at an election rally that India will not allow its water to flow to Pakistan and instead put it to use here is yet another example of empty "poll promise." The Indus Water Treaty signed between India and Pakistan makes it clear that the former is bound to release water to the latter. It is strange that the Prime Minister raised an emotive issue just for votes, to the extent of showing no respect to existing bilateral agreements.

Swadha
Via email

Send your feedback to:
letterstopioneer@gmail.com

for packaged water, confectionery items and other food products to replace cooked meal in trains and schools, where complaints of sub-standard food in unhygienic conditions are quite common.

IRCTC's market debut

Sir — The great success of IRCTC, where its shares doubled overnight, calls for the issuance of long-term bonds by it to set up large-scale production units in every district of the country

with the help of long-term bonds will provide huge employment in the public sector, apart from giving sizeable profits to the public exchequer. Products can be sold in the open market so as to ensure that private players bring down their prices.

Employment in the public

FIRST COLUMN

Time for some 'Freakonomics'

Would tweaking a few procedures actually help the country's economy recover? Maybe the answer lies in field trials



KUMARDEEP BANERJEE

The International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the World Bank have cut down India's growth forecasts to six per cent for the fiscal year 2019-20, from nearly seven per cent, riding on a weakening domestic demand. Industrial growth shrank 1.1 per cent in August, after a gap of 26 months, reinforcing fears of a slowing economy and deteriorating consumer sentiment. Industrial production, as measured by the Index of Industrial Production (IIP), had grown 4.8 per cent in August last year. Data released by the statistics office showed the April-August factory output growth at 2.4 per cent, well below the 5.3 per cent for the same period in the last fiscal. These numbers paint a rather grim picture of a long winter ahead for the economy of the country. So, is it time to use Randomised Controlled Trials (RCT) to test and/or tweak policies in select pockets to bring out better results?

For the uninitiated, RCTs are most commonly used in the field of medicine to check the impact of a particular chemical concoction on a randomly chosen group of patients with a condition. Two or three sets are "administered" or "not administered" different variations of the drug to see the beneficiary impact on health.

Coming from the creative soil of Kolkata, Nobel laureate Abhijit Banerjee chose to apply a similar model for solving big picture issues at the ground level. The economist and his co-awardees, through their trials, studies and experiments, argue that it is possible to arrive at optimal policy solutions based on empirical evidence, having tested their variables in controlled trials on a small target. This means breaking down macro problems such as poverty, malnutrition or an economic slowdown into smaller packets. Then pockets of focus target groups are subjected to policy trials, allowing faster results and direct solutions. It seems to be opening a host of possibilities for lawmakers and policy formulators, not to forget those who have to implement them.

Coming back to the deepening economic slowdown issues — if we consider this to be the real challenge for India in the short term — it would, with the will of the policy-makers, be possible to allow some controlled trials on select groups for a short period. This would be a test case for boosting demand in the particular micro-pocket of the economy. For example, if the Government wants to increase rural off-take for houses and two-wheelers or even four-wheelers, it can (at least in theory) offer a cashback/interest-free limited equated monthly installment (EMI) or an insurance free, with every loan sanctioned at the much talked about Loan Mela.

A particular pocket can be subjected to this or a variation (either all of the options or some) loan mela bonanza during the festival season, while the other can have plain vanilla bank offers meant for this region and sub-group of customers. The results emerging from this limited trial can throw some long-term solutions to tackling ghosting small-time borrowers and impacting or predicting consumption behaviour. Who knows, some far-reaching insights on the impact of demonetisation and the digital economy can also be found in the side alleys? Yes, it needs an economic scientist to honeycomb tons of data on consumer behaviour, have a clarity of thought and principle to arrive at effective solutions, before being put across the bureaucrat's desk to be formulated into a meaningful macro policy document.

Herein lies the critique of the now Nobel-awarded proof of breaking big problems into smaller, manageable questions and solving parts, for the "whole matrix", in short, RCT.

The first being that such experiments reduce the scope of economic uncertainties by eliminating the possibility of manual selection. The second and perhaps more apt (if we were to look at the problem of the economic slowdown) is that small interventions and policy tweaks or a bit of additional benefits with a loan may increase off-take in the short-term and also perk up consumption. But it hasn't been proven to be of benefit for the larger economy. Perhaps the impact of a large population could be disastrous, which may delay consumption, for want of a better sop or cashback (if you will). Also the question of whether this will ultimately lead to overall prosperity and not really impact the macro monetary decisions of the Government will need hard thinking.

Now, with all this "Freakonomics" possibilities, we jump back to the consumption economy which is fast becoming a Doomsday prediction coming true. The Government is seen taking widespread reforms (not randomised) agenda, giving tax sops and announcing sectoral booster packages but the consumer is reluctant. Is it time for senior policy makers to actually start doing the rounds of the country to see the impact of the fiscal reforms on the ground? Would tweaking a few procedures actually help the economy recover? Maybe the answer lies in field trials.

(The writer is a policy analyst)

PUBLIC SECTOR BANKS DID NOT HAVE A WORST PHASE THAN WHEN THE COMBINATION OF SINGH AND RAJAN, AS PM AND RBI GOVERNOR, HAD.
 —FINANCE MINISTER
 NIRMALA SITHARAMAN

POINT COUNTERPOINT



THE GOVERNMENT IS OBSESSED WITH TRYING TO BLAME ITS OPPONENTS, THUS IT IS UNABLE TO FIND A SOLUTION FOR REVIVAL OF THE ECONOMY.
 —FORMER PRIME MINISTER
 MANMOHAN SINGH

A stirred and shaken India

By pursuing an ultra-nationalist agenda, Modi has validated the two-nation theory that formed the rationale of dividing British India to create Pakistan as a Muslim homeland



BZ KHASRU

Colonial India's Muslim leaders shivered at the thought of being perpetually controlled by Hindus in a united India once the British left the country, unless there were safeguards enshrined in the Constitution. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has proven them right. By pursuing a populist ultra-nationalist agenda, he has unwittingly validated the much-maligned "two-nation" theory that formed the rationale behind dividing British India to create Pakistan as a Muslim homeland.

His policy pits Hindus against Muslims, an unfortunate schism that all of his predecessors fought against. Seven decades after the blood-soaked Partition, hyper-nationalist Modi won a landslide re-election victory in May, donning the saffron-coloured garb of Hindu gurus and allowing divisiveness based on Islamophobia.

His crown is made of two emotion-filled explosive elements: Kashmir and migration, both having a common thread of bias and suspicion against Muslims. They have roots in the century-old vision of Hindutva, or Hinduness, outlined in the 1920s by VD Savarkar, a violent revolutionary-turned-ultra-nationalist. Savarkar, a British-trained lawyer and avowed atheist, espoused several ideas to deal with India's minorities, mimicking Adolf Hitler's racist solution to Germany's Jewish question.

Since his re-election, Modi's administration has aggressively moved on both Kashmir and the alleged illegal migration from Bangladesh, which is India's most friendly neighbour. In early August, keeping local leaders in detention and deploying nearly a million security personnel in Kashmir, it abolished a decades-old law that granted Kashmiris special rights — their own flag, own laws and land rights. Meanwhile, India's Home Minister Amit Shah, who heads Modi's nationalist BJP and is widely expected to succeed him as Prime Minister, is pressing ahead with his agenda to deport fictitious 40 million illegal Bangladeshi migrants.

Clash over Muslim migrants: This idea has provoked a sharp backlash from Bangladesh. Home Minister Asaduzzaman Khan has dismissed the BJP's assertion, noting that Bangladesh's economy is at par with India's, so no one from his country's stays illegally in India. Still the matter turned acrimonious enough during Shah-Khan talks in Delhi in August to prevent them from issuing a customary joint statement.

India, nevertheless, seems determined to push ahead its agenda. It has started a campaign to round up Muslims unless they can prove they have lived in India way before 1971 when Bangladesh was created. They will be put in concentration camps, which ironically the migrants themselves are building now.

Of India's 1.3 billion people, 14 per cent are Muslim. Modi's party does not target migrant Bangladeshi Hindus, classifying them as refugees and minorities from neighbouring countries. But it seeks to deport Muslims. In fact, India has already deported Rohingya Muslim refugees to Myanmar and detained hundreds of them. Modi faced global criticism for the Godhra massacre in 2002 in his home State of Gujarat. He ruled Gujarat for 13 years before becoming Prime Minister in 2014.

What is most disturbing in this government's

“ FOLLOWING HIS RE-ELECTION, THE NATIONAL REGISTER OF CITIZENS, WHICH VERIFIES CITIZENSHIP, AFTER SEVERAL FLAWED COUNTS, HAS CLASSIFIED NEARLY TWO MILLION LONG-TERM RESIDENTS AS NON-CITIZENS OR STATELESS. MOST OF THEM ARE AT THE BOTTOM OF THE ECONOMIC LADDER. THEY WILL BE DETAINED IN CAMPS WITH LIMITED RIGHTS ”



policy is its anti-minority agenda. It is this very posture of the professedly secular Indian National Congress party and its paramount leaders — Jawaharlal Nehru and Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel — that propelled British India's Muslims to demand a separate homeland as they feared that the Hindus would perpetually control the Muslims once the British left.

The Congress balked at granting special rights and Britain created Pakistan in 1947. But problems surfaced soon afterward with semi-autonomous princely States, including Kashmir. The picturesque Himalayan region encompasses roughly 135,000 square miles, almost Germany's size, with about 18 million people. India controls 85,000 square miles, Pakistan 33,000 and China 17,000. Both Pakistan and India claim the entire area as their own.

In 1948, after an Indo-Pakistan fight, India raised Kashmir in the United Nations Security Council, which called for a referendum on the territory's status. It asked Pakistan to withdraw troops and India to cut military presence to a minimum. A ceasefire came into force but Pakistan refused to pull out. Kashmir has remained partitioned ever since.

Until Hindutva swept Modi to power, India assuaged minorities by pursuing a policy that emphasised on national unity. In contrast, Modi began his tenure by killing a centuries-old Muslim marriage law. Even the Mughals and the British left Indian personal law untouched. The government voided the Muslim law but kept simi-

lar laws for other minorities intact.

What's behind Hindutva politics? To boost his re-election bid, Modi fired up his anti-Muslim rhetoric and took the crusade to India's north-eastern State of Assam, plagued by a half-century-long hate-based politics. The politics that originated with a demand to drive out non-Assamese quickly turned into an anti-Bangladeshi outcry at the BJP's instigation. Modi has vowed to rid the State of all the alleged Bangladeshi migrants.

Following his re-election, the National Register of Citizens, which verifies citizenship, after several flawed counts, has classified nearly two million long-term residents as non-citizens or stateless. Most of them are at the bottom of the economic ladder. They will be detained in camps with limited rights, considering that the government has promised not to send anybody back to Bangladesh, which fears a reverse influx.

Unfortunately for the Hindutva brigade, the citizenship count has become a boomerang. Of the two million designated non-citizens, 1.2 million unexpectedly turned out to be Hindu. Modi's followers are now crying foul, demanding a recount. The BJP had expected to find four million migrants in Assam, most of them Muslim.

Assam's neighbour West Bengal, which shares a common language and a rich culture with Bangladesh, is gearing up to play political hotball against the BJP. The hardliners want to replicate the citizenship drill in West Bengal but Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee's

party has vowed to fight it. State BJP chief Dilip Ghosh, who is seeking to deport the alleged migrants, remains adamant because rhetoric is the magic wand for his party to win votes.

Muslims foresee the BJP's game: Ironically, while Ghosh wishes to expel them to an unnamed country — presumably Bangladesh — Modi is urging Hindus to flock to Muslim-majority Kashmir, which barred non-Kashmiris from owning land until New Delhi scrapped its autonomy in August.

The BJP prescription to push more Hindus into Kashmir is intended to change the demographic balance in the restive territory of 12 million people. Modi's arbitrary action is the mother of several repugnant ideas. This is exactly the kind of capriciousness on the part of the overwhelming Hindu majority that British India's Muslim leaders feared most.

One of those leaders, Liaquat Ali Khan, the right-hand man of Pakistan's founder, Mohammad Ali Jinnah, articulated this concern while talking with George Merrell, then America's highest-ranking diplomat in India, on December 27, 1946. Liaquat believed that the Congress was "determined to seize power without regard for Muslim rights." Now, 73 years later, Modi's Hindutva agenda, which calls for a Muslim-free India, has proven Liaquat right. By scrapping Kashmir's status, the Prime Minister has taken a highly risky gamble in challenging the secular matrix and embedding a majoritarian consciousness.

(The writer is an established author on Bangladesh-related issues.)

Can Delhi GRAPple with pollution?

In the absence of a cohesive collaboration strategy with neighbouring States, the Graded Response Action Plan might end up being just another knee-jerk reaction to the pollution onslaught in winters



KOTA SRIRAJ

The fast-approaching winter months have now become synonymous with a worsening air quality in the Delhi-National Capital Region (NCR). The pollution reaches unmanageable levels, largely due to the smoke emanating from crop residue burning in the neighbouring States of Punjab, Haryana and Uttar Pradesh (UP), blowing over to Delhi-NCR.

