

**OPINION 8**  
PAKISTAN'S  
HYPOCRISY

**WORLD 12**  
GANTZ FOR PM POST  
IN ISRAEL'S UNITY GOVT

**SPORT 15**  
PSG BEAT REAL MADRID  
3-0 IN CHAMPIONS LEAGUE



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NEW DELHI, FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 20, 2019; PAGES 16 ₹3



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Sh. Manohar Lal  
Chief Minister, Haryana

Information, Public Relations and Languages Department, Haryana www.prharyana.gov.in

## Ahead of 'Howdy', India for GSP

Modi, Trump may discuss reinstatement of duty-free entry of Indian goods to US

**PNS ■ NEW DELHI**  
Ahead of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's week-long visit to the United States starting September 21, India on Thursday said it meets the criteria for the Generalised System of Preferences (GSP) status and Washington should take a call on reinstating it. The US recently removed India from the GSP list of beneficiaries which allowed duty-free entry of Indian goods to that country. The contentious issue is likely to come up during Modi's talks with President Donald Trump. Foreign Secretary Vijay Gokhale said there will be two meetings between Modi and Trump and India is clear that despite the international focus on Kashmir, it will not be on the Prime Minister's agenda and any offer of mediation is not on the table. Gokhale said, "Article 370 is an internal issue. Terrorism



is one among many issues. The focus will be on India's role at global stage, the Prime Minister will present his vision in this regard. Modi's packed schedule includes addressing the annual UNGA session, meeting Trump and 20 other global leaders in bilateral meetings besides addressing the mega 'Howdy Modi' event. On September 24, the 150th anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi will be observed at the UN and Modi will be joined by his counterparts from Bangladesh, Singapore, Jamaica and New Zealand besides the Korean President and the UN Secretary General. On the GSP status, Gokhale said India meets the criteria for trade concessions

that the United States ended in June. "GSP is a unilateral decision, given by countries to other countries based on certain criteria. We are a developing country, we meet those criteria," he said. "I do not recall our ever stating that we are not interested in GSP," Gokhale said at the news conference. Stressing on the importance of trade concessions for India, the Foreign Secretary said the US "unilaterally withdrew that concession; we believe that GSP is something which is important for our industry but ultimately it is a matter for the US to take a call on." Indian exports are worth over 6.3 billion dollars under the GSP and India was the largest beneficiary of the scheme. After the US decision in June, India reciprocated by increasing the tariffs on 28 products imported from the US, including high-value products like almonds and fresh apples. The US has protested against it at the WTO. In fact, tension over trade ties between the two countries was simmering for the last two years with the US last year increasing tariffs on its steel and aluminium imports. **Continued on Page 4**

## Hug each Kashmiri, make J&K new paradise: Modi



Prime Minister Narendra Modi with Maharashtra Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis during the Vijay Sankalp Rally in Nashik on Thursday

**TN RAGHUNATHA ■ MUMBAI**  
Efforts on to bring out people from violence, terrorism, separatism, corruption, says PM  
Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Thursday said he is agast to see that at a time when the people of Jammu & Kashmir are embracing the "new possibilities" in the wake of the abrogation of Article 370 and the entire country is standing with the Government, the Opposition parties are looking for "political benefits". Castigating the Opposition parties, particularly the Congress and the NCP, for their "questionable" stand on the abrogation of Article 370, Modi said, "I am not getting to see senior Congress and NCP leaders cooperate with us and conduct themselves in a manner as they ought to be doing at this juncture." Making no bones about the BJP's intention that it would go whole hog Kashmir issue in the new context as a major issue in the Maharashtra Assembly polls, the PM unveiled a new vision of making Kashmir a "paradise" once again. Modi called for "hugging each Kashmiri and creating a 'new paradise' in the Valley. "Kal tak kahte the Kashmiri humara hai, abhi har Hindustani kahega hume naya Kashmir banana hai, wahan phir se ek swaraj banana hain (We used to say till recently Kashmir is part of India. Now every Indian will say we will create a new Kashmir and we will build a paradise once again there). Har Kashmiri ko gale lagana hain (We should embrace every Kashmiri)," Modi said. Speaking at a huge rally marking the conclusion of Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis' 4,000-km long "Mahajanadesh Yatra" at Nashik, Modi singled out the Congress and the NCP for a vicious attack and said, "The Government has taken such a big decision (on Article 370). This decision was taken to bring out people of J&K and Ladakh from violence, terrorism, separatism and corruption. We are trying to implement the decision with minimum inconvenience to people." **Continued on Page 4**

## Didi meets Shah, flags NRC flaws



West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee meets Home Minister Amit Shah at his office, at North Block in New Delhi on Thursday

**Says 19L genuine people left out**  
**PNS ■ NEW DELHI**  
Flagging the issue of exclusions in the National Register of Citizens (NRC) in Assam in her meeting with Union Home Minister Amit Shah, West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee on Thursday pointed out many genuine Indians have been left out of the register, which has excluded 19 lakh people who now face an uncertain fate. Mamata, who handed an official letter in this regard to Shah, however, said the issue of NRC in West Bengal was not discussed but reiterated her stance that it was not needed in the State. Shah had on Wednesday announced yet again the Government's intention of carrying out the exercise in the entire country. "I have requested him to examine their cases and resolve the issues. The Home Minister has assured that he would look into it," said the TMC chief. The final NRC, a list of Assam's residents and published on August 31, excluded the names of 19 lakh people. The BJP is on the back foot on the NRC as the exclusions have been far less in areas believed to have the maximum illegal migrants. "Even Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar said that the NRC was not required in his State," she said. BJP general secretary party affairs in-charge in West Bengal Kailash Vijayvargiya tweeted, "Ab aya oint pahar ke niche" (Now she has realised where she stands). A couple of days ago, Vijayvargiya had said that Mamata was meeting Modi as a "last-ditch bid" to save Kolkata former police chief Rajeev Kumar, who has gone traceless and the CBI has launched a manhunt to nab him. **Continued on Page 4**

## Babul heckled at Jadavpur varsity, Guv rushes with cops to save him

**SAUGAR SENGUPTA ■ KOLKATA**  
Union Minister Babul Supriyo was on Thursday shown black flags and heckled by a section of students at Jadavpur University, who also stopped him from leaving the campus prompting West Bengal Governor Jagdeep Dhankhar to rush to JU along with a large police force. The Governor, who is the chancellor of the university, too faced demonstrations by the students belonging to SFI, Left leaning AFSU and FETSU and AISA, a Naxalite students wing, university sources said. They blocked the Union Minister's way and thumped the bonnet of his vehicle as the policemen kept requesting them to withdraw while the West Bengal Governor was seen helping Babul Supriyo to the vehicle. Dhankhar and Babul Supriyo finally left the campus late in the evening after university teachers stepped in and persuaded the agitating students to lift their blockade, a spokesman of Jadavpur University Teachers Association (JUTA) said. **Detailed report on P7**

## Delhi Govt to open 140 new Mohalla Clinics by Sep end

**GAYATHRI MANI ■ NEW DELHI**  
The AAP Government has set a target to construct around 800 Mohalla Clinics before the Assembly election process begins in Delhi. The construction 1,000 Mohalla Clinics was one of the AAP's top promises before the last Assembly polls, but so far 199 clinics are operational. **Continued on Page 4**

## First Defence Minister in Tejas cockpit



Defence Minister Rajnath Singh on Thursday flew in the Tejas fighter aircraft from the HAL airport in Bengaluru, becoming the first Defence Minister to fly in the indigenously-built light combat aircraft. (Detailed report on P5)

**IN PICS:**  
1) Rajnath Singh waves from atop Tejas at HAL airport in Bengaluru  
2) Rajnath Singh waves as he sits inside the cockpit of Tejas

## Your stolen car may be parked on OLYX for sale

### Man held for selling over dozen expensive cars on site

**SHEKHAR SINGH ■ NEW DELHI**  
If your car is stolen, do check if it is being sold on OLYX app. The Delhi Police on Thursday claimed to have arrested a man involved in selling more than a dozen luxury cars stolen from various localities in the national Capital. Police said an FIR will be registered against the OLYX management. Active since 2014, the accused had succeeded in selling high-end cars by posting their advertisements on OLYX app. However, he ran out of his luck a few days ago. Suspecting something fishy after the accused asked for a nominal price of an expensive car, a buyer informed police which swung into action. East Delhi Deputy Commissioner of Police (DCP) Jasmeet Singh said complainant Ravi Saxena approached us on July 8 stating that he saw an advertisement related to sale of Volkswagen Polo at a very nominal price, to which he responded and purchased the car for ₹1,70,000 from one Ankit Pruthi, the accused. "Ankit provided the complainant with photocopies of registration certificate (RC) and insurance and assured him to deliver the original after transfer of the registration in the name of the complainant. But despite repeated requests from the complainant, Ankit did not provide him with the original documents. "Suspecting something was amiss, Saxena approached the State Transport Authority (STA) and he was befuddled to know that the said car registration number belonged to another car model 'Skoda Laura'," said the DCP. "Having realised that he had bought a stolen car, Saxena asked Ankit to return his money and take the car but Ankit tried to convince the complainant that it was genuine. After a few months, the accused switched off his phone," said the DCP.

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Ankit Pruthi



The stolen cars Pioneer photo

"A police team was tasked to collect tip-off about the gang-members which led to the hideout of kingpin Ankit. On September 14, a trap was laid and Ankit was arrested in Jaipur. He had changed his name from Ankit Pruthi to Ankit Arora to hide his identity. Originally from Delhi, he had acquired a Jaipur address," said the DCP. "Ankit confessed that he used to change his mobile number after every successful sale. We have recovered three cars and trying to locate other cars. Ankit confessed to have sold over a dozen luxury cars using OLYX app. Police recovered Volkswagen Vento and 'KUV-100' from Sikar in Rajasthan. These cars were stolen from Delhi's Hauz Khas and Mehrauli area," said the DCP. **Continued on Page 4**

## CAPSULE

- SENSEX TANKS 470 PTS**  
Mumbai: Market benchmark BSE Sensex plunged 470 points on Thursday, dragged by a heavy sell-off in banking and energy stocks amid incessant foreign fund outflows. P11
- CHIDAMBARAM'S CUSTODY EXTENDED TILL OCT 3**  
New Delhi: A Delhi court on Thursday extended till October 3 the judicial custody of former finance minister P Chidambaram in connection with the INX Media corruption case. Special judge Ajay Kumar Kohar also allowed medical examination of Chidambaram.
- RKS BHADOURIA TO BE NEXT IAF CHIEF**  
New Delhi: Air Marshal RKS Bhadouria will be the next Chief of Air Staff after the superannuation of incumbent B S Dhanoa, the Government announced on Thursday. P5

# Transport strike hits commuters

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

The people in Delhi especially students and office goers faced hardships in reaching their destinations on Thursday due to transport strike by the private buses, taxis and autorickshaws held by the United Front of Transport Associations (UFTA) against the amended Motor Vehicle Act provisions.

Many schools in the national Capital announced a day off and many had postponed to Monday scheduled to be held on Thursday. While some asked parents to make their own arrangements to pick up and drop their wards.

However, the services of Delhi Metro, Delhi Transport Corporation (DTC) and cluster buses remained unaffected.

(UFTA) general secretary Shyamal Gola said over 50 transport associations and unions in Delhi-NCR took part in the strike demanding withdrawal of the exorbitant hike in road traffic penalties and certain other provisions of the new MV Act.

"There are around 90,000 autos in the city and majority of them participated in the strike. When states, ruled by Bharatiya Janata party (BJP) such as Uttar Pradesh (UP), Gujarat and Uttarakhand can tweak the provisions of the amended MV Act, why cannot Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) Government do so?" said Rajendra Soni, president of Delhi Auto Rickshaw Union.

While Delhi tourist cab



Harried passengers wait outside New Delhi Railway Station to get a vehicle on Thursday after auto-rickshaws and Taxis were off the road. Ranjan Dimri | Pioneer

and taxi services associations alleged that the protesting union members and drivers attacked the cab, taxi and some auto drivers who did not participate in the strike. However, Soni refuted the claims and said the strike was peaceful and a large number of auto drivers were willingly participating in it.

Meanwhile, the Delhi Police informed that it has received about 249 complaint calls regarding attack on the drivers and were being probed.

Light Motor Vehicle Association including various last mile connecting vehicles associations of Grameen Sewa, e-rickshaws said they did not participate in the strike.

The roads were relatively less congested as a sizable num-

ber of the autos, taxis and buses operated by private operators remained off the road. Commuters also faced difficulties in getting an auto or a cab. Passengers faced problems, especially at the railways stations and Inter-State Bus Terminals (ISBT). Some also complained of surge pricing.

"There was no auto available near the New Delhi Railway stations due to strike because of which we got late and even some agreed to drop but demanded high fare," said Aishwarya, passenger.

While some students said, it is a very difficult day as we had to walk long to reach school. The primary class students have been given leave but we had to attend the school as we had examinations.

## L-G administers oath to NDMC members

New Delhi: Delhi Lieutenant Governor Anil Baijal on Thursday administered the oath of faith and allegiance to the members of the NDMC, including Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal and BJP MP Meenakshi Lekhi.

The council has been reconstituted on the basis of a notification of the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA), it said. Among the members who have been administered the oath are Delhi Cantonment Board MLA Surender Singh, Chief Secretary Vijay Kumar Dev, MHA Additional Secretary (UT) Govind Mohan, Union Housing, Urban Affairs Joint Secretary Nandita Gupta and Delhi Urban Development Secretary Manisha Saxena. Kejriwal and Lekhi have been nominated as members of the council. SR

## In first Delhi has 95% CNG powered industry

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

Delhi has become the first State Capital to have 95 per cent CNG powered industry and to make the national Capital wholly pollution free, the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) has joined hands with Union Minister of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF & CC).

As per the official database on industrial pollution, the Government claimed that there were 1,542 polluting industries in Delhi, of which 1,457 industries have been converted into CNG-powered industries so far while remaining 85 industries will be converted into CNG-adaptive.

Notably, as per TERI report on industrial pollution, in summer season, 22 per cent pollution contributed by industries and in winter season 30 per cent pollution contributed.

"It is through the strategic proposition and determined steps, that 95 per cent of the oil-driven industry have shifted its operations to CNG operated systems. The information regarding a large and substantial shift in the industry has been gathered by a report submitted by the Delhi Dialogue Commission to the Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal," Government statement quoted.

It is important to mention here that the ban on chemical usage in June 2018. "With the efforts of the Delhi Government, air pollution in Delhi has decreased by 25 per cent in the last three years. Delhi is the only State in the country where the reduction in air pollution has been recorded. CNG-based industry driven by polluted chemicals also



and skin diseases.

The operation of CNG based industry has changed the standard of living of thousands of workers. Worker Daya Shankar says that there were many issues working in the coal-based industry, and now working in the CNG-based industry is a relief. Ram

helped in reducing air pollution," Kejriwal said.

Citing TERI's figure on industrial pollution, Environment Minister Kailash Gehlot also said that various figures showed that pollution from the industries has also contributed significantly to Delhi's air pollution.

Various studies by the Department of Health have revealed that workers in the coal-based industries suffer from a variety of diseases. They majorly suffer from lung

Ratan, a labourer, says that earlier workers had respiratory issues. Perhaps, CNG-based industry is not facing these problems.

Earlier, Delhi Pollution Control Committee (DPCC) had also announced compensation for conversion of polluted chemical-powered industry to CNG in FY 2017-18. Under the scheme, a compensation of 50,000 rupees was given to medium and small industries and one lakh rupees to big industries.

## Javadekar: Kejriwal supporting those who raised anti-national slogans in JNU

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

Union Minister Prakash Javadekar on Thursday accused the Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal of supporting those who allegedly raised anti-national slogans in the university in 2016. Targeting Kejriwal and his Government for not giving sanction to prosecute Kumar and others facing sedition charges, Javadekar said that despite repeatedly being asked by the court about the permission, the Chief Minister was not granting it.

"Court is repeatedly asking the Delhi CM that when will you give permission to prosecute those who raised anti-national slogans. But we can say that the CM is supporting those people who raised the slogans," he said.

Javadekar, who is the Minister for information and broadcasting and environment and climate change, said, "It is clear from Arvind Kejriwal's attitude that he supports such statements otherwise he would have granted the sanction."

The Delhi Police had on Wednesday informed a city

court that the request for sanction to prosecute Kumar and others was pending before the Home Department of the Delhi Government. Police had informed that it had done its part and was now awaiting the decision. On January 14, police had filed a chargesheet in the court against Kumar and others, including former JNU students Umar Khalid, Anirban Bhattacharya, saying they were leading a procession and supported seditious slogans raised in the campus during an event on February 9, 2016.

## BJP leader who slapped his former wife at party office removed from post

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

High voltage drama was witnessed at State BJP office as Azad Singh, district president from Mehrauli slapped his ex-wife Sartia Chaudhary.

Delhi BJP president Manoj Tiwari removed Singh as district president and constituted four members committee that will submit report. Tiwari also appointed Vikas Tanwar as acting district president for Mehrauli district. As per the BJP sources, Tiwari may take stern

action against Singh after analysing the report.

The unsavoury incident occurred after a meeting with Delhi State election in-charge and Union Minister Prakash Javadekar. Chaudhary, who had served as the Mayor of South Delhi Municipal Corporation, later filed a complaint with the police. Meanwhile, Azad's attempt at party office is being considered as embarrassment for the party and both the leaders have been asked to avoid such events at party platform.

## Raped by cop, alleges teen; Delhi Police sacks him

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

A 16-year-old girl had lodged a complaint with the Delhi Police alleging that a constable posted at New Usmanpur police station in Delhi had raped her. Following which, police said the accused constable has been dismissed.

Police said they have recorded statement of the woman after information was

received on the matter around 12 pm on Wednesday.

The victim, a resident of Bharanpuri had alleged that the constable identified as Vishram Meena on pretext of taking her to counseling, he had taken her to a place in Yamuna Khadar and raped her.

Around four days ago, a man in neighbourhood of the victim, lured her and took her with him. A First Information

Report (FIR) was filed by the family members of the girl at New Usmanpur Police Station. Though she had returned home on Tuesday and Meena was tasked with the investigation of her case.

According to a police official, on Wednesday a police control room (PCR) call was received regarding the incident at 12 pm following which a police team was dispatched

for the spot.

"The girl had narrated her ordeal to the family after which they had called police. The medical on the girl was conducted at Jag Pravesh hospital and police is waiting for its report. Further legal actions have been initiated," said the police official. The family members also staged a protest at New Usmanpur Police Station.

## Ex-Cong leader Ajoy joins AAP

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

Former Jharkhand Congress chief Ajoy Kumar joined the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) in the presence of Delhi Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia on Thursday.

Kumar, a former IPS officer said that only the AAP is truly a party of the 'aam aadmi' where anyone can join and work towards development. "The changes brought by the Delhi Government in the field of education and health are revolutionary. I am so happy to see the work done for 24x7 water and power by the AAP-led Delhi Government," he said, adding the AAP is doing positive politics and people can join it without any political background to serve the country.

Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia said, "Dr Ajoy Kumar's journey, both as a police officer and as a politician has been remarkable. He first served as Superintendent of Police in Patna from 1990 to



Former Jharkhand Congress chief Ajoy Kumar, a retired IPS officer, joins the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) in the presence of Delhi Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia at the party office in New Delhi on Thursday. Ranjan Dimri | Pioneer

1994 and brought many positive changes. His positive works in the area have been captured by well-known filmmaker Prakash Jha in his famous film Gangajal."

Sisodia also said that big companies in Jharkhand like Tata were also forced to leave the city in 1994 after being hit

by the hooliganism of local mafias. In such a situation, Dr Kumar completely ended mafia raj during his tenure as SP from 1994 to 1996.

Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal tweeted "I welcome former IPS officer and popular leader of Jharkhand Dr Ajoy Kumar to the Aam Aadmi

Party. His joining will strengthen our struggle to create a corruption-free, prosperous India."

Kumar resigned as Jharkhand Congress chief last month, accusing some colleagues of promoting their own interests over the party and indulging in corrupt practices.

## Measure, display prescribed noise level for aircraft at IGIA: NGT to DAIL

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

National Green Tribunal (NGT) on Thursday asked the Delhi International Airport Limited (DIAL) to measure and display the prescribed noise levels for aircraft at the Indira Gandhi International Airport (IGIA).

A bench headed by NGT Chairperson Justice Adarsh Kumar Goel noted that a notice to airmen (NOTAM) was issued by the Airports Authority of India, which has been incorporated in the Aeronautical Information Publication on October 11, 2018, regarding use of reverse thrust by pilots while landing.

"We suggest that DIAL not only measure and maintain the prescribed noise levels but also display the same in public domain," the bench said.

The DIAL told the tribunal that it has taken steps to control noise pollution as per the notification issued by the Ministry of Environment and Forests on July 6 last year that laid down certain requirements which are to be complied to by June 17 next year.



The tribunal's order came on a plea filed by an NGO — Society for Protection of Culture, Heritage, Environment, Traditions and Promotion of National Awareness — seeking execution of NGT's November 24, 2017 order, which directed authorities concerned to take all mitigating measures for reducing noise pollution expeditiously.

"The official respondents shall ensure providing of a green belt around the boundary wall of the airport, while keeping the safety and security both in mind. The plantations shall be of the species which would only grow to the

permissible height or would be maintained at the permissible height only." The official respondents may issue an advisory to all the airlines whose aircraft land at the runway of the IGI and domestic airport, New Delhi, to ensure "judgment based" use of reverse thrust keeping in view the weather, length of runway, wind, and other attendant circumstances to reduce the noise level particularly at the time of landing," NGT order stated.

The petitioners have alleged that the noise created by aircraft at the IGI airport was affecting the health of the residents in the nearby areas.

## Alka Lamba disqualified by Speaker

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

Former Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) leader Alka Lamba disqualified from the Delhi Assembly by Speaker Ram Niwas Goel on the grounds of defection on Thursday.

The decision was taken following a petition by AAP legislator Saurabh Bharadwaj after Lamba joined the Congress earlier this month. He sought her disqualification on grounds of defection.

The Speaker said Lamba, an elected member of the Delhi Assembly from Chandni Chowk, had been disqualified. "Consequently, the Chandni Chowk Assembly constituency has fallen vacant," the order said. Earlier four more MLAs were disqualified on similar grounds. Reacting to this, Lamba said her journey with AAP has ended.

"My journey with AAP has ended now. I want to thank all those who supported me in my journey. I will continue my fight now with my public," she said in Hindi, adding the "democracy in AAP is ending with the dictatorship of one man".



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'HOWDY MODI' EVENT @ HOUSTON

# Prez Trump hints at some announcement

PTI ■ WASHINGTON

US President Donald Trump has hinted that there "could be" some announcement when he goes to Houston for the rally with the Indian leader.

According to media reports, officials of the two countries are trying to finalise a trade deal before Prime Minister Modi and Trump meet in Houston.

Trade tensions between India and the US have been rising with Trump complaining that tariffs imposed by New Delhi on American products were "no longer acceptable".

The US in June terminated India's designation as beneficiary developing country under the Generalised System of Preferences (GSP) programme.

India imposed retaliatory tariffs on 28 US products including almonds and apples from June 5, after the Trump administration revoked its preferential trade privileges.

Reacting to a record number of 50,000 Indian-Americans registering for the event, Trump said the crowd

Washington DC. He did not elaborate.

He was responding to a question if there would be any announcement when he goes to Houston for the rally with the Indian leader.

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Reacting to a record number of 50,000 Indian-Americans registering for the event, Trump said the crowd

for the event has now become bigger after it was announced that he would be going there.

"He (Modi) has got a big crowd coming and I guess the crowd just got a lot bigger because they just announced - he asked, would I go, and I will go," Trump said.

After the Houston event, Trump would travel to Ohio for an event with the visiting Australian Prime Minister.

"Then we're stopping in Ohio on the way back and then I guess we do the United Nations the following week," the US President said.

Trump also said that he has a great relationship with both India and Pakistan.

Modi will be visiting the US from September 21-27 for the annual session of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA). It is his first US trip after winning a second term as prime minister in May.

The two leaders are again scheduled to meet later in the week in New York on the sidelines of the UN General Assembly (UNGA) session.

## Nirav Modi remanded in custody in UK jail till Oct 17

PTI ■ LONDON

Fugitive diamond merchant Nirav Modi, wanted in India in connection with the nearly USD 2 billion Punjab National Bank (PNB) fraud and money laundering case, was on Thursday further remanded to judicial custody until October 17.

Nirav, 48, appeared before the Westminster Magistrates' Court via videolink from his London prison for a routine "call-over" remand hearing.

His trial is expected for May 11-15, 2020.

Nirav has been lodged at Wandsworth prison in south-west London, one of England's most overcrowded jails, since his arrest in March on an extradition warrant executed by Scotland Yard on charges brought by the Indian government, being represented by the UK's Crown Prosecution Service (CPS) in court.

He was arrested by uniformed Scotland Yard officers on an extradition warrant on March 19 and has been in prison since.

## US aerospace giant congratulates India for successfully 'arrest landing' Tejas

PTI ■ WASHINGTON

US aerospace giant Lockheed Martin has congratulated the Indian defense establishment for carrying out a successful "arrest landing" of India's indigenously developed Light Combat Aircraft Tejas, saying that the company is looking forward to support the Indian Navy's LCA programme.

India carried out the successful "arrest landing" of Tejas last week in Goa, a major milestone in development of the naval variant of the jet. The test demonstrated the aircraft's ability to halt at a short distance after landing on board an aircraft carrier.

Vivek Lall, vice president of Strategy and Business Development at Lockheed Martin, in an interview to PTI congratulated the Indian Navy, Aeronautical Development Agency and Hindustan Aeronautics Limited, terming it as a "significant engineering feat" that should be celebrated.

"Lockheed Martin is fully committed to India and we look forward to supporting the LCA Navy programme if desired given our breadth and depth of expertise in that area," he said.

Speaking about Lockheed

Martin's pitch for the sale of F-21 fighter jets to India, he said it is the best way to strengthen the defense ties between India and the US as such a trade deal would make India the "epicentre of USD 165 billion" global market.

"The F-21 would be a game-changing US and India win. An F-21 partnership with Lockheed Martin integrates Indian industry into the world's largest and most advanced fighter aircraft ecosystem," Lall said.

