

**WORLD 6**  
WILL TURN ATTACKING COUNTRY  
INTO BATTLEFIELD: IRAN**MONEY 7**  
'TAX CUT TO HAVE MINOR  
IMPACT ON FISCAL DEFICIT'**SPORT 8**  
DEEPAK PUNIA  
ENTERS WORLD FINAL

CHANDIGARH, SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 22, 2019; PAGES 8-4 ₹3



# sunday pioneer

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## USUAL SUSPECTS

SWAPAN DASGUPTA

## Babul episode warrants guidelines for varsities

So great is our collective willingness to digest the indigestible that the ugly incidents in Kolkata's Jadavpur University centred on the protests against Union Minister Babul Supriyo will become less than a footnote in a few days. Campus turbulence is not new either in India or for that matter in most parts of the democratic world. Unlike an earlier era when protests used to be centred on wider issues such as the Vietnam war, recent disturbances seem to be all about free speech. Whether in Jadavpur or Delhi University, whether it involves the Right or the Left, there is an inclination to believe that those with a sharply different point of view should somehow be barred from expressing their point of view. Accusations of fascism, homophobic and racist have marred normal campus meetings and those involved include distinguished writers and scholars.

There is, quite predictably, a temptation to incorporate Thursday afternoon's fracas inside the Jadavpur University campus with the wider battle for political supremacy that is waging in West Bengal. Needless to say the incident is not entirely unrelated and the subsequent war of words and competitive complaints to the police has made it more so. The laudable role of the State's Governor in extricating the Union Minister from protesters may even add a federal dimension to the battle.

It is, however, time to look beyond mundane politics. This incident, as I have mentioned, isn't unique. Similar incidents based on the un-democratic principle of 'no platform' for the other side have troubled Indian campuses. There has also been controversies over the use of campuses by Left organisations, including overground supporters of the Maoist underground and supporters of secessionist movements, for provocative demonstrations. It is time that the university authorities and the Governments arrive at an understanding over what should be allowed and what is prohibited from the campuses.

It is not my case that all political meetings should be prohibited from the campuses. Being socially and politically aware is part of higher education and it would be a sad day if India's students are insulated from the real world. The real question is whether all points of view — except perhaps those prohibited by either law or a sense of moral propriety — should be allowed free play? Alternatively, should the university authorities exercise their discretion and should there be guidelines? This is a difficult question to answer. While it is easy to say that a Union Minister speaking on Article 370 and Kashmir is a perfectly legitimate subject, how should university authorities deal with a speaker who openly advocates the separation of Kashmir from the Indian Union? To those who tried to prevent Babul's entry into the campus, this sitting MP and member of the BJP, was inherently a 'fascist' and therefore had no place in the university. To my mind this is absolutely ridiculous and those students who assaulted the Minister and showered him with abuse were guilty of small-mindedness, at the very least. They were probably also guilty of common assault and I believe should be prosecuted as per the law. Being students should not be a ground for sanctioning irresponsible behaviour. More so since the meeting convened by the ABVP had prior permission from the university authorities.

While judgment on this issue is relatively easy, should university authorities accord permission for meetings that, say, advocate secessionism? What should be the Lakshman Rekha of free speech? This is an issue that warrants urgent attention and even some codification. Things have reached such a pass that such decisions can no longer be left to the good sense of university authorities that are very susceptible to local political pressures.

The second issue that needs some attention is that of police entry into the campus. By convention, campuses have their own security and police is denied entry. In Jadavpur, the Vice Chancellor made a huge issue of it and said that he would rather resign than let the police in. It is fortunate that no one got seriously hurt because otherwise his judgment would have been regarded as both foolish and pig-headed. Yet there was a definite case for the police to come in to the campus for the limited purpose of ensuring the safe passage of the Minister. Having the police inside would not have defiled the campus unless, of course, the police is viewed as goons in uniform. I believe that the wide discretion allowed to university authorities on this matter should be replaced by broad guidelines that are set at the national level. If there can be a FIR on a matter inside the campus, it follows that the police should have some responsibility for maintaining order if the need arises. This is a delicate matter that can easily be misconstrued and that is why the importance of guidelines. To this must be added common sense.

In the past, life in a campus was guided by restraint, responsibility and good sense. This understanding has clearly broken down. This is why the need for guidelines and codification arises. Let us learn a few lessons from the incidents in Jadavpur last Thursday

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# Maha, Haryana to go to polls on Oct 21

## Counting on Oct 24; EC to announce Jharkhand Assembly election dates later

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Exactly a month from now, BJP-ruled Maharashtra and Haryana will go to polls — the first election since the Lok Sabha elections and the Government's key decisions on Article 370 and triple talaq.

While the polls in the two States will be held on October 21, the counting of votes will be held on October 24. The term of the 288-member Maharashtra Assembly ends on November 9 and that of the 90-member Haryana Assembly expires on November 2. The dates for Jharkhand Assembly polls will be announced later.

Faced with a string of high-profile desertions from their camps to the ruling combine in Maharashtra, the Congress and the NCP have joined hands once again after five years and have stitched up a seat-sharing deal in their bid to stop the BJP-Shiv Sena from returning to power. But then, the BJP and the Shiv Sena too have come together after 2014 to ensure they retain power. The two saffron parties are likely to announce their seat-sharing deal this week. The Congress and the NCP had been in power for three consecutive terms before they lost to the BJP-Sena combine in 2014.

In Haryana, the Congress is exploring a tie-up with the

BSP, which has announced its intentions to go it alone and is also cut up with the principal Opposition party for having engineered a defection of six of its MLAs to join its camp in Rajasthan.

In both the States, the BJP is expected to espouse the cause of nationalism among the masses by pitching its "strong" decision to abrogate the special status to Jammu & Kashmir under Article 370. It would also point to its another "bold" decision of banning the triple talaq practice among Muslims to reach out to the women from the minority community.

Soon after the announcement of the poll schedule, leaders of the ruling coalition exuded confidence of winning a second consecutive term in Maharashtra with Devendra Fadnis asserting he will be back as the Chief Minister. State BJP chief Chandrakant Patil said given the response to the "Mahajanadesh Yatra" of Fadnis, the BJP-Shiv Sena alliance is likely to get more than 220 seats.

With the BJP taking centre stage even in the Lok Sabha polls contested in 2014 and 2019, the Congress' hold in its strongholds of Vidarbha, Marathwada and Mumbai region has weakened. Similarly, the NCP is struggling to retain its pocket-borough of western

Assembly Election 2019		
	Maharashtra	Haryana
Total Constituencies	288	90
Total Electors	8,95,62,706	1,82,98,714
Photo Electoral Rolls	96.44%	100%
Elector Photo ID Cards	96.81%	100%
Polling Stations	95,473	19,425
EVMs		
Ballot Units	1.80 lakh	0.38 lakh
Control Units	1.28 lakh	0.25 lakh
VVPATs	1.39 lakh	0.27 lakh
Schedule		
Issue of Notification	Sept 27	
Last Date for Nominations	Oct 4	
Scrutiny of Nominations	Oct 5	
Last Date for Withdrawal	Oct 7	
Date of Poll	Oct 21	
Counting of Votes	Oct 24	
Source: ECI		

Maharashtra. The Shiv Sena has retained its base in Konkan.

The BJP and the Shiv Sena had swept the Lok Sabha polls in the State winning 41 of the total 48 seats. The NCP and the Congress won only five seats

among them. The Congress and the NCP have decided to contest 125 seats each out of the total 288 seats in the polls.

While Prime Minister Narendra Modi would again be the main face of the BJP poll



CEC Sunil Arora flanked by Election Commissioners Ashok Lavasa and Sunil Chandra during a Press conference regarding the Maharashtra and Haryana Assembly elections at Election Commission in New Delhi on Saturday

PTI

## Bypolls for 1 LS and 64 Assembly seats also on October 21

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Election Commission on Saturday announced the bypolls for 64 Assembly seats spread across 17 States and Union Territory of Puducherry, besides the Samastipur Lok Sabha constituency in Bihar. The bypolls will be held along with Assembly polls in Haryana and Maharashtra on October 21. Karnataka, where resignations of 17 rebel MLAs led to the collapse of the JDS-Congress Government in July, will see bypolls on 15 seats.

Detailed report on P5

campaign in Maharashtra, the Congress-NCP are taking up issues of farmers' suicide, agrarian crisis and the rising graph of unemployment, highest in last 40 years, as its main attacking points against the BJP-Sena alliance in the State.

In contrast, the BJP, which has netted a number of NCP leaders, has attacked Sharad Pawar, saying his period of dominance is over. "Breaking and making parties" kind of politics practiced by the NCP chief is now catching up with his party with the passage of time, said Fadnis in Mumbai, stepping up his campaign.

The BJP, which won 122 seats in the 2014 Assembly polls, had a vote share of 27.81 per cent, well ahead of the Congress' 17.95 per cent.

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## CAPSULE

### AMIT 1ST INDIAN TO WIN WORLD BOXING SILVER

**Katerinburg (Russia):** Indian boxer Amit Panghal's phenomenal campaign in the men's world championships ended with a silver medal after he went down to Olympic champion Shakhobidin Zoirov of Uzbekistan in an intense 52kg category final here on Saturday.

### MARRIED WOMEN HAPPIER THAN THOSE IN LIVE-IN

**New Delhi:** RSS chief Mohan Bhagwat on Tuesday will release findings of a survey conducted by a Sangh-linked organisation that claims married women are more happy than those in live-in relationships.

### 150 DIED ON YAMUNA E-WAY IN 2019: DATA

**Noida:** The Yamuna Expressway in Uttar Pradesh witnessed over 150 deaths in road accidents this year so far, the maximum ever since it got operational in 2012, according to official data.

### UP FARMERS' MARCH TO DELHI HALTED AT BORDER

**Noida/New Delhi:** Hundreds of farmers from Uttar Pradesh, marching to Kisan Ghat in the national Capital for payment of sugarcane dues, loan waivers and cheap electricity, were stopped at the Delhi-UP border on Saturday while a delegation was allowed to meet officials at the Krishna Bhavan.

# Largest crowd for foreign leader in US awaits Modi

## After 'Howdy Modi', Trump, PM likely to ink trade deal

PTI ■ HOUSTON

Indian-Americans in Houston are all set to welcome Prime Minister Narendra Modi for the mega "Howdy, Modi" event on Sunday, to be attended by 50,000 audience, the largest gathering ever for an elected foreign leader visiting the US, other than the Pope.

The three-hour "Howdy, Modi" event in which President Donald Trump will join Prime Minister Modi is being organised at the sprawling NRG Football Stadium, with an impressive history of shows that starred Beyonce, Metallica, U2.

Indian Ambassador Harsh V Shringla previewed the event at NRG Stadium, where preparations were in full swing with



Prime Minister Narendra Modi enplanes for his visit to the US in New Delhi on Saturday

PTI

over 1,500 volunteers working round the clock to make it a memorable event.

Meanwhile, the US and India are racing to negotiate a limited trade deal that Trump Modi can sign at the UNGA in New York, people familiar with the talks said.

A car rally was organised at the NRG stadium, where more than 200 cars participated, fluttering flags of both India and the US to signify the friendship between the two countries.

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## 'Gully Boy' India's official entry to 92nd Academy

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Zoya Akhtar's "Gully Boy", featuring Ranveer Singh as an aspiring rapper, has been selected as India's official entry in the International Feature Film category at the Oscars, the Film Federation of India (FFI) announced on Saturday.

"India's official entry for Oscars this year is 'Gully Boy'. There were 27 films in the running this year but it was an unanimous decision to select 'Gully Boy', FFI secretary general Supran Sen told PTI.

The movie, which was released across the country on February 14, also features Alia Bhatt, Vijay Raaz, Kalki Koechlin, Siddhant Chaturvedi, and Vijay Varma. Ranveer said it is a proud moment for the entire team.

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## Chandrayaan-2's orbiter doing stellar work: Sivan

### Gaganyaan next priority, says ISRO chairman

SUMEET SHARMA/PTI ■ BHUBANESWAR/CHENNAI

The Chandrayaan-2 orbiter's ensemble of eight scientific instruments is performing very well and is expected to

continue its stellar work for about seven and a half years, ISRO Chairman K Sivan said on Saturday.

As the prospects of re-establishing contact with "Vikram" lander have virtually ended after the conclusion of 14 Earth days, ISRO said it will take up a study to ascertain what exactly happened to it.

Sivan said after Chandrayaan, ISRO's next priority is Gaganyaan mission.

"We have set a target of achieving it by December 2020; and the second unmanned mission is targeted in July 2021. By December 2021, an Indian will first be carried by our own rocket to space," Sivan said.

## Wake up Call

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# In a first, ED attaches 3 chimps, 4 monkeys

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

In a bid to prevent a wildlife smuggler of West Bengal from claiming ownership of three chimpanzees and four marmosets (long-tailed South American monkeys) recovered from him, the Enforcement Directorate (ED) has, for the first time, attached the endangered animals under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA).

The wild animals have been kept in Alipore Zoological Garden in Kolkata. ED sources said smuggler Supradip Guha will be probed under the money laundering case.

The ED said the first-of-its-kind attachment under the PMLA "enabled" zoo authorities to retain the animals as the



smuggler was trying to take them away on forged papers.

An attachment by the ED renders an asset out of bounds for its owner and it can be further confiscated by the agency after the Adjudicating Authority of the PMLA, a quasi-judicial body, approves the attachment within 180 days of seizure.

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# Rambo lives on



**RAMBO: LAST BLOOD**  
**\*ing: Sylvester Stallone, Paz Vega, Sergio Peris-Mencheta, Adriana Barraza, Yvette Monreal, Genie Kim, Joaquín Cosío, Oscar Jaenada**  
**Rated: 8/10**

Sly. 73. Still rippling in enough ways to nullify the effect of wrinkles and eye bags. Seemingly the last of the sizzling and iconic *Rambo* series, *The Last Blood* is expectedly reflective and a journey wrapper for Sly who has dominated worldwide imagination in his 50-plus years on the screen as just two characters: John Rambo and Rocky Balboa, the latter

drawing more eyeballs if at all a comparison is made.

As it is reflective so it is excruciatingly violent too, perhaps to make maximum impact or maybe because it showcases a war weary warrior who knows to strike only with utmost power. So don't flinch when he yanks out a beating heart after squaring up his legendary blade on the villain; don't be surprised if the atrocities on his kin are unimaginable despite the very obvious censor cuts; don't be surprised that the introspection often takes over the action which comes in late into the movie.

Sly is in a self-indulgent but brooding mood here and jobs like pulling out people alive from a tsunami have become routine for him.

There are relationships that get honoured, there are scars that keep getting thrown into the screen through his walking nightmares and there are plenty of one liners that are spoken by his soulful eyes.

Yes Rambo has all along been a silent type of fighter and words do not come easy to him.

Here, so engagingly ending the journey after a young and dishy John Rambo first launched Hollywood's rescue mission with a bandana, a bow and arrow and lots and lots of rippling muscles showcasing the signature vest, an aged John talks more than he has in all the four films put together over a period of more than three decades.

But you forgive the verbal intrusion for his is Sly — Old, introspective, lonely, traumatised and yet the ultimate defender.

**HIMACHAL PRADESH  
IRRIGATION & PH DEPARTMENT**

Sealed item rate tender on form 6 & 8 for the following work is hereby invited on behalf of the Governor of H.P. from the contractors of appropriate class enlisted with H.P. IPH Deptt. So as to reach in the office of the Executive Engineer IPH Division Matiana on or before 10.10.2019 up to 3.00 P.M. The tender will be opened on the same day at 3.30 P.M. in the presence of the contractor or their authorized representatives who may wish to be present. The tender forms can be had from this office up to 9.10.2019 till 4.00 P.M. the date of sale / receipt & opening of tenders shall be considered as next day if holiday happens on above specified date.

Sr. No.	Name of work	Estimated cost	Earnest money	Time limit	Cost of form
1	R/M of LWSS Theog Town in Tehsil Theog, Distt. Shimla HP (SH - Repair of HDA pump 55/11 KSB make 180 HP) Stage -2 <sup>nd</sup>	155484.00	3110.00	1 Month	250/-
2	Stock Storage Fagu Tehsil Th eoq, Distt Shimla HP (SH - CO Retaining wall & Brest wall.)	494775.00	10000.00	3 Months	250/-

**TERMS & CONDITION**

- The contractor / firm should provide registration /renewal of enlistment and PAN No.
- Ernest money in the shape of NSC/save account on any of the Post office in Himachal Pradesh F.D. or Demand Draft duly pledged in the name of Executive Engineer IPH Division Matiana or certificate of exemption of earnest money deposit.
- Tender application without cost of tender form and Earnest Money will be rejected.
- The telegraphic/conditional tender will not be entertained in any case.
- The offer of the tender shall be kept open for 20 days.
- The contractor must quote their rate both in words as well in figures.
- The undersigned reserves the right to accept any reject any or all the tender s without assigning any reason thereof.

**Executive Engineer,  
IPH Division Matiana.**  
RO NO. 2180/19-20 Dt. 21-09-2019

**HIMACHAL PRADESH  
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT**

**e-Procurement Notice  
INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB)**

1. The Executive Engineer , Shimla Division NO-III, HPPWD , Shimla-3 on behalf of Governor of H.P invites the online bids on item rate , in electronic tendering system, in 2 Cover System for the under mentioned work from eligible principal Manufacturers and approved contractors/firms registered with HPPWD. Department.

Sr. No.	Name of Work	Estimated Cost	EMD	Cost of Tender	Eligible class of Contractor
1.	<b>Furnishing of Advocate General office building near HP High Court Shimla(SH:- P/P furniture articles).</b>	Rs. 72,26,400/-	Rs. 1,05,000/-	2000/-	Principal manufacturers/ Class-A Contractor firm with HPPWD.

2. **Availability of Bid Document and mode of submission:** The Bid document is available online and bid should be submitted in online mode on website <https://hptenders.gov.in>. Bidder would be required to register in the web-site which is free of cost. For submission of bids, the bidder is required to have Digital Signature Certificate (DSC) from one of the authorized Certifying Authorities (CA). "Aspiring bidders who have not obtained the user ID and password for participating in e-tendering in HPPWD may obtain the same from the website: <https://hptenders.gov.in>. Digital signature is mandatory to participate in the e-tendering. Bidders already possessing the digital signature issued from authorized CAs can use the same in this tender.

3. **Key Dates:**

1.	Date of Online Publication	21-10-2019	17.00 HRS
2.	Document Download Start and End Date	21-10-2019 to 31-10-2019	17.00 HRS up to 17.00 HRS
3.	Bid Submission Start and End Date	21-10-2019 to 31-10-2019	17.00 HRS up to 17.00 HRS
4.	Physical Submission of EMD and Cost of Tender Document	31-10-2019	upto 11.00 HRS
5.	Date of Technical Bid opening, Evaluation of Technical Bid followed by Opening of Financial Bid.	31-10-2019	11.00 HRS

4. **TENDER DETAILS:**  
The Tender Documents shall be uploaded online in 2 Cover:  
i). Cover 1: shall contain scanned copies of all "Technical Documents/ Eligibility Information".  
ii). Cover 2: shall contain "BOQ/Financial Bid", where contractor will quote his offer for each item.  
5. **SUBMISSION OF ORIGINAL DOCUMENTS:** The bidders are required to submit (a) original demand draft towards the cost of bid document and (b) FDR in original towards bid security/Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) and other Technical Documents in O/O Executive Engineer, Shimla Division NO-III, HPPWD Shimla-3, H.P. as specified in Key Dates Sr. No. 4 on Tender Opening Date, failing which the bids will be declared non-responsive.  
6. **BID OPENING DETAILS:** The bids shall be opened on 31-10-2019 at 11.00 HRS in the office of Executive Engineer, Shimla Division No. III HPPWD Shimla-3 H.P. by the authorised officer. In their interest the tenderer are advised to be present along with original documents at the time of opening of tenders. If the office happens to be closed on the date of opening of the bids as specified, the bids will be opened on the next working day at the same time and venue.  
7. The bids for the work shall remain valid for acceptance for a period not less than 120 days after the deadline date for bid submission.  
8. Other details can be seen in the bidding documents. The officer inviting tender shall not be held liable for any delays due to system failure beyond its control. Even though the system will attempt to notify the bidders of any bid updates, the Employer shall not be liable for any information not received by the bidder. It is the bidders' responsibility to verify the website for the latest information related to the tender.

**Executive Engineer,  
Shimla Division NO-III,  
HPPWD Shimla-3.**  
**On behalf of Governor of Himachal Pradesh)**  
RO NO. 2175/19-20 Dt. 21-09-2019

**HIMACHAL PRADESH  
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT**

**INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB)**

The Executive Engineer HPPWD Division Hamirpur Distt. Hamirpur H.P on behalf of Governor of H.P invites the item rate bids, in electronic tendering system from the eligible class for the works as detailed in the table.

Sr. No.	Name of Work	Estimated Cost (Rs.)	Starting Date for downloading Bid	EMD (Rs.)	Deadline for Submissio n of Bid
1.	C/O Playground in Govt. Primary School at KhaggaI tehal & Distt. Hamirpur. (SH:- Site development for playground in Km. 0/0 to 0/050) (Deposit work)	6,08,153/-	09.10.2019	12,500/-	18.10.2019
2.	C/O Type-IV Qr. 0/1 No. residential accommodation of Distt. Treasury Officer Hamirpur. (SH - CO building portion V.S. & S.I., Rain water harvesting tank, Septic tank with soak pit and site devel- opment including boundary wall)	35,71,095/-	09.10.2019	61,100/-	18.10.2019
3.	Restoration of rain damages occurred due to laying of OFC from SDM shokh Hamirpur to Hira Nagar via Dang Quali Km. 0/0 to 0/620. (SH - CO Foot-Path, V-Shape drain and U-Shape drain)	11,15,558/-	09.10.2019	22,400/-	18.10.2019
4.	C/O Link road to village Harizan Bari Bari Km. 0/0 to 2/270 (SH:- - Prov. & Laying WMM 25mm 110k bituminous concrete including V -Shape drain in Km. 0/750)	9,50,282/-	09.10.2019	19100/-	18.10.2019
5.	AMP on link road to vill. Baral Km. 0/0 to 0/585. (SH:- - Providing and laying interlockin Paver block from RD. 0/315 to 0/485)	5,31,560/-	09.10.2019	10700/-	18.10.2019
6.	Repair and maintenance of Cold Chain Store in Chief Medical Store in Chief Medical off. at Hamirpur.	6,73,054/-	09.10.2019	13,500/-	18.10.2019
7.	S/R to Dental Section and A.T.R. center in Dr. Radha Kishan Govt. Medical college at Hamirpur (SH:- - Prov. & Fixing roof with prepanated sheet over sheet truss etc.)	9,16,978/-	09.10.2019	1,37,500/-	18.10.2019
8.	C/O link road from Saster Bahi to Ghanotia Km. 0/0 to 2/790. (SH:- - C/O 5/7 mtr. Wide. Formation Cutting, Drainage, MT, V -Shape drain and Parapets Km. 0/0 to 2/790).	2,22,47,000/-	09.10.2019	28000/-	18.10.2019

The bidders are advised to note other details of tenders from the department website [www.hptenders.gov.in](http://www.hptenders.gov.in)

**Executive Engineer,  
Hamirpur Division,  
HPPWD, Hamirpur. Pin Code 177001**  
Telephone No. 01972-222510  
e-mail: ee-ham-hp@nic.in  
**On behalf of Governor of Himachal Pradesh**  
**HIM SUCHANA AVAM JAN SAMPARK**  
RO NO. 2174/19-20 Dt. 21-09-2019

**Himachal Pradesh  
Public Works Department**

**"DISPOSAL NOTICE"**

Sealed tenders for the disposal of unserviceable Truck No. HPM-883 and unserviceable dismantled spare parts of various vehicles/ machines is hereby invited by the Executive Engineer, Mechanical Division, HPPWD, Bilaspur on behalf of the Governor of Himachal Pradesh. The date of submission of tender, location of material and opening date is indicated below. Tenders shall be opened at PWD workshop Mechanical Sub-Division Parchhu. The earnest money amounting to Rs. 5000/- for each item to be enclosed with tender form in the shape of National Saving Certificate / Time Deposit Account/ FDR.