Incidents of stubble burning have already begun increasing in Punjab and Haryana and are likely to peak in the next 10-12 days as the harvest season picks up in Sangrur, Patiala, Ludhiana and Fatehabad districts. Here, the tradition of open field burning is rampant and contin-

ues unabated in spite of the activity being deemed illegal. According to a report by the Centre-run System of Air Quality and Weather Forecasting and Research (SAFAR), this biomass burning is likely to add nine per cent to Delhi's PM 2.5 concentration.

In spite of all this, enforcement of the law pertaining to crop burning in Punjab has been lax, to say the least. This toxic mix of smoke and vehicular pollution has resulted in Delhi-NCR's Air Quality Index (AQI) plummeting to alarming levels. However, all is not lost as a bevy of efforts undertaken by the Government and authorities concerned has had a positive impact on an otherwise grim scenario.

First, awareness regarding the quality of the air we breathe in through regular publicity of the AQI has made people conscious. Second, the introduction of the much-cleaner BS-VI fuel ahead of schedule has also instilled confidence among the citizens. Furthermore, the closure of coal-based power plants and fall in



the sales of diesel vehicles have helped salvage the situation in Delhi and the situation now is much better than what it was five years ago.

But clearly much more needs to be done. Probably, keeping this in mind, the Delhi Government has introduced the Graded Response Action Plan (GRAP) early this year to handle pollution in an incremental manner, depending on the level of severity, especially in the winters.

GRAP came into force from October 14 with the objective to curb

air pollution in Delhi-NCR, by proactively rolling out measures like discouraging private vehicles on the city's roads, stopping trucks from outside, using diesel generators, closing brick kilns and stone crushing units. It seemed a timely step as on October 13, the AQI was "very poor" with the level going beyond the 300-mark. On October 14, the AQI improved by around 50 points but the situation has continued to oscillate between "poor" and "very poor" over the last few days.

Even though experts have hailed GRAP for the gradual reduction in pollution levels over the years and for fixing accountability — as it clearly marks the agency responsible for each action to be taken — the efficacy of the plan is yet to be proven.

This is because many of the pollution-triggering factors are beyond the purview of the Arvind Kejriwal administration and the Delhi Government needs active cooperation and collaboration of the State Governments of UP, Haryana and Punjab. In the absence of a cohesive collaboration strategy, the GRAP might just end up being a knee-jerk reaction to the pollution onslaught.

The gaps in the fight against pollution are becoming visible with generators being used in Gurugram with impunity due to the exceptional power cuts the city faces. Similarly, many questions were raised on the GRAP's efficacy in January 2019.

This is because toxic levels of air pollution monitored over Delhi almost every week, from November

1, 2018 to January 6 this year, showed that the Government's emergency plans to tackle the city's annual crisis had failed, according to a report of the United Residents' Joint Action (URJA), a collective of the city's resident welfare associations.

The report summarised the findings of 45 Right to Information (RTI) applications filed at 14 Government departments. Responses were sought from Central, State and municipal bodies to assess the effectiveness of GRAP. The analysis of data collected by URJA for 68 days showed that except for one day in Central Delhi's ITO, the national Capital's air quality was continually above permissible limits.

The GRAP initiative for this year cannot be allowed to be a rerun of last year. The Government must undertake necessary steps to overcome possibilities of failure and achieve the objective of curbing pollution levels effectively.

(The writer is an environmental journalist)



BREXIT DEAL NOT A GAME OF CHESS

Brexit involves choices that will shape the strategic direction of Britain for generations and affect millions of livelihoods. Any deal Prime Minister Boris Johnson can strike now is just the vehicle for withdrawal; what matters most is the eventual destination. The rhetoric he has relied upon, the fanatics he flatters and the political trajectory of his career all indicate a plan to take Britain in the wrong direction.

(The Guardian editorial)

IN WAKE OF POTENTIAL THREATS

Bengal Govt accorded 'Z' class security cover

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The Centre has accorded West Bengal Governor Jagdeep Dhankar 'Z' category VIP security cover in the wake of "potential threats" to him.

Union Home Ministry has issued an order and directed the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) to take charge of Dhankar's security that will be valid in all parts of the country and not remained confined to his cover in West Bengal.

Under the "Z" category, the West Bengal Governor will have about 8-10 armed security personnel with him when he travels apart from an escort car. The CRPF will take over the charge soon, officials said.

CRPF cover came as a threat assessment report prepared by central security and intelligence agencies found that Dhankar needs to be secured by a professional team of personnel especially in the wake of the recent incident at Jadavpur University where Union Minister Babul Supriyo was heckled and he had rushed to save him.

The CRPF guards a number of VIPs



including Union Home Minister Amit Shah.

The Governor had on Tuesday said that he was deeply hurt at the treatment allegedly meted out to him at the Durga Puja Carnival on Red Road on October 11. Usually governors are given state police cover.

VIP security cover entails four categories: "Z-plus" (34 guards); "Z" (22 guards); "Y" (11 guards) and "X" (2 guards).

Forced NRC will give mileage to Didi: TMC

SAUGAR SENGUPTA ■ KOLKATA

Any forced implementation of National Register for Citizens in Bengal will help Mamata Banerjee in the ultimate run, the ruling Trinamool Congress feels. Senior Bengal Minister Subroto Mukherjee on Thursday said that it would be a political blunder for the BJP-ruled Centre to implement NRC in Bengal.

"If the BJP tries to force NRC in Bengal it will be a big political blunder committed by them," Mukherjee one of the founder members of the TMC said adding "the BJP will not only lose the advantage it extracted in the Lok Sabha polls but also it will be routed in the Assembly elections."

The people irrespective of caste and religion had become highly skeptic of the NRC after its "fraudulent implementation" in Assam where the future of more than 19 lakh people is in stake, he said.



"In Bengal if they try to implement NRC then it will go in favour of the Trinamool Congress. Its implementation will turn out to be a hundred percent gain for Mamata Banerjee," the septuagenarian Minister said.

The TMC's views found reflection in the Left Front camp too as State Left Legislature party member and CPI(M) central committee member Sujana Chakrabarty said, "NRC will not be accepted by the people of Bengal. Whole State will oppose it tooth and nail."

On the BJP leaders' repeated assertion in favour of NRC should that party came to power in the State Chakrabarty

said, "it is the political build up against NRC that the Centre has been forced to retrace its step saying they will consider introducing it post 2024."

In fact the Left will resist NRC tooth and nail. We will prepare the entire population of the State against the enlarging black shadow of NRC."

On the Delhi's move to construct detention centres throughout the country, Chakrabarty said let them try and build one in Bengal. I can assure you that the people of the State will smash all those illegal structures designed after concentration camp of Hitler."

Reacting to the TMC and Left leaders' statement BJP leader Mukul Roy said that there was no escaping NRC in Bengal. "Implementation of NRC is a foregone conclusion. The people want NRC in Bengal." Any such move would take place "in line with the Nation's regulations."

Shah day-dreaming of winning two-third majority in WB: TMC

PTI ■ KOLKATA

The ruling Trinamool Congress on Thursday mocked BJP president Amit Shah for "day dreaming" about forming the next Government in Bengal with two-thirds majority and said he and his saffron camp should instead concentrate on reviving the economy.

Shah, also Union Home Minister, had told a news channel during the day that BJP is going to form the Government in West Bengal with two-thirds majority in the 2021 Assembly polls.

Reacting to Shah's claim, senior TMC leader Subrata Mukherjee said Shah should stop "day dreaming" about forming the Government in the state.

"Instead of day dreaming and making tall claims the BJP leader should first concentrate on his own party and

good governance at the Centre.

The country's economy has gone for a toss due to the faulty economic policies of the Modi Government and BJP should first look into reviving it," he said.

TMC also hit out at the BJP government at the Centre for allegedly trying to drive out Bengalis from Assam in the name of implementation of the National Register of Citizens.

The saffron party is planning to replicate the NRC exercise in Bengal but as long as TMC is in power in the State it will never allow such an "divisive exercise" to take place, TMC secretary general Partha Chatterjee said.

"The BJP is trying to create a panic in Bengal in the name of NRC. Eleven people have already died in the state due to NRC panic. The people of Bengal will give BJP a befitting reply in the next Assembly polls in the State," he said.

Bengal Govt committed to alleviating poverty: Mamata

PTI ■ KOLKATA

West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee on Thursday said her government is committed to alleviating poverty and the theory by Nobel laureate Abhijit Vinayak Banerjee on it will go a long way in helping the poor.

Banerjee took to the Twitter to express her views and posted some photographs of her visit to the residence of the Nobel laureate's mother Nirmala Banerjee Wednesday evening in the city.

"Yesterday, I spent time with the family of our very own Nobel Prize winning economist, Abhijit Banerjee. His contribution to the experimental theory of poverty alleviation will go a long way in helping people #Bangla is very proud of him!" Banerjee tweet-



ed.

On the occasion of the International Day for the Eradication of Poverty on Thursday, Banerjee in a tweet earlier in the day said, "...Our Govt in #Bangla is committed to alleviating poverty, reducing unemployment, combating illiteracy and upholding human rights."

The United Nations General Assembly had in 1987 designated October 17 as the International Day for the Eradication of Poverty to promote awareness about the need to eradicate poverty and destitution.

BJP using NRC, CAB to unleash a reign of fear and distrust: Yechury

PTI ■ KOLKATA

CPI(M) general secretary Sitaram Yechury on Thursday accused BJP and the RSS of trying to destroy the country's secular fabric and letting loose a "reign of fear and distrust" across the country by implementing the contentious NRC and CAB.

Yechury said BJP is trying to propagate its ideology of Hindu nationalism by replacing the principles of Indian nationalism, which had its roots in the Independence movement.

"The communal forces have increased their activities by leaps and bounds and they are trying to flare communal passions across the country. Now the BJP is taking about NRC and CAB. It will now decide who are citizens and who are not," he said while addressing a programme to commemorate 100 years of the Communist Party of

India (CPI).

The CPI was formed on 17 October 1920 at Tashkent in Uzbekistan, then part of USSR.

Yechury said the updation of the NRC in the rest of the country after Assam is against the interests of the people as BJP intends to use it for its "divisive communal agenda".

"The BJP government is talking about extending the NRC process in the whole of India. This is uncalled for and it is being done only with the aim of targeting certain sections of people and to create polarization," he said.

He criticised the BJP Government at the Centre for omitting Muslims from the list of religious denominations eligible for getting citizenship in the proposed Citizenship (Amendment) Bill, 2019 and called it a "complete violation" of the Constitution.

The Citizenship (Amendment)

Bill provides for according Indian citizenship to Hindus, Jains, Christians, Sikhs, Buddhists and Parsis from Bangladesh, Pakistan and Afghanistan after seven years of residence in India instead of 12 years currently even if they do not possess any document.

Expressing concern over alleged attempts by BJP and several other Hindutva outfits to build up communal frenzy over NRC and CAB, the former Rajya Sabha MP said the saffron party sees the sharpening of communal polarization as the only way to consolidate its Hindutva vote bank.

It has been acknowledged since Independence that the unity of India lies in its diversity.

The BJP-RSS cannot tolerate the diversity and federal principle and want to create a Hindu Rashtra, he alleged.

Will take over BJP controlled Bhatpara municipality soon: TMC

PTI ■ KOLKATA

A day after taking control of Naihati Municipality, which it had earlier lost to BJP, the ruling TMC on Thursday claimed it will soon take over Bhatpara civic body, the only one in the State which is being ruled by the saffron party.

TMC will soon bring a no confidence motion against the present board of the Bhatpara municipality, party senior leader Jyoti Priya Mullick said.

Bhatpara municipality was the first civic body to be taken over by BJP in June after a majority of its Trinamool Congress coucillors switched over to the saffron party days after the Lok Sabha polls results were announced.

BJP had then bagged 26 of the 34 wards of the municipality in a trust vote after 15 TMC coucillors switched to it and Bhatpara became a trouble-torn area witnessing frequent violence between the two parties.

The tenure of the present civic body is till 2020, when it will go to the polls.

"We will soon bring a no confidence motion against the present BJP board. Several of our coucillors who had switched over to BJP are in touch with us and want to rejoin the party. They had defected under threat and intimidation from BJP," Mullick, the party's North 24 Parganas district president said.

Reacting to TMC's claim, senior BJP leader Mukul Roy, who had played a key role in the defections, Thursday accused Mamata Banerjee's party of using political and administrative powers to force the coucillors to rejoin it.

"They (the coucillors) had joined BJP as they were fed up with TMC's functioning. Since then they are being threatened by the police and goons. TMC is now forcing them to rejoin it. The same has been done in other municipal bodies too," he added.

Located in the northern fringes of Kolkata, Bhatpara municipality falls under Barrackpore Lok Sabha constituency, which is now represented by Arjun Singh of BJP.



Sadhus look at stone slabs, carved-out for the construction of Ram Temple, at Shri Ram Janmabhoomi Karyashala (workshop) in Karsewakpuram, Ayodhya on Thursday

Need to rewrite history from India's point of view: Shah

PTI ■ VARANASI

The First War of Independence in 1857 would have been regarded as a revolt had it not been for Veer Savarkar, said Home Minister Amit Shah here on Thursday amid a row over the BJP suggesting that the Hindutva icon be given the Bharat Ratna.

Stressing the need to rewrite history from India's point of view, Shah credited Savarkar for calling the 1857 rebellion as India's first independence struggle.

