

OPINION 8
TOTAL LACK
OF DIRECTION

WORLD 12
UK OPP PARTIES REJECT
BORIS' ELECTION CALL

SPORT 16
SERENA TO FACE
ANDREESCU IN US OPEN FINAL

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CHANDA MAMA NO MORE DOOR KE!

In historic feat, Vikram soft lands on the moon, live feed delayed

PNS/AGENCIES ■ BENGALURU/WASHINGTON

As Chandrayaan-2 "Vikram" lander began a successful manoeuvring for soft landing on the south pole of the moon early on Saturday, the live feed of the historic moment could not be telecast due to breakdown of communication just as the lander was about 2.1 km from the lunar surface around 2.05 am (IST).

At the time of the paper going to press, ISRO chief K Sivan said, "Vikram lander descent was as planned and normal. Performance observed up to altitude of 2.1 km. Subsequently communications from lander to ground station was lost. The data is being analysed."

Later Prime Minister Narendra Modi — who had arrived at the Yelahanka Airbase on Friday night to witness from an ISRO centre in Bengaluru the planned landing of Vikram — addressed the mission scientists and said, "It is not a small achievement, country is proud of you."

Not only India but the entire world waited with bated breath for the soft-landing of the "Vikram" on the south pole of the lunar surface, the first attempt by any country.

The euphoria was visible among domestic and international scientist community.

Former NASA astronaut Jerry Linenger — who flew on



KNOW ABOUT LANDER, ROVER

Lander — Vikram
Weight — 1,471 kg
Electric Power Generation Capability — 650 W

The Lander of Chandrayaan 2 is named Vikram after Dr Vikram A Sarabhai, the Father of the Indian Space Programme. It is designed to function for one lunar day, which is equivalent to about 14 Earth days. Vikram has the capability to communicate with IDSN at Byalalu near Bangalore, as well as with the Orbiter and Rover. The Lander is designed to execute a soft landing on the lunar surface.

Rover — Pragyan
Weight — 27 kg
Electric Power Generation Capability — 50 W

Chandrayaan 2's Rover is a 6-wheeled robotic vehicle named Pragyan, which translates to 'wisdom' in Sanskrit. It can travel up to 500 m (½-a-km) and leverages solar energy for its functioning. It can only communicate with the Lander.

VIKRAM PAYLOADS

Radio Anatomy of Moon Bound Hypersensitive ionosphere and Atmosphere (RAMBHA)
The lunar ionosphere is a highly dynamic plasma environment. Langmuir probes, such as RAMBHA, have proven to be an effective diagnostic tool to gain information in such conditions

Chandra's Surface Thermo-physical Experiment (ChaSTE)
ChaSTE measures the vertical temperature gradient and thermal conductivity of the lunar surface. It consists of a thermal probe (sensors and a heater) that is inserted into the lunar regolith down to a depth of 10 cm

Instrument for Lunar Seismic Activity (ILSA)
ILSA is a triple axis, MEMS-based seismometer that can detect minute ground displacement, velocity, or acceleration caused by lunar quakes. Its primary objective is to characterise the seismicity around the landing site

PRAGYAN PAYLOADS

Alpha Particle X-ray Spectrometer (APXS)
APXS' primary objective is to determine the elemental composition of the Moon's surface near the landing site. It achieves this through X-ray fluorescence spectroscopy technique, where X-ray or alpha particles are used to excite the surface. APXS can detect all major rock-forming elements such as Sodium, Magnesium, Aluminium, Silica, Calcium, Titanium, Iron, and some trace elements such as Strontium, Yttrium and Zirconium

Laser Induced Breakdown Spectroscopy (LIBS)
LIBS' prime objective is to identify and determine the abundance of elements near the landing site. It does this by firing high-powered laser pulses at various locations and analysing the radiation emitted by the decaying plasma

and right eye, are mounted on top of it besides an Alpha particle X-ray spectrometer, receive and transmit antenna and rocker bogie assembly.

Soon after rolling on the moon soil, Pragyans battery will be activated to release its solar panel. The scans of the rover will be relayed to Vikram

and then earth and it will be processed at mission control for path planning.

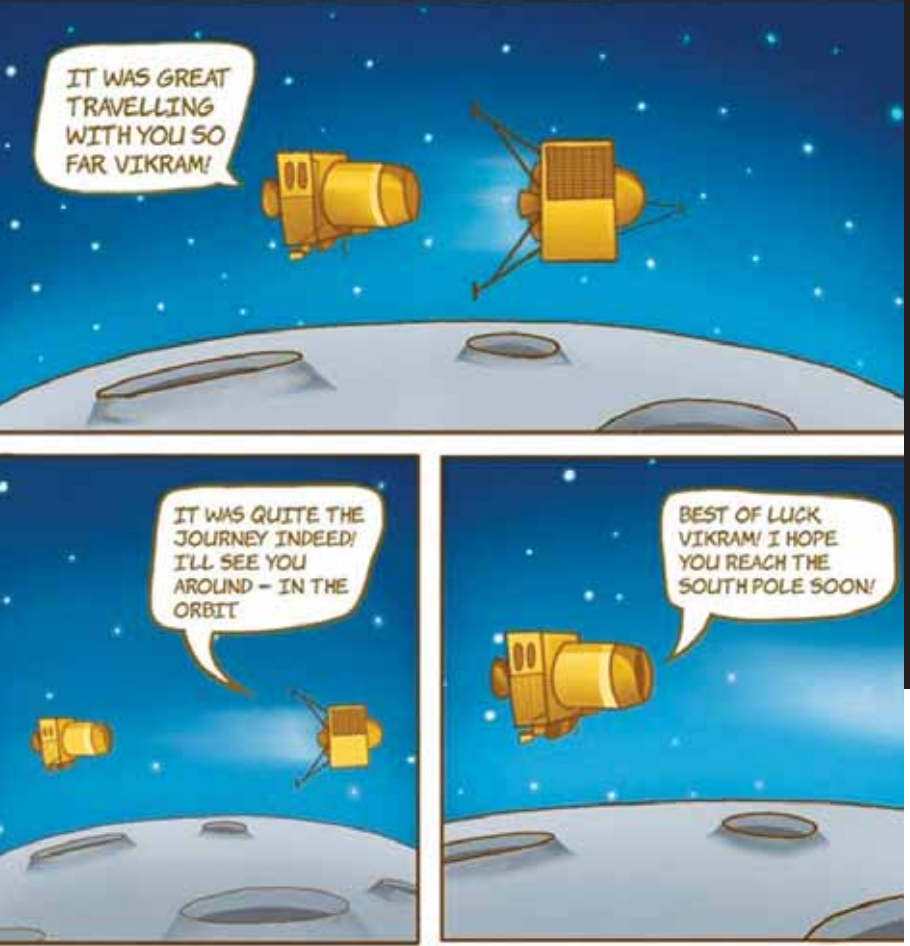
Subsequently, instructions for the rovers movement will be transmitted back to it. The six wheels of the rover are attached with "rocker bogie" to overcome obstacles as it moves forward.

ALL ABOUT THE MISSION!

CHANDRAYAAN 2 is on a mission unlike any before. Leveraging nearly a decade of scientific research and engineering development, India's second lunar expedition will shed light on a completely unexplored section of the Moon — its South Polar region

This mission will help us gain a better understanding of the origin and evolution of the Moon by conducting detailed topographical studies, comprehensive mineralogical analyses, and a host of other experiments on the lunar surface

While there, we will also explore discoveries made by Chandrayaan 1, such as the presence of water molecules on the Moon and new rock types with unique chemical composition



States get cold feet as MVA fines raise people's hackles

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The hefty penalties under the new Motor Vehicle Act has triggered massive protest across the country with people manhandling traffic policemen at several places and some States, including BJP-ruled Gujarat, refraining from enforcing the Act. The Delhi Government says they are still studying the new Act, but the Centre has already implemented it.

States which have not implemented the Act so far are West Bengal, Telangana, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Rajasthan and Punjab. BJP-ruled Gujarat has contended that the high fines do not seem feasible and they will implement the new norms only after getting a report from the RTO. Another BJP-ruled Goa said the new Motor Vehicles Act would be implemented in the State from next week.

Meanwhile, the Odisha Government has decided to relax penalty norm for a period of 30 days, for air and noise pollution, following public outcry over imposition of heavy fines on violators of traffic rules.

"In view of long queues for pollution test in the State, the Government has decided not to charge ₹10,000 as penalty for air and noise pollution from violators for the next 30 days. This is effective from September 6," according to State Commerce and Transport Secretary G Srinivas.

The Delhi Government has said it is still working on some categories of offences where it can reduce the quan-



tum of penalties. "Many States are saying they won't implement it. But the Centre has implemented it and States do not have any discretionary power. States can decide the quantum of penalties only in certain categories of offences. But the Centre has kept a very few such categories. Maximum cases will end up in court. We are studying how States are saying no," Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal said.

On the contention that some of States are reluctant, a senior Road Transport Ministry official said since this Act is a Central MV Act, they have no option but to implement it as most of the provisions fall in the Concurrent list.

"They have no option but to comply with the amended Motor Vehicles Act, which has several new provisions including higher penalties for traffic offences, as the Central law will prevail even if a State Government frames its own law. Motor vehicle laws fall under provisions of Concurrent List and thus constitutionally Parliament can define the power available to the State. The States that are

Won't let you splurge public money on free Metro ride: SC to AAP Govt

Bear land cost for Ph-IV with Centre equally, Delhi Govt told

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Friday came down heavily on the Delhi Government for its ambitious proposal to make travel in Delhi Metro free for women. The court also said the operational loss, if any, in the 104-km-long Phase IV of the Delhi Metro project would be borne

by the Delhi Government.

The court, however, directed that the land cost for Phase IV project would be borne by the Centre and the Delhi Government equally, in 50:50 ratio. The court asked the authorities to ensure that no delay is caused in the Phase IV metro project and the total land cost of ₹2,447.19 crore is released immediately.

A Bench of justices Arun Mishra and Deepak Gupta observed that the Delhi Government should refrain from giving freebies from "public money" and

Mugabe, Zimbabwe's despot, passes away

Harare: Robert Mugabe, the former guerrilla leader turned despot who ruled Zimbabwe for 37 years until forced out by the military, has died aged 95, the country's President announced on Friday.

First heralded as a liberator who rid the former British colony of Rhodesia of white minority rule, Mugabe used repression and fear to govern until he was finally ousted by his previously loyal generals in November 2017. "It is with the utmost sadness that I announce the passing on of Zimbabwe's founding father and former President... Robert Mugabe," President Emmerson Mnangagwa said in a tweet.

Mugabe died at 2.40 GMT in Singapore, where he had been hospitalised in April.

Wrong corpse! Courier firm's body blow to grieving family

IAANS ■ JAIPUR

A silly mistake by a courier company has left the family members of a deceased shocked as they received an unidentified body in the coffin while waiting to perform the last rites for their deceased family member.

Seetaram Purohit, a resident of Shri Dungargarh in Bikaner, passed away after suffering a heart attack in Mumbai on Wednesday.

His family members travelled to Bikaner in a plane along with his body, which had been packed in a coffin by a courier company, people with knowledge of the incident said.

On arriving back home on Thursday morning, the family was shocked to see an unknown body, and contacted the courier which had booked the coffin on the flight.

Accepting their fault, the company said that the body, which had got exchanged with that of late Prakash Kumar (35), a resident of Odisha's Jajpur district, had arrived in Bhubaneswar and they promised to reimburse Purohit's body soon.

Kumar's body was sent to Bhubaneswar on Thursday afternoon, while Purohit's body was delivered in Jaipur, from where it was shifted to Shri Dungargarh in an ambulance.

Purohit's last rites were performed on Friday.

GK lingerie store films journalist in trial room

Owner deletes video as scribe calls cops

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

After a 27-year-old woman journalist filed a complaint with police alleging that she was filmed at a high-end lingerie store in posh Greater Kailash M-block market, an FIR was filed and probe begun, said officials on Friday.

In her complaint, she said the shopkeeper was allegedly watching the live footage from hidden camera. The incident took place on August 31 and the journalist lodged the complaint with the South District

Buddhadeb admitted in hospital

Kolkata: Ex-WB Chief Minister Buddhadeb Bhattacharjee, who has been suffering from coronary obstructive pulmonary disease, was on Friday admitted to hospital in critical condition. But he is on the mend.

ALKA LAMBA QUILTS AAP, JOINS CONGRESS

New Delhi: Disgruntled AAP MLA Alka Lamba on Friday announced that she has returned to the Congress.

IAS BABU QUILTS, CRIES THREAT TO DEMOCRACY

Mangaluru: A Karnataka IAS officer resigned on Friday, claiming that the fundamental building blocks of democracy are being compromised.

Continued on Page 4

CAPSULE

Delhi-Meerut RRTS work gains speed

Tender floated for Detailed Design Construction for three stations

GAYATHRI MANI ■ NEW DELHI



The National Capital Region Transport Corporation (NCRTC) has begun pre-construction work on the 16-km long Delhi Rapid Rail Transit System (RRTS) section, part of Delhi Ghaziabad Meerut corridor. Tender has also been floated for 'Detailed Design Construction' (DDC) for three major stations Sarai Kale Khan, New Ashok Nagar and Anand Vihar Inter State Bus Terminal (ISBT), which will also be the major converging points of all three RRTS corridors.

Currently, the NCRTC — implementing agency has started work on the Ghaziabad portions. "The preliminary work such as survey, pile, utility work such as utility diversion of electrical lines, water pipe line and sewer line has been started for

parts of Phase I corridor of the Delhi Meerut Corridor. These three stations are the most important stations as these will inter connect the entire major RRTS corridor — Delhi Meerut, Delhi Gurugram Panipat-Sonapat and Delhi-Alwar," said a senior NCRTC official adding civil construction will also be soon started for the sections.

Among the three stations, New Ashok Nagar and Sarai Kale Khan will be elevated ones, while Anand Vihar Rapid Railway station will be totally underground as the existing Delhi Metro station is an elevated station due to which it attracts a heavy traffic in the vicinity and near Inter State Bus Terminus (ISBT) Anand Vihar.

The NCRTC official further added, "Besides three stations, an 11 km viaduct from Sarai Kale Khan will be developed which will connect RRTS ram near Khichripur to Jangpura stabling yard. The stabling yard will be developed on the 12 hectare land parcel Jangpura."

Moreover, in order to bring different mode of transports at one point through the Regional Rapid Transit System (RRTS), these stations will be developed as Multi Modal Integration (MMI) which will connect ISBT Sarai Kale Khan, Hazrat Nizamuddin Station, Delhi Metro and Indira Gandhi International Airport (IGIA), Aerocity, Uttar Pradesh State Transport Corporation

TOTAL NUMBER OF STATIONS : 24

NAME OF THE STATIONS: Sarai Kale Khan, New Ashok Nagar, Anand Vihar, Sahibabad, Ghaziabad, Guldhar, Duhai, Murad Nagar, Modi Nagar South, Modi Nagar North, Meerut South, Partapur, Rithani, Shatabdi Nagar, Bramhapuri, Meerut Central, Bhaissali, Begumpul, MES Colony, Daurli Metro, Meerut North and Modipuram. Besides these 22 stations, two others are depot stations - Duhai Depot and Modipuram Depot.

SPEED: 100 kmph per hour
TRAVEL TIME FROM RAPID RAIL: 60 minutes
USUAL TIME: 4 hours

(UPSTC) through skywalks, escalators, underpasses and pathways.

Anand Vihar Rapid Rail station will connect Delhi metro's Blue line and seven stations on Pink line which is under construction, the Anand Vihar ISBT and the intra-city railway station, Nizamuddin Railway Station, UPSRTC and subway facility for the pedestrians.

Moreover, cutting the travel time between Noida-Ghaziabad, New Ashok Nagar station will provide a short direct route to Noida-Dwarka and Vaishali Ghaziabad. Currently, Yamuna Bank station is the interchange to Noida and Vaishali but this New Ashok Nagar will provide a direct access to the destination. Delhi-Ghaziabad-Meerut corridor will be the first RRTS to be implemented in India.

Kejriwal seeks Delhiites' views to curb pollution

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

In order to reduce pollution in the national Capital during winter when stubble burning takes place in neighbouring States like Punjab and Haryana, the Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal on Friday sought suggestions from people for steps to reduce the level of pollution in the city.

Addressing the media, the Chief Minister said that the national capital is the only city where air pollution is on the decline, instead of increasing. Delhi government, Centre and the people of Delhi have achieved this together.

"There has been 25 per cent reduction in the overall pollution level because of a slew of measures taken by the AAP government and others in the last three years, including

Supreme Court, Union government, Environment Pollution (Prevention and Control) Authority (EPCA) and civic bodies.

Kejriwal said people can send their suggestions at cm4cleanair@gmail.com till September 12. "We want to ask the people of Delhi what steps can be taken during these 20-25 days to protect children and the elderly among others from ill-effects of pollution caused by stubble burning," he said.

He said at present, 40 air-quality monitoring systems are operating in Delhi to get real-time data and 4,000 buses will soon be procured which will also result in reduction in pollution level.