Sr. No.	Description	Book value / Weight	Location of Material	Owner of material	Date/ Time of Submission of tender	Date / Time of Opening of Tender
1.	Unserviceable Truck No. HPM-883, Tata 1210S	185000/-	Mech. Sub-Division, HPPWD, Parchhu.	Executive Eng ineer, Mechanical Division, HPPWD, Bilaspur.	21/10/2019 10:30 AM	21/10/2019 11:00 AM
2.	Un-serviceable spare parts i.e. Dismantled spare parts of various vehicles/ machines.	1218050/- 4749.32 Kg.	-do-	-do-	-do-	-do-

The above mentioned material/vehicle can be physically inspected on any working day at above mentioned location. The tender along with terms and conditions can be had from the office of Assistant Engineer, Mechanical Sub-Division, HPPWD, Parchhu up to 19/10/2019 during working hours at the cost of Rs. 350/- each. In case the highest bid is below than the reserve price then the material will be disposed of by public auction on the same day at 2.00 PM.

**Terms & Conditions:**

- Highest bidder will have to deposit 25% of above accepted bid on spot and balance payment shall be made within a period of Fifteen days from the date of acceptance letter.
- In case the highest bidder failed to deposit whole amount within prescribed period, the 25% of accepted bid will be automatically stand forfeited to the Govt. Account and the items will be again put to tender.
- Highest bidder will have to lift the material within 15 days after making the full payment failing which ground charges @ Rs. 100/- per day will be charged.
- The earnest money of successful bidder shall be adjusted in the accepted amount and earnest money of other bidders shall be refunded after opening of the bid.
- The unserviceable vehicle/dismantled spare parts are offered for disposal on "AS AND WHERE BASIS". The packing and transportation shall be the responsibility of the bidder.
- The undersigned reserve the right to accept or reject the bid or keep highest bid pending opened for negotiation without assigning any reasons.
- GST if any to be paid by the successful bidder.
- Copy of PAN and GST should be attached with tender form.

**Executive Engineer,  
Mechanical Division,  
HPPWD, Bilaspur.**  
RO NO. 2176/19-20 Dt. 21-09-2019

**Corporation Bank**

**E-AUCTION SALE NOTICE**  
(A Premier Public Sector Bank)  
Zonal Office : Recovery Department, Zonal Office Chandigarh, Sector 5, Panchkula, Haryana. Ph: 0172-2587286

**E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of hypothecated Assets**  
**Date & Time of E-Auction: 11.10.2019 from 11:45 AM to 01:15 PM**

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower(s) and Guarantor (s) that the below described hypothecated vehicle/s will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is" and "Whatever there is" on the date mentioned below for recovery of dues as mentioned hereunder to Corporation Bank from the below mentioned Borrower(s) & Guarantor(s). The Reserve Price and the Earnest Money Deposit are also mentioned hereunder:

Sr. No	Name of the Branch/Name of the Borrower & Guarantor/s	Vehicle Details	Amount due	Reserve Price
1.	ISCO 137-138, MM, Shri. Gurpreet Singh Sandhu Sector 8 C, Chandigarh (Borrower) H. No. 79, Block H, Shivalki Vihar, Naya Gaon, Distt. S.A.S Nagar, Mohali, Punjab	Vehicle No. 1: Make: Ford Fiesta Classic, Year of Manufacture- 2015, CC - 1400, Registration No. PB -01A 7298, Chassis No.- MAJBXXMRTBFK10304 Engine No. FK10304	Rs. 12,11,582/- + interest at the applicable rate & other charges/ costs thereon.	Rs. 97,200/- EMD: Rs. 9720/-

**VEHICLE NO. 2:** Make: Ford Fiesta Classic, Year of Manufacture- 2015, CC - 1400, Registration No. PB -01A 7291, Chassis No.- MAJBXXMRTBCD04990, Engine No. CD04990  
**Note: Please take a Prior appointment [Tel No. 0172-2541096 / 2721096] before inspection of the vehicle**  
Earnest money to be deposited in the account of Corporation Bank, Transient Account, Sector 8, Chandigarh, by way of Demand Draft / NEFT / RTGS or through Internet payment to Account no. 510101003635758 and IFSC Code- CORP0001515

2.	SCF-22, New Motor Market, Manimajra, Chandigarh-160101	Mr. Mohan Singh S/o Mr. Ajit Singh R/o- Vill-Chhoti Karor, Opp Gurudwara, Tehsil-Kharar, Distt.-SAS Nagar Mohali (Punjab) <b>Guarantor:</b> Mr. Baljinder Singh S/o Pritam Singh R/o- H.No-15-C, All India Radio Colony, Near Hockey Stadium, Sector-42A, Chandigarh	Vehicle No. 1 : Make: Ford Classic (Fiesta) 1.4 (i) Car, Year Of Manufacture- 2012, Registration No- CH-41(T)2815 (Temporary Number) Color- D.White, Fuel- Diesel, Seating Capacity- 5 Seater	Rs.10,93,353/- + interest at the applicable rate & other charges/ costs thereon as on 08.09.2019	Rs.85,000/- EMD: Rs. 8500/-
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Engine No- MAJBXXMRTBCS8330, Chassis No- CS48330. The car was purchased by Mr. Mohan Singh R/o- H.No-B/6, Akom Farm, Nayagaon, District- Mohali (Punjab) Hypothecated to Corporation Bank  
**Note : Get a Prior appointment [Tel No. 0172-2738011 / 2738112] before inspection of the vehicle**  
Earnest money to be deposited in the account of Corporation Bank, Transient Account, Manimajra, Chandigarh, by way of Demand Draft / NEFT / RTGS or through Internet payment to Account no. 510101003509906 and IFSC Code- CORP0001477

3.	SCO-58, Sector-11, Panchkula 134 109 Haryana	Mrs. Modita Ahuja ( Borrower) Flat No-806, GHS-83, Sector-20 Panchkula Haryana-134109	Vehicle No. 1 : Make: Mahindra Renault Pulse, Registration No.	Rs. 4,25,292/- + interest at the applicable rate & other charges/ costs thereon as on 19.09.2019	Rs. 1,01,700/- EMD: Rs.10,170
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HR 03 P3244, Chassis No. MEEAHBA40C000282 Engine No. D019703  
**Note : Get a Prior appointment [Tel No. 0172-2570978 / 2583012/ Mr. A Rajesh 7710047246 ] before inspection of the vehicle**  
Earnest money to be deposited in the account of Corporation Bank, Transient Account, Sector 11, Panchkula, by way of Demand Draft / NEFT / RTGS or through Internet payment to Account no. 510101005154651 and IFSC Code- CORP0000446

4.	[Showroom No. 2, Ground Floor, Sector-1A, NH-22, Kalka Shimla Road, Parwanoo, HP	Jatinder Sharma (Borrower) H.No.115, Village Naggal Bhagga, Kalka-Haryana-133302 Kuldeep Dogra (Guarantor)	Vehicle No. 1: Make: Tata Pick up Regd. No. HP64-5327, Chassis No. MAT455212D8C07144 Engine No. 497SPS67CWY613598	Rs. 4,87,360/- + interest at the applicable rate & other charges/ costs thereon as on 19.09.2019	Rs. 1.63 lakhs EMD: Rs.16300/-
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**Note : Get a Prior appointment [Tel No. 01792-232421] before inspection of the vehicle**  
Earnest money to be deposited in the account of Corporation Bank, Transient Account, Parwanoo, by way of Demand Draft / NEFT / RTGS or through Internet payment to Account no. 510101003635758 and IFSC Code- CORP0001515

**Terms & Condition:**

- The bidder who are interested in participating in the auction need to submit their EMD (10% of reserve price) & KYC documents before 5:00 pm on 10.10.2019 at Corporation Bank Branches.
- The bidder whose bid is to be found highest at close shall be declared as successful bidder which shall be subject to approval by the authorized officer of the Corporation Bank.
- The successful bidder shall deposit full amount of the sale price within 7 days. In the event of failure of the successful bidder to tender full amount of the sale price within 7 days than there, the EMD deposited by him shall be forfeited to the secured creditors and bid accepted shall stand cancelled automatically. In default of the payment, vehicle shall be resold and defaulting purchaser shall not have any claim whatsoever. Any statutory & other dues payable and due on the vehicle shall be borne by purchaser (Excluding Godown Charges). The purchaser shall bear all the expenses in respect of registration charges of ownership expenses.
- The interested bidder may inspect the vehicle from 21.09.2019 to 10.10.2019 by contacting the secured creditor, Corporation Bank-Chandigarh/Panchkula/Parwanoo.
- The E-auction will be conducted through portal [www.bankauctions.in](http://www.bankauctions.in) on 11.10.2019 from 11.45 AM to 1.15 PM with unlimited extension of 10 Min. The intending bidder is required to register their name at [www.bankauctions.in](http://www.bankauctions.in) M/s 4CLOSURE Help Line No. 040-23836405, +91-8142000067/+91-8142000052/63. Help line e-mail ID: [info@bankauctions.in](mailto:info@bankauctions.in) and get user ID and password free of cost and get training / on-line training on E-Auction from M/s 4CLOSURE Help Line No. 040-23836405, +91-8142000067/+91-8142000052/63. Help line e-mail ID: [info@bankauctions.in](mailto:info@bankauctions.in). Mr. Bishnu Deo Prasad- +91-9417029775/ Mr. Vikas Kumar- +91-8142000809

**Date: 21-09-2019 Place: Chandigarh/Panchkula/Parwanoo Secured Creditors**

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# It will be 'national' issues of BJP Vs 'local' issues of Cong, other parties

**AMITABH SHUKLA ■**  
CHANDIGARH

It will be a battle between national issues versus local issues in Haryana. Ruling BJP in the state will go to the October 21 polls with the slogan of "delivery" of long pending issues by the Narendra Modi government at the Centre while for Congress and other regional parties in the fray, it will be local issues with which they will try to woo the electorate.

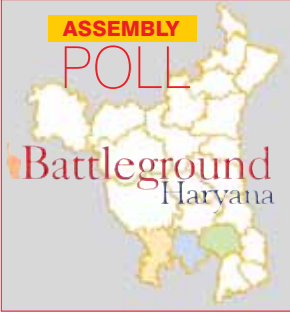
BJP has given a slogan "Mission 75 plus" in the state even as the Opposition dubs it as a mere slogan devoid of ground realities. They also ridicule the BJP for milking national issues to the hilt saying the party has performed miserably in the state and has nothing to bank on except issues like abrogation of Article 370 in Jammu and Kashmir, NRC in Assam and triple talaq.

The five years of Manohar Lal Khattar government in the state has been uneventful despite the government boasting of "unprecedented development in every nook and corner" of the state without any regional discrimination. As Haryana has been a well governed state for a while, political observers find little merit in BJP's argument of sustained

development. "There was precious little to do in Haryana as the state had already touched all the developmental parameters when BJP came to power," said a senior Haryana watcher. He added that it was only "cosmetic changes" with a road here and a railway line there type of approach of the government.

Of course, educated elected panchayats became a reality with the Khattar government setting educational standards for the election of village panchayats. Then, any big ticket corruption has been ruled out in the five years as the RSS pracharak Khattar assumed office due to the blessings of Modi and he did not have any family or high command baggage to cater to.

As only a month is left for the October 21 battle, it is clear that the main battle this time round will be between the BJP and Congress. While the main opposition of 2014, INLD has practically withered away, its place has been taken by the Jannayak Janata Party (JJP) to some extent. However, being an assembly elections where the interplay of caste, community and region would be much more than Lok Sabha polls, JJP and INLD candidates could be the spoilers in several constituencies. However, ask any



Haryana expert and they will tell you that the fight is basically for the third position and the JJP seems to be inching its way to achieve it.

Of course parties like BSP, AAP and Swaraj India party will be in the fray but at present it seems to be more of a statistical presence rather than an electoral one as they are devoid of grassroots level support.

Not happy with the BJP raising issues like Article 370, Triple Talaq, NRC, etc, the opposition is targeting the party on record Unemployment, economic crisis in the state as well as the country, farmer distress, dissatisfied government employees and also under-performance in all spheres of governance.

In its publicity blitzkrieg and the campaign before the model code of conduct came into force, the ruling party consistently focused on transparency in governance through e-governance initiatives, zero tolerance for corruption, giving jobs on merit, etc.

BJP is on a front foot and in upbeat mood as its electoral and caste engineering arithmetic has reaped big dividends for the party as the results of

2019 general election indicated. The party won all the 10 Lok Sabha seats in the state, something which was unthinkable not long ago. Despite having little support from the dominant Jat community, BJP galvanized all non-Jat communities like never before and won by a record margin—scoring what is called in gymnasitic parlance as a "perfect ten".

Given the strong presence of BJP nationally and its spread at the grassroots level in the state, political experts say that the Jat community had a rethink and a section is in a mood to support the party this time round provided it gets adequate representation in the ticket distribution exercise. "Initially, it was difficult for the Jat community to reconcile

with the fact that a non-Jat (Khattar) would be the chief minister. But that was the trump card of BJP. Having the entire non-Jat castes on its side, BJP is inching towards getting the support of the dominant Jat community as well and that does not augur well for the Opposition," said a seasoned Haryana expert.

Though Congress has pulled up its socks after a divided house all these months and years since it lost power in October 2014, it is yet to find a winning formula. After Sonia Gandhi became the Working President of the party, she brought in the duo of Selja as state party chief and Bhupinder Singh Hooda as Leader of the CLP and practically the chief ministerial face of the party. The move has brought in smiles on the faces of old Congress workers as they know that Hooda's networking skills will help rope in sulking workers and groups.

Intense factional rivalry within the Congress has come to an end for now. Though sacked Haryana Congress chief Ashok Tanwar is sulking, he is not in any position to harm the interests of party. Appointment of Kiran Choudhary as head of election manifesto committee too would help the cause of the Congress as the woman leader

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from the family of Chaudhary Bansi Lal, is expected to participate wholeheartedly in the campaign now.

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soned Haryana expert

Congress chief ministerial aspirant Bhupinder Singh Hooda does not refer to Modi or central government at all in his speeches and supports BJP on Article 370 but also says local issues are extremely important. He keeps on hammering the point that the Khattar government has failed to deliver.

Since the last elections, the biggest shock has been for the main opposition INLD which has suffered a series of setbacks after its split because of a feud in the Chautala family. Most of INLD's sitting MLAs and prominent leaders have switched over to the BJP and some to the Congress ahead of polls. Party patriarch Om Prakash Chautala is in jail and so is his son Ajay Chautala, triggering a series of allegations and counter allegations within

the family.

For BJP keeping all the new givers in good humour and giving them tickets would be a herculean task. There have been so many lateral entries in the BJP that it would find it difficult to accommodate them in its ticket distribution exercise. It is a classic case of problem of plenty and is bound to hurt it if some of them join other parties at the last moment if denied party tickets.

In the 2014 elections, BJP won 47 seats and later won the by-poll of Jind, taking its tally to 48. INLD had won 19 seats though several of them later switched over to BJP. Congress managed to win 17. BSP one, independents five and SAD one in the last assembly. This time, is is "Mission 75+" of BJP versus "tried and tested" formula of Congress.

## BJP will cross 75-mark in Assembly polls: Khattar

**PNS ■** CHANDIGARH

Haryana Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar on Saturday exuded confidence and said the BJP will win over 75 of the total 90 seats in the next month's assembly polls.

Assembly elections in Haryana will be held on October 21 and the counting of votes in the state will be taken up on October 24, according to the Election Commission.

Addressing a news conference here, Khattar said, "BJP is strong on all the 90 assembly seats in the state. Opposition political parties are divided and a stampede is taking place in these parties. We will cross the 75 plus seats in the state assembly, I am confident about it."

The BJP's state unit has completed all preparations for the assembly polls, he said, adding that tickets will be allocated to those who follow the party's ideology and have a "clean image".

On the occasion, Congress leader Dura Ram and Indian National Lok Dal (INLD) stalwart Ram Pal Majra joined the BJP. Also present during the joining of these leaders was



state BJP chief Subash Barala. Both Ram and Majra had remained MLAs of their parties when these were in power.

Khattar and Barala welcomed the leaders to the party fold and claimed that it will further strengthen the BJP in the state.

"Generally during the polls, the ruling party starts weakening, but at present, the BJP is further strengthening with joining of leaders of other political parties," he said.

The BJP will finalise allocation of tickets before the process of nomination begins for polls in Haryana, Khattar said, adding that the next government will be formed in the state before Diwali.

The priority of the "next BJP government" in the state will be security, health and education sector, he said.

The chief minister claimed

that 4,300 villages in the state are getting round-the-clock power supply. In the next six months, all the 6,600 villages will get 24-hour power supply, he added.

He said the government would work for the upliftment of those families whose annual income is less than Rs 1.8 lakh.

On the contentious issue of Sutlej Yamuna Link (SYL) canal, he said Union Home Minister Amit Shah in the National Regional Council meet here on Friday told the participating states that he would soon convene a meeting of chief ministers of Haryana, Punjab, Rajasthan and Delhi to resolve the matter of water sharing.

He said that BJP's relation with the Shiromani Akali Dal (SAD) is cordial in Haryana. On the fixing of number of seats for the SAD, he said the central leadership will take a call on the matter.

Khattar said the BJP has not committed tickets to those who joined the party by leaving other political outfits.

He reiterated that Haryana will implement the National Register of Citizens (NRC) as it is "important in the national interest.

## Cong to corner BJP on people centric issues: Selja

**PNS ■** CHANDIGARH

Soon after the Election Commission of India declared Haryana polls date, state Congress President Selja said the party will corner the Manohar Lal Khattar government on economic slowdown, unemployment and betrayal of farmers and the law and order situation.

She said retrenchment in the auto sector and closing of units have brought people close to the Congress, adding that more people were joining the Congress now than those who quit five years ago. Slamming the BJP government, she said, "Farmers and small businessman are in crisis in the state. Farmers are not getting remunerative prices for their produce. The rate of unemployment has risen in the last five years."

She said BJP promised to double the minimum support price for crops, but didn't even purchase most of the farm produce this year. Selja said when the government announced 4,000-5,000 vacancies for the post of clerks, around 15 lakh youth applied, showing that unemployment had gone up.

On law and order, she said

under the Khattar regime five big riots had taken place and even drug peddling has increased in the districts bordering Punjab, affecting law and order in the state.

On the BJP making abrogation of Article 370 a poll plank, she said, "We have seen how the Chief Minister (Khattar) had said that we will bring girls from Kashmir to marry our boys. This was such a regressive mindset", she added.

Khattar stirred a controversy last month when a video of his speech went viral on social media in which he was heard saying, "Some people are now saying as Kashmir is open, brides will be brought from there". Khattar was expressing concern over the low sex ratio in Haryana at an event in Fatehabad when he made the remark in an apparent reference to scrapping of the special status for Jammu and Kashmir.

The State Congress party chief said that the party will give tickets to youth, women and experienced people. The candidates will be decided soon, she said this while addressing a workers' conference at Ramliha Ground in Mahendragarh on Saturday.

## Dushyant's show of strength in Rohtak today

**PNS ■** CHANDIGARH

Almost a year after the split in the Chautala family and the Indian National Lok Dal (INLD), the party and its breakaway outfit Jannayak Janta Party (JJP) will organise its 'Jan Samman Divas' rally to mark the birth anniversary of their ideologue late Devi Lal in Rohtak on Sunday.

As all efforts by Akali patriarch and former Punjab chief minister Parkash Singh Badal and khap panchayat leaders have failed to re-unite the Chautala clan, the two parties will go ahead with their separate events. The INLD will organise a 'Samman Divas' rally at Kaithal on September 25.

The JJP and Former Haryana MP Dushyant Chautala would sound a poll bugle of assembly elections from Rohtak, the home turf of Bhupinder Singh Hooda.

Rohtak is considered a stronghold of Hooda but Congress had lost the 2019 Lok Sabha elections from here. Party leader said that the JJP will hold a historic public rally in the same ground where Prime Minister N a r e n d r a



Modi and Former CM Bhupinder Singh Hooda had held the rallies.

JJP has been holding this public rally to commemorate the 106th birth anniversary of former Deputy Prime Minister Chaudhary Devi Lal. JJP national principal general secretary Dr KC Bangar said that the JJP's rally would be massive. He said people are frustrated from BJP and Congress and JJP rally will expose the both Modi and Hooda.

He said that JJP has already released the first list of candidates and the second list will be announced on September 23.

### PUNJAB BY-POLLS

## Capt says Cong will win all four seats

**PNS ■** CHANDIGARH

The Election commission of India on Saturday announced schedule for bypolls in four Assembly constituencies in Punjab—Phagwara, Mukerian, Dakha and Jalalabad.

Punjab Chief Electoral Officer S. Krana Raju said that notification will be issued on September 23 and nomination process would commence on same day. The polling for the bypolls is scheduled on October 21 and the counting of the ballots will be held on October 24.

He said with the announcement of bye election for Phagwara, Mukerian, Dakha and Jalalabad Assembly Constituencies with immediate effect. The CEO informed the Deputy commissioners of Districts concerned regarding model code of conduct. Meanwhile, Punjab Chief Minister Capt Amarinder Singh said the Congress would easily win bypolls to all the four Assembly seats in the state.

Talking informally with mediapersons after inaugurating a two-day Pashupaalan Mela in Ludhiana, Amarinder Singh said the party was fully geared to contest the upcoming by-elections on the back of the government's progressive and welfare programmes and schemes.

## Punjab CM asks farmers not to resort to stubble burning as a mark of respect for the first Sikh Guru



**PNS ■** LUDHIANA

Punjab Chief Minister Capt Amarinder Singh on Saturday appealed to the farmers in his state not to resort to paddy stubble burning, as a mark of respect for the historic 550th Prakash Parb of the first Sikh Guru.

The Happy Seeding machines being distributed by his government would not only help in stubble management, but also ensure increased productivity for the farmers, he told reporters here.

He was inaugurating a two-day Pashupaalan Mela at Guru Angad Dev Veterinary and Animal Sciences University. Singh said paddy stubble burning, besides damaging the texture of soil and human health, had emerged as a major environmental threat.

He called upon farmers to take full advantage of the straw management machinery, which was being provided at 50-80

per cent subsidy. Singh said the state had provided 28,600 implements worth Rs 269.38 crore to farmers during 2018-19 and 28,000 implements worth Rs 273.80 crore would be provided to them for paddy straw management in this fiscal.

He also announced that the state would develop a sugarcane research and training institute at Gurdaspur, besides establishing an agricultural market innovation research and intelligence centre in Mohali. The centre would provide necessary support and assistance to farmers in marketing of their diversified crops, said the Chief Minister.

Addressing farmers gathered here, Capt Amarinder emphasised the need to switch to crop diversification to conserve the depleting ground water.

He announced that the state had already developed a diversification plan to shift

nearly 10 lakh hectares from rice to alternate, less water intensive crops.