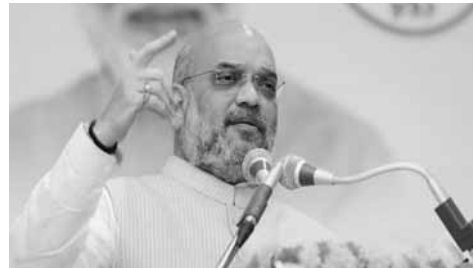
Shah said had it not been for him, the rebellion of 1857 would have become history and India would have seen it from the British point of view.

His remarks came two days after the Maharashtra BJP

unit said in its election manifesto that the party would ask the Centre to confer the Bharat Ratna, India's highest civilian award, on Vinayak Damodar Savarkar, popularly known as Veer Savarkar.

"Had it not been Veer Savarkar, the 1857 'kranti' (revolt) would not have become history and we would have been seeing it from the British point of view," the home minister said.

"It was Savarkar who gave the name First War of Independence to the 1857 'kranti', otherwise, our children would have known it as a revolt," he said, inaugurating a two-day international seminar here on 'Guptvanshak-Veer: Skandgupta Vikramaditya' at Banaras Hindu University



(BHU).

A large number of historians, scholars and political thinkers from India and abroad attended the seminar.

Referring to eminent historians in the audience and on the dais, he said, "It is my request to all that there is a need to rewrite the Indian his-

tory from India's point of view but without blaming anyone."

"It is our responsibility to write our history. How long are we going to blame the British? We don't have to dispute anyone, only write what is truth and it will stand the test of time," the Union Home Minister said.

The Gupta period is called the golden period of Indian history and Skandagupta is known for fighting against Hunas.

Shah also praised Madan Mohan Malaviya for founding a university where "Hindu dharma and sanskriti" were propagated even after so many years.

He said Skandagupta Vikramaditya needed to be brought on top of our history as he fought and won the war which even Rome lost against the alien enemy.

He re-formulated the revenue collection method, administration and municipality, Shah said, adding that it was believed that the Gupta ruler stayed at Ghazipur in this Poorvanchal region and worked from there, he said.

Yogi to officials: Ensure PM's constituency Varanasi is cleanest in country

PTI ■ VARANASI (UP)

Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath has asked the officials concerned to initiate a campaign to ensure that Prime Minister Narendra Modi's parliamentary constituency Varanasi is the cleanest in the country.

Modi had won the seat in the Lok Sabha elections held earlier this year by a huge margin of 4.79 lakh votes. He had not only retained the seat, but also saw his victory margin increase by nearly 1 lakh votes as compared to the 2014 general elections.

The chief minister held a review meeting of the development work and law and order situation in the state here on Wednesday night and instructed the officials to make "Kashi number 1 in the country" in terms of cleanliness.

According to an official spokesperson, he also asked the officials to launch special cleanliness drives in villages as well as urban areas before the festival of Diwali.

Roads, parks and vacant plots of land should be included in the campaign. In view of Chhath Puja, start a special campaign to clean the ghats of the Ganga, the chief minister said. Do something special so that Kashi



remains illuminated from Diwali till Dev Diwali, Adityanath said as he directed the PWD to make the roads free of potholes by October 30.

The government is committed towards the makeover of Kashi. Prime Minister Modi had laid the foundation stone of many projects in February 2019 out of which 13 have been completed and the remaining 25 will be completed in this financial year, he said.

The chief minister further said that the government schemes should not be misused at all and only eligible candidates should be entitled for beneficiary schemes.

Stray cattle should not be seen on the streets, he said.

He also asked the officials to solve water logging problems within three days and organise health camps in the affected areas.

Democracy in danger under BJP rule: Gehlot

PTI ■ JAIPUR

Reiterating that democracy was in danger in the country under the BJP rule, Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot on Thursday said people should understand this and question the Centre what it was doing for them.

He also accused the BJP of indulging in politics in the name of nationalism and religion.

"The democracy today is under threat. We have no enmity with the RSS or the BJP but we have a fight of ideology, policies and programmes. They should also do this. The public should pressure the Government and ask what it has done for them," he said.

Stressing that the fight should be for ideology, policies and programme, Gehlot told reporters after returning from Mumbai, "They have created an atmosphere in the name of nationalism and religion and doing politics for that."

On the BJP suggesting the Bharat Ratna for Veer Savarkar, the Chief Minister said the party had a fascist ideology and did not consider what the public or other political parties think.

"In a democracy, sentiments of the opposition are considered but for

them, the Opposition holds no value," he said.

He said that it was the BJP's intention to ensure a one-party rule in the country. Targeting Prime Minister Narendra Modi for accusing the Congress of dynasty politics, the chief minister said no one could stop anyone from joining politics in a democracy.

"This is a useless thing. It is not the era of kingdoms where the one born to the queen will rule. It's a democracy where people elect those whom they like," he said.

The Chief Minister exuded confidence that their party would win the October 21 bypolls in Mandawa (Jhunjhunu) and Khimsar (Nagaur) in the state.

On the cabinet's recent decision of allowing non-councillors become chiefs of urban local bodies in the state, Gehlot said that the decision was taken in view of the current scenario where the BJP was "doing politics" in the name of nationalism and was creating a divide in the name of religion.

"We want that the gap in society does not widen in the name of religion and members of all political parties, castes and communities maintain dialogue," he said.

Perception of North-East needs to be changed to attract visitors: MoS

PTI ■ IMPHAL

Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Tourism and Culture, Prahlad Singh Patel, has said the wrong perception of the North-East needs to be changed to attract more tourists.

Inaugurating the third Shirui Lily festival in Manipur's Ukhrul district, along with Chief Minister N Biren Singh, Patel said despite being gifted with scenic beauty and rich cultural heritage, due to some wrong perceptions, the region is unable to attract tourists in large numbers.

A collective effort is needed from all the stakeholders to explore ways to attract more tourists to the state," he said.

Patel said he has written to the Union HRD Minister whether it would be possible to make it compulsory for students of the central schools to visit the northeast at least once.

"One who has witnessed the region at a tender age would never forget it throughout his/her life," he said.

The four-day festival that began on Wednesday, aims at spreading awareness about the conservation of the endan-

Chief Minister said more such festivals would be organised as there is an environment of peace in the State. Earlier, tourists used to fear to visit the hill areas of the State due to the poor law and order. However, that has changed," he said

gered Shirui Lily and to promote Ukhrul as a tourist destination.

Speaking on the occasion, Biren Singh said the law and order situation in the state has improved under the two-and-half years of BJP-led rule.

The Chief Minister said more such festivals would be organised as there is an environment of peace in the State. Earlier, tourists used to fear to visit the hill areas of the State due to the poor law and order. However, that has changed," he said.

Lauding the hospitality of the Tangkhul community, Singh said more than 2,000 homestays have been booked by tourists for the festival.

Noting that all disputes can be settled through dia-

logue, the Chief Minister said Manipur belongs to its people and asserted that the state government would not allow anything that may hurt the interests or sentiments of any community living in the state.

The Chief Minister said the State Government is urging the Centre to bring about a "topographical need-based budget" to ensure inclusive development of the state.

"The Centre has implemented the Hill Areas Development Programme (HADP) for states with hilly topography like Manipur. Tamenglong district in the state is among the 82 districts across the country where the scheme would be implemented in the first phase," he said.

As part of it, Tamenglong would get Rs 90 crore for implementation of developmental projects, Singh said.

Mentioning that around Rs 600 crore would be spent on improving road connectivity in Ukhrul district, the Chief Minister said around ₹250 crore has been sanctioned for construction of roads between Kamjong and Tengnoupal districts.

Truck drivers living in fear in Kashmir

MOHIT KANDHARI ■ JAMMU

Truck drivers, camping in Kashmir valley to ferry apple boxes outside the State, are living in constant fear after the terrorists carried out second 'surprise' attack on two apple traders hailing from Punjab late Wednesday night in Shopian district.

One of the apple trader identified as Charanjeet Singh succumbed to his fatal injuries while another, identified as Sanjay Churaya, is undergoing treatment in Srinagar. Both hailed from Fazilka in Punjab.

Before this, a truck driver from Rajasthan was also killed in cold blood by terrorists in Shopian on Monday evening. Later, his truck was also set on fire to spread terror in the area.

After these attacks, fresh wave of terror has gripped the area. The main markets, where apple growers were bringing their crop from different orchards in the region, wore a deserted look on Thursday.

To instil confidence among



the truck drivers, stranded in the vulnerable pockets, the local police authorities beefed up security deployment by way of area domination. Posters of terrorists, believed to be behind the targeted killing of apple traders was also pasted at different places so that they can be tracked down and neutralised.

Meanwhile, interacting with local media in Shopian several truck drivers raised the issue of their safety.

Without identifying themselves in front of media, the truck drivers said, "we are worried for our own safety. 'we are here to ferry apple boxes and

earn our livelihood". "We really don't know why are these terrorists targeting us. We are sole bread earners of our families and they are dependent on us", truck drivers told local reporters.

In the recent weeks, more than 30,000 trucks have ferried large quantities of apple crop outside the state. Commenting on the targeting killing of apple traders and truck drivers, Governor Satya Pal Malik Thursday said, terrorists are targeting apple traders and truck drivers to spread terror. He said, "we are after them and we will finish them".

State admin orders abolition of J&K Legislative Council

PNS ■ JAMMU

The State administration in Jammu & Kashmir has set in to motion the process of bifurcating the State of Jammu & Kashmir in to two Union Territories. Late Wednesday evening, the State administration issued a formal order for abolition of Jammu and Kashmir Legislative Council.

The 36-member Legislative Council was established in 1957 after an act was passed by the Parliament.

The Council functioned as an upper house for the 87-member State Assembly.

According to the order, the 116-member staff of the Council has been asked to report to the General Administration Department (GAD) by October 22.

Jammu & Kashmir will be a Union Territory with a State Assembly.

The Centre had on August 5 abrogated the provisions of Article 370 of the Constitution which granted special status to

Jammu & Kashmir for residency and Government jobs.

The order issued by Secretary to the State Government, Farooq Ahmad Lone, also directed transfer of all vehicles purchased from time to time to the Director of State motor garages and handing over of the building of the Council along with furniture and electronic gadgets to the Director of estates.

"Consequent to the abolition of the Jammu & Kashmir Legislative Council in terms of Section 57 of Jammu & Kashmir Reorganization Act, 2019, it is ordered that all the staff of the State legislative council shall report to the GAD by October 22," the order said. All records pertaining to the Council Secretariat including related legislative business shall be transferred to the Department of Law, Justice Parliamentary Affairs by the Secretary, the order added.

JK administration orders abolition of legislative council, asks its staff to report to GAD

Former PDP leader, several others join BJP in Jammu

PTI ■ JAMMU

Former State president of PDP's Scheduled Caste wing Vijay Anand on Thursday joined the BJP along with six others here, a party spokesperson said.

Anand accompanied by Sanjay Kumar, Himanshu, Ravi Kumar, Rakesh Kumar, Ajay Kumar and John Sotra joined the BJP's Scheduled Caste wing in presence of its state president Jagdish Bhagat and state spokesperson Balbir Ram Rattan. Welcoming the new entrants into the party fold, Bhagat said the BJP has relieved 'Valmiki Samaj' of the sufferings which they had to bear during the last 70 years due to Article 370.

"These people were not treated as citizens of the state and their educated children could not apply for the government jobs or other benefits," he said, adding the BJP abrogated the provisions of Article 370 to benefit the weaker sections of the society.

Shops briefly open in Srinagar, private transport on roads

PTI ■ SRINAGAR

Shops opened for few hours Searly Thursday morning in some areas here including in the commercial hub of Lal Chowk but main markets and other business establishments remained shut, officials said.

Few vendors had set up stalls on the TRC Chowk-Polo View road, they said.

Private transport was plying unhindered in the city here and elsewhere in Kashmir, the officials said, adding auto-rickshaws and few inter-district

cabs were also seen plying in few areas of the valley.

However, the other modes of public transport were off the roads.

Schools and colleges were open, but students stayed away as parents continued to keep their wards at home due to apprehensions about their safety, the officials said. Mobile services were restored in Kashmir on Monday, but the SMS facility was snapped once again later that night due to apprehensions of the services being misused.

BJP disqualifies 8 leaders for 'anti-party activities' in J&K

Jammu: The BJP's Jammu & Kashmir unit on Thursday disqualified eight party leaders for filing their nominations as Independents against the official candidates for the Block Development Council (BDC) elections, scheduled to be held on October 24, a party spokesperson said.

Meanwhile, the State Bharatiya Janata Yuva Morcha (BJYM) also discharged its

senior leader Aqib Mir from his present party post of State secretary due to "breach of party discipline", he said.

"Taking strong note of the filing of nominations as Independents by party leaders against the official candidates of the BJP for the BDC elections, the State BJP has disqualified them for indulging in anti-party activities," the spokesperson said. PTI

History will take note of those who ridiculed abrogation of Art 370: PM

TN RAGHUNATHA ■ MUMBAI

Asserting that history would take cognisance of statements by all those who ridiculed the Government's decision to abrogate Article 370 of Constitution, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Thursday demanded to know if the country—after its much-discussed decision—had been "ruined" or "has the country lost" Kashmir as predicted by a few Congress leaders.

Addressing an election rally at Parli in Beed district of Maharashtra region, Modi offered to "make arrangements" to all those who desired to go Jammu & Kashmir.