Pollution level started declining in the city since 2015, Kejriwal said and listed out measures taken for reduction in pollution level.

During the peak season from around October 25 to November 20, a large number of stubble-burning incidents are reported in the neighbouring states, which adds to the pollution level in the national capital, he said.

He further said that use of diesel generators has almost been stopped in Delhi due to which 'good result' has started showing.

Introduction of environment compensation charge, construction of eastern and western peripheral expressways, dust-control measures during construction work, massive tree plantation drive, closure of Badarpur and Rajghat power plants, Graded Response Action Plan are among the measures which contributed to reduction of pollution level in Delhi, the Chief Minister said.



Vice President of India M Venkaiah Naidu, former governor OP Kohli, Vice-Chancellor of Delhi University Yogesh Kumar Tyagi during the silver jubilee celebration of Maharaja Agrasen College

Shehla booked for sedition over Kashmir tweets

New Delhi: Jammu and Kashmir People's Movement leader Shehla Rashid has been booked for sedition over her tweets alleging that the armed forces "tortured" civilians and "ransacked" houses in the Valley after Jammu and Kashmir's special status was revoked, police said on Friday.

She has also been charged with spreading "fake news" with the intention to "malign the image of Indian Army", they said. Her series of tweets had surfaced on August 17 upsetting many.

Conjoined twins get independent lives after surgery at AIIMS

Odisha twins leave for hometown after 2 years of recuperation

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

As Jaga and Balia, conjoined twins from Odisha who spent over two years at AIIMS here undergoing complicated surgeries for separation of their heads left for their hometown on Friday, Union Health Minister Harsh Vardhan lauded the team of doctors for the "rarest of the rare" surgery and asserted that it was the "first successful craniopagus conjoined twin separation surgery" in India wherein both the children survived.

Harsh Vardhan said in the last 50 years, only 10 to 15 children worldwide have survived after the surgical separation procedure.

"This is an extremely rare condition seen in one in 25 lakh live births and any kind of sur-

gical intervention in this condition has 75-80 per cent risk to life to one or both children," the health minister said.

Professor of Neurosurgery at AIIMS Dr Deepak Gupta, who led the surgery termed it extremely complex and challenging as the twins "shared venous return (circular sinus) and were totally fused with each other at the head".

Their surgical separation required meticulous and detailed planning, he said. About the present condition of the twins, Dr Gupta said, "Jaga is developing well in all domains of neuropsychological assessment. He is gaining weight and can join school immediately after returning home."

After their arrival at the Odisha city on Saturday, the twins will be admitted to the Srirama Chandra Bhanja Medical College and hospital there for further medical assistance.

Balia remains neurologi-

cally disabled and is being fed through a special tube. But he is breathing on his own, the neurosurgeon said, adding he requires long-term rehabilitation care.

The separation of their heads took place in two stages. The first stage surgery, lasting 25 hours, involved creating a venous bypass on Balia and partial brain separation from Jaga. It was conducted on August 28, 2017.

The final separation of the children was done on October 25 and this operation lasted 20 hours. Skin grafting and minor neurosurgical procedures were performed on the children to cover skin defects over the next few months.

During the final surgery on October 25, Jaga suffered a cardiac arrest, but he was successfully revived after 15 minutes. The two children stayed in the private ward of AIIMS's Neurosciences Centre for the last two years.


At workshop on role of technology, Hindi language highlighted

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI


The Central Road Research Institute (CRR) in association with the Ministry of Earth Sciences has organised a National Level workshop on the role of the Science and Technology in Development of basic infrastructure Development and challenges of 21st century Friday. The professors, engineers and architects has also stressed upon the usage of Hindi language.


The workshop which saw a number of students, architecture and engineers who presented their research papers on various topics and infrastructure challenges in the National Capital also spoke on the importance of Hindi language.

"It has been observed that the engineers and senior level official and scientist are generally studied in English and well versed in the language but it has been observed that there are labors in the construction sites that are also in large numbers do not understand and speak English. The language barriers most of the time affects the quality as well as cost and at time overrun the projects.



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MV Act: PUC centres to remain open till 10 pm

New Delhi: Witnessing heavy footfall and heavy traffic in and around the city pollution under check (PUC) certificates caused by increased fine under the new updated Motor Vehicle (Amendments) Act, Delhi Government has directed the test centres to remain open till 10 pm.

The Delhi Transport Minister on Friday issued directions to the Delhi Transport Corporation (DTC) to use its PUC centres and spare spaces for pollution check of vehicles to handle the spike in number of vehicles.

The fine of ₹1,000 on first instance and ₹2,000 for every subsequent violation of

PUC norm has been increased to ₹10,000 under the Motor Vehicle (Amendment) Act, 2019 which came into being on September 1.

The DTC has 43 PUC centres at its depots and terminals which may be opened for private vehicles against. Also, notices will be issued for applications for authorisation of PUC centres, it added.

"The deterrence of high fine has led to a spike in the number of vehicles undergoing pollution tests in last few days and about 40-45,000 vehicles are turning up everyday at the authorised centres," said a transport department statement.

Man arrested for duping over 500 via Ponzi scheme

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

The Delhi Police on Friday claimed to have arrested a 37-year-old man who had allegedly cheated more than 500 citizens to the tune of crores after luring to invest in various 'Ponzi' schemes.

The accused has been identified as Sanjeev Kumar, a resident of Ghaziabad who was arrested by the Economic Offense Wing (EOW) wing of Delhi Police on Friday.

New Usmanpur police station gets new building



Delhi Commissioner of Police Amulya Patnaik flagging off the Women Patrol Teams of Eastern Range at newly inaugurated New Usmanpur police station in Delhi's North East district on Friday

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

Delhi Commissioner of Police Amulya Patnaik on Friday inaugurated the new building of New Usmanpur police station in Delhi's North East district. The CP also flagged off 'Women Patrol' teams of Eastern Range on the occasion.

"New Usmanpur police station came in existence in 1999. With the passage of time, senior officers felt the need of new building for police station

New Usmanpur.

This vision led to the construction of new building of police station. The new building is equipped with library, yoga cum gym room, recreation room and mess," said Rajendra Pal Gautam, the Additional Deputy Commissioner of Police (DCP), North East district.

"The library contains books related to police, different laws and competitive exams. Apart from barracks and Investigating Officer (IO)

rooms, there is a provision of investigation wing. A Skill development Centre is also running in the police station under PMKY initiative for the youth of weaker sections of the area," said the Additional CP.

"Moving ahead, a step forward to ensure the safety and security of the girls and the women, women patrol teams of Eastern Range has also been flagged off by the CP.

All women patrol teams of Eastern Range will perform patrolling near girls schools and colleges, parks and other vulnerable places to encourage the sense of security among the girls/women," said the Additional DCP.

"The women patrol teams will also ensure legal action against eve teasers and anti social elements," the Additional DCP added.

PROCLAMATION REQUIRING DEBT RECOVERY TRIBUNAL II, DELHI

4TH FLOOR, JEEVAN TARA BUILDING, PARLIAMENT STREET, NEW DELHI-110001
The under mentioned Property will be sold through auction on "As Is Where is Basis" and "As Is What is Basis" for recovery of dues, in the matter of ICICI BANK LTD v/s Sukhija Hospitality Private Limited
O.A No. 304/2018 & I.A No. 1002/2019

1. Description of Property: Make: JAGUAR XJ L 3.0 V6 PREMIUM LUXURY Reg No: HR830801 Manuf Year: 2014 Km: 37175 Reserve Price- Rs. 29, 00,000 EMD- Rs. 2,90,000
2. Date and Time of Auction: 25.09.2019
3. Auction Venue: Ridhi Godara Yard, Kataria Chowk Sector 17, Sukhrali Gaon Behind Air Force Station, Gurgaon
4. Manager: Shankar Kapoor Mob No: 9650193259 Terms of Sale

The particulars of the said asset specified herein above have been stated to the best of the information and knowledge of the undersigned, who shall however not be responsible for any error, misstatement or omission in the said particulars. The interested participant/s are therefore requested, in their own interest, to satisfy himself / themselves / itself with regard to the said asset and other relevant details pertaining to it before submitting the bids.

Interested bidders shall be required to deposit an Earnest Amount mentioned above against the respective vehicle by way of pay order/Demand Draft payable at Delhi and in favour of (ICI) Bank Ltd, Delhi. Successful highest bidder shall have to deposit balance amount within 5 days from the approval shared with them. In case of failure to deposit the amount as mentioned above, the amount of Earnest Money deposited shall be forfeited.

Interested participant/s are requested to participate Sep 25, 2019 for physical auction or call Bank Manager Shankar Kapoor.

Delhi's air gets cleaner!

POLLUTION DOWN BY 25%

दिल्ली ने कर दिखाया

Year	PM 2.5 Levels
2012-14	154
2016-18	115

What Brought Down Pollution?

- 24x7 electricity supply brought generator usage to near zero
- Heavy fines on construction sites in violation of dust control norms
- Implementation of Hon'ble Supreme Court's 'Graded Response Action Plan'
- Closure of Rajghat and Badarpur Thermal Power Plants
- Eastern-Western Peripheral Expressways reduced vehicular traffic
- Increase in Green Cover in Delhi

... but Stubble Burning will increase Pollution Levels in November

Pollution levels have come down in Delhi 10 months of the year. However, in the month of November stubble burning in neighbouring states causes serious pollution in Delhi. During this period Delhi implements the 'Graded Response Action Plan' as directed by the Hon'ble Supreme Court. We are now seeking your suggestions as to what additional measures can be taken by the Government of NCT of Delhi to protect people of Delhi from this pollution

Arvind Kejriwal
Chief Minister, Delhi

Email suggestions to deal with Pollution caused by Stubble Burning
cm4cleanair@gmail.com

RSS coordination meeting
J&K post-Art 370, Ram Mandir top on agenda

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The abrogation of Jammu and Kashmir's special status under Article 370, the current situation in the Valley and the Ram Temple issue will top the agenda of the RSS's coordination meeting, beginning at Pushkar, Rajasthan, on Saturday, with its affiliates,



which works in the border areas, may give a presentation on the abrogation of certain provisions of Article 370 and the situation in Kashmir that will be part of discussions at the meet.

The three-day 'Samanvay Baithak' will be attended by RSS chief Mohan Bhagwat and its top functionaries besides BJP working president JP Nadda, general secretary (organisation) B L Santhosh and general secretary Ram Madhav.

RSS outfits, the Swadeshi Jagran Manch and the Bharatiya Mazdoor Sangh, will brief delegates on the overall economic

Centre to restore 100 wetlands in 5 yrs

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Ignored for years, wetlands in the country are now all set to get their much-needed due with the Centre identifying as many as 100 of them to be restored within the next five years to help combat land degradation.



Suresh Babu, Director of Rivers, Wetlands and Water Policy at WWF India, emphasised on the importance of wetlands in combating desertification.

Brij Gopal, Founder Director, Centre for Inland Waters in South Asia said that the British treated wetlands as waste lands.

"We have identified 100 wetlands across the country which are under pollution stress, tourism pressure. We will keep updating the number," Pandey said.

A wetland is a land area that is saturated with water, either permanently or seasonally and it takes on the characteristics of a distinct ecosystem.

The SDGs are collection of 17 global goals for the year 2030 set by the United Nations General Assembly in 2015.

"Wetlands are finally being given due importance. Their role has now been realised. Under the government's scheme of 'har ghar main jal' (water in every house), we need to focus not only on bringing water to households but also get to the source and

"We are mostly unaware of the size and location of the wetlands. So we have asked the states to prepare documents in this regard so that we can work for wetlands in the next five years.

"Most of the villages have small ponds, wetlands which need to be protected and a nodal officer will be nominated for each wetland and they will talk to people about wetlands," the official said at the side event hosted by the World Wildlife Fund (WWF) at the COP 14.

She also said the government has devised wetland health cards to give information on the wetland, including the boundaries defined, oxygen content and other basic parameters.

INSHORT

KERALA PART OF INDIA: SC TO STATE HC JUDGE

New Delhi: "Tell judges in Kerala that they are part of India," the Supreme Court said on Friday while taking strong exception to the State high court's tinkering of its 2017 verdict on right to conduct administration and prayers in churches in a dispute between two factions.

BJP SLAMS DIDI FOR DEMAINGING C-2 MISSION

New Delhi: Slamming West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee for her comments on Chandrayaan 2 mission, the BJP said on Friday that she "sulks" when India celebrates and accused her of playing "demeaning and appalling" politics.

PREZ 3 NATION VISIT FROM SEP 9 TO 17

New Delhi: President Ram Nath Kovind will embark on a tour of Iceland, Switzerland and Slovenia from September 9 to 17. President Kovind will hold talks with the top leadership of these countries and cooperation in sectors such as blue economy, science and technology, tourism and climate will be high on the agenda.

VP NAIDU WARNS PAK OF STERN REPLY

New Delhi: India has been acting with restraint despite "grave provocations" but if attacked will give a reply the aggressor will be unable to forget, Vice President M Venkaiah Naidu said on Friday, in a veiled warning to Pakistan.

PLEA ON LIVE TELECAST FOR AYODHYA CASE

New Delhi: The SC on Friday said a plea, filed by former RSS ideologue KN Govindacharya, seeking live telecast or recording of the hearing in the Ayodhya land dispute case be listed before a bench headed by Chief Justice of India Ranjan Gogoi. The plea came up before a bench of justices R F Nariman and Surya Kant.

PUBLIC NOTICE

My Client Kiran Madaan D/o Late Sh. Faquir Chand Saluja R/o 342A, 2nd floor, Mahindra Park, Rani Bagh, New Delhi-34 has debarred & disowned her Son Gaurav Madaan & his wife Dilpreet Kaur Madaan from her movable & immovable property of my client, due to misbehaviour, disobedient & harmful towards to my client. My Client has also severed all her relation with them. If anybody deals with them in any manner he or she all do so at his/her own risk. My Client shall not be responsible for the same in any manner.

THE PIONEER CLASSIFIEDS

CHANGE OF NAME

I, A. Shreya, D/o Mr. S. Abhirama Shekhar R/o House No.-347, 18-Black, Lodhi Colony, New Delhi-110003, changed my name to Shreya Abhirama Shekhar, vide affidavit dated: 04th September, 2019. Sworn before notary Alaka Nayak (Regd. No.-10639) New Delhi-03. For all future purposes.

PD(8621)A I, Chakshu D/o Suresh Kumar R/o H-35A Mata Krishna Marg Delhi-110092, declare that in my Passport my name has been written as Chakshu Chopra instead of Chakshu my actual and correct name is Chakshu and both are same person Pd(8620)C

North Eastern Railway TENDER NOTICE

Dy. Chief Electrical Engineer Mechanical Workshop, N.E. Railway, Gorakhpur for & on behalf of President of India invites "OPEN" E-Tender through online (e-tendering) for the following work: Tender Notice No. EL-WS-GKP-2019-08, Tender No. & Description of Work: EL-WS-GKP-2019-08 :- Provision of 2x1000 KVA Compact sub-station with all accessories in connection with 'Improvement in Infrastructure of Work Centre for Rolling Stock Maintenance Workshop,' Under Umbrella work 2018-19 (PH-42) in Mechanical Workshop, Gorakhpur. Approx. Value ₹ : 18412429.94, EMD Money ₹ : 2426000.00, Cost of Tender form : ₹ 5000/-, Completion time/period from the date of issue of acceptance letter- 04 Months.

FROM THE SUPREME COURT

Delhi HC to decide on special court at AIIMS to record Unnao victim



PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Friday asked the Delhi High Court to expedite its decision on the request of a special judge for setting up a temporary court at the AIIMS hospital to record the statements of the Unnao rape survivor, who has sustained injuries in an accident.

The special judge Dharmesh Sharma, who is holding trial in the cases related to the Unnao incident, had recently written a letter to the Delhi High Court seeking permission to hold in-camera proceedings at AIIMS for recording of the statement of the woman after doctors said it was "not advisable" to bring her to the court premises.

Sharma has informed the Registrar General of the high court that the CBI, the woman and her family have "no objection" to such disposition.

A bench of Justices Deepak Gupta and Aniruddha Bose, also directed the CBI to complete within two weeks its probe and file the charge sheet in the road accident case, in which the rape survivor was injured.

It also indicated that if the special judge needed more than 45 days to complete the proceedings, then it may con-

A Bench of Justices Deepak Gupta and Aniruddha Bose, also directed the CBI to complete within two weeks its probe and file the charge sheet in the road accident case, in which the rape survivor was injured

sider the request.

While transferring the cases related to Unnao incident to Delhi, the apex court had fixed a time limit of 45 days for the trial court to complete the proceedings. The bench also sought status report from the Centre within three weeks on setting up of Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) courts in districts, where over 100 cases under the Act have been registered.

The top court had on July 25 directed setting up of a centrally-funded designated court in each district having more than 100 FIRs under the POCSO Act to deal exclusively with cases of sexual offences against children.