Listing the initiatives for crop diversification, he said a state-of-the-art Indian Institute of Maize Research was being set up at Ladhawal, while a Postgraduate Institute of Horticulture Research and Education was coming up in Amritsar.

With the concerted efforts of the state government to sensitise farmers about alternate crops, the area under maize, basmati and cotton cultivation had registered a considerable increase during the current season, he said.

Water saving technologies, such as drip irrigation, were being popularised through 80-90 per cent subsidy in the state, besides introduction of the direct benefit transfer for electricity scheme to directly compensate farmers who save electricity and thereby ground-water, he added.

## All arrangements in place: Haryana CEO

**PNS ■** CHANDIGARH

All necessary arrangements for the polls in Haryana has been made for free, fair and transparent elections, Chief Electoral Officer, Haryana Anurag Agarwal said on Saturday.

Addressing a news conference here, Agarwal said that with the announcement of election programme by Election Commission of India (ECI), Model Code of Conduct has come into effect.

According to the schedule, notification would be issued on September 27 and the last date for filling nominations would be October 4, scrutiny of nomination papers would be done on October 5 and the candidates could withdraw their nominations by October 7.

Agarwal said the Election Commission, all Deputy Commissioners and Returning Officers are geared up for conducting the elections in completely transparency and ethical manner.

He said after the second revision of electoral list on August 27, this year, the final voter list has been published as per which 1.83 crore voters including 1.07 lakh service voters would exercise their right to franchise. He said that as the process for updating the electoral roll in progress, the number of voters is expected to increase.

The CEO said 19,442 voting centres have been established in the State including 5,511 in urban areas and 13,931 in rural areas. There are 10,288 polling locations, adding that polling stations where the number of voters are more than 1500, request have been made



to the ECI for converting these polling stations into Auxiliary polling stations. The number of such polling stations in the State is 136. He said that there are 26,329 control units and 40,615 ballot units. Besides, an arrangement of 27,996 Voter Verifiable Paper Audit Trail (VVPAT) machines has been made.

On the arrangement made in the State for conduct of the elections, he said that on the direction of ECI, Returning Officers (ROs) and Assistant Returning Officers (AROs) have been appointed in all 90 assembly segments. In all, 90 ROs and 180 AROs have been appointed in the State.

He said that apart from this adequate manpower has been made available and required number of polling parties and micro observers has been appointed.

"The Electronic Voting Machines (EVMs) and VVPAT have been installed in the districts as per the requirement and also first level checking have been conducted alongwith the representatives of political parties. Also, adequate quantity of stationary has been made

official vehicles during elections, he said no Ministers, MLA or their representative could make use of official vehicle except for going to official work from his residence to office. Intermixing of official work into political work would not be allowed, he asserted.

The CEO said the Election Commission has activated the c-VIGIL app and anyone could upload the photographs regarding the violation of MCC on this app.

The Deputy Commissioner or CEO would verify the complaint and necessary action would be taken as per the law within 100 minutes. The complaint would be tracked and make sure that each complaint received on this portal is addressed in a prescribed time frame. Each complainant would be provided with a ticked number through which he could see the status of his complaint on his device or computer.

Agarwal said that 1950 voter helpline service is functional round the clock.

He said that in case any political party wants to release an advertisement through electronic media, he has to take prior approval through the MCMC.

The Chief Electoral Officer said 24 state level nodal officers have been appointed for the monitoring of election expenditure of the candidates. He said that the Income Tax Department has started a toll free number 1800-180-4815 and if anyone found the movement of cash, he could inform the same on this number. Immediate action would be taken on his complaint, he added.

Regarding the misuse of



# BJP-Sena in Maha aims to trounce Cong-NCP

TN RAGHUNATHA ■ MUMBAI

Fresh from its spectacular performance in the recent Lok Sabha polls, a resurgent ruling BJP-Shiv Sena alliance goes to the Maharashtra Assembly polls scheduled for October 21, 2019, with a distinct advantage, as it takes on a weakened, weary and somewhat dispirited Opposition Congress-NCP alliance.

Ahead of the first crucial electoral battle being after the Lok Sabha polls in which it walked away with staggering 42 out of the 48 seats in Maharashtra, the BJP-Shiv Sena combine has already outsmarted the Opposition Congress-NCP alliance psychologically by poaching nearly 30 of its leaders and functionaries, including 17 sitting MLAs, and depleting its cadres markedly in the run-up months to the polls.

The two saffron allies — which unlike the Opposition Congress and NCP that have already wrapped up the seat pact between them — may be struggling to arrive at an understanding over the sharing of seats between them. But, the BJP and Shiv Sena are a formidable lot both on paper and on ground — in terms of both resources and reach.

If the percentages of votes polled in the 2019 Lok Sabha polls by the two political formations are any indication, the BJP and Shiv Sena — which decimated the Opposition — are miles ahead of the Congress and NCP. Together, the BJP (27.59 per cent) and Shiv Sena (23.29 per cent) polled 50.88 per cent of total votes, as against the total 31.79 per cent of votes polled by the Congress (16.27 per cent) and NCP (15.52 per cent).

The Congress and NCP are contesting 125 seats each after leaving the remaining 32 seats

to their allies. The ruling BJP and Shiv Sena are expected to ink their seat-sharing deal for the polls in the next two days.

In the 2014 polls which the saffron alliance partners had contested on their respective strengths, the BJP had won an all-time high of 122 seats as against 260 out of the total 288 seats it had contested. The Shiv Sena had walked away with 63 seats out of 282 seats it had contested. On the other hand, the Congress bagged 42 seats out of 287 seats it had contested, while the NCP emerged fourth by winning 41 out of 278 it had contested.

The Prakash Ambedkar-led Vanchit Bahujan Aghadi, which suffered a setback last week after the exit of the Asaduddin Owaisi-led AIMIM, is contesting the 2019 Assembly polls as a third front.

The Raj Thackeray-led MNS, which had not contested the Lok Sabha polls but supported the Opposition parties, is yet to take a final call whether or not to contest the Assembly polls. The Asaduddin Owaisi-led AIMIM, Samajwadi Party and BSP will contest the polls in some pockets of their influence.

On his part, chief minister Devendra Fadnis — who is leading the ruling BJP-Shiv Sena alliance into the Assembly polls — is sitting pretty after having criss-crossed the state as part of his 4000 km-long campaign tour 'Mahajanadesh Yatra'. Youth Shiv Sena leader Aditya Thackeray, who is tipped to be deputy chief minister in the event of the saffron alliance returning to power in the State, has toured several parts of the state.

On the Opposition side, NCP founder-president Sharad Pawar is currently touring western Maharashtra and Marathwada. The State

**Congress and NCP are contesting 125 seats each after leaving the remaining 32 seats to their allies. The ruling BJP and Shiv Sena are expected to ink their seat-sharing deal for the polls in the next two days**

Congress leaders have been quietly touring the state, but not in as comprehensive manner as Fadnis has done.

Upebat is it after it indulged in massive poaching from the Opposition ranks in recent months, the BJP will in likelihood whip up patriotic fervour in by giving national integration spin to the Centre's recent decision to abrogate Article 370 in Jammu and Kashmir, inking of which has already been given both by BJP national president Amit Shah and Prime Minister during their recent public meetings in Maharashtra.

Similarly, the BJP — which thinks that it will encash on the "pro-incumbency" mood prevailing in the State — will go to town with its planks like making Maharashtra a drought-free state by 2024, connecting rivers in coastal Konkan region with those in western Maharashtra, creating water grid in Marathwada region to address the drinking water problems, initiatives like loan waiver and crop insurances taken by the state government to address farmers' distress and the development push it has given in urban areas, including Mumbai, Nagpur, Thane and Pune, through various infra projects including the Metro and expressways.

## BJP, TRS slug it out to wrest Huzurnagar seat from Cong

PV KONDAL RAO ■ HUZURNAGAR

October 21 is likely to become a turning point in the history of Telangana politics with the Election Commission announcing dates for the bypoll in the constituency.

Though, the ruling TRS is trying to clinch the seat from the Congress and spring a surprise, the national ruling party, BJP is leaving no stone unturned to grab the seat, the bastion of grand old party. The TRS has already announced Saidi Reddy as the candidate for the seat, while a war of words between the senior leaders of Congress is reflect-

ing that party's mood in the wake of by-elections.

During December 2018 general elections, the PCC chief N Uttam Kumar Reddy has retained the seat by defeating TRS' Saidi Reddy. But subsequently, the PCC chief contested the Lok Sabha election as the nominee of Congress from Nalgonda parliament seat and emerged victorious.

It prompted Uttam Kumar Reddy to tender his resignation as Huzurnagar MLA. Uttam's spouse Padmavathi Reddy, who was an MLA from Kodad segment of the erstwhile Nalgonda district, lost the general elections to the TRS' Bollam Malliah Yadav.

## Navy Chief embarks on 4-day B'desh visit to boost maritime ties

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Aiming to further consolidate maritime cooperation between the two countries, Navy Chief Admiral Karambir Singh on Saturday began a four-day-long visit to Bangladesh.

During the visit, Admiral Singh will hold extensive talks with his Bangladeshi counterpart Admiral Aurangzeb Chowdhury, besides meeting the other service chiefs and senior military officials, the Indian Navy said.

Sources said the two navy chiefs are expected to deliberate on regional security scenario including China's growing forays into the Indian Ocean region and its military assertiveness in the South China Sea.

"The visit is intended to consolidate and enhance the bilateral maritime relations between India and Bangladesh,"

a Navy statement said.

Admiral Singh will visit several key military establishments including the Khulna Shipyard Limited, Bangladesh's naval bases in Chattogram and Khulna and address cadets at the Bangladesh Naval Academy (BNA). In addition, he will participate in the first anniversary celebration of Bangladesh Institute of Maritime Research and Development (BIMRAD), the Navy said.

The Bangladesh Navy is an active member of Indian Ocean Naval Symposium (IONS), a forum for maritime cooperation among navies of the littoral states of the Indian Ocean Region.

There has been increasing cooperation between Indian and Bangladeshi navies and they regularly engage through staff talks, annual defence dialogue and other operational interactions.

## Navy to name 7th frigate in P17A series as Mahendragiri

**New Delhi:** The Navy has planned to name the seventh ship in the P17A frigate series as 'Mahendragiri', senior officials said.

The first of the seven frigates, christened 'Nilgiri', is slated to be launched in Mumbai on September 28 in the presence of Defence Minister Rajnath Singh.

The first ship under P17A borrows its name from an old frigate of the Navy, INS Nilgiri that was named after Nilgiri Hills.

Five more ships of the Nilgiri-class, an upgrade of Leander-class, were also named after other hill ranges of India. The six ships were built a few decades ago and have been decommissioned.

These six ships were called — 'Nilgiri', 'Himgiri', 'Udaygiri', 'Dunagiri', 'Taragiri' and 'Vindhagiri'.

"The first P17A frigate 'Nilgiri' will be launched on September 28. Since, it is named after the previous

frigate which was part of a series of six ships, so the remaining names will also follow till the sixth ship," said Vice Admiral G Ashok Kumar, the vice chief of the Navy.

"For the seventh frigate, we have identified one more in the series — 'Mahendragiri'," he said.

He said this recently during an interactive session held here ahead of the commissioning of Navy's second Scorpene-class submarine INS Khanderi. The commissioning of 'Khanderi', launch of 'Nilgiri' and inauguration of an aircraft carrier drydock are all scheduled to take place on September 28 in Mumbai.

The first Scorpene in a series of six, 'Kalvari' is named after the first Kalvari of the Navy. The first Kalvari, commissioned on December 8, 1967, was also the first submarine of the Indian Navy. It was decommissioned on May 31, 1996 after nearly three decades of service.

The Kalvari-class submarines in the past were a variant of Foxtrot-class submarines, four of which had served in the Navy from late 1960s onwards — 'Kalvari', 'Khanderi', 'Karanj' and 'Kursura'.

"Names have a historical background, and many ships have been follow-on of some other ships in the past. So, the name is being repeated," Kumar said.

A contract with French company Naval Group (earlier called DCNS) was signed in 2005 for the supply of six submarines.

The six submarines, designed by the French naval defence and energy company, are being built by Mazagon Dock Ltd in Mumbai as part of Project-75 of the Indian Navy.

The state-of-the-art features of this Kalvari-class Scorpene submarine include superior stealth and the ability to launch attacks on the enemy using precision guided weapon.

PTI

## Married women happier than those in live-in relationships: RSS survey

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS), which, in a way, celebrates bachelorhood as most of its 'pracharaks' keep off conjugal lives, has conducted a survey that claims that married women are "happier" than those in live-in relationships. Its findings will be released on Tuesday.

RSS chief Mohan Bhagwat will release the survey, conducted by a Sangh-linked organization 'Drishti Stree Adhyayan Prabodhan Kendra' (DSAPK) based in Pune, Maharashtra.

The findings of the survey were discussed at the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh's coordination meeting in Pushkar earlier this month, sources in the



RSS said. The Supreme Court has

ruled that any couple living together for a long term will be presumed as legally married unless proved otherwise. It has also allowed physical relationship between two grown-ups as legal. It was earlier used to be categorized as adultery.

As per the survey, married women have a very high level of happiness, whereas the level of happiness was lowest in

women in live-in relationships.

The findings of the survey will be released after Bhagwat's interaction with the foreign media.

RSS publicity in-charge Arun Kumar in an official statement released on Saturday said Bhagwat's interaction with the foreign media is a routine exercise.

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Election Commission (EC) on Saturday announced the bypolls to 64 Assembly seats spread across 17 States and Union Territory of Puducherry besides the Samastipur Lok Sabha constituency in Bihar. The by-elections will be held on October 21 and the counting of votes will be on October 24, the same dates as those for Haryana and Maharashtra Assembly elections.

The Samastipur Lok Sabha by-election was necessitated due to the death of sitting LJP MP Ram Chandra Paswan in July. However, the bypoll for Satara Lok Sabha seat will not be held along with the Maharashtra assembly elections on October 21. Satara MP from NCP Udayanraje Bhosale had recently joined the BJP after resigning from the Lok Sabha.

There was no word on when Jammu and Kashmir would head for elections to elect its legislative body. The state, which will become a Union Territory (UT) on October 31, has been under President's Rule for over a year. Due to J&K's bifurcation into two UTs - Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh - a delimitation exercise is expected to be undertaken there.

In Karnataka, where resignations of 17 rebel MLAs led to the collapse of the HD Kumaraswamy-Congress coalition government in July, bypolls will be held in 15 seats and in Uttar Pradesh, 11 constituencies will go to the polls. The 11 UP assembly seats mostly belong to MLAs who had won the Lok Sabha elections and had resigned as members of the state assembly.

According to the Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) Sunil Arora, the bypolls in Karnataka will be held on seats, including where sitting MLAs were disqualified recently. Asked why elections to the Jharkhand Assembly were not announced on Saturday when the country was discussing



simultaneous polls, Arora said that the issue was not yet settled and added that term of the state Assembly there ends on 9 January. "If the Leader of the House there wants to dissolve the assembly and advance the elections, then it is a separate matter. But why should the commission want to advance it," he said.

Byelections will also be held in five seats in Kerala and 4 in Punjab among others. The other states are Assam (4), Bihar (5), Gujarat (4), Himachal Pradesh (2), Rajasthan and Tamil Nadu (two each) and Sikkim (3). States where assembly bypolls will be held are Arunachal Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Telangana, Madhya Pradesh, Meghalaya, Odisha and Puducherry (one seat each).

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## Over 10 cr to vote in Haryana, Maharashtra Assembly polls

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Over 10-crore electorate will be eligible to cast their vote in the coming Assembly polls in Maharashtra and Haryana for a total of 378 seats.

As per Election Commission (EC) data, there are 1,82,98,714 voters in Haryana. Of this, 1,81,91,228 are general electors and 1,07,486 are service voters who will vote for the 90 assembly seats in the state. In Maharashtra, there are 8,95,62,706 voters, of which 8,94,46,211 are general electors and 1,16,495 are service voters who will vote for the 288 Assembly seats in the state.

According to Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) Sunil Arora, a total of 19,425 polling booths will be set up for people to cast their vote in Haryana. There has been an increase of 19.58 percent of polling stations, the number of station was 16,244 back in 2014. Up from 90,403 in 2014, the number of poll booths where people can cast their vote in Maharashtra has gone up to 95,473, reflecting an increase of 5.61 percent.

In Maharashtra, 54 seats are reserved for Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe while 17 are reserved in Haryana for them. According to the CEC Arora, the upper limit for expenditure on the election campaign is Rs 28 lakh for each candidate.

Over 1.66 lakh VVPAT (voter-verified paper audit trail) machines will be used in the assembly polls in Maharashtra and Haryana. Referring to the use of paper trail machines, Arora said that on the lines of the Lok Sabha polls, the commission has mandated that VVPAT slips count of five randomly selected polling stations in each assembly constituency of Haryana and Maharashtra will be done for verification of the result obtained from the electronic voting machines (EVMs).

The polling stations where the count is taken up are selected by a draw of lots after the election and before counting. The commission also reiterated that while some EVMs fail to function due to "mechanical, structural or physical defect" including faulty switches, broken button, faulty connection, these

never record a "wrong vote".

CEC Arora also said that special security arrangements have been made for the LWE affected areas in Gadchiroli and Gondia in Maharashtra.

Besides announcing the assembly election dates, CEC Arora also spoke about the environmental concern that the election campaigns bring with them. Regarding the same Arora said, "Election campaigns impose an environmental cost upon us. We appeal to political parties to avoid the use of plastic and use only environment-friendly material in their campaigns." Arora also mentioned that the EC has brought down more than 5,000 polling booths on the ground floor from the first or second-floor level on the request of several political parties from Maharashtra.

According to the CEC, both Haryana and Maharashtra are sound-fitting in terms of poll preparation. "All types are arrangements are being made for the voters. Candidates will require to fill all the columns in their poll form. The Election Commission is privileged to play a role in democracy."

## 64 State, 1 LS seats to see bypoll on Oct 21

These are the first state polls after the BJP's stunning victory in the national election earlier this year, clearing the way for a second term of Prime Minister Narendra Modi. This will also be the first time that elections will be held in Assam after the release of final citizens' list last month. By-elections will be held in four assembly constituencies in the state.

The Samastipur (Bihar) Lok Sabha by-election was necessitated following the death of sitting MP Ram Chandra Paswan of the Lok Janshakti Party in July. One Lok Sabha seat in Maharashtra is currently vacant but CEC Arora said it won't go to polls along with the state assembly elections on October 21.

Assembly bypolls in West Bengal are not being held now as the state government had cited the Durga Puja festivities to postpone the exercise. They will also not be held in Uttarakhand now as panchayat elections are already underway and the state machinery is occupied with the exercise, CEC Arora said. In some other seats, by-elections are not being held as respective high courts are hearing election petitions and the matters are sub judice, he added.

In Kerala, Stakes are high

for the three major political formations - the ruling Left Democratic Front (LDF), opposition Congress-led United Democratic Front (UDF) and the Bharatiya Janata Party-led National Democratic Alliance or NDA.

The gazette notification for these polls will be issued on September 23, last date of nominations is September 30, date for scrutiny of nominations will be done on October 1. Candidatures can be withdrawn up to October 3. The CEC said that the notification for the polls will be made on September 27. The last date of filing nominations is October 4. The scrutiny of nominations will take place on October 5 and the last date for withdrawal of nominations is October 7.

The EC has decided to use EVMs and VVPATs in all the polling stations and for this adequate numbers of EVMs and VVPATs have been kept ready. As is the practice, voters will need to carry valid identity cards. Electoral Photo Identity cards (EPIC) shall be the main document of identification. However, separate instructions will be issued to allow additional documents for identification of voters.

## Announcement for bypolls adds zing to TN's festive season

KUMAR CHELLAPPAN ■ CHENNAI

The festival season in Tamil Nadu got peppered on Saturday with the Election Commission of India announcing that the bypolls from the Assembly constituencies of Vikravandi in Villupuram district and Nanguneri in Kanyakumari district would be held on October 21.

The by-election in Vikravandi was necessitated by the death of the sitting DMK lawmaker K Rathamani of the DMK in June 2019. Nanguneri constituency fell vacant following the resignation of Vasanth Kumar of the Indian National Congress who was elected to the Lok Sabha from Kanyakumari in the May 2019 General election.

The point being debated in Tamil Nadu is whether the DMK-led UPA would be able to continue its dream run. Though the final results in the by-polls would not create any threat to the Edappadi Palaniswami-led AIADMK government, it will be a morale booster to the Opposition parties as the State is gearing up for elections to local bodies which

were due in 2016 itself.

In the 234-member strong Tamil Nadu Assembly, the AIADMK has 122 members while the DMK-led Opposition has 109 members. M K Stalin, president, DMK, told journalists on Saturday that his party would contest Vikravandi bypoll leaving Nanguneri to alliance partner Congress. The DMK-Congress front is hoping to retain both the seats taking advantage of recent events like the arrest of P Chidambaram, former union finance minister in money laundering case and the accidental death of Subasri, a young techie who lost her life when a larger than life size hoarding installed by a former AIADMK municipal corporation councillor in connection with the marriage of the latter's son's marriage.

Though it is more than a week, the police had failed to arrest the culprit who is on the run. This has added to the woes of the government.

The DMK-led alliance had swept the Lok Sabha election from the State winning 38 out of the 39 seats which were at stake.

## Centre, States debate reforms in NEP draft

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Centre and the States on Saturday held detailed discussions and debated various reforms proposed in the new National Education Policy (NEP) draft that has been much delayed and much awaited.

The meeting of the HRD Ministry's Central Advisory Board of Education (CABE) and Education ministers from states was chaired by Union HRD Minister Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank'. The heads of autonomous organisations, HRD secretaries for higher education and school education R Subrahmanyam and Rina Ray, along with senior officials of the central and state governments also attended.

Further, Nishank's deputy Sanjay Dhotre, Minister of State for Culture and Tourism Prahlad Singh Patel and Minister of State for Youth Affairs and Sports Kiren Rijiju also attended the meeting.

"The house had detailed deliberations on several recommendations and reforms proposed in the NEP draft. There were valuable suggestions given by the education ministers of states, who are equal partners in policy formulation and felt that their inputs are critical so that the proposed NEP can be a catalyst to achieve the goals of equitable access to quality education while ensuring affordability of education and instilling greater



accountability," a senior HRD official said.

Nishank said in the spirit of "cooperative federalism" both the central and state governments interact and engage in a healthy and enriching dialogue to bring out a robust policy that will empower our youth to meet the challenges of the 21st century."

"The government has initiated a major exercise to formulate a National Education Policy that will aim to fulfil the aspiration of the youth for quality education and make our country a knowledge superpower."

The extant National Policy on Education, 1986 modified in 1992 required changes to meet the contemporary and futuristic needs of our large youth population," he said.

"Thus, this policy is being brought out after more than three decades. Massive consultative process over four years has been undertaken and the draft NEP has been submitted by the committee."

"The meeting today was convened to discuss the draft so

that in the spirit of cooperative federalism both the central and state governments interact and engage in a healthy and enriching dialogue to bring out a robust policy that will empower our youth to meet the challenges of the 21st century," the minister added.

Nishank also released the All India Survey on Higher Education (AISHE) 2018-19 according to which the Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER) in higher education has increased from 25.8 in 2017-18 to 26.3 in 2018-19 while in absolute terms the enrolment increased from 3.66 crore to 3.74 crore students.

"GER for SCs has also shown a growth from 21.8 to 23.0 and STs from 15.9 to 17.2. In terms of increase in the number of universities, they have grown from 903 (2017-18) to 993 (2018-19) and total higher Education institutions from 49,964 to 51,649 in the same corresponding period. The number of faculty increased from 13.88 lakhs to 14.16 lakhs," the survey report said.