Castigating the Congress and other Opposition leaders for mocking the BJP-led NDA Government's decision to annul Article 370, Modi said: "Whenever debate takes place in future about the abrogation of Article 370, history will take cognisance of statements made by the leaders ridiculing the decision taken in the national interest."

Exhorting the people to "punish" all those mocking the Government's decision on Article 370, Modi said: "One Congress leader said that the Kashmir issue not the country's internal matter. Will agree with it? Can the leader saying such thing be pardoned? Will you not punish those who said such things in the election?... One leader said it's a black day for Indian politics. Another said it's against democracy, danger to national security... A senior Congress leader said that after the abrogation of



Article 370, the country will be ruined. It is going to be three months since we abrogated Article 370, has the country been ruined?"

"Another Congress leader said that by annulling Article 370, we have lost Kashmir. I would like to ask you: has the country lost Kashmir? If you want to go Kashmir, tell me I will make arrangements... Does it behave well of all those leaders who ruled for such a time to make such statements? I have a long list of questionable statements made by the Congress leaders in this regard," the Prime Minister said.

Modi, who was campaigning for campaigning for late Gopinath Munde's Minister-daughter Pankaja Munde at Parli, said that Parli gave friends like Gopinath Munde and Pramod Mahajan. "Both Munde and Mahajan are no longer there. People from the younger generation like Devendra Fadnavis and Pankaja Munde are trying to fulfil their dreams.

Modi said that the Assembly elections were a battle between BJP's "karyashakti" (power of development) and opposition's "swarth shakti" (selfishness). "Lotus (the BJP symbol) has always bloomed in Beed. Pankaja will win the Assembly polls with a record

margin," he said.

Modi, who subsequently addressed rallies in Satara and Pune, urged the voters to punish the Congress and its leaders for their involvement in scams and their questionable remarks. "All those who have looted the country will not be spared. They will be put behind the bars. I will not rest till all the money looted from the State exchequer returns."

"If the entire Maharashtra is behind the BJP-Shiv Sena alliance, it is because of the hard work put in by us during the last five years. See the contrast: on one side, you can get to see the work ethics of the saffron alliance Government, while on the other, the Opposition Congress and NCP leaders are working for selfish motives," the Prime Minister said.

In Satara, Modi campaigned for sitting MP and 13th descendant of Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Bhosale, who recently quit the NCP and joined the BJP, is contesting the Lok Sabha by-polls from Satara. The by-poll has been necessitated by the resignation of Bhosale from Lok Sabha.

In Pune, the Prime Minister campaigned among other for BJP's State President Chandrakant Patil, who is contesting from the Brahmin dominated Kothrud constituency.

Modi Govt obsessed with fixing blame on opponents: Manmohan

TN RAGHUNATHA ■ MUMBAI

Debunking Narendra Modi's much-advertised "double engine" model of governance which "has utterly failed", former Prime Minister Manmohan Singh on Thursday charged that the Government was "obsessed" with trying to somehow fix blame on its opponents and in the process, it had failed to revive the economy.

A day after Prime Minister Narendra Modi went to town claiming that the "double engine" governance involving him and Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis was a "super-hit" during the last five years and was giving a "eleven-fold" boost to the State's development, Singh said: "The much advertised 'double engine' model of governance on which the BJP seeks votes has utterly failed. Mumbai and Maharashtra have had to face some of the worst effects of the grave economic slowdown."

Interacting with businessmen, professionals and the media at the Garware Club of the Wankhede Stadium here, Singh took a swipe at Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman for her comment that Indian public sector banks had the "worst phase" under the combination of him as the then Prime Minister and Raghuram Rajan as the RBI Governor.

"I have just seen the statement by Smt Nirmala Sitharaman. I won't like to comment on that statement but I can merely point out that before one can fix the economy one needs a correct diagnosis of its ailments and their causes," Singh said.

"The Government is obsessed with trying to somehow fix blame on its oppo-

nents, in the process it is unable to find solution that will ensure revival of the economy particularly strengthening of our banking system," the former Prime Minister said.

Singh's comment should be seen in the context of the remarks made by Sitharaman during a lecture Columbia University's School of International and Public Affairs in New York on Tuesday. "I have no reason to doubt that Rajan feels for every word of what he is saying. And I'm here today, giving him his due respect, but also placing the fact before you that Indian public sector banks did not have a worst phase than when the combination of Singh and Rajan, as Prime Minister and the Governor of Reserve Bank, had. At that time, none of us knew about it," she said.

Maintaining that the Government's "apathy and incapability" were affecting the future and aspirations of millions of our people, Singh said: "Manufacturing growth rate of Maharashtra has been declining for four consecutive years. Maharashtra has witnessed one of the highest factory shutdowns in the past five years"

"The industrial slowdown has been met with rising imports from China. In the last five years, imports from China have risen by more than Rs. 1,22,000 crores. Chemicals, fertilisers, electronic goods, and automobiles, products manufactured in Maharashtra, have seen rising imports from our neighbouring country," he said.

Lamenting that the industrial slowdown was coming in India's way to optimally utilise its demographic dividend, Singh said: "Only in the recent



UNEMPLOYMENT PROBLEM AS MIGRATION INCREASES

past, Maharashtra used to attract talent from around the country. Today there is a dearth of opportunities in this otherwise vibrant state.

"In urban areas, every third young person is jobless. Educated individuals have to face a higher rate of unemployment. It is thus no surprise that many of our young men and women are taking up low paying jobs. Investors are shifting to other states. The distress pervading our rural areas will only add to the unemployment problem as migration increases."

The former Prime Minister said that Maharashtra, from once being the number one in attracting investments, "it is today a leader in farmer suicide."

"Despite the promises of doubling farm incomes, the rural areas of Maharashtra are witnessing nothing short of a crisis. Caught between low incomes and high debt trap, the suicide rate has doubled. The obsession with low inflation is inflicting misery of our farmers. The Central Government's import-export policies are also hurting farmers," he said.

Accusing the BJP Governments, both at the Centre and at Maharashtra, of

"IN URBAN AREAS, EVERY THIRD YOUNG PERSON IS JOBLESS. EDUCATED INDIVIDUALS HAVE TO FACE A HIGHER RATE OF UNEMPLOYMENT. IT IS THUS NO SURPRISE THAT MANY OF OUR YOUNG MEN AND WOMEN ARE TAKING UP LOW PAYING JOBS. INVESTORS ARE SHIFTING TO OTHER STATES. THE DISTRESS PERVADING OUR RURAL AREAS WILL ONLY ADD TO THE UNEMPLOYMENT PROBLEM AS MIGRATION INCREASES"

not being willing to adopt people-oriented policies, Singh said: "As water shortages compound, the situation will become still worse if not addressed soon. People from Maharashtra are already grappling with low availability of clean drinking water and are resorting to digging up dried river beds. While we cannot control the vagaries of nature, we can ensure the mitigation of the damage if we are economically sound."

"A lot of problems facing Maharashtra today are man-made and the solutions lie in policies which are inclusive and welfare people-oriented," he said.

"It is my sincere belief that we need to go back to these time-tested measures if we are to ensure gainful employment for our young people, men and women, farmer welfare, and a better standard of living for all the people of Maharashtra," he said.

Calling for a change in the Government in the State, Singh said: "I can say without a doubt that the State will progress much better under the leadership of Congress-NCP"

"During my time as the Prime Minister of India, I had the privilege to work with

many leaders from Maharashtra. I found that they were all committed to delivering good governance to the people of Maharashtra. The Bandra-Worli sea link is one example of the many spectacular works Congress could ensure. At a time of agri-distress, we delivered an effective loan waiver and ensured rural growth," he said.

Among other things, the former Prime Minister said that while Maharashtra levied the highest VAT on petroleum products, "the high VAT coupled with Modi Government's decision to levy excessive excise duties has punished the people despite low international crude prices."

Replying to a question on the PMC Bank crisis, Singh appealed to Modi and chief minister Devendra Fadnavis to resolve the issue at the earliest. He indicated that the Congress would take up the PMC Bank issue in a big way in Parliament during the Winter Session beginning in mid November.

"I appeal to the Chief Minister and the Prime Minister to resolve this matter at the earliest. The grievances must be solved," he said.

Asked if he would intervene in the matter, Singh said: "The matter is coming up in the Supreme Court, so it is sub-judice I don't want to comment much (on the issue). I am appealing to the Maharashtra Government, the RBI and the Centre to put the pragmatic hat and solve this at the earliest"

"I have heard your feedback. I assure you that when the Parliament convenes in mid-November, this issue (PMC bank and such cases) will figure very very prominently," the former Prime Minister told a questioner.

WESTERN RAILWAY CANCELLATION NOTICE

Cancellation Notice is to be issued for Tender No. BCT/19-20/238, Dated: 30.09.2019, which was due for opening on 31.10.2019. The same may be treated as Cancelled.

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PUBLIC NOTICE

It is hereby informed in the general public that my client Mrs. Rita Singh, W/o. late Sh. Brajesh Kumar, Rio. (1) 8097/5, Sector-D, Plot-4, Vasant Kunj, New Delhi-110070 and (2) Raheja Revanita, Apartment No.1F1-03, Sector-78, Gurgaon, Haryana, admeasuring 1960-94 sq.ft. & 225-61, have debarred/ evicted her son namely Mr. Prabhakar Singh and his wife Mrs. Akanksha Priya from claiming any right, title & interest whatsoever for all the purposes & intent. They are having no connection with any kind of Movable or Immovable properties of my client and any person dealing with him/her, monetary or otherwise, he/she shall do so at his/her own risk, costs & consequences. My client shall not be liable & responsible for the same and they are not liable to claim before any Court in the above mentioned properties.

Vijay Lakshmi (Advocate)
Supreme Court of India, New Delhi-110001

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER PWD (R&B) CONST. DIVN. NO. II, JAMMU EXTENSION - II

Name of work : Const. of road by way of laying wet mix and 25mm thick OGPC on road from Tersha Talab to Mohalla Granthian. Reference : e-NIT No. 83 of 2019-2020/Div-2 Dated 30-09-2019 Due to Nil Response, the changes to the critical dates of the above said works are hereby made as under:-

Please read	Instead of
Bid submission end date 19-10-2019 (1800 hours)	Bid submission end date 15-10-2019 (1800 hours)
Bid opening date 21-10-2019 (1400hours)	Bid opening date 16-10-2019 (1400hours)

All other terms and conditions remains same. Sd/- Executive Engineer No. DI/PJ-7851/19 PWD (R&B) Const. Divn. No. II Jammu Dated:- 17.10.2019

ED has papers with Patel & Mirchi's wife's signatures: Goyal

Mumbai: Union Minister Piyush Goyal on Thursday said the ED launched a probe against NCP leader Praful Patel after his signatures were found on the documents which were also signed by the wife of gangster Iqbal Mirchi.

The Enforcement Directorate has summoned Patel on October 18 in connection with a probe into alleged illegal assets of Mirchi, who was an aide of fugitive gangster Dawood Ibrahim. PTI

IT Dept seizes ₹15.5 crore unaccounted cash in Mumbai

TN RAGHUNATHA ■ MUMBAI

The Income Tax Department officials have seized ₹15.5 crore of unaccounted cash from various places in Mumbai since the declaration of Model Code of Conduct for the Maharashtra Assembly polls by the Election Commission of India (ECI) on September 21.

"We have increased the strength of the Quick Response Teams, formed for this period, with additional manpower so as to ensure elections free from influence of cash and/or valuables," a senior IT department official said.

"We will give special attention to the movement of unaccounted cash/valuables and also prohibition of distribution of cash/ valuables meant for wooing the electorate, particularly during the period when election campaign ceases on 19th October till the date of polling—October 21," the official said.



According to the official, the IT department is responding to every call and information from police/public/other agencies and subject to the existence of credible information, search/ survey actions are being conducted almost on daily basis.

Set up to curb the use of black money and cash inducement in the ongoing Assembly Elections in the State, the Directorate General of Income Tax (Investigation) has since September 21 been working in close coordination with several law enforcement agencies and other Government departments, in order to contribute to the conduct of free, fair and smooth elections.

WESTERN RAILWAY VARIOUS REPAIRS WORKS

Divisional Railway Manager(WA), Western Railway, Mumbai Central, Mumbai 400008, invites Tender for the following works: Sr. No. 1 Tender No.: BCT/19-20/255 dt.15.10.19. Name of work: Virar-Surat Sec: Repairs to P-way under SSE (Navsari) Section for 12 months. Tender Cost: ₹ 1,84,30,283.33 EMD: ₹ 2,42,200/- Sr. No. 2 Tender No.: BCT/19-20/256 dt.15.10.19. Name of work: Virar-Surat Sec: Repairs to P-way under SSE (Surat) Section for 12 months. Tender Cost: ₹ 1,99,07,713.66 EMD: ₹ 2,49,500/- Sr. No. 3. Tender No.: BCT/19-20/257 dt.15.10.19. Name of work: Virar-Surat Sec: Repairs to P-way under SSE (Palghar) Section for 12 months. Tender Cost: ₹ 1,91,65,041.05 EMD: ₹ 2,45,800/- Sr. No. 4. Tender No.: BCT/19-20/258 dt.15.10.19. Name of work: Virar-Surat Sec: Repairs to P-way under SSE (Dahanu Road) Section for 12 months. Tender Cost: ₹ 1,79,02,457.54 EMD: ₹ 2,39,500/- Sr. No. 5. Tender No.: BCT/19-20/259 dt.15.10.19. Name of work: Virar-Surat Sec: Repairs to P-way under SSE (Vasai) Section for 12 months. Tender Cost: ₹ 1,90,47,198.05 EMD: ₹ 2,45,200/- Sr. No. 1 to 6: Completion Period: 12 Months. Tender Fee: ₹ 5,000/- for each tender. Date of Opening: Sr. No. 1 & 2: on 11.11.19 at 15.30 hrs. Sr. No. 3 to 6: on 13.11.19 at 15.30 hrs. For more details please visit www.ireps.gov.in. Manual offers will not be considered.