He observed that India's presence into this robust fighter ecosystem via an F-21 selection would result in the country being at the "epicentre of a USD 165 billion market," with possibilities to expand its footprint in developing indigenous capabilities and global supplier relationships.

Defense trade is expected to be one of the important topics of discussions during the meetings between Prime Minister Narendra Modi and President Donald Trump in Houston and New York later this month.

In April, the Indian Air Force issued an RFI (Request for Information) or initial tender to acquire 114 jets at a cost of around USD 18 billion, which is billed as one of the world's biggest military pro-

urement in recent years.

The company unveiled F-21 multi-role fighter jet for India during the Aero India show in Bengaluru in February. It would be produced by Lockheed Martin and Tata Advanced Systems in India.

Asserting that F-21 is the best solution for the Indian Air Force and India's national security, he said it enables the IAF to go further, stay longer and deliver more ordnance per mission than any competing fighter.

The F-21 provides the optimal solution to meet India's force structure demands, in concert with fighter jets Rafale and Tejas, he said.

The official said that F-21 provides unmatched opportunities for Indian companies of all sizes to establish new business relationships with Lockheed Martin and other industry leaders in the US and around the world.

"F-21 production in India supports thousands of US supplier jobs, including hundreds of US-based Lockheed Martin engineering, program management, sustainment and customer support positions," Lall, who is considered as one of the most influential US defense industry leaders in the last decade, said.

## INSHORT

### PRESIDENT CLEARS E-CIGARETTE BAN

**New Delhi:** The President on Thursday gave his assent for promulgation of the Ordinance to ban production, import, distribution and sale of e-cigarettes.

### ₹25K CR IN FIVE YEARS FOR FISHERIES SECTOR

**New Delhi:** Government plans an investment of ₹25,000 crore in the next five years to revamp the fisheries infrastructure sector in the country. Union Fisheries, Animal Husbandry & Dairying Minister Giriraj Singh on Thursday released the 13th edition of 'The Handbook on Fisheries Statistics - 2018'.

### MUSLIM PARTIES LAWYER LOSES COOL

**New Delhi:** Losing his cool, a senior advocate for Muslim parties in the Ram Janmabhoomi-Babri Masjid land dispute case in the Supreme Court, told a curious judge Thursday that he was seeing "some kind of aggression" in his tone.

### SC SLAMS UP FOR ILLEGAL SETTLEMENT

**New Delhi:** The Supreme Court on Thursday pulled up the Uttar Pradesh Government and said it was "sleeping" for the past 26 years on the illegal settlement of claims in favour of industries and third parties in the reserved forest areas of Mirzapur district.

### 2 MORE COURTOOMS FOR HEARING CASES: SC

**New Delhi:** With the Centre clearing the names of four new judges recommended by the Supreme Court collegium, the top court Thursday said that it has created two additional courtrooms for hearing of cases.

### NAGA VILLAGE TO ADOPT ONE VILLAGE EACH

**New Delhi:** All BJP MLAs in Nagaland on Thursday decided to adopt one village in their respective constituency and develop it as a "model village".

### BOOK ON CRICKET LAUNCHED

**New Delhi:** The Blue Rose Publishers has come out with a new book titled "Impact of Cricket on the youngest Indian", written by Anand Raj. The book was launched on Thursday.

### DELEGATION MEETS TOURISM SECRETARY

**New Delhi:** A delegation led by Surendra Kumar Jaiswal, President, Hotel and Restaurant Association of Northern India met Secretary, Ministry of Tourism on Thursday, protesting against abolishment of issuance/re-issuance of the commercial Airport Entry Permits (AEP) under the new AEP guidelines 2019.

### Public Notice

I, Arshad Jamal, son of Mr. Mohd. Ahmad, resident of 2113, Kaley Sahib, Gali Kasim Jaan, Delhi-110006, hereby inform that a bag containing original documents, viz., share certificate, possession letter, allotment letter etc., of Punjabi Saudagar Cooperative Group Housing Society Limited (Regd.), Mayur Vihar Phase-I Extension, Delhi-110091 has been lost. An FIR LR No. 1497529/2019 dated 06 September 2019 has already been filed in P.S. Crime Branch Delhi. If found please return the same at the following address:- Flat No. B-11/310, Punjabi Saudagar Apartment, Mayur Vihar Phase-I Extension, Delhi-110091

### PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that my clients (1) SH. ARVIND KUMAR MITTAL son of late Sh. Naurang Rai, (2) MRS. DIVYA MITTAL wife of Sh. Arvind Kumar Mittal, both resident of A-51, Ground Floor Ashok Vihar, Phase-I, Delhi are negotiating to purchase Enlre Freehold Built-up Property bearing No.87, with its roof rights, and area measuring 200 sq.yds., in Block-A, situated at Ashok Vihar, Phase-I, Delhi in its owners. All persons having any claim or demand or rights in respect of or against the above said property or any part or portion thereof by way of Agreement to sell, inheritance, share, sale, transfer, assignment, private mortgage, gift, exchange, possession, covenant, easement or otherwise, whatsoever, is hereby required to make the same known in writing with documentary proof to the undersigned at my office within ten days from the date of publication hereof, failing which the claim of such persons, if any, will be treated as null and void and will not have any legal and any other sanctity and not binding on my clients and the proposed transaction of purchase of the said property shall be completed without any reference to such claim(s).

Parveen Garg (Advocate)  
Enrol.No.071366  
Shop No.26, RU-Block Market, Outer Ring Road,  
Pitampura, Delhi-110034. Mob.9810939864

### PUBLIC NOTICE

To be known to all that I, Mrs. Neeru Saxena W/o Sh. Sanjeev Kumar Saxena R/o 11, Sadar Co-operative Group Housing Society Ltd. (known as Sadar Apartments), Plot No.9, Mayur Vihar, Phase-I, Extension, Delhi-110091, present owner hereby required to make the same known in writing with documentary proof to the undersigned at my office within ten days from the date of publication hereof, failing which the claim of such persons, if any, will be treated as null and void and will not have any legal and any other sanctity and not binding on my clients and the proposed transaction of purchase of the said property shall be completed without any reference to such claim(s).

Any person(s) claiming any right/interest, having any objection or demand in possession of the above said original documents, may write/contact with above named person at above address/phone No. 9811388208, within 15 days from the date of publication of this notice. The person claiming any right, interest, objection with respect to this property can personally inform or write to the Dy. Director, (GH) or Director (RL), Vikas Sadan, INA, New Delhi.

(Mrs. Neeru Saxena).

## Over 260 troops killed or hurt in Naxal blasts in three years: Official

**New Delhi:** Security forces deployed in the anti-Naxal combat grid have launched a massive operation to find out and defuse IEDs as over 260 troops have either been killed or injured in these blasts in the last about three years, officials said Thursday.

They said the decision has been taken after it was seen that Maoists were increasingly relying on Improvised Explosive Devices (IEDs) to target security force personnel deployed in the Left Wing Extremism (LWE) combat grid.

As per the latest data accessed by PTI, over 73 security personnel have been killed in IED blasts in various states over the last three years time while more than 179 have been injured.

The data pertains to the period between 2017 and August this year.

The maximum such fatal and non-fatal casualties have taken place in the central Indian state of Chhattisgarh that is stated to be the worst-Naxal violence-affected state by security forces, owing to the high casualty rate of forces.

"A massive operation is being conducted to seek and destroy IEDs in various LWE affected states. The CRPF, other central armed police forces (CAPFs) and state police forces have been sensitized about the threat posed by these concealed bombs," a senior security official based here said.

The number of IED blast incidents has also been

more-or-less the same over the last three years' time period, he said. The data shows that while a total of 43 such incidents took place in 2017, they rose to 79 last year and over 51 have been recorded till August this year.

Similarly, 6 civilians were killed in these Naxal triggered blasts in 2017, 8 last year and three have lost their lives this year.

"The Naxals are now not getting into one-to-one battle with forces as their combat strength has depleted along with their weaponry and ammunition. The sustained operations by the CRPF and other forces have surely taken a huge toll on them."

"They are hence looking to hit the security forces through IEDs which ensures that they do not have to face the forces," CRPF Deputy Inspector General (DIG) Moses Dhinakaran said.

The Central Reserve Police Force is the lead security force for anti-Naxal operations in the country and has deployed close to a lakh troops for this task in various states.

The force has recovered over 1,500 IEDs during the same time period, the data said, with 830 being in 2017, 425 last year and the rest during this year. Small teams comprising explosive detection dogs and personnel equipped with deep search detectors have been deployed for the latest operation, an official based in Chhattisgarh said.

## Centre considers to give insurance cover to J&K panch, sarpanch

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Centre is considering providing insurance cover of ₹ 4 lakh each to over 40,000 panch and sarpanch in Jammu & Kashmir due to their vulnerability to terror threats. The Union Home Ministry is also planning to educate the leaders of the lowest level of the elected bodies on the central laws and other facilities to be applicable and available in Jammu & Kashmir after the abrogation of Article 370 provisions.

"We are examining the proposal to provide insurance cover of ₹ 4 lakh to all Panch and Sarpanch in Jammu & Kashmir," a senior Home Ministry official said. The move comes after a delegation of panch and sarpanch of Jammu & Kashmir met Union Home Minister Amit Shah recently and requested him for the insurance cover due to the terror threats to them.

The delegation had sought an insurance cover of ₹ 2 lakh each to the Panch and Sarpanch, but the central government is planning to give them the cover of ₹ 4 lakh each, the officials said. The panchayat elections in Jammu & Kashmir were held late last year in which over 40,000 Panch and Sarpanch were elected to these local bodies.

The Home Ministry has also asked the Ministry of Panchayati Raj to educate Panch and Sarpanch on the central laws that will be applicable to J&K and how they will benefit the people and the panchayats.

## NASA captures images of Chandrayaan-2's Moon landing site

PTI ■ HOUSTON

As the deadline to re-establish communication with Chandrayaan-2's Vikram lander nears, NASA's Moon orbiter has captured images of the lunar region where the Indian mission made an unsuccessful attempt to soft-land, a senior official with the US space agency confirmed on Thursday.

NASA's Lunar Reconnaissance Orbiter (LRO) spacecraft has snapped a series of images during its flyby on September 17 of Vikram's attempted landing sight near the Moon's uncharted south pole.

It flew over the area of the Vikram landing site when local lunar time was near dusk; large shadows covered much of the area. LRO Mission deputy project scientist John Keller said in a statement to PTI.

"The probability of establishing contact with the lander has a deadline of September 21 because after that the Moon region will enter into a lunar night."

"The LRO Camera acquired images around the targeted landing site, but the exact location of the lander was not known so the lander may not be in the camera field of view," Keller said.

"The LROC team will analyse these new images and compare them to previous images to see if the lander is visible (it may be in shadow or outside the imaged area)," Keller said.

## CAMERON REVEALS MANMOHAN CONFIDED IN HIM ON PAKISTAN MILITARY ACTION

PTI ■ LONDON

Former British premier David Cameron released his memoirs on Thursday, in which he speaks of getting on well with "saintly" former Indian prime minister Manmohan Singh, who even confided in him about the prospect of military action against Pakistan in case of another Mumbai-like terrorist attack.

"For The Record" is a chronicle of 52-year-old Cameron's personal as well as professional life, specifically covering the period between 2010 and 2016 when he was in charge at Downing Street and had close dealings with both Singh as well as Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

"I got on well with Prime Minister Manmohan Singh. He was a saintly man, but he was robust on the threats India faced. On a later visit, he told me that another terrorist attack like that (2008) in Mumbai in July 2011, and India would have to take military action against Pakistan," notes Cameron, as he recalls one of his many visits to India during his time in office.

"When it came to India, I argued that we needed a modern partnership - not one tinged with colonial guilt, but alive to the possibilities of the world's oldest democracy and the world's largest democracy. Many of Britain's most successful business leaders and cultural figures are from the Indian diaspora community and would be our greatest weapons in the endeavor," he adds.

## No financial crisis in country: Javadekar

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Union Minister Prakash Javadekar on Thursday claimed there is no financial crisis in India and the Government has taken all necessary steps and fundamentals of economy are strong.

"To make the economy stronger, the Government has taken all measures and I want to say that the fundamentals of the country's economy are strong. We are not in any crisis. Some reactions from non-banking financial companies (NBFCs) are there. But we are addressing all issues," he told a press conference at his residence here.

As to the Congress's attack on the Government for having the upcoming event 'Howdy Modi' in Houston, USA despite an economic slowdown, Javadekar said the Congress would never get such an opportunity like Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

"The stadium is already

houseful for the 'Howdy Modi' event. Congress has never got this much popularity and will never get. I can only say that grapes are sour," said Javadekar, who is the minister of information and broadcasting and environment and climate change.

The Minister also took a swipe at former Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Digvijay Singh for his "saffron-clad rapists" remark, saying even the Congress does not take him seriously.

"Even Congress does not give importance to him. Why should we react? We have seen his mentality after the Mumbai terror attacks. Since then he has been making such statements," he said.

Singh on Tuesday made a controversial remark at an event in Bhopal that people in saffron clothes were committing rapes, even in temples. A case has reportedly been lodged against the Congress leader for making such an allegation.



West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee comes out after meeting Union Home Minister Amit Shah at North block in New Delhi on Tuesday. Ranjan Dimri | Pioneer

सेन्ट्रल माइनिंग प्लानिंग एण्ड डिजाइन इन्स्टीट्यूट लिमिटेड  
Central Mine Planning & Design Institute Ltd.  
(A Subsidiary of Coal India Limited)  
RI - V, CMPDI Complex, Seepat Road, Bilaspur (CG)-495006

Ref No.: RV/PMS/Paper Pub/19-20/315 Dated: 13.09.2019

### e-Tender Notice for hiring of LMVs at different Exploration Camps of RI-V, CMPDI, Bilaspur

Offers are invited for CMPDI, RI-V, Bilaspur through E-tendering (on line bidding) as detailed below:-

Hiring of the following diesel driven light vehicles of commercial category for a period of 731 days, extendable up to further 365 days if required for office use to travel anywhere in Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh and Jharkhand

Sl. No.	Tender Notice No. & Date	Location where the vehicles are to be stationed
01	RV/PMS/LMV/02/Singhpur/19-20/201. Dated: 25.07.2019	Exploration Camp, Singhpur, Village & Post: Padmania Khurd, District: Shadol (M.P.)- 484001
02	RV/PMS/LMV/05/Rajnagar/19-20/203. Dated: 25.07.2019	Exploration Camp, Rajnagar, Quarter No: C-14, Old Officer Colony, Rajnagar RO, Rajnagar, Dist- Anupur (CG)- 484446
03	RV/PMS/LMV/05/Kusmunda Camp/19-20/204. Dated: 25.07.2019	Exploration Camp, Kusmunda, P.O.- Kusmunda, Dist- Korba (C.G.)- 495454.

Estimated Amount: for Sl.No. 01 to 03- Rs. 1,09,20,467.00 (Estimated value is for rental charges including all expenses and taxes, but excluding cost of diesel & GST). EMD: for Sl.No. 01 to 03- Rs. 68,300.00  
The details of the tender are available on website [www.coalindiatenders.nic.in](http://www.coalindiatenders.nic.in) & [www.eprocure.gov.in](http://www.eprocure.gov.in) from 20.09.2019 to 09.10.2019. Important Note to all prospective bidders:- For Online Bidding, the bidders should possess class II/III Digital Signature Certificate (DSC) & Enroll themselves at [www.coalindiatenders.nic.in](http://www.coalindiatenders.nic.in). For any query, contact HOD(PMS), Mobile No. & Phone No.-9479001710/0752-258492. E-mail: [hs.onanapuram@coalindia.in](mailto:hs.onanapuram@coalindia.in). HOD(PMS)

## Hug each Kashmiri...

From Page 1

"The entire country of 130 crore people is standing as one with the Government. Unfortunately, senior leaders of the Congress and NCP who ought to have been cooperating with the Government and conducting in a circumspect manner, but, I do not get to see such a thing happening," said the PM. The Prime Minister said that the Opposition was free to criticise the Government, him personally and even Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis in Maharashtra. "It is their right to criticise us. They should not be saying certain things in national interests. But their statements are being used by the forces supporting the terrorists to indulge in false propaganda against India."

Hitting out at Congress' former president Rahul Gandhi whose statement was used by the Pakistani Foreign Minister in making a representation before the United Nations, Modi said, "It is rather unfortunate that the statements of our Opposition leaders on Kashmir are being used to attack India in international forums.

## Ahead of 'Howdy'...

From Page 1

It adversely impacted Indian exports and prompted it to approach the WTO dispute settlement body.

The US raised issues with India's moves to slash the maximum retail prices of essential medical devices and demands that dairy product exporters certify their produce. Modi is scheduled to arrive in Houston on Saturday. A day later, he will be joined by Trump at the mega 'Howdy Modi' rally, to be attended by the members of the Indian-American community. The Prime Minister will address the UN General Assembly session on the morning of September 27, Gokhale said.

As the world commemorates Mahatma Gandhi's 150th birth anniversary, Modi will also host a special event 'Leadership Matters: Relevance of Gandhi in the Contemporary World' on September 24. He will be joined leaders of a few countries at this event.

Modi's packed schedule also includes a meeting with American CEOs of energy giants on the evening of September 21 in Houston, Texas. A day after the Houston event on September 22, Modi will take part in a li-

## mate summit in New York. The bilateral meeting with Trump is on September 24 and an investment roundtable with 40 major companies the next day. On the morning of September 27, local time, Modi will address the UN General Assembly, after which he will leave for Delhi. Incidentally, his address will be followed by his Pakistan counterpart Imran Khan.

From Page 1

The Chief Minister said she has come to New Delhi after a long time and after she was given an appointment by Prime Minister Narendra Modi for a meeting. "Meeting the Prime Minister and the Home Minister is a constitutional obligation. Besides we have international border issues with Bangladesh and Bhutan and State borders with Bihar and Jharkhand. We also have the sensitive 'chicken's neck' (corridor connecting Northeastern States with the rest of the country). So meeting with the Home Minister is in that context necessary," she said. Mamata also met Congress leader Ahmed Patel and Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal later in the day.

## Didi meets...

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## Delhi Govt...

From Page 1

According to executing agency PWD, a tender for the construction of about 400 mohalla clinics has been floated, out of which construction work of 145 clinics have been completed. The progress made in this regard was reviewed in a meeting held recently. "Almost 90 percent of work is completed and few basic things such as electricity fitting, water connections and sundry items are being given the finishing touches and these clinics will be ready for public use," said a PWD official.

## YOUR STOLEN CAR...

A senior police official involved in the investigation said they are sending notices to the OLX people to join investigation as they have failed to answer many queries. "It amounts to complicity as the OLX management was allowing the advertisement of stolen cars without applying due diligence. How can they allow an auto-thief to sell stolen cars by using their platform and then feign ignorance," said the police official, adding that an FIR is being registered against the OLX management and the ambit of the probe is being expanded to ascertain what other stolen items were sold by crooks to the people by using this popular App.

## SC summons UP Home Secy for failure to respond to minor's plea

From Page 1

New Delhi: The Supreme Court on Thursday summoned the Home Secretary of Uttar Pradesh after taking a serious view of the State Government's failure to respond to a plea by a "minor" Muslim girl, who has challenged the Allahabad High Court order by which her marriage was found to be void.

The 16-year-old girl has challenged the high court order, saying that as per the Mohammedan Law, once a female attains the age of puberty, that is 15 years, she is independent to take decisions for her life and is competent to marry any one of her own choice.

When the matter came up for hearing before a bench of Justices NV Ramana and Ajay R

# Rajnath becomes 1st Def Min to fly Tejas

PNS ■ NEW DELHI/BENGALURU

Rajnath Singh on Thursday became the first Defence Minister to fly in the indigenously designed and built Tejas light combat aircraft (LCA). Tejas. A "thrilled" Singh described the 30-minute experience as "one of the most memorable events my life." He even controlled and flew the aircraft for full two minutes in the two-seater jet which undertook the sortie at the Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) airport in Bengaluru.



Incidentally, his predecessors George Fernandes and Nirmala Sitharaman had flown in MIG-21 and SU-30 respectively. But no Defence Minister so far had flown in the Tejas which is now in the process of induction in the IAF with a batch of 40 jets. The induction will boost the air defence capabilities of the force.

After the sortie, Singh said he chose the aircraft because it was built indigenously and described the flying experience as thrilling. "Flight very smooth, comfortable, I was thrilled. It was one of the most memorable events of my life," said the 68-year-old Singh after alighting from the aircraft.

"This is an indigenous plane. So, it came naturally to me to fly in Tejas and experience the flying. It was also to check under what conditions do our fighter pilots fly these

orders." But those two minutes were memorable," he said. In a tweet, Singh said: "The 'G-Suit' and 'Tejas': It was a memorable experience. Thank you @IAF\_MCC @HALHQBLR & @DRDO\_India for this proud moment."

"Special thanks to AVN, N Tiwari, who is also the Project Director, National Flight Test Centre, ADA (Aeronautical Development Agency) for the sortie," he said. Air Vice Marshal Tiwari, who is also the Project Director, National Flight Test Centre, Aeronautical Development Agency (ADA), Bengaluru, flew the aircraft.

Talking about his experience of flying with the Defence Minister, Tiwari said, "Raksha Mantri (Defence Minister) was flying the aircraft in the air (for 2 minutes), and he liked it. We went all the way up to 2 to 2.5g. But I was showing him more avionics and sophisticated systems that we have on board like laser designation pod, using which you can pick up targets even from 20-25 km away."

When a person is standing still on earth, the amount of force exerted by earth's gravitational field is "one g". Fighter pilots have to bear higher number of g's as they fly at high speed and altitude.

Tiwari said the Minister was very happy with the flying quality, "the smoothness, the controls, and the way the aircraft was flying".

# RKS Bhaduria to be next Air Force Chief

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Ending the suspense over the appointment of the new IAF Chief days before incumbent BS Dhanoa retires on September 30, the Government on Thursday announced that present Vice Chief Air Marshal RKS Bhaduria will be the next Air Force Chief. He is the senior most officer after Dhanoa. However, he was set to retire the same day as Dhanoa after attaining the age of 60. Bhaduria will now head the IAF for two years.

An experienced fighter pilot, Bhaduria had led the negotiations with France regarding the Rafale fighter jet deal. It is a Government to government contract for buying 36 jets worth over ₹ 60,000 crores. The first plane will be handed over to IAF in France on October 8 and the entire fleet of jets will be inducted by 2022.

As the Deputy Chief of IAF, Air Marshal Bhaduria played an important role during the contract negotiations for 36 Rafale jets. Due to his role in the negotiations, the first Rafale built by Dassault Aviation for the IAF, a two-seater variant, which made its maiden flight last year in France is designated with his name as RB-008. The RB-008 is an instrumented aircraft and will be used to incorporate, test and validate the 13 Indian Specific Modifications (ISE). It will also be the 36th aircraft to be delivered to the in 2022, 67 months



after the contract was signed. Bhaduria was commissioned into the fighter stream of IAF in June 1980, and has held various Command, Staff and Instructional appointments at various levels including the present one as Vice Chief of Air Staff.

He has over 4,250 hours of experience on twenty six types of fighters and transport aircraft with the unique distinction of being an Experimental Test Pilot, a Cat 'A' Qualified Flying Instructor and a Pilot Attack Instructor.

During his nearly four-decade career, Bhaduria commanded a Jaguar squadron and a premier Air Force Station. He was also the Chief Test Pilot and Project Director of the National Flight Test Centre on Light Combat Aircraft (LCA) project. He was extensively involved in the initial prototype flight tests on the LCA.

Present IAF Chief and Chairman Chiefs of Staff Committee (CCSC) Air Chief Marshal BS Dhanoa will pass on the CCSC baton to Army Chief General Bipin Rawat who would then be the senior most Service Chief. General Rawat retires in December.

# Digvijay's rape remark, brother Lakshman asking RaGa to apologise put Cong in spot

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Singh brothers, Digvijay and Lakshman, on Thursday put the Congress in a spot with their statements. While Digvijay alleged that "people donning saffron robes were committing rapes", a remark from which the Congress distanced itself, his brother Lakshman asked former party chief Rahul Gandhi to apologise to the farmers as the promised loan waiver to them has not materialised so far.

However, the Congress was more embarrassed due to the remark of Lakshman, a party MLA. "Farm loans were not waived even after eight months, let alone ten days," Lakshman Singh said.

Rahul Gandhi, speaking at a farmers' rally at Mandasaur in June 2018, had promised loan waiver within 10 days of the Congress coming to power in the then BJP-ruled state. In November 2018 assembly elections, the Congress ousted the BJP from power and formed government after 15 years.

"Farmers are going to banks with waiver certificates issued by the state government. But the banks are refusing to waive the loans, saying they haven't received money from the government. Rahul Gandhi should return to the same platform where he had promised to implement loan waiver within ten days if elected to power, and apologise to the people," said Lakshman, a five-time MP and currently MLA from Chanchoda.. "This (apology) would make his (Rahul's)

stature taller. He should also clarify how long it will take to waive all farm loans, as promised," added Lakshman. The Kamal Nath government in the state needs to arrange Rs 45,000 crore to fulfill the promise of loan waiver and it may take up to two years, he claimed.

His elder brother, Digvijay kicked up a row by saying that people donning "saffron robes" are committing rapes which are taking place in "temples", and thus defaming the Sanatan Dharma (ancient religion). Some anonymous posters have also come up in Bhopal against him, demanding a ban on his entry to Hindu religious places. He said that such acts are "unforgivable".

Though Singh did not take names, his comments come close on the heels of a Supreme Court-appointed Special Investigation Team (SIT) probing allegations of rape levelled against BJP leader Swami Chinmayanand by a law student in Uttar Pradesh.

The Congress said a criminal should be penalised on the basis of the crime committed and should not be judged by the clothes worn or the religion followed.

"We heard about the comment. I don't know in what context it was made. But, the party thinks that criminals do not get affected by the robes they don. Criminals are independent of what they wear, what their beliefs are." "A criminal is a criminal and should be seen by the crime committed and not by the clothes worn or religion one belongs to," Congress Secretary Pranav Jha told the reporters.