**POST US TROOP DEPLOYMENT**

# Will turn attacking country into battlefield: Iran

**Tehran:** Any country that attacks Iran will become the "main battlefield", the Revolutionary Guards warned Saturday after Washington ordered reinforcements to the Gulf following attacks on Saudi oil installations it blames on Tehran.

Tensions escalated between arch-foes Iran and the United States after last weekend's attacks on Saudi energy giant Aramco's Abqaiq processing plant and Khurais oilfield halved the kingdom's oil output.

Yemen's Huthi rebels have claimed responsibility for the strikes but the US says it has concluded the attacks involved cruise missiles from Iran and amounted to "an act of war".

Washington approved the deployment of troops to Saudi Arabia at "the kingdom's request," Defence Secretary Mark Esper said, noting the forces would be "defensive in nature" and focused on air and missile defence.

But Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps commander Major General Hossein Salami said Iran was "ready for any type of scenario".

"Whoever wants their land



Chief of Iran's Revolutionary Guard Gen Hossein Salami speaks at a ceremony displaying pieces of the American drone shot down by the Guard in the Strait of Hormuz in June, in Tehran on Saturday

to become the main battlefield, go ahead," he told a news conference in Tehran.

"We will never allow any war to encroach upon Iran's territory. We hope that they don't make a strategic mistake," he said, listing past US military "adventures" against Iran.

Salami was speaking at Tehran's Islamic Revolution and Holy Defence museum during the unveiling of an exhibition of what Iran says are US and other drones captured in its territory.

It featured a badly damaged drone with US military markings said to be an RQ-4 Global Hawk that Iran downed in June, as well as an RQ-170 Sentinel captured in 2011 and still intact.

The Guards also displayed the domestically manufactured Khordad 3 air defence battery they say was used to shoot down the Global Hawk.

"What are your drones doing in our airspace? We will shoot them down, shoot anything that encroaches on our airspace," said Salami, noting Iran

had defeated "America's technological dominance" in air defence and drone manufacture.

His remarks came only days after strikes on Saudi oil facilities claimed by Yemen's Huthis, but the US says it has concluded the attack involved cruise missiles from Iran and amounted to "an act of war".

Saudi Arabia, which has been bogged down in a five-year war across its southern border in Yemen, has said Iran "unquestionably sponsored" the attacks. The kingdom says the weapons used in the attacks were Iranian-made, but it stopped short of directly blaming its regional rival.

"Sometimes they talk of military options," Salami said, apparently referring to the Americans.

Yet he warned that "a limited aggression will not remain limited" as Iran was determined to respond and would "not rest until the aggressor's collapse".

The Guards' aerospace commander said the US ought to learn from its past failures and abandon its hostile rhetoric.

"We've stood tall for the past 40 years and if the enemy makes a mistake, it will cer-

tainly receive a crushing response," Brigadier General Amirali Hajizadeh said.

The United States upped the ante on Friday by announcing new sanctions against Iran's central bank, with President Donald Trump calling the measures the toughest America has ever imposed on another country.

Washington has imposed a series of sanctions against Tehran since unilaterally pulling out of a landmark 2015 nuclear deal in May last year. It already maintains sweeping sanctions on Iran's central bank, but the US Treasury said Friday's designation was over the regulator's work in funding "terrorism".

## Iran denies successful cyber attacks on oil sector

**Tehran:** Iran denied on Saturday its oil infrastructure had been successfully attacked by a cyber operation, after reports of disruptions to the sector online.

"Contrary to Western media claims, investigations done today show no successful cyber attack was made on the country's oil installations and other crucial infrastructure," the government's cyber security office said.

The statement did not specify which reports it was addressing.

NetBlocks, an organisation that tracks internet outages, tweeted early Saturday that "network data show intermittent disruptions to internet connectivity in #Iran".

But it said the cause was unclear and impact limited, affecting "online industrial and government platforms" and specific providers.

"Data are consistent with a cyber attack or unplanned technical incident on affected networks as opposed to a purposeful withdrawal or shutdown incident," it added.

# China is threat to world: Trump

**Washington:** Expressing concern over China's growing military might, US President Donald Trump has said the Communist nation is a threat to the world and blamed his predecessors for not stopping it from stealing America's intellectual property to bolster its defence capabilities.

China has hiked its military spending by seven per cent to \$152 billion as Beijing aims at countering America's push into the disputed South China Sea.

"Obviously China is a threat to the world in a sense because they are building a military faster than anybody and frankly they are using US money," Trump, who was accompanied by visiting Australian Prime Minister Scott Morrison, told reporters here on Friday.

Trump said the US Presidents before him allowed China to take out \$500 billion a year and more than that.

"They have allowed China to steal our intellectual property and property rights and I'm not doing that," he said.

According to the president, the two countries were very close to having a trade deal.

"We work very closely, had intellectual property, all of the tough things work negotiated and then at the last moment, they said we cannot agree to this," he alleged, referring to the abrupt collapse of the trade deal with China early this year.

"I said that's all right we are charging you 25 per cent tariffs and then it's going up and it will continue to go up. Frankly we are making so many hundreds of the numbers that we are taking in to our treasury... Look at the great reports that came out two days ago on retailing, on consumers, on numbers that nobody believes," he added.

The world's two largest economies are locked in a trade war since Trump in March last year imposed tariff hikes of up to 25 per cent on \$250 billion of Chinese goods. In response, China, the world's second largest economy after the US, imposed tit-for-tat tariffs on \$110 billion of American goods.

The two countries have resumed their trade negotiations.

Trump has said that he will enter into a trade deal with Beijing only if he is confident that it is good for the US.

## TRUMP SLAMS WHISTLEBLOWER STORY AS 'PARTISAN HACK JOB'

# Whistleblower and Trump phone call: What we know

**Washington:** A mysterious whistleblower, a telephone call between President Donald Trump and a foreign leader, and military aid to Ukraine.

Here's what we know about the latest political firestorm swirling around Washington:

On August 12, an unknown whistleblower in the US intelligence community filed a complaint with Michael Atkinson, the Inspector General of the Intelligence Community (ICIG), regarding a matter of "urgent concern." The identity of the whistleblower and the nature of the complaint have not been publicly revealed.

After reviewing the complaint, Atkinson determined it was "credible" and forwarded it on August 26 to the acting Director of National Intelligence, Joseph Maguire, a Trump appointee.

The Democratic-led House Intelligence Committee is demanding that the whistleblower's complaint be turned over but Maguire has declined to share it.

According to The Washington Post, the complaint concerned a "promise" Trump made in a recent phone call with a foreign leader.

The phone call in question, according to US media reports, was a July 25 conversation between Trump and Ukraine's newly elected President Volodymyr Zelensky.

According to The Wall Street Journal, Trump repeatedly pressured Zelensky in the call to investigate Hunter Biden, the son of Joe Biden, Trump's main potential 2020 reelection rival.

Hunter Biden in 2014 joined the board of Burisma Holdings, a Ukrainian gas firm accused of corrupt practices, but he has not been personally accused of any wrongdoing.

The Journal said Trump urged Zelensky "about eight times" during the call to work with Rudy Giuliani, his personal



attorney, on a probe into Hunter Biden.

At the time of the conversation, the United States was holding up \$250 million in military aid for Ukraine, but the Journal said Trump did not mention the assistance during the conversation.

Three committees in the Democratic-controlled House of Representatives have demanded that the White House turn over a transcript of the call.

The committees claim it may include evidence of Trump and Giuliani's efforts to "improperly pressure" Ukraine to help his reelection bid.

They accused Trump and Giuliani of trying to coerce Ukraine, in exchange for military assistance, into conducting a "politically motivated" investigation into Hunter Biden.

"If the President is trying to pressure Ukraine into choosing between defending itself from Russian aggression without US assistance or leveraging its judicial system to serve the ends of the Trump campaign, this would represent a staggering abuse of power," the Democratic committee chairmen said.

The US military aid package for Ukraine, which is battling pro-Russian separatists, was finally approved by the White House last week.

Trump for his part has insisted there was nothing unto-

ward about the telephone call.

"Virtually anytime I speak on the phone to a foreign leader, I understand that there may be many people listening from various US agencies, not to mention those from the other country itself," he tweeted on Thursday.

"Knowing all of this, is anybody dumb enough to believe that I would say something inappropriate with a foreign leader while on such a potentially heavily populated call," he said.

"I would only do what is right anyway, and only do good for the USA!"

Speaking to reporters at the White House on Friday, Trump described the story as a "political hack job" and said former vice president Joe Biden is the one who should be investigated.

"It was a totally appropriate conversation," he said of the telephone call.

"It was actually a beautiful conversation."

Trump claimed he didn't know the identity of the whistleblower but said he was a "partisan person." Giuliani, the former mayor of New York, also took to Twitter to defend Trump.

"A President telling a Pres-elect of a well known corrupt country he better investigate corruption that affects US is doing his job," he tweeted.

# UK's Labour Party in turmoil as vote to oust deputy ditched

**London:** A vote to oust the deputy leader of Britain's main Opposition Labour Party was ditched Saturday after a big backlash to the proposal prompted Jeremy Corbyn, the party's leader, to intervene.

The surprise attempt to abolish the role of deputy leader by one of Corbyn's close allies caused uproar among many Labour members and has overshadowed the start of the party's annual conference in the southern England city of Brighton.

Corbyn has tried to put a lid on the row by proposing that Labour carry out a review of the role, currently held by lawmaker Tom Watson, who has clashed with the leader on a number of issues, notably Brexit. The proposal to get rid of the deputy's role had been scheduled to be put to a vote Saturday of Labour's governing

body, the National Executive Committee.

The move against Watson has laid bare the divisions in the party — Watson has espoused a number of viewpoints that have offended many of Corbyn's left-wing supporters but have appealed to the moderate wing of the party.

Heading into the conference on Saturday, Corbyn tried to put a brave face on the row and said he enjoyed working with Watson.

"The NEC agreed this morning that we are going to consult on the future of diversifying the deputy leadership position to reflect the diversity of our society," Corbyn said.

Questioned by assembled reporters, Corbyn refused to say when he first knew about the attempt to oust Watson, nor whether he had full confidence in his deputy.

Watson told BBC radio before the proposal was ditched that the attempt to oust him was akin to "a straight sectarian attack on a broad-church party" and that he believes his position on Brexit was behind the move.

He said the move against him came as a shock and that he was in a Chinese restaurant in Manchester Friday evening when he found out about it.

The row exploded Friday when Jon Lansman, the founder of the pro-Corbyn grassroots Momentum group, proposed a motion for Watson's job to be scrapped.

Lansman said in a tweet he welcomed Corbyn's proposal to review the role of deputy leader and added that the party needs "to make sure the deputy leader role is properly accountable to the membership while also unifying the party at conference."



French riot police walk through a tear gas cloud on the Champs Elysees during a yellow vest demonstration in Paris on Saturday

## Over 100 held in Paris 'yellow vest' protests

**Paris:** Over a hundred demonstrators were arrested at yellow vest protests in Paris on Saturday as about 7,500 police were deployed to quell any violence by the movement and its radical, anarchist "black blocs".

There were also fears that the demonstrators could try to infiltrate a march against climate change in the French capital.

The yellow vest movement erupted 10 months ago and blindsided President Emmanuel Macron, whom protesters accused of being out of touch with the needs of ordinary French people.

"What are we doing? We are assembling just to say that we can't make ends meet. (The protest) is not only against the president, it's against the system," said a woman protester who did not give her name.

The weekly demonstrations — Saturday was the 45th — prompted Macron to loosen the state's purse strings to the tune of nearly 17 billion euros (18.8 billion) in wage boosts and tax cuts for low earners, but tapered off over the summer.

# Kashmir in focus as Imran Khan leaves for UNGA

**Islamabad:** Pakistan Prime Minister Imran Khan on Saturday left for New York on a week-long visit to attend the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) session during which he is to make Kashmir the focus of his address and interactions.

He will share Pakistan's perspective and position on the Jammu & Kashmir issue and on its current human rights and related dimensions, a Foreign Office statement said.

Imran Khan is being accompanied by Foreign Minister Shah Mehmood Qureshi, Advisor on Finance Hafeez Shaikh and Special Assistant on Overseas Pakistanis Zulfikar Abbas Bukhari.

Imran Khan will hold several bilateral meetings with his counterparts from various nations and participate in high-level UN summits on climate change, sustainable development, universal health coverage and financing for develop-



ment. He will also attend and speak at high-level side events co-hosted by Pakistan and Turkey on countering hate speech and on environmental protection and poverty alleviation, co-hosted by Malaysia and Pakistan. A trilateral summit meeting of Pakistan, Malaysia and Turkey will be held on the General Assembly sidelines.

He will interact with a cross-section of international media outlets and hold meetings with editorial boards, the Foreign Office spokesperson said.

He will also avail the opportunity to articulate Pakistan's perspective on some key contemporary issues, especially the centrality of the Jammu & Kashmir dispute.



Police face a burning barricade during protests in Hong Kong on Saturday

**Hong Kong:** Protesters in Hong Kong threw gasoline bombs and police fired tear gas Saturday in renewed clashes over anti-government grievances.

Reporters saw at least one person arrested after violence erupted following an afternoon march by several thousand people in Tuen Mun, a district in the northwest of the Chinese territory. Hong Kong is in the fourth month of sometimes violent protests that occur every weekend. They started with opposition to a proposed extradition law and have expanded to include demands for greater democracy.

Most protesters in Tuen Mun were peaceful but some

threw gasoline bombs and bricks toward police who faced them down the street.

They appeared to fall short of the police and there was no indication anyone was hit.

Police with anti-riot helmets and shields responded by firing tear gas. In the evening, protesters gathered at a shopping mall in another district, Yuen Long.

Some threw gasoline bombs in the street but there was no indication anyone was injured. Elsewhere, scuffles were reported as government supporters heeded a call by a pro-Beijing member of the Hong Kong legislature to tear down protest posters at subway stations.

## GLOBE TROTTER

### INDIAN GIRL DIAGNOSED WITH RARE DISEASE IN UAE

**Dubai:** A 20-year-old Indian girl in the UAE has been diagnosed with a rare disease, leaving her on ventilator support for the last six months, according to a media report. Neethu Shaji Panikkar, who was visiting her husband in Sharjah, was diagnosed with autoimmune encephalitis in March.

### MINIBUS EXPLOSION IN IRAQ: 12 DEAD, 5 INJURED

Baghdad, Sep 21 (AP) A bomb exploded on a minibus packed with passengers outside the Shiite holy city of Karbala, killing 12 people and wounding five others, Iraqi security officials and the state news agency said. This was one of the biggest attacks targeting civilians since the extremist Islamic State group was declared defeated inside Iraq in 2017.

# Rainfall in Indonesia's islands linked to global climate, says study

**Washington:** The rainfall in some of Indonesia's islands such as Sumatra, Java, and Borneo affects the climate of regions that are even thousands of miles away, according to a new study. Sumatra, Java, Borneo, and Papua New Guinea, along with a clutch of smaller islands are part of what is known as the "Maritime Continent," which, according to the researchers, experiences significant rainfall including "periodic monsoonal rain, and flash flooding."

In the study, published in the Journal of Atmospheric Sciences, researchers revealed details of the connection between a larger atmospheric phenomenon called the Madden-Julian Oscillation

(MJO), and the daily patterns of rainfall in the Maritime Continent.

The MJO, the study noted, circles the globe around the tropics and can affect weather on weekly to monthly time scales, bringing cloudy and sunny periods alternatively.

The researchers, led by atmospheric scientist Giuseppe Torri at the University of Hawaii (UH), found that the impact of the MJO on the daily rainfall patterns of Sumatra was quite significant.

When the MJO was active near the Maritime Continent, there was more water vapour, and therefore greater possibility of rain, according to the researchers.

AXIS BANK			
Retail Asset Centre, Delhi: Lower Ground Floor and Upper Ground Floor, Himalaya House, K.G. Marg, Delhi-110001. Also at: Axis Bank Ltd., Axis House, Tower 12-2, 2nd Floor, 1-4, Sector-12B, Noida Expressway, Jaypee Greens Wishtown, Noida (U.P.)-201301. Retail Asset Centre, Ghaziabad: BF-1A, 2, 3, 1st Floor, Aditya City Centre, Nis Khand-1, Indrapuram, Ghaziabad-201012. Retail Asset Centre Faridabad: Axis Bank Ltd. SCO-8, Huda Shopping Centre, Sec. 16, Faridabad, Haryana-121002. Retail Asset Centre Gurgaon: Axis Bank Ltd.-ASC Gurgaon, SG-107, DLF Galleria Complex, Near Post Office, DLF City Phase -4, Gurgaon-122009. Corporate Office: 'Axis House', Block B, Bombay Dyeing Mills Compound, PandurangbuddhiKamarg, Worli, Mumbai-400025. Registered Office: 'Trishul', 3rd floor, opposite Samartheswar Temple, Law garden, Elitbridge, Ahmedabad-380006			
POSSESSION NOTICE UNDER SARFAESI ACT 2002			
Whereas The undersigned being the Authorized Officer of Axis Bank Ltd. under the Securitisation, Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of the powers conferred under section 13 (12) read with Rule 9 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) rules 2002, issued demand notice upon the Borrower(s)/ Co-Borrower(s)/ Guarantor(s)/ Mortgagee(s) mentioned below, to repay the amount mentioned in the notice within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.			
The Borrower(s)/ Co-Borrower(s)/ Guarantor(s)/ Mortgagee(s) having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the Borrower(s)/ Co-Borrower(s)/ Guarantor(s)/ Mortgagee(s) and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him/her under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the said rules on the below-mentioned dates. The Borrower(s)/ Co-Borrower(s)/ Guarantor(s)/ Mortgagee(s) in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of Axis Bank Ltd. The Borrower(s)/ Co-Borrower(s)/ Guarantor(s)/ Mortgagee(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.			
Name of Borrower/ Co-borrower	Description of Property	1. Date of Demand Notice	2. Date of Possession
1. M/s K & K Health Care Private Limited R/o - C-10, 1st Floor, Preet Vihar Delhi	The Residential Flat No - 3A -044 in Tower - 3, Block - A, on 4th Floor, Super Area 2205 Sq.Ft. (i.e 204.85 Sq. Mtr.) and Covered Area 1764 Sq.Ft. (i.e 163.88 Sq.Mtr.) in "GC Grand" situated at Plot No. 2-C, Vaidhavan Khand, Indrapuram, Ghaziabad U.P. and same is Bounded as under:-	1. 02-Feb-2019	2. 17-Sep-2019
2. Assotech Electronics Private Limited, Registered Office at - 17, Mardham Tower, Preet Vihar, Commercial Complex, Delhi - 110092. Also At - Assotech Electronics Private Limited, Plot No - 43, Sector -63, Phase-III Noida - 201301	North- As per the sale Deed East- As per the sale Deed South- As per the sale Deed West- As per the sale Deed	3. Rs. 15,09,260/- (Rupee Fifteen lakh nine thousand two hundred sixty only)	
3. Mr. Dinesh Kapoor, (Guarantor), W/o - Mr. Balraj Kapoor, C-10, Block C, Preet Vihar, East Delhi, New Delhi - 110092			
4. Mr. Sanu Kapoor, C-10, 2nd Floor Preet Vihar, East Delhi, New Delhi - 110092			
5. Mrs. Seema Kapoor, (Guarantor), W/o - Mr. Balraj Kapoor, C-10, Block C, Preet Vihar, East Delhi, New Delhi - 110092			
6. Mr. Balraj Kapoor, (Guarantor), S/o - Somnath Kapoor, C-10, Block C, Preet Vihar, East Delhi, New Delhi - 110092			
Also At - Mr. Balraj Kapoor, (Guarantor), S/o - Somnath Kapoor, Residential Flat No - 3A-044 in Tower - 3, Block - A, on 4th Floor, "GC Grand" situated at Plot No. 2-C, Vaidhavan Khand, Indrapuram, Ghaziabad U.P. - 201014			
The above-mentioned Borrower(s)/ Co-Borrower(s)/ Guarantor(s)/ Mortgagee(s) are hereby given a 30 days' Notice to repay the amount, else the mortgaged properties will be sold on the expiry of 30 days from the date of publication of this Notice, as per the provisions under the Rules 8 and 9 of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002.			
Date : 22-09-2019, Place : Delhi			Sd/-, Authorized Officer, Axis Bank Ltd.,

# 'Tax cut to have minor impact on fiscal deficit'

PTI ■ MUMBAI

The ₹1.45-lakh crore tax giveaway is unlikely to widen fiscal deficit much as the shortfall will be met through increased tax collections due to higher growth which the massive tax cuts are expected to achieve, Niti Aayog Vice Chairman Rajiv Kumar said here on Saturday. On Friday, the Government had announced tax cuts for corporates by 10-12 percentage points, bringing down the effective corporate tax rate to 25.17 per cent inclusive of all cess and surcharges for domestic companies. The new tax rate will be applicable from April 1, involving a revenue loss of ₹1.45 lakh crore this fiscal.

"I don't think tax cuts will leave a gaping hole in the fiscal numbers. There will be some, which will be minor," Kumar said at an 'India Today' event.

Budget had estimated fiscal deficit at 3.3 per cent of the GDP for the current fiscal but many analysts have pegged it overshooting by at least 70 bps to 4.1 per cent as the quantum of the giveaways is worth 0.7 per cent of the GDP.

Significantly, it can be noted that neither the finance minister or her senior cabinet colleagues who talked to the media after the announcement



**I don't think tax cuts will leave a gaping hole in the fiscal numbers. There will be some, which will be minor, Niti Aayog Vice Chairman Rajiv Kumar said at an 'India Today' event**

took questions on the shape of fiscal deficit numbers post the tax cuts.

Even, Reserve Bank Governor Shaktikanta Das had lapped it up as growth boosting just a day before warning the government that it has no leeway to undertake any fiscally expansionary measures.

It can be noted that while the GST collection has been ebbing below the desired ₹1 lakh crore mark all through the year expect one month, the direct tax mop-up for the first

half lagged way behind the target. It grew a paltry 4.7 per cent in H1 of this fiscal at ₹5.5 lakh crore against a budgeted target of 17.5 per cent growth in collections for the full year.

Kumar said direct and indirect tax revenues are expected to go up with growth picking up after these tax cuts. "There is buoyancy in growth. In the past, our tax buoyancy has been very good. Therefore, both direct and in direct tax collections will go up with growth," he said.

Kumar said another area for his optimism is the government focus on divestment which he budgeted at ₹1.05 lakh crore.

"Asset sales will yield an additional ₹52,000 crore over the budget estimate. Then you have got another ₹50,000 crore from the RBI which was not included in the Budget," he said. The higher revenue from tax and non-tax fronts will help the government finance the fiscal deficit, he added.

Kumar said the 5 per cent GDP growth is not yet a crisis and the first quarter number marks the bottoming out of the cycle.

"We will achieve a nearly 6.5 per cent growth this year and we will be on track for doubling up our per capita income in the next five years," he added.

## Corporate tax giveaways positive but growth faces headwinds, says Moody's

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Moody's Investors Service on Saturday said the cut in corporate tax increases the Government's fiscal risks while headwinds from cyclical factors such as rural stress, weak corporate sentiment and slow credit pose threat to near-term growth.

On Friday, the Centre announced a reduction in the base corporation tax rate to 22 per cent from 30 per cent as part of stimulus measures to revive slowing economic growth.

The rating agency said it does not expect the corporate tax rate cut to revive growth to the extent that stronger tax buoyancy compensates for the loss of revenue.