SC refuses to release ₹10 cr bond of Karti for going abroad

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Friday refused to release for three more months the ₹10 crore deposited by Karti Chidambaram with the apex court's registry for travelling abroad.

A bench headed by Justice Deepak Gupta said the amount will continue to remain in fixed deposit for another three months.

Karti, who is facing proceedings in cases like Aircel-Maxis and money laundering matters, had deposited Rs 10 crore pursuant to the condition imposed by the apex court for travelling abroad.

The apex court had in May too dismissed his plea seeking return of the Rs 10 crore. Karti, who is the son of former Union finance minister P Chidambaram, had earlier



claimed in court that he had taken the money on loan and was paying interest on it.

On May 7, a bench headed by the CJI had allowed Karti to travel to the United Kingdom, the US, France, Germany and Spain in May and June this year.

The apex court had in January also granted Karti permission to travel abroad

after depositing Rs 10 crore with the secretary general of the Supreme Court.

The court, on the Enforcement Directorate's request, had earlier asked Karti to file an undertaking that he would return to India and cooperate with the investigation, and warned that if he did not do so it would "come down heavily" on him.

SC seeks response from Centre on plea challenging UAPA amendments

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Friday sought a response from the Centre on petitions challenging the constitutional validity of the amendments made in the UAPA.

The petitions challenge the changes to the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act on various grounds, including that these infringed upon fundamental rights of citizens and empowered agencies to declare a person a terrorist.

A bench comprising Chief Justice Ranjan Gogoi and Justice Ashok Bhushan issued notices to the central government on petitions filed by Sajal Awasthi and an NGO, Association for Protection of Civil Rights (APCR).

The bill for amendments to the UAPA was passed by



Parliament on August 2 and it received the President's assent on August 9. The amended Act allows the Centre to designate individuals as terrorists and seize their properties.

The Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Amendment Act, 2019 also provides for putting a travel ban on such individuals once they are declared as terrorists.

The petition filed by APCR said the amendments infringed upon the fundamental right to reputation and dignity under Article 21 of the Constitution, without substantive and procedural due process.



Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla, MPs and staff members participate in the Fit India Movement at Parliament House in New Delhi on Friday

Study: Exposure to 2.5 pm can lead to dementia later

ARCHANA JYOTI ■ NEW DELHI

If you are exposed over a long time to two air pollutants, 'particulate matter 2.5' and 'nitrous oxide', which are both commonly found in cities around the world, there is a high chance that you risk of developing dementia later in life, according to a study published in the Journal of Alzheimer's Disease.

"This is concerning because the World Health Organisation (WHO) estimates 91 per cent of the world's population lives in places where air quality exceeds WHO guideline limits," Study co-author Neuroscience Research Australia's Dr Ruth Peters said.

He added that it's difficult for people to reduce exposure if they live where pollution levels are high.

Dementia is a neurodegenerative disease — characterized by a decline in performance and cognitive impairment in multiple domains and affects a person's indepen-

dence in doing activities of daily living.

"This research shows that government regulation that reduces our exposure to air pollution has a huge potential health and economic benefit."

Researchers believe air pollutants can increase inflammation in bodies and raise the risk of having a stroke, which increases the likelihood of developing dementia. Preventing dementia is a focus because it has become a growing health problem, which affects some 50 million people around the world.

The WHO estimates that nearly 10 million people each year develop the condition.

The study brought together research on people living in Canada, Sweden, Taiwan, United Kingdom and the United States.

The study is important in the context of India which is home to 15 of the 20 most polluted cities in the world with some studies indicating nearly 700 million Indians are exposed to unhealthy air.

GK lingerie store films...

From Page 1

"After 10 minutes a woman attendant stationed outside the store came and asked me to go to another room. As I looked up to see there was anything wrong, the staff member of the shop said that there is a camera in the room," she said in her complaint. "I asked the owner and other staff members if there was a camera here in the trial room, why I was directed to go into that room, but no

one replied. When I called police, the store owner called his son and deleted the video," she stated in her complaint.

Meanwhile, a senior official of Delhi Police said they will start ransom checks of stores with a sizeable foothold to ensure any equipment that infringes upon the privacy and the dignity of a woman. Investigation in this particular case would be taken to a logical conclusion, the official added.

IMD starts experiment on rain impacts

RAJESH KUMAR ■ NEW DELHI

Besides providing weather forecast, the India Meteorological Department (IMD) has on an experimental basis started a system to predict the likely impact of the rainfall in the said region. The impact forecast will be based on the inputs received from agencies like Ministry of Earth Sciences, ISRO, Surveyor of India, Municipal Bodies and Public Works Department.

The impact of rainfall forecast will include details on flooding of roads, closure of underpasses, water logging in low lying areas, occasional reduction in visibility, soil erosion, disruption of traffic flow in cities, localized mud-sliding

and damage to vulnerable structures. At present, the IMD provides only weather updates with colour coding.

IMD Director General Dr Mrutyunjay Mohapatra said that the target has been set to provide impact-based weather forecast across the country. As a pilot project, he said that the IMD on Friday started providing rainfall impact forecast on a host of services in four cities— Bhubneshwar, Guwahati, Ahmedabad and Srinagar.

Dr Mohapatra said that the information related to rainfall will also include latest update on condition of roads, traffic jams, localised flooding of roads and drains, soil erosion, possibilities of damage to

vulnerable structures, water logging, closure of underpasses, damage to kutcha roads and horticulture crops. He said that the IMD will work with the state departments, disaster management authority and national space agency and collate geographical information system and geospatial information system, along with other socio-economic data, including population and distribution of houses.

The primary aim of the exercise is to provide weather information on a digital platform, with geographical coordinates giving locations for residential areas, hospitals and schools. "Instead of just giving weather information, we want

to provide impact-based weather information and risk based warnings, not only for meteorological hazards, but geo-physical hazards," he said.

Dr Mohapatra said that the accuracy in climate monitoring and forecasting has gone up over the years. He said the main challenge was "not only to tell about weather conditions, but also about its direct implications." At present, we provide forecast only up to district level and now we need to go deeper to the block level. Har block mausam, har ghanta mausam (Hourly weather information for every block), that is the goal for all the 7,000 blocks.

On the extreme rainfall in

some parts of the country, the IMD chief said that extreme rain events are rising globally. India is seeing fewer rainy days, but more extreme rainfall events. Climate change is a factor, but each monsoon has inter-annual variations.

The IMD has also predicted heavy downpour over Konkan, Goa and Telangana. "Heavy rainfall at isolated places over Uttarakhand, West Uttar Pradesh, East Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Assam and Meghalaya, Nagaland, Manipur, Mizoram, Tripura, Coastal Andhra Pradesh, coastal and South Interior Karnataka, Kerala and Mahe," the IMD stated in its All India Weather Warning Bulletin.

Dengue cases down by 80%

2015 : 15,867 cases
2018 : 2,798 cases

Delhi is prepared once again!

“I will be inspecting my house for the next 10 Sundays. I hope you do it too!”

- Arvind Kejriwal
Chief Minister, Delhi



डेंगू पे
वार हर
रविवार

Dear Delhiites,
This year too, we have to come together to fight against Dengue.
1st September onwards.

10 हफ्ते, 10 बजे, 10 मिनट
हर रविवार, डेंगू पर वार।

Know about Dengue

- The Dengue mosquito breeds in stagnant clean water.
- The Dengue mosquito grows from an egg into a mosquito in 8-10 days. If clean water is not allowed to stand, the mosquito will not be able to breed.
- The Dengue mosquito's flight range is approximately 200 meters. If someone in your house contracts Dengue, then it is likely that the mosquitoes have either originated from your or your neighbour's house. It is important to check your home and also that of your neighbours for your family's health and wellbeing.

10 minutes, every Sunday

- For the next 10 weeks, we all need to set aside 10 minutes at 10 o'clock every Sunday. Check flower pots, coolers, vases or anywhere inside or outside your house to make sure that clean water has not accumulated. If you find there is an accumulation of clean water, pour it out, change it or add petrol or oil to it.

Just 10 Sundays

- Most Dengue cases occur in the monsoon or just after that. During this period, there are 10 Sundays. If we dedicate 10 minutes at 10 o'clock every Sunday for this, we can get rid of Dengue and Chikungunya. We need to spend less than two hours over 10 weeks. In the last five years, Dengue and Chikungunya have been brought under control, and this year, we will do it again!

Let's come together!

- If you have inspected your house, do take a selfie inside your house and WhatsApp it to 8287972050. Together, we will make Delhi Dengue-free.

दिल्ली सरकार
आप की सरकार

दिल्ली फिर कर दिखाएगी

दिल्ली सरकार
आप की सरकार

Health Department, Government of NCT of Delhi

Pak using social media to radicalise J&K youth: DGP

Srinagar: Asserting that Pakistan is sustaining terrorism in Jammu & Kashmir, State police chief Dilbagh Singh on Friday said the neighbouring country's use of social media to radicalise the youths in the Valley remains a "big challenge".

He, however, exuded confidence that the police and the armed forces will rise to the challenge as they had done many times in the past.

The director general of Jammu & Kashmir Police was interacting with a group of trainee officers from the College of Air Warfare, Secunderabad, at the police headquarters here.

"Pakistan has been sustaining terrorism in Jammu & Kashmir and a large number of terrorists have been moved to the launch pads across the border," Singh said.

He said social media was being used by Pakistan to radicalise the young minds in the Valley, which remains a "big challenge for all of us".

The DGP expressed confidence that the police and the security forces together will be



able to meet the challenge.

"The police enjoy a very cordial relationship with all forces. There is perfect synergy between the security forces and the police in the state. This fact has been recognised even by the senior functionaries in the Ministry of Home Affairs and Ministry of Defence," he said.

He added that the police also share a good rapport with the state's residents, which helps in management of law and order.

During the interaction, Additional Director General of

Police (ADGP) CID B Srinivas; ADGP Armed SJM Gillani; ADGP Security, Law and Order Munir Ahmad Khan and Inspector General of Police, Kashmir, SP Pani, responded to different queries from the visiting officers, a police spokesperson said.

Earlier, ADGP Coordination, Police Headquarters, A K Choudhary welcomed the visiting officers, the spokesperson said.

As part of their one-year training, the officers are taken to the forward areas of Jammu & Kashmir and northeast. **PTI**

Sleeper cells under Intel lens in border areas

MOHIT KANDHARI ■ JAMMU

Sleuths of both the Central and State intelligence agencies have been directed to closely monitor suspicious activities of over ground workers (OGWs) in frontier districts of Rajouri and Poonch following restoration of mobile calling facilities in the region.

Following fresh reports of movement of Pakistani troops close to the line of control (LoC) in Bagh and Kotli sectors, the Indian army too has beefed up its defences while remaining in a state of 'high' alert to thwart any nefarious designs of the enemy from across the line of control.

Highly placed official sources maintained, "following restoration of mobile calling facility in the region after a gap of 30 days, the sleuths of both the central and state intelligence agencies have been directed to closely monitor the activities of the over ground workers in their areas of jurisdiction".

Besides tracking their physical movement, sleuths of these intelligence agencies have been directed to mount 'electronic surveillance' on them so as to prevent them from networking with their handlers sitting across the line of control. It has been seen in the past that Pakistan army manages to target civilian areas with accuracy on the basis of inputs shared by the over ground workers of terrorist outfits.

Intelligence agencies are also keeping a close watch on families, whose relatives live across the line of control and regularly visiting each other via Karvan-e-Aman peace bus service (Between Poonch-Rawlakote) via Chakan-da-Bagh in Poonch.

Efforts are being made to organise interaction session with the senior members of these families to convey them the circumstances and the prevailing security situation which prompted security agencies to take these measures.

Chandrayaan-2 to divert attention from economic disaster, says Mamata

SAUGAR SENGUPTA ■ KOLKATA

Hours before Vikram — the Chandrayaan-2's moon lander — was to make a landing on the surface of the moon, Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee on Friday landed a straight blow on the Central Government's face saying the "much hype" over lunar vehicle's maiden touch-down on moon's north pole was intended at diverting the nation's attention from the unprecedented economic crisis that India was passing through.

Starting with a blistering attack on the Narendra Modi Government for trying to hijack all the credit for the development of India's space science Banerjee said, "as if the Chandrayaan launch is first in the country. As if before they (BJP) came to power no such missions were taken up." The "much-manoeuvred" hype on the moon mission was being done to divert the nation's attention from the "economic disaster that we are in," she added.



Banerjee, who was giving a speech on the "malicious implementation" of National Register for Citizens in Assam and what her ruling Trinamool Congress called a "diabolic design" to repeat an Assam-like NRC in Bengal, also said that the "BJP leaders are trying to take all the credit for India's success in space technology and its mission to moon."

She said "if the BJP leaders are so much interested in what is happening in the moon than in Indian economy then they should acquire lands up there, construct their own apartments to reside their permanently."

Bengal CM writes to PM, protests against bank merger

Kolkata: West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee wrote to Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Friday protesting against the Centre's unilateral decision to merge two public sector banks headquartered in the city without consulting the State Government.

Expressing concern, she said the merger and the threat of shifting of the banks' headquarters will affect the developmental momentum of the state.

Banerjee in her letter urged Modi not to go for the bank merger, which was announced on August 30.

"I'm deeply concerned to learn that two public sector banks headquartered in Kolkata are being merged with banks headquartered in Delhi and Chennai respectively without any consultation with the state government or with the management of these two banks," Banerjee said in her letter to Modi.

The unilateral decision of merger of banks and threat of shifting headquarters from West Bengal will adversely affect the developmental momentum of the state, she added.

Banerjee, who is also the TMC supremo and a strident critic of the BJP, in her letter expressed her concern over the future of thousands of employees of the two banks.

I strongly urge you not to merge UBI with PNB and Allahabad Bank with Indian Bank and thereby also raise the spectre of moving the headquarters of these two leading banks out of Kolkata, she wrote in her letter to Modi.

The BJP-led central government had on August 30 announced four major mergers of public sector banks, bringing down their total number to 12 from 27 in 2017, a move aimed at making state-owned lenders global sized banks.

United Bank of India and Oriental Bank of Commerce will be merged with Punjab National Bank, making the proposed entity the second largest public sector bank (PSB). **PTI**

KCR 'image' on Yadadri temple sparks row

PNS ■ HYDERABAD

Inscription of pictures of Chief Minister K Chandrasekhar Rao and TRS party symbol besides various welfare schemes of the TRS Government on famous Yadadri temple pillars has created a storm.

While the TRS and State Government are trying to distance themselves from the controversy by staying mum on the issue, the Opposition Congress and BJP have accused KCR of trying to project himself as a 'demi God' with this act at the cost of public money in the name of Yadadri temple renovation works.

Tension prevailed at Yadadri temple premises on Friday as scores of activists belonging to Vishwa Hindu Parishad, Bajrang Dal and Hindu Parirakshana Samithi tried to enter into the temple to protest 'politicisation' of Yadadri temple by TRS Government in the name of temple renovation.



Heavy police force was deployed to prevent them from entering into the temple premises, which led to scuffle between the police and the activists.

The activists raised slogans against KCR and TRS and demanded removal of political symbols from the pillars immediately and conduct a thorough enquiry to find out the culprits behind this 'unholy act'.

Officials of endowments department and YTDA

(Yadadri Temple Development Authority) went into oblivion as soon as the news broke out about inscription of political symbols on Yadadri pillars on Friday. Endowments Minister A Indrakaran Reddy, top officials of endowments department who include secretary and commissioner remained inaccessible, apparently from the directions of 'government heads', who asked them not to react on this issue. Strict instructions were also issued to

TRS party leaders not to react or give media statements on this issue. With this, there was no response either from the government side or from TRS side on this issue.

However, the issue triggered sharp protests and criticism from Opposition parties.

The Congress alleged that KCR has been trying to portray himself as a 'Demi God' of Telangana State. TPCC treasurer Gudur Narayana Reddy said "This is highly condemnable as the expansion of Yadadri temple is being done with public money and not with the personal wallet of KCR. He must realise that he is just a public representative and not a king. No one can tamper with the sanctity of temples and equate themselves with Gods," he said

BJP warned KCR with dire consequences, if he doesn't immediately take down those pillars and replace them with acceptable ones, as per the Hindu temple norms.

After public humiliation, 23-yr-old Dalit officer commits suicide in UP

Lakhimpur Kheri (UP): A 23-year-old Dalit officer has committed suicide in Uttar Pradesh's Lakhimpur Kheri district, alleging humiliation and mental harassment by a village head, a leader of a farmers' outfit and others, police said on Friday.

Trivendra Kumar Gautam, who had started his service as a village development officer (VDO) last year and posted at Kumbhi block, hanged himself to death at his home on Wednesday night. His body was recovered on Thursday from the rented accommodation at Shivsagar locality of Lakhimpur town, 130 km north of Lucknow, police said.

In a hand-written suicide note addressed to his father, Gautam blamed the district president of a farmers' outfit, the head of Rasoolpur village and the son of another village head

behind the decision to end his life. A video has gone viral on the social media, purportedly showing the young officer being humiliated at a public meeting.