# Article 370: BJP plans to hold 10 meetings in J&K

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

In its bid to create awareness across the country on the "positive impact" of stripping Jammu & Kashmir of its autonomy accorded to it by Article 370, the BJP has planned 10 meetings of its senior leaders and Union Ministers in the State, including a large gathering in Srinagar, the State Capital.

The Modi-Government has done away with Article 370 and Article 35-A, pertaining to the exclusive residency rights of the Kashmiri natives, by a vote of Parliament on August 05.

The 'Jan-Jagran Abhiyan'

(public awareness campaign) launched for the purpose would take National party leaders, MPs, MLAs and Ministers to different parts of the country including Jammu & Kashmir.

Under the programme, the party has decided to organise 370 small indoor meetings and 35 big meetings, signifying Article 350 and Article 35 A, across the country, including six in Jammu and Kashmir.

BJP President Amit Shah would lead party campaign in Mumbai on September 22. Defence Minister Rajnath Singh and other Union Ministers will take part in the party's rally on the eve of Maharaja Hari Singh's 125th birthday on Sunday at Jammu.

Besides the general public, these meetings will target opinion-makers and influential personalities from different walks of life. Two meetings have been held in Udhampur and Kathua in Jammu & Kashmir and going by the response, it has been decided to organise four more such meetings, party leaders said. Union Minister Jitendra Singh had addressed the meetings in Kathua and Udhampur, the source said, adding that three more meetings are scheduled for this month.

# Agriculture Ministry hopes for Parliament nod to 2 pending Bills

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Agriculture Ministry hopes to get the Parliament's nod to two long-pending Bills on pesticide management and seeds in the next session. The Pesticide Management Bill that will replace the Insecticides Act, 1968 seeks to regulate the

pesticide sector by fixing prices and setting up of a regulatory authority while the Seeds Bill, which will replace the Seeds Act 1966, seeks to regulate the production, distribution and sale of seeds. The Bill was put on hold in 2015 after it drew flak on enabling provision for genetically modified crops.

Minister of State for Agriculture Parshottam Rupala on Thursday said that the government is pursuing them very seriously. I hope they will be passed in the next session of Parliament. The government is concerned about sale of spurious seeds and pesticides. These Bills aim to address this issue

as well, he said at an event.

On the draft of the Pesticide Management Bill, officials in the agriculture ministry said, the government would constitute an authority which shall fix the price at which notified pesticides are to be sold. Currently, there is no mechanism to regulate the pricing and farmers

are at the mercy of companies. The new law will be in line with the international norms being practised by global leaders.

As per the proposed law, pesticide companies will have to pay a huge penalty of Rs 25,000 to Rs 50 lakh - up to a whopping 70 times than the existing provision of Rs 500-

to ₹ 6,00,000 Crores

## PFC – INDIA'S LARGEST INFRA FINANCE COMPANY & LARGEST GOVERNMENT NBFC

Chairman's Speech at the  
**33<sup>rd</sup> AGM of Power Finance Corporation**  
 held on 27<sup>th</sup> August, 2019

**Shri Rajeev Sharma**  
Chairman & Managing Director

**28<sup>th</sup> March 2019 was a Red Letter Day in the history of PFC, when your Company acquired Government of India's 52.63% equity stake in REC Limited (formerly Rural Electrification Corporation Limited), for a total consideration of ₹ 14,500 Crs. With this landmark deal, PFC is now a promoter and the holding company of REC Limited.**

diversification of assets of the group as well as better management of portfolio risk and would also help in resolution of stressed power sector assets of the group in a better and coordinated manner.

I am pleased to share that post the acquisition transaction, PFC's credit rating has been retained and your company has also kept the Capital Adequacy Ratio at comfortable levels to reassure shareholders, investors & credit rating agencies about the business growth going forward.

On the borrowing front, the share of foreign currency borrowings in the overall borrowing increased to 10% on the back of fresh foreign currency mobilization of USD 1.5 billion during the year. In June 2019, PFC raised USD 1 billion under its MTN programme with 5 years and 10 year tenors, which was the first dual and largest USD bonds transaction for Government owned Indian NBFC and also the first 5 year issuance by PFC. Going forward, we expect the foreign currency borrowings to contribute to our portfolio to a greater extent. As indicated earlier, 54EC Capital Gain Tax bonds are an important source of funds for PFC owing to its low cost. I am happy to share that the mobilization under the capital gains tax bonds has witnessed a 2.7 time jump from the previous financial year. Due to the various efforts made by your Company on the borrowing front, the cost of funds has reduced significantly from 8.21% in FY 18 to 7.95% in FY19.

A decisive majority for NDA 2.0 under the leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi would only add to India's political and economic muscle in the comity of nations. The Government's commitment to an 'all inclusive economic and socially harmonious' order would further the cause of spreading prosperity and a spirited campaign against poverty in line with United Nation's millennium development goals. Taking the economic growth story to rural India would be natural extension of the country's journey thus far.

With a healthy GDP of around 7% in the last five years, India's economic profile has never been better globally. Liberal policies adopted by the Central Government have only lent an edge to India as an attractive investment destination amongst emerging markets.

Stabilization and reduction in Goods and Services Tax (GST) rates across product categories seem to have enthused investors within and outside the country. Strong domestic consumption demand has provided a big fillip to industry, services, farm sector and exporters laying a firm foundation for long haul investments. Various government initiatives like 'Make in India' & 'Digital India' have given opportunities to foreign companies for setting up their facilities in India.

India's famed labour force is expected to touch 170 million by next year, turning the country into a powerhouse for human resources and key supplier of manpower internationally. Leveraging the demographic potential also seems to have begun in the right earnest with pan-India skills development campaign taken up by centre in partnership with State Governments, corporate world and other stakeholders.

India is firmly on its way to catapult into the big league. It's all set to become the third largest economy in 10 - 15 years backed by strong democracy and partnerships. India's GDP is expected to reach USD5 trillion in next few years and achieve upper-middle income status on the back of digitization, globalization, favorable demographics and reforms.

The growth of Indian economy has been supplemented by the power sector despite facing several challenges. Now every village has access to quality and affordable electricity while power to every family has become a near reality. Energy deficit has been reduced to almost zero and India emerges as net exporter of electricity to Nepal, Bangladesh and Myanmar. More than 1,07,000 MW Generation Capacity has been added between April 2014 and March 2019. These developments coupled with a huge capacity creation in renewable and new

energy resources have provided a great business opportunity to your Company. Under Saubhagya, a flagship scheme of Government of India, almost 100% household electrification has been achieved. More than ₹ 34,000 Crore interest cost has been saved by DISCOMs under UDAY within two years. Providing electricity to all, round the clock, 365 days a year has become the next big challenge that's being tackled head on.

Various steps have been taken by Government of India to tackle the issue of stressed assets in Power Sector. Scheme for Harnessing and Allocating Koyala Transparently in India (SHAKTI) was launched to provide coal to the stressed power projects. SHAKTI covers projects which have PPAs but do not have Fuel Supply Agreements in place and also those which do not have Power Purchase Agreements (PPAs). The objective of this scheme is to eliminate the stress in generation utilities. Some of these stressed projects have already started to receive coal under the scheme.

Also, a Pilot Scheme for mid-term PPA for stressed projects was launched by the Ministry of Power for which PFCC, our subsidiary company is the Nodal Agency and PTC is the aggregator to purchase power for three years from commissioned projects with no PPA. Under the scheme, beneficiary states have signed PPAs for 1900 MW with eligible bidders at a tariff of ₹ 4.24 per unit. Now Phase II of the Pilot PPA scheme has been launched with PFCC as the Nodal Agency and NHPCC as the aggregator. Bids from 15 companies have been finalized with a tariff of ₹ 4.41 per unit. Ministry of Power has also issued significantly important guidelines with respect to timelines for approving the petitions for tariff increase due to change in law and also the directions mandating the power distribution licensees to open and maintain adequate Letter of Credit as a payment security mechanism under Power Purchase Agreements. These initiatives will help the projects to sell power on sustainable basis and resolve the stress going forward.

I am pleased to share that under these schemes some of the projects financed by PFC have received coal linkages and also mid-term PPAs, which will help in resolution of stress.

In order to encourage Renewable Generation, Ministry of Power extended the waiver of ISTS Transmission

Assets Up from  
₹ 3,00,000 Crores

58% Profit After Tax

₹ 6,953 cr.

₹ 1,817 cr.

₹ 2,13,329 cr.

₹ 3,14,667 cr.

13% Loan Assets (Gross)

2x jump in 54EC Capital Gain Tax Bonds

₹ 8,21%

₹ 7.95%

Cost of Funds 26bps

₹ 8,21%

₹ 7.95%

Maiden US \$ 1 Billion Bond Issue

Shri Rajeev Sharma, CMD, PFC, handing over RTGS advice of USD 1 Million towards Corporate Membership of International Solar Alliance (ISA) to Shri R.K. Singh, Hon'ble Minister of State (IC) for Power, New & RE at the First General Assembly of ISA in the presence of Minister of State for Ecological and Inclusive Transition, France, H.E. Brune Poirson.

charges and losses for Solar & Wind based Projects upto March 2022. Further, in order to achieve the Renewable target of 1,75,000 MW of Renewable Capacity by 2022, MOP issued Long Term Growth trajectory Renewable Purchase Obligation (RPO) for Solar as well as Non-Solar till the year 2022.

India's rank improved to 24 in 2018 from 137 in 2014 on World Bank's Ease of doing Business - "Getting Electricity" Ranking. Several measures have been initiated to reform and strengthen the power sector as a whole including power generation, transmission and distribution. These also include achievements in capacity addition and also important reforms being undertaken for increasing energy efficiency and increasing accountability and transparency by launching Mobile applications like PRAAPTI, Ash Track etc.

Your Company's philosophy of Corporate Governance stems from its belief that the spirit of good governance lies in adherence to highest standards of transparency, accountability, ethical business practices, compliance of law in true letter and spirit, adequate disclosures, corporate fairness, social responsiveness and commitment to the organization to meet stakeholders aspirations and societal expectations.

I am extremely thankful to the shareholders, who have reposed faith in us. My sincere and heartfelt thanks go out to the Hon'ble Union Minister of State (IC) for Power & New and Renewable Energy and officials of the Ministry of Power for their continued support and guidance. I am also truly grateful to Board of Directors, Investors and Valued Clients for their support.

Shri Rajeev Sharma, CMD, PFC, handing over the Intra Bank Fund Transfer Advice to Shri Ajay Kumar Bhalia, Secretary, Government of India, being the purchase consideration for acquisition of 103.94 Crore shares of Govt. of India shares in REC in presence of senior officials of MOP & PFC.

Smt. Gouri Chaudhury, Independent Director, Shri Sitaram Pareek, Independent Director, Dr. A.K. Verma, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Power, Shri Rajeev Sharma, CMD, Shri N.B. Gupta, Director (Finance) & Shri P.K. Singh, Director (Commercial) at the "Annual Investor Meet 2019" held in Mumbai

Place : New Delhi  
Date : 27.08.2019

**Rajeev Sharma**  
Chairman & Managing Director  
DIN No.: 00973413

(This does not purport to be a record of the proceedings of the Annual General Meeting held on 27 August, 2019. For full text, please visit : [www.pfcindia.com](http://www.pfcindia.com))

PFC conferred with "The Best Power Financing Company" of the year award by Shri R.K. Singh, Hon'ble Minister of State (IC) for Power, New & RE. Shri Rajeev Sharma, CMD, Shri C. Gangopadhyay, former Director (Projects) & Shri P.K. Singh, Director (Commercial) receiving the award on the occasion of CBIP Day

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# Modi's anonymous attack on Sena over Ram Mandir

Says loudmouths must have faith in judicial system

**Nashik:** In a jibe without naming ally Shiv Sena, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Thursday said the Supreme Court is hearing the Ram Mandir case and asked "some loudmouths" to refrain from making statements on the issue. "I am amazed at the 'bayan bahadurs and badbole' (loudmouths) on the Ram Mandir issue. Every one in the country respects the Supreme Court. The apex court is hearing the case. I want to tell these people with folded hands to have faith in the judicial system," Modi said at a rally here.

Shiv Sena has been demanding construction of the Ram temple and asking the Modi Government to take steps in that direction like it did on Article 370 in Jammu & Kashmir.

Sena chief Uddhav Thackeray on Monday demanded that the Centre take a "courageous decision" to bring in a law to build a Ram Temple in Ayodhya.

"It has been our demand from last year that a special law must be brought in and Ram



Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Maharashtra Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis and BJP Maharashtra president Chandrakant Patil being garlanded by supporters during the Vijay Sankalp Rally in Nashik on Thursday

Mandir should be built... The issue has been going on since 1992. How many years should we wait? We are hearing that the issue is in the final stages in the court. We appeal to the courts to give it decision on the issue.

"However, beyond that we expect that Centre should not wait for court order and use its powers. The Centre took a courageous step in abrogating Article 370. It is out request that the Centre would do the same for Ram Mandir issue," the Sena chief had told reporters here.

Modi said the first 100-day tenure in his second innings as the PM focussed on promise, performance and delivery. "There is a push for develop-

ment, a message of India's global power, welfare of people and efforts for employment opportunities," he said.

"₹20,000 crore were put in farmers' accounts so far out of which ₹1,500 crore was in accounts of farmers in Maharashtra," he said.

Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis thanked Modi for the trust reposed in him in 2014 when he was made the CM.

On the Mahajanadesh Yatra undertaken by him to reach out to masses ahead of the Assembly polls, Fadnavis said, "In the yatra, I have put forward my report card to the people. There is no corruption allegation (against me) in the last five years."

PTI

# Hope PM respects SC ruling on Ram temple, says NCP

**Mumbai:** Latching onto Prime Minister Narendra Modi's remark that "some loudmouths" should have faith in the Supreme Court over the Ram temple issue, the NCP on Thursday hoped he will stick to his words and respect verdict of the court will deliver on the sensitive matter.

NCP chief spokesperson Nawab Malik said his party has always been of the view that the apex court's verdict in the Ram Janmabhoomi-Babri Masjid land dispute matter should be respected and accepted by all.

Addressing a rally in Nashik, around 200km from here, on Thursday, Modi, without naming BJP's ally, the Shiv Sena, said the court is hearing the temple case and asked "some loudmouths" to refrain from making statements on the issue.

"I am amazed at the 'bayan bahadurs and badbole' (loudmouths) on the Ram Mandir issue. Everyone in the country respects the Supreme Court. The apex court is hearing the case. I want to tell these people with folded hands to have faith in the judicial system," the prime minister said.



Reacting to the PM's remarks, Malik said, "We are also saying that the SC's decision should be respected and accepted. Hope the prime minister will stick to his words and implement and respect the decision the Supreme Court will give."

Sena chief Uddhav Thackeray on Monday demanded that the Centre take a "courageous decision" to bring in a law to build a Ram temple at the disputed site in Ayodhya in Uttar Pradesh.

The SC on Wednesday said parties to the Ayodhya land dispute case can amicably resolve the matter through mediation if they want to and added it wants day-to-day hearings in the case to be concluded by October 18.

# PM attacks Pawar over Pak remarks, lauds Fadnavis for stable Government

**Nashik:** Donning headgear presented by a descendant of Shivaji Maharaj, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Thursday targeted NCP chief Sharad Pawar over the latter's remarks on Pakistan.

Launching the BJP's campaign for next month's Assembly elections in Maharashtra, Modi also said the State suffered due to political instability in the past and lauded Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis for providing a "stable Government" in the last five years, despite BJP not having a complete majority on its own.

On the decision of revoking provisions of Article 370 in Jammu & Kashmir, Modi said this was the wish of 130 crore Indians.

"The decision has been taken to save the Kashmiris from the cycle of violence, terror and separatism. They suffered for 40 years due to Delhi's (previous Congress-led Governments) wrong policies and 42,000 people were killed," he said.

Instead of supporting the Government on the decision taken in national interest, Opposition leaders are making comments for their selfish political interests, Modi said.

"When the country is united over the decision on

Kashmir, Congress and NCP leaders have not cooperated," he said.

Without naming Rahul Gandhi, Modi said the Congress leaders are making comments which are being used by other countries and terror outfits against India.

"I can understand the confusion of the Congress. But Sharad Pawar? I feel bad when an experienced leader like him

makes wrong statements for votes. He said he likes the neighbouring country. But every one knows where the terror factory is," Modi said.

Addressing a rally here as part of the conclusion of the 'Mahajanadesh Yatra' undertaken by Fadnavis to reach out to masses ahead of the Assembly polls, Modi said Maharashtra had not progressed as it should have.

# Modi twisted Pawar's comments, showed PM can lie, says NCP

**Mumbai:** Prime Minister Narendra Modi distorted NCP chief Sharad Pawar's comments about Pakistan, the party said on Thursday.

Modi should either prove that Pawar praised the rulers of the neighbouring country or apologise, Nationalist Congress Party spokesperson Nawab Malik said here.

Hours before, Modi, addressing a rally in Nashik in Maharashtra, targeted Pawar.

Alleging that Congress leaders' comments were being used by other countries and terror outfits against India, Modi said, "I can understand the confusion of the Congress. But Sharad Pawar? I feel bad

when an experienced leader like him makes wrong statements for votes.

"He said he likes the neighbouring country. But everyone knows where the terror factory is," the PM said.

Hitting back, Malik said that Modi twisted Pawar's remark.

"Modi has shown that the country's Prime Minister can be a liar. He said Pawar likes the rulers of Pakistan. But Pawar had clearly said in his speech that the rulers, army officers in Pakistan are anti-India, but the people there are not anti-India," Malik told reporters.

# Bulletproof jackets made in India sent to 100 countries: Modi

**Nashik:** Accusing the UPA Government of not being serious on national security, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Thursday said the Congress-led regime had in 2009 ignored the demand of 1.86 lakh bullet proof jackets for security personnel.

In the BJP-led regime, not only have the requirements of our forces been met but bulletproof jackets made in India are now being exported to 100 countries, Modi said.

Addressing a public rally here, Modi said, "Today, we are manufacturing our own bulletproof jackets and these jackets made in India are now being exported to over 100 countries."

"Two mighty helicopters have recently been inducted. Very soon the Rafale fighter jets

will join the IAF. We have taken the long pending decision to have a chief of defence staff for better co-ordination between the three forces," he said.

The attitude of the previous (Congress-led) Government was never good when it came to security preparedness and this has to be remembered again and again, Modi said.

"In 2009, a demand for 1.86 lakh bulletproof jackets was made. Till 2014, our jawans were fighting on the borders without bulletproof jackets. Time passed and the Congress Government supported by NCP never paid attention to this demand. But when the BJP-led NDA came to power, we revived the process and made sure that the jackets are manufactured in India," he said.

PTI

# DAY 46 Normal life remains disrupted in Kashmir

Reports of shopkeepers being threatened

**Srinagar:** Incidents of miscreants threatening shopkeepers and vandalising private vehicles have been reported from many places in Kashmir Valley where normal life remained disrupted for the 46th day on Thursday following abrogation of Article 370, officials said.

They said private cars have come under stone-pelting at many places as the miscreants want to enforce shutdown.

Authorities have taken note of these incidents and follow up action has been taken, the officials added.

Markets remained closed in the Valley and public transport off the roads, they said.

They said some of the shops open for few hours early in the



morning and late in the evening, but remain shut during the day.

Public transport was off the roads, but private cars were plying in many areas of the city and elsewhere in the valley, they said.

Few autorickshaws and inter-district cabs were also seen plying in some areas in civil lines of the city, they added.

not borne any fruit as parents continued to keep children at home due to apprehensions about their safety.

Most areas of the valley were restrictions-free, but the deployment of security forces continued on the ground to maintain law and order, the officials said.

Restrictions were first imposed across Kashmir on August 5 when the Centre announced its decision to abrogate Article 370 of the Constitution and bifurcate the state into two Union territories. The restrictions were lifted in phases from many parts of the valley as the situation improved with the passage of time.

Authorities have been imposing restrictions in vulnerable areas of the valley every Friday, apprehending that vested interests might exploit the large gatherings at big mosques and shrines to fuel protests.

The officials said Internet services remained suspended across all platforms.

While landlines across the valley were functional, voice calls on mobile devices were working only in Kupwara and Handwara police districts of north Kashmir, they added.

The efforts of the state government to open schools have

# Pak targets workers to halt BSF's wall of defence project

MOHIT KANDHARI ■ JAMMU

Several kilometre long 'wall of defence' (protective sand bundh) being constructed by the Border Security Force (BSF) between forward villages of Samba and Kathua, to plug the 'active' infiltration routes along the International border across Jammu frontier, is giving sleepless nights to Pakistani Rangers on the other side of the border.

As the work on the ambitious project was gathering momentum and taking shape, perturbed Pakistani Rangers decided to target the workers engaged in the construction work on the Indian side of the border fence.

So far, no loss of life and property has been reported from any where in the region.

To instil confidence among the local residents in the area, Deputy Commissioner, Kathua Dr Raghav Langer on Thursday visited Manjari village along with the team of senior Government officials and took stock of the ground realities.

He directed the executing agencies, engaged in the task of bunker construction, to expedite work on 'war footing' and install motors to clear the water logging from inside completed bunkers.

Senior BSF officials of Jammu frontier also visited the forward border outposts in the area to review the ground situation.

Deputy Commissioner directed the police officers to station bullet proof mobile bunkers in the area to safely evacuate local residents in case of any exigency. Local villagers also appealed to the senior officers to ensure safety and security of border residents in case of fresh escalation in the coming days. Deputy Commissioner assured them that the entire district administration has been sanitised and activated to respond to the emerging situation in the

border areas.

Senior BSF officers on their part claimed repeated attempts were being made, for last three days, by the Pakistani rangers to escalate the tensions along the International border as well in the run up to the United National General Assembly Session.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his Pakistani counterpart Imran Khan are scheduled to address the world leaders on September 27.

Apparently, the recent incidents of 'unprovoked' ceasefire violations by the Pakistani rangers in Hiranagar sector is also seen as a direct fall out of the progress made to execute the project on ground zero.

According to BSF authorities, the area which is being covered under the 'protective bundh' is often used by the infiltrators in the past to sneak inside the Indian territory preferably via water bodies and rivulets in the area.

The same route, according to NIA report submitted to the Union Home Minister in October 2018, was exploited by the over ground workers of the Pakistani based terror outfits to smuggle arms and ammunition along with small batches of infiltrators via road link to Kashmir valley.

A local villager who attended the meeting with the senior officers said, "the protective bundh is being constructed inside the Indian territory, well short of barbed wire fencing close to the International border, even then the Pakistani rangers are trying to provoke BSF authorities to retaliate strongly and not allowing them to live peacefully in the area". The villagers claimed they were living under constant fear of fresh escalation in the area and demanded safety of their life stock and homes and hearths.

# Five of family die inside sewage well in Gujarat

**Ahmedabad:** Five members of a family died of suffocation inside a well where sewage collected in Patan district of Gujarat, the police said on Thursday.

The incident took place at Gujarvada village in Sami tehsil two days ago. The State Government announced a compensation of Rs 4 lakh each for the surviving members of the family. The deceased were identified as Ranjanaben Sindhav (40), Ratabhai Sindhav (58), Ratabhai Nadoda (58), Rajabhai Sindhav (65) and Ajabhai Sindhav (45). Ranjanaben fell into the well — which was being used as a kind of septic tank — when she accidentally stepped on its brick cover on the evening of September 17, a police official said.

# Sabarimala back in focus as campaign peaks for Pala bypoll

**Kottayam (Ker):** The Sabarimala women's entry issue, a major plank of Opposition parties during the Lok Sabha election, is back in focus with the Congress and BJP raising it to target the ruling LDF in the campaign for the byelection to coming Pala Assembly constituency.

The two Opposition parties accused the LDF Government of implementing the Supreme Court verdict permitting women in menstrual age to offer prayers at the Lord Ayyappa temple in Sabarimala in a "hurried manner".

The September 23 bypoll in Pala is considered an acid test for the Left which faced humiliating defeat in the Lok Sabha polls with the Congress-led UDF sweeping 19 of the 20 seats.

Syrian Catholic community and Hindus account for most of the electorate in the segment, where the by-poll has been necessitated by the demise of



KC(M) founder leader and former Finance Minister KM Mani on April 9.

Senior Congress leader A K Antony, campaigning for UDF candidate Jose Tom Pulikkunnel on Wednesday, alleged Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan turned Sabarimala "a battle ground" in the guise of implementing the apex court verdict.

"The Chief Minister displayed his arrogance in Sabarimala and his immature actions turned it a battleground,"

the former union minister alleged.

He challenged Vijayan to declare his current stand on the issue in the wake of his party admitting its mistake in handling the women entry issue.

Vijayan, currently touring the constituency campaigning for LDF candidate Mani C Kappen, did not respond to Antony's allegations.

But his ministerial colleague and senior CPI(M) leader MM Mani attacked Antony, accusing

him of speaking in the tune of the BJP.

Mani on Thursday alleged it was the Congress and the BJP which turned Sabarimala a battle ground during the pilgrim season last year.

Targeting BJP also on the issue, Antony has asked whether the ruling party at the Centre was ready to protect the faith of Lord Ayyappa devotees as promised by it during the Parliament elections and bring an ordinance.

Responding to Antony's pincer, BJP leader and Union Minister V Muraleedharan said the BJP will fulfil the poll promise made by the party in its manifesto on Sabarimala.

Talking to reporters in Pala on Thursday, the Minister of State for External Affairs, said the pleas seeking a review of the Supreme Court verdict, lifting the traditional ban on entry of women in the age group of 10-50 into the temple, was currently

under the consideration of the Supreme Court.

Similarly, the Ramjanmabhoomi-Babri Masjid issue is also being heard by the apex court, Muraleedharan, who is in Pala to campaign for BJP candidate N Hari, said.

"Let us wait for the court verdict...The promise we have made in our manifesto will be implemented," he said.

In its Lok Sabha poll manifesto, the BJP has said its government would make every effort to ensure that the subject of faith, tradition and worship rituals related to Sabarimala were adhered to.

A five-judge Constitution bench of the Supreme Court on September 28 last year by a 4:1 verdict allowed entry of women in Sabarimala temple, says banning their entry into the shrine was gender discrimination and the practice violates rights of Hindu women.

# CHINMAYANAND CASE Priyanka questions PM's silence

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Congress on Thursday accused the Yogi Adityanath Government of supporting rape accused former Minister Swami Chinmayanand and questioned the "silence" of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and senior women leaders of the ruling party on the absence of any action against him.