"While the reduction

brings India's corporate tax rate closer to peers throughout Asia and will support the business environment and competitiveness, a host of cyclical factors, including rural financial stress, weak corporate sentiment, and a slow flow of credit in the financial sector, remain headwinds to near-term growth," it said.

Moody's said the cut in corporate tax is credit positive for companies because it will enable them to generate higher post-tax incomes.

"However, it is credit negative for the sovereign, as it aggravates mounting risks for the government in meeting its fiscal deficit target."

Commodity and information technology (IT) services companies will benefit most from the tax rate cut.

## Yes Bank promoter entities sell 2.75% stake

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Promoter group companies of Yes Bank along with co-founder Rana Kapoor have sold a combined 2.75 per cent stake in the lender through the open market.

Yes Capital (India) Pvt Ltd, Morgan Credits Pvt Ltd and Rana Kapoor have sold a combined 2.75 per cent in Yes Bank through open market process, Morgan Credits said in a regulatory filing on Saturday.

The combined entities held 9.64 per cent holding in the bank which now stands at 6.89 per cent.

The release of shares took place between September 18 to 20, 2019, the filing said.

## Indian Overseas Bank mobilises ₹500 crore

PTI ■ CHENNAI

Public sector Indian Overseas Bank on Saturday said it has raised ₹500 crore through BASEL III Tier-II bonds issue to meet growth and regulatory requirements.

The city-headquartered bank, in a statement, said it mobilised ₹500 crore through the Tier-II bonds.

"The base size of the issue was ₹500 crore aggregating ₹800 crore. The bank received bids for ₹855 crore with various coupon rates."

However, the bank has decided to accept the bids for base issue of ₹500 crore," the bank said.

The funds raised would be used to meet the 'growth' requirements of the bank apart from regulatory requirements.

## US corporate sector hails India's move to slash tax rate

Washington: The US' corporate sector has lauded the Indian government for substantially slashing the income tax rate to 25.17 per cent, saying the move will reverse the economic slowdown and allow global companies a "good option" for growing their manufacturing base in the country.

The government on Friday slashed the income tax rate for companies by almost 10 percentage points to 25.17 per cent and offered a lower rate to 17.01 per cent for new manufacturing firms to boost economic growth rate from a six-year low by incentivising investments to help create jobs.

Finance Minister said the reduction in tax rates was done by promulgating an ordinance to an amendment to the Income Tax Act.

## BUSINESS CORNER

### SCOPE WELCOMES FISCAL MEASURES BY GOVT

New Delhi: SCOPE welcomes the announcement by Finance Minister to boost the Indian economy through various measures including reduction of Corporate tax rate and expanding list of CSR activities. Recent past has seen a series of progressive measures by government to ring positivity in the economy. SCOPE, the apex body of public sector enterprises, believes that the measure announced by the Government in terms of reduction in corporate tax rate is also likely to encourage investments in Make in India particularly in the manufacturing sector. This would lead to increased economic activity thereby creating employment opportunities. Further, SCOPE appreciates the significant move of the Government to expand list of CSR activities to include incubation centres funded by various agencies/ governments including Public Sector Undertaking and also include contributions to public funded educational institutions like IITs, Universities etc. This is in line with the thrust of the Government towards innovation, research and development.



## Hotel industry welcomes GST cuts on hotel room tariffs

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The hotel industry has welcomed the reduction in GST on hotel room tariffs, saying that it will provide a major fillip to the hospitality and tourism sector and is a step in right direction.

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on Friday announced nil tax for hotels room tariffs of up to ₹1,000 per night. Hotels charging ₹1,001 to ₹7,500 per night would be levied with 12 per cent tax as against the existing 18 per cent.

Similarly, the tax on room tariff of above ₹7,500 has been slashed to 18 per cent from the existing 28 per cent. Also, tax on outdoor catering has been reduced to 5 per cent from existing 18 per cent with input tax credit, Sitharaman had said.

"The amendments in corporate tax rates and rationalisation of GST are all steps in the right direction," Indian Hotels Company Ltd (IHCL) MD and CEO Puneet Chhatwal said in a statement.

There has been a positive development from the GST panel meet as it has recommended that 18 per cent GST rate is now applicable for hotel tariff up to ₹7,500 per night starting October 1, 2019, he added.

"This gives the hospitality sector a much needed boost and we expect it to propel tourist inflows which will positively impact our bookings," Chhatwal said.



Fillips like this also help create new jobs so as to boost economy, make companies globally competitive and align to vision of the Government with boosting tourism, making hospitality increasingly viable as an investment opportunity for India, he added.

"We believe this would catalyze further growth for not just IHCL but the hospitality sector as a whole," Chhatwal said.

In similar vein, Shangri-La Group, Middle East, India and Indian Ocean Executive Vice President John Northen said: "We welcome this progressive initiative by the Government. A lower GST rate for the luxury hotel sector will boost revenues and spur demand further among travellers."

This in turn will cement India's positioning as a hot spot tourist destination. The move will also increase the sectors' contribution to the country's GDP and foreign exchange, he added.

## Auto industry has to find its own balance to enhance demand: SIAM

New Delhi: Industry body SIAM on Saturday said the auto industry would have to "find its own balance" to boost demand, with the GST Council declining to cut rates for the sector.

"The auto industry was very hopeful of GST reduction. It is clear that there is no

reduction of GST rate on vehicles from 28 per cent to 18 per cent," Society of Indian Automobile Manufacturers (SIAM) President Rajan Wadhera said in a statement.

The industry has to find its own balance to enhance demand, he added.

The GST Council, which met in Goa on Friday, did not cut tax rates on automobiles. The industry had been demanding a GST rate cut from the current 28 per cent to 18 per cent in order to revive sales which have been facing a prolonged slowdown.

**Metro Railway, Kolkata**  
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PROVISION OF AFTC  
By: CSTE, Metro Railway, Kolkata for & on behalf of the President of India, invites e-Tenders against Open Tender due to open on **24.10.2019 at 15:00 hrs.** Manual offers are not allowed against this tender and any such manual offer received shall be ignored.  
**Name of Work :** Provision of AFTC from Dum Dum-Naopara, Tollygunge carshed and Kavi Subhash carshed of Metro Railway, Kolkata. **Tender Value :** Rs. 98,47,728.68.  
**Earnest Money :** Rs. 1,77,000/- **Cost of Tender Document :** Rs. 5,000/-  
**Completion Period :** 9 Months. The tender can be viewed at website <https://www.ireps.gov.in>  
The tender/bidders must have Class-III Digital Signature Certificate & must be registered on IREPS Portal. Only registered tenderer/bidders can participate on e-Tendering. All relevant papers must be uploaded at the time of participating in e-Tender.  
**Open Tender Notice No. : S&T/Work-2/Retender12-2019 Dated : 20.09.2019**  
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CIN No. U40101UR2001SGC023066  
**Time Extension Notice**  
Due to unavoidable circumstances, dates are hereby extended as follows for **NIT No - 02/EE (Test)/MB-II/19-20** of Office of the Executive Engineer (Test), Dharasua Power House, Chinyalisore.  
Last date of downloading the tender : 27-09-2019 upto 16:00 Hrs  
Last date of submitting the tender : 28-09-2019 upto 16:00 Hrs  
Due date for opening the tender : 01-10-2019, at 11:00 Hrs  
For eligibility criteria and full & further details kindly visit our website [www.uttarakhandjalvidyut.com](http://www.uttarakhandjalvidyut.com). Bidders are advised to regularly visit our website for further details, subsequent addendum/ corrigendum/ cancellation etc.  
Letter No. 553 Dated 21.09.2019 Executive Engineer (Test)  
"Avoid wasteful use of Electricity"

## Travel giant Thomas Cook fails to find private funds to avert collapse: Source

AFP ■ LONDON

Iconic British travel firm Thomas Cook has failed to find further private investment to stave off collapse and is now relying on an unlikely government bailout, a source close to the matter told AFP on Saturday.

The operator said Friday that it needed 200 million pound (\$250 million, 227 million euros) — in addition to the

900-million pound rescue deal secured last month — or else face administration, which could potentially trigger Britain's largest repatriation since World War II.

A source close to the negotiations told AFP the company had failed to find the 200 million pound from private investors and would collapse unless the Government intervened.

**GOVERNMENT OF NATIONAL CAPITAL TERRITORY OF DELHI**  
**DELHI FIRE SERVICE**  
HEAD QUARTERS, CONNAUGHT PLACE, NEW DELHI - 110001  
**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
**Attention: All owners / occupiers of public building / premises providing sleeping accommodations (Hotels/ Guest Houses / Nursing Homes / Hospitals)**  
In a recent fire in a hotel in Karol Bagh, Delhi, 17 precious lives were lost and it was observed that great difficulty was faced by the occupants and staff of the hotel during evacuation and fire fighting in the initial stage of fire.  
Ant it would be in public interest that all the occupants and employees of building occupancy having sleeping risk e.g. Hotels / Guest Houses / Nursing Homes / Hospitals should undergo basic fire safety training to keep themselves acquainted with evacuation and firefighting procedures.  
It is proposed to conduct three days basic firefighting training programme at Fire Safety management Academy, Delhi Fire Service, Rohini, Delhi. The training will be imparted in different batches of 40 persons (maximum), depending on the number of nominations received from different organizations, on first come first serve basis, against the prescribed fee as per Delhi Fire Service Rules 2010.  
Therefore, the owners / occupiers of all public buildings that provide sleeping accommodation namely Hotels / Guest Houses / Nursing Homes / Hospitals are hereby advised to nominate there staff / officials, either directly or through their respective associations, for the basic firefighting training. The nominations may be sent to Deputy Chief Fire Officer, Delhi Fire Service, Fire Safety management Academy, Sector-14, Rohini, Delhi - 110085 (Telephone No. 011-27552155, Mob. No. 9811032931 and e-mail: [sstdfs@gmail.com](mailto:sstdfs@gmail.com)).  
**Sd/- DIRECTOR**  
**DIP/Shabdarth/0687/19-20**  
**ISSUED IN PUBLIC INTEREST BY DELHI FIRE SERVICE**

**CORRIGENDUM**  
**ICICI Bank**  
ICICI Bank Limited  
Regd. Office: ICICI Bank Tower, Chakli Circle, Old Padra Road, Vadodara- 390007.  
Corporate Office: ICICI Bank Towers, Bandra- Kurla Complex, Bandra (E), Mumbai- 400051.  
Branch Office: ICICI Bank 2nd Floor, Videcon Tower, Jhandewalan Ext. New Delhi- 110055  
The physical possession notice under section 13(4) of the SARFAESI ACT was published in The Pioneer (English) dated 4th Aug '19, for Loan Account No. LBGUR0002370762 and Name of the Borrower is Pankaj Sharma and Co-borrower is Monica Sharma.  
Dated: 21-09-2019  
Place : Delhi/NCR Sd/- Authorized Officer ICICI Bank Limited

**CHITTARANJAN LOCOMOTIVE WORKS**  
**OPEN e-TENDER**  
No. COS/CRJ/PUB/c-Tender/19/0162 Date:19/09/2019. The following e-Tender can be accessed under the link [www.ireps.gov.in](http://www.ireps.gov.in). Offers for such e-Tender can be submitted only electronically by accessing the link [www.ireps.gov.in](http://www.ireps.gov.in) → login → E-Tender Stores/Supply. Vendors may also contact the following officials to obtain clarification regarding particular tender or IREPS related information if any, Dy.CMM/HQ/CLW/Chittaranjan, 0341-2525594 or SMM/CON/HQ, 0341-2535631. **Sl. No.; Tender No.; Brief Description of Item; Qty.; Earnest Money Deposit (₹); Tender Closing Date & Time (IST):** (1); 37191036; Grill Assy. for WAG-9/WAP-7/WAP-5 Loco; 200 Set; 20570; 23/10/2019 at 11:00 am.  
**Principal Chief Materials Manager** ABC-182 CLW/Chittaranjan  
Like us on: [www.facebook.com/clwrailways](http://www.facebook.com/clwrailways)

**Pradhan asks NMDC to focus on increasing output of iron ore**  
New Delhi: Steel Minister Dharmendra Pradhan on Saturday asked state-owned NMDC to focus on augmenting the output of iron ore as it would have the benefit of keeping prices of the raw material used in steel making in check. Pradhan, who visited the corporate office of NMDC Ltd at Hyderabad today, reviewed the performance of the PSU during his interaction with the top management.

**बिहार सरकार**  
**अधीक्षक का कार्यालय**  
**दरभंगा चिकित्सा महाविधालय अस्पताल, लहेरियासराय ।**  
**शुद्धि पत्र**  
दरभंगा चिकित्सा महाविधालय अस्पताल, लहेरियासराय, दरभंगा के विभिन्न विभागों के लिए वित्तीय वर्ष 2019-20 में 5,00,000.00 (पाँच लाख) से कम मूल्य के मशीन उपकरण के क्रय हेतु पी0आर0 संख्या-06531 (Health) 2019-20 के प्रकाशित निविदा में आंशिक रूप से निम्न शर्तों को जोड़ा जाता है । पूर्व का शेष शर्त यथावत रहेगा ।  
1. निविदा कम्प्यूटर प्रिंट ही होना चाहिए ।  
2. मशीन उपकरण का दर अनुमोदन होने के पश्चात ही कम्पनी का फोन नम्बर, सर्विस सेन्टर तथा दश अभियन्ता का मॉग की जायेगी ।  
3. एक लाख से पाँच लाख मूल्य के मशीन का वारंटी अवधि तीन वर्षों की होगी ।  
4. जेनरल आईएम के क्रमांक-16 को विनियुक्त किया जाता है ।  
5. मशीन उपकरण के निर्माणकर्ता का निर्माण लाईसेंस एवं गुणवत्ता प्रमाण पत्र (ISO/CE Certificate) तकनीकी निविदा के साथ संलग्न करना होगा ।  
6. निविदा सूची में जितने भी संबंधित सामान ड्रग के अंतर्गत आते हैं उस ड्रग सामान के निर्माणकर्ता का लाईसेंस एवं गुणवत्ता संबंधित कागजात तकनीकी निविदा में संलग्न करना होगा ।  
7. शुद्धि पत्र प्रथम प्रकाशित होने की तिथि से दस(10) दिनों के लिए समयवधि बढ़ाई जाती है ।  
विस्तृत जानकारी के लिए वेबसाइट [www.prdbihar.gov.in](http://www.prdbihar.gov.in) पर देखा जा सकता है ।  
(डा0 राज रंजन प्रसाद)  
अधीक्षक,  
दरभंगा मेडिकल कॉलेज अस्पताल,  
लहेरियासराय  
PR.008176 (Health) 2019-20  
**बेटा-बेटी एक समान। दहेज-प्रथा करे सबका अपमान।।**

# Deepak's double delight

## Punia to fight for Gold at Worlds today after booking Olympics quota



PTI ■ NUR-SULTAN

Reigning junior world champion Deepak Punia placed himself in line for the senior world title by reaching the 86kg final apart from booking his Tokyo Olympics quota, here on Saturday.

Competing in his maiden senior world championship, Deepak moved to the final with a commanding 8-2 win over Switzerland's Stefan Reichmuth.

He will fight for the title against 2016 Rio Olympics 74kg gold medalist Hassan Yazdaniharati of Iran on Sunday. Yazdaniharati had also won 2018 Asian Games 86kg gold.

It has been a steady progress for Deepak, who won the World Cadet title in 2016 and became junior world champion only last month in Estonia. He can now emulate double Olympic medallist Sushil Kumar who is still now the only Indian to have won a World Championships title in 2010.

The 20-year old Deepak also ensured that India will return from the World Championship with its best ever performance as the country is now assured of four medals.

Vinesh Phogat, Bajrang Punia and Ravi Dahiya have already won a bronze medal each. All of them qualified for

the Tokyo Olympics as well.

Rahul Aware can make it even better if he wins Sunday's bronze medal bout in the 61kg non-Olympic category. He lost his semifinal bout 6-10 to Beka Lomtadze of Georgia.

India had returned with three medals in 2013.

Deepak's all-round ability -- defence, attack, stamina and awareness on the mat -- played a key role in his memorable performance.

"I had genuinely hoped for a medal and Olympic quota. So, it is a double delight for me. My seniors like Sushil Kumar and Bajrang Punia inspire me," Deepak told PTI.

"I felt a bit under pressure when I fought with the Kazakh

wrestler (in quarterfinals). He had beaten me in Italy early this year and I was a bit apprehensive about fighting the home wrestler because of the Bajrang bout (controversy)," he added.

There was no action in the first period of the semifinal with Deepak gaining a 1-0 lead on activity clock.

In the second period, Deepak pushed out Reichmuth and took the Swiss down for a 4-0 lead. He lost two points but another takedown and expose move clinched it for Deepak.

The 20-year-old Deepak, who trains at Chhatrasal stadium in Delhi, had booked the quota after prevailing 7-6 in a tense semifinal against Colombia's Carlos Arturo Mendez.

With one minute to go, he was trailing 3-6 but pulled off a takedown and then an expose move to take 7-6 lead in the dying moments of the tense bout.

Also doing a commendable job was Aware who reached the bronze medal round in the 61kg non-Olympic category after reaching the semifinals.

Both Deepak and Rahul overcame rough Kazakh wrestlers en route the semifinals.

Aware lost a pacy semifinal 6-10 to Beka Lomtadze of Georgia, the European championship silver medalist.

The Indian fell behind 1-8 after Lomtadze dominated the first period with his quick moves and solid defence.

However, the Georgian began to tire after the break and Aware reduced the deficit with a push out and two consecutive take-downs.

With just 21 seconds left in the bout and still trailing 6-8, Aware needed a big throw but it was Lomtadze who earned

two points to seal his place in the final.

Deepak had bumped into home wrestler Adilet Davlumbayev in his opening round and looked a bit nervous before the bout, probably fearing partiality.

However, he played very smartly to defeat the home favourite despite trailing 0-5.

Adilet was playing rough and was cautioned for poking Deepak. Consecutive takedown moves and a caution point brought Deepak on even terms 5-5.

The Indian converted an opportunity but also conceded a throw and it was 7-7. The home camp challenged the call and lost.

Deepak got one more point while the Kazakh lost one, sending the Indian to the next round.

He was hardly troubled by Tajikistan's Bakhodur Kadirov, whom he beat 6-0 to move to quarterfinals.

In 61kg, Aware played his pre-quarterfinal against Turkmenistan's Kerim Hojakov.

The diminutive but agile wrestler from Maharashtra is in complete control of the bout, which he ended with leg lace moves, winning by technical superiority.

Against Kazakhstan's Rassul Kaliyev, it was a very tough bout but the Indian proved craftier than his rough opponent and won 10-7 in a roller-coaster quarterfinal bout.

He was technically more sound and sharp.

Meanwhile, Jitender lost his 79kg quarterfinal while Mausam Khatri lost his first round in 97kg to reigning Olympic champion Kyle Frederick Snyder to go out of the championship since their opponents failed to reach the finals.

**REGD. OFFICE: "RADHIKA", 2ND FLOOR, LAW GARDEN ROAD, NAVRANGPURA, AHMEDABD-380009**  
**BO: SCO-9, FIRST FLOOR, SECTOR -7, ABOVE CENTRAL BANK OF INDIA, BEHIND GALAXY MALL, AMBALA CITY- 134003**

From the trusted family of HDFC Bank

**DEMAND NOTICE UNDER SECTION 13(2) OF THE SARFAESI ACT, 2002**

You the below mentioned borrowers, co-borrowers and guarantors have availed loan(s)/ financial facility(ies) from HDB Financial Services Limited by mortgaging your immovable properties (securities) and defaulted in repayment of the same. Consequently to your defaults your loan was classified as non-performing asset. Subsequently, the company has issued demand notice under section 13(2) of The Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (The Act), the contents of which are being published herewith as per Section 13(2) of the Act read with Rule 3(1) of The Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 as and by way of alternate service upon you.

Details of the borrowers, co-borrowers, loan account no., loan amount, demand notice under section 13(2) date, amount claimed in the notice, NPA date and securities are given as under:

<b>1. NAME OF THE BORROWER &amp; CO-BORROWERS:</b> Ragbir Singh & Nirmla Devi H No 47 -P, Sector 18, HUDA, Panipat-132102 LOAN ACCOUNT NO. 664851; LOAN AMOUNT: Rs 22689386 (Rupees Two Crores Twenty Six Lakhs Eighty Nine Thousand Three Hundred Eighty Six Only); DEMAND NOTICE DATE: 27.08.2019; AMOUNT CLAIMED: Rs. 11710232 (Rupees One Crore Seventeen Lakhs Ten Thousand Two Hundred Thirty Two Only) as of 26th August, 2019 and future contractual interest till actual realization together with incidental expenses, cost and charges etc.; NPA DATE: 06.05.2019; DETAILS OF SECURITY: All the piece and parcel of the H NO 47-P SECTOR 18 HUDA PANIPAT PANIPAT...132103 admeasuring 1 Kanal or 450 Sq. Mts. or 538 Sq.yards and recorded in the name of Nirmla Devi and Ragbir Singh Registration document: Book No. 1, volume no. 630, on page no. 46, at serial no. 8461, on dated 11.02.2010, with the office of Sub Registrar - Panipat PROPERTY BOUNDED AS: EAST: 15.0 m. Vacant plot no. 20 of others, WEST: 15.0 m. Metalled HUDA Road 10.0 m. wide, NORTH: 30.0 m. Metalled HUDA Road 10.0 m. wide; SOUTH: 30.0 m. House No. 48 of Sh. Sathish Sharma.
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You the borrower/co-borrowers and guarantors are therefore called upon to make payment of the above mentioned demanded amount with further interest as mentioned hereinabove in full within 60 days of this notice failing which the undersigned shall be constrained to take action under the Act to enforce the above-mentioned securities.

(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.)

Please note that as per section 13(13) of the said Act, you are restrained from transferring the above-referred securities by way of sale, lease or otherwise without our consent and any non-compliance of section 13(13) of the Act is punishable under section 29 of the said Act.

**FOR ANY QUERY PLEASE CONTACT MR. ASHISH MEHTA, PHONE: 9729438899**

**DATE: 22.09.2019 PLACE: MUMBAI Sd/- AUTHORISED OFFICER**

**PUNJAB & SIND BANK**  
**BRANCH : KALA GHANUPUR, AMRITSAR**

**Public Notice to Borrowers / Guarantors under Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002**

I being the Authorised Officer of the Secured Creditor Bank has reason to believe that you the Borrower as well as the guarantor cannot be served through ordinary way as attempted earlier except through this substituted service. As Such, you the under mentioned notices who are borrowers and guarantors in the under mentioned Accounts are hereby informed and called upon through this public Demand Notice under Section 13(2) of the SARFAESI Act read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002 to make payment of amounts due against you and borrowers / guarantors in the Account, as mentioned below, within 60 days from the date of this publication, Please also note that if you fail to make the payment of the demanded amounts within period of 60 days, the bank shall proceed U/s 13(4) of the said Act for taking possession of the secured Assets mentioned below against the Accounts and thereafter to sell the same to realize its dues with further interest till realization along with costs as contemplated under the said Act.

Needless to mention here that this notice is addressed to you without prejudice to any other remedy available to the Bank for recovery of its dues, against you.