A man could be heard in the noisy video questioning Gautam's professionalism and called him a 'kaamchor' (shirker), adding that such officers should be thrashed with shoes and kicked out.

In the note recovered from his room, Gautam alleged that they were humiliating and mentally harassing him. The officer also stated that he was subjected to abuses and targeted over reservation, which, he said, is wrong. Gautam also stated that he is troubled and feels that he is a failure. He called for punishing the farmers' party president and the village head after his death. Five people, including the three from the farmers' out-

fit, have been arrested, Additional Superintendent of Police Shailendra Lal told PTI.

An FIR had been lodged under Section 306 (abetment to suicide) of the Indian Penal Code and various sections of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, and the Information Technology Act, the ASP said.

"Investigations are on and no one found involved will be spared," Lal said. Meanwhile, agitated over their colleague's suicide, dozens of village development officers held a demonstration at the Vikas Bhawan on Thursday. The protesters, under the aegis of the Gram Panchayat Adhikari Sangh, threatened to boycott work if the guilty were not held within three days. The officers also handed a memorandum to the district magistrate. **PTI**

AIMIM to go it alone in Maha Assembly polls

TN RAGHUNATHA ■ MUMBAI

Severing its links with the Sprakash Ambedkar-led Vanchit Bahujan Aghadi (VBA), the Hyderabad-based All India Majlis-e-Ittehadul Muslimen (AIMIM) on Friday announced that it would go it alone in the State Assembly polls to be held next month.

In a statement issued here, AIMIM's Maharashtra president Imitaz Jaleel said that the VBA had — in the seat sharing arrangement for the State Assembly polls — allotted mere eight seats out of the total 288 seats. "This is simply unacceptable and unjustified as the list does not include the sitting seat AIMIM — Aurangabad Central," Jaleel said.

"After prolonged discussions with Prakash Ambedkarji lasting for two months, we could not reach a respectable figure in the seat distribution between my party and VBA," Jaleel said.

Announcing that his party would contest the polls on its own strength, Jaleel — who is the lone AIMIM MP from Maharashtra — said that his party would soon hold interviews for the prospective candidates in Aurangabad.

The VBA is a merged entity of political political outfits and groups representing Dalits, Tribals, Dhangars, Kolis, Agris, Banjaras, Malis, Kaikadis and other communities. The AIMIM was part of the VBA during the Lok Sabha polls.

Hajela not efficient in discharging NRC duty, review needed, Gogoi writes to CJ

Guwahati: Senior Congress leader Tarun Gogoi has written to Chief Justice of India Ranjan Gogoi alleging that NRC State Coordinator Prateek Hajela did not discharge his duty efficiently while preparing the final list published last week, and requested him to review the matter.

The National Register of Citizens in Assam was updated under the monitoring of the Supreme Court and the final list which validates bonafide Indian citizens of the state, excluded over 19 lakh applicants.

In a letter to the CJ, Tarun Gogoi alleged that Hajela did not follow the direction of the apex court although over 50,000 Government officials were engaged in the NRC updation job and around ₹1,200 crore was spent at the cost of development work of the state.

"Now the question arises

about the fates of several lakh people who have been left out of the NRC and have to move to Foreigners Tribunals to prove their citizenship and face harassment, not due to their faults but due to the callousness and inefficiency of the NRC authority," he said.

In the letter written on Thursday and made available to PTI on Friday, the three-time Congress chief minister said a number of people were excluded though their names were there in the voters' lists of both 1966 and 2019.

March 24, 1971, is the cut-off date for making a legitimate claim to Indian citizenship. "The (voters) list was prepared by Election Commission of India, a constitutional body, and so how could the names of people in it be excluded from the NRC," Gogoi said.

The final NRC has been rejected by all political parties,

social organisations and intellectuals of the state, Tarun Gogoi said.

He also claimed that BJP-headed governments at the state and the Centre are contradicting each other on the final NRC.

State Finance Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma and Assam BJP president Ranjit Dass rejected the document claiming it has anomalies, whereas a statement of the Ministry of External Affairs maintained that the NRC update was statutory, transparent and a legal process, mandated and monitored by the Supreme Court, the Congress leader said in the letter.

"The state government, if I am not wrong, is trying to blame the Supreme Court by making allegations that they had their limitations due to the interference of the highest court," he wrote to the CJ. **PTI**



Residents carry their belongings as they evacuate Bowbazar area where several houses have been damaged owing to tunnel boring for East-West Metro corridor in Kolkata on Friday **PTI**

Deforestation leads to human-elephant conflict, says study

KESTUR VASUKI ■ BENGALURU

A scientific study carried out in the Western Ghats shows that deforestation increases human-elephant conflict. The study conducted in Bhadra Tiger Reserve in the north and the Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve in the south and spanned over 47,000 km² across Karnataka, Tamil Nadu and Kerala States. This area hosts one of the highest densities and abundance of wild Asian elephants in the world. One can see more than 6000 elephants in Nilgiri Biosphere which is one of the endangered ecological hotspots in the world.

The study conducted by wildlife biologists Jean-Philippe Puyravaud, Sanjay Gubbi, H. C. Poornesha and

Priya Davidar and also published in the journal "Tropical Conservation Science" using maps from the 1960s and satellite imagery, compared past forest cover to the recent agricultural mosaics for a period of 44 years and found a severe loss of elephant habitat.

According to the study data shows that between the years 1960 and 2004 a total of 4,023 km² of forests and 2,738 km² of scrub amounting to 6,761 km² (1,67,0679 acres) of elephant habitat have been lost to agriculture, infrastructure development, and other activities. The lost elephant habitat is nearly equivalent to ten times the current size of Bengaluru city.

"In the same region, the agricultural mosaic increased



by 7,123 km² of which 88% was outside protected areas (6,266 km²) while 12% (857 km²) was inside protected

areas which was largely in the state of Kerala and in Gudalur region of Tamil Nadu. The annual deforestation rate was

estimated at 0.85% per year," the study reveals.

The authors further used records of conflict incidences

and correlated the incidents with the intensity of deforestation. The results showed that human-elephant conflict incidents occurred at locations where deforestation rate was high and such incidents did not occur at random. The districts of Kodagu and Hassan witness some of the highest human-elephant conflict incidences in the country. A total of 64 people have died in Kodagu and Hassan due to elephant conflict in the last 10 years.

"Elephants have continued to survive in this deforested area possibly relying only in small refugia of forests thus leading to a situation where isolated elephant populations are struggling with the land transformation. Elephants come in frequent contact with

humans in areas where their habitat vanishes which is a recipe for disaster", the study points to the disaster.

In its interesting revelations the study points out that this deforestation severed the elephant habitat link between Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve and the Bhadra Tiger Reserve and most notably in Hassan and Kodagu districts. The deforestation in the two districts mostly occurred in areas that existed in private lands.

The study emphasizes the importance of proactively reducing deforestation, loss, and fragmentation of elephant habitats to reduce the loss of human lives and livelihoods, and at the same time negative attitudes towards wildlife. Development can be achieved with conservation for the ben-

efit of humans and wildlife. "But requires an optimization of the landscape organization by zoning of activities, in other words, by allowing the right economic activity at the right place. The study also highlights the importance of protected areas in reducing deforestation, as the highest loss of elephant habitats was outside protected areas" the study suggests.

The study also found that the number of incidences was highest within four-kilometer of the protected area boundary. The study suggests the idea of zonation which is particularly appropriate in this case: Also better land use planning, awareness and adequate activities within this zone can help reduce impact for both people and animals.

PAPER WITH PASSION

The endgame

Vendetta or financial skullduggery? With Chidambaram's attempts to stall proceedings, courts will have their say



For the last five years, investigation agencies have been playing a cat and mouse game with former Finance and Home Minister of India, P Chidambaram, and his son Karti Chidambaram. There are some fairly serious allegations against the father-son duo, most of them concerning deliberate financial misconduct and bribery. Authorities, primarily the Enforcement Directorate (ED) and the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI), have alleged that the two received kickbacks from INX Media. Many of these charges were first exposed by this newspaper. They are pretty serious, ranging from wrongdoing, particularly during the approval process of INX Media and the Aircel-Maxis mobile telephony operation and takeover. There are several layers of irony in this case and the way the allegations came under the investigative lens. But the biggest irony is that both the agencies probing the case were once functioning under the direct control of Chidambaram. As a former Home Minister, he had unleashed the hounds of the CBI on BJP leader Amit Shah, who holds the reins as Home Minister today and surely has a board in his office that lists Chidambaram's tenure staring at him every day when he goes to the Home Ministry. There is also the irony that it is a woman accused of killing her own daughter, Indrani Mukerjea, whose testimony implicates the man, although it is a privilege afforded to prisoners to turn approvers not just in India but in the US, too, where this is commonly known as a plea bargain. But when agencies and systemic processes have been abused by the powers that be down the years, and circumscribed as we are in the politics of whataboutery, this regime will spare no effort to extract its pound of flesh as has been done before. So the larger question is of protecting values in public institutions, immunising them from political powerplay and ensuring that justice is done for its own sake, in its time, and not at the bidding of others. Or that it is not subject to tradeoffs.

Now it is for the courts to decide the validity of the allegations against Chidambaram. The senior Congress leader, himself a senior advocate, has assembled a fleet of the most renowned lawyers. Yet the courts, which used to give him and his son a wide berth, seem to have had enough of the bullying practices indulged by his team. The investigative agencies had until recently always seen him slip through their grasp and the former Minister also appeared paranoid about being sent to Tihar jail, trying to avoid it as long as possible. There might be some merit in Chidambaram's assertion that he is a victim of political persecution but he did refuse to submit himself to interrogation in the past until CBI officers had to climb the walls of his house to arrest him. Unlike several other political leaders, his bravado in refusing enquiry protocols has meant that he has fared poorly in the public perception battles. That, coupled with the fact that he enjoys a very limited political base even in Tamil Nadu, have meant that there has been little outcry over his arrest other than by the senior advocates representing him. It is not certain that Mr Chidambaram will be found guilty. The Government will have to persuade not just the courts but also the public at large that the former Minister and his son indulged in unprecedented fraud and corruption. What we have learnt is that it is very easy for the political tables to turn as Chidambaram went from being the hunter to the hunted. We have also learnt that irony is omnipresent in India. Can ever justice be righteous in this country without the shield of political endorsement? Can it be free of arrogance and egoism of the feudal kind?

Civil disobedience

Hong Kong protesters, braving arrests and insinuations, have shown that an alive citizenry can still make good



At a time of monolithic triumphalism of nationalist regimes across the world, the Hong Kong protests showed how civil movements might just still be able to turn the tide. Hong Kong's Chief Executive Carrie Lam announced the withdrawal of the controversial extradition Bill, the impetus that had led the citizenry to stage Tiananmen Square-like pro-democracy protests since June. The Bill acted as a catalyst for three long months, paralysing the city and forcing millions of protesters, mostly the young, to make their way on to the

streets, demanding its withdrawal. Hong Kong is bracing for more demonstrations this weekend, with protesters threatening to disrupt transport links to the airport. The primary reason is that Lam's decision is still not formal, considering her announcement has no value till such time she formally declares it in the legislative council. The second and more important reason is that the extradition law, which would have put Hong Kong's dissidents under China's laws, has set a context for speaking out against the infringement of the island's semi-autonomous character as guaranteed during the transfer by the British. And now that activists have tested the power of collective voice, the umbrella movement will not just remain an outburst but a struggle for democratisation of the local government. Needless to say that press freedoms have been compromised over the years on the island, elected legislators disqualified and demonstrators and dissidents thrown into prison. And now that a popular push has resulted in a global opinion that even a mighty China can ill afford to ignore, Hong Kong's citizenry has decided that they won't settle for anything less. They now want the power to directly elect their political representatives, including the Chief Executive. They also want an independent inquiry into police brutality. As for the latter, while Lam has assured an investigation into the protest crisis, there's a clever twist. Instead of committing a new, independent inquiry, as has been demanded by the protesters, she has named two senior officials on the existing inquiry panel, members of which are appointed by her and answerable to Beijing.

In the entire episode, what has been commendable is the bravery of the demonstrators, most of whom have been peaceful. More than 1,000 protesters were arrested; they had to face tear gas, rubber bullets and some were even accused of being members of a triad criminal gang. China, in the times of social media justice, has little manoeuvring room as it cannot fall foul of international opinion, having had a controversial rights record, or dilute Hong Kong's cosmopolitanism, something it could encash for PR. With its own economy grunting and heaving, it cannot afford to risk a dent in that of Hong Kong's. Already, Fitch Ratings has lowered its ranking of Hong Kong, citing uncertainty about the stability of its business environment. The protesters, however, should temper their moves a bit and not assume that China will be forced into a retreat. In fact, the more violent the clashes, the easier it will be for China to argue for the use of brute force and ensure peace. Worse, it can blame the US for provoking dissenters to swing the trade tariffs and at least get nationalist opinion on its side.

Total lack of direction

The BJP seems to have adapted some of the worst tenets of Right-wingers and foregone some of the better ones. Its very idea of nationalism is flawed



AJOY KUMAR

The terms "Right-wing" and "Left-wing" are now a recurrent part of our discourse. They are used as labels for "conservatives" and "liberals" and collectively those who have a view on both cultural and economic practices of a State. Originally, the two terms were coined during the French Revolution when, in the summer of 1789, members of the French National Assembly met to begin drafting a new Constitution. Delegates primarily debated on the kind of authority King Louis XVI should have. The faction that supported the monarchy and who were more conservative, the aristocratic section, seated themselves on the right of the room while other "anti-royal" revolutionaries seated themselves to the left.

The difference between the Right and the Left wing is no longer about debating the role of the monarchy. However, stemming from this accidental birth, the principles on what essentially constitutes "right" and "left" wing have become more established over time. Right-wingers or conservatives are typically characterised with a social policy of macho nationalism with a strong emphasis on things like limiting immigration. In terms of economic policy, the Right-wing is typically characterised as one which focusses on minimum governance, where the role of the State is less of a grandfather and where businesses are allowed to channel and give effect to the demands of the economy.

On the other hand, in terms of social policy, the Left-wing is characterised as a proponent of minority rights, more economic equality and plays the larger role of the State to step in for those who need them. This is still a rather relaxed characterisation but I hope it captures the essence of the two sides.

These terms are often liberally used to describe parties in our country. To cite an example, the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) is often identified as the Right-wing party and the Congress as more Left of Centre. Such simple classification, however, does injustice to the complex political party system and ethos in India. The BJP loves to portray itself as India's Right-wing or conservative option. It furthers this idea through statements to the media. For example, in 2014, Prime Minister Narendra Modi declared that the BJP believes in "minimum Government, maximum governance" and will execute these values. These statements got the response the party desired as it tried to establish and strengthen its hold among middle class urban businessmen tired of the overbearing role of the State.

While the BJP identified the right pain point — that the State often turns out to be an inhibitor of entrepreneurial spirit — the past five years have shown just how disingenuous the party has been in tackling the actual problems of an overbearing Government. Instead, it has taken it one step further. From a social point of view, the role of "State" in our everyday lives could not be higher. Today, it directly (through laws) tells its people what



they can eat, where they can go, how to dress and who to marry, among other things. If this is not done directly, it is done indirectly through instruments of the State like the police or through more informal means by allowing non-state bodies to get away for attacking people who dress a certain way or eat certain things.

This is hardly the brand of a "Right-wing party". On the aspect of macho nationalism, the BJP is an extreme form of the Right-wing. It would be acceptable, even encouraged, if it advocated a strong India where its people are steadfast about their beliefs and there is pride among Indians about the country. However, that is not the version of nationalism we see today.

Instead, what we have is a chest-thumping form of nationalism. One that is so loud that one cannot even hear a murmur of dissent. This form of macho nationalism displays a strong outer core but at the same time betrays a weak inner belief, one that is scared of editorials and of protest. This form of nationalism is less about building a stronger India and more about managing the Government's perception. In its social policy, the BJP, therefore, appears to have borrowed the worst parts of the Right-wing and foregone some of the better ones.

On the economic front, too, it appears we have been lied

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 THE NOTION THAT THE BUSINESS AND ENTREPRENEURIAL COMMUNITY WOULD GAIN FROM A MINIMUM GOVERNMENT HAS BEEN SHATTERED. ONE HAD HOPED THE STATE WOULD HAVE A LESSER ROLE TO PLAY IN TERMS OF APPROVALS OR TAX COMPLIANCES. INSTEAD, WHAT WE HAVE BEEN GIVEN IS A SCARIER MONSTER WHERE DIRECT TAX AUTHORITIES HARASS TAX-PAYING CITIZENS
 ”

to. When the Prime Minister said that he believed in "maximum governance and minimum Government", Indians assumed that this meant that the BJP would reduce the retarding effect of bureaucracy and Indian laws on a doe-eyed entrepreneur. However, this has not been the case.

Instead, the notion that the business and entrepreneurial community would gain from a "minimum Government" has been shattered. One had hoped the State would have a lesser role to play in terms of approvals or tax compliances. Instead, what we have been given is a scarier monster where direct tax authorities harass tax-paying citizens and exercise their wide berth of powers without any checks and balances.