Congress leader and General Secretary of UP Priyanka Gandhi Vadra slammed the BJP Government and the police in Uttar Pradesh saying they were repeating the "negligence" shown and "protection" given to the accused in the Unnao rape case.

Her allegations came a day after the student, who has levelled rape charges against former Union Minister Swami Chinmayanand, threatened to set herself on fire if the BJP leader was not arrested immediately. The student also asked if the Government was waiting for her to die even after her statement was recorded before a magistrate.

Congress alleged by taking no action against the accused in the rape case it has become clear that the BJP is standing with Chinmayananda and is not inclined to provide justice to the victim, who has come out in the open with details of the crime. "This is a very serious issue.

It has become very clear that this Government has a very non-serious approach to tackle increasing crime against women. The Government has a completely blind eye towards crime against women and they are instead protecting their leaders," she told reporters, asking whether this case will also go the way the Unnao rape case has gone," said Congress spokesperson Sharmistha Mukherjee.

Mukherjee said Modi government is talking about 'Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao' on one hand, while on the other hand it is "busy protecting those committing crimes against women".

# Three booked for provocative speech in K'taka

**Mangaluru:** A case has been registered against three people including a Bajrang Dal leader on charges of delivering a "communally provocative" speech during a function at Puttur last month.

The case was registered against the trio following a complaint from a member of Puttur town committee of Popular Front of India (PFI).

The complainant alleged that the Bajrang Dal leader in his speech had said that not even a small piece of land



would be provided for Muslims to offer namaz in the country if they failed to chant 'Bharat Matha Ki Jai' and 'Jai Sree Ram.' Such a statement has been made in order to incite communal passions, he claimed.

# 110 IRS officers appointed as expenditure observers

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Election Commission (EC) has appointed 110 IRS (Indian Revenue Service) officers of the Income Tax department as expenditure observers for the forthcoming Assembly polls in Maharashtra and Haryana.

According to the EC, the observers will be tasked with checking the use of black money and other illegal inducements during the election process in these two states. These officials have been called for their first briefing by the EC on September 23. Haryana has 90 Assembly seats and

Maharashtra has 288.

The EC has asked the Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) to relieve the officers from their charge so that they can be put on poll duty, the sources said. The CBDT is the policy-making body for the tax department.

These officers of the Indian Revenue Service (IRS) will be deployed in various Assembly constituencies of the two states as part of the EC's overall mechanism to ensure a level-playing field for the candidates and voters, the sources said. They will ensure that

stringent and effective enforcement action is undertaken based on intelligence inputs received through C-Vigil app and voter helpline to induce voters by distributing cash and liquor among others to vitiate the poll process.

The EC has also directed its investigation wings in these poll-bound states, adjoining states and that in Delhi be prepared to deploy extra measures to check physical and electronic movement of suspected funds.

# Supriyo heckled, shoved at JU

Guv rushes to Jadavpur campus along with cops, rescues him

SAUGAR SENGUPTA ■ KOLKATA

In a major security lapse, Union Minister Babul Supriyo was on Thursday heckled, pushed and clawed by students of Left wing parties protesting against his attending of a seminar organised by the right wing students' groups including the Akhil Bharatiya Vidyarthi Parishad at Jadavpur University.



Union Minister of State Babul Supriyo heckled by Left-wing students at Jadavpur University in Kolkata on Thursday

While Vice-Chancellor Suranjan Das refused to call in police, a helpless police force stood as mute spectators for the want of "instructions from above" leaving Supriyo to his fate and protective hands of a few CRPF personnel who had a trying time to shield him from an aggressive crowd of several hundred slogan-shouting students.

The V-C showing his inability to call police on moral grounds and offered to resign instead took shelter in the hospital bed along with his pro-Vice Chancellor PK Ghosh.

Even as the melee continued for more than five hours, Governor Jagdeep Dhankar had to intervene by rushing into the university campus where he too was blocked for a good one hour even as he tried to rescue the Minister.

And it took some instant tact of DCP Praveen Tripathi who managed to hoodwink the students and get the Governor and the Minister out of the mess. Just as the drama threatened to continue overnight the convoy of the Governor who had by that time pulled Supriyo inside his car turned back and sped away taking advantage of an un-blockaded rear.

This even as a large number of ABVP and Durga Vahini supporters armed with rods and bamboos raided — JU premises ranked amongst one of the five best universities of the country, academically --- and

smashed the students' union, ransacked the interiors and torched things including computers, bicycles posters, and almira.

While the Left students gheraoed the Minister some of them pulling by his hair and even slapping him, demanded apology from Supriyo for abusing them and threatening them with dire consequences for shouting "go back slogan" and showing black flags the singer-turned politician shouted "if you will not achieve anything by this undemocratic show.

If you want to be a decent politician then follow your leader Buddhadeb Bhattacharjee."

He later alleged "they beat me, kicked me, scratched me... but for that I won't scream.

Rather I will demand these students to be criminally booked or and rusticated."

Even as a furious Governor personally called up Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee and Chief Secretary Malay Dey communicating his concern for Supriyo, a Press release issued by the Raj Bhavan, faulted the State for falling law and order situation.

If that alleged unlawful detention and assault on the Union Minister was a serious reflection of the law and order of the State and on the conduct of the law enforcing agencies.

The drama that continued for more than five hours started earlier on Thursday noon when Supriyo, accompanied by designer-turned-BJP leader Agnimitra Paul entered the University campus to address a seminar.

While swarms of Left students shouted "go back" slogans he entered into heated arguments with them provoking the students to reply back in equal measure. One of them complained "he not only abused us but also threatened us with dire consequences saying I can teach you all lessons within two days. There was no need for him to react to such slogans and simply gone ahead with his programme because such slogans are a regular affair Jadavpur."

# Former Kolkata CP hiding like Dawood, CBI tells court

## Claims State Govt not sharing any information regarding him

SAUGAR SENGUPTA ■ KOLKATA

The Central Bureau of Investigation on Thursday compared senior IPS officer and former Kolkata Police Commissioner Rajiv Kumar with international terrorist Dawood Ibrahim in the Alipore Court saying Kumar, the present Additional Director General of CID, was hiding from the Agency like the Pakistan-based don.

The CBI lawyers were arguing in the court to seek a non-bailable warrant against Kumar. When the Court asked as to why they were seeking warrant when they had enough power to arrest him the CBI counsels said "he is fleeing like Dawood Ibrahim and the State Government is not sharing any information about him with the CBI."

Even as the Court reserved its order for a subsequent day in

a daylong Hindi film-like drama the CBI sleuths ran from one place to another in search of the former Kolkata top cop — himself one of the best cyber crime investigators in the country.

The CBI vainly searched him in the IPS quarters, the IPS officers' mess and even inside the kitchen of a renowned South Kolkata hotel entering most of these premises from backdoors.

Finally the Agency sleuths sent yet another notice to the top officer's official address asking him to report for interrogation on Friday.

Kumar has been evading the investigation since Friday when the Calcutta High Court withdrew protection from arrest granted to him in the case.

CBI wants to quiz Kumar regarding his role as the chief of the Special Investigation Team in the multi-crore Sharada chit fund case in 2013 before the Supreme Court handed over the case to the CBI upon allegations of wayward investigation.

The central probe agency also sent a letter to West Bengal Director General of Police (DGP) Virendra, seeking his active contact number.

# HINDI ROW Crack in Opp unity surfaces in Tamil Nadu

KUMAR CHELLAPPAN ■ CHENNAI

As party chief MK Stalin called off the proposed agitation against 'imposition of Hindi' late on Wednesday following an assurance from Governor Banwarilal Purohit that there won't be any such move from the Centre, the facade of unity in the Opposition front has started disappearing.

Stalin, who had a meeting with the Governor, told journalists that Purohit told him that Home Minister Amit Shah's speech has been misquoted and misunderstood. "Since the Governor told us that the Home Minister's speech had been misquoted, we thought it better not to go ahead with the agitation," said Stalin.

As per the earlier plan, the DMK and allies were to hold Statewide demonstrations all over Tamil Nadu on Friday against the move by the Centre to impose Hindi. The Congress, a trusted ally of the DMK, went one step ahead and declared that the party cadre

would show black flags against Amit Shah when he visits the State next time. But VCK, another alliance partner of the DMK, expressed the party's reservations over the move by Stalin to call off the agitation. "We stand by our decision to agitate against the communal Government at the Centre," said Thol Thirumavalavan, MP and founder of the party. This round of agitation has fizzled out as the DMK has understood the folly behind wasting time and resources over such issues, said Govindarajan Satyamurthy, political commentator based in Coimbatore. "All parties except the AIADMK and the DMK are non-entities in the State," he said.

A senior Congress leader had told *The Pioneer* on Wednesday itself that agitation against Hindi would be matter of past in a few days time. "Do you think the Congress would dare to show black flags at Amit Shah if the DMK is not around to help them," asked the leader who did not want the name to be quoted.

# Aarey can't get forest tag just because it has greenery: Maha Govt

Mumbai: The Aarey area, at the centre of a raging protest over felling of trees for a Mumbai metro depot, cannot be given a forest tag just because it has greenery, the Maharashtra government told the Bombay High Court on Thursday.



Government counsels Ashutosh Kumbhakar and Anil Sakhare made this submission while seeking dismissal of a petition filed by an NGO named Vanshakti, which demanded that the Aarey area in suburban Goregaon be declared a forest and an ecologically-sensitive zone.

Activists are opposing the proposed felling of over 2,600 trees in Aarey to make way for the metro car shed and demanding relocation of the depot, which is part of the Metro III project.

"Aarey cannot be declared as forest just because there is

shed at Aarey. "The high court bench, while rejecting that petition, noted that it was erroneous to term Aarey a forest," Kumbhakar said.

An appeal against this order of the high court has been filed in the Supreme Court, where it is pending hearing, the government counsel said.

"Let the apex court decide the issue now. The high court has already given its verdict. When the matter has been already heard and concluded by the high court, it need not be entertained again," Kumbhakar argued.

On a query made by the court earlier on whether the proposed Metro car shed could be constructed in suburban Kanjurmag instead of Aarey, Kumbhakar said the land being talked about was not available for the project due to "technical reasons".

Another government counsel, Shrihari Aney, told the court that even assuming the land at Kanjurmag was available, it would "not be possible" to construct the proposed Metro car shed there.

"The said car shed is for the Metro III line connecting Colaba in south Mumbai to Seepz in the western suburbs," Aney said. "Hence, the car shed needs to be in Aarey. It is not feasible to have the car shed at Kanjurmag which is located kilometers away (from Aarey)."

The Aarey colony, measuring 1,287 hectares and located adjoining the Sanjay Gandhi National Park, is known as a major green lung of the metropolis.

Several Bollywood personalities and politicians have also extended their support to the activists protesting against the felling of trees in Aarey. PTI

# Students detained for protest at Jalsa against Big B's tweet

Mumbai: Armed with banners and placards, a group of students from schools and colleges on Thursday staged a protest outside megastar Amitabh Bachchan's residence here over his tweet supporting the Mumbai Metro project.

As many as 22 students were detained when they quatted on a road near Bachchan's bungalow in suburban Juhu and engaged in slogan shouting, police said.

The 76-year-old Bollywood icon, himself a face of several environmental campaigns, is facing flak from certain quarters for coming out in support of the Metro project. His stand has not



gone down well with activists opposing the proposed felling of over 2,600 trees in Aarey Colony, a green belt, to make way for a Metro car shed.

Earlier on Tuesday, Bachchan in a tweet said, "Friend of mine had a medical emer-

gency, decided to take METRO instead of his car... Came back very impressed.. Said was faster, convenient and most efficient.. Solution for Pollution.. Grow more trees.. I did in my garden.. Have you." PTI

# PAK VIOLATES CEASEFIRE ALONG LOC IN POONCH

PNS ■ JAMMU

Pakistan Army on Thursday night initiated 'unprovoked' ceasefire violation along the Line of Control in Shahpur and Kerni sectors of Poonch.

Defence PRO in Jammu said, "at around 8.00 pm Pakistan Army initiated fresh ceasefire violation by firing of small arms & shelling with Mortars in Shahpur & Kerni sectors, of district Poonch". Indian Army is retaliating befittingly, he added.

Several civilian areas were also targeted by the Pakistan army during intense shelling in the forward area.

# 39 mob lynchings in two and a half months in Bihar

Patna: Despite its best efforts, the police has not been able to curb mob lynching incidents in the state.

According to data provided by the police headquarters, 14 people have been beaten to death, while 45 people have been injured in mob lynching incidents during the last two and a half months. During this time 39 incidents of mob lynching were registered in the state.

Bihar police headquarters is conducting awareness campaigns regarding such incidents in sensitive areas. Senior police officials have acknowledged that there have been no incidents of child abduction but people take to mob lynching due to rumours. However, the police are sensitising people about such incidents along with giving a stern warning to those involved in the lynchings.

Rumours about child abduction have increased so much that parents are now in a panic.

Locals in Madipur Chitragupta Nagar in Muzaffarpur thrashed two women on suspicion of child

abduction. By the time police reached the spot and saved them from the crowd, they had both suffered severe injuries.

A similar incident took place in Samastipur district, where a mentally disabled woman was beaten up on similar suspicion by a crowd. Some people from the crowd itself saved her from the mob.

Such cases have been reported from Patna as well as other areas of the state. A man, identified as Shatrughan Sinha, a resident of Sitamarhi, was beaten to death on September 9 in West Champaran district.

On September 8, a 22-year-old man was beaten to death following rumours of child lifting.

Police has registered FIRs against 348 named accused and 4,000 unidentified persons.

"Police is taking strict action against those involved in mob lynching incidents. We identify the accused from the video footage of the incidents and take action against them," said Additional Director General (police headquarters) Jitendra Kumar. IANS

# Abdullah has 'tremendous potential' to create public disorder: PSA order

Srinagar: Statements mobilising people against the state and the "tremendous potential" to create public disorder in the Valley are among the charges listed against former Jammu & Kashmir chief minister Farooq Abdullah, who has been booked under the Public Safety Act.

The 81-year-old Lok Sabha MP from Srinagar, under detention since August 5 when the Centre revoked the state's special status, has also been accused of making speeches glorifying terrorists and separatists.

The PSA order against Abdullah, accessed by PTI, cites

seven instances from 2016 onwards when he spoke in favour of the separatist Hurriyat Conference and terror groups.

Abdullah, the first chief minister to be booked under the stringent PSA, was arrested on Monday under the PSA and his Gupkar Road residence declared a jail.

The National Conference chairman and three-term Chief Minister has been booked under the 'public order' provision of the PSA under which a person can be kept in jail from three to six months without a trial, officials said. On repealing of Article 370

and 35-A of the Constitution, which provided special status for people of the state on jobs and residency, the PSA order accuses Abdullah of issuing statements aimed at mobilising people against the State.

It says he could have debated the issue rather than threatened the integrity of the country and glorify militancy.

The order also accuses him of propagating 'secessionist ideology' besides posing a threat to life and liberty of the people.

Abdullah, the order states, "has tremendous potential for creating an environment of pub-

lic disorder within the district (Srinagar) and other parts of the Valley". It accuses him of being a person seen as fanning the emotions of general masses against the country.

The order, which states that Abdullah's residence "G-40 Gupkar Road" has been declared a subsidiary jail, has also been accused by the state administration of issuing statements in conflict with law that were aimed at disturbing public order.

The PSA has two sections - 'public order' and 'threat to security of the state'. The former allows detention without trial for

three to six months and the latter for two years.

The PSA is applicable only in Jammu & Kashmir. Elsewhere in the country, the equivalent law is the National Security Act (NSA).

Separatists and Abdullah's political opponents in the Valley have termed him a vehement supporter of state's accession with India. He was also criticised last year for raising the slogan, 'Bharat Mata Ki Jai', during a condolence meeting for former Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee. PTI

# Can't treat displaced people as guinea pigs: Bombay HC

Mumbai: The Maharashtra Government and the BMC cannot treat project-affected people as "guinea pigs" and make them stay in heavily polluted suburban Mahul on the assurance that air quality in the area may improve in the coming years, the Bombay High Court said on Thursday.

A division bench of Chief Justice Pradeep Nandrajog and Justice Bharati Dangre made the strong observation while hearing the applications of a group of people displaced following the demolition of their "illegal" houses.

The bench noted that the pollution situation has not improved in Mahul since 2015.

Some 15,000 families were displaced after their "unauthorised" houses near the Tansa pipeline were ordered to be demolished by the high court.

The HC had, while directing for the demolition, said encroachments on the Tansa water pipeline posed a risk to the lives of lakhs of residents if any untoward incident were to occur. The Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation (BMC) had shift-

ed the displaced people to a housing colony in Mahul, a polluted area that is home to refineries and chemical units. However, several families refused to move to Mahul, claiming that the air quality there was very poor and posed health risks.

The applications being heard by the bench were filed by such families. The court had then asked the BMC to provide alternate accommodation to those persons or pay them rent so that they can themselves find a place to stay.

The bench on Thursday, after perusing a chart of studies carried out by various expert bodies on the air quality in Mahul, noted that the situation has not improved in the recent past. "The situation does not appear to be very rosy. From 2015 till now, expert bodies have been monitoring but the air quality has not improved. "In such a situation, can we make these persons stay there? You cannot treat them as guinea pigs," Chief Justice Nandrajog said. PTI

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**GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR**  
MECHANICAL ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT JAMMU  
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ce@mechjmu.gov.in  
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In the interest of Govt. works and to promote healthy competition among the bidders, the e-Tender/Auction No: CE/MEJ/Tech/2019-20/04 Dated: 03-08-2019 Due on 02-09-2019 extended upto 14-09-2019 for the Disposal of Condemned vehicles/machinery lying in various Divisions of Mechanical Engineering Department, Jammu is hereby further extended upto 23-09-2019 and shall be opened on 25-09-2019. The revised critical dates can be seen / downloaded from the J&K Govt. website www.jktenders.gov.in and departmental website www.mechjmu.co.in, rest all other terms and conditions of e-NIT shall remain the same. Sd/- (Er. Gagan Jyoti) No. DIP/J-6375/19 Chief Engineer Dated:- 18-09-2019

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1.	Vir Pal Singh (Borrower) Sneh Lata (Co Borrower) NHRW100000 844451	Mustil No- 40, Kila No- 22/1/2 (0-3), 23/1/1/1 (0-4) Dharuhera Tehsil Rewari, Dist- Rewari, Haryana. Measuring 7 Marla. It's 2/7th Share I.e. 2 Marla I.e. 53 Sq Yard	Rs. 16,59,466/- (As on Sep 5, 2019)	Rs. 18,70,000/- (Rupees Eighteen Lacs Seventy Thousand Only)	Rs. 1,87,000/- (Rupees One Lacs and Eighty Seven Thousand Only)	Oct 4, 2019 from 02:00 P.M. to 03:00 P.M	Oct 29, 2019 from 11:30 AM onwards

  
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PAPER WITH PASSION

## Missing woods for trees

Banning electronic cigarettes might send a message but will only drive usage underground



Decades of action by advocacy groups and the anti-tobacco lobby had finally made smoking uncool, to a degree at least, among younger people. This was a big change considering smoking was, for almost a century, one of the ultimate hallmarks of confidence for teenagers and a sign of having arrived. Films, brands and advertisements had reinforced that image till the time research didn't link life-threatening diseases to a costly indulgence. Sustained campaigning might not have got many smokers to kick the butt but they looked for alternatives. And then vaping came along as an option. Born through the burgeoning marijuana industry in the US, it involves taking a liquid concentrate and "vapourising" it by heating it to extreme temperatures thanks to an electric arc. It is a cleaner way of inhaling active ingredients and the US tobacco industry, wary of losing customers to the burgeoning competition, quickly adopted vaping or electronic cigarettes as a method of consumption. But much like hookahs in India, where "flavoured" mixes made the habit popular among a younger audience, flavoured vapes became a hot-seller. For kids, smoking bubblegum flavoured e-cigarette concentrates and exchanging their capsules became the "new cool." But then many experts claimed that vaping innocuous flavoured mixes could be a gateway to ultimate nicotine addiction. Vaping was also claimed to tax our lungs in much the same way. So banning e-cigarettes was, some argued, the need of the hour. Of course, nobody is considering that the stricture could also push more smokers to conventional tobacco. Besides, is the Government being truly altruistic, considering that it appears to be playing into the hands of the tobacco lobby? Banning e-cigarettes definitely makes it look more interested in protecting cigarette companies and raises questions if there is a vested interest involved. The ghoulish advisories in multiplexes and on cigarette packets look hypocritical too.

As for the target audience, the ban will have little impact. Rebellious teenagers will continue to smoke e-cigarettes. Going by past experiences, banning substances has no impact on usage. Psychotropic drugs are a strict no-no but go to any party with college students and you will find a plethora of substances, including LSD, being bandied about. The fact is that the Government has succumbed to the tobacco lobby again, which was fearful of losing its high-end customers who bought expensive cigarettes. After all, vaping is not something for those with limited purchasing power; only the rich can afford it. These are not the individuals who will be hurt by this ban which, therefore, will end up being pointless. Instead, the curbs will drive the market for concentrates and e-cigarettes underground, which will be dangerous. Therefore, regulation and taxation are the need of the hour. Most citizens are actually not interested in breaking the law and would have been happy to pay the taxes and smoke lower concentrations of nicotine in their liquids. This is also another example of India becoming a "nanny state" and "maximum Government, minimum governance." Trotting out the Finance Minister to announce the ban when the economy is in the doldrums is just another sign that the Government is not taking up real matters seriously. Ingenuous Indians will find a way to work around it and others will make a living breaking it, much like the joke that prohibition was in Gujarat until it was relaxed.

## Howdy NRIs

UN report lists Indian diaspora to be the largest at 17.5 million, a number we should harvest as a strategic asset



There's no doubt that Non-Resident Indians (NRIs) have been assets to host countries. But now they can be the nation's valued spokespersons, lobbyists and ambassadors and project our face to the world as the UN's International Migrant Stock report has declared the Indian diaspora to be the biggest with a total strength of 17.5 million. Though we have been topping the diaspora chart in recent times, what is commendable is that we have been able to maintain our spot despite stringent visa norms by some nations.

This pool represents a little over six per cent of the total global migrant population. The latest report comes ahead of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's "Howdy" event in Houston where he is expected to address a 50,000-strong congregation of NRIs, a constituency that even US President Donald Trump cannot ignore as he hopes to cultivate numbers for his re-election campaign. With the US imposing strict migration norms, the number of Indians migrating to the United Arab Emirates (UAE) outnumbered those of the US, clearly pointing out that you cannot put down an enterprising Indian. This despite a 21 per cent decline in the number of emigration clearances to the UAE.

For some time now, Asian nations have sought to tap into their diaspora to present their case to the Western majors, convince them of their growth potential, procure funding and improve technical knowhow. It is the intense engagement with the diaspora that has helped us score many points in both international and soft diplomacy, strengthened our brand and reshaped perceptions. India is among the largest remittance-receiving countries in the world with NRIs ploughing back \$80 billion back home. These have had a multiplier effect on our economy, particularly in the social sectors that encompass a slew of educational and healthcare projects. They have also been instrumental in bringing back international domain expertise, the reason why Bengaluru, Gurugram and Hyderabad have today become technological hubs with the existence of multinational companies like Google, Amazon, IKEA and Facebook among others. The Government could immediately formalise a rotation exchange programme at all levels for top NRI scientists, engineers, doctors, managers and professionals to serve in their home country for a brief period. The Indian diaspora consists of some accomplished individuals, who have made the country proud. Many of them are visible in electoral politics and even hold key positions within administrations in other nations. With their increasing prominence, the Government, too, has been reaching out to them to keep them invested in the cause of furthering India's interests. Besides, with countries like Canada and Australia relaxing rules for work permits based on competence and even Germany encouraging flow of skilled workers and service professionals, there's an exodus of middle classes. We need to keep them connected. The Pravasi Bharatiya Divas has emerged as a solid cross-flow platform while the Government has been walking the extra mile to rescue Indians from crisis situations, be it in Iraq, Syria or Libya. Yet much more needs to be done to ensure big-ticket investments and NRI inclusion in the domestic discourse. The Government needs to work on a policy outreach consistently as NRIs clearly are our "strategic asset."

# Pakistan's hypocrisy

Our neighbour can keep raging over the revocation of Article 370 but J&K will undergo a massive transformation if even half of what has been promised is implemented



DEEPAK SINHA

It's almost been two months since Prime Minister Narendra Modi upset the Pakistani appellation by amending Article 370 of the Constitution and dividing the erstwhile State of Jammu & Kashmir (J&K) into two Union Territories. To suggest that the Pakistani leadership has gone ballistic, as it finds itself scrambling to come up with a coherent policy to counter Modi's initiative, would be an understatement. Of course, within the Valley, stringent security measures that have been in place since August 5, have not just prevented any display of collective anger but have also made it extremely difficult to assess how the average Kashmiri will respond once restrictions are lifted.

There is little doubt that the biggest impediment to the integration of the State into the Indian Union has been Article 370, which came into effect on January 26, 1950, when the Constituent Assembly approved and promulgated the Constitution. In effect, the Article kept the question of J&K joining the Union of India ambivalent. This despite the fact that the Maharaja of J&K had signed the Document of Accession unconditionally and had willingly accepted the State's integration into the Indian Union, as was his right to do. This ambivalence, along with the manner in which the Central and State Governments have acted over the years, has confused and strained the loyalties of Kashmiris towards the country.

The irony is that while Pakistan is now objecting to the abrogation of Article 370 and calling it illegal, its position on this issue was diametrically opposite in 1951. This can be inferred from the Pakistan Government's letters No S/2119 and S/2145, addressed to the president of the United Nations Security Council (UNSC), which though not available in the public domain, implies just that. The statement of the then UNSC President to the Security Council made at that time read: "Members of the Security Council, at its 548th meeting held on May 29, 1951, have heard with satisfaction the assurances of the representative of India that any Constituent Assembly that may be established in Srinagar is not intended to prejudice the issues before the Security Council or come in its way. On the other hand, the two communications to me, as President of the Council, from the representatives of Pakistan, set forth in documents S/2119 and S/2145, contain reports which, if they are correct, indicate that steps are being taken by the Yuvaraja of J&K to convoke a Constituent Assembly, one function of which, according to Sheikh Abdullah, would be a decision on the further shape and affiliation of Kashmir." It is the sense of the Security Council that these reports, if correct, would involve procedures which are in conflict with the commitments of the parties to determine the future accession of the State by a fair and impartial plebiscite conducted under United Nations auspices."