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ADITYA BIRLA CAPITAL

PROTECTING INVESTING FINANCING ADVISING

Aditya Birla Finance Limited

Registered Office: Indian Rayon Compound, Veraval, Gujarat – 362 266
CIN: U65990GJ19991PLC064603

“APPENDIX- IV-A”
[See Proviso to Rule 8 (6)]

SALE NOTICE FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTY

Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8 (6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.

Notice is hereby given to the Public in General and in particular to the Borrower (s) and Guarantor (s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged to the Secured Creditor the Physical Possession of which has been taken by the Authorized Officer of Aditya Birla Finance Limited Secured Creditor, will be sold on "AS IS WHERE IS", "AS IS WHAT IS", AND "WHATEVER THERE IS" on 21st November 2019, for recovery of Rs. 4,45,00, 307.72 (Rupees Forty Crores Forty Five Lacs Three Hundred Seven and Seventy Two Paise) due to the Aditya Birla Finance Limited Secured Creditor from M/s Shalin Impex Private Limited, Mr. Sanjay Kumar, Ms. Shalini Verma, Mr. Rajiv Kumar, Ms. Malini Verma, Mr. Siddhartha Sanjay. The reserve price will be For Property No.1 is Rs 2,12,63,500/- (Rupees Two Crores Twelve Lakhs Sixty Three Thousand Five Hundred Only) and For Property No. 2 is Rs 1,50,00,000/- (Rupees One Crore Fifty Lakhs Only) and the earnest money deposit will be For Property No.1 is Rs 21,26,350/- (Rupees Twenty One Lakhs Twenty Six Thousand Three Hundred Fifty Only) and For Property No.2 is Rs 15,00,000/- (Rupees Fifteen Lakh Only)

SHORT DESCRIPTION OF THE IMMOVABLE PROPERTY

Property No.1
All that Part and Parcel of the Property consisting of Apartment No. 301, Duplex on 3rd & 4th Floor, Block No. 2, namely, Heritage City and having super area 1849.00 Sq. feet (171.84 Sq. Meter) along with Terrace Area 230 Sq. ft., comprising of Drawing-Cum-Dining Room, One Bed Room with attached Toilet, Kitchen, Servant Room with W.C. & Terrace on 3rd Floor and Two Bed Rooms with attached Toilets and Terrace on 4th Floor. In the said group housing complex, Heritage City, situated at Village Sirhau, Tehsil & District, Gurgaon (Haryana). BOUNDED BY ON : North : Entry, South : Other Property, East : Other Property, West : Other Property

Property No.2
All that part and parcel of the property consisting of Apartment No. 302, on 3rd Floor, Block No. 43, namely, Heritage City and having super area 1195 Sq. feet (111.05 Sq. meter) along with Terrace Area 69 Sq. Ft., comprising of Drawing-cum-Dining Room, Two bed rooms with attached Toilets, kitchen, lobby & terrace. In the said group housing complex, Heritage City, situated at Village Sirhau, Tehsil & District, Gurgaon (Haryana). BOUNDED BY ON : North : Entry, South : Other Property, East : Other Property, West : Other Property.

TARUN SHARMA (Mobile 9540178178)
AUTHORISED OFFICER
ADITYA BIRLA FINANCE LIMITED

PLACE : New Delhi
DATE : 18-10-2019

Sensex rallies 453 pts, Nifty tops 11,550

PTI ■ MUMBAI

Extending its gains for the fifth consecutive session, equity benchmark BSE Sensex rallied 453 points on Thursday as global investors cheered a Brexit deal reached between Britain and the EU.

Domestic traders were also enthused after Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman hinted at more stimulus measures as she urged international investors to pump funds into India.

After opening on a subdued note, the 30-share Sensex surged in afternoon trade to close at 39,052.06, up 453.07 points, or 1.17 per cent.

The broader NSE Nifty too spiked 122.35 points, or 1.07 per cent, to settle at 11,586.35. Yes Bank was the biggest gainer in the Sensex pack, soaring 15.19 per cent, followed by Tata Motors, IndusInd Bank, SBI, Bajaj Auto, Asian Paints, Axis Bank, Tata Steel and Maruti, rising up to 9.82 per cent.



On the other hand, HCL Tech, Vedanta, PowerGrid, Kotak Bank, Infosys, ONGC, Tech Mahindra, L&T and HDFC Bank fell up to 1.04 per cent. According to traders, domestic market followed European equities that rallied after Britain and the European Union said they have struck an outline Brexit deal after prolonged negotiations.

The deal, however, must still be formally approved by the bloc and ratified by the European and UK parliaments.

"Government's intention to provide further fiscal stimulus in the future as per the needs of the economy lifted the market sentiment today. Easing trade tension and positive development on Brexit provided further boost to the market."

"Risk taking ability is improving in the market with optimism over recovery in the economy led by stimulus, festive demand, good monsoon and lower interest rate," said Vinod Nair, Head of Research, Geojit Financial Services.

Sectorally, BSE auto, bankex, finance, energy, FMCG, metal, healthcare and power index rose up to 2.93 per cent. Broader BSE midcap and smallcap indices gained up to 1.77 per cent.

Elsewhere in Asia, bourses in Shanghai, Hong Kong, Seoul and Tokyo ended on a mixed note. Further, the Chinese Government's appeal to Washington to negotiate a quick end to their tariff war also buoyed market sentiment.

₹ strengthens 27 paise to 71.16 post Brexit deal

Mumbai: The rupee darted up 27 paise to close at 71.16 against the US dollar on Thursday, led by optimism over the Brexit deal amid softening crude oil prices.

Persistent foreign fund inflows and robust buying in domestic equity markets added to the momentum, forex traders said.

At the interbank foreign exchange market, the rupee opened at 71.38 against the US dollar. During the day, the domestic unit fluctuated between a high of 71.14 and a low of 71.47, before finally ending at 71.16, up 27 paise over its previous close.

"Rupee has appreciated nearly 1 per cent in two days. The hopes of US-China closing the phase-one trade deal along with the announcement Brexit deal, has kept all emerging market currencies including rupee, afloat," said Rahul Gupta, Head of Currency, Emkay Global Financial Services.

Global markets rallied after Britain and the European Union said they have struck an outline Brexit deal after prolonged negotiations. The deal, however, must still be formally approved by the bloc and ratified by the European and UK parliaments.

Weak US economic data, fall in dollar index and speculation over the third rate cut by US Fed added to the strength in rupee, Gupta said.

Gold falls ₹105 on stronger ₹, weak cues

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Gold prices on Thursday declined ₹105 to ₹38,985 per 10 gram in the national capital on a stronger rupee and weak global cues, according to HDFC Securities.

However, silver surged by ₹509 to ₹46,809 per kg here from its previous close of ₹46,300 per kg.

On Wednesday, gold closed at ₹39,090 per 10 gram.

"International gold prices traded weak on Brexit hopes and the US-China trade deal optimism," HDFC Securities Senior Analyst — Commodities Tapan Patel said.

Gold was trading lower at USD 1,488 an ounce in the international market, while silver quoted higher at USD 17.45 per ounce.

The Indian rupee was trading 18 paise stronger against dollar during the day and weighed on gold prices, he added.

K'taka tops innovation index, list dominated by south, west States

IANS ■ NEW DELHI

Karnataka has been ranked as the most innovative state in the country while the top ten states are concentrated mainly in southern and western India.

These rankings were released by the NITI Aayog on Thursday under the India Innovation Index 2019. Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra, Telangana, Haryana, Kerala, Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal, Gujarat, and Andhra Pradesh form the remaining top ten major states respectively. The top ten major states are majorly concentrated in southern and western India.

Sikkim and Delhi take the top spots among the north-eastern & hill states, and union territories. Delhi, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, Telangana, and Uttar Pradesh are the most efficient states in translating inputs into output.

According to the NITI Aayog, the study is an outcome of extensive research and analysis, which looks holistically at the innovation landscape of India by examining the innovation capabilities and performance of Indian states and union territories.

"The aim is to create a holistic tool which can be used by policymakers across the country to identify the challenges to be addressed and strengths to build on when designing the economic growth policies for their regions", it said in a statement.

Karnataka is the leader in the overall rankings in the category of major states.

Karnataka's number one position in the overall ranking is partly attributed to its top rank in the performance dimension. It is also among the top performers in infrastructure, knowledge workers, knowledge output and business environment.

According to the NITI Aayog, the index shows that the innovation ecosystem of the country is strong in south and western parts of India. In fact, three of the top five major states are from southern India. Delhi and Haryana seem to be an exception to this rule and seem to be doing well on the Index. "Thus, there seems to be a west-south and north-east divide across the country", the index report said.

The index was released in the presence of Rajiv Kumar, Vice Chairman, NITI Aayog, Amitabh Kant, CEO, NITI Aayog, Ashutosh Sharma, Secretary, Department of Science, Renu Swarup, Secretary, Department of Biotechnology and Vaidya Rajesh Kotecha, Secretary, AYUSH.

Rajiv Kumar expressed hope that the India Innovation Index would create synergies between different stakeholders in the innovation ecosystem and India would shift to competitive good governance.

Amitabh Kant added that India has a unique opportunity among its myriad challenges to become the innovation leader in the world.

Nadella earns \$42.9 mn in 2018-19 fiscal

PTI ■ WASHINGTON

With Microsoft posting strong results, the company's CEO Satya Nadella has got a 66 per cent raise in the 2018-19 fiscal, taking his total yearly earnings to a whopping \$42.9 million, according to media reports on Thursday.

While Nadella, 52, has a base salary of a little over \$2.3 million, most of his pay came from stock awards, reported

CNN Business.

He received \$29.6 million in stock award, \$10.7 million in non-equity incentive plan compensation and around \$11,000 in other compensation.

In a proxy statement, Microsoft's independent directors said, "The past fiscal year offered another record year for financial performance, and Microsoft delivered strong results for our shareholders,

including a return of \$30.9 billion in the form of share repurchases and dividends."

The directors credited Nadella for his "strategic leadership, including his efforts to strengthen trust with customers, drive for a company-wide culture change, and successful entry and expansion into new technologies and markets."

In the 2017-18 fiscal, the Hyderabad-born business exec-

utive had got a pay of \$25.8 million.

Nadella became the CEO of Microsoft in 2014. Under his leadership, the company has become a major force in cloud computing.

In September, Microsoft hit an all-time high after the company raised its dividend and authorised a plan to buy back as much as \$40 billion of its own stock, the CNN Business report said.

Aviation regulator's nod to 5 firms to manufacture drones

New Delhi: In a push to domestic drone manufacturing, India's civil aviation regulator DGCA has given nod to the five companies to manufacture Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS).

In an interview to IANS, Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) Director General Arun Kumar said the regulator has given its approval to 5 companies for drone manufacturing based on the presentations made to it earlier. Market watchers told IANS that firms such as Skylark Drones and ideaForge among others, have received the nod to start manufacturing operations. "Domestic drone manufacturers have approached us with their products. These are tested by our engineering department," Kumar said.

"We are concerned with the safety aspect of these products." According to Kumar, the move is expected to reduce import dependence and give the necessary push to the nascent domestic industry. IANS

Present economic crisis bigger than that of 2008 as slump more protracted now: Goldman Sachs

PTI ■ MUMBAI

The consumption slump, a major challenge afflicting the economy, cannot be attributed to the NBFC crisis as it predates the first default by infra lender IL&FS, says a brokerage, which has also slashed growth forecast to 6 percent with a downward bias.

Many people attribute the deepening slowdown in consumption to the NBFC crisis that began in September 2018 when IL&FS went belly up following which consumption financing — a forte of shadow banks, stopped with a chill in disbursements by these players.

According to Prachi Mishra, the chief economist at Wall Street brokerage Goldman Sachs, her analysis indicates that consumption has been falling since January 2018, which is much

before the end August 2018 default by IL&FS which triggered the liquidity crisis for NBFCs.

She said the fall in consumption is responsible for a third of the overall dip in overall growth, with the global slowdown coupled with funding constraints. "There is a slowdown and the growth numbers have fallen by 2 percentage points," Mishra said, speaking at an event by The Economist.

SIAM supports draft guidelines on authorised vehicle scrapping facility

New Delhi: Auto industry body SIAM on Thursday said the draft guidelines on authorised vehicle scrapping facility (AVSF) in India will help in setting up of such facilities in an organised manner, while reiterating that the sector is waiting for incentive-based Vehicle Scrappage Policy from the Government.