Similarly, in terms of indirect taxes, the way in which the Goods and Services Tax (GST) was implemented has made it more intrusive than ever. The effect of this can be gauged by the comments made by many businessmen, who previously supported the BJP Government but have now come to realise that things are much worse under its stewardship.

Another hope from a conservative Government is stability of policy. This means that people, who are governed by a conservative Government, expect it not to change or alter its policies

as per its own whims and fancies and ensure businesses are not affected. An extension of this policy, although it should really not require saying, is that a "conservative Government" should not attack or wear down a sector of the economy that contributes to the country's growth.

However, this is exactly what has happened. In a recently published article in *The Mint*, the writer argued how through demonetisation and a shoddy GST programme, the Government essentially waged a war on the informal sector even though more than 30 per cent of the economy is completely informal and over two-third of the workforce is employed in informal enterprises.

Therefore, this has made the "BJP's war on informality essentially a war on the economy." The ironic bit is that the current version of the BJP, with its Right-wing social policies and far Left economic policies, is closer to a communist State (like China in the 1980s) and fails to neither be a good socialist State that takes care of those who cannot take care of themselves, nor a conservative role model with more free markets and minimum interference. Maximum governance, Minimum Government? You must be having a laugh.

(The writer is former president of Jharkhand Pradesh Congress Committee)

SOUNDBITE

India is open to talk about the issue of terrorism with Pakistan provided it is done in a civilised manner without having the gun pointed at my head.

External Affairs Minister —S Jaishankar

It's taken me about 30 years. From 'Sallu' and 'Salle' to 'Bhai' and 'Bhaijaan.' It has taken me a long time to achieve that.

Actor —Salman Khan

Kashmir is Pakistan's jugular vein. India's decision to alter its special status poses challenges to the country's security and integrity.

Pakistan Prime Minister —Imran Khan

There should be discipline in every party. If someone indulges in indiscipline, no matter how big an individual, action should be taken against him.

Senior Congress leader —Digvijaya Singh

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Come to the rescue

Sir — This refers to the editorial, "Auto shutdown" (September 6). A dip in sales of passenger cars and commercial vehicles is a fair indicator of the direction and growth of the Indian economy. And it is not just these two segments but sales of two and three-wheelers, too, have considerably slowed down in the last few quarters.

Major transport associations threatening to stop buying new trucks is more bad news for the economy. In general, the entire auto sector is going through a troubled phase. The Government cannot be a mute spectator to this slowdown.

While all demands cannot be met, some, like the reduction in GST rates and two per cent TDS on cash withdrawal should be heard. When the Bharat-VI stage vehicles will roll out in seven months, the Government as also other stakeholders need to be on the same page and resolve all concerns. Like auto sales, commercial vehicle sales are equally critical for perking up the economy.
Bal Govind
 Noida

Mismanagement on the economic front

The Modi Government's claim about robust economic growth stands belied by the fall in GDP growth. The picture of the country's economy is gloomier than ever. The Government must come out of denial mode and acknowledge the mess the economy is in. Prime Minister Narendra Modi's wish to make India a \$5 trillion economy now appears to be a distant hope. The present rate of growth falls far short of what is needed to revive the economy. Issues of vital importance are conveniently buried in manufactured issues linked to "nationalist sentiment."

Former Prime Minister Manmohan Singh's attribution of the slump in the economy to Modi Government's "all-round mismanagement" has logic. When core sectors like manufacturing, agriculture, real estate, construction, auto and services have taken such a strong hit and consumption and investment are almost at an all-time low, an economic revival needs more than tokenism. Band-aids simply won't do. The quick-fix measures unveiled by the Government do not suffice to undo the damage caused by demonetisation and the hastily-imple-



mented GST. The BJP came to power on the promise of creating jobs but the Modi Government has failed to do so or prevent further job losses. There is dearth of talent in the Government to run the economy but the failure to use the continued services of the country's best economists has cost us badly.

G David Milton
 Maruthancode

Best batsman

Sir — It was heartening to watch Australian cricketer Steve Smith play exceptionally well on day two of the fourth Ashes Test played at the Old Trafford Cricket Ground, Manchester. Smith, who is now ranked at No 1 position once

again in the ICC Test rankings, made a massive comeback in red ball cricket after being banned for a year. It is interesting to note that Smith completed his 500 runs in only three Test Matches after hitting his 26th century and third double century on the second day of the fourth Test. Smith is inarguably one of the

most accomplished batsmen of modern-day cricket as far as the five-day form of the game is concerned. After a continuous failed opening from David Warner in this series, it would be wise if he is made to open in forthcoming Test Matches.

Tushar Anand
 Patna

Adapt to new changes

Sir — This refers to the editorial, "Do the crime, pay fine" (September 4). Just a few days have passed since the implementation of the newly-amended Motor Vehicles Act and people have raised a lot of hue and cry over the huge penalties the new law imposes for petty offences.

These are the very people who are least bothered about endangering human lives on roads. And they are also the ones who are more worried about cash settlement when they are booked for committing a traffic offence.

The Act has the potential to bring down the number of road accident deaths, and most importantly, bring about a behavioural change. For the Act to be a success, it is also essential that traffic police is deployed in sufficient numbers and wrong-doers hauled up. There should be no room for corruption or bribery.

M Pradyu
 Kannur

Send your feedback to: letterstopioneer@gmail.com

FIRST COLUMN

It's people who make a nation

The J&K decision, even if required, should have taken people into account and carved a way that did not endanger its ethnic & national construct



MALVIKA SHARMA

Since the abrogation of Article 370 and the territorial bifurcation, a lot has been said about the situation Jammu and Kashmir (J&K) is in today. The 'ayes' vehemently deduce that apart from development, this is also a step towards full integration of J&K with India. The 'nay-sayers', while rebutting development arguments, believe that the move was more of an ideological battle. Development or not, it is the idea of full-national integration that needs to be decoded.

It ought to be emphasised that national integration is primarily not about territorial integration. Passing a law by locking down an entire State, without any say of local representatives and yet defending it through the narrative of territorially-integrating it with India, is no national integration in any sense of the term. It's the people and not the territory that make a nation and are one of the most important components of integration. People can be categorised as ethnic groups that coalesce together to form mono/multi-ethnic nations. It is these nations that further coalesce to form multi-national states or multi-national nation-states. Nations, thus, are a different construct from a nation-state: while a nation is a socio-cultural category, a nation-state is a political category.

Professor Ashutosh Varshney recently explained in an article how the recent developments in J&K are a reflection of how a State functions only within the ambit of political democracy and how it had sidelined ethical and moral components in the democratic ethos and norms governing a State. Exclusive political-democratic alignment empowering the imposition of the abrogation order is neither a territorial nor a people's integration with India. Perhaps Varshney and many others who have critically analysed the same are right in saying that it's a political implication of democracy only because such an imposition, in the absence of the legislative Assembly, has rendered the spirit of democracy null and void. Thus, such an imposition is undemocratic and hegemonic. To put it differently, this is undemocratic where the idea of national integration doesn't take into account the basic unit of social organisation, rather it straight away jumps to the level of statehood and deals with people in a top-down approach where coercion and conflict are inevitable.

J&K occupied its position as a multi-ethnic construct in the larger multi-national nation-state of India. India, which celebrates its diversity, has now stood ideologically intolerant to the ethnic mosaic that made J&K diverse. Pahari, Gojri, Kashmiri, Dogra, Ladakhi, Dard and Balti, each being the varied ethnicities of the state, coalesced with one another as nations under the larger national-state construct of India. By bifurcating territorially the national-construct that J&K stood for, and that too without full support of the people, the purpose of 'full-integration' remains only half-baked. Clearly the authorities were more than aware about the utilitarian meter of who would be and who would not be happy with such a decision. Choosing the happiness-index of one ethnicity over the other was certainly a deadly blow to the actual national integration of J&K. This decision, even if required, should have taken the people into account and should have carved a way that did not endanger this ethnic and national construct of J&K.

One may be open to taking into account the arguments of those who say that the ethnic divide between a Dogra-Jammu and a Kashmiri-Vale or a Ladakhi-Leh had already been transformed into a natural division which has led to hostilities since posterity. However, such claims are silent on other ethnicities like Dards, Baltis, Bakarwals and Gujjars. Without denying the ethnic rift, a belief in the effervescence of primordial bonds and faith that they might remain interconnected, are some of the ideals that citizens striving for a peaceful society must work for. And let us also not forget that such tensions emerge under the influence of external forces that are communal.

Unfortunately, the reorganisation of the State hit where we were the most vulnerable — a society divided into different religious communities, ready to be cast into various moulds depending upon the multiple political ideological shifts it might take. We have divided J&K and have nothing rich left to offer to both. If this is national integration, then we have had it at the cost of our ethnic deaths. J&K has died as a rich ethnic vibrant nation that belonged to this beautiful diverse nation-state of India, which celebrated diversity and protected ones that were endangered. I hope to belong to the same India one day. Till then, let us be mindful that homogeneity breeds autocracy and vice-versa. It is up to us a society to decide what we choose for us and for those who shall inherit from us: a homogenous, autocratic, racial, fundamental, casteist society that denigrates ethnic-cohesion, or a free borderless society standing united in diversity. If we choose the former, then let us break ourselves down into a million pieces till the last unit of individual dissociates himself from the larger whole and dies a self-death. But if we choose the latter, then let us associate with a giant diversity that celebrates its rich historic constructions. (The writer is a Ph.D scholar at JNU)

THE DELHI GOVERNMENT HASN'T TAKEN ANY DECISION. THE HOME DEPARTMENT WILL TAKE THE FINAL CALL (PROSECUTION IN JNU SEDITION CASE).

—DELHI CHIEF MINISTER
ARVIND KEJRIWAL

POINT COUNTERPOINT



IF AN ELECTED GOVERNMENT CAN'T PUNISH WORDS LIKE 'BHARAT KI BARBADI TAK JANG RAHEGI JAR', IT MEANS IT THINKS OF IT AS A PATRIOTIC SLOGAN.

—DELHI BJP PRESIDENT
MANOJ TIWARI

Building block of economy

Homelessness is a big challenge. A decent shelter for the poor can catalyse overall economic growth and micro-housing is one way to do this



MOÏN QAZI

One of the most challenging problems of our times is homelessness. While we continue to record improvements in dealing with poverty, homelessness has elicited but an unimaginative response from policy doctors. The apathetic approach of successive Governments is symptomatic of the disease that ails India's housing system.

A decent habitat and shelter for the underprivileged can contribute not just to their well-being but also catalyse overall economic growth. It is thus critical to recognise housing investment as a basic, fundamental building block of economic activity. There is nothing more critical to a family's quality of life than a healthy, safe living space. Sustainable and inclusive housing solutions could bolster economic growth quickly and efficiently and hence should be given priority over education and health.

Housing is not a standalone issue: It is closely intertwined with and often the cause of a slew of health and developmental problems. Poor ventilation and inability to maintain basic hygiene are major causes of poor health. Fragile building structures undermine safety and vastly increase vulnerability to disaster. Lack of lighting and space limits the ability of children to study. Inadequate privacy and lack of sanitation contribute to a host of diseases, thereby perpetuating poverty.

For many people in the developing world, the land on which they live is their only asset. If that property is not publicly recognised as belonging to them, they lose out on social benefits. **Land ownership is often the bedrock of other development interventions:** Owning land boosts nutrition, educational outcomes and gender equality. The converse is equally true. Where land security is absent or weak — that is, when men and women do not receive recognised legal rights to their land and can thus be easily displaced without recourse — development efforts flounder, undermining conservation efforts, seeding injustice and conflict and frustrating efforts to escape poverty.

For most of India's poor and the vulnerable, secure property rights, including land tenure, make for a rare accessible luxury. Many who live in slums have little to no control over or ownership of the property they live on. The lack of official land titles is a major impediment to the acquisition of housing finance. People do not have documentary proof of being owners of the piece of land on which they live and are, therefore, legally insecure. Many low-income villagers have owned their land for generations. The formal financial sector is unable to serve them. Once titled, they could obtain access to several public benefits including loans.

Lack of ownership rights deprives people of basic amenities. Once titled, they can obtain access to several Government benefits. Even a small plot can lift a family out of extreme poverty. Millions of urban citizens remain off the map, with the Government failing to extend basic services to slum residents by using the concept of opportunistic influx—the idea that the provision of services might encourage greater migration from rural areas — thereby paradoxically increasing urban deprivation.

Traditional housing finance has not offered products tailored to low-income people but a range of financial institutions is applying good micro-

“ A MODEL RENT ACT IS NEEDED TO PROMOTE RENTAL HOUSING. A UNIT SHOULD BE FIXED BY MUTUAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE LANDLORD AND THE TENANT FOR A STIPULATED LEASE PERIOD PRIOR TO WHICH THE TENANT WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO BE EVICTED AND AFTER THE EXPIRY OF THE LEASE PERIOD, THE TENANT WILL NOT BE PERMITTED TO CONTINUE IN THE HOUSING UNIT ”



finance practices to housing finance. This is allowing them to successfully deliver much-needed services to economically weaker customers. Successful housing micro-finance providers have married the core principles of the micro-credit movement — peer-based borrower selection and repayment enforcement, close follow-up on repayment and so on — with the technical expertise required to investigate land ownership.

In response to the non-availability of tangible collateral from low-income households, as required by the formal financial sector, a new stream of lending has emerged, called housing micro-finance. Institutionalised micro-finance systems have come up with innovative solutions.

These draw on the best practices in micro-finance but remain adapted to the classical housing finance paradigm. This has been highly successful wherever Governments are offering long-term tenancies and shared-ownership housing in a supportive context. But the sector is still in need of a more sustainable business model to grow.

Housing micro-finance is broadly defined as small, non-mortgage-backed loans dedicated to housing activities, offered in sequences to support the incremental building practices of low-income populations. It can include a range of financial services that support improving or upgrading housing such as home repair and expansions, additional cooking space, water and sanitation services, energy efficiency upgrades, the purchase of inhabitable land or permanent structures and the construction of new housing.

The demand for housing micro-finance is high. Clients already chan-

nalise a good portion of micro-enterprise loans to home improvement. Micro-entrepreneurs often use their homes as productive assets in generating income. A home can be a place to store inventory, produce goods and run a business. A home is a personal asset that usually appreciates in value over time. Home improvement, thus, not only enhances living conditions but is also an investment.

The housing sector demands a high level of creativity. There is a lot to be done across a range of policy areas to improve the functioning of different aspects of our housing system. The conventional bureaucratic approach and thinking of business-as-usual can merely scratch the surface of the problem. The stresses are mounting fast and India needs to start talking very seriously about the elephant in the room. For any planned interventions to be successful, hard-coded timelines are required. These timelines should be insulated from political turbulence.

One major cause of India's aggravating problem is the weak legal structure for handling rental housing. According to census data, the share of rental housing in total housing fell from 54 per cent in 1961 to 28 per cent in 2011. That year, despite a severe shortage of rental housing, 11.09 million urban properties remained vacant across India. In most States in India, traditionally, rent control laws have disproportionately protected the tenant. Consequently, we have the paradoxical situation of unsatisfied demand for rental housing while many units lie vacant.

It is time the Government puts rental housing to use. Its share in overall housing has been steadily declining. There is clearly need for replacing cur-

rent rent control laws with a modern tenancy law, which would give full freedom to tenants and owners to negotiate the rent and the length of the lease. Rules with respect to eviction also need to be reformed to restore balance between the rights of tenants and the owners.

We need a differently structured and more professional market rental sector. A Model Rent Act is needed to promote rental housing. A unit should be fixed by mutual agreement between the landlord and the tenant for a stipulated lease period prior to which the tenant will not be allowed to be evicted and after the expiry of the lease period, the tenant will not be permitted to continue in the housing unit.

The leadership class repeatedly turns to policies that sound appealing but are doomed to fail. Then their failure ensures that the country won't face the issue head on. The lack of enthusiasm and attention from actors in the ecosystem that has surrounded affordable housing has been quite dispirited. There have been remarkably lukewarm endorsements from many of the very people who dreamed up the new policies.

Policy-makers, financial institutions and housing experts need to evaluate their current policies, cultures, and ways of working. With a thoughtful approach, they can be better prepared to tackle this humongous problem. The country's impressive economic growth must translate to faster progress in this critical area. The Government will have to change course and shift away from the legacy mindset before the problem gets out of hand.

(The writer is Member, NITI Aayog's National Committee on Financial Literacy and Inclusion for Women)

Apt writer for a political narrative

A self-made man, Arun Jaitley rose in politics solely by dint of his hard work and due to sheer merit, intelligence and his persuasive ways in dealing with opponents and handling conflicting issues



VK BAHUGUNA

The passing away of Arun Jaitley at the age of 66, when most Indian politicians are considered mature enough to soldier top constitutional posts, is a severe blow to the intelligentsia and the politics of understanding.

Though few can dispute that the former Finance Minister was an astute politician, a brilliant legal mind and a wonderful orator, what made him even more remarkable was the fact that he kept his razor-sharp mind active through his blogs till the very end of his life, knowing fully well that his days were numbered.