Name of the NPA Accounts	Date of the Demand Notice	Amount Outstanding
(1) S. Jasmer Singh S/o S. Gian Singh (2) S. Harmandeep Singh S/o S. Jasmer Singh (3) Mrs. Harjit Kaur W/o S. Jasmer Singh, all R/o House no. 485/2, Opp. Gurudwara Baba Karam Singh, Near Ghanapur Government School, Chheharta, Amritsar	02-09-2019	Rs. 14,06,191/10 as on 31-01-2019 + Interest, charges and less recovery if any, till date affected

**Description of the Immovable Property :** (i) Property Plot area measuring 78.22 sq. yards vide Sale deed dated 29-01-2016 duly Registered with the Office of Sub Registrar Amritsar- II, vide Document no. 14023, Book no. 1, Volume no. 6570 at page no. 3436 and bounded as per sale deed East : Ownership of others, West : Gali, North : Joginder Singh, South : Remaining Area (ii) Property Plot measuring area 149.33 sq. yards vide Sale deed dated 29-01-2016 duly Registered with the Office of Sub Registrar Amritsar- II vide Document no. 14046, Book no. 1, Volume no. 6570 at page no. 8990 and bounded as per sale deed East : Ownership of others, West : Gali, North : Remaining area, South : Ownership of others, total area measuring 227.55 sq. yards and bearing Kharsa no. 313 min, situated in area Rakba Kala Ghanapur Sub Urban, Abadi Nawi Abadi, Amritsar, Owned by Mrs. Harjit Kaur W/o S. Jasmer Singh.

**Date : 22-09-2019 Place : Amritsar Sd/- Authorised Officer**

**Central Bank of India**  
Branch Office : Sector 25, Panchkula

**E-AUCTION SALE NOTICE**

**PUBLIC NOTICE FOR E-AUCTION FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE / MOVABLE PROPERTIES**  
**LAST DATE & TIME OF SUBMISSION OF EMD AND DOCUMENTS (Hard copy) : 07.10.2019 , 4:00 PM**  
**LAST DATE TIME OF SUBMISSION OF EMD AND DOCUMENTS Online: 09.10.2019 , 4:00 PM**

Sale of immovable/ movable property mortgaged to Bank under Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial assets and Enforcement of Security Interest (SARFAESI) Act, 2002.

Whereas, the Authorized Officer of Central Bank of India had taken possession of the following property/ies pursuant to the notice issued under Sec 13(2) of the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest (SARFAESI) Act, 2002 in the following loan accounts with our Branch with a right to sell the same on "AS IS WHERE IS BASIS AND AS IS WHAT IS BASIS" for realization of Bank's dues. The sale will be done by the undersigned through e-auction platform provided at the [website: \(https://www.bankeauctions.com\)](https://www.bankeauctions.com)

**DESCRIPTION OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES**

Name of the Branch & Account	Details of property/ secured assets & owner of the property	Date of Demand Notice	Name and contact no of the Authorized officer	EMD submission account Details	Reserve Price EMD	Date and time of E-auction
<b>Borrower : 1. Smt. Sarvesh Aggarwal W/o Sh. Rakesh Kumar House No.1925 Urban Estate Sector -13, Karnal, Distt Karnal, Haryana. 2. Smt. Shashi Aggarwal W/o Sh. Anand Aggarwal, House No.1633-B, Sector -26 Panchkula, Haryana. Guarantor 1. Sh. Mukesh Aggarwal S/o Ram Lal R/O House No. 1576, Sector-7, Karnal</b>	Residential plot measuring 177.5 Sq. Yard Khewat No. 3410, Khatauni No. 6894, 6895, Kite 3, Rakba 111 Bhige 15 Biswa Ka 7/4470 Bhag Bakdar 3.5 Biswa Jamabandi year 1984-85 situated at Gurunanakpura between Pingli Road & SYL Canal near Kaithal Road, Karnal owned by Smt. Sarvesh Aggarwal W/o Sh. Rakesh Aggarwal vide Sale deed No. 4177 dated 21/02/1995.	02.11.2013 Rs. 15,51,921/- due as on 02.11.2013 and further interest and expenses thereon 24.01.2014	L.R. MALHAN (9988690677)	A/C No.3636585622 CBIN0280412 Authorized officer, Central Bank of India	Rs. 04.05 Lacs Rs. 40,500/- Rs. 5,000/-	10.10.2019 11:30 AM to 12:00 NOON
<b>1. Sh. Rakesh Aggarwal S/o Ram Lal, # 1925, Urban Estate, Sector-13 Karnal Distt: Karnal (Haryana). 2. Sh. Anand Aggarwal S/o Ram Lal, DSS-171, Sector-25, Panchkula (Haryana).</b>	Residential Plot Measuring: 3.5 Biswa (177.5 Sq. Yard.) i.e. 7/4470 share of land comprised in khewat no-3410, khatauni no. : 6894-95, kite 3, measuring 111 Bighas 15 Biswa, situated at Gurunanak Pura Colony, Near SYL Canal, Pingli Road, Karnal Jamabandi year 1984-85 owned by Rakesh Aggarwal vide Sale deed No. 4176 dated 21/02/1995.	06.01.2014 Rs. 15,80,848/- as on 04.01.2014 + interest & other charges accrued thereon 06.06.2014	L.R. MALHAN (9988690677)	A/C No.3636585622 CBIN0280412 Authorized officer, Central Bank of India	Rs. 04.05 Lacs Rs. 40,500/- Rs. 5,000/-	10.10.2019 12:00 NOON to 12:00 PM

The E-Auction is being held on "As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is basis". 1. To the best of knowledge and information of the Authorized Officer, there is no encumbrance on the property. However, the intending bidders should make their own independent inquiries regarding the encumbrances, title of property put on auction and claims/ rights/ dues/ effecting the property, prior to submitting their bid 2. For detailed Terms & Conditions of E-Auction, Please refer the link <https://www.bankeauctions.com> & Secured Creditor's webstie i.e. <https://www.centralbankofindia.co.in> before submitting their bids and taking part in the e-Auction.

**Note :- The inspection of the Property/ies put on auction will be permitted to interested bidders during working days between 2 PM to 4PM with prior appointment and consultation with the branch Manager/ Authorised Officer.**

**STATUTORY 15 DAYS SALE NOTICE UNDER THE SARFAESI ACT, 2002**

The borrower/ guarantors are hereby notified to pay the sum as mentioned above along with up to date interest and ancillary expenses before the date of e-Auction, failing which the property will be auctioned/ sold and balance dues, if any, will be recovered with interest and cost.

**Date : 21.09.2019 Place : Panchkula (Authorised Officer)**

**PUNJAB & SIND BANK** **SYMBOLIC POSSESSION NOTICE (FOR IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES)**

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

The borrowers / guarantors having failed to repay the amount, notice hereby given to the borrowers / guarantors & the public in general that undersigned has taken possession of the Properties described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him / her under section 13(4) of said Act read with Rule 9 of the said rule on the date mentioned against each account. The borrowers / guarantors in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the Properties and any dealing with the Properties will be subject to the charge of the Punjab and Sind Bank, for the amounts, other charges, costs, expenses and interest thereon. The borrowers attention is invited to provisions of Sub Section (8) of the Section 13 of Act, in respect of time available to them, to redeem the secured assets.

Name of the NPA Accounts / Branch	Description of the Immovable Properties	Date of the Demand Notice	Date of the Possession	Amount Outstanding
(1) Sh. Narinder Sharma S/o Sh. Baldev Raj and Smt. Preeti Sharma W/o Narinder Sharma and Guarantor (1) Narinder Kumar Sharma S/o Sh. Vir Bhan Sharma (2) Sh. Ajay Kumar S/o Baldev Raj Branch : Sd Guru Ram Dass Sarai, Amritsar	One House bearing private no. 231, Kharsa no. 4/10/1 112, 12, 13/1, 31, 5/16 min, 5/25/1, 9/3, 8/1, 13/2, 28 min, having measurement in Length 45 ft Wide and Breadth 20 ft Total area measuring 100 Sq. yards Which is Bounded by as per sale deed East: Passage 20 ft, West: Plot no. 235, North: Plot no. 232, 233, South: Plot no. 230, Situated in the area of Rakba Bharanwal Urban, Locality Anand Vihar, Phase-II, Tehsil and Distt Amritsar. Sale deed dated 29.08.2016 Duly Registered with the office of Sub-Registrar Amritsar Vide Document no. 4936, Book no. 1, Volume no. 14636, at page 7677 in favour of Sh. Narinder Sharma S/o Sh. Baldev Raj	03-06-2019	16-09-2019	Rs. 20,11,910/- + Interest, other charges w.a.f. 01-06-2019 and less recovery if any, till date affected
(2) Sh. Ashok Kumar S/o Sh. Dhani Ram and Sh. Ravi Kumar S/o Sh. Ashok Kumar Guarantor: (i) Smt. Shakuntla W/o Sh. Ashok Kumar (ii) Sh. Lakshwinder Singh S/o Sh. Jaimal Singh (iii) Sh. Gurmukh Singh S/o Sh. Buta Singh Branch : Sharipura, Amritsar	One Plot bearing Private no. 39, having Length 65 ft. Width Front 30 ft total area measuring 216.66 sq. yards bearing Kharsa no. 85/1/7, 85/18 min, Situated at Village Nangli, Preet Avenue, Abadi D.N Enclave, Tehsil & Distt Amritsar which is bounded by as per sale deed North: Street 21 1/2 ft, South: Plot no. 22, East: Plot no. 38, West: Street 25 ft Owned by Sh. Ashok Kumar S/o Sh. Dhani Ram and Smt. Shakuntla W/o Sh. Ashok Kumar Sale deed dated 15-07-2015 Duly Registered with the office of Sub-Registrar Amritsar II, Vide Document no. 4976, Bahi no. 1, Volume no. 6349, Page 6365, Registered on 15-07-2015 in favour of Sh. Ashok Kumar S/o Sh. Dhani Ram and Smt. Shakuntla W/o Sh. Ashok Kumar	10-06-2019	16-09-2019	Rs. 8,00,919/- as on 06-06-2019 + Interest, other charges and less recovery if any, till date affected
(3) Sh. Hemant Rai S/o Sh. Jaswant Rai, Prop. Of M/s Hemant Store Branch : Hindu Sabha School, Amritsar	Property I.e One House bearing Kharsa no. 251-254-253, Length 44 ft Breadth 41 ft, total area measuring 200.44 Muraba Sq. yards to the extent of its 33.38 Muraba sq. yards which is bounded as per sale deed East and North: Road, West: Property of Suraj Parkash, South: Property of Fouja Singh Situated at Tungbala Urban, Abadi Basant Avenue, Tehsil and Distt Amritsar Owned by Sh. Jaswant Rai S/o Sh. Tulsi Rai	02-07-2019	16-09-2019	Rs. 5,14,957/21 as on 30-06-2019 + Interest, other charges and less recovery if any, till date affected

**Date : 22-09-2019 Place : Amritsar Sd/- Authorised Officer**

**Andhra Bank** **Where India Banks** **1<sup>st</sup> floor Hotel Shivalik View Sec 17 E Chandigarh**  
Contact no. 0172-2722040, 0172-2722041  
E-Mail : [zocnd@andhrabank.co.in](mailto:zocnd@andhrabank.co.in)

**NOTICE OF E-AUCTION (RULE 9 OF SECURITY INTEREST (ENFORCEMENT) RULES 2002)**

**WHEREAS the below mentioned borrowers residing /carrying on business at Chandigarh & Haryana availed credit facilities from Andhra Bank, branches and has defaulted to pay and is due to the Bank-**

Sr. No.	A/c Name	Branch Name	Defaulted amount due to the Andhra Bank as on	Property Description
1.	M/s Ganpati Communication Prop : Vinod Kumar Aggarwal	Hissar	Rs 2,43,49,727/- (Rupees Two Crore Forty Three lakhs Forty Nine thousand o seven hundred twenty seven and paise sixty seven only) as on 31.08.2017 plus further interest, costs and charges.	1. Residential House No 177, Block No 16-2, Prem Nagar, Hisar admeasuring 187.5 Sq Yards. <b>Boundaries: North- Concrete paved platform &amp; beyond road, South- House of Smt Roshni Devi, East- H No 176 of Sh Vinod Goyal, West- H No 178 of Sh. Hanuman Dayal.</b>
2.	Parmjeet Kaur	Ambala City	Rs 19,89,624.90/- (Rupees Nineteen Lakhs as on 04.06.2018 plus further interest, costs and charges.	Residential belonging to Mrs. Parmjeet Kaur, Situated at house No. 56, New Milap Nagar, Singhawala, Ambala City, Haryana. <b>Boundaries: North: Plot Of Sh. Sharma Ji Bhujia 60", South: House of Sh Bhupinder Singh Bhujia 60", East: House of Sh. Bhupinder Singh Bhujia 17", West: Gali 22" Wide Bhujia 16".</b>

Therefore Andhra Bank in exercise of the Powers conferred u/s 13 of The Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 54 of 2002 has decided to sell the property detailed below in Public auction to be conducted by way of e-auction through the website/portal detailed hereunder.

**The Reserve Price of the Secured Asset detailed hereafter is fixed at-**

1) M/s Ganpati Communications :  
a. Property: Rs. 80,00,000/- (Rupees Eighty Lakhs only )  
2) Mrs Parmjeet Kaur:  
a. Property : Rs. 21,00,000/- (Rupees Twenty one lakhs only )

**The persons interested in participating in the auction and purchasing the property shall deposit-**

1) M/s Ganpati Communications :  
a. Property: Rs 8,00,000/- (Rupees Eight Lakhs only )  
2) Mrs Parmjeet Kaur:  
a. Property : RS 2,10,000/- (Rupees Two Lakhs Ten Thousand only )

**Towards earnest money by way of EFT/RTGS/NEFT transfer in favour of the-**

1) Authorised Officer, Ambala City branch to the credit of the A/c NO.218511100001565 (Name of A/c Authorised Officer Andhra Bank) **Andhra Bank Ambala City**, the Branch Code being 2185, IFSC Code ANDB0002185.

2) Authorised Officer, Hisar branch to the credit of the A/c NO. 166711100004447 (Name of A/c Authorised Officer Andhra Bank) **Andhra Bank Hisar** , the Branch Code being 1667, IFSC Code ANDB0001667.

**The EMD has to be deposited on or before 4.00 pm on 09<sup>th</sup> October 2019.**

The intending purchasers after payment of the EMD have to register their name with the e-auction service provider given below and obtain their user ID and password. The intending purchasers can take the assistance of the service provider in creation of login ID & password, uploading data, submitting bid and can also get training on e-auction free of cost.

The intending purchaser holding valid User ID/ Password and confirmed payment of EMD through NEFT/RTGS shall alone be eligible for participating in the e-Auction process subject to clearance by the Authorised Officer.

**Minimum Bid multiples shall be Rs 10000/-**

**The properties will be e-auctioned on 10<sup>th</sup> October 2019 on the website of ANTARES SYSTEMS LIMITED (E-auction service provider) between 1100 hrs to 1400 hrs with auto time extension of 5 minutes each, till the sale is concluded/closed.**

The property would be sold to the bidder who offers highest price/bid, and the sale shall be subject to confirmation by the Bank.

**In respect of movable property, the successful bidder/purchaser will have to deposit the entire sale price immediately on completion of Sale.**

**In respect of immovable property, the successful bidder/purchaser will have to deposit 25% of the price/bid amount inclusive of earnest money deposited immediately i.e., on the same day or not later than next working day, as the case may be with Authorised officer and in default of such deposit, the property shall be sold again.**

**The balance 75% of the amount shall have to be deposited by the purchaser on or before the 15<sup>th</sup> day of confirmation of Sale of the immovable property or such extended period as may be agreed upon in writing between the purchaser and secured creditor. If the amount is not paid within the stipulated time, the amount deposited shall be forfeited and the bank will be at liberty to sell the property again.**

There are no encumbrances known to the Bank on the Property/the property is subject to the following encumbrances known to the Bank.

- Municipal Tax
- Society Charges
- Other statutory charges

The parties interested to inspect the property may do so on 03<sup>rd</sup> and 04<sup>th</sup> October 2019 between 11.00 am and 4.00 pm on taking prior permission from Authorised Officer.

The purchaser shall be liable for payment of local taxes, excise duty and any other statutory dues. The Registration charges and stamp duty on the documents executed for affecting the sale shall be borne by the purchaser.

The property will be sold as per the Terms and Conditions displayed on the website of the service provider on **as is where is** and **as is what is basis**. The decision of the bank regarding sale of the property shall be final, binding and will not be open to question.

The Authorised Officer reserves the right to cancel or postpone the sale without assigning any reasons.

**The e-auction of the above mentioned property would be conducted through the e-Auction Service Provider:**

**The e-auction of the above mentioned property would be conducted through the e-Auction Service Provider:**  
Name:Antares Systems Limited  
Address: # 24, Sudha Complex, 3<sup>rd</sup> Stage, 4<sup>th</sup> Block Basavsh Warangar, Bangalore -560079  
Through E- Auction Portal: [www.tenderwizard.com/ANB](http://www.tenderwizard.com/ANB)  
Helpline Nos: (Toll Free) 18001026185 (Landline) -080-49352000  
Contact Person(s) : Mr. Vinod Singh Bora - 9718272288, & Mr. Kushal Bose - 7686913157  
Helpline E-Mail ID : [vinodsingh.b@antaresystems.com](mailto:vinodsingh.b@antaresystems.com) & [kushal.b@antaresystems.com](mailto:kushal.b@antaresystems.com)

Further details regarding the e-auction and the e-auction bid form, declaration form and detailed terms and conditions may be obtained from **Andhra Bank, Ambala City and Hisar Branch** and the same are also available in the following web sites :

1. [www.antaresystems.com](http://www.antaresystems.com)  
2. [www.andhrabank.in](http://www.andhrabank.in)  
3. [www.tenders.gov.in](http://www.tenders.gov.in)

Further details regarding the e-auction and the e-auction bid form, declaration form and detailed terms and conditions may be obtained from **Andhra Bank Zonal Office, 1 St Floor Hotel Shivalik View , Sector 17 E, Chandigarh**  
Contact no. 0172-2722040, 0172-2722041  
Email: [zocnd@andhrabank.co.in](mailto:zocnd@andhrabank.co.in)  
and the same are also available in the following web sites:

1. [www.tenderwizard.com/ANB](http://www.tenderwizard.com/ANB)  
2. [www.andhrabank.in](http://www.andhrabank.in)  
3. [www.tenders.gov.in](http://www.tenders.gov.in)

This is also a notice to the borrower (s) guarantor(s) mortgagor(s) of the above loan under Rule 8(6) and Rule 9 of the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets & Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002.

**Place: Chandigarh Authorized Officer**  
**Dated : 20.09.2019 Andhra Bank-Zonal Office**  
**Andhra Bank, Phone No: 0172-2722040/41**

# the pioneer agenda



## FROM THE INSIDE

**Caste as Social Capital**  
A book that talks about how the caste system in India has been distorted by the self-styled liberals

2



4

## Focus on mind for success

Empower yourself by improving your focus, sharpening intelligence and optimising indwelling potential

Listening to an underserved population is how you begin to understand them and serve them better  
— Constance Wu



# PRIORITISING STRATEGIC ECONOMIC COOPERATION



The Vladivostok Summit held earlier this month consolidates two decades of calibrated decisions by India and Russia to give a forward-looking agenda to their bilateral partnership in three core areas — economic, energy and defence cooperation

The 20th India-Russia Summit at Vladivostok on September 4-5, 2019 marked the first visit by an Indian Prime Minister, Narendra Modi, to the Russian Far East. It placed the port city and its surrounding region in the eye of a bold joint initiative to energise “strong, multifaceted trade and economic cooperation as the foundation for further expanding the range of India-Russia relations”.



ASOKE MUKERJI

Speaking at the Joint Press Conference with President Putin, India's Prime Minister emphasised that the partnership between India and Russia was based on

“trust”. The basis for this “trust” is rooted in the first India-Russia Summit held in New Delhi in October 2000, when the two countries signed a Declaration on Strategic Partnership. At that time, Russia was emerging from a decade of political and economic downturn following the disintegration of the Soviet Union. India was emerging from the first phase of her momentous economic reforms. The overall objective of the India-Russia partnership was designed to create strategic autonomy for both countries.

The first summit took place after India's nuclear weapons tests of May 11-13, 1998, and newly elected President Putin's pledge on May 7, 2000 to make Russia “a country that its citizens are proud of and is respected internationally”. The decision taken by former Indian Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee and President Putin to institutionalise the India-Russia Summit mechanism annually has withstood the test of time. At Vladivostok, India and Russia asserted that in “successfully coping with the turbulent realities of the contemporary world” they have “never been and will not be susceptible to outside influence”.

Rejecting “unilateral coercive measures not based on international law”, the Summit called for “strengthening” multilateralism and underlined the “primacy of international law”. Prime Minister Modi said that “both countries understand that we need a multipolar world to achieve peace and stability”. Russia reiterated its support for India's permanent membership of the UN Security Council. At their joint press conference, both leaders underlined the bonds that link India and Russia together, with President Putin highlighting the deep mutual interest in “each other's culture, history and moral values”.

The Summit consolidated two decades of calibrated decisions by India and Russia to give a forward-looking

agenda to their bilateral partnership in three core areas — economic, energy and defence cooperation. In each area, the two countries prioritised the role of investments, manufacturing, employment and technology as catalysts for their burgeoning partnership. They agreed to integrate innovation in high technology products in telecommunications, pharmaceuticals, robotics, artificial intelligence and nanotechnologies into this framework.

## ECONOMIC COOPERATION

The potential of economic cooperation to strengthen the “special and privileged strategic partnership” between India and Russia has remained largely untapped, despite several initiatives taken over the past 20 years. Bilateral trade has gradually increased from \$1.5 billion in 2000 to its current annual level of about \$11 billion, well short of the declared target of \$30 billion by 2025.

The Vladivostok Summit resulted in a joint initiative to utilise the “immense energy of the private industry”, in Prime Minister Modi's words, to turn this situation around. In addition to energy and defence cooperation, the economic partnership would target the pharmaceuticals, agriculture, civil aviation, railways, ship building, space, education and tourism sectors. The new strategy unveiled at Vladivostok integrates four supportive measures to increase Russian business participation in the Make in India programme, along with an increased Indian business participation in investment projects in Russia.

First, a bilateral inter-governmental agreement on the promotion and protection of mutual investments is to be negotiated to anchor this initiative. Second, steps would be taken to address non-tariff barriers to bilateral trade, including through broader discussions on a Trade Agreement between India and the Eurasian Economic Union. Third, coordinating support would be rendered by the investment offices of Russia in India and India in Russia. Fourth, the India-Russia Strategic Economic Dialogue mechanism set up after the 2018 New Delhi Summit would be geared to promote “cohesive and mutually beneficial cooperation in core sectors”.

Building on the initial attempts made in 2001 to bring the states of India and provinces of Russia into the framework of economic cooperation, the Summit envisaged interaction between Uttar Pradesh, Gujarat, Haryana and Goa with the 11 provinces of Russia's Far East to provide depth to this process. Prime Minister Modi mentioned the “coal industry, the diamond industry, the lumber industry, as well as agriculture and tourism” as the specific focus of this interaction, which could impact on “exploring cooperation on temporary

placement of skilled manpower from India” in Russia's Far East.

The broad vision behind India's historic economic engagement at the highest level with Russia's Far East was brought out by Prime Minister Modi at the plenary session of the Eastern Economic Forum at Vladivostok on September 5, 2019. He said: “India will provide a \$1 billion line of credit to further contribute to the development of the Far East. This is the first time that we are giving a line of credit to a particular region of a country. My Government's Act East Policy has actively engaged with East Asia. Today's announcement will prove to be the take-off point of the Act Far East policy and it is my firm belief that this step adds a new dimension to our economic diplomacy. We will be active participants in the development of the regions of our friendly countries according to their priorities.”