If the contents of the letters do confirm what is suggested, then Pakistan must certainly be asked to justify the change in its stance.



What this will prove is that Pakistan's actions are lacking in consistency and are hypocritical, to say the least. Not that the issue of hypocrisy is in doubt given its blatant disregard for UN resolutions. One may recall that both India and Pakistan had accepted the United Nations Security Council Resolution (UNSCR) No 80 of March 14, 1950, that called for plebiscite. This was conditional as the first step in that process was the withdrawal of Pakistani forces within five months. That Pakistan refused to withdraw from the territories it had illegally occupied and continues to subjugate till date is not disputed.

Moreover, it went further in this regard by taking unilateral steps to cede territories to China, separated Gilgit and Baltistan administratively from Pakistan-Occupied Kashmir and carried out extensive and widespread demographic changes in this region, thus reducing the Kashmiri population to a minority. In these circumstances, the validity of the resolution is in question.

Not surprisingly, Pakistan is not the only one left tongue-tied and confused by recent events. Opposition parties back home, both at the national and State level, such as the Congress and its allies along with the Left, the National Conference, and the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP), too, found themselves in a similar predicament. Of course, one can sympathise with the

confusion within the Kashmiri parties given the fact that their first-rung leadership remains in detention or "protective custody", whichever way one may like to term it. Yet, their confusion appears to have been born out of a sense of apathy, tunnel vision and a refusal to undertake any change in status quo, despite being fully aware that substantive political steps needed to be taken if the cycle of violence was to be broken and insurgency stamped out. Their inaction clearly showed that not only did they accrue benefits from the "business of insurgency" but were also apathetic to the consequences of their actions on the local population, the Army, the CRPF and local police, who continued to pay in blood.

The parties also ignored the fact that the BJP had included the abrogation of Articles 370 and 35A in its election manifesto and that these issues were finding increasing prominence in the public discourse. Given the Prime Minister's track record in such matters during his first tenure, they cannot be fully blamed for being lulled into a sense of complacency. Opposition parties have subsequently also had to deal with the overwhelming support this action received within the country, leaving aside some elements in the Kashmir Valley, who in any case will never be pleased with whatever the Central Government does.

"Mainlanders", as Indians from outside the Valley are

referred to by the locals, are mostly at a loss to understand the angst of the average Kashmiri. The air of entitlement and superiority that pervades the Valley is utterly incomprehensible, given the fact that it is the taxpayers' money that has been utilised over the decades to feed their egos and lifestyles.

Facts will speak for themselves: With just one per cent of India's population, the State received 10 per cent of all Central grants between 2000 and 2016. In comparison, Uttar Pradesh, that accommodates 13 per cent of the population, received just 8.5 per cent of these grants within the same period. Not that this infusion of funds has done anything for the average Kashmiri, especially when one sees that the net per capita State GDP increased from approximately ₹40,000 to only around ₹60,000 during 2012-17.

In comparison, in a hill State of similar size, Himachal Pradesh, the per capita net GDP grew from ₹80,000 to ₹1,20,000 within the same period. Therefore, the average taxpayer is certainly entitled to ask where has all the money gone? Who is to be held accountable and why wasn't this step taken three decades ago, if not earlier? Many have expressed doubts that the abrogation of Article 370 has played into the hands of the separatists. By destroying the credibility of the leadership of the mainline political parties within the State, it will be the militants who will fill the

vacuum left behind. That support would be contingent on the belief that the Central Government will usher in demographic changes that will impinge on their culture, language and the way of life.

This need not be so if the region is given a special status under Article 471, as has been done for other States like Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand and some in the North-East. However, what is undeniable is that every Kashmiri, whether he/she admits it or not, is fully cognisant that status quo over these past decades has only held them hostage to unending violence and a scramble to eke out a living. They also know that over the years, the only ones to have benefitted were the politicians, the separatists and those running the administration as they were all complicit in ensuring that required checks and balances could be avoided.

Well, if Prime Minister Modi can implement even half of what he has promised, there is little doubt that J&K will undergo a massive transformation for the better. Therefore, the choice before the people is crystal clear. The only thing one can no longer do is to sit astride both boats and blame the consequences on circumstance or fate.

(The writer, a military veteran, is a consultant with the Observer Research Foundation and a Senior Visiting Fellow with The Peninsula Foundation, Chennai)

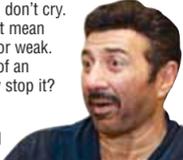
## SOUNDBITE

If anyone from Pakistan goes to India to fight jihad...he will be the first to do injustice to Kashmiris, he will be the enemy of Kashmiris.



Pakistan Prime Minister —Imran Khan

They say men don't cry. Crying doesn't mean being strong or weak. It's a release of an emotion. Why stop it?



Actor —Sunny Deol

Human rights must be fully respected in the territory and dialogue between India and Pakistan is an essential element for a solution to the problem.



UN chief —Antonio Guterres

Earlier the slogan was *Kashmir Humara Hai* (Kashmir is ours). Now we must work towards a new one, *Maya Kashmir banana hai* (We must make a new Kashmir).



Prime Minister —Narendra Modi

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Discriminatory provision

Sir — Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath deserves commendation for doing away with the four-decade-old illogical practice of paying income tax of Ministers from the public exchequer. One wonders why and how the anti-public policy was adopted and why it is still prevalent in Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Haryana, Uttarakhand and Himachal Pradesh. These States must also abolish the practice.

At the very least, the Prime Minister can advise the BJP-ruled States to do so and hope that the remaining would follow out of a sense of shame. Salaries, perks, privileges and post-retirement benefits, including pension to all those in the legislature, should be taken up by the Centre, rather than leaving them at the discretion of State Governments.

SC Agrawal  
Delhi

### Progressive step

Sir — India has done well to ban the sale of electronic cigarettes.

### Do what's right for the Valley

This refers to the editorial, "Faroq, now a threat" (September 18). The turn of events in Jammu & Kashmir has been disconcerting. Former Chief Minister and National Conference leader Faroq Abdullah did not deserve to be booked under the Public Safety Act and arrested and jailed in his own house. Like many of his compatriots, he has only exercised his right to an opinion. Booking a leader, who has served as a "bridge" between the Valley and mainland India for several decades, is a clear indication of the trust deficit between those in power in New Delhi and the Kashmiri leaders.

The treatment now being meted out to the three-time Chief Minister is blatant ingratitude because he has openly advocated the Valley's continued existence as an integral part of India. The worst part is that the country's top court has not come to his rescue and objected to his detention in lieu of his Constitutionally guaranteed rights. Moves like the detention of leaders like Faroq Abdullah, Omar Abdullah and Mehbooba Mufti do not help dispel the concerns about attitude regard-



G David Milton  
Maruthancode

ing the Valley's integration with the rest of India. The world's largest democracy that it is, India must ease restrictions, allow freedom and dissent and enable the people to breathe easy.

J Akshay  
Bengaluru

### Creating unrest

Sir — This refers to the editorial, "Faroq, now a threat" (September 18). It is unfortunate that former Jammu & Kashmir Chief Minister Faroq Abdullah was arrested and his home turned into jail under the draconian Public Safety Act, which entails detention of up to two years for "posing a threat to State security and territorial integrity." His arrest speaks more about the Government than about a man who, until now, was the face of the moderate Kashmiri.

He and his son, Omar Abdullah, may have much answering to do about their record of governance in Jammu & Kashmir but none can question their fealty to the Constitution. It is known that this 82-year-old man is no threat to Indian territorial integrity or State security. It is astonishing that the court has accepted it without even questioning the Centre for using a draconian Act against a key political leader.

JS Acharya  
Hyderabad

Send your feedback to:  
letterstopioneer@gmail.com

**FIRST COLUMN**

## The Modi-Trump bromance show

India and the US will have to draw a roadmap of engagements and discussions to serve as each other's natural strategic allies



KUMARDEEP BANERJEE

Leaders of two of the world's oldest and largest democracies will jointly face one of the biggest national minority influencer/voter groups in Houston, in what could be one of the "greatest shows around the globe" highlighting close cultural and economic ties between India and the US. The venue for this show has been carefully chosen, with attention to detail, beginning with the theme "Howdy Modi," a play on the popular Texan greeting. The state of Texas, also referred to as the "Lone Star", to signify its former status as an independent republic post its freedom struggle against Mexico and subsequent accession to the US, has been carefully chosen at an opportune time when Pakistan-led forces are trying to draw international attention to Kashmir. Widely used images of the Wild West, a fearless, trigger happy cowboy, riding a horse and ready to protect his cattle, fit in well with the "tough men" image of both Prime Minister Narendra Modi and US President Donald Trump.

But there is more. With the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) slightly short of the \$2-trillion mark, Texas is America's second-largest economy. In fact, if it were still a sovereign state it would have been the world's tenth-largest economy. Houston, the largest metropolis in Texas, is India's fourth-largest trading partner with bilateral trade in excess of \$7 billion in 2018. This state is high on energy with crude oil productions and oil refineries fuelling many economies around the globe. Clearly India, with a \$2.7 trillion economy racing towards the \$5 trillion mark, needs vast energy sources to arrive early!

Those heady numbers apart, the foundation of a long-term relationship lies in creating long-term "optical frameworks" for a strategically chosen target audience. Texas is home to nearly 2.5 lakh Indian-Americans, historically conservative in their political beliefs and wealthier than other such national groups. This fits in well with both the Modi and Trump brand of politics, given their emphasis on projecting "strong men" images, saviours of culture and the clarion call to make the homeland "Great Again," in front of a large audience.

Statistically, this would be the largest Indian diaspora (50,000-strong) both Modi and Trump will be facing in the US for the first time. This would be Trump's brush with Indian-style election campaigning, with song, dance and promises. Promises to be made and kept, to put India-US bilateral trade talks back on the track. The world's largest democracies hit a rough patch in the last one year with trade and tariff restrictions souring traditional relationships more than impacting the actual trade. India and the US will be eager to announce trade deals, keeping in mind domestic constituencies. The event will also see participation from American leadership cutting across party lines. Apart from Republican and Democratic Congressmen and Senators, House Majority Leader Steny Hoyer, the second-ranking member of the Democratic leadership, is also going to address the "Howdy Modi" event. This reflects the strong bipartisan support for India-US relations.

Not surprisingly, US and Indian trade ministers have been busy in preparatory talks in the run-up to the show, with as many as ten phone calls between them. India is saddled with a not-so-official slowing economy and Trump needs a big trade victory ahead of 2020. The restrictions on benefits under generalised trade preferences may be first on the agenda from the Indian perspective, while higher tariffs on high-end medical devices and tech products will be the go-to agenda from the US side. There may be a softening of stance by either economies and a turn of phrase or a change in verbiage may ease "ready to roll" big ticket investment and partnership announcements.

On the platter also would be the great divide between India and US on definition and movement of data across boundaries. India is in the middle of framing rules and guidelines around personal and non-personal data usage, storage, monetisation and accessibility. The US and many "countries of origin of big data-using companies" are watching this space with keenness as any restrictions imposed here may lead to huge consequences for the future of investment flows. Even though data may not feature prominently in Indo-US trade talks on September 22, somewhere, the two sides ought to make it a bilateral dialogue as it will be beneficial for both countries in the long run. For now, besides a compelling three-hour broadcast on Sunday, keenly watched by many across the globe, with many more searches being generated for Houston on Google, India and the US will have to draw a roadmap of engagements and discussions to arrive at a balance for constituencies and economy on bilateral trade issues as well as serve as each other's natural strategic allies.

*(The writer is a policy analyst)*

**POINTCOUNTERPOINT**

IT IS A MISPLACED FACT THAT PEOPLE IN PAKISTAN ARE UNHAPPY. THE PRESENT GOVERNMENT HAS BEEN SPREADING LIES FOR POLITICAL BENEFITS.

—NCP LEADER SHARAD PAWAR



I FEEL BAD WHEN A LEADER LIKE PAWAR MAKES WRONG STATEMENTS FOR VOTES. EVERYONE KNOWS WHERE THE TERROR FACTORY IS.

— PRIME MINISTER NARENDRA MODI

# Focus on making history

There is a lesson to be learnt from the coverage of the Chandrayaan-2 mission and that is there is a difference between witnessing an epic feat unfold and achieving it



VV SUNDAR

There is a performance zone in which we all thrive. When handling critical projects, teams not only require resources but also need to work in an environment free from distractions and disturbances so that they can achieve their objectives. It is always the last lap, "minutes of terror" rather, that defines the difference between success and failure.

A calm, sedate environment and resolute attention to micro-details are not only required but also expected. After investing so much effort in planning, if things go wrong, the team has to take all the negative consequences in their stride. Particularly when it is something as critical as a space mission that is on the global radar, apart from being a matter of immense national pride.

Something similar happened recently with the Chandrayaan-2 mission at the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO), an institution the country takes immense pride in. After the space agency lost communication with the Vikram lander ahead of the touchdown, the visuals on television sets were of bewildered and disappointed faces in the mission control room, which was crowded with clunky cameras and peering eyes.

A frustrated look here, a distracted countenance there, the devastation and tension was palpable and writ large on the faces of the staff, desperately trying to make contact with the Vikram during the final act. In their hearts, they were probably also praying to be left alone to do their jobs since a complication had arisen. It was not as if they didn't know failures, the success of their launches has come through them. And perhaps, they are best equipped to handle their lows but not at the expense of being panned by the world.

The price of encroaching upon mental and physical spaces — no matter how slightly or reverently — comes at the cost of the team's optimal functioning. It can handicap its focus on the crucial work at hand.

The sanctity of the operation control room cannot be violated. No external gadgetry or personnel should ever make way into the sanctum sanctorum. What if a short circuit happened due to faulty equipment brought in? There's always the possibility of a camera battery catching fire or some such mishap. Where would that lead us? It was surprising to see such a risky act playing out freely in front of our eyes in the mission control room itself. The operation control centre is kept out of bounds to non-essential staff, personnel and gadgets. In the entire scheme of things, mission control rooms occupy a highly sanitised, secure, safe and secluded space, be it airports, ports or railway networks. And here we are talking about a space mission! Second, the world can wait. There is a difference between witnessing history and history being "made." The witnessing part can wait. Let's first focus on making the history. Let's get the job done first. Successful execution should be the only priority, as compared to the rituals of receiving visitors and posing for the cameras.

There should be a provision for deferred live broadcast of such major events once the mission has been accomplished. It is not a soccer match for the public to enjoy; it is a highly



LET US HOPE RESEARCH ORGANISATIONS DO NOT FALL PREY TO OR ARE SMITTEN BY MEDIA COVERAGE, BUT ARE ONLY CONCERNED WITH DELIVERING FEATS THAT OPEN UP THE NEXT FRONTIERS OF SCIENCE WHICH CHANDRAYAAN-2 WAS DESTINED TO DO. LET US LEAVE THE SCIENTIFIC COMMUNITY ALONE, THEY KNOW THEIR JOB AND THEY CAN DELIVER WITHOUT FALLING INTO THE TRAP OF MAKING EVERYTHING INTO A TELEVISSED SPECTACLE



nerve-racking scientific operation being played out at the far end of the galaxy. What is the point of adding to the pressure in an already highly-charged environment while our scientists are still remotely choreographing and delicately manoeuvring a space mission in the vast expanses of outer space?

The media circus surrounding the coverage of the event was as usual clichéd. But what came as a new low was some media personnel haranguing the scientists to bring none other than the ISRO chief to face their queries during a press conference. That was when the mission was still under way and operational issues were still being sorted! It also clearly shows how the space organisation has been left wanting in handling their communications protocols.

Barring a few exceptions, science journalism died long ago in the country. No wonder television channels thought it fit to send "political reporters" in droves to cover this specific event. The media's wall-to-wall coverage was as usual clichéd. The core competencies of our television anchors to take on character-acting and dramatisation with ease comes quite naturally to them, just like a fish takes to the water.

It would have saved the day if the media and invitees were only allowed after the operations were definitively complete and a recorded minute-by-minute account was relayed to them, sans nail biting suspense, which only

a handful of staff should be privileged to access and witness first, in a studied controlled environment setting. It would also have saved the technicians and scientists a lot of unwanted attention and pressure.

Also, in the light of the partial failure of the mission and the subsequent emotional breakdown of the chief, it would have saved ISRO a lot of embarrassment and heartbreak too.

The presence of top bosses, be it political or executive, might lift up the team's spirit but it can also add undue pressure and divert attention and time. When there is a delicate and expensive mission waiting to be executed, a few milliseconds are all that it takes to make a difference between success and failure. Had India successfully landed the craft, it would have been the fourth nation in the world to land a vessel on the Moon's surface, and only the third to operate a robotic rover there. The Chandrayaan-2 mission, which cost roughly \$140 million, was intended to study the permanently shadowed moon craters, thought to contain water deposits, confirmed by the Chandrayaan-1 mission 11 years ago. However, that was not to be.

Whatever the loss, national pride or monetary, let us not patronise scientists by thumping their backs or wiping their tears. They need none of that. Perhaps none other than the scientific community knows it better and is accustomed to accepting failures with grace and humility before they hit

upon success. That this is so was very evident from the encouraging and gracious responses of space scientists from countries, who have been part of failures and successes of missions like this. It is part and parcel of their daily routine and high stakes space missions. We just need to maintain a measured, respectful and dispassionate distance from those who are executing their work. It is their sole and primary responsibility to the nation to perform and maintain the integrity of the process without fixating on results. Nothing should come in their way. We should leave them to their devices and let their work speak eloquently.

Lastly, with such high stakes, it is also unseemly to see a lack of well-trained professional communication apparatus to such events. ISRO could have handled the media in a more nuanced manner. It is time that communications become a key component for the organisation in all its future endeavours.

Let us hope research organisations do not fall prey to or are smitten by media coverage but are only concerned with delivering feats that open up the next frontiers of science which Chandrayaan-2 was destined to do. Let us leave the scientific community alone; they know their job and they can deliver without falling into the trap of making everything into a televised spectacle.

*(The writer is a seasoned communications professional and management consultant based in New Delhi)*

# A time of reckoning for babus at last

To change the growing perception that there is a lack of accountability regarding performance and misdeeds of civil servants, the Modi Government has brought in reforms that are expected to foster professionalism and competence, says **Devsh Chaturvedi**

The civil services have contributed immensely to nation-building since India's Independence, yet they are criticised for resisting changes, stifling innovation and being oblivious to external realities. There is also a growing perception that there's a lack of performance accountability and that misdeeds of civil servants often go unpunished. To address these challenges, the Government, in the last five years, has initiated a series of reforms that have impacted almost all sections of the bureaucracy.

Keeping the sanctity of the recruitment process in the civil services is a must to ensure that freshers do not develop a cynical attitude. The Government realised that personality tests or interviews did not add any value to the recruitment process at the lower levels of bureaucracy. Instead, they only created a subjectivity which often led to corruption and nepotism. Hence, it decided to discontinue with the interviews in the recruit-

ments for Group C and Group B non-gazetted posts. Many State Governments also followed suit. The results have been quite encouraging as the candidates have been pleasantly surprised for having been selected on merit without resorting to payment of bribes or using undue influence.

The Fundamental Rule 56-J and All-India Death-Cum-Retirement Benefit rules provide that the Government can prematurely retire any civil servant after giving three months' notice. However, for years, these provisions for screening of deadwood were not being implemented. These rules are now being implemented and a thorough screening of service records of officials by a committee is helping identify non-performers. This exercise has sent a message that there is a premium attached to both performance and probity.

It was also noticed that the cadre-allotment policies were weakening the all-India character of the services and were detrimental to the

spirit of cooperative federalism. The officers were being allotted cadres based on choice. This resulted in officers landing either in their home or adjoining cadre, thus fostering inertia and a hesitation to serve on central deputation in the Government. In fact, the services were slowly being converted into glorified State services.

The Government brought a reformed cadre allotment policy in 2017, based on a roster for five regions in which all the cadres were clubbed, thus ensuring that the all-India character of the services was restored. It also encouraged officers who have served in cadres other than their domicile, to opt for central deputation.

It was also noticed that freshly-recruited IAS officers got important field-level posts like that of District Magistrate, Chief Executive Officer of Zila Parishads and Municipal Corporations for the first 10 to 12 years of their service. However, they often lacked the national perspective while serving

at the grassroots and this hampered their effectiveness. To address this issue, since 2015, freshly-recruited IAS officers are being deputed as Assistant Secretaries in the Government of India for three months immediately after their academy training and just before they go back to their respective State cadres for field postings. Experience has shown that this innovation helped young officers imbibe a national perspective that helped them address local issues holistically and with confidence.

Further, the performance of civil servants was measured primarily through the elaborate system of Performance Appraisal Reports (PARs). It was realised that due to the complete disclosure of PARs to the officers assessed, there was widespread grade inflation. Officers were being over-assessed and rated outstanding, notwithstanding their performance. PAR had become a public relations exercise with supervisory officers reluctant to give lower rating for fear of strained rela-

tions at the workplace. This had an adverse impact on the empannelment of officers at the Joint Secretary, Additional Secretary and Secretary or equivalent levels. It became difficult to distinguish high performers from others. The Government, therefore, implemented the process of Multi Source Feedback (MSF) or 360 degree appraisal, which is used along with the PARs to assess the suitability of officers for higher positions in the Government. This was also recommended by the Second Administrative Reforms Commission, as well as the Surendranath Committee on Performance Appraisal Reforms.

This intervention created ripples in bureaucratic circles as the feedback about officers was obtained from peers, subordinates and seniors on various personality attributes. The success of this intervention will, however, be judged by the resulting inclusion of errors in the reformed empannelment process, since the exclusion errors can be corrected by subsequent reviews.

There was also a demand for lateral infusion of talent from outside to enrich Government policy processes. The high echelons of policy-making are primarily manned by officers from three sources. The Indian Administrative Services (IAS), other participating All India and Central services and the Central Secretariat Services (CSS). The Government decided to bring in talent from outside through lateral recruitment at the Joint Secretary Level. Ten such positions were thrown open and recruitment were done through the Union Public Service Commission (UPSC). It will be interesting to watch their contributions and amalgamation in the working of the Government. This reform is likely to generate a healthy competition among peers, fostering professionalism, efficiency and competencies in the policy-making process.

While these reforms were aimed at bringing in accountability in performance and conduct, the Government also addressed rising

concerns related to the policy paralysis resulting from risk averseness among the civil services. Significantly, the risk awareness was brought on by multiple investigations by anti-corruption agencies in various cases. The amendments in the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988 passed in 2018 has provisions that are aimed at protecting honest and well-meaning civil servants. The provision of prior approval for initiating any investigation and deletion of Section 13 (1) (d)(iii) of the Act were a result of the Government's resolve to send a message that bonafide commercial decision will be defended and civil servants may go ahead with bold decision making in public interest. These reforms are expected to bring in the desired accountability, professionalism and competencies in the civil services to meet modern day challenges.

*(The writer is Principal Secretary, Medical, Health & Family Welfare Department, in Uttar Pradesh Govt.)*

# Govt asks banks to hold loan melas in 400 dists from Oct 3

## RELIEF FOR MSMEs ANNOUNCED

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

In a bid to boost lending, the Government on Thursday asked public sector banks to hold 'loan melas' in 400 districts to lend to desirable shadow banks and retail borrowers, and said no stressed loan account of MSMEs will be declared an NPA till March 2020.

Grappling with six-year low GDP growth and a 45-year high unemployment rate, the Government is looking to boost credit that will bring liquidity for businesses and create jobs. Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman, who has since her maiden Budget on July 5 announced measures in three tranches for boosting the economy, held a meeting with heads of public sector banks (PSBs) on Thursday to review liquidity or money flow in the system and transmission of lower benchmark interest rates to borrowers.

Ahead of the festive season, banks will hold 'loan melas' in 400 districts in two tranches beginning October 3 to approve loans to any retail or NBFC borrower, she said. PSBs will focus on giving loans to the 'RAM' category — retail, agriculture and MSMEs, the Minister said.

To help the job-creating small and micro enterprises, she said banks have been asked to follow the hitherto little used RBI circular of June 7 which directed banks not to consider any stressed MSME loan account as NPA and instead look at recasting the debt. "But till now, banks did not invoke it for whatever reason. Now, I'm saying, in invoking that, the banks can or may use this provision to make sure that SMA1 and SMA 2 of MSMEs are not declared NPA till March 31, 2020," she said.

Loans are classified as special mention accounts (SMAs) after showing signs of stress. She also said that several MSMEs want one-time settlement of their outstanding dues, which should be settled expeditiously by the banks.



Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman addresses a press conference after a review meeting as MoS Finance Anurag Thakur looks on in New Delhi, Thursday PTI

## Govt: No stressed MSME loan to be declared NPA till March 2020

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The Government on Thursday asked banks not to declare any stressed loan account of MSMEs as NPA till March 2020 and work on recasting their debt.

At a press conference after meeting PSU bank heads, Finance Minister

Nirmala Sitharaman said there already exists a circular from the Reserve Bank that provides for stressed loan accounts of MSMEs not being declared non-performing assets (NPAs).

She said banks have been asked to follow that circular and not declare

any stressed MSME loan as NPA till March 2020 and look at recasting their debt. This would help the MSME sector, she said.

Also, banks have identified some NBFCs that they can lend to so that liquidity and credit is made available to those seeking money, she said.

"Clearly I have told the banks that from July 1 till September 30, they should give me a complete picture of how many have sought and for how many they have settled one-time settlements," she added.

The meeting comes a day before the all-powerful GST Council is to meet in Goa to consider demands of industries, ranging from biscuits to car makers, for a cut in tax rates to overcome slowing demand.

## CONSIDER STEPS TO REDUCE TRANSACTION COST: COMMODITY MARKET PLAYERS TO FM

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Commodity market participants on Thursday asked Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman to consider steps to reduce transaction cost to make Indian markets internationally competitive and improve ease of doing business.

The participants sought reduction in overall cost of transaction for equity as well as commodity markets and also flagged issues related to Long Term Capital Gains Tax (LTCG), shrinking trading volume, increased regulatory compliance and closing down of several brokerage houses, Commodity Participants Association of India (CPAI) President Narinder Wadhwa told PTI after their meeting with the minister.