Despite his protracted illness, he never showed any inkling of nervousness in his writing and kept on serv-

ing his party, the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), the Government and the country with aplomb.

It is a matter of sadness that the BJP in less than two years has lost its four top articulate leaders in Arun Jaitley, Sushma Swaraj, Manohar Parrikar and Ananth Kumar, all at relatively young ages. Jaitley joined the BJP during his college days in the early 70s through the Akhil Bharatiya Vidyarthi Parishad (ABVP) when most of his peers were making a bee-line for the Congress offices. A young man at that time, he doggedly fought and went to jail during the Emergency. Later, he joined the legal profession and for years on end, he became one of the best and most articulate lawyers ever seen in the Delhi High Court and the Supreme Court.

A self-made man, Jaitley rose in politics solely by dint of his hard work and due to sheer merit, intelligence and his persuasive ways in dealing with conflicting issues. Over the years he became an indispensable part of the BJP's politics and his formidable talent was recognised not just by

his peers and contemporaries but also by his opponents in law and politics.

He was deeply involved in supporting his long-time friend Narendra Modi and Amit Shah when all were determined to finish them off in the aftermath of the February 2002 Godhra train carnage and during their incarceration in the Sohrauddin Sheikh encounter case and other cases slapped by the United Progressive Alliance (UPA) regime through the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI).

He wrote a detailed letter as Leader of Opposition in the Rajya Sabha to the then Prime Minister Manmohan Singh narrating how the CBI was being used to target Modi and Shah.

Though Jaitley's erudite account in the letter of the misuse of the CBI did not have a major impact on the



Chidambaram finds himself in the same position he brought these two politicians to, through CBI cases.

Jaitley's name will remain in the history of the BJP and the country as the man who promoted Narendra Modi as the BJP's face for the 2014 parliamentary elections. Together with Manohar Parrikar, he wove the narrative with a vision and in a persuasive manner to declare Modi as the BJP's prime ministerial candidate. The rest, as they say, is history. It was his eloquence, oratory skills and irrefutable arguments that silenced

ruling establishment, it did expose the fact that a suspicious case was being pursued vigorously to finish the political careers of the future Prime Minister and Home Minister of India. Ironically, today the wheel of time has run a full circle and former Finance Minister P

Modi's critics. For a long time, Jaitley was the chief troubleshooter for the BJP and Modi during his first stint in the Prime Minister's Office (PMO).

There's no doubt that Modi will miss Jaitley's articulated voice and wisdom as he was the man on whom the Prime Minister used to fall back upon for counsel.

The implementation of the Goods and Services Tax (GST) will be remembered as Jaitley's greatest gift to the tax structure and financial reforms in country. With his masterly capability for forging bridges with opponents, he was able to synchronise the diverse interests of the BJP and Opposition-ruled States.

He made GST implementation smooth and later ironed out some of the difficulties that came in its way. As a Finance Minister he resolved the problem of insolvency of Public Sector Banks (PSBs) and finalised the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code. These were not mean achievements given that Indian banks were involved in multi-crore scams.

I got an insight into Jaitley's wisdom in 2004 when he was Law

Minister in the Atal Bihari Vajpayee Government and I was Inspector-General of Forests in the Ministry of Environment and Forests. There was a proposal at the behest of the PMO just before the Madhya Pradesh and Lok Sabha elections to frame a roadmap for correcting the historical injustice done to tribals.

Jaitley corrected the Ministry's note in the presence of the Prime Minister and made it not only legally sound but had the foresight to see that this roadmap did not become a tool for increasing encroachments on forest lands.

Such was his vision that he could foresee events effortlessly. Later, after the defeat of the BJP in 2004, the UPA Government enacted the Forest Right Act 2006 and today it has become a political narrative for all parties. Jaitley, the tallest and brightest BJP leader born post Independence, will be remembered for a long time for what he has done for the party and for the nation. Rest in peace Arun Jaitley!

(The writer is a former civil servant)



FOREIGN EYE



TESTING KIDS IS JUST WRONG

Politicians are right to seek evidence that schools are delivering a good service. So there is nothing wrong, in principle, with gathering information in order to track progress. The problem with the UK Government's new baseline assessment of four-year-olds — being tried over the next six weeks in around half of primary schools, and intended to replace the tests previously taken by seven-year-olds — is the idea's execution. (The Guardian Editorial)

Business Corner

Govt may soon announce measures to boost exports

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The Government is expected to soon announce measures for certain sectors, including gems and jewellery, to boost the country's subdued exports, an official said.

India's exports have recorded 2.25 per cent growth in July. Cumulatively during April-July this fiscal, the exports dipped by 0.37 per cent to \$107.41 billion

coverage by the Export Credit Guarantee Corporation of India for export credit from the current 60 per cent to 90 per cent.

and export consignments. Exporters are demanding several other measures such as enhancing benefits of the Merchandise Exports from India Scheme (MEIS) for sectors like non-basmati rice and textiles, besides interest subvention for large pharmaceutical companies.

Jet founder Naresh Goyal questioned by ED in Mumbai

PTI ■ MUMBAI

Jet Airways founder Naresh Goyal was on Friday questioned here by the Enforcement Directorate in a case of alleged contravention of the foreign exchange law, officials said.

ing Goyal's Mumbai residence in Mumbai, his group companies, their directors and offices of Jet Airways, were searched by the Enforcement Directorate (ED) on August 23.

were allegedly booked at fake and high costs and as a result, they "projected" huge losses. Alleged shady aircraft lease transactions with non-existent offshore entities are also under the ED scanner and it is suspected that Jet Airways made payments for lease rental to "ghost firms", which purportedly routed the ill-gotten money in Goyal's companies.



Vishwesh Chaudhary, Member Engineering, Railway Board & Ex-Officio Secretary to the Government of India (Second from right) on Friday held a meeting in headquarters of NF Railway, Construction with its high officials headed by NK Prasad, General Manager, N F Railway, Construction and reviewed the progress of on going Railway projects in Northeast



Moved by a call for help to rebuild a broken boundary wall, PNB PRERNA members along with their President Jayanti Mehta and Vice President Vijitha Prabhakar presented a cheque for rupees One lakh to Ravi Kalra, founder of the renowned NGO, The Earth Saviors



The Indra Gandhi National Centre for the Arts (IGNCA) celebrates its second Samavaran Samaroh (Convocation Ceremony) on 5th September 2019, the auspicious occasion of Teacher's Day for the students of Post Graduate Diploma courses of batch 2018-19. The ceremony began with the lighting of the lamp by the dignitaries and senior officials of IGNCA and Saravati Vandana by the members of Kunwar Shyam Sangeet Bhawan



The new outlet of Malabar Gold & Diamonds in New Jersey was inaugurated by John McCormac, Mayor of Woodbridge Township, New Jersey in the presence of MP Ahammed, Chairman, Malabar Group, PA Ibrahim Haji, Co-Chairman, Malabar Group, Shamal Ahmed, Managing Director

ED needs to be satisfied over dues payments made by Sterling promoters: NCLAT

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The NCLAT on Friday said the Enforcement Directorate needs to be satisfied that Sterling Biotech promoters' payment to settle dues with the lenders are coming from clean sources.

also directed the liquidator to work as resolution professional (RP) of Sterling Biotech till its further orders. "ED has to be satisfied that it has to be clean money," the bench headed by Chairperson Justice S J Mukhopadhyaya observed.

Andhra Bank to be present on the next hearing. "It is also desirable that the counsel of ED remain present," it said.

NAFED organises 62nd annual general meeting

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

62nd Annual General Body Meeting (AGM) of National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India Limited (NAFED) was held at New Delhi on Friday.



Welcoming the delegates Bijender Singh, chairman of Nafed expressed his gratitude and thanked Minister of Agriculture, Narendra Singh Tomar ji, MOS for Agriculture, Parsottambhai Rupala Ji, Secretary (A&C), Additional Secretary (A&C) and other Senior Officers in the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare for their guidance and support to Nafed from time to time.

and Farmers' Welfare, members of General Body who extended their helping hand in One Time Settlement with the banks. On this occasion Chairman also recalled the key role played by Late Arun Jaitley, the then Finance Minister for the same.

APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION

General Public is hereby informed that an unidentified female (depicted in the photo) Age: about 38, Height: 5'1", Built: Medium, Face: Round, Complexion: Fair, Eye: Black, Wearing: Coloured kurta and pink salwar, was found at Street No. 54, Regar Pura, of P.S. Karol Bagh, Delhi, vide DD No. 154A Dated 29.07.2019 lodged at Police Station Karol Bagh, Delhi.



Any person having any information/Clue about this unidentified female, may inform SHO, Karol Bagh, Delhi at E-mail : cbc@cbi.gov.in or website : http://cbi.nic.in

DIESEL LOCOMOTIVE WORKS, VARANASI - 221004

Global Tender Notice Date: 02.09.2019 Bid No. IREPS-GT/2019-20/38 Sealed tender/E-tenders are invited for & on behalf of the President of India for the supply of following items: S.No.1. Tender No. 10187032B Due Date : 26.09.2019 Items and Part No. : Thrust Washer to PL No. 16130384 Qty: 12187 Nos. S.No.2. Tender No. 10191040A Due Date : 26.09.2019 Items and Part No. : Plug ASM to PL No. 16340139 Qty: 305 Nos. S.No.3. Tender No. 10191185 Due Date : 03.10.2019 Items and Part No. : Gasket to PL No. 16170167 Qty: 204 Nos. Items and Part No. : Gasket to PL No. 16170222 Qty: 208 Nos. S.No.4. Tender No. 10191121A Due Date : 03.10.2019 Items and Part No. : Lock Spring Seat to PL No.16241629 Qty: 70530 Nos. S.No.5. Tender No. 10191155 Due Date : 04.10.2019 Items and Part No. : Needle Bearing to PL No. 16150480 Qty: 9556 Nos. S.No.6. Tender No. 10191213 Due Date : 04.10.2019 Items and Part No. : Pump and Motor Assembly to PL No. 16241526 Qty: 123 Nos. S.No.7. Tender No. 10191108A Due Date : 04.10.2019 Items and Part No. : Jumper Assembly to PL No. 16060568 Qty: 417 Nos. S.No.8. Tender No. 10191201 Due Date : 10.10.2019 Items and Part No. : Main Bearing Lower Gen. End. to PL No. 16150089 Qty: 469 Nos. S.No.9. Tender No. 10191203 Due Date : 10.10.2019 Items and Part No. : Main Bearing Lower Centre to PL No. 16150089 Qty: 896 Nos. S.No.10. Tender No. 10191134 Due Date : 11.10.2019 Items and Part No. : Kit Main Bearing Upper to PL No. 16060829 Qty: 140 Nos. S.No.11. Tender No. 10191200 Due Date : 15.10.2019 Items and Part No. : Main Bearing Upper Gen. End. to PL No. 16150053 Qty: 255 Nos. S.No.12. Tender No. 10191166 Due Date : 05.11.2019 Items and Part No. : Main Bearing Lower Inter to PL No. 16150041 Qty: 2783 Nos. NOTE: For complete details of Tender Cost/EMD and downloading of Tender Documents, please visit Website www.ireps.gov.in

NCLAT directs infra firm Marg's promoter to submit revised resolution plan by Sep 12

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The National Company Law Appellate Tribunal (NCLAT) Friday directed G R K Reddy, the promoter of Chennai-based infrastructure developer Marg Ltd, to submit a revised resolution plan to creditors by September 12 to bring the company out of insolvency proceedings.

would not grant any further time and failing to which it would proceed ahead in the insolvency matter. The NCLAT also directed the Committee of Creditors (CoC) to consider and decide over the revised resolution plan by September 26, 2019.

₹ logs 3rd straight gains, up 12 paise at 71.72 a dollar

PTI ■ MUMBAI

The Indian rupee continued its winning momentum for a third session in a row on Friday, rising 12 paise to settle at 71.72 against the US dollar as signs of easing trade tensions between the US and China enthused investors.

appreciated by 67 paise in the last three trading sessions. At the interbank foreign exchange market on Friday, the local unit opened on a strong note at 71.87 and finally closed at 71.72, higher by 12 paise over its previous close.

SEARCH FOR MISSING

General Public is hereby informed that one person Namely: Kishan Kirad, S/o: Om Parkash Kirad, R/o: Gali No. 19, Shiv Ram Park, Nanngloi, Delhi, Age: 35 Years, Height: 5'7", Face: Round, Complexion: Fair, Wearing: Shirt-Jeans Pant and Shoes in feet has been missing/kidnapped from the area of PS Nihal Vihar, Delhi since 28.05.2019. In this regard DD No. 109-A dated 10.06.2019 has been lodged at PS. Nihal Vihar, Delhi. Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out the missing/kidnapped person but no clue has come to light so far. If anyone have any information about this missing/kidnapped person please inform the undersigned.

ICICI Bank PUBLIC NOTICE - TENDER GUM AUCTION FOR SALE OF SECURED ASSET Notice for sale of immovable property E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immoveable Assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8 (6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.

FORM A PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT (Under Regulation 6 of the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India (Insolvency Resolution Process for Corporate Persons) Regulations, 2016) FOR THE ATTENTION OF THE CREDITORS OF SHYAM DIGITAL COMMUNICATION PRIVATE LIMITED

In a major boost to investor sentiment globally, China and the US have agreed to hold the next round of trade negotiations in Washington in early October to end the bruising trade war. "Indian rupee appreciates for the third day in row as risk appetite is back with US-China trade optimism. Strong Equity markets across Asia and weakened US dollar overseas have been supporting the rupee," said V K Sharma, Head PCG & Capital Markets Strategy, HDFC Securities.

SHORT CIRCUITS

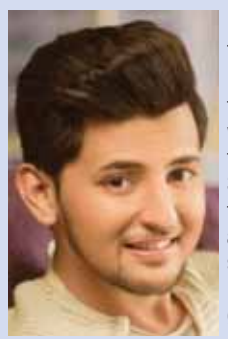
ANUSHKA SHARMA
My dad always told me two things which I still remember — do the right thing always and have compassion in your heart no matter what the circumstances are. It takes a special substance to be compassionate. This world is a circle of life. What goes around comes around.



SONAM KAPOOR
Kaash is one of my favourite songs from *The Zoya Factor*. I had a lot of fun on the sets as too many comedy of errors kept happening throughout. The song encapsulates my bond with Dulquer (Salmaan) and the chemistry we share. He is good-looking and a great gentleman. Shooting with him has been a delight.



KANGANA RANAUT
Climate change is not a favourite topic for those people who are pro-industrialisation because it goes against them. Urbanisation and building roads creates job opportunities that offer a great life, huge money and happiness for many. But how long will we be able to sustain them?



DARSHAN RAVAL
The track, *Dil Mera Blast* is all about revelry, something that is synonymous with the festive season. It's for the masses, shot with 300 dancers. This is one of the few independent tracks aimed at masses. Mostly, such songs belong to the romantic or the hip-hop genre.

ANGELINA JOLIE
Every film made in Afghanistan is a triumph against the odds. At a time when the future of Afghanistan is hanging in the balance, it reminds us of all that is at stake for millions of Afghan women, who deserve the freedom, independence and safety to make their own choices.



ENCOUNTER 45 MINUTES

A THOUSAND INDIAS

In popular culture, BHARAT BHALA created the idea of a nation which we could feel proud of. He talks to SAIMI SATTAR about the different narratives and stories that he is bringing forth in his new series, *Virtual Bharat*

The canvas is expansive, not just in terms of the wide angles but the variety of landscape that it covers. But at its heart is a small story — always ready to trigger an emotional chord and at times even bring a lump to your throat. Whatever filmmaker and advertiser Bharat Bala fashions, it seems to be imbued with that magical touch where nationalism and India are the spine but never bubble to the surface in righteous rage as has been happening in the socio-political space in recent times.

Despite that, the original peddler of the idea of pop nationalism (think *Vande Mataram*, *Jana Gana Mana*, an ad for the Indian Army and another for Indian Oil) prefers to stay clear of making any political statement even though his films are replete with the message of unity in diversity, something which was hard to miss for anyone growing up in the pre-cable 80s and 90s. "Don't drag me in that direction," is the one liner that he gives out when one asks him about the strident singular narrative that the country is being steered into even though his latest project runs antithetical to that idea.

Virtual Bharat, an online series on YouTube, will be the platform to stream about 1,000 stories of India. "Imagine it to be a digital cloud where there are virtual museums of stories of India. It is one destination where you will find unique ones on every aspect from every corner and in almost every language of India told in under 10 minutes and each will be a gem," says Bala.

But who then, if not him, can portray the pride in nation and nationhood. For who can forget AR Rahman's soul stirring *Vande Mataram* (1997) where the heart-felt vocals and intense voice were ably matched by the visuals where deep colours, a vivid and varied landscape that encompassed the country and a massive 60 feet by 40 feet tricolour made for a song that spoke of inclusivity and love of the nation.