## ENERGY COOPERATION

The primary objective of India-Russia energy cooperation has been India's quest for energy security, and Russia's interest in exporting its huge energy reserves on a long-term predictable basis to India, one of the biggest importers of energy in the world. The Vladivostok Summit discussed partnership in nuclear, oil and gas sectors within this framework, integrating it with the new thrust on economic cooperation.

Both leaders stressed civil nuclear cooperation as an “important component of strategic partnership”. Prime Minister Modi emphasised the significance of “localisation of nuclear power plants” with reference to the new reactors being constructed by Russia at Kudankulam, which will strengthen India's nuclear reactor construction capabilities, including in manufacturing and in expanding her pool of skilled manpower. President Putin highlighted bilateral cooperation in Kudankulam as a “flagship joint project” and anticipated that “at least 12 Russian-designed nuclear power plants will be built within the next 20 years” in India. This would provide the basis for an increase in nuclear trade and technological cooperation between Russia and India, including in “joint manufacturing of equipment and fuel”. The Summit welcomed the success of India-Russia cooperation in constructing the Rooppur Nuclear Power Plant in Bangladesh, which motivated them to look at similar joint cooperation projects for nuclear power in third world countries.

It is significant that during the past 20 years India and Russia have been able to outline such a forward-looking nuclear energy partnership, which is in consonance with their international legal obligations on the peaceful uses of nuclear energy. Russia reiterated its strong support to India's membership of

the Nuclear Suppliers Group.

India's investments in the oil and gas sector of Russia have crossed \$15 billion, including her stake of \$2.7 billion in the Sakhalin-1 project in Russia's Far East from 2001. Russia's Rosneft-led consortium, which acquired India's Essar Oil (since renamed as Nayara Energy) for \$13 billion in 2017, is expected to expand the capacity of India's second largest oil refinery at Vadinar in Gujarat, which currently refines 20 million tonnes of oil annually.

An agreement on Hydrocarbons cooperation for 2019-2024 was announced during the Summit, which welcomed the implementation of mutually beneficial long-term partnerships between India's Consortium of Oil and Gas Public Sector Undertakings and Russia's Rosneft, and between Gas Authority of India Limited (GAIL) and Russia's giant Gazprom. The projects being implemented included Vankorneft and Taas-Yuryakh in eastern Siberia, the location of one of Russia's largest oil and gas reserves, and a contract for long-term supply of Russian Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) to India.

This approach is designed to create a strategic alignment for the supply and processing of Russian energy to India. A long-term predictable arrangement will mitigate the current volatility in supply and prices in global energy supplies to India. The impact of this emerging alignment will be felt in emerging partnerships in the inland and maritime transportation, port modernisation and energy processing sectors.

## DEFENCE COOPERATION

President Putin accompanied Prime Minister Modi on a tour of the Zvezda ship-building complex near Vladivostok, which enabled the two leaders to spend two hours together in the informal discussions. This continued a practice initiated with their meeting in Sochi in May 2018. The Russian leader's public references to the “many Russian made ships” in the Indian Navy including the aircraft carrier Vikramaditya and leased nuclear powered submarine Chakra were significant markers for the Summit agreement on preparing “a framework for cooperation on reciprocal logistics support”.

At the Summit's joint press conference, Prime Minister Narendra Modi termed the “steps that are giving our defence cooperation a solid foundation of co-manufacturing” a boost to Indian industry. President Putin emphasised the important role of “joint projects in India” to illustrate that “Russia does more than supply weapons to India.”

A significant takeaway from the Vladivostok Summit for future defence cooperation was the agreement for manufacturing spares of Russian/Soviet-origin equipment in India. This agreement

represents a sustainable solution to a long-standing problem that has festered for almost two decades on the ground. By upgrading India-Russia defence cooperation, opening the doors for joint development and production of military equipment, components, and spare parts, as well as after-sales service activities, a visible economic dimension has been added to defence cooperation. At the heart of this new activity will be Russian participation through investments in joint ventures and technology in the Make in India programme, with its “spin-off” benefits for employment and technology diffusion.

## THE GEOPOLITICAL DIMENSION

The objective of prioritising economic cooperation to boost the India-Russia partnership will be require a supportive geo-political framework, especially for connectivity between India and Russia's Far East.

The reference to an “open and inclusive Indo-Pacific region” in Prime Minister Modi's address to the Eastern Economic Forum was accompanied by the announcement of a new maritime route between Chennai and Vladivostok to “increase connectivity between the regions”, which would traverse the South China Sea. Despite Russia's reported hesitations on officially using the term “Indo-Pacific”, the Summit declaration's reference to consultations on “integration and development initiatives in the greater Eurasian space and in the regions of the Indian and Pacific Oceans” denotes an emerging strategic convergence between India and Russia on an “inclusive” Indo-Pacific regional strategy. This would incorporate not only maritime connectivity in the Pacific, but also critical maritime connectivity routes in the western Indo-Pacific such as the straits of Hormuz and the Red Sea, as well as connectivity projects such as Chabahar in Iran and emerging maritime routes using the Arctic.

The Summit declaration identified cooperation in the Arctic and cyber security as emerging areas for India-Russia partnership. Russia's long experience in deep sea fishing and deep-sea mining could provide the building blocks for the concept of the Blue Economy of the Indo-Pacific, as part of India's SAGAR Indian Ocean strategy articulated by Prime Minister Modi in March 2015. Incorporating these areas into the special and privileged strategic partnership between India and Russia could catalyse the emergence of India as a maritime power.

The author was India's Ambassador to the United Nations (2013-2015) and India's Deputy Ambassador to the Russian Federation (2001-2005). He is a Distinguished Fellow of the Vivekananda International Foundation, New Delhi

“AT VLADIVOSTOK, INDIA AND RUSSIA ASSERTED THAT IN ‘SUCCESSFULLY COPING WITH THE TURBULENT REALITIES OF THE CONTEMPORARY WORLD’ THEY HAVE ‘NEVER BEEN AND WILL NOT BE SUSCEPTIBLE TO OUTSIDE INFLUENCE’. REJECTING ‘UNILATERAL COERCIVE MEASURES NOT BASED ON INTERNATIONAL LAW’, THE SUMMIT CALLED FOR ‘STRENGTHENING’ MULTILATERALISM AND UNDERLINED THE ‘PRIMACY OF INTERNATIONAL LAW’”





The book is a well-argued account of how the caste system in India has been distorted by the self-styled liberals who take the gullible for a ride under the pretext of a casteless society, writes KUMAR CHELLAPPAN

# The complexities of caste system

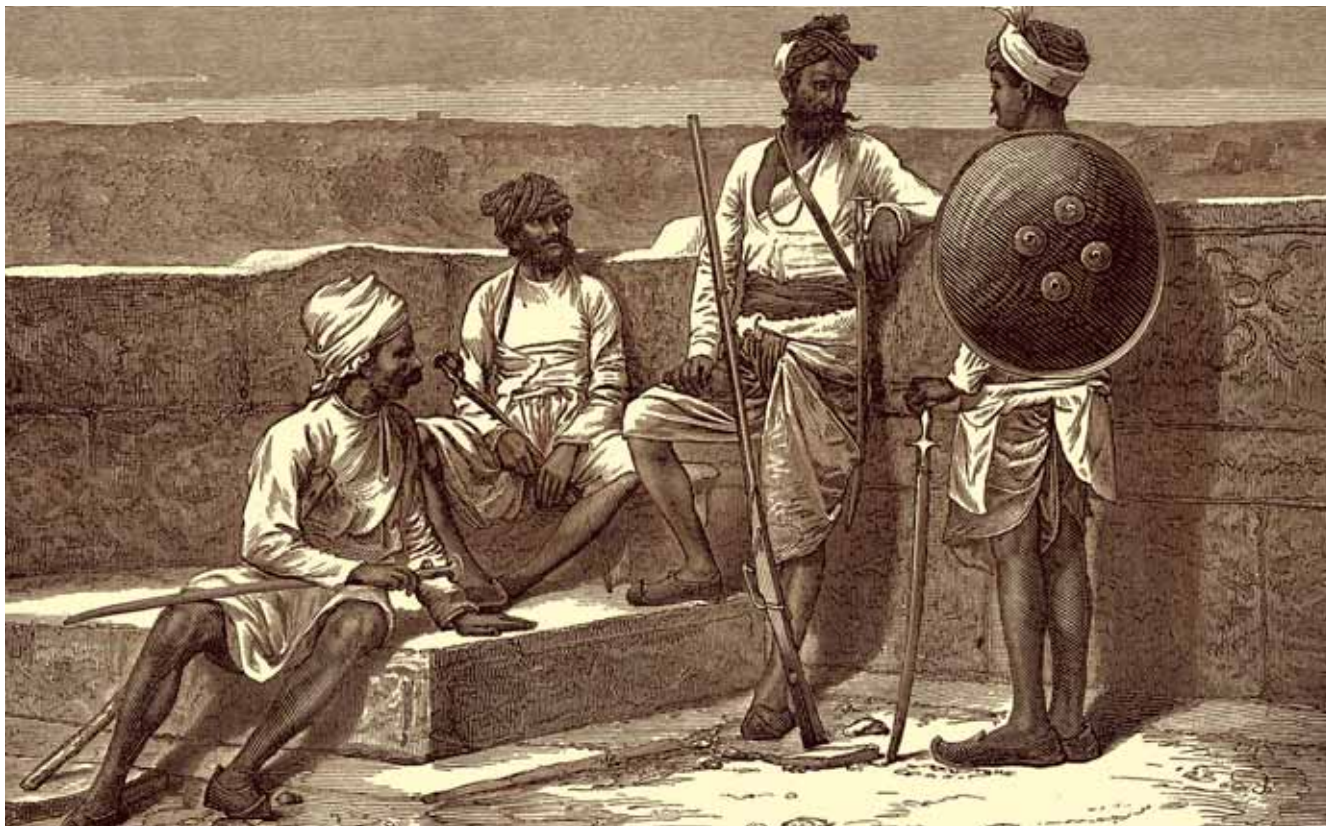
A 131 page book packed with shocking but well researched facts, data and information. That's how "Caste As Social Capital", authored by Prof R Vaidyanathan can be described. The data painstakingly collected by Prof Vaidyanathan and presented in an articulate manner points at a big reservation fraud. The book is an account of how the caste system in Indian has been distorted, mutilated and misinterpreted by the self styled liberals who have taken the gullible for a ride under the pretext of salvation and casteless society.

The modern English education introduced in the subcontinent by Thomas Babington Macaulay during the colonial rule of British has succeeded in creating generations of Indian youth suffering from serious inferiority complex. They have not read Sanskrit or *Kalidasa* or *Megha Sandesham* and hence are ignorant about the rich Indian heritage. For them, what matters is the manufactured and distorted history inculcated in the Indian psyche by the Macaulay designed education. "Our English schools are flourishing wonderfully... The effect of this education on the Hindoos is prodigious. No Hindoo, who has received an English education, ever remains sincerely attached to his religion... It is my firm belief that, if our plans of education are followed up, there will not be a single idolater among the respectable classes in Bengal thirty years hence..." Macaulay wrote to his father in 1836. Needles to say, the modern day Indians have done Macaulay proud by living a life as scripted by him way back in the 1830s.

While the colonial masters aided by evangelists and proselytisers had a free run all over the country, the great truth about the rich cultural heritage of this nation lies buried thousand fathoms deep. Prof Vaidyanathan, through his book is trying to bring the real picture out in the public domain.

What "Caste As Social Capital" tries to tell the readers is that despite the protests by the Left and Liberals against the Indian caste system, it has more advantages than disadvantages. And the most shocking disclosure made by Prof Vaidyanathan is that the Reservation System practiced in India is a big fraud perpetrated on the Hindus of India by forces which want the annihilation of the *Sanatana Dharma*.

The Mandal Commission recommendations were implemented in early 1990s by politicians with selfish motives.



Though there were widespread agitations against the recommendations that "robbed" a major chunk of seats in educational institutions and government jobs from the merit category and placed them at the disposal of communities categorised as Scheduled Caste, Scheduled Tribe, Other Backward Communities and Most Backward Communities, the mainstream media sought to downplay the same to suit their business interests.

How many among us remember the martyrdom of Rajiv Goswami, the New Delhi youth who tried self immolation to protest against the then VP Singh government's decision to implement the Mandal Commission Recommendations. India was not the same after the implementation of those recommendations. Prof Vaidyanathan says that the recommendations were erred and out of sync with reality. The quota and per cent of

reservation announced by the Mandal Commission were based on flawed numbers, facts and figures. The last caste census in India was held in 1931 and the recommendations of the Commission were based on the data collected in that census. For more than six decades, there were no caste census of any kind in India and setting apart 27 per cent quota for OBC against the findings of the 1931 census was against all norms, says the professor.

The government brought in reservation as an act of atonement for the kind of discrimination the SC, ST and the Backwards had to allegedly suffer in the hands of the upper caste and Brahmins, so goes the argument. But a research by renowned Gandhian, Dharampal, has proved that there was no discrimination of any kind against the SC, ST and the OBCs at any time of the history.

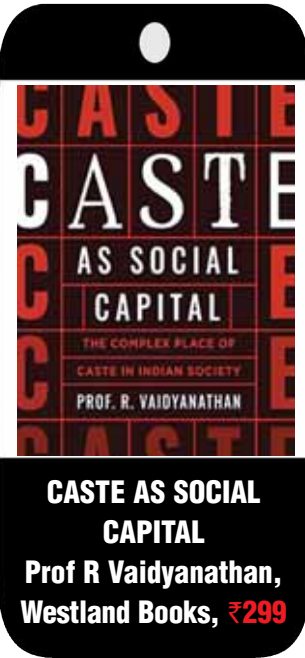
"Dharampal discovered that a fairly detailed survey of school and college education has been undertaken by the British administration in the erstwhile Madras Presidency Area. According to the survey conducted between 1822 and 1825 in the Madras Presidency (that is, the whole of the Indian States of Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh, and parts of Odisha, Kerala, Karnataka, and the union territory of Lakshadweep), 11,575 schools and 1094 colleges were then in existence in the Presidency and the number of students in them were 157, 195 and 5431 respectively," writes Prof Vaidyanathan. Shudras (backward castes) constituted 70 to 80 per cent of the students in Tamil speaking areas, while the per cent of backward caste students in Oriya speaking areas was 62 per cent!

Interestingly, share of the Brahmins in Tamil-speaking areas of the Madras

Presidency were a mere 13 per cent in South Arcot and 23 per cent in Madras. That much for the leaders who demand still more reservation for the backward, SC and ST sections of the population!

Another report by J Dent Secretary, Fort George, dated February 21, 1825 states that out of 1,88, 680 scholars in all the collectorates of Madras Presidency, Brahmins made up 23 per cent while Shudras constituted 45 per cent.

The author has successfully demolished all the arguments put forward by the political leadership justifying the need for continuation of reservation, and that too the most unscientific and crude form of reservation. "The assumption made by the Mandal Commission based on the 1931 Census and other parameters that more than 50 per cent of the population belongs to OBC may not be true any longer. The National Sample



Survey 2003 suggests that the OBCs may only constitute around 36 per cent of the population and not 50 per cent as was assumed earlier. If one excludes Muslim OBCs, then the figure falls to 32 per cent, according to the NSS. The National Family Health Statistics conducted in 1998 suggests that the population of OBCs is around 32 per cent which is fairly close to the NSS figures." (Page 10-11, *Caste As Social Capital*).

While demolishing and exposing the flaws in the claims by the powerful pro-reservation lobby, Prof Vaidyanathan has argued that the caste system in India is not that bad and has done a lot for the economic and social upliftment of the poor and the downtrodden. The days of Marx and Engels who argued that religion is the opium for the masses are long gone. The religions are alive and kicking. Caste and religions are the ultra modern social networking institutions, more progressive and advanced than the five-star clubs we see in metropolitan cities, membership of which is a coveted honour for social upward mobility.

"Caste As Social Capital" is a must read for all those who shun castes and religion as well as for those who find solace in them.

## NEW ARRIVALS

**FLAWED: THE RISE AND FALL OF INDIA'S DIAMOND MOGUL**  
NIRAV MODI  
Pawan C. Lall  
Hachette, ₹399



Based on personal encounters, incisive interviews and meticulous research, *Flawed* exposes the incredible twists and turns of the Nirav Modi story — of a third-generation diamondaire who moved from Belgium to India to apprentice with his uncle, Mehul Choksi, an established diamond merchant with extensive connections; of an astute businessman whose firm grip over an intercontinental supply chain saw his branded jewellery stores across the world; and of a reclusive, inscrutable man with a penchant for the high life that possibly led him to fly too close to the sun.

**THE LAST DANCE**  
Anmol Arora  
Speaking Tiger, ₹499

Anmol Arora's debut novel, *The Last Dance*, tells the story of young Ayla, a refugee in Delhi, who aspires to become a Bharatanatyam dancer. Chronicling her journey (the ups and downs), *The Last Dance*, explores themes of identity, love and ambition in a compelling way that carries the reader along with it till the end.

**THE PARROT GREEN SAREE**  
Nabaneeta Dev Sen;  
Niyogi Books, ₹350



Translated from Bengali by Tun Tun Mukherjee, *The Parrot Green Saree* is the story of two women, two generations and two worlds moulded out of memory, expectations, and desires. Set primarily in the United States, this is also the story of displacement and loss, of a remembered homeland, of political and personal battles, of individual freedom. And it is about rebirth (in Bengali, the novel was titled *Phoenix*).

A few well-meaning folk who visit me hold my hand, weep some, and say they're sorry for me. I don't know what to do, so I pat them gently on the thigh (ladies only) and say, 'Don't worry, it'll all be okay.' They look at me strangely and mumble that I'm strong.

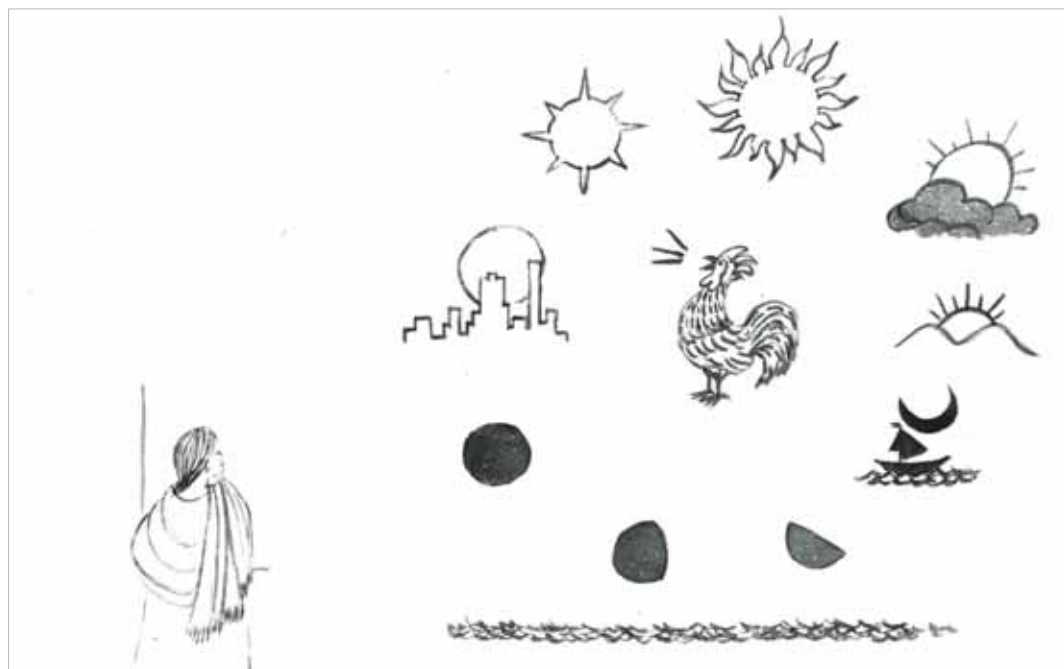
I've always been strong-hearted and proud of it. So am I not sad? When I was first diagnosed with Stage One of an aggressive type of breast cancer, I was stunned and disappointed in myself but quickly found my resolve. I chose to fight cheerfully, selecting the best doctors, eating healthy, praying hard, sending out affirmations to the universe, with a deep belief and faith that I'd be okay.

Then I learnt hope was a bad thing.

A year later, I was told my breast cancer had grown back and metastasised (metastasis is when your cancer has spread from its primary site to the rest of your body; it is also called advanced cancer, and the jury is out on its cure.) I googled it on my phone and to be doubly sure, on my laptop. It said the same thing. Now I became unimaginably sad. But I bit my lip and kept my chin up in front of the traitors (doctors) and the caretakers (family). Like every bad Bollywood film ever, I gulped and told the husband that something had gone into my eye. And then came the waterworks. I cried into the pillow, at the mirror, into the curtain, in the shower and to a few friends who caught me offguard. The rest I avoided. As much as it's important to cry your share, I also believe there's a time to grieve and a time to snap back. Self-pity is a bottomless pit. So now I've crawled out, and walk noisily around the house with a shawl draped around my shoulders like Rajesh Khanna in *Anand*, scolding the husband and teaching him for the two-hundredth

## Dukh, Dard and a Season of Hope

ANANYA MUKHERJEE lost the fight to cancer on November 18, 2018, but her book is one of hope and courage, not only for those living with cancer, and their caregivers and loved ones, but for anyone determined to live life on their own terms despite adversity. Excerpt:



time how to fold a towel correctly, with the right side up. I'm past my Dukh.

Do I have Dard? Oh yes, of all kinds that come with an illness like this one. But heartbreak and bikini wax still top my list in the 'most painful' charts.

Do I have Hope? Difficult to say. It's a long answer. The husband says, "Try

starting from the conclusion.' I pretend I haven't heard.

I stay on the nineteenth floor of an apartment in Thane now and though Ka the crow doesn't visit here (quite a long flight from Bandra, with all the planes coming in the way), there's a Crazy Cock down in the slum nearby that crows shrilly all day. For decency's sake, let's call it the Crazy

Rooster. I hear his vociferous crowing first at the crack of dawn, then he calls boisterously to the neighbourhood at 10.39 a.m., next I record his loud-speaker-like pitch at 1.21 p.m., then he yells his lungs out at 3 p.m. and so on, all bloody day. Clearly his body clock is screwed. Then I suddenly remember it's spring, my favourite season, a season for

craziness and hope. My *sukh-dukh ki saathin*, Neha Khullar, is visiting me. We stand at my bedroom window and look out at the dull blue water of the Thane creek. I tell her that its stillness unnerves me. She listens carefully, then cracks a joke like friends do to distract; I throw my head back and laugh. The sun sets between the brown-green hills and a silver moon rises above



the water, just like a watercolour in motion. We stuff our faces with food, giggle into the night and look at the highway traffic till 2 a.m., till Crazy Rooster goes off again.

To be able to breathe, walk noisily, listen to a rooster crowing, scold a husband, laugh with a friend and look at something so beautiful, is in itself a miracle. This time I'm not banking on the hope of a better tomorrow. I'm just glad to have had a beautiful spring day. A day of life is still life!

*Tales from the Tail End — My Cancer Diary*, written by Ananya Mukherjee is published by Speaking Tiger

# Arif Khan vs secular politics frozen in 1986

Arif Mohammad Khan, who rose to fame by quitting the Congress in protest against the then Rajiv Gandhi Government's stand on the Shah Bano case, was once again in spotlight recently due to two momentous events in the Indian polity.