Sitharaman has been holding similar meetings since last month with representatives of various sectors, including banking, automobile and realty in order to assess the problems faced by them as the government looks to undertake steps to arrest the slowdown in the economy. CPAI is the apex pan-India association of participants in commodity exchanges and commodity derivative segments.

Wadhwa said Sitharaman assured them that whatever steps can be taken, would be looked into by the government.

He said the commodity market volume has shrunk drastically from ₹90,000 crore per day a year ago on an average basis to ₹35,000 crore per day now.

"So we have asked the minister to take steps to reduce cost of transaction for commodity and equity market," Wadhwa said.

## GST Council meet to take call on tax rate cut on Friday

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Amid clamour for rate cut by various industries, the all powerful GST Council will hold a crucial meeting on Friday to decide on tax moderation, keeping in mind the revenue position and the need to boost sagging economic growth.

The GST Council, headed by Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman and comprising representatives of all states and Union Territories (UTs), will have its 37th meeting in Goa in the backdrop of economic growth hitting a six-year low of 5 per cent for the first quarter of the current fiscal.

There have been demands pouring in from various sectors - from biscuits to automobiles and FMCG to hotels - to reduce tax rates in the wake of economic slowdown.

The argument propagated has been to boost the consumption and domestic demand by reducing Goods and Services Tax (GST) rates further.

However, many of the states are of the view that it would not be tax prudent to allow GST rate reduction at this stage, as the compensation cess fund, which is utilised to compensate the states under the GST Act in case the revenue is below the targeted growth rate, has turned negative.

Meanwhile, according to sources, the GST Council's Fitment Committee, which comprises revenue officials of both Centre and States, has rejected demands for a cut in tax rate on items ranging from biscuits to car, owing to tight revenue position.

## BUSINESS CORNER

### MMTC WINS CAPEXIL EXCELLENCE IN EXPORT AWARD

MMTC has been awarded the CAPEXIL Excellence in Export Award in Minerals & Ores Sector (Canalized Agency) for the years 2015-16 and 2016-17. CMD Shri Ved Prakash and Director (Marketing) Shri Ashwani Sondhi received the trophy from Hon'ble Minister of Commerce & Industries and Railways, Shri Piyush Goyal, at a Vigyan Bhawan ceremony on Wednesday. The Company has won twenty-four CAPEXIL awards in the past for its export performance, and continues its glorious winning streak with two more. It exported various minerals like iron ore, chrome ore and concentrates earning total foreign exchange of ₹1,715 crore during 2015-17.



### NORTHERN RAILWAY GM MEETS LS, RS LAWMAKERS

Sh. T.P. Singh, General Manager, Northern Railway held a meeting with the Hon'ble Ministers/Members of Parliament of constituencies that come under the jurisdiction of Delhi Divisions in New Delhi today i.e. on 18.09.2019. This is in accordance with the directives given by Hon'ble Minister of Railways Sh. Piyush Goyal, advising General Managers of Zonal Railways to increase public outreach to get feedbacks for providing better service to the nation. Railway related issues in each constituency falling under northern railway were discussed with the public representatives to find solutions for the benefit of the passengers.



### DELHI TOURISM WINS AWARD

Delhi Tourism has been conferred with the prestigious Excellence in Customer Experience Award by The Indian Express Group at the Infocomm 2019 Conference hosted in Mumbai on 18 September 2019. Representing Delhi Tourism at the event, Sh. Sudhir Sobti, Chief Manager (PR & Publicity) received the award. The business award is in recognition of the path-breaking achievements by Delhi Tourism in establishing its presence through robust digital initiatives. Delhi Tourism was selected for this award by a team of Editors of Express Computer magazine, India's leading IT business magazine from The Indian Express Group.



### IOCL LAUNCHES SOCIAL CAMPAIGN THROUGH DTC

Today Indian Oil Corporation Ltd. (IOCL) launched a social campaign on Pre-delivery check of LPG cylinder and safe handling by its customers at their premises through display of advertisements on 100 low floor CNG buses of DTC. The programme was flagged off by Sh. Manoj Kumar-IAS, Managing Director, DTC in the presence of Sh. Shyam Bohra, Executive Director, Delhi State Office, IOCL near Indraprastha IOC filling station in the presence of senior officers of both the organizations. Sh. Manoj Kumar appreciated the above campaign of IOCL and assured that DTC and IOCL will jointly collaborate in future in furtherance of social and educative campaigns in public interest.



### NLCIL SIGNS MOU WITH INDIAN INSTITUTE OF SCIENCE

An MoU was signed between NLC India Limited and Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Bangalore, to set up an Innovation and Incubation Centre for helping the young innovators in specific focus areas aimed to develop the core business activities of NLCIL at Bengaluru recently. Yesterday (18.09.19), the MoU was exchanged in the presence of Shri Rakesh Kumar, CMD, Shri R. Vikraman, Director/HR, Shri N.N.M. Rao, Director/P&P, Shri Shaji John, Director/Power and Senior officials of NLCIL at Neyveli.



### OBCL LAUNCHES REPO RATE LINKED LOANS

Oriental Bank of Commerce has launched new variant of Retail and Micro & Small Enterprise Loan products linked to Reserve Bank of India's repo rate. The new Loan products will directly link interest rate to an external benchmark, which in this case is the Repo Rate and thereby build a direct link to ensure fair and transparent transmission of the monetary policy rate immediately to the customers.

## Room for more rate cuts as Govt hands tied, inflation under Check & slump deepens: Das

PTI ■ MUMBAI

After surprising everyone with four successive rate cuts this year, Reserve Bank governor Shaktikanta Das Thursday said "there is more room" to do so given the growth deceleration and stable inflation that is likely to stay below target for a year or so.

However, the governor was quick to add that there is little fiscal space for the government to unveil any countercyclical measures to boost the sagging growth and the only way to revive the growth engine is to front-load the budgeted capex, hinting that only an easy money policy can help salvage the situation.

Since assuming charge mid-December, the Das-led rate-setting panel has delivered four successive rates cuts, with the fourth one last month being the most surprising and uncon-

## RBI Guv: Oil crisis to have limited impact on inflation, fisc nos

Mumbai: Reserve Bank governor Shaktikanta Das Thursday expressed the hope that the ongoing crisis in Saudi Arabia that has spiked crude prices to multi-year highs will have limited impact on inflation and fiscal numbers. Drone attacks on the world's largest oil refinery in Saudi Arabia, alleged to have been carried out by Iran over the past weekend, has led to a massive 20 percent surge in crude prices.

ventional one as he chose to deliver a 35 bps repo cut.

With that the RBI has delivered a cumulative 110 bps repo reduction since February, yanking down the key benchmark rate to a nine-year low of 5.40 percent.

## Pradhan dials Saudi Oil Min; Kingdom assures supply will be met

New Delhi: Saudi Oil Minister Prince Abdulaziz bin Salman on Thursday assured his Indian counterpart Dharmendra Pradhan of meeting all oil supply commitments to India as the Kingdom looks to restore production from its facilities to pre-strike levels very soon.

Pradhan spoke to his Saudi counterpart on phone and discussed in details supply plan in the aftermath of a massive attack on the Kingdom's crude oil facilities that wiped out as much as 5 million barrels per day of output.

"They have again assured that all supply commitments to India will be met," said Sanjiv Singh, chairman of Indian Oil Corp (IOC).

Saudi Arabia, which is India's second-largest oil supplier, sells close to 2 million tonnes of crude every month.

## TAKE DEFINITIVE DECISION ON GST RATE FOR AUTOMOBILES, FADA URGES TO GST COUNCIL

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Automobile dealers' body FADA on Thursday urged the GST Council to take a definitive decision on GST rate in its meeting scheduled to be held on Friday.

In a letter written to Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman, FADA President Ashish Harsharaj Kale said customers have deferred their buying decisions in anticipation of GST rate cut.

"In anticipation of GST rate cuts on automobiles, customers who were willing to buy automobiles at this juncture have put their purchase decisions on hold, which is but natural, in anticipation of a price reduction.

"Our concern is that the festive season, which is just around the corner, should not be missed, as it is for a very limited period wherein maximum amount of auto sales happen," Kale said in the letter.

## Factory investment at 3-year low of ₹3.31 lakh cr in 2017-18: Survey

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Factory investment in 2017-18 hit a three-year low of Rs 3.31 lakh crore in actual terms, according to the annual survey of industries by the Statistics and Programme Implementation Ministry.

Factory investment measured in terms of gross fixed capital formation (GFCF) was Rs 3.79 lakh crore and Rs 3.69 lakh crore in 2015-16 and 2016-17, respectively, provisional estimates of the survey for 2017-18 showed.

The previous low of GFCF in actual terms was recorded at Rs 3.23 lakh crore in 2014-15.

The Gross Fixed Capital Formation is a barometer of investment in any sector or segment. However, the survey showed that the number of factories increased to 2,37,684 in 2017-18 from 2,34,865 a year ago.

## ₹ slips 10 paise to 71.34 against \$

Mumbai: The rupee dropped 10 paise to close at 71.34 against the US dollar on Thursday as heavy selling in domestic equities, unabated foreign fund outflows and rising crude oil prices kept investors edgy.

Forex traders said investors also turned cautious after the US Federal Reserve dimmed hopes of further rate cuts.

At the interbank foreign exchange market, the local unit opened on a strong note at 71.36 and shuttled between a high of 71.06 and a low of 71.37. It finally finished at 71.34, lower by 10 paise over its previous close of 71.24.

"Since the morning, rupee has been tracking the move in crude. Overnight drop in oil led rupee to appreciate. However, the escalating tensions in Middle East limited the gains in rupee," said Rahul Gupta, Currency Research Head, Emkay Global Financial Services Limited.

## SEARCH FOR MISSING



General public is hereby informed that one girl namely **Saloni, D/o Rajender, R/o: H.No.-125, PKT-4/5, Sec.-23, Rohini, Delhi, Age: 20 years, Height: 5'1", Complexion: Fair, Face: Oval, wearing Black & White colour Suit, Black colour Legging, has been missing/kidnapped from the Area of P.S. Begumpur, since 01.09.2019. In this regard a DD No. 47-A, dated 04.09.2019 has been registered at P.S. Begumpur, Delhi.**

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

Website : <http://cbi.nic.in>  
E-mail : [cic@cbi.gov.in](mailto:cic@cbi.gov.in)  
Ph. No. : 011-24368638, 24368641  
SHO P.S. Begumpur, Delhi  
Ph. : 011-27579029, 27579030  
DP/3259/RD/19

## APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION



It is publically informed that, one male dead body namely Unknown, S/o Unknown, R/o Unknown, Age about 65 years, Height 5'7", Complexion Wheatish, Having burn mark on chest, Wearing dark grey colour half pajama was found dead at BSA Hospital, Sector-5, Rohini, Delhi on 09.09.2019. In this regard a D.D. No. 33A, Dated 09.09.2019 has been lodged at P.S. Budh Vihar, Delhi.

Sincere efforts have been made by local police to identify the dead body but no clue has come to light so far. If any one having any information about this male dead body please inform undersigned.

SHO P.S. Budh Vihar, Delhi  
Ph. : 011-27052772, 27052773  
DP/3282/RD/19

## APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION

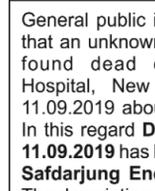


General public is hereby informed that an unidentified body of a person namely **Unknown, S/o: Unknown, R/o: Unknown, was admitted on 11.09.2019 at RML Hospital, when found near Fire Station, SPM Marg, Lahori Gate, Delhi.** In this regard proceeding DD No. 23-B dated 11.09.2019 has been lodged at Police Station, Lahori Gate, Delhi. During the treatment doctors declared him dead. Identification of unidentified dead body of a male is as under:

**Name: Unknown, Age: 35 Years, Height: 5'6", Complexion: Wheatish, Wearing: Hospital Outfits.**

If anyone have any information or clue about this male deceased may kindly be inform undersigned.  
SHO Police Station Lahori Gate, Delhi.  
Ph. : 011-23953776, 8750870122  
DP/438/N/19

## UNIDENTIFIED DEAD BODY

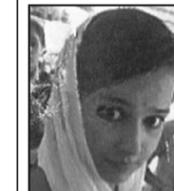


General public is hereby informed that an unknown male person was found dead on Safdarjung Hospital, New Delhi on Dated 11.09.2019 about Time 15:32 PM. In this regard DD No. 37A, Dated 11.09.2019 has been lodged at P.S. Safdarjung Enclave, New Delhi. The description of the dead body is given as under **Name: Unknown S/o: Unknown R/o Unknown Age: 40 years Height: 5'5" Complexion: Sallow, Face: Oval,**

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

SHO P.S. Safdarjung Enclave, New Delhi  
Ph. : 011-24106345/46  
DP/7075/SW/19 8750870834

## SEARCH FOR MISSING/KIDNAPPED



General Public is hereby informed that one Lady namely **Aasha W/o Santosh R/o. F-125, Inner Enclave Ph-II, Kirari Sulelady Nagar Delhi. Age-21 years, Height-5'3", Face-Round, Complexion-sallow, Wearing-Red Suit and White Plazo has been missing/Kidnapped since dated 04.09.2019 from the Area of P.S. Prem Nagar Delhi. In this regard a case vides DD No. 68-A Dated 05.09.2019 has been lodged at P.S. Prem Nagar Delhi.**

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

E-mail : [cic@cbi.gov.in](mailto:cic@cbi.gov.in)  
Ph. : 011-24368638, 24368641  
SHO P.S. Prem Nagar, Delhi  
Ph. : 011-25489080  
DP/3266/RD/19

## SEARCH FOR MISSING/KIDNAPPED



General Public is hereby informed that one Lady namely **Manisha W/o Sh. Hrish R/o.-25A Partap Vihar Part-II, Gali No. 1, Kirari, Delhi. Age-22 years, Height-5'2", Face-Round, Complexion-Fair, Wearing-Orange Colour suit & Salwar and Chappal in her feet has been missing/ kidnapped since dated 28.07.2019 from the area of P.S. Aman Vihar, Delhi. In this regard a case vides DD No. 73-A Dated 28.07.2019 has been lodged at P.S. Aman Vihar Delhi.**

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

E-mail : [cic@cbi.gov.in](mailto:cic@cbi.gov.in)  
Ph. : 011-24368638, 24368641  
SHO P.S. Aman Vihar Delhi  
Ph. : 011-23014046  
DP/3238/RD/19 23015218

## SEARCH FOR MISSING/KIDNAPPED PERSON



General public is hereby informed that this person namely **Shivam S/o Manoj Kumar R/o C-57, Pravesh Nagar, Mubarakpur, Near Radha Krishan Mandir, Delhi Age : 21 years, Height : 5'5", Face : Oval, Complexion : Shallow, wearing mahroom colour shirt, grey colour pant and black colour shoes in feet, has been missing/ kidnapped since 18.07.2019 from the area of P.S. Prem Nagar, Delhi. In this regard DD No. 66-A dated 19.07.2019 IPC has been lodged at P.S. Prem Nagar, Delhi.**

Any person having any information or clue about this missing/Kidnapped person may kindly inform to the following.  
E-mail: [cic@cbi.gov.in](mailto:cic@cbi.gov.in)  
Website: <http://cbi.nic.in>  
Ph. : 011-24368639, 24368641  
SHO : P.S. Prem Nagar, Delhi  
Ph. : 011-25489080  
DP/3265/RD/19

## SEARCH FOR MISSING



General public is hereby informed that one boy (depicted in the photo) namely **Shivam, S/o Naresh Poddar, R/o A-17/05, Haji Thok Chandan Park, Agar Nagar, Prem Nagar, Rohini, Delhi, has been missing since 17.08.2019. In this regard a FIR No. 449/19, Dated 23.08.2019 has been registered at Police Station - Prem Nagar, Delhi. Her physical description is as under:-**

**Age: 15 years, Complexion: Fair, Height: 4'0", Face: Oval, Clothing: Wearing blue colour checkdar Shirt and blue Jeans.**

Any person is having any information/Clue about this missing boy, may inform undersigned.  
Website: <http://cbi.nic.in>  
E-mail: [cic@cbi.gov.in](mailto:cic@cbi.gov.in)  
Ph. No. : 011-24368638, 24368641  
SHO P.S. Prem Nagar, Delhi  
Ph. : 011-25489080  
DP/3265/RD/19

# Sensex crashes 470 points on weak macro data, global cues

PTI ■ MUMBAI

Equity benchmarks resumed their downward march on Thursday as tepid tax collection numbers fanned fears of a prolonged slowdown, prompting investors to unwind risky bets.

Hawkish commentary from the US Federal Reserve and incessant foreign fund outflows further weighed on sentiment, traders said.

After gyrating 626 points, the 30-share BSE Sensex ended 470.41 points, or 1.29 per cent, lower at 36,093.47.

Similarly, the broader NSE Nifty plunged 135.85 points, or 1.25 per cent, to settle at 10,704.80. The previous closing low for Nifty was 10,604.35 on February 19, 2019.

The Centre's direct tax mop-up is said to have grown just 4.7 per cent till September 17, compared to a target of 17.5 per cent budgeted for the full year, which analysts said reflects deepening slump in demand and overall growth.

Yes Bank was the biggest loser in the Sensex pack, plunging 15.52 per cent, after a Moody's report said Altico default may be credit negative for banks given their significant exposure to the real estate sector.

Among the banks Moody's rates, Yes Bank and IndusInd Bank have the largest direct exposure to commercial real estate and will be susceptible to asset quality difficulties if the sector continues to slow, the agency said.

IndusInd Bank, ICICI Bank and Axis Bank too fell up to 3.59 per cent. Other losers included Tata Steel, Maruti, SBI, RIL, Tech Mahindra, ONGC, Vedanta, Bajaj Finance, Hero MotoCorp and TCS, falling up to 3.66 per cent.

Tata Motors, HDFC Bank, Bharti Airtel and Asian Paints were the only gainers, rising up to 1.97 per cent.

"Lower tax collection figures spooked markets today as FIIs continued selling in key pivots, dragging down indices. Exposure of many Private Sector Banks towards commercial real estate further accentuated selling towards afternoon trade across these counters. Investors are getting jittery on PSU names as they keep losing market capitalisation rapidly," said S Ranganathan, head of research at LKP Securities.

Sectorally, BSE energy, oil and gas, bankex, metal, realty, auto, healthcare, teck and IT indices cracked up to 2 per cent. Telecom was the sole gainer,

inching up 0.17 per cent. Broader BSE midcap and smallcap indices ended up to 1.48 per cent lower.

Investor wealth dropped by ₹1.65 lakh crore on Thursday as equities witnessed a heavy sell-off. Led by the weak trend in the broader market, the market capitalisation of BSE-listed companies plunged ₹1,65,437.91 crore to ₹1,38,54,439.41 crore.

"Continuous selling by FIIs and uncertainty over future trajectory of Fed rate cut dampened investors sentiment. Slowdown in direct tax collection and rise in oil prices will limit government's space for stimulus measures which will continue to act as a downside risk to the market," Vinod Nair, head of research, Geojit Financial Services Ltd said.

From the 30-share pack, 26 companies closed the day with losses, led by Yes Bank which tumbled 15.52 per cent.

At the BSE, 1,828 scrips declined, while 686 advanced and 114 remained unchanged.

As many as 116 stocks dropped to their one-year low level on Thursday.

a cautious approach to further reductions in borrowing costs. Elsewhere in Asia, Shanghai Composite Index, Nikkei and Kospi ended on a positive note, while Hang Seng settled in the red.

Stock exchanges in Europe were trading in the green in their respective early sessions. Foreign portfolio investor sold shares worth a net of ₹959.09 crore on Wednesday, while domestic institutional investors bought equities worth ₹780.45 crore, provisional data showed.

Brent crude futures gained 1.98 per cent to USD 64.81 per barrel (intra-day).

The rupee dropped 10 paise to close at 71.34 against the US dollar on Thursday.

At the interbank foreign exchange market, the local unit opened on a strong note at 71.36 and shuttled between a high of 71.06 and a low of 71.37. It finally finished at 71.34, lower by 10 paise over its previous close of 71.24.

"Since the morning, rupee has been tracking the move in crude. Overnight drop in oil led rupee to appreciate. However, the escalating tensions in Middle East limited the gains in rupee," said Rahul Gupta, currency research head, Emkay Global Financial Services Limited.

## Mukesh Ambani's shareholding has not increased in company: Reliance

New Delhi (PTI): Reliance Industries on Thursday clarified that promoter and chairman Mukesh Ambani has not acquired any new shares in the company and that his stake has not increased.

This statement comes after the company had on September 17 through a Disclosure under Reg/29(2) of Sebi (SAST) Regulations, 2011 said that Reliance Services and Holdings Ltd (controlled by Petroleum Trust, a part of promoter/promoter group), has acquired 17.18 crore or 2.71 per cent stake in the company "pursuant to a scheme of arrangement not directly involving the target company (Reliance)".

"The aggregate shareholding/voting rights of the Promotee and Promotee Group now stands at 309.8 crore shares — 48.87 per cent," it had said.

The company's filing to stock exchanges for the shareholding pattern for the quarter ended June 30, 2019, showed promoter group holding at 47.29 per cent. The company in an emailed statement said: "There has been no transaction of purchase of shares". It said: "41.28 crore treasury shares of Reliance Industries were held as follows by (a) by Petroleum Trust 24.09 crore shares; and (b) by subsidiaries of RIL 17.19 crore shares.

## Govt reworking its strategy to enhance direct tax mop-up

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The government is reworking its strategy to boost revenue collection from direct taxes which has been lagging behind so far, a senior CBDT official said on Thursday.

The government has set a direct tax collection target of ₹13.35 lakh crore for the current fiscal, which includes ₹7.66 lakh crore from corporate tax and ₹5.69 lakh crore as income tax.

"Growth in direct tax collection has been less than expected. The Central Board of Direct Taxes will look into this and rework its strategy," Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) Member Akhilesh Ranjan said on the sidelines of an

Assocham event.

Ranjan, who is also the convener of the task force on Direct Tax Code, said taxpayers in the country should not see paying income tax as a burden.

Asked about lowering corporate tax, he said the government was seized of the matter and Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman had also reiterated recently that there was some need for corporate tax reduction.

"That has been reiterated by the finance minister recently also that we are moving towards lower rate and I am sure that will happen sooner or later. Government has already said that there is some need for some corporate tax rate reduction," Ranjan said.

Talking about tax compli-

ance, he said government was trying to further simplify the taxation system as it will lead to better revenue realisation.

On the Direct Tax Code (DTC) report, which has been submitted to the government, Ranjan said, "The report has not been (made) public, so I won't be able to give any details on that. But the broad trends are that we have obviously focussed on compliance."

Compliance is the cornerstone of any tax policy and it has different aspects. It is not just about tax rates but also about ease of system, improving litigation system management as well as things like making tax law more comprehensible and organised, he added.

## Tata Motors revs up for EV space, launches new powertrain

Mumbai (PTI): Tata Motors, which is a leader in the electric vehicles in the domestic market, on Thursday announced a new EV powertrain that will power a range of its upcoming models, including a new model scheduled for the fourth quarter. Ziptron, the soon to be introduced EV powertrain, will help it drive economies of scale on one hand and make new EVs more affordable for consumers on the other, the largest domestic auto maker told reporters here.

better performance, long range and fast charging, and a battery warranty of eight years, and adherence to the IP67 standard.