Virtual Bharat flowed out of that. "Basically, post *Vande Mataram* I had many ideas in bits and pieces whether it was *Incredible India*, *School Chalen Hum* or *Jana Gana Mana* or the Commonwealth Games. Additionally, I had travelled across the length and breadth of the country for commercials and witnessed the landscape. I felt this was the opportune time now as content had become the in-thing, mobile consumption is widespread and the net space has been democratised which has given access to people everywhere. I felt now was the time when we can build the big idea of India," he says.

The first film, *Thaalam*, sees his long-time collaborator, music composer and singer AR Rahman light up the screen as he says, "Imagine India on a boat. It is only as strong as the people. The power to win is not in one person. The power is when all of us come together (pauses) as one. One effort one goal. To move forward as a nation, we need to dream together to aspire to build together. Let's find our *thaalam* as a nation together," and soon one is drawn into the famous snake boat race of Kerala.

However, rather than covering the race, Bala prefers to peek into the story behind it to convey his message. "I wanted that this short film should have a purpose and should be timeless. There has to be a bigger idea which the viewer can take home and retain long after he has seen it. I have seen the snake boats for a long time and to shoot it, was not exciting. When I found that the people from all walks of life — school teachers, shopkeepers, farmers, fishermen — come together and train for about 15 days to row the boats. There are 150 men in one boat and one man sets the rhythm by pounding with a log. If they find the rhythm within themselves, then the boat wins. The idea psyched me and I said there is a bigger story there. That is what I told Rahman. 'Imagine India on a boat. We have such diverse people but if we can

find a rhythm within us as a society then the nation is winning." And the idea is conveyed with such vigour that it gives you goosebumps. The four-minute, 18-second film is the first in the series, which will cover everything related to culture, food, folklore, poetry, performing arts, landscapes and human interest stories from the remotest parts of the country.

For him, an important ingredient of *Virtual Bharat* is the timelessness of the story. "So if we watch these today or five years from now, they should create the same emotions," he says.

While *Thaalam* is the only one to be put out, Bharat Bala Productions has already finished making 70 films and researched for 300 stories. "The major effort is in the research. It is exciting," he says and adds matter-of-factly, "*Kar rahen hain. Hazaar story aaram se nikal lete hain.*"

He says that they have tried to tell the stories in a way that they have a wider appeal. "Most importantly, every film is being made in its original language. So if you are from Bengal, I want you to hear what Marathi, Gujarati, Tamil or Kashmiri sounds like. That is the beauty of India," he says.

But then isn't it an endorsement of the unity in diversity narrative? "I am not here to take a stand," he emphasises, averting the question but without any rancour. "I am telling a story where I will not influence or interrupt the protagonist's voice. The next film, *First Man*, is about an *adivasi* boy from back of the beyond Sambhalpur in Odisha. The beauty of each of the films is that I wouldn't add my opinion. I only use my craft of filmmaking to tell that story in a more beautiful way. There will be good cinema, narrative, editing and sound. We need the audience to experience watching a great movie. For this, I have to make it entertaining and exciting emotionally. I have to fight this big (he emphasises on the 'I' to stress upon the bigness) bandwagon of Hindi cinema which is consumed in billions and zillions. It is a humongous task."

But such a labour of love is always fraught with challenges. "We made around six films but I was not happy with them so we wouldn't use them. I go with real people and sometimes these things don't work out but you can't blame them as they are not actors. So you have to let go and continue. These are hard learnings but that is the way it is," he says and one can almost see him shrug over the phone line.

Moreover, Bala points out that he has limited resources to make these films which are to be shot in remote locations. "We are in Mumbai so I have to make three trips. The first one to research, the second to recce where we take pho-

“IMAGINE INDIA ON A BOAT. WE HAVE SUCH DIVERSE PEOPLE BUT IF WE CAN FIND A RHYTHM WITHIN US AS A SOCIETY THEN THE NATION IS WINNING. I WANTED THAT THIS SHORT FILM SHOULD HAVE A PURPOSE AND SHOULD BE TIMELESS. THERE HAS TO BE A BIGGER IDEA WHICH THE VIEWER CAN TAKE HOME AND RETAIN LONG AFTER HE HAS SEEN IT”

tographs and study the location's characters and the third time to go and shoot. It is logistically expensive as there are mundane things like nowadays, the airlines don't allow more than 15 kg of baggage and thanks to the equipment, we always have excess. These are all my hardships today," he says and guffaws.

The travel, boarding and lodging push up the costs. "I want all the tools, a proper drone operator, live sound to get that texture and rawness. So I also need sound engineers, camera operators and lighting. I don't want to compromise in films but I still have to make do with a smaller crew and this can have its own challenges," he says.

The bigger challenge, the more exciting it is for Bala. During the Commonwealth Games Opening Ceremony, where there were 18,000 performers, Bala's response was "*Chalo kareng.*" He believes in taking up the driest of subjects and making it the most exciting. "Even during *Vande Mataram* I went to the remotest villages and depicted it the way it was and people wearing their own clothes. You can't say *yeh ganda-*



that is what has inspired me," he says.

So how difficult is it switching media since he dabbles in a lot of different things including films like *Maryan* (2013), *Journey Across India* (2007) and *Hari Om* (2004). "The fundamental of everything, whether it is ad films, videos or films, is creativity. That keeps on driving me. And each creative idea has to be said in a certain format. *Jo cheez 10 second mei dikhana hai usey ek minute mat khinchon aur jo feature film mei batana hai usey feature film mei hi dikhao.* I am not the kind of person who is sitting there and saying *main sirf feature film banaonga ya sirf documentary or ad film he banaonga.* No, I am a film maker I will use any of these forms whatever lends itself well," he says.

Not being confined to one format has helped him as has the fact that he is very observant and has a good memory. "If I have seen something in a place that I travelled to, I remember that and at the right time I go and access it. I am open to learning. When I go out for a film I am on Ground Zero. I can't say I know everything. For each one, you have to start from the beginning," he says.

A long association that he has had is with his school mate Allah Rakha Rahman, the Mozart of East. Bala says, "We are just like... you have to put a word to it... soulmates. Whenever I take an idea, he understands as he does so many different things from commercial cinema to art. He gets excited and enthusiastic about it. He would be doing original scores for many of these short films."

The two of them also collaborated with the legendary Pakistani singer, Nusrat Fateh Ali Khan, for *Vande Mataram*, something which is unimaginable in this day and age. "It was spontaneous. We were in New York and we heard that there was a concert. Rahman had never seen Nusrat *Saab* and we went together and fell in love. Later, I told AR (Rahman) that this is the 50th year of India's Independence and that of Pakistan too. Let music be the binding source. Then we made *Gurus of Peace*. If we listen to it, politically, it is relevant even today, *'Chanda suraj laakhon taare hain jab tere hi yeh saare, Kis baat par hothi hai phir thakraerein.'*"

But when you ask him to elaborate, he says, "There are a lot of experts to talk about it. We can talk about positive things. I don't want to get involved in this and I prefer to remain honest in my craft."

So what keeps him going? "Every story is so inspiring and exciting for me to do. It is not as if I am tired because I am doing a 1,000 films," he says as he signs off.

Here's raising a toast to another thousand ideas of India that will live and survive long after us.

gi hai. I want to make it look poetic. So I am able to visualise it and make a sense of beauty in things as they are rather than creating a set up," he says.

He believes that the expansive nature of his films is essential for a country which is of the size of India. "It is inevitable, if you have to address such a wide audience. Everyone needs to feel a part of it. In *School Chalen Hum*, every visual is from a different part of India which is remote. It is only then that each child will say, '*main bhi school ja rahan hun*'. It is not just the ones from Bihar or any particular State, rather it is the children of India going to school. It is not a homogeneous, small country but then it is India. *Dikhana padega na,*" he says by way of explanation.

In more ways than one, his films are timeless. In the iconic *School Chalen Hum*, the thought of getting children to school was a universal idea which does not get dated and resonates as much today as it did it when it was aired several years ago. "I am happy that they are surviving and they have the emotion of timelessness," says he.

Whether it is ad films or videos, the idealist patriotic core runs through most of Bala's production and he attributes it to his upbringing. "My father was a Gandhian and he took part in the freedom struggle. The idea of India was ingrained in me. Our upbringing in Delhi was very nationalistic and so I attended every Republic Day and Beating the Retreat," he says.

They later lived in Madras (present-day Chennai) which was a contrasting environment while he started his professional career in Mumbai. A combination of all these helped him to develop his perspective further. "I think it has given me a wider exposure of India which has helped me. I had this cross-cultural experience. I had very liberal frank parents but somewhere for them the idea of nation was very important. My father told me to celebrate, enjoy and discover this country and I am doing this in a creative way. He was a photo journalist and I imbibed his DNA. When I was making advertisements, he told me that 'you are creating ideas for a product but you should also create a big idea for India and

IMMERSIVE 45 MINUTES

FOR THE 'SAKE' OF TASTE

After trying a number of crisp, sweet, elegant, rich, sour and bitter sakes at the Embassy of Japan, CHAHAK MITTAL discovers why Indian markets are a challenge for Japanese brewers

Hold the cup close to your face. Let the aroma sink in. Take a small sip, and let it linger in your mouth, touch your senses and exhilarate your tastebuds before you swallow it. That's what one of the Japanese Sake connoisseurs explained to me when I held my first cup of the quintessential Japanese drink, also known as *Nihonshu* (literally, Japanese liquor) at the Embassy of Japan. Going into the historical background, the visitors were told that sake production was a government monopoly until the 10th century when temples and shrines began to brew their own, which is how, by the 1300s, it became an important ceremonial drink in the country. Coming back to the present, the huge party hall had eight counters, four on each side, that served different flavours of sake and retold the history and the method of creating them.

I first sipped Fujuku Gold Label from the Nada region of Kobe in Japan, which featured an elegant taste with a refreshing bouquet aroma that would remind one of white peach and pear. The biggest factor that's common to all sakes is that their ingredients are only limited to three things — rice, fermented yeast and water with no added flavours. The next, Fujuku Blue Label, which featured a smooth, rice umami flavour, was reminiscent of ripe apricot. Featuring rich flavours and quite the strongest aroma till now, the Fujuku Green Label made its way to my cup. "It's made at the Rokko Mountain, which has extreme temperature swings in the north which are ideal for growing the sake rice. Cold winds moving towards the south are perfect for the slow fermentation process. It does make space for richer and smoother taste. And the local mountain streams supply the naturally pure water or *Miyamizu*, which has the right mineral content. The process of producing sake has been the same for as long as 266 years now with these basic, natural ingredients," said the Fujuku brewer.

The Gokujo Miyanozuki from the *Miyazaki Honten* was the next. This sake was sweet as sugar and smooth as a vibe, blending a fruity aroma with bitterness that appeared to be pleasant and had a rich taste. Its Daiginjo Miyanozuki, undiluted sake, had a mellowed taste and made one enjoy the refined aroma of ginjoshu. Mika Eoka, brewer and server at the counter, said, these sakes are good for the skin as they consist of local, clear and soft natural mineral water. "Its minerals pro-



duce sweetness as well as a mellow texture and a refreshing taste. Regardless of how you drink it, you will be satisfied with its taste due to the delicious fine-blended materials," added she. It could be an accompaniment with not just smoked salmon or sushi, but "perfectly with paneer and chicken tikka as well (laughs)." The Miyanozuki Junmaishu was yet another sake which was a perfect alcoholic drink that can accompany any meal due to its soft texture and good vibe.

Next up was the *Ninki-Ichi*, the 'handmade' sake. My favourite in the lot. At this counter, the first thing I heard from the people around was that "It's known for its fragrances." The first, *Ninki-Ichi Yuzu-shu* (citron liqueur), commonly known as a 'winter delicacy', amazes you with its special lime-like citrus aroma. With its hazy, lemon-y colour, the yuzu juice takes over your tastebuds and everything else, making your jaws tingle and crave for more at the same time. Not once would you feel like it was indeed a variety of alcohol. When have we ever tasted that sour a wine?

Its *Ninki-Ichi Umeshu* (plum liqueur) is yet another surprise for



your tastebuds. Rich, sweet and elegant, this plum and red chilli-infused sake gives both a tangy and a sweet taste. "Umeshu is known to be the star in the Japan's lexicon of well-made booze as plums are a staple of the Japanese culture," said the brewer and pointed towards the statistics by Japan's National Tax Agency (NTA), which highlight that liqueur exports, primarily umeshu, more than doubled from 1.84 billion yen (\$18 million) to 4.21 billion (\$38 million) between 2011 and 2016.

While there are 300 versions of Umeshu in the Japanese market, a sake connoisseur enlightened us about this one. He said, "Its flavour balance is created by aging the whole fruit, with the stone still inside it and by soaking it in various types of alcohol. The citric acid in the fruit gives it a pleasant tanginess and a taste that is sweet and tart with notes of almonds. Some brands also mix in sugar, cane spirit or brandy to create a more refined taste. The premium brands are also aged for several years." The *Ninki-Ichi Bottle Feremed Sparkling Junmai*

Ginjo, the next one, is a sparkling sake which is fermented only in rice and *koji* (or ice mold) in a bottle. It's this second bottle fermentation and not carbonation, which gives it its bubbles and sparkle. Crisp, dried and bright, the sake made me experience a blend of flavours of grape, cherry and pear with a pinch of lime.

However, the award of 'tasty sake at a reasonable price' goes to the *Ninki-Ichi Goldninki Junmai Daiginjo*. Aromatic and crisp, pleasantly dry and slightly sweet, the sake was well-balanced and had a fresh finish. The taste was more distinct than any of the other that I had tried till now. It's usually preferred chilled and can accompany best with white fish sashimi, steamed chicken and salad.

The last ones — quirky and fresh — from the OZEKI Corporation were the best. 'Shake it well before you drink it,' was the instruction I received from the servers. The *IKEZO Peach* was an amazing sparkling jelly sake with an exquisite refreshing acidity, which had a mellow texture and surprised me with its flavour of sweet peach.

The *IKEZO Mix-Berry* was certainly the best — absolutely berrylicious. Its transparent strawberry, blueberry and cranberry jelly made the sake fruity and

gently sweet. "It can also be enjoyed like a dessert, you know?" said Noriko Nasukawa, president of Nihongo Centre in India for Japanese Language Professional Services.

After some mind-blowing tasting of some of Japan's best sakes, knowing about how the drink is so important for Japanese and their culture that they even have a Miss Sake every year, there were questions hovering in my mind — Has India caught up with the global sake trend? Why are these not widely available in India yet?

Noriko, who has been living in India for the past 20 years now, emphasised on their unavailability. "Sashimi quality fishes are no longer an exotic dish for Indians for which they need to travel abroad. However, sake does need some more space. The Indian market no doubt presents a huge challenge for sake brewers, but that's also the reason why venturing to break into the market is so exciting. Isn't it?" said she.

Ambassador Hiramitsu looks at sake as a medium of reaching the "ultimate objective" of strengthening of India-Japan relations and its people-to-people connect. He said, "Sake complements the spicy Indian food very well. And we are trying to make it widely available in the country." Photo: Pankaj Kumar

STUDIO CHAT 30 MINUTES

Spread your wings



Actor ROHIT ROY tells SAKSHI SHARMA that he has done a variety of roles in the past few years of his career as he has become competent to pull off these characters

Picture this. You are sitting in a chair in a theatre which is absolutely silent. Suddenly a doll falls on the stage as the clock strikes midnight and the gong echoes across the place. You start breathing heavily as you stare at the empty stage and feel its void within you and the person sitting beside you lets out a frightened scream while you are still struggling to maintain your calm.

This nerve-racking feeling while reading the script made actor Rohit Roy go for the play *Ovee* too. He tells us, "I was looking for comedy and romantic roles, completely opposite to what I am doing but the script blew my mind. I wondered how is it even possible to do a horror play on stage in front of a live audience. How will you scare people? Then when I saw it with all the effects, I realised how it will go ahead and that made me go for it."

The horror play, *Ovee*, revolves around a teenage girl who having lost her parents during her childhood was sent to an orphanage. She lives as an occupant in a room where a girl was murdered some time ago. During her stay, she starts experiencing certain paranormal activities. Her friend and psychiatrist Nikhil (played by Roy) comes to her help.

Not only a psychiatrist, Roy also plays two other roles — that of a cop and *Chacha ji*. The latter is very different from what he perceives himself to be in real life but he enjoys it the most as he has a very "different style." So how challenging it was for him to play three roles in the same play? He says, "It was not easy. I tried to keep the three characters different from each other in terms of their voice and styling so that the audience feels

engaged throughout and not get confused between the characters. While rehearsing, I used to remind myself again and again that one role has ended, and now this is the new one." However, Nikhil is the character which is the closest to his heart. Even though his is the lengthiest part in the play but Roy is glad to play the "most meaty" character.

The actor says that through this play he wanted to challenge himself and come out of his comfort zone. He says, "Everything that I have attempted in the last few years is very different from the roles I have done in my entire career. I have become more responsible after my daughter Kiara was born. I now feel I am competent enough to pull off various roles. I was never this good. I don't want my child to say, 'Papa what kind of a role you have done?' I want her to be proud of me."