Welcoming the draft guidelines released by the

Ministry of Road Transport & Highways for setting up of AVSF, Society of Indian Automobile Manufacturers (SIAM) President Rajan Wadhwa said the automobile industry wholeheartedly supports the vehicle scrappage initiative of Government.

"The draft guidelines will help in establishing organised vehicle scrapping facilities in

the country and will lead to increase in latent demand for end-of-life vehicles available for scrapping," he said in a statement. As per the draft AVSF guidelines, individuals, firms society or trust will be allowed to set up scrappage facility subject to meeting eligibility criteria and receiving authorisation from licensing authority. PTI

BUSINESS CORNER

DIVYANGJANS TO GET ASSISTIVE DEVICES



Under the CSR initiatives of SPMCIL, it has been decided to distribute Assistive Devices to Divyangjans (PwDs) at an estimated cost of ₹100 lakh by arranging Camps at Nashik, Dewas, Hyderabad and Hoshangabad. To execute the project, an MoU has been signed on October 16, 2019, by SK Sinha, Director (HR), SPMCIL and DR Sarin, CMD, ALIMCO at SPMCIL Corporate office in presence of Tripti P Ghosh, CMD, SPMCIL. Ajaib Kumar Srivastav, Director (Technical), Ajaib Agarwal, Director (Finance), BJ Gupta, Addl. GM (HR) of SPMCIL were also present.

TRAINING FOR VIGILANCE, INVESTIGATING OFFICERS



Punjab National Bank is conducting a three-day training programme from October 17, 2019, for its Vigilance Officers and Investigating Officers at Central Staff College, Underhill Road, Civil Lines Delhi, Bank's apex learning Centre. The training programme event was graced by MD & CEO of the Bank, CH SS Mallikarjuna Rao as Chief Guest. The Chief Technical Examiner, Central Vigilance Commission, Shaileendra Singh and Manish Gupta, Director, Department of Financial Services (Vigilance), were also present as special guests. The training and the event was conceptualised by Chief Vigilance Officer of the Bank, Vijay Kumar Tyagi. Sunil Agrawal, Principal, Central Staff College hosted the event.

Mobile call ring-time row: Trai to finalise views in two weeks

New Delhi: Telecom regulator Trai will finalise, in next two weeks, its views on call ring time — a contentious issue on which old and new operators have locked horns.

On the controversial issue of Jio's latest allegations that rival telcos are fraudulently masking fixed-line as mobile calls for undue enrichment and should be slapped with penalty, a senior Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (Trai) official said the matter will be examined just as all complaints to the authority are.

"Any complaint that generally comes to us will be examined... If there is any violation, we will look into the matter..." the official said.

Reliance Jio has accused old operators including Bharti Airtel and Vodafone Idea of "illegally" masquerading wireline numbers as mobile numbers for "undue enrichment" and has exhorted Trai to slap

"severest penalty" on them for violating regulations and licensing norms. After the fresh set of allegations surfaced, Bharti Airtel immediately hit back saying Jio was trying to misguide the regulator ahead of the crucial consultation on call connect charges (also called UUC or interconnect usage charges). Meanwhile, at the open house discussions on the issue of call ring-time on Thursday, a senior Jio official urged the telecom regulator to keep the matter under forbearance.

Jio has maintained that if at all Trai wants to take a view on the issue, it should be in form of a reference guidelines and not in form of a mandated value. "In such a case, the range of 20 seconds to 25 seconds may be prescribed as reference guideline," Jio has informed Trai, which is in the process of finalising its views on the issue through a consultation paper. PTI

SEARCH FOR MISSING GIRL



Sapna

General public is hereby informed that one girl namely Sapna, D/o Shri Jai Ram, R/o H.No. RZE-107, Nihal Vihar, Delhi, Age 14 years, Height 4'9", Complexion Fair, Round Face, Wearing White colour top, blue colour jeans pant and blue colour hawai chappal in feet has been missing / kidnapped from the area of PS Nihal Vihar, Delhi since 26.09.19. In this regard a case FIR No. 678/19 dated 28.09.19 U/S 363 IPC has been registered at PS Nihal Vihar, Delhi.

Any person having any information or clue about this missing/ kidnapped girl may kindly inform to the following.

E-mail ID: cic@cbi.gov.in SHO
Tel: 011-24368638, 24368641 PS: Nihal Vihar, Delhi
Fax: 011-24368639 Ph: 25946700, 25946710

DP/2784/OD/19

PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF ACCUSED PERSON

See Section 82 Cr.P.C.

Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused person **Johny Patel S/o Aanand Kumar, R/o H.No. 900, Type-IV, Sector-12, R.K. Puram, New Delhi** has committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence in case **FIR No. 138/19 u/s 498A/406/34 IPC** has been registered at **P.S. Mehrauli, New Delhi** and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest thereupon issued that the said **Johny Patel** cannot be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said **Johny Patel** has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant).

Proclamation is hereby made that the said **Johny Patel** accused of case **U/s 498A/406/34 IPC vide case FIR No. 138/19, P.S. Mehrauli, New Delhi** is required to appear before this court to answer said complaint on or before **28.11.2019**.

By Order
Sh. Vaibhav Mehta, Metropolitan Magistrate,
South Zone, Room No. 210,
Saket Court, Delhi

DP/5776/SD/19-(Court Matter)

SEARCH FOR MISSING/KIDNAPPED

General public is hereby informed that one person namely **Narender Singh Chauhan S/o Kaptan Singh Chauhan R/o H.No.494 Devli village, New Delhi** has been missing/kidnapped the area of P.S. Neb Sarai, Delhi. In this regard, a case **DD No. 65-A dated 25.09.2019** has been registered at **P.S. Neb Sarai, Delhi**. The description of the missing person is as under.



NARENDRA SINGH

Age: 48 Years, **Complexion:** Fair, **Height:** 5'11", **Face:** Round, **Wearing:** white colour shirt and matmela pant. Sincere efforts have been made by the local police to trace out him but no clue has come to light so far. If anyone has any information about the missing person then please inform P.S. Neb Sarai, Delhi at following Tel No. / e-mail: cic@cbi.gov.in and Website:

Ph: 011-24368638, 24368641
Fax: 011-24368639

Sd/- S.H.O.
P.S. Neb Sarai, Delhi
Ph. 011-29551597

DP/5761/SD/19

SEARCH FOR MISSING



Priyanka

General public is hereby informed that a girl namely **Priyanka D/o Sh. Khem Chand, R/o H.No. R-130, Karan Vihar Part-II, Kirari, Delhi**, Age : 20 yrs., Height : 5 ft., Complexion : Shallow, Face : Long, Wearing : Blue-Pink Suit and Blue Colour Legging, has been missing / kidnapped since **04.10.2019** from the area of P.S. Aman Vihar. In this regard a case **DD No. 52-A dated 05.10.2019** has been lodged at P.S. Aman Vihar, Delhi. Sincere efforts have been made by local Police to trace out the missing / kidnapped girl but no clue has come to light so far.

if anyone have any information about this missing / kidnapped girl please inform undersigned Website: <http://cbi.nic.in>, Email: cic@cbi.gov.in, Ph.: 011-24368638, 24368641, Fax: 011-24368639

SHO
PS. Aman Vihar, Delhi
Ph.: 011-23014046, 23015218
DP/3364/RD/19.

SEARCH FOR MISSING



Shagun

General public is hereby informed that a girl namely **Shagun D/o Suresh Kumar, R/o H.No. 53 C-2nd, Raju Park, Khanpur, New Delhi**, Age : 16 yrs., Height : 5 ft., Complexion : Wheatish, Face : Round, Built : Thin, Wearing : Black Colour Jeans and Red Colour T-Shirt, has been missing / kidnapped since **14.09.2019** from the area of P.S. Neb Sarai. In this regard a case **FIR No. 320/19 dated 14.09.2019** u/s 363 IPC has been registered at P.S. Neb Sarai, Delhi. Sincere efforts have been made by local Police to trace out the missing / kidnapped girl but no clue has come to light so far.

if anyone have any information about this missing / kidnapped girl please inform undersigned Website: <http://cbi.nic.in>, Email: cic@cbi.gov.in, Ph.: 011-24368638, 24368641, Fax: 011-24368639

SHO
PS. Neb Sarai, Delhi
Ph.: 011-29551597, 8750870835
DP/5768/SD/19.

SEARCH FOR MISSING



General public is hereby informed that one female namely **Rani, W/o Sh. Chander Shekhar, R/o: B-38, Shubham Enclave, Paschim Vihar, Delhi**, Age: 28 years, Height: 4'5", Complexion: Shallow, Face: Round, wearing Yellow Suit-Salwar, I/D Mark: A tattoo make name "Sanju" on left hand, has been missing since 20.09.2019. In this regard a **DD No. 56-A, dated 20.09.2019** has been registered at **P.S. Paschim Vihar East, Delhi**.

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

Website: <http://cbi.nic.in>
E-mail: cic@cbi.gov.in
Fax: 011-24368639
Ph. No.: 011-24368638, 24368641

SHO
P.S. Paschim Vihar East, Delhi
Ph: 011-25263471, 25267286
DP/2750/OD/19

SEARCH FOR MISSING/KIDNAPPED



General Public is hereby informed that one lady **Namely: Aarti Bhatia, W/o: Lokesh Bhatia, R/o: 2/B, 3rd floor, Gali No. 11, Vikas Vihar, Chander Vihar, Delhi** has been missing/ kidnapped since **03.10.2019** from the area of P.S. Nihal Vihar, Delhi. In this regard a case vide **DD No. 52-A dated 03.10.2019** has been registered at P. S.

Nihal Vihar, Delhi. The description of the missing lady are as under: **Age:** 32 years, **Height:** 5' 2", **Face:** Round, **Complexion:** Shallow, **Wearing:** Blue colour suit-salwar and chappal in feet. Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out the lady but no clue has come to light so far. Any person having any information or clue about this lady kindly inform to the following.

Website: <http://cbi.nic.in>
E-mail Id - cic@cbi.gov.in
Ph: 011-24368638, 24368641
Fax No. 011-24368639
DP/2786/OD/19

SHO
P.S. Nihal Vihar, Delhi
Tel.No. 011-25946710, 7065036129

Pogba, De Gea out of Liverpool clash

Manchester United manager confirms the duo will miss Sunday's game at Old Trafford

AGENCIES ■ MANCHESTER

Manchester United will prepare for Sunday's Premier League clash against leaders Liverpool without the injured Paul Pogba and David De Gea, manager Ole Gunnar Solskjaer said on Wednesday.

Goalkeeper De Gea was forced to leave the field during Spain's Euro 2020 qualifier against Sweden on Tuesday.

"David needs a scan," Solskjaer told *Sky Sports*. "I think he'll be out. It certainly looked like it anyway judging on last night so it's just one of those things."

France midfielder Pogba has missed five of United's last seven matches with an ankle injury, and after spending part of the international break recuperating in Dubai, Solskjaer said the 26-year-old is still not ready for first-team action.

"Paul had an injury, he came back, he worked really hard. He came back and played a couple of games, maybe played through the pain barrier," Solskjaer added.

"He had a scan after the Arsenal game and maybe needed a few weeks' rest in a boot so hopefully he won't be too long, but he won't make this game, no."

United have recorded two wins in their opening eight league matches this season and sit two points above the relegation zone in 12th place.

Anthony Martial, Luke Shaw and Aaron Wan-Bissaka are likely to return from the treatment room but Solskjaer is yet to make a decision on their availability.

"Hopefully, Aaron and Anthony will last the training this week and be available for selection," the Norwegian coach added.

"If it's for half a game or 30 minutes I don't know but let's see where they're at."

Liverpool have made a perfect start to the season with 24 points from eight matches and will look to equal Manchester City's record of 18 consecutive top-flight victories when they visit Old Trafford.



Manchester United's Paul Pogba battles for ball possession with Liverpool's Joel Matip during Premier League 2018-19 season match AP/File Picture

REINFORCE SQUAD

Manchester United will try to sign one or two players in the January transfer window to improve their chances of finishing in the top four but will not spend big on transfer fees and wages, manager Ole Gunnar Solskjaer has said.

United are 12th in the Premier League ahead of Sunday's home game against league leaders Liverpool after a poor start to the season that has been further disrupted by injuries to key players.

Solskjaer sanctioned the departures of forwards Romelu Lukaku and Alexis Sanchez in the close sea-

son without reinforcing United's attack.

"We're looking at one or two new signings. We're one or two players light," Solskjaer told *Sky Sports*. "If the right ones are available in January then we might do something. If not, these players will give everything (for a top four finish)."

"I'm not going to go down the route of bringing players in on big contracts and big fees if they're not the right ones for the whole group and for the future. The money is there to strengthen in January and in the summer."

United started the season with a

4-0 win over Chelsea but have scored five goals in seven league matches since and Solskjaer said an injury to forward Anthony Martial, who has not played since August, was a factor in their struggles.

"There's many reasons, but one of them is injuries to Anthony," the 46-year-old former United player said.

"Creating chances has been a challenge for us with teams dropping deep."

"But we're practising patterns every single week. When we get the players fit, I'm going to make Marcus and Anthony score those scruffy goals, as that's what I did."

Pochettino rules out big changes in Jan

LONDON: Mauricio Pochettino does not want to make major changes at Tottenham in the January transfer window despite a poor start to his sixth season in charge.