First, because of his vociferous support to the passage of the Muslim Women (Protection of Rights on Marriage) Act, 2019 (hereby 2019 Act), by the Narendra Modi Government, which abolished the practice of instant triple talaq among Hanafi Sunni Muslim population. The 2019 Act is both a personal and political victory for Arif Khan's relentless struggle against attacks and vilification by the conservative and fundamentalist Sunni Muslim religious bodies over four decades. The second reason for his grabbing the headlines is Arif Khan's appointment as the Governor of Kerala, ending his political oblivion, particularly from the Governmental office. The critics, mostly from secular and Muslim intelligentsia and political spectrum, have seen the gubernatorial appointment as a reward for his support to the 2019 Act and accused him of being an opportunist. Such criticism is perfectly understandable as Arif Khan has long defied the "secular framing" of a politician with Muslim identity as primarily representative of Muslim community and understanding of Indian politics in terms of secularism vs communalism.

Beyond these two immediate contexts, a more serious reason for public attention lies in his constant refusal to play the role of "Muslim politics" in accordance with the rule book of "secular politics" and of so-called "secular" political parties. In this political tradition, both "secular politics" and "Muslim politics" complement each other; wherein "secular politics" tends to demonstrate its sensitivity towards accommodating the religious demands of Muslim community to affirm its secular identity in exchange for Muslim electoral support but without allowing the Muslim political agency to wear the mantle of Indian nationhood. One consequence of this interplay of secular politics and Muslim politics is that Muslims have become "other"



of Indian nationhood more due to internal dynamics of "politics of Muslim identity" and less due to larger external Indian political process.

None other than Arif Khan in contemporary times signifies the dilemma of a Muslim politician to appropriate his Indian national identity while either performing the constitutional duty as elected/nominated member of Parliament to represent Indian people or even in participating in public debates as an ordinary (Muslim) citizen. Throughout his political career and scholarly engagement spanning more than four decades, Arif Khan asserted his Indian identity in public role while being proud of his Islamic/Muslim heritage, and forcefully intervened in the matters of national importance, including the issues connected with Muslim community from the vantage of Indian citizen and national unity. His scholarly work *Text and Context: Quran and Contemporary Challenges* (2010) reveals this approach. Rooted in Indian ethos, he did not shy away from reflecting critically on the role

of State administration in the 2002 Gujarat riots and Goa speech (April 2002) of the then Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee.

It is this sense of belonging to the "idea of India" mediated through his inclusive understanding of Islam and India's plural ethos that Arif Khan forcefully opposed the Muslim Women (Protection of Rights on Divorce) Act, 1986 (hereby 1986 Act), brought by the then Rajiv Gandhi Government (of which he himself was a part), at the cost of his political career, and he also took initiative in convincing the Modi Government to enact the 2019 Act.

In both instances, Arif Khan primarily acted from the point of view of constitutional and Islamic values and ethics. For him, the 1986 Act constricts the constitutional right to life of divorced Muslim women and thus violates the constitutional and Islamic notion of justice; while the Act of 2019 expands constitutional right of equality to Muslim married woman, at least to an extent that the law protects Muslim married woman from arbitrary exercise of pro-

nouncement of instant triple talaq and its immediate effect on dissolution of marriage. This explains his vociferous opposition to the former and support to the latter.

Interestingly, in both circumstances, Arif Khan emerged as "anti-Muslim" figure in the Muslim collective imagination, primarily shaped through pan Indian network of Muslim religious clergy and its control over Muslim religious institutions including mosque, *dargah*, *khanqah*, *madrasa*, and *maktab*. With his "anti-Muslim" tag, Arif Khan quickly lost his relevance for the "secular" political parties, which are accustomed to express secularism primarily through deference to Muslim/Islamic identity. Almost all secular political parties, whether national or regional, save for a brief moment with Jan Morcha and BSP, shunned Arif Khan in post-1986 phase for his refusal to play "Muslim politics".

Arif Khan as "anti-Muslim" figure in the collective Muslim imagination rests on the ground that he legitimises the interference of (non-

Muslim) Government in the domain of Muslim personal law/Islamic jurisprudence, which today mostly flows from closed, narrow, insular, hierarchal, modern legalistic vision of Islam. Herein lies the dilemma of "Muslim politics": should it be guided to use Indian Constitution, democracy and secularism only for the purpose of expansion and consolidation of Islamic religiosity and identity at the cost of Indian national identity; or should it be envisioned as an integral part of larger Indian political process to utilise the constitutional opportunity structure to empower themselves as well as to democratise its internal structure by injecting the State mandated reform? Unfortunately, it is the former that has dominated Muslim lives and as a consequence a vast section of Muslims has failed to utilise the latter.

Arif Khan has always preferred the latter course of Muslim public action without subscribing to the identity-centred discourse of Muslim politics. However his "reformist politics" collapsed in 1986 Act with the complete abdication of the modern state in upholding the decision of Supreme Court and injecting democratic reform among the Muslim community. One consequence of the political exit and later political marginalisation of Arif Khan is the weakening of reformist voices within the community on the one hand and increasing assertion of conservative Islamic religious groups in the political domain of the country on the other. The increasing Islamisation of Muslim spaces, strengthening of Muslim religious boundary and lack of reformist process within the community — all combined — have significantly contributed to the "process of otherisation" of the community and produced "siege mentality", incapacitating a large section of Muslim youths from participating in the developmental process.

The test of a liberal-secular-democratic state lies in the protection of well-being of the minority community and ensuring a representation in the power structure of the country. It does not lie in its reluctance to carry out the mean-

ingful reform in the domain of personal laws belonging to minority community on the ground that it must come from the community first. By pursuing this line of argument for decades, the Indian state contributed to the strengthening of conservative religious voices among the Muslim community and indirectly kept a large number of Muslims away from the politics of development. A liberal state has constitutional mandate and duty to undertake those measures that enable the people to become more equal and capable to exercise the freedom of choices. From this point of view, the 2019 Act, irrespective of political intention of the Modi Government, is a welcome move.

Interestingly, while a good section of "secular jamaat" had openly come out in support of Arif Khan in 1986 for his fight against the capitulation of Congress Government before Muslim fundamentalist bodies, particularly the All India Muslim Personal Law Board (AIMPLB), today the same secular jamaat is circumspect in extending their support to Arif Khan for 2019 Bill. It is partly because of the fact that in 1986 the "secular jamaat" had found in Arif Khan a struggling liberal Muslim politician. With the Modi Government, Arif Khan ceases to be a liberal Muslim figure and hence not worthy of support of "secular Jamaat" irrespective of the merit of legislation.

In the context of the 2019 Act, a section of media personalities from "secular jamaat" deliberately framed Arif Khan as "Muslim leader of a Muslim community" despite his well established track record of conducting himself as one of Indian national leader, and then tried hard, though unsuccessfully, to squeeze him for implications of the Modi rule for the well-being of Muslim community! Given such secular obsession with politics of Muslim identity, it is not difficult to agree with Arif Khan's observation that Indian secular politics has remained frozen in 1986.

(The writer is Senior Fellow, Policy Perspectives Foundation, New Delhi. Views expressed in the text belong solely to the writer)

It is his sense of belonging to the idea of plural India, mediated through his inclusive understanding of Islam, which made Arif Mohammad Khan a crusader for Muslim women's rights, opposing the 1986 Act that superseded the Supreme Court's Shah Bano judgment. However, the increasing Islamisation of Muslim spaces, strengthening of Muslim religious boundary and lack of reformist process within the community have significantly contributed to the "process of otherisation" of the community and produced "siege mentality", incapacitating a large section of Muslim youths from participating in the developmental process



ANWAR ALAM

## PERSPECTIVE

# Brexit widening UK-Northern Ireland chasm

What haunts Northern Ireland at the moment is none other than Brexit, which is gradually opening up the old wounds of the historic Good Friday Agreement. The very idea of Brexit has destabilised politics by forcing people to take sides between Britain and Ireland



MAKHAN SAINIA

The exit of Britain from the EU would weaken the bloc. The UK being one of the wealthiest and influential nations, its departure might impair the cohesiveness and effectiveness of the EU. Further, it may trigger more such exit demands from some other members, delivering a potential threat to the survival of the EU. International Monetary Fund (IMF) has already warned about the economic impact of Brexit — reducing trade, investment and economic growth — on the entire EU region. It would make the mega investors nervous and could spark a sharp drop in the stock markets and volatile swings in the currency exchange rates across the continent.

Since June 23, 2016, when the final Brexit vote took place and the majority of the Britishers took a hard decision to leave the EU, the sign of elation has already died down in the polity, economy and society of Britain. Since then two Prime Ministers — David Cameron and Theresa May — had to resign for not being able to manage either the post-Brexit political crisis or the complex negotiations with the EU. Today Britain is at a crossroads and the EU is divided.

What makes the Brexit process more complicated is Britain's relationship with Northern Ireland. Currently, the UK is a part of the EU's customs union and the single market. The problem is that if Brexit at all happens, it will have to leave both the market and the bloc. Once this happens, the status of the UK-Northern Ireland border will turn into a customs border, coming along with traditional checks and controls. This will entail entirely a new system, full of restrictions and creating



Border communities protest Brexit on the northern side of the Irish border between Newry and Dundalk

AP/File

new problems for both the traders and the common people. In addition to practical and business hurdles, what concerns the people of Northern Ireland most is the new psychological and political situation that might emerge out of the Brexit. In December 2017, in a European Council meeting, the UK and the EU adopted a joint report, wherein the former pledged to avoid a hard border. But the most unfortunate part of this process is that

Cameron and May could not map out a plan to resolve the Northern Ireland border issue. As the Brexit confusion mounted, the EU insisted on adding a "backstop" provision to the withdrawal agreement. This simply means that if the UK can't offer any alternative arrangements, then this backstop idea indicates that Northern Ireland will continue to remain in the EU customs union and full regulatory alignment with the single market,

mainly for goods. This essentially eliminates all the upcoming checks and controls heralded by a new post-Brexit scenario.

The British Government's stated claims, such as leaving the EU's customs union, single market, preventing a hard border with Northern Ireland and ensuring a countrywide approach to Brexit, seem completely unimaginable by the new administration of Boris Johnson. He is running out of

time, ideas and political commitment in this high stakes stand-off.

Brexit has potential to affect the historic Good Friday Agreement or Belfast Agreement signed on April 10, 1998, between the UK and the Irish Government and most of the political parties in Northern Ireland on how Northern Ireland should be governed. It made it clear to the international community that Northern Ireland will remain

part of the UK unless there is consent of the majority of the people in this part of the island. Thereafter, the creation of an assembly with a power-sharing executive largely ensured the representation of both the warring communities — the Protestants and the Catholics — in policy making. Again the EU membership of both Ireland and the UK made this fragile peace more viable by enabling quick communications and by reducing physical,

psychological and most importantly, economic barriers for the benefit of this small island. However, the sad part of the Belfast Agreement is that it has not been able to bring forth a durable solution to the most intractable constitutional questions looming large over the Northern Irishers.

What haunts Northern Ireland at the moment is none other than Brexit, which is gradually opening up the old wounds of the historic Good Friday Agreement. The very idea of Brexit has destabilised politics by forcing people to take sides between Britain and Ireland. At least for more than two decades of the Agreement, people who fought for establishing their religious identities were able to take a break from their identity politics of the past: the Unionists remained part of the UK and felt reassured that the province's future could only be changed through an open poll whereas the Nationalists Irish had a greater say in local affairs. But today, the inconclusive and the most confusing Brexit process has reignited the old passions and caused polarisation along the Orange (Unionists) and the Green (Nationalists).

Finally, what brings home utter chaos is all but the policy decisions and political uncertainty of the Johnson Government. It is making peace more fragile in Northern Ireland. At the core of the famously unwritten Constitution of the UK is the principle that the PM is there in office as long as he enjoys the confidence of the House of Commons. It's not clear at all whether Johnson has that crucial support. And this is wreaking havoc for Northern Ireland.

(The writer is an expert on international affairs)



TWO OUT OF EVERY FIVE PEOPLE IN AMERICA ARE INTO TAROT READING AND VISIT A PSYCHIC READER FOR AN AVERAGE OF THREE TIMES EVERY YEAR



## YOUR WEEK AHEAD

MADHU KOTIYA



### ARIES March 21-April 19

You will experience harmony in body, mind and soul. For those with an ongoing health issue that hasn't been resolved, you may benefit greatly by alternative therapy and nutrition counselling. A spiritual teacher may appear in your life who will prove to be an excellent mentor and will help you have a new lease of life. On the career front, you may need a counsellor to sharpen your skills. Being a part of a short course or workshop may help you with your goals. Get involved in group work as you will learn from others. You will be lucky in relationships as people around you respect and value your ideas. You are likely to make an impression on your partner with your positive approach. You will feel the warmth and affection of near and dear ones.

**Lucky number** 23  
**Lucky colour** Indigo  
**Lucky day** Friday



### LEO July 23-Aug 22

Your efforts to stay healthy will pay off. This week you will be full of energy, creativity and versatility. You are likely to re-orient and figure your purpose in life. You will engage in activities like yoga, *pranayam* and other healing practices to stay fit and rejuvenated. Those facing health issues would feel at ease. On the career front, you need to take a break. If required, seek advice from a senior to clear your vision. Someone's guidelines will help you boost your career and attain control over your domain. Indulging in a group task or discussions will prove beneficial. In love, tension is indicated. You may face rejection or break-up. Singles will take time to find their love partner. This is the time to make thoughtful bonding, be it in love or marriage.

**Lucky number** 11  
**Lucky colour** Pink  
**Lucky day** Friday



### SAGITTARIUS Nov 22-Dec 21

Some health challenges are indicated this week. You may face problems like indigestion, gastric issues, BP, etc. that would make you restless. This will affect your emotions and make you impatient in behaviour. Take time out to relax and find your comfort zone. In professional life, things are likely to go your way. Those in the private sector may expect a raise in income or a promotion. Chances for an overseas job/education seem bright this week. Stay focused. A senior official will be helpful in making your work easy. Relationship wise, this week is satisfactory. You need to talk to your partner to sort out a confusion that appears to have cropped up between you. Pamper your partner with gifts or drive down to an exotic place. This will certainly boost your love life.

**Lucky number** 7  
**Lucky colour** Yellow  
**Lucky day** Monday



### TAURUS April 20-May 20

The week starts with never-ending activities and you will be busy with meetings, travel and attending guests. This will exhaust you and give you no time for yourself. There are chances you might get hurt. Stay safe and use all safety methods to avoid any unpleasant situation. All legends were not geniuses, but they had strong will and determination to get things done. You too possess the spirit and try your level best to achieve what you want in life. Those awaiting judgment in a legal matter can expect a ruling in their favour. Relationship wise, you are demanding and strict. This attitude would not work in the favour of married couples. A mother figure may interfere in your relationship. Figure out where your boundaries lie with this and let her know.

**Lucky number** 16  
**Lucky colour** Orange  
**Lucky day** Thursday



### VIRGO Aug 23-Sep 22

You will overcome all health challenges. You will be appreciated for accomplishing quality work. Blessings from elders will add shine to your personality. After dealing with a problematic situation, you will experience positive energy and inner satisfaction. Your career looks good this week. Some of you will be promoted or assigned an important task which will boost your career. A seminar or a training session is indicated that will enhance your skill. Luck is in your favour and you will enjoy the results of your hard work. Be cautious in love, as you might be tagged as incompatible. Your newly developed relationship might get affected due to back-biting. Married couples may lack harmony in their relationship and seek space to avoid conflict or tension.

**Lucky number** 9  
**Lucky colour** Brown  
**Lucky day** Sunday



### CAPRICORN Dec 22-Jan 19

You will regain your health and feel a new spark of creativity within. Try a new health care approach, especially preventative care. A basic health regime like exercise, proper diet, enough sleep can be applied now with great success. Don't hesitate to take on a new healer. On the career front, transfer or relocation is indicated. Since this will be your desired posting, you will be filled with hopes and aspiration. You are likely to prove your potential with new avenues of progress. Some of you are expected to travel overseas on a professional trip. This week love is not happening. Due to your busy schedule, your existing relation might suffer. Try to stay in touch through the internet or messages. Those with marriage proposals might face rejection.

**Lucky number** 20  
**Lucky colour** Pastel colours  
**Lucky day** Wednesday



### GEMINI May 21-June 20

Great stamina enables you to stay confident and be in the best of your health. If facing health issues, do not hesitate to consider alternative ways to deal with it. You will be sensible about your day to day matters. At work, things will be better. You will get support from a powerful person. This is the right time to seek increment or change in job that pays you better. You may owe some money to your close ones. Those who are considering applying for a fund or a bank loan for a venture can go ahead. You will experience success. In the context of love, it's important to give your partner some space. You also need to choose the right person with whom you feel a strong emotional connect. Singles, this is not the right time to mingle.

**Lucky number** 13  
**Lucky colour** Parrot Green  
**Lucky day** Tuesday



### LIBRA Sep 23-Oct 22

You are confused about the direction that your life is taking. Your fluctuating health conditions will affect quality of life. You may need guidelines to reap the results of your past behaviour. Observe your belief system. Take time out to reflect positively. On the career front, you will face challenges and tough situations, but you will emerge a winner due to your determination. Legal issues might get sorted this week. On the love front, you will glow and blush as this week your life will be focussed around love. This could be either a new relationship or a powerful re-bonding of an old one. You are likely to share your joy with those around you who need it. Married couples will experience true bonding and feel the attachment. Life will be blissful.

**Lucky number** 12  
**Lucky colour** Black  
**Lucky day** Tuesday



### AQUARIUS Jan 20-Feb 18

This week you will be creative and optimistic. Everything will appear to turn in your favour. You will be generous and ready to share. You have learned to accept your flaws and to adjust with others. It gives you the strength to be what you want to be. Overall, health will be good. In professional life, you need to give your time and attention to your work. Be honest about your work. A disciplined approach like working within the norms and traditions of your organisation will be appreciated. Avoid conflicts with people at work. In love, stop fantasising about the person who doesn't feel the same about you. When love is true, you don't have to struggle to make it work. Expand your horizons and try hard to think positively.

**Lucky number** 31  
**Lucky colour** Green  
**Lucky day** Friday



### CANCER June 21-July 22

This week you will experience positive energy and will feel as fresh as a teenager. Channelise this energy into doing something creative. Enjoy this phase and watch your creativity enrich your life. On the career front, your potential will be duly recognised. Your financial position will also improve. A gift from your ancestral side may come your way. You will feel the positive vibrations at the workplace. Money gain through property or a plan to invest in a property at a prime location is indicated. This week you may not be lucky in love. If you like someone, go and express yourself to him/her. Avoid loose talk as it might spoil your relations. If you feel stagnated in your relation, then it's time to close the chapter.

**Lucky number** 18  
**Lucky colour** Peach  
**Lucky day** Monday



### SCORPIO Oct 23-Nov 21

Avoid anger and aggression this week. Listen to your inner voice and act accordingly. Seek the advice of an elderly in the family. Home-made remedies will provide relief in health issues. You need nurturing and caring that will sort out half of your problems. On the career front, you will feel at ease as things are working in your favour. Great things come in a small packages. A business in the field of agriculture, horticulture or land will yield profit. Those in a job are likely to get promoted. New opportunities in the career are indicated. Those seeking employment will get a job in their desired field. In love, you are unclear about your future spouse. Those in a relationship, it is likely that your partner will make you juggle between some challenging situations.

**Lucky number** 19  
**Lucky colour** Black  
**Lucky day** Saturday



### PISCES Feb 19-March 20

You need to come out of your past suffering in order to move forward. Holding on to the past may affect your health. Look within yourself carefully and make note of the areas where you are fearful. Spend time to learn about the energy centres in the body and meditate on how you are functioning. At workplace, you will experience a feel-good factor. You are likely to find support of colleagues and seniors, and there is a chance that your name may be suggested for a promotion. Your professional skills will be at their best. Make the best use of this time. In terms of love, you will find success and will enjoy this week. You are likely to become the centre of attraction at an event and draw your partner's attention. Married couples will enjoy the togetherness and intimacy.

**Lucky number** 9  
**Lucky colour** Grey  
**Lucky day** Thursday

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## ASTROTURF

BHARAT BHUSHAN PADMADEO

# Empower your mind for success

A young graduate, having failed to taste success at many qualifying examinations for different jobs, came asking the other day in a state of desperation: "Sir, what is in store of my destiny? Any luck to get a job in near future? I have tried to put in best during the last three years, but with no luck. Suggest me some *pooja* that may help a poor man like me secure my future."

Young man, destiny is not blind, as it doesn't necessarily play out by default in course of usual run of life. Remember, destiny indicators — the reflection of Karmic imprints carried over from the past — are stored in our memory as seed-thoughts. And a seed, though carrying potential to bloom out into a plant, remains inert till it gets a congenial ground, and is then duly nurtured with water and nutrients (chemical or natural fertiliser). Similarly, seed-thought-seeds may offer you with an opportunity when time is ripe for it. Success, however, may still elude, if you are not well geared up to encash the opportunity available.

In so far as remedial measure is concerned, belief driven *pooja* mediated by *pundits* can't help much. The *pundit* can neither strike upon your inner realms of

mind to checkmate its vagaries and optimise your potential, nor manipulate the mindset of the unknown recruiters. The only viable method is to look within yourself, identify, acknowledge and then address the fault lines. Also, improve your focus, sharpen intelligence, and optimise indwelling potential. Empowered thus, you may be able to perform well at the examinations and interviews. That carries better probability of success.

You may be putting in long hours towards your studies, which gives a feel that you have endeavoured enough. But bear in mind; physical efforts alone would not suffice. Quality efforts are needed. Should you lack focus, which your astrological chart clearly indicates, you may fail to absorb the subject matters attended. Obviously then, you may not be able to answer well, the questions asked. So, instead of exploring your destiny indicators, and seeking extra-terrestrial support through belief driven *pujas*, better figure out your own shortcomings through self-reflection, and address them. Often, a disoriented mind is not able to dispassionately identify the inherent fault lines. Let me help you through a look at your astrological pointers.



Lagna lord Venus, and 11th lord Sun identified with fulfillment of desires, occupy the career signifying 10th house. The 10th lord Moon in the 6th house implies success in efforts and against competitors. Moon also beautifully aligned to fiery Mars, makes out an ambitious person bounding with energy. All put together strongly promise a good job. Even government job is not ruled out as would presence of the Sun in the 10th imply. On top of that even benevolent Jupiter occupies the 11th house. Despite such strong indicators, what then stands in the way of its fruition?

Mind signifying Moon occupies a dual sign Pisces, which means you have a vacillating mind. You may be continuously breeding thoughts and randomly flitting from one to the other. Also, you are subject to mood swings. Such a distracted mind doesn't let you remain focused to your priority preferences. Moon being trine to the Sun is indicative of a comfort loving person, not keen to take pains. That doesn't let you take timely initiative. How can you expect gain without pain? Here again, Moon locks horns with Uranus, which accounts for his mercurial temperament and erratic conduct. Also, Moon is ill-disposed off to mischievous Neptune. This, in the first place makes

you stick to delusional perceptions and beliefs, distanced from ground realities. Second, habitually an escapist who keeps pushing off initiatives to tomorrow. You may not acknowledge truth on its first appearance. Instead, you may prefer continuing with your own line of thinking on hope against hope till pushed to the wall. Saturn's opposition to Mercury speaks of a fixated one-track mind. If all that would not be enough, Mars placed adverse to Jupiter signals an inflated ego, which binds you to self-defined dots and don'ts. Your narrowed vision doesn't let you look beyond even for reality check.

So, better get over your habit tendencies, cultivate push, sharpen your intelligence, and improve your focus by following the process suggested. The good thing is that he acknowledged his fault lines and expressed his willingness to reform. Should you sincerely follow the process suggested, I am sure, you may secure a job sooner than later, as already promised in your chart.

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