The actor was recently seen playing the role of Amit Shellar, a villain and rapist in *Kaabil*. And it was another one which was difficult for him to come to terms with as he had to get out of his 'good boy' image, "but

then when I took it up, I realised, as an actor, it's very important to spread your wings and try something new." Roy is currently seen as Dr Vardhan in *Sanjivani 2*, which he says is probably the "best comeback for an actor" on TV. "Vardhan is a character I would not have done five years back because I always thought that the audience will not accept me as him. It would only accept me in a romantic comedy or the 'boy next door' type of roles. But I have realised that if the role is good and I enact it well, people will like it," adds he. The actor has played a plethora of parts and he feels that striking a balance between them gets easier with experience.

Roy feels that no actor is complete till s/he does theatre as it serves as a real test for them. Therefore, now after working for many years, he feels that he is capable enough to try theatre of different kinds. Directed by Aniket Patil, the play explores the horror genre as its "favourite." He says, "The story of the play has come from my imagination." To stage this, he



even learnt a few magic tricks from YouTube. Through the play, Patil wants to send the message — "There is a fear within us everytime but in order to achieve what we desire, we need to break those dreadful walls and come out of it."

So how is a horror play different from a film or show in the same genre? Says Roy, "I don't want to compare films and TV with theatre because there we have cuts, retakes, background music and light effects to create horror and a thrilling vibe. But in theatre, it is different." It demands a more nuanced preparation altogether, he believes and adds, "If an actor gets a wrong cue, the entire lighting scene will go for a toss. Generally, you read your lines and then say it in your own language. But here it has to be the same because the words act as a cue for the crew to give the light effects or to make space for prompts to appear."

Talking about why horror comedy is not very prevalent when it comes to theatre, Roy says that it's because it's very challenging to unfold the horror, sound and special effects here. "So people don't want to do it. I was also looking for a romantic comedy in the first place (laughs)."

The actor doesn't take Rohit Roy to the show anymore. He's evolved manifold. "Once I am ready, I understand my character, which is something I didn't do earlier. I used to proudly say that every role had a bit of me in it but now things have changed," says he and adds that it would be evident in *Ovee* too as the Rohit would "look like an original person and not some Chacha ji."

Selection of a script for him varies with its medium. He says, "In web, there are finite number of episodes, which focus on every character individually. But I want my character to be strong in all the episodes. In films, I see what it is about. My role comes secondary. On TV, it changes again. As it is a never-ending process, I see my character first."

The actor believes that every role shapes you into a better person by teaching something. So, he loves to take a bit of every character home with him and learn from it. "In *Unfaithfully Yours*, I took the comedy home. From Vardhan, I have realised that one must attempt different roles," says he.

(The play will be staged today and tomorrow at 4pm and 7pm at Kamani Auditorium.)

CONVERSATION 15 MINUTES

Into the wild

Wildlife enthusiast LATIKA NATH says that people need to understand they are fighting for their own survival when they look at stories of other species. By TEAM VIVA



with a pack of wild dogs in Africa some years ago. The closest I got to them was three feet on foot, unarmed and alone," adds she.

Our ecological system is under constant threat. It is very important to understand that it is the need of the hour to save the system from collapsing else it will have long term implications on our sustainable development as well. Latika says, "Man needs to control his greed and learn to act as a guardian for the lands he lives in. He needs to understand that he

is fighting for his own survival when he talks of the survival of the species on this planet."

While the word of wildlife crisis spreads across, the young generation is also taking interest and efforts in its revival. Latika shares that she has been approached time and again by youngsters. She likes spending time with them and having interesting conversations with students of all age groups. "There is an increasing awareness of the need for conservation of species and to fight climate change in children of all age groups today," she adds.

She always wants to be in the field exploring different species all across. She tries to make a difference by making people aware about the revival of the species and natural elements. "It is essential to contribute to the environment, even if it is small and at the grassroots level," says she.

(The series will premiere on Sony BBC Earth on September 9.)

Aus look to retain Ashes

Late Hazlewood burst leaves Eng in trouble after Root-Burns century stand

AFP ■ OLD TRAFFORD (MANCHESTER)

Josh Hazlewood strengthened Australia's grip on the fourth Test at Old Trafford with a trio of England wickets late on Friday's third day.

England were 200-5 when bad light ended play shortly before the scheduled close, still 297 behind Australia's imposing 497-8 declared built on star batsman Steve Smith's commanding double century.

Fast bowler Hazlewood had so far taken 4-48 in 20 overs, with England needing a further 98 runs just to avoid the follow-on.

Ben Stokes, whose unbeaten century took England to a stunning one-wicket win in the third Test at Headingley, was seven not out and Jonny Bairstow two not out.

England were making steady progress during a third-wicket partnership of 141 between Rory Burns (81) and captain Joe Root (71).

But Hazlewood removed both well-set batsmen before clean-bowling Jason Roy.

Victory in this match would see holders Australia retain the Ashes at 2-1 up with one to play in a five-Test series.

Rain meant there was no play before lunch on Friday.

England resumed on 23-1, with left-handed opener Burns 15 not out and nightwatchman Craig Overton three not out after Cummins had dismissed makeshift opener Joe Denly on Thursday.

Overton had added just two to his score when he edged a full-length, rising delivery from Hazlewood to second slip, where Smith held a waist-high catch.

Burns, who scored a century in the first Test, cover-drove Mitchell Starc for a resounding four.

Burns's back-foot drive for four off Starc, playing his first match of the series, and a steered boundary off the left-arm fast bowler saw him to a 100-ball fifty.

ROOTS' REPRIEVE

England were 125-2 at tea, with Burns 62 not out — his third score of fifty or more this series — and Root unbeaten on 47.

Root, who had his box snapped by a Starc delivery and was struck a painful blow on the leg by Cummins, should have been out on 54.

But an edge off Cummins went between Australia captain and wicketkeeper Tim Paine — who should have gone for



Joe Root congratulates Rory Burns after the English opener completed his half century. England Cricket/Twitter

Fast bowler Hazlewood had so far taken 4-48 in 20 overs, with England needing a further 98 runs just to avoid the follow-on

the catch — and David Warner at first slip.

Paine, whose poor use of the review system contributed to Australia's defeat at Headingley, wasted another challenge after Root was given not out in response to an lbw appeal from Cummins.

It prompted a huge cheer from a large crowd.

They also took every opportunity to jeer Nathan Lyon, who had fumbled what would have been a match-winning run-out at Headingley, every time the spinner failed

to take the ball cleanly.

Burns, in sight of what would have been a second Test century after his 133 in the series opener at Edgbaston, fell when he was undone by a fine Hazlewood ball that nipped away and took the edge, with Smith holding another sharp slip catch.

Burns batted for nearly five hours, facing 185 balls including nine fours.

Hazlewood, demonstrating great control, then had Root lbw with a fine nip-back delivery to end a 168-ball innings, the skipper not even bothering to review umpire Kumar Dharmasena's decision so certain was he of his own dismissal.

Roy, having struggled as a Test opener, had changed places with Denly but England's use of a nightwatchman meant he came in at number five.

He got off the mark with a cover-driven four off Hazlewood but the paceman had the last word, clean bowling him middle stump for 22 with a superb delivery that moved late off the seam.

Malinga delivers special win



AFP ■ KANDY

Lasith Malinga claimed four wickets in four balls for the second time in his career to lead Sri Lanka to a 37-run consolation win over New Zealand in the third Twenty20 international on Friday.

Malinga returned career-best figures of 5-6 to bundle New Zealand, who won the series 2-1, out for 88 while chasing 126 in Kandy.

The 36-year-old Malinga bowled Colin Munro for 12 on the third ball of his second over to become the first T20 bowler to claim 100 wickets as he began his demolition of the Kiwi batting.

He then sent Hamish Rutherford, Colin de Grandhomme and Ross Taylor back to the pavilion on balls four, five and six as he raised the roof in front of a raucous home crowd. New Zealand slipped to 15 for four.

"Yorker was my best ball, I only try my best to bowl the right line and right length," Malinga, known for bowling yorkers with his slinging action, said.

"Really happy that we won the match, I am a wicket-taking bowler when I play for Sri Lanka... I always want to give all my experience to the youngsters before the (T20) World Cup (next year)."

It was only the third time a bowler had taken four wickets in as many balls in internationals, after Malinga himself against South Africa at the 2007 World Cup, and Afghanistan's Rashid Khan earlier this year.

He now has five hat-tricks in international cricket to his name, with three in one-day internationals and two in T20Is.

Malinga, who surpassed Pakistan spinner Shahid Afridi's tally of 97 scalps to become the leading T20 international wicket-taker on Sunday, came back in his third over to get Tim Seifert for eight and register his second five-wicket haul in T20Is.

The veteran speedster also has improved his T20 tally to 104 wickets in 76 matches.

Akila Dananjaya backed up his captain's effort with two wickets while Lakshan Sandakan wrapped up the win in 16 overs after trapping

Lasith Malinga returned with career-best figures of 5-6 to bundle New Zealand, who won the series 2-1, out for 88 while chasing 126 in Kandy

Seth Rance lbw for eight. New Zealand skipper Tim Southee remained unbeaten on 28 and praised his opposite number for a "great spell" of bowling. "Credit to Sri Lanka for

the way they played and Malinga's spell just broke our back today," said Southee. "He's done it in the past, and it was a great spell from a class T20 bowler."

Earlier, spinners Mitchell Santner and Todd Astle shared three wickets each to keep Sri Lanka to 125 for eight after the hosts elected to bat first.

Santner returned impressive bowling figures of 3-12 from his four overs including a maiden with his left-arm spin.

Opener Danushka Gunathilaka top-scored with 30 before falling to Astle's leg-spin as Sri Lanka lost their way after the powerplay.

Wicketkeeper-batsman Niroshan Dickwella (24), Lahiru Madushanka (20) and Wanindu Hasaranga (14 not out) were the only other home players to reach double figures.

SEARCH FOR MISSING LADY WITH HER SON



Parvinder Kuar

General public is hereby informed that one lady namely Parvinder Kuar, W/o Shri Prem Singh, R/o RZF-310, Nihal Vihar, Nangloi, Delhi, Age 25 years, Height 5'3", Complexion Fair, Round Face, Wearing Red colour suit & salwar and red hawaa chappal in feet along with her two son namely, Jaspreet, Age 8 years & Jzvar Singh, Age 6 years has been missing/kidnapped from the area of PS Nihal Vihar, Delhi since 01.08.19. In this regard a vide No. 73-A dated 02.08.19 has been lodged at PS Nihal Vihar, Delhi.

Any person having any information or clue about these missing lady and her son may kindly inform to the following.

E-mail ID: cic@cbi.gov.in
Tele: 011-24368638, 24368641
Fax: 011-24368639

SHO

PS: Nihal Vihar, Delhi
Ph.: 25946700, 25946710
DP/2653/OD/19



Government of India

Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment
Department of Social Justice and Empowerment

VAYOSHRESHTHA SAMMAN (National Awards for Senior Citizens) 2019 - extension of date for inviting nominations in selected categories.

The Department of Social Justice and Empowerment has decided to once again open the window for inviting nominations in respect of the following categories:

Cate gory No.	Category	Description/ Eligibility	Nature of Awards
INSTITUTIONAL CATEGORY			
6	Best Private Sector Organisation in promoting the wellbeing and welfare of Senior	Corporate Houses, addressing the problems of elderly either by providing them gainful employment, or utilizing their skills and experience to the benefit of the society or creating infrastructure in geriatric medical care or any other similar step for the benefit of senior citizens as a community. The activities taken for benefit of senior citizens should be away from the mainline business of the organization.	(a) Citation; (b) Memento.
INDIVIDUAL CATEGORY			
13	Courage & Bravery (one each for Male and Female)	To senior citizens who have displayed extra ordinary courage in the face of grave danger.	(a) Citation; (b) Memento; (c) Cash award of two lakh and fifty thousand Rupees.

2. The last date for receiving nominations as per Notification in respect of the above mentioned categories is **16.09.2019**. The detailed information in this regard are available on the website of the Department: www.socialjustice.nic.in

(S.S. Kumar)

Deputy Secretary to the Government of India

Tel: 011-23388837

davp 38101/11/0020/1920

NORTHERN RAILWAY
E-TENDER NOTICE

1	Name of the work with location	Hiring of one EEC/Maruti Omni Ambulance round the clock with first aid kit, two folding stretchers, oxygen cylinder with all attachments, driver and attendant to be stationed round the clock at Health Unit Delhi Kishan Ganj.
2	Approximate estimate cost	Rs. 54,114/- P.M. or Rs. 19,48,104 for three years.
3	Cost of Tender Form	Rs. 2360/- on line payment (non-refundable)
4	Address of the office website where the tender form can be purchased	www.ireps.gov.in
5	EMD to be deposited	Rs. 39,000/- (Rs. Thirty Nine Thousand only).
6	Completion period of the work	03 (three) years from the date of award of work.
7	Date & Time for submission of tender & opening of tender	30.09.2019 up to 15.00 hrs. and opening 15.30 hrs. same day
8	Website particulars where complete details of tender can be seen etc.	www.ireps.gov.in

No. 31-Med-Amb. Hiring-DKZ-2019-22 Dated : 06.09.2019 2885/2019
SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

NORTHERN RAILWAY
TENDER NOTICE

Invitation of tender through E-Tendering (E-Procurement Systems)

N.I.T. No.	221-S/42/BP/DLI/2017/ML-IV(2019)
Name of work and its location	Round the clock Transportation of Drivers & Guards Line Boxes of Diesel & Electric from Engine/Train/Brake Van to running room/Lobby/Station and vice versa at Delhi main Station under Sr. Crew Controller Delhi Main for the period of two years from the date of execution of work
Approx. Cost of work	Rs. 1,02,70,323.84 (One Crore Two lakh Seventy thousand Three hundred Twenty three and eighty four paise only) plus GST as applicable.
Earnest Money	Rs. 206800/-
Completion period of work	Two years i.e. 24 months from the date of execution of work
Cost of Tender document on Cash/by post	Rs. 5900/-
Date and time for submission of tender and opening of tender	Upto 15.00 hrs on 09-10-2019 Opening of Tender at 15.00 hrs
Website particulars notice board location complete details of tender can be seen	Above tender available on IREPS site i.e. www.ireps.gov.in

Dated : 06.09.2019. 2881/19
SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

CIVIL SURGEON, FARIDABAD
PUBLIC NOTICE/ SHORT TERM TENDER NOTICE

Sr No	Name of Department/ Board/Corp./Aith	Name of Work/Notice/Tender	Opening date Closing Date (Time)	Amount (Tender Fees)	Website of the Department	Nodal Officer/ Contact Detail	Tender Ref. No./ Tender No.
1.	District Health & Family Welfare Society Faridabad O/o Civil Surgeon, Faridabad	Hiring of E- Rickshaw with Driver and Miking system (Alternative Vaccine Delivery in Urban area, Faridabad.)	Opening Date 07.09.2019 by 10:00 AM Closing Date 14.09.2019 by 06:00 PM	Tender Fees Rs. 2000/- + 1180/- (E-processing fee) (Non Refundable)	http://www.eteenders.hrv.nic.in	Civil Surgeon Faridabad 0129-2415623 dhs.csfbd@hrv.nic.in	NHM/FBD/A CCT/2019/ 311

Civil Surgeon Faridabad

BONANZA OF PROJECTS FOR PEOPLE OF HARYANA
by **Narendra Modi** Prime Minister

Laying Foundation Stone of 5 Projects

- Shree Sheetla Mata Devi Medical College, Gurugram
- Construction of Roads Network, ABD Faridabad Smart City
- Mega Food Park at IMT, Rohtak
- Integrated Command and Control Centre, Karnal
- Construction of 576 Houses in Police Complex, Bhondsi

Inauguration of 5 Projects

- Rehabilitation of Dulhera Distributory
- 576 Low Cost Dwelling Houses in Rohtak
- Girls Colleges in Badoli (Palwal), Punhana (Nuh), Mandkola (Palwal), Ugalan (Hisar) and Kalanwali (Sirsa)
- Energy Efficient Street Light Project with Centralised Control & Monitoring System in Thanesar, Ladwa, Shahabad & Pehowa (Kurukshetra)
- Integrated Command and Control Centre, Faridabad

Date: September 8, 2019 (Sunday) Time: 12:00 Noon
Venue: Pashu Mela Ground, Rohtak

GRACIOUS PRESENCE
Satyadeo Narain Arya Governor, Haryana
Manohar Lal Chief Minister, Haryana
Narendra Singh Tomar Union Minister, Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, Rural Development & Panchayati Raj

Rao Inderjit Singh Union Minister of State, Statistics and Programme Implementation and Planning (I.C.)
Krishan Pal Gurjar Union Minister of State, Social Justice & Empowerment
Rattan Lal Kataria Union Minister of State, Jal Shakti, Social Justice & Empowerment
Arvind Sharma MP, Rohtak
Manish Kumar Grover Minister of State, Cooperation and Printing & Stationery (I.C.), Haryana

All are cordially invited

Say No To Plastic Save Environment