Announcing the launch, the managing director and chief executive Guenter Butschek, said, "Ziptron is designed in-house utilising our global engineering network. At the heart of our future EV line-up, this technology has been tested across 1 million km proving its reliability. With this, we hope to usher in a new wave of e-mobility and accelerate faster adoption of EVs"

SCRIP	OPEN	High	LOW	LTP	CHANGE
NIFTY 50	10845.20	10845.20	10670.25	10704.80	-135.85
TATAMOTORS	123.50	123.55	121.20	124.20	2.45
COALINDIA	191.30	194.50	189.50	193.70	1.35
HDFCBANK	1099.90	1107.05	1084.00	1100.05	6.15
UPL	555.50	566.40	549.20	560.00	2.95
BHARTIARTL	338.40	342.55	334.70	337.00	1.40
ASIANPAINT	1553.90	1563.50	1545.00	1551.20	3.45
BRITANNIA	2618.00	2653.20	2590.00	2619.00	5.15
JSWSTEEL	220.15	221.60	215.25	220.50	-0.90
POWERGRID	202.75	202.75	199.10	200.65	-1.40
KOTAKBANK	1464.80	1464.80	1445.00	1453.95	-1.80
TITAN	1164.00	1167.65	1148.45	1152.00	-8.70
GRASIM	704.00	710.60	695.25	697.80	-5.30
DRREDDY	2740.10	2748.20	2708.65	2722.20	-21.45
HDFC	1988.30	2002.30	1964.10	1972.50	-15.80
BPCL	383.05	386.50	375.65	379.00	-3.10
BAJAJFINSV	7246.00	7249.00	7135.55	7195.00	-60.05
NTPC	122.95	122.95	120.10	121.30	-1.20
HINDUNILVR	1830.00	1843.60	1808.25	1810.25	-18.95
ULTRACEMCO	3912.00	3920.40	3838.00	3861.00	-41.80
HCLTECH	1058.00	1058.00	1032.25	1046.25	-12.20
INFY	824.85	827.00	815.20	820.30	-9.55
HINDALCO	198.00	198.90	191.15	195.70	-2.30
ITC	239.95	239.95	236.10	236.40	-2.85
ADANIPIPIPS	366.30	366.50	357.85	362.00	-4.35
GAIL	135.70	135.70	130.80	131.20	-1.75
WIPRO	245.25	245.85	240.25	241.10	-3.20
M&M	529.00	529.45	513.00	520.00	-7.00
LT	1320.00	1320.20	1298.00	1299.50	-18.50
SUNPHARMA	416.80	418.90	408.20	410.70	-6.10
BAJAJ-AUTO	2773.00	2776.00	2721.45	2736.30	-40.75
IOC	128.30	128.75	125.40	126.15	-2.00
HEROMOTOCO	2581.00	2595.00	2513.45	2534.90	-41.20
AXISBANK	648.20	650.00	632.60	637.35	-11.05
INFRAEATL	253.10	253.70	247.05	249.10	-4.40
EICHERMOT	1610.00	1618.00	1563.00	1570.00	-280.40
MARUTI	6139.00	6175.00	5942.40	5987.70	-107.35
CIPLA	458.65	461.95	449.90	450.50	-8.15
BAJFINANCE	3426.00	3426.40	3340.30	3349.00	-64.85
TCS	2135.00	2135.80	2091.00	2096.90	-41.65
ONGC	127.00	127.25	123.65	124.50	-2.50
SBIN	279.95	279.95	273.05	274.50	-5.90
VEDL	149.00	150.10	142.00	146.50	-3.20
TECHM	715.70	715.70	700.00	701.20	-15.55
RELIANCE	1207.85	1209.70	1172.65	1179.90	-26.70
ICICIBANK	395.70	395.70	384.35	386.30	-13.05
TATASTEEL	356.00	356.00	340.05	345.55	-12.70
INDUSINDBK	1332.90	1333.30	1278.15	1280.50	-49.90
IHUGHSFIN	420.20	422.60	379.15	400.00	-49.20
ZEELE	335.00	335.00	306.10	309.15	-26.25
YESBANK	64.70	64.80	53.00	54.00	-10.10

SCRIP	Open	High	Low	LTP
MARUTI	6130.10	6169.40	5925.00	5938.30
YESBANK	64.40	64.90	53.05	54.15
TATAPOWER	62.00	65.10	63.65	64.65
IHUGHSFIN	420.00	422.25	378.85	395.15
ICICIBANK	396.00	396.10	384.60	386.55
RELIANCE	1207.00	1209.35	1173.25	1178.70
TATAMOTORS	123.50	125.25	121.30	124.25
SBIN	280.50	280.50	273.20	274.05
THINDIA	340.05	343.00	335.00	337.30
HEG	1196.00	1254.00	1178.20	1216.25
INDUSINDBK	1331.00	1333.55	1278.00	1281.95
TATASTEEL	356.90	356.90	340.95	344.95
GRAPHITE	339.70	349.60	330.35	334.70
HDFC	1990.00	2001.30	1963.50	1974.70
RBLBANK	350.00	352.85	324.60	328.25
ZEELE	336.00	336.00	306.25	308.50
HDFCBANK	1039.80	1108.35	1084.40	1100.40
BAJFINANCE	3434.00	3434.00	3348.00	3362.85
IDEA	1324.45	1327.95	1298.00	1300.60
LT	4.97	5.68	4.87	5.44
BPCL	384.00	386.15	375.80	379.60
AXISBANK	648.00	649.90	632.70	638.25
TCS	2138.85	2138.90	2091.55	2102.15
BANKBARODA	95.95	95.95	93.75	94.55
DHFL	50.20	52.35	46.55	47.50
NCC	54.00	54.10	50.90	51.65
INDUSTAL	105.35	105.35	97.65	100.35
MARICO	380.15	382.50	378.35	379.65
MIL	1250.00	1255.00	1221.25	1228.20
LUPIN	716.80	762.00	733.85	741.35
KOTAKBANK	1456.00	1466.05	1445.40	1453.40
INFY	825.00	826.65	815.10	821.00
PEL	1840.00	1840.00	1742.00	1764.25
VEDL	149.45	150.00	141.90	146.40
MOTHERSUMI	103.75	105.40	102.55	104.10
ESCORTS	515.00	517.25	506.85	513.95
SUNPHARMA	416.85	419.00	408.35	410.90
JSWSTEEL	221.35	221.45	215.40	219.70

SCRIP	Open	High	Low	LTP
UNIONBANK	56.90	56.90	54.45	55.45
PVR	1599.00	1600.30	1566.55	1574.35
HCLTECH	1078.00	1078.00	1032.85	1049.15
PIIND	1274.00	1274.00	1236.20	1250.30
COALINDIA	191.50	194.25	189.50	193.45
GRASIM	705.00	710.85	695.25	700.05
DISHTV	22.40	22.40	19.40	19.70
HDFCLIFE	539.50	540.35	529.25	532.50
STRTECH	159.85	160.35	151.30	152.95
IGL	329.10	329.50	319.25	321.80
NMDC	85.60	87.00	82.50	84.00
SPICEMT	128.40	128.40	124.55	125.05
HDFCAMC	2650.00	2665.00	2583.75	2608.85
WIPRO	244.25	245.90	240.30	241.50
SRF	2735.00	2740.40	2675.60	2700.70
UJIV	301.20	301.20	286.55	288.60
AACC	1497.00	1497.75	1465.65	1479.95
IRB	60.50	60.90	56.60	57.95
WOCKPHARMA	324.65	328.00	305.65	306.80
ADANIANT	144.10	144.10	140.75	142.40
PFIZER	3333.00	3348.00	3232.95	3242.55
JUSTDIAL	708.00	711.40	690.10	694.05
BANKINDIA	64.90	65.00	62.60	63.35
JUBLFOOD	1242.00	1262.25	1237.90	1243.55
VENKAT	1702.00	1728.50	1654.40	1676.45
RNAM	232.55	239.35	226.50	230.90
GAIL	135.25	136.00	130.90	133.05
DIVISLAB	1616.00	1628.40	1571.25	1581.30
MRF	618.75	618.75	603.00	602.20
ACC	619.95	629.95	619.95	627.15
TATATEL	7			

# Gantz for PM post in Israel's unity Govt

**PTI ■ JERUSALEM**

Benjamin Netanyahu's main challenger Benny Gantz on Thursday presented himself as the next prime minister, hours after the embattled Israeli premier urged the Blue and White leader to join him in forming a unity Government to avoid a third election.

With nearly 97 per cent of the votes counted on Thursday, Gantz's Blue and White party won 33 seats while Netanyahu's Likud secured 31 seats in Israel's 120-member Parliament.

Gantz, 60, said he intends to form and lead a "broad, liberal, unity government."

"After an election that was forced on Israel, (people) voted and made a clear choice. The people voted for unity and Kahol Lavan won the election. It's the biggest party," he added.

He said the Israeli people wanted a unity government after the last election too and vowed to form a "broad, liberal unity government."

"In order to form a unity government, one can't come with political blocs and spins," Gantz said, referring to the right-wing religious bloc's move to recommend Netanyahu as the next prime minister after no clear winner emerged in the unprecedented repeat polls.

"You come with responsibility and seriousness. I attend to act accordingly," Gantz was quoted as saying by the Haaretz. Gantz said he will not accept any dictates. "There will be no shortcuts."

His comments came after 69-year-old Netanyahu said he wanted to form a right-wing government, but the results showed it was not possible. He called on Gantz to meet him "at any hour today" in order to hold discussions for a unity government.

"Benny, it's on us to establish a wide unity government today. The nation expects us, the both of us, to work together. Let's meet today."

# Iran diplomat warns of 'all-out war' if hit for Saudi attack

**AP ■ DUBAI**

Iran's foreign minister warned Thursday that any attack on his country over a drone-and-missile strike on Saudi Arabia's oil industry will result in "all-out war," further pushing up tensions across the Persian Gulf.

The comments by Mohammad Javad Zarif represent the starkest warning offered yet by Iran in a long summer of mysterious attacks and incidents following the collapse of Iran's nuclear deal with world powers, over a year after President Donald Trump unilaterally withdrew America from the accord.

Zarif's comments also appeared to be in response to US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo, who a day earlier while travelling to Saudi Arabia referred to the attack as an "act

of war."

Asked by CNN what would be the consequence of a US or Saudi strike, Zarif said: "All-out war."

"We won't blink to defend our territory," he said.

Pompeo wrote a tweet early Thursday after his meeting with Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman in Jeddah over Saturday's drone and cruise missile attack on a crucial oil processing facility and oil field.

Yemen's Iranian-backed Houthi rebels have claimed the attack, but the US alleges Iran carried out the assault.

Pompeo called the attacks "unprecedented."

"The US stands with #SaudiArabia and supports its right to defend itself," Pompeo said.

"The Iranian regime's threatening behaviour will not

be tolerated."

Pompeo did not elaborate. President Donald Trump has been noncommittal on whether he would order US military

retaliation.

He separately said Wednesday he is moving to increase financial sanctions on Tehran over the attack, without

elaborating.

Iran already is subject to a crushing American sanctions program targeting its crucial oil industry.

# Pompeo favours 'peaceful resolution'

**AFF ■ ABU DHABI**

US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo on Thursday said he preferred a "peaceful resolution" to a crisis sparked by attacks on Saudi oil infrastructure, as Iran warned against "all-out war."

Pompeo has blamed Iran for the weekend assault on two facilities which wiped out half of Saudi oil production, dismissing its denials and condemning the "act of war."

The rhetoric has raised the risk of an unpredictable escalation in the tinderbox region where Saudi Arabia and Iran are locked in a decades-old struggle for dominance.

Visiting the United Arab Emirates, Pompeo however said his country would prefer a "peaceful" solution to the crisis.

"We'd like a peaceful resolution," he said.

"I hope the Islamic Republic of Iran sees it the

same way," he told reporters after talks with the leaders of the United Arab Emirates.

Iran's Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif earlier warned any US or Saudi military strike on Iran could cause "all-out war."

"We don't want war, we don't want to engage in a military confrontation," he told CNN in an interview aired Thursday. "But we won't blink to defend our territory."

# Ex-PM Cameron says asked Queen's help in Scottish vote

**AFP ■ LONDON**

Former British Prime Minister David Cameron revealed Thursday that he asked Queen Elizabeth II to intervene in the Scottish independence referendum, risking the irritation of the nominally neutral head of state.

Cameron, who led the successful campaign for Scotland to stay in the United Kingdom in the 2014 referendum, said he asked if she could offer even a "raising of the eyebrow" to indicate her opposition to independence.

He told the BBC he spoke with the queen's private secretary, "not asking for anything that would be in any way improper or unconstitutional, but just a raising of the eyebrow, even, you know, a quarter of an inch — we thought

would make a difference."

A few days before the vote, the queen told a member of the public in Scotland that she hoped "people would think very carefully about the future" — comments that made headlines. Scotland voted by 55 per cent to stay in the UK.

In a BBC documentary to mark the publication of his memoirs, Cameron said that "although the words were very limited, I think it helped to put a slightly different perception on things."

Buckingham Palace told AFP it would not comment on his remarks, but a royal source told the BBC they had caused some displeasure.

"It serves no one's interests" for conversations between the monarch and her prime ministers to be made public, the source was quoted as saying.

# Johnson faces Brexit flak from EU lawmakers, top UK court

**AP ■ STRASBOURG (FRANCE)**

British Prime Minister Boris Johnson has been accused by European Union officials of failing to negotiate seriously and branded the "father of lies" by a lawyer in the UK Supreme Court, as his plan to leave the EU in just over six weeks faced hurdles on both sides of the Channel.

In Strasbourg, France, the European Parliament said on Wednesday it would be the fault of Britain, not the bloc, if the UK crashed out of the EU without a divorce deal on the scheduled October 31 departure day.

In London, Johnson's government battled to convince the UK's top court that the prime minister's decision to suspend Parliament for five weeks with Brexit looming was neither illegal nor improper. The government's opponents claim Johnson illegally shut down the legislature to prevent lawmakers from scrutinising his Brexit plans.

Government lawyer James Eadie told 11 Supreme Court justices that the decision to send lawmakers home until October 14 was "inherently and fundamentally political in nature," and not a matter for the judiciary. He said that if the court intervened it would violate the "fundamental constitutional principle" of the separation of powers.

But a lawyer for lawmakers challenging the shutdown accused the government of being "unworthy of our trust."

"We've got here the mother of parliaments being shut down by the father of lies," said attorney Aidan O'Neill.

He urged the judges to "stand up for truth, stand up for reason, stand up for diversity, stand up for Parliament, stand up for democracy."

The judges, for their part, wondered why Johnson had refused to provide a sworn statement to the court about his reasons for the suspension.

"Isn't it odd that nobody has signed a witness statement to

say: 'This is true. These are the true reasons for what was done?'" said one of the judges, Nicholas Wilson.

The developments were the latest in a rocky week for Johnson, who pulled out of a news conference with the prime minister of Luxembourg on Monday because of noisy protesters nearby. On Wednesday he was berated by the father of a sick child over funding cuts to Britain's health service as he visited a London hospital.

Johnson took power in July with a vow that Britain will leave the EU on Oct. 31 "come what may." He promised to break a stalemate that saw the Brexit agreement struck between the EU and Johnson's predecessor Theresa May rejected three times by Britain's Parliament, prompting May to resign.

Many lawmakers believe a no-deal Brexit would be economically devastating and socially destabilising, and have put obstacles in Johnson's path, including legal challenges to the Parliament shutdown.

# China rebukes Washington after HK activists make Congress plea

**AFF ■ BEIJING**

Beijing on Thursday accused Washington of "adding fuel to the fire" of Hong Kong unrest after leaders of the city's pro-democracy movement appealed directly to US lawmakers to exert pressure on China.

Activists from the semi-autonomous city testified before a congressional commission in support of US legislation aimed at defending civil rights in Hong Kong, which has been convulsed by weeks of huge, sometimes violent rallies.

Foreign ministry spokesman Geng Shuang said at a press briefing Thursday that the US should "stop supporting violent radical forces and Hong Kong independence separatists, and stop adding fuel to the fire to the words and deeds that damage the prosperity and stability of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region."

# Taliban car bomb flattens hospital as Afghan violence surges ahead of vote

**AFF ■ KABUL**

War-weary Afghanistan was hit with its third straight day of bloody carnage Thursday, as a Taliban car bomb flattened a hospital and killed 20 people in the south, while nine others died in a drone strike in the east.

The surge in violence, with civilians paying the heaviest price, has come after US President Donald Trump called off talks with the Taliban that could have seen Washington begin withdrawing troops, and as the country gears up for a presidential election.

The insurgents responded to Trump's declaration that the talks were "dead" earlier this month by promising to continue fighting, and have vowed to target the September 28 polls, Afghanistan's fourth presidential election since the hardline Islamist group was ousted from power in 2001.

Thursday's bloodshed began near dawn, when the Taliban killed at least 20 people and wounded 90 after a car

bomb destroyed a hospital in the southern Afghan city of Qalat.

Hours later, reports emerged of an overnight drone strike in eastern Nangarhar province said to have killed at least nine civilians who had been camping in the mountainous region as they collected pine nuts.

The US is the only member of the international coalition in Afghanistan that provides air support in the conflict, but there was no immediate statement from its forces in Afghanistan, the United Nations or NATO.

The strike came just hours after four people were killed on Wednesday when unknown gunmen and a suicide bomber stormed a government building in nearby Jalalabad, capital of Nangarhar province. On Tuesday, the Taliban killed nearly 50 people in two separate attacks — one on a campaign rally for President Ashraf Ghani in the central province of Parwan, and the other in Kabul.

## APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION

General public is hereby informed that one male was found near Mayapuri Theka in Unconscious Condition and admitted in DDU Hospital Harinagar, Delhi. During Treatment He Died on 14.09.2019. In this regard a DD No. 13-A Dated 14.09.2019 has been lodged at P.S. Maya Puri, Delhi. Dead Body had been preserved in DDU Hospital Mortuary. The description of the dead body is given as under:

**Name:** Unknown, **S/o:** Unknown, **R/o:** Unknown, **Age:** 45-50 years, **Height:** 5'8" Feet, **Face:** Long, **Built:** Thin **Complexion:** Brownish Black, **Wearing:** White Pajama.

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

**S.H.O**  
**P.S. Maya Puri, Delhi.**  
**DP/8424/WD/19 Ph. No. 011-28117644, 28116097, 8750871121**



## APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION

General public is hereby informed that an unidentified dead body of male **Namely :** Unknown S/o Unknown, **R/o:** Unknown, **Age:** 47 years approx, **Height:** 5' 7" , **Wearing:** Pink colour T-shirt, who was found at Haiderpur Water Treatment Plant, Sec. 13, Rohini, Delhi. In this regard a case DD No. 25-A. dated 20.08.2019 has been registered at P.S. K.N. Katju Marg, Delhi.

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

**Sd/- SHO**  
**P.S. K.N. Katju Marg, Delhi**  
**Tel. No. 011-27571162**  
**DP/3281/RD/19**



# Citing corruption, US slashes Afghan aid days before election

**AFP ■ WASHINGTON**

The United States on Thursday accused Afghanistan's government of failing to fight corruption and cut more than \$160 million in direct funding, little over a week before the country's elections.

While Washington has long complained of graft by its ally, the harsh measure comes after Afghan President Ashraf Ghani clashed with President Donald Trump over the US leader's deal with the Taliban.

"We stand against those who exploit their positions of power and influence to deprive the Afghan people of the benefits of foreign assistance and a more prosperous future," Secretary of State Mike Pompeo said in a statement.

Pompeo said that the United States was suspending work with the Afghan body in charge of monitoring corruption as it is "incapable of being a partner." "We expect the Afghan government to demonstrate a clear commitment to fight corruption, to serve the Afghan people and to maintain their trust," he said.

# Pak police detain two classmates in Hindu dental student's mysterious death

**PTI ■ KARACHI**

Two classmates of a Hindu dental student have been detained by the police in Pakistan's Sindh province after she was found dead in her hostel room, a media report said on Thursday.

Nimrta Chandni, a final-year student of Bibi Asifa

Dental College in Larkana district and a social activist, was found lying on a cot by her friends on Monday with a rope tied to her neck.

The two suspects, both classmates of Chandni, were taken into the custody by the police after tracing the call data from the deceased's cell phone, Geo News reported.

Her room was locked from inside. Police have not yet ascertained whether she committed suicide or was murdered.

The girl hailed from Ghotki district, which recently witnessed riots after a school principal from the minority Hindu community was booked on charges of alleged blasphemy.

# Trump sues Manhattan DA seeking to block tax return subpoena

**AP ■ NEW YORK**

President Donald Trump asked a federal judge on Thursday to block an effort by New York prosecutors to obtain his tax returns, opening a new legal front in the president's efforts to prevent his financial information from becoming public.

Trump's attorneys filed a lawsuit against the Manhattan district attorney, Cyrus R Vance Jr, who recently subpoenaed the president's accounting firm for eight years of his state and federal returns.

They said the subpoena was unconstitutional and a "bad faith effort to harass the President by obtaining and exposing his confidential financial information."

The lawsuit, filed in Manhattan federal court, asks US District Judge Victor Marrero to declare the subpoena invalid and unenforceable.

It says the US Constitution "prohibits states from subjecting the president to criminal process while he is in office."

Trump lawyer Jay Sekulow said the lawsuit is intended "to address the significant constitutional issues at stake in this case."

A spokesman for Vance said the district attorney had received the lawsuit "and will respond as appropriate in court." Trump's accounting firm declined to comment.

**NORTHERN RAILWAY TENDER NOTICE**

**Invitation of Tender through E-Tendering (E-Procurement Systems)**

N.I.T. No.: 07/19-20/ dated 18.09.2019 Name of work with its location: Proposal for establishing, operating, managing & maintaining CT/MRI centre in already built up space in Northern Railway Central Hospital (NRCH), New Delhi. Approx. Cost of work: Rs.10,00,000 Earnest Money: Rs.6,50,600 (It should be in the form of net banking or payment gateway only. Note - FDR will not be accepted as EMD for tender invited on IREPS as per Railway Boards letter No 2015/CE-ICT/5/1 dated 31.08.2016) Completion period of Work : 120 Months. Cost of tender on cash/by post : Rs. 29,500 (It should be in the form of net banking or payment gateway only. Note - FDR will not be accepted as EMD for tender invited on IREPS as per Railway Boards letter No 2015/CE-ICT/5/1 dated 31.08.2016) Date and time for submission of tender and opening of tender: upto 15:00 hrs on 11.10.2019 Opening of tender at 15:00 hrs On 11.10.2019 Website particulars notice board location complete details of tender can be seen : Above tender available on IREPS site i.e. www.ireps.gov.in 128-W/269/OET/19-20/NRCH/NIT 08 Dated : 18.09.2019 3015/19

Serving Customers With A Smile

**GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR DIRECTORATE OF AGRICULTURE TALAB TILLO, JAMMU- J&K**

Phone No. 0191-2505201, 2552145, www.diragriju.nic.in

**ABBREVIATED OF e- TENDER NOTICE**

For and on behalf of Governor of Jammu and Kashmir, e-tenders are invited from the Manufacturers/ Duty Authorized Dealers, Government undertakings for supply of the Plant Protection Chemicals required for fixing the Rate Contract for the year 2019-20 as per specification laid down in the Tender form.

**S.No. 1, Particulars :-** Supply of Plant Protection Chemicals.

**Earnest Money :-** a) Rs. 20,000/-, b) For SSI units Rs.5000/- as per Government Policy.

**Cost of Tender document :-** a) General Rs. 500/-, b) For SSI Units as per Government Policy.

**Date of Publishing of Tender Notice :- 18/09/2019 at 1:00 PM**

**Period of downloading of documents :- From 18/09/2019 to 28/09/2019 up to 12:30 PM**

**Date of submission of online documents:- From 19/09/2019 to 30/09/2019 up to 12:30 PM**

**Date of submission of Hard Copy :- From 19/09/2019 to 30/09/2019 up to 12:30 PM**

**Date of Opening Technical bid :- 03/10/2019 at 01.00 P.M or subsequent convenient date**

The tender documents along with Terms and Conditions of the NIT and relevant documents can be downloaded from the State e-Procurement portal www.jktenders.gov.in. The tender shall be uploaded in the electronic format on the State e-Procurement portal www.jktenders.gov.in.

Sd/- Accounts Officer, Member Secretary, SLPJ Directorate of Agriculture, Jammu.

No. DIP/J-8436/18 Dated :- 19-09-2019

## PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that M/S S.A. Propon Private Limited "owner" in collaboration with Signature Infrabuild Private Limited "Developer" had obtained a license bearing No. 73 of 2019 Dated 04/07/2019 from the Director Town & Country Planning, Haryana (DTCP) to develop an affordable group housing colony on the land admeasuring 40 kanal 18 marla (5.1125 acres) situated in the revenue estate of village Dhorka, Sector-95, District Gurugram.

We now propose to transfer the license in favour of Signature Infrabuild Private Limited having its registered office at 1310, 13th floor, Dr. Gopal Das Bhawan, 28 Barakhamba Road, New Delhi-110001 and have obtained permission from Director Town & Country Planning, Haryana Vide Memo No. LC-3714-Asstt.(AK)-2019/23116 Dated 16.09.2019.

Any entity/person including any Government Authority, Bank or Financial Institution having or claiming any right, title, claim, benefit, demand or interest with respect to the licence or has any objection to the intended above referred matter, such person/entity may inform in writing to o/o STP Gurugram within 30 days from the date of publication of this notice.

Total land admeasuring 40 Kanal and 18 Marla or 5.1125 Acres comprised in rect. No-3, Killa No-18/2(2-0), 19/2(2-0), 20/1(2(1-18), 21/2(7-12), 22(8-0), 23(8-0), Rect. No-11, Killa No-3(8-0), 8 Min(3-8). Situated in the revenue Estate of Village Dhorka, Sector 95, Gurugram.

**SD/- Authorised Signatory Signature Infrabuild Pvt. Ltd U70100DL2013PTC247676 & 1310 at 13th floor Dr. Gopal Das Bhawan 28, Barakhamba Road, New Delhi - 110001.**

**SD/- Authorised Signatory S.A. Propon Private Limited U70109HR2006PTC064522 Plot No 144, Sector-44, Gurugram - 122002**

Place: Gurugram Dated: 18.09.2019

## BEFORE DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL-II, DELHI

4TH FLOOR, JEEVAN TARA BUILDING, PARLIAMENT STREET, NEW DELHI-110001

OA No. 1351/18 Date : 16.09.2019

PUNJAB NATIONAL BANK VERSUS APPLICANT

MUKESH GOSWAMI & ORS. RESPONDENT

To, Defendant  
1. Mukesh Goswami S/o Kamal Kishore Giri, C-157/3, C-Block West Karawal Nagar, Delhi-94  
2. Narendra Pal S/o Ramvir Singh Pal, R-12/56, Sect.-9, Rajnagar, Ghaziabad-201002  
3. Manoj Kumar S/o Suresh Chand, F-112, Udai Nagar, Mukund Nagar, Ghaziabad-201001

Whereas the above named applicant (s) has/have instituted a case for recovery of Rs. 1,02,18,535/- ( Rupees One Crore Two Lakh Eighteen Thousand Five Hundred and Thirty Five Only ) against you and whereas it has been shown to the satisfaction of the Tribunal that it is not possible to serve you in the ordinary way therefore, this notice is given by advertisement directing you to make appearance in the Tribunal on 20.11.2019 at 10.30 A.M.

Take notice that in default of your appearance on the day before the mentioned, the case will be heard and determined in your absence.

By order of the Tribunal  
Section Officer, DRT-II, Delhi

**EASTERN COALFIELDS LIMITED**  
(A Subsidiary of Coal India Limited)

**E-TENDER NOTICE FOR ONLINE BIDDING**

Name of Area: MATERIALS MANAGEMENT Dep/V/ECL Hrs. Tender No. & Date: ECL/Hq/Pur/O/51913052/Rubber belting/055 Date: 13.09.2019.

Name of Work: Domestic open e-tender for procurement of Rubber Conveyor Belting. Estimated Tender Value: ₹ 63,23,856.00. Document Download Start Date: 25.09.2019 from 11.00 hrs IST. Document Download End Date: 23.10.2019 11.00 hrs IST. Tender Opening Date & Time: 25.10.2019 11.00 hrs IST. Name of Area: MATERIALS MANAGEMENT Dep/V/ECL Hrs. Tender No. & Date: ECL/Hq/Pur/O/51983053-RC/DLH1\_RDD/056 Date: 13.09.2019. Name of Work: Domestic open e-tender for conclusion of Rate Contract for supply of Underground Drill Rod (6 feet long) for 3 years. Estimated Tender Value: ₹ 64,28,253.00. Document Download Start Date: 25.09.2019 from 11.00 hrs IST. Document Download End Date: 23.10.2019 11.00 hrs IST. Tender Opening Date & Time: 25.10.2019 11.00 hrs IST.