Spurs have won just three of their opening 11 games in all competitions, crashing out of the League Cup and suffering a humiliating 7-2 defeat at home in the Champions League.

That has led to suspicions that the current Tottenham squad has grown stale, with little movement in the transfer market in recent years. However, Pochettino retains faith in the players that have helped the club make huge strides over the past five years, reaching the Champions League final in June.

"I don't believe (there will be any signings)," said Pochettino on Thursday. "I believe in the players that we have."

"If it is my decision I am going to stick with my players because I know they have the quality."

"It is only to unlock some situation that is going on in their minds. I know we have the quality to be fighting for the things we expect to fight for."



AFP



Reid happy with India's consistency

PTI ■ BHUBANESWAR

Chief Coach Graham Reid is impressed with Indian hockey team's all-round growth and wants his players to play at the highest level while tackling Russia in the upcoming FIH Hockey Olympic Qualifiers.

The Indian team won the FIH Men's Series Finals Bhubaneswar in June and followed that with victory in the Tokyo Olympics test event in August.

The team remained unbeaten on its recent Belgium tour, where it won all five matches against the world champions hosts and world number eight Spain.

Reid said he had a lot "good takeaways" from the Belgium tour.

"Our GPS numbers were great, which means that the running, effort, speed and intensity was actually even higher than last year's World Cup. So they were very good numbers for us to see, and for the players to understand that to play at that level, you need to be achieving those consistently," said Reid.

"Another part was the consistency of our performances against Belgium and Spain, and it was good to see that we kept building momentum as the tour progressed."

Reid, who took over as the chief coach in April 2019, said while taking on Russia in the the FIFA Qualifiers on November 1 and 2, his wards will be focused on doing the

INDIA PRESENTS BID TO HOST MEN'S WC IN 2023

LAUSANNE: India is among the three nations who have presented their bids to host the next edition of the men's World Cup, the International Hockey Federation said on Thursday.

India, who have hosted the men's World Cup thrice, wants to conduct the event in the January 13 to 29, 2023 window.

Belgium and Malaysia are the other two nations who have also sent their bidding dossier to conduct the men's event but they prefer to host the event in the July 1 to 17, 2022 window.

For the Women's World Cup, five countries have presented their bids, the FIH said in a release.

PTI

right things.

"There is always the concern about playing a team like Russia and it is, that they hold the ball very well, they like to be in possession. Trying to get the ball off them is always difficult, so that is something we need to keep an eye on, and make sure that our tackling, interception, and pressing skills are at the highest level."

"We want to make sure that we are playing at our best, and there will be no complacency. It does not matter who we play, we will approach the game in the same manner, that is, in a professional and respectful way."

Azhar likely to be Pak Test skipper

LAHORE: Pakistan's top-order batsman Azhar Ali is likely to replace Sarfaraz Ahmed as the national team's skipper in the longest format of the game while wicket keeper batsman Mohammad Rizwan could serve as his deputy.

Pakistan's head coach Misbah ul Haq is unhappy with Sarfaraz's performance and according to sources, Misbah has made it clear to the PCB that Sarfaraz should not continue as the captain of the Green Brigade but the board is unwilling to take any chance with a new captain on a tough tour of Australia.

According to reports, the management is experimenting with young players for the Australia tour and in case the team fails to deliver results, the management can give the excuse of the team going through a transition phase.

Nikhath writes to Rijiju, demands trial bout against Mary

NEW DELHI: Former junior world champion boxer Nikhat Zareen has written to Sports Minister Kiren Rijiju, demanding a trial bout against the celebrated M.C. Mary Kom before India's squad for next year's Olympic Qualifiers is decided.

Mary Kom (51kg) claimed her eighth world medal at the recently-concluded championships in Russia. She was selected for the event ahead of Zareen, who was refused a trial by the Boxing Federation of India (BFI), which decided to go by Mary Kom's consistent performances while making the choice.

The BFI now also plans to send Mary Kom for the Olympic qualifiers on the back of her Bronze-winning show at the world championships, moving away from the previous decision

to give direct selection only to the Gold and Silver winners.

The qualifiers will be held in China in February next year.

"Sir, the very basis of sport is fairplay and need to keep proving oneself each and every time. Even Olympic Gold medalists have to fight again to qualify to represent the country," she wrote in the letter.

"I have been inspired by Mary Kom since I was a teenager. The best way I can do justice to this inspiration was to strive to be as great a boxer as her. And Mary Kom is too big a legend in sport to need to hide from competition and not actually defend her Olympic qualification," she said.

"After all, if 23-time Gold-medallist Michael Phelps has to re-qualify every time for the Olympics, the rest of us should

do the same."

Mary Kom has maintained that she would follow the BFI guidelines on selection trials and will compete if asked by the federation.

The Sports Ministry is not entitled to intervene in selection matters of any national federation unless requested by the parent international body as any such unilateral move is considered a violation of the Olympic Charter.

Zareen said even if she were to lose the trial bout, should she get one, she would feel content about at least getting a chance.

"I look for no favours, just fairplay. And whether Mary Kom or any other boxer qualifies after the trial, we can at least sleep at night knowing that every one of the candidate for the best possible opportunity to make India proud at Olympics," she said.

PTI

AC Milan suffer record 146m euro losses

AFP ■ MILAN

Troubled former Italian footballing giants AC Milan have suffered record losses, according to reports in Italy.

Gazzetta Dello Sport claimed that in the year to June 30, 2019, losses rose by 16 percent to 146 million (\$ 162 million) euros compared to 126 million euros for the same period the previous year.

Gazzetta said the figures were far worse than the predicted loss of 90 million euros.

US hedge fund Elliott took over the debt-ridden seven-time European champions from Chinese businessman Li Yonghong in



July 2018.

The club's absence from European football has had an impact on merchandising and sponsors, with income from sponsors slipping by 6.7 million euros and ticket sales down by 1.2 million euros.

However, revenues from TV rights rose from 109.3

million to 113.8 million.

Milan finished fifth in Serie A last season but surrendered their Europa League berth after breaching UEFA's financial fair play rules.

Revenues from the sale of players in particular dropped from 42 million euros to 25.5 million euros. To keep the club afloat, Elliott have injected 325 million euros in total up until this September, Sky Sport Italia reported.

On the pitch the 18-time Serie A champions are also in turmoil with Marco Giampaolo sacked as coach after just seven games and Stefano Pioli coming in as the club's eighth coach in five years. Milan won their

last Serie A title in 2011, and have not played in the Champions League since the 2013-2014 season.

The club are 13th place in Serie A, following a run of four defeats in seven games.

Italian media mogul and former prime minister Silvio Berlusconi, who oversaw Milan's glory years during his 31-year ownership, sold the club to Li in 2017 with Elliott assuming control after the Chinese businessman defaulted on a loan payment.

AC Milan are currently working with city rivals Inter Milan on a new 1.2 billion euro (\$ 1.34 billion) stadium project to rebuild the San Siro and the area surrounding stadium to the west of the city.

RACISTS MUST BE 'KICKED OUT' OF STADIUMS: FIFA BOSS

AFP ■ SOFIA

Racists must be "kicked out" of stadiums, FIFA President Gianni Infantino said on Thursday, as he pressed for a worldwide ban on spectators who abuse black footballers.

Speaking days after England's Euro 2020 qualifier in Bulgaria was twice stopped because of chants targeting English players, Infantino insisted the world body would punish racism.

"If there are racists that abuse footballers, we have to stop the game," he told a press conference on a visit to Dhaka.

"We cannot let the racists win. The football has to continue and we have to punish the people," Infantino said during his visit.

He added it was now easy to identify the culprits in modern stadiums with closed circuit TV and that a "strong message" must be sent.

"They have to be taken, kicked out of the stadium, they must not be allowed to enter into football stadiums any more, and criminal proceedings should be brought against them."

"It's a crime and it should be a crime in all countries of the world to commit a racist abuse," he said.

Infantino reaffirmed that if a country bans a spectator because of racism, "FIFA will extend it worldwide because racists have no place in football in any country and no place in any football stadium or arena in any part of the world."

Six Bulgarians have been indicted for abuse at Monday's Bulgaria-England game when monkey chants and apparent Nazi salutes overshadowed England's 6-0 win. Three more are being sought.

One 18-year-old was indicted on Wednesday for using Nazi salutes and four others have been fined and banned from sports events for two years.

Infantino had already condemned the inci-



dent in a statement on Tuesday, calling racism an "obnoxious disease that seems to be getting even worse in some parts of the world."

He said Thursday that on top of stadium action better education was needed.

"We have to educate our youth, our children and those who are a bit older as well," he said. Infantino also said that the 2022 World Cup in Qatar "will be the very best World Cup ever" despite new controversy over the heat and empty stadiums after the world athletics championships in September saw some long distance races badly affected.

The FIFA boss insisted that it would be cooler as the football tournament would be in November and December.

"I am sure in Qatar we will witness from a technical point of view, the very best World Cup ever." He also expressed confidence that the stadiums would be "full".

"Football is the number one sport in the world. We will fill the stadiums in Qatar and anywhere else in the World easily with the World Cup."

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The seventh season of VIVO Pro Kabaddi League has entered its twilight stages, with the grand final between Dabang Delhi and Bengal Warriors looming. Interestingly, VIVO PKL will have a new winner whatever be the result, with both teams playing their first final of India's top Kabaddi tournament.

The final itself is testimony to the competitive nature of season seven that saw favourites stumble while young stars scripted new records. Three-time champions Patna Pirates failed to reach the playoff stages despite another stellar season for Pardeep Narwal while pre-season favourites Tamil Thalaivas' poor run reminded everyone how Kabaddi is a team sport and not just about a group of talented individuals.

A SEASON OF HIGHS

'High-flyer' Pawan Sehrawat was once again the standout raider of the season and brought Bengaluru Bulls within touching distance of a place in the finals. The defending champions were heavily reliant on Pawan's raiding skills and he scored 346 points in 24 match with 18 Super 10s and a staggering strike rate of 75%. While Naveen Kumar didn't exactly match Pawan Sehrawat's points, his 20 consecutive Super 10s was the key in Dabang Delhi's road to the finals. The 20-year-old, a produce of the Future Kabaddi Heroes (FKH) programme, scored 283 points in 22 matches, and will end the season behind only Pawan Sehrawat and Pardeep Narwal



(302) in overall points.

Ever since the dawn of the VIVO PKL, Kabaddi as a sport has evolved, and season seven was once again proof to the fast changing nature, with the defenders having a bigger say in results. While UP Yoddha's Nitesh Kumar couldn't match his 100-point tally from last season, you could see a distinct changes in approaches as the corners starting tackling more eagerly. In fact, the success of teams like U Mumba, UP Yoddha and Bengal Warriors was down to effective corners. U Mumba's 'Sultan' Fazal Atrachali topped the chart with 82 tackle points. UP's duo of Sumit and Nitesh Kumar scored 77 and 75 respectively while Sandeep Dhill clinched 73 despite playing for a Jaipur Pink Panthers side that failed to qualify for the playoffs.

A FINAL ON MERIT

The League stage's top two teams — Dabang Delhi and Bengal Warriors — will fight it out for the coveted trophy tomorrow. Both teams have shown remarkably consistency throughout the season and deserve a shot at the title for their all-round performances. The Bengal corner combination of Baldev Singh and Rinku Narwal will be keen to stop Naveen 'Express' Kumar from reaching another Super 10 while at the other end the experienced duo of Ravinder Pahal and Joginder Narwal will look to thwart the Bengal raiders. The Warriors haven't been beaten by Delhi this season but it remains to be seen if their talisman Maninder Singh will be fit enough to start against Dabang.

Federer to play French Open in 2020

AFP ■ PARIS

Swiss tennis legend Roger Federer on Thursday said he will play the French Open in Paris next year.

"I will play the French Open. I probably won't play much before that because I need some time away from it (tennis) and I need some time with the family," the 38-year-old told CNN.

The 20-time Grand Slam champion returned to Roland Garros this year after a three year absence, falling to Rafael Nadal in the semi-finals.

Federer has confirmed he will compete at next year's Tokyo Olympics after Wimbledon and prior to the US Open.

But his priority before the French Open which he has won only once in 2009 will be a family vacation.

"We need a vacation, we need a break, and especially if I am playing the Olympics and all that," he said.

In Tokyo he will be in competition for a men's singles Gold medal, the only major prize he has yet to win.

Earlier this week he said he had been debating with his team on his programme after Wimbledon and before the US Open.

"At the end of the day my heart decided to play the Olympic Games again," he said.



Eye opener

Proteas opener Elgar says India tour is a good learning curve for him

PTI ■ RANCHI

South Africa opener Dean Elgar says he got "stretched" as a cricketer and learned a lot more about himself during what has been a humbling India tour, part of which included visiting "smaller places and staying in hotels" not that good.

After managing a 1-1 draw in the T20 series, South Africa suffered big defeats in the first Two Tests of the three-match rubber against a dominant outfit led by Virat Kohli. "It's a challenging tour. You get stretched as a person, you get stretched as a cricketer, I think you get to know yourself quite a lot as a person when you come to the smaller places where the hotels are maybe not as good, and you get challenged on the field," Elgar said.

"It's always a good learning curve coming to India."

The introduction of the World Test Championship means South Africa still have "quite a lot to play for" in the third Test despite conceding the series, Elgar said.

"Back in the day it was always a bit of a dead rubber game but now with the World Test Championships around, we still have points to play for," Elgar said.

"We can still get 40 points by fol-



South Africa's Dean Elgar bats during fourth day of second Test between India and South Africa in Pune

AP

lowing our process against India in the last Test. That's something we can't neglect going into this game. There is still a lot to play for," he added. Elgar, who became the first South African batsman to score a

hundred in India after nine years during the opening Test, said the Proteas batsmen will have to go back to the basics to tackle the Indian bowlers in the final game.

"It's no secret that it's been a bit

of a challenge for all of us. We haven't played our greatest cricket, consistent cricket. But we are trying to be positive. The senior players are trying to keep the guys motivated. We are still representing our country

which is an immensely proud moment for every player.

"We still motivate everyone within our squad. It has been a challenging few weeks but it's still not too gloomy for us. We are upbeat, the

morale in the camp is still very good.

"We still have one game and we can actually change quite a lot. We are still pretty hopeful and pretty positive going into the last Test," he asserted.

India sans Kohli sweat it out at optional practice

PTI ■ RANCHI

Skipper Virat Kohli and opener Rohit Sharma skipped the optional practice session but spinner Kuldeep Yadav looked to hone his batting skills ahead of India's third and final Test against South Africa here on Thursday.

Kuldeep, who sat out of the first two Tests, made full use of the net session displaying some elegant cover drives in their afternoon practice which was also attended by Ajinkya Rahane, Cheteshwar Pujara, Mayank Agarwal and Ishant Sharma among others.

Earlier chief coach Ravi Shastri and bowling coach Bharat Arun had a close look at the pitch which wore a dry look, indicating that it would have something for the spinners.

Spin duo of Ravichandran Ashwin and Ravindra Jadeja have been the key bowlers for India, bagging 14 and 10 wickets each and Kuldeep's inclusion will only be at the cost of a pacer.

The pacers too have made crucial contributions with Mohammed Shami claiming eight wickets at a strike rate of 41 and Umesh snapping six wickets at an even better strike rate of 21 and it remains to be seen if Kohli tinkers with his winning combination.

The Proteas trained in the morning session with focus on their batsmen.

South Africa's training was attended by skipper Du Plessis, Temba Bavuma, Theunis de Bruyn, Quinton de Kock, Senuran Muthuswamy as they faced the net bowlers.

Vernon Philander was seen among the bowlers but the new-ball bowler was mostly seen honing his batting skills.



Self destruction

'Frustrated' Markram punches object, injures wrist to be ruled out of 3rd Test

his injury."

Markram has had a mixed tour of India. While he scored two hundreds in the practice games, he couldn't carry forward his form into the Test series. After scoring 5 and 39 in the first Test, he was dismissed for a pair in the second.

He left for South Africa on

Thursday morning. The team management hasn't called up any replacement.

A disappointed Markram admitted he has let his team down and said, "It's sad to be going home on this note and I completely understand what I've done wrong and take full accountability for it."



Score heavy in 1st innings: Faf tells SA batsmen

RANCHI: Having already lost the three-match series, South Africa skipper Faf du Plessis has called on his players to come out with an improved performance, especially with the bat when they face India in the final Test beginning Saturday in Ranchi.

The Proteas have not been able to make use of their first innings — barring the Vizag Test where they managed to score 431 in reply to India's 502. India, on the other hand, have dominated by getting big runs in their first innings. In the first Test,

the hosts scored 502 runs while they put on 601 runs in Pune.

And, du Plessis wants his batsmen to learn from the Indian batters and make most of their first innings in the final Test.

"We need to put big runs on the board in the first innings," said du Plessis while addressing a press conference on Thursday.

"When you get runs in the first innings anything from there is possible. For us first innings runs will be vital and then anything could happen in the second innings," he added. **IANS**



Indian pace attack reminds Lara of old Windies

PTI ■ MUMBAI

West Indian batting great Brian Lara on Thursday praised the current Indian pace attack, which reminded him of the deadly West Indian attacks of yore.

The Indian pace trio of Jasprit Bumrah, Ishant Sharma and Mohammed Shami, in 2018, picked the record 142 wickets among them in Test matches.

Asked what makes Indian team special, Lara said: "It's the Indian pace attack. Unbelievable. I saw them in the West Indies. When you look at the quality — (Jasprit) Bumrah, (Mohammed) Shami, (Umesh) Yadav — all these guys, and the guys on the sidelines, like Bhuvni (Bhuvneshwar Kumar) are unbelievable."

"It reminds me a little bit of the (pace bowling) strength that the West Indies had in the 80s and 90s. The reserve strength is very important in assessing a team's ability. It means that your attack has quality," Lara added.

Lara, who had scored 11,953 Test runs, was also lavish in his praise for Virat Kohli, whom he termed the 'Ultimate Captain'.

"He's (Kohli) the ultimate captain. In terms of his performances, he leads by example. And I mean that in all facets of the game, and off the field too. He is came off very well in the background of MS Dhoni, who laid the foundation, and did things in a different way.

"So, I think Indian cricket, as we all know, is headed in the right direction. It's influenced by some of the best people, and is reaping the benefits of it," Lara told reporters here.

Lara also seemed happy that a player of Rohit Sharma's calibre is set to play regularly across formats.

"I think that Rohit is an awesome player in all formats of the game. Obviously, in the limited overs game, he's been very successful. I don't see any reason why he should not be in Test cricket. It seems that he has the passion to play and wants to prove himself on that stage (Test cricket) as well.

"To exclude a player like that (from the Test team) will be very difficult, with the talent that I see. So, hopefully, he will be successful. He is a gifted batsman," said Lara.

Lara, who holds the record for highest individual run scorer in Tests, also welcomed the ICC move of Test Championship, saying it has provided contest to the game.

"I think (World Test Championship should have started earlier). In terms of Test Championship, where there is an end, it culminates into a team becoming Championship, that is something that should have happened a long time ago and happy to see it now. Even if you play against the minnows—Afghanistan, Bangladesh — it means something.

Al-Amin back in B'desh T20 team

PTI ■ DHAKA

Left-arm spinner Arafat Sunny and pacer Al-Amin Hossain were recalled as Bangladesh on Thursday announced a 15-member squad for next month's three-game T20I series against India.

Opener Tamim Iqbal also made a comeback after a break during which he missed the tri-series at home involving Afghanistan and Zimbabwe.

Both Sunny and Hossain have been out of contention for a long time having played their last T20I in 2016.

The 33-year-old Sunny, who has taken 12 wickets in 10 T20Is, was suspended during the 2016 ICC World Twenty20 for an illegal bowling action. He had also spent two months in jail after being arrested in 2017 for his involvement in a family dispute.



Al-Amin Hossain in a file picture

The 29-year-old Hossain also last featured in the 2016 ICC World Twenty20.

"We have recalled Sunny because we need someone experienced for India, which is a tough country. Al-Amin comes

into the squad as some of our other fast bowlers are injured," said chief selector Minhajul Abedin.

The selectors also decided to drop Sabbir Rahman, Nazmul Hossain Shanto, Rubel Hossain and Taijul Islam from the team of the last T20 Bangladesh played during the tri-nation series at home.

The T20I series will begin with the first match on November 3 at Arun Jaitley stadium in New Delhi. The next two games are at Rajkot and Nagpur on November 7 and 10 respectively.

Squad: Shakib Al Hasan (C), Tamim Iqbal, Liton Das, Soumya Sarkar, Naim Sheikh, Mushfiqur Rahim, Mahmudullah Riyad, Afif Hossain, Musaddek Hossain, Aminul Islam Biplob, Arafat Sunny, Mohammad Saifuddin, Al-Amin Hossain, Mustafizur Rahman, Shafiul Islam.

Marsh set to miss Pak Test

AFP ■ SYDNEY

All-rounder Mitchell Marsh is set to miss the opening Test against Pakistan after fracturing his right hand punching a wall, with Australian coach Justin Langer branding him "an idiot."

The Western Australia captain took his frustrations out in the changing rooms after he was dismissed for 53 in a Sheffield Shield match against Tasmania on Sunday.

Scans revealed a fracture, and an apologetic Marsh said he faced up to six weeks on the sidelines.

That would almost certainly rule him out of the opening Test against Pakistan in Brisbane starting on November 21.

"It's my middle finger, just below the wrist — a fracture straight through



the bone," Marsh, who was sporting a cast on his arm, told reporters.

Marsh had only been recalled to the Test side for the final game of the Ashes against England last month after a long period out of favour and there are no guarantees he will win a spot back.

"It's a good lesson for

me. Hopefully it's a good lesson for other people as well," added Marsh, whose blunder could open the door for Marcus Stoinis in Brisbane.

"At the end of the day, it's a game of cricket. Sometimes you get beaten, sometimes you get out, and you can't be punching walls."

SL names T20 squad for Aus tour

AFP ■ COLOMBO

Sri Lanka's T20 skipper Lasith Malinga along with Kusal Perera and Niroshan Dickwella, who skipped the recent Pakistan tour citing security fears, were on Thursday included in a 16-man squad to play against Australia.

The opening match will be at the Adelaide Oval on Oct 27 with the second at Gabba on Oct 30 and the final game at the MCG on November 1.

The squad: Malinga, K Perera, K Mendis, D Gunathilaka, A Fernando, Dickwella, D Shanaka, S Jayasuriya, B Rajapaksa, O Fernando, W Hasaranga, L Sandakan, N Pradeep, L Kumara, I Udana & Kasun Rajitha.

Reputed coach can help Indian sprinters: Carmelita

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Three-time Olympic medallist Carmelita Jeter is impressed with India's Dutee Chand and said a reputed coach can guide the country's talented sprinters reach the highest level in future.

"I have seen Dutee Chand compete at the Olympic Games. She has done some remarkable things. I hope more young ladies will step up and represent the country," said Jeter, who is the international event ambassador at the 15th edition of the *Airtel Delhi Half Marathon*.

"I feel that all sprinters need good coaches. If a big name coaches Indian athletes, then you will certainly see a rise of Indian sprinters in the future," said Jeter.

The fastest woman alive, Jeter is delighted to see over 40,000 participants ready to give it their all at the Half Marathon, which is an IAAF Gold Label Road Race, on Sunday.

A world record holder, Jeter had finished with a winning time of 10.64 seconds at the Shanghai Golden Grand Prix in 2009, giving her a spot in history as the second-fastest woman ever



in the 100 meters.

Carmelita Jeter was a part of the historic 4x100m USA team which set the world record at the 2012 Olympics. The American said that sharing a medal with three other women was even more special than an individual medal.

"It was a moment for the USA team. It was a special team out there. People think that four of the fastest runners form a good 4x100m group, but no, a team has to have four people who trust each other and have chemistry. It was great to share a Gold medal with a team.

Winning a medal with three other women was even more special," she said.

India's campaign end in Denmark

PTI ■ ODENSE

India's campaign at the \$ 775,000 Denmark Open came to a disappointing end with the trioka of PV Sindhu, B Sai Praneeth and Sameer Verma — all exiting after suffering straight-game losses, here on Thursday.

World Champion Sindhu, seeded fifth, yet again struggled to buck the trend of recent early exits as she was knocked out after she lost 14-21, 17-21 to Korea's An Se Young in a 40-minute second-round women's singles clash at the BWF World Tour Super 750 event.

It turned out to be a dismal day for Indian shuttlers in general as B Sai Praneeth, Sameer Verma, and men's doubles pair of Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty also went down in straight games in their second rounds.

While Praneeth was outclassed by two-time World Champion Kento Momota of Japan 6-21, 14-21 in yet another dominating show, Sameer lost 12-21, 10-21 to Olympic champion Chen Long of China.

Thailand Open champions Satwik and Chirag also suffered a 16-21 15-21 defeat against sixth seed Chinese combination of Han Cheng Kai and Zhou Hao Dong in men's doubles.

Later in the day, Pranaav Chopra and N Sikki Reddy put up a gallant fight before going down 24-26 21-13 11-21 to fourth seeded Malaysian pair of Chan Peng Soon and Goh Liu Ying in the mixed doubles competition.

Wawrinka reach Antwerp quarters



Stan Wawrinka celebrates after win

AGENCIES ■ ANTWERP

Stan Wawrinka was made to work hard at the European Open on Wednesday as the Swiss veteran outlasted Feliciano Lopez 6-7(4) 6-4 7-6(4) to reach the quarter-finals in Antwerp.

The 34-year-old Wawrinka, seeking his first ATP trophy since he lifted the title in Geneva two years ago, served 17 aces — one less than Lopez — and converted one out of four break-point opportunities to edge the tight match.

Up next for the world number 18 is unseeded Gilles Simon, who powered past his French compatriot Jo-Wilfried Tsonga 6-4, 7-5.

Wawrinka has beaten Simon four times in seven meetings but the Frenchman prevailed in straight sets the last time they played each other on the hardcourts of Shanghai in 2016.

Argentina's Guido Pella joined the duo in the last eight after beating South Korea's Kwon Soon-woo 7-5, 7-5 to set up a clash with Ugo Humbert or second seed David Goffin.

In first-round action, Pablo Cuevas beat Hugo Dellien 6-4, 6-3 and will take on Briton Andy Murray next. American Frances Tiafoe overcame Germany's Yannick Maden 7-6(7), 6-3.