For Further details & Submission of Tender Please visit the website <https://coalindiadenders.gov.in>

VISIT US AT [www.easterncoal.nic.in](http://www.easterncoal.nic.in)

**PHYSICAL POSSESSION NOTICE**

**ICICI Bank**  
ICICI Bank Limited

Registered Office: ICICI Bank Ltd, ICICI Bank Tower, Near Chakki Circle, Old Padra Road, Vadodara- 390007.  
Corporate Office: ICICI Bank Towers, Bandra Kurla Complex, Bandra (E), Mumbai - 400051  
Branch Office: ICICI Bank 2nd Floor, Videocon Tower, Jhandewalan Ext, New Delhi- 110055

Whereas  
The undersigned being the Authorized Officer of ICICI Bank Limited under the Securitisation, Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of the powers conferred under section 13(12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) rules 2002, issued demand notices upon the borrowers mentioned below, to repay the amount mentioned in the notice within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.

The borrower having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrower and the public in general that the undersigned has taken Possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him/ her under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the said rules on the below-mentioned dates. The borrower in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of ICICI Bank Limited.

Sr. No.	Name of the Borrower/ Co-Borrower/ Loan Account Number	Description of property/ Date of Physical Possession	Date of Demand Notice/Amount in Demand Notice(Rs)	Name of Branch
1.	Abha Jain/ Raj Kumar Jain/ Aditya Jain LBDEL00002080406	Unit No. DPT 340, Parking No. 2254 In DLF Prime Towers, Okhla, New Delhi And/ Or Flat No-DPT 340, 3rd Floor, Prime Tower, Plot No-79 And 80, Block-F, Okhla Industrial Area, Phase-1, Delhi/16, Sep.2019	September 29, 2018 RS. 61,90,412/-	Delhi/ NCR

The above-mentioned borrowers(s)/ guarantors(s) are hereby given a 30 days Notice to repay the amount, else the mortgaged properties will be sold on the expiry of 30 days from the date of publication of this Notice, as per the provisions under the Rules 8 and 9 of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002.

Date : 20-09-2019  
Place: Delhi/ NCR

Sd/-  
Authorized Officer  
ICICI Bank Limited

**Trend Blazer**

**'My parents were proud of me'**

Actor **RAJKUMMAR RAO** got really emotional talking about his deceased parents at the trailer launch of his forthcoming film *Made in China*.

He said that his parents were really proud of him after he became an actor and it gave them joy. Rajkummar said, "It's an irreparable loss for me. A few years ago, I lost my mother and that time I was shooting for *Newton* and I went back to shoot the next day." The actor said he had shown the trailer of *Made in China* to his father in his last moments. "I am so glad that the trailer was ready just in time, when my father was in the hospital. I feel his blessings are always there with me," added he.



**'As an actor, it is important for me to be part of a good story and The Zoya Factor is one such opportunity. Having said that, working with family members is always a good idea. Although we spend time when we have a family get-together, but during the shooting of film I got a chance to spend quality time with Sonam (Kapoor).'**

—Sanjay Kapoor

Actor and author **SOHA ALI KHAN** has lent support for a new health awareness campaign and says that since the birth of her daughter Inaaya, a lot of change has happened in her daily life, and she is trying to set a good example for her daughter with her own lifestyle.



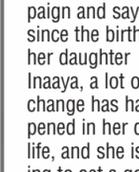
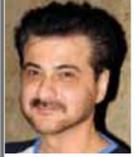
"Parenthood brought a certain change of habits in my daily days. Since I do not want Inaaya to watch TV or stick around the mobile phone, I have stopped watching TV when she is around. Children always tend to imitate everything that we are doing in front of them," says she.

**Kylie shuts split rumours**

A day after doubts were raised about their relationship, reality TV personality **KYLIE JENNER** has shared a loved-up family photograph with rapper **Travis Scott** to shut down splitting rumours.

The 22-year-old make-up mogul took to social media to share the sweet picture with her 146 million followers after fans questioned whether they had parted ways.

The photograph shows Scott and one-year-old daughter Stormi having a wonderful time with Kylie at a zoo in Los Angeles. She captioned the picture — "Happy Wednesday".



We have been watching the father-son duo Sunny and Karan Deol for a while. At the press conference that preceded the interviews, they made sure to answer each question, some humorously and others, a little seriously. When a reporter asked Sunny to deliver one of his famous dialogues, he pushed his son forward and said, *abhi bachchon ki baat karte hain* (We must talk about the kids now). Even when all the those who were assembled requested him again, he stood his ground before asking Karan to sing a song from his forthcoming film. As often happens, even when it concerns parents who are nowhere near the arc lights, Sunny too placed his offspring in focus. So despite performances from his past films having made a strong impression on people's hearts, the actor-turned-director does not seem to be hankering for more attention.

When questioned about taking a backseat for his son's debut, Sunny said, "I am not bothered about such things because I am not insecure. Even when I started my career I was beyond all this. I want to tell youngsters to be confident and proud of who they are. Success and failure are a part of life because every one cannot have the same pace. You should enjoy every moment because life happens but once. There is no point creating more stress for no rhyme and reason?"

Karan is making his debut with *Pal Pal Dil Ke Paas*. It is a love story set in snowy regions of Himachal Pradesh. Directed by Sunny, the film revolves around the journey of two youngsters who are in love and ready to face any hurdles to be together.

Working with a family member and that too a son is special for anyone. But in such cases it is important to maintain a balance between the personal and the professional. "It was a great experience. *Jaisi humari family hai, humlog beta baap door-door hi rehte hai, dost nahin hote*. (The kind of family that we have, my son and I usually stay apart. We are not friends). It took three years to prepare for this film. During this journey both of us spent a lot of time with each other. I will always cherish these years," said Sunny. While talking about his son, the slight smile that consistently hovered on his lips revealed his love.

But a father launching his son naturally gives rise to the loud whispers about nepotism especially in Bollywood with two opposing camps arguing for and against it. When asked about the same, Sunny answered really promptly as if he was anticipating the question. "Had people not favoured nepotism, they would have asked some questions from the heroine too during the press conference. But they did not. Every question was directed at either me or my son. This itself explains the mindset of the people. I believe, every child's journey is based on his/her capabilities. It has nothing to do with what their parents have done," said he.

Of course when your father is the director, it is inevitable that most people would allege that Karan would get a stronger role. But Karan disagrees. "It's a perception. When you see the film, you will realise that both the characters are equally strong. They are supporting each other."

Sunny explained that he had not planned that Karan should debut in a film directed by him and would have preferred some other director. But that didn't materialise. For lack of options, he decided to take on the mantle on himself.

From an actor Sunny who has displayed his charismatic personality, to a director, he believes that there is no such thing as "challenge" in life. Acting and directing are professions that he has taken up and both need preparation. He said, "There are people who speak out their problems loudly but one

**FILIAL BOND**

Actor-turned-director **SUNNY DEOL** prefers to put the spotlight firmly on his son **KARAN** for *Pal Pal Dil Ke Paas*, says **SAKSHI SHARMA**

**'SHOOTING IN HILLY REGIONS IS TOUGH BECAUSE IT'S A DIFFERENT LIFESTYLE ALTOGETHER. IT TOOK TIME TO ADJUST TO THAT PLACE. I HAD TO WAKE UP EARLY AND TREK IN THE COLD WEATHER. IT WAS VERY TAXING PHYSICALLY. POST TREK I HAD TO RAPPEL AND DO ROCK CLIMBING. I USED TO CRASH AS SOON AS I HIT THE BED'**

should not. I have understood that *mushkile sabke paas hai, mai koi alag thodi hu*. (Everyone has some problems, I am no different). If you don't have problems, you will remain in your comfort zone and not move forward. I would encourage the youth not to fall prey to that."

The first hurdle was the kind of film that Sunny wanted to make. The senior Deol had decided that he wanted to make a film but was not sure about the storyline. "I hired Jassi and Ravi (writers) and we did a lot of brainstorming before coming up with an idea. As the germ of an idea made its presence felt, I realised that this was something I always wanted to do. I wanted to understand today's generation and bring forth their perspective. We often try to put the youth in a pre-determined mould rather than understanding what they want to do. There was a time when we followed traditional practices, but we cannot enforce the same on our kids. Today's youth is very different," said Sunny. However, one thing which made the film different was that he had not put any restrictions before the shoot began as Sunny wanted the story to find its own path.

The film has been shot in villages near Manali where survival is tough. The actors had to go through physically and mentally challenging hurdles which were in addition to the fact that both of them are young and naive. Karan has played the role of a Himachali boy which was not easy for a boy who grew up in urban Mumbai. So, prior to the shoot he spent three to four months analysing and understanding how people live in that region. He said, "It was tough because it's a different lifestyle altogether. It took time to adjust to that place. I had to wake up early and trek in the cold weather. It was very taxing physically. Post trek I had to rappel and do rock climbing. I used to crash as soon as I hit the bed. Dad took us to a place where there was hardly any civilisation. It was very tough to bring out emotions as the high altitude presented another set of challenges." But the actor is glad that he went through the gruelling experience as he now has a sense of accomplishment. He added that he has found a new love and affection for his city.

While Karan was balancing the role of an actor, his father had to look at all the aspects of the film rather than being focussed on just acting. Sunny said that he was looking for the best singer because music plays a vital role. "My music is very new and story-driven. I believe that a song should always go with the flow of the story

rather than putting it just for the sake of it. I am fond of doing new and interesting things as remakes are boring," he said.

But looking back at his chequered career, even people who hadn't been born when *Ghayal* was released in 1990, are well versed with his famous dialogue, "*Jab yeh dhai kilo ka haath kisi pe padta hai na, toh aadmi uthta nahi utth jata hai?*" The *Gadar* actor is known for his strong roles. Irrespective of whether it is a comic or a serious role, it was his powerful personality that made an impact. He said, "No matter what the role was, the way I portrayed it made it different. I tried to infuse all my roles with a personal touch so that it looked natural." Recalling an incident from his film *Ziddi* he said, "There is a scene where people tell me, '*tumhari behen ko usne chedh diya*'. I believe that if someone does this in reality *main haath ukhad dunga*. Because I wanted the scene to look natural I said that those were the dialogues I wanted to mouth. When people heard this, they started laughing wondering how could someone do this. But I did that scene. That's my belief, as an actor. When I take up something I do it with honesty."

There is another role that Sunny has taken upon himself, that of a member of Parliament from Gurdaspur. On foraying into the field of politics, he said that it is one more profession he wanted to do justice to. "People know that if I take up anything in life I take it to a high point where it should have been," said he.

During the whole session Karan seemed quite nervous. When asked about the same, before we could even complete the sentence Sunny defended him. He said (pointing towards the lead actors of the film) "They have come to a point where what happens on a Friday will dictate their tomorrow. They are unaware whether it will be smooth, hard or filled with opportunities."

When asked about the plethora of emotions that Karan was going through, he said, "I feel nervous and excited. I am eagerly waiting for the response to my film." As he answered the questions his face began to turn red clearly revealing how frightened he was. He added that his anxiety won't let him sleep until the film releases. Pointing towards Sunny he said, "I can understand now what he must be going through with every release." The thought that first impression is the last has Karan worried.

Right from the black and white era when Dharmendra became a part of the industry, to Sunny and Bobby, the Deols have made a mark in Bollywood. Naturally, with such a family background, the baggage is heavier. Karan said, "People are keenly looking out for your negatives to put you down. They don't see that it's my first experience as an actor. I can't be perfect from the word go just because I come from a particular family. With time and experience, I will polish myself and grow as an actor. I want to push my family name forward and hopefully with this film, I will be able to do that."

The film has a plethora of emotions ranging from excitement, sadness and romance, it was not easy for Karan to portray one and switch to another instantly. For an experienced actor that would be easy but tough for a beginner. He shared that during an emotional scene Sunny made sure that the atmosphere of the set facilitated it.

Crediting all his learnings to his father, Karan said, "No other director would have pushed me the way dad did. When I went home after shoot, he taught me how to get into the mood for a scene instantly. As he knows my personality he was aware how to bring out a particular emotion. It is important for a director to know a person, especially a newcomer so that s/he can be moulded in a desired way. Because he is an actor himself he understands all the facets better. And it was my dad, so yes it was a really emotional journey."

Photo: Pankaj Kumar



**I I F A G A L A**



Deepika Padukone in a lilac lace gown



Alia Bhatt showed up in a flowy off-shoulder gown



Sara Ali Khan showed up in a pristine white ball gown



Madhuri Dixit in a red-hot gown



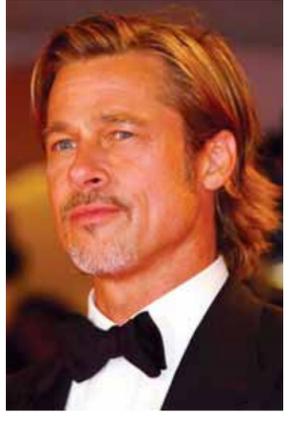
Ranveer Singh wore a quirky pant suit

**A hundred battles**

Actor **BRAD PITT** talks about his new film *Ad Astra*, his struggle with alcoholism and the MeToo movement

Actor Brad Pitt opened up about his struggles with alcoholism and the efforts he made in order to face his problems. He said, "Initially, I didn't know how to deal with my painful feelings. But I don't even want to run from anything, instead want to sit and feel it. I want to get through the rough night. And I found, in doing so, you just come out of it with a more profound understanding of yourself and gratefulness for those in your life."

In an interview with Christiane Amanpour, chief anchor for CNN, he discussed his new film *Ad Astra*, his battle with alcoholism and the Me Too movement. Space epic *Ad Astra* tackles a range of topics. Pitt talked about the film's focus on loneliness, father-and-son relationships, masculinity and vulnerability. He said that there his love for the sci-fi genre made him sign this film. "I didn't want to do it until I figured we could do something that would add to a successful genre. And I think James Gray had a really interesting take that we hadn't seen before. It just seemed the subject matter of, I guess, finding self at this age in my life, it seemed interesting," said Pitt and went on to add, "When you get older, you just get tired of everything. And we wanted to get on with this film in that way. We all carry great pains and major regrets. We have all experienced loss and loneliness. And we're good at packing that away, not dealing with it, some are really good at getting through it and coming out the other side in a more well-rounded and confident manner. So we just wanted to like get it out there."



Hollywood and Pitt's breakout role in *Thelma and Louise*.

Amanpour spoke to Pitt about the Me-Too movement and his early part in calling out Harvey Weinstein in the 1990s. When then girlfriend Gwyneth Paltrow was propositioned by Weinstein, Pitt confronted the media mogul. Asked about the incident, Pitt downplayed his own role in the movement but gave credit to its importance. He said, "At that moment, I was a boy from the Ozarks on the playground and that's how we confronted with things. And I wanted to make sure nothing happened further because Paltrow was going to do two films. I think that the interesting thing is that we, Hollywood specifically, but the work place, men and women's dynamic is being recalibrated in a very good way, and it's long overdue. And I do think that's an important story to tell."

The two went on to discuss the summer hit *Once Upon a Time in*



# ORGANIC WHOLE

Chef **MAGGIE BEER** believes in putting together dishes made with ingredients from her own garden that guarantees the best of taste

Maggie Beer did not let a lack of formal training come in the way of her metamorphosing into a legendary cook and author. Whenever she makes an appearance as a guest judge on *MasterChef Australia* it tends to create a lot of excitement among the contestants as they realise that they would be mentored by one of the country's most cherished and respected chefs.

Beer's career extends over five decades and she has been a part of the much-loved show since the very beginning. She worked at a Scottish sailing school during a European trip in her early twenties where she says, "I used the entire larder for the four-month season in eight weeks because I am a very generous cook and that's the only way I know how to do it." After relocating from Sydney to the Barossa Valley, Beer, with her husband Colin, established the Farm Shop in 1979 which morphed into the Barossa Pheasant Farm Restaurant later. It became well-known for serving locally sourced pheasant as well as a *pate*.

When questioned about her journey to becoming one of the world's most famous chefs, she laughs and says, "I call myself a cook and not a chef. I grew up in a family where food and cooking were very important. I started learning about food since then. My parents cooked every-

thing from scratch. We had our own farm and that helped me a lot in understanding the ingredients." Growing up as she did, the chef always had an inclination towards food and cooking so she started with some of her farm produce which marked the beginning of her career.

Along the way she has developed her own food philosophy. "I see myself as a country cook and a produce-driven cook, I cannot waste any product or ingredients. My philosophy is to make every dish in such a way that the ingredients are used properly and efficiently," she says.

Talking about her experience at *MasterChef* she says, "The most beautiful thing about the show is the excited young people who have a dream that they are following. It is good to see how dedicated they are in pursuing their passion. They give a part of themselves to the show. They come with an eagerness and ability to learn and do it very quickly too. So I love their openness to learning."

The chef has not visited India for a long time. She says, "When I was 21, I stopped in New Delhi for some time on my way to Europe. And considering that I will turn 75 in January, that was a long long time ago."

As for Indian food, she is in love with the spices and legumes. "I love things like dough, vignettes and tamarinds. I love



the *Dosa* too because it is a tremendous blend of so many flavours and at the same time it's so crisp," added she. "I don't cook all these as I stick to Mediterranean," she laughs and adds, "But I have tried and tasted all of them when others cook them for me."

Like any other chef, Beer too has her favourites when putting together a meal. "There are some ingredients that I cannot do or live without, extra virgin olive oil being one. But my routine is that we have a big vegetable garden and it's about following the seasons, going to the pantries, looking at the organic produce, getting the right seeds... and more. And my routine is thinking at the last moment what am I going to have for dinner? So I look at the garden and I see all the beautiful and amazing things. It's a very relaxed routine even though I work very long hours. In that routine, I grab and feel a lot of new experiences everyday. So my routine is just to be seduced by whatever looks the most beautiful and make it into a dish," she says with a laugh.

Despite being a much-renowned chef, she believes that cooking is not looked upon as a celebrated career even now. There are people still struggling with their passion "My advice is to understand that hard work can lead you to dizzying heights. And your dream is only likely to be fulfilled if you're truly passionate about it. You want to learn and keep evolving. You should be ready to absorb everything that's been put in front of you. If you have a real interest in cooking, it is one of the most rewarding things to do," she says.

Despite cooking for so many years and having gathered a plethora of experiences, there are some dreams which continue to be achieved. "My one dream is that I make beautiful ice creams, which are really very special, super premium. We make them commercially and export to China. So my one dream is to be able to export them to India as well. I have always wanted to explore the country and by exporting our ice creams, I'll get its people to taste our produce as well," she says.

However, Beer has not let herself be confined to just cooking but is extending her domain by way of her foundation. "In Australia, food health is not as important and sometimes neglected. So we have a lot of age care homes that need to get much more beautiful food. It can be institutionalised. And I kind of accept that. So I am trying to change the food to give it a whole new flavour and also a pleasure to the residents in age care homes who are no longer able to cook by themselves. So that actually keeps me busy?"

(The season 11 of the show airs on Star World.)



## Got a haul of apples?

There are many great things one can do with the fruit that don't include making a pie. Here are some ideas that you might not have thought of

It's that time of year again, when fresh apples are piled high at farmer's markets. If you are lucky enough to live near an orchard, you can take the day and pick your own bushel of apples. But whether you are picking them at the market or off a tree, there are many great things to do with apples that don't include making a pie. Besides apple pie, some ideas you might not have thought of:

- Cut apples into matchstick-size strips and add them to your favorite kale salad for a tart and crunchy addition.
- Sauté chunks of peeled apples in butter, season them with a touch of sugar and a pinch of salt, and serve them with any egg dish to brighten up breakfast. In the South, these are sometimes "fried" with bacon fat and called "fried apples," but I prefer butter. Sautéed apples are also great in pancakes. Let them cool, and add to your favorite pancake batter. If you are a fan of cinnamon like I am, add a pinch and they'll taste like apple pie.
- Make an apple upside-down cake, and add cranberries for a festive touch. Use your favorite pineapple upside-down cake recipe but substitute apples.
- Make a gourmet open-faced tartine, aka sandwich with brie cheese and apples. Brush the bread with your favorite jam — think fig, apricot, raspberry, etc. and top with apples, brie and walnuts. Melt under a broiler and enjoy!
- Make a faux sauerkraut for fall sausages by cooking down grated apples, sliced onions and fennel. Finish with a pinch of caraway seeds and a couple of tablespoons of butter for richness.
- Cook apples slowly until they melt into homemade applesauce. Begin by peeling and coring the apples, and add the juice of a large lemon, and a little sugar and cinnamon. Put the lid on the pot and slowly cook on the stovetop. When they have cooked down to the texture of chunky applesauce, taste and season as you like.
- If you have a juicer, make your own apple juice and serve it cold or hot.



● Make your own apple butter. Cook about 5 pounds of apples with ½ cup of apple cider until they are deep brown and have a creamy, "buttery" consistency. Season with your favorite autumn spices. No sugar necessary. You can do this easily in a slow cooker or a pressure cooker. The slow cooker is the slow, all day method and the pressure cooker is the fast method.

Reminder: If you get a bunch of apples, keep them in a cool place. I have had success keeping them for months in the crisper drawer of my refrigerator. If you picked your own and went a little crazy, and have too many to fit in your refrigerator, wrap each apple individually in paper — unprinted newsprint paper works well — and store in the garage or basement where it is cool. Be careful of any rotting apples, because the old saying "One bad apple spoils the bunch" is true.

My favorite thing to make with extra apples is my Grandmother Odom's Apple Cake. The recipe doesn't call for any liquid because the fresh apples give up their juice as the cake bakes, and that creates liquid in the batter. It's a simple cake to make and is positively addicting. In fact, anytime I have a prickly relationship with someone, I make them my grandmother's cake and it changes our relationship! I call it The Power of Grandmother Odom's Apple Cake. —AP

## gorge us

Varq, the modern Indian restaurant at the Taj Mahal Hotel, is all set to celebrate its 11th anniversary. To mark this milestone, culinary legends like chef Naren Thimmaiah from Karavalli restaurant will curate the first ever Karavalli experience in the city. He will curate special dishes like *Crab milagu fry*, *Sea crab ghee roast*, *Malvani surmai tawa fry*, *Tiger prawns roast*, vegetarian dishes and many more.

**Date:** September 21 to 28 **Time:** 12:30 pm to 2:45 pm (lunch); 7 pm to 11:45 pm (dinner) **Price:** ₹5,000 **Venue:** Varq, The Taj Mahal Hotel.

The chefs at SETZ, MKT and Cha Shi introduce a special thali curation of three different cuisines — Oriental, Coastal and North Indian. In the North Indian menu, there is *Anar raita*, *Kuttu puri*, *Sabudana papad* and *Kheer*. The Oriental delicacies have *Cantonese tong sui soup*, *Crispy fried lotus stem*, *Tossed asian greens*, *Lemon grass rice*. The Coastal journey includes *Kadala manga sala*, *Samak pulao*, *Paneer moilee*, *Kuttu masala dosa* and *Pappali halwa*. **Date:** September 29 to October 7 **Time:** 11 am to 11 pm **Venue:** SETZ @DLF Emporio and MKT.

### KANDHARI LAMB SHANK

#### WHAT YOU NEED

- For marination:**
- Sea salt: 1 tsp
  - Garlic: 5-7 cloves
  - Ginger: 1 medium bulb
  - Garam masala: 1 tsp
  - Curd: 2 tsp
- For sauce:**
- Mustard oil
  - Black cardamom: 2
  - Green cardamom: 4
  - Mace: 2
  - Bay leaf: 1

- Black pepper (crushed): 8
- Cloves: 5
- Ginger: 1 medium bulb
- Garlic: 10 cloves
- Onion (chopped): 3
- Dry red chilli
- Turmeric powder
- Salt to taste
- Coriander powder
- Curd: 1 cup
- Cream: 2 tbsp
- Mutton Stock: 5 cups

#### METHOD

- Wash and pat dry the lamb shanks. Marinate them with



sea salt, ginger-garlic paste and rub it with a mixture of garam masala and curd. Refrigerate for about 45 minutes to an hour.

- Prepare mutton stock. You can simmer mutton cracked

bones in water for an hour and half or buy mutton stock cubes.

- Once the meat is marinated, heat mustard oil in a deep pot over medium fire till it begins to smoke. Add black and green cardamom, mace, bay leaf, crushed black pepper, cloves and stir till the aroma of the spices is extracted.

- Add the marinated shank to the pot and stir till the meat is evenly seared. Lower the heat and continue cooking for about 15 to 20 minutes, stir occasionally.

- Continue cooking till the water evaporates. Add garlic and ginger paste and stir till the paste is evenly mixed.

- Add the chopped onion and cook for another 20 to 25 minutes. Cover the pot with a lid, stir occasionally.

- Sprinkle mutton stock if the pot becomes too dry and continue cooking on low heat till the onions appear brown and mashed. Then remove the lid and get rid of the extra water.

- Add *degchi mirch* powder, haldi powder, coriander

powder and mix well.

- Stir and cook for 2-3 minutes. Check, the mutton should be cooked by now.

- Add curd and mix well. Add the mutton stock, depending upon how thick you want the gravy, add a little extra to compensate for evaporation and then add salt and cook.

- Remove the shanks and place them on the plate, pour the Kandhari gravy over it.
- Serve hot. Best enjoyed with Khameeri roti or Taftan

Courtesy: Corporate chef Sidharth Sharma at Saints N Sinners



Swad is serving food in a *desi* Sway. It offers a range of delicacies from *Mushroom chettinad phulka* to *Chimichanga rolls* with *tamar gur salsa*, *Roast soya boti* with mini appam, *Garlic soy paneer tartlet*, *Kurkure kebabs* and many more. **Date:** Till September **Time:** 12 noon to 11:30 pm **Price:** ₹ 800 (plus taxes) **Venue:** SS Plaza, Vikas marg, Gurugram.

Prankster brings a Prank Pop Carnival to celebrate its three years. It offers a special menu curated by chef Harangad Singh. The menu includes — *Amritsari kulcha*, *Spicy and flavourful chicken 65*, *Amritsari fish*, *Spicy pav bhaji*, *Vada pav*, *Sev puri*, *Dahi puri*, *Assorted dal kachori* and *Jodhpuri samosa*. **Date:** Till September **Price:** ₹ 1,500 (plus taxes) **Time:** 12:30 pm to 1 am **Venue:** Sector 29, Gurugram.



Mellow Garden offers favourite drinks at MRP. One can get pegs of *Martini Bianco*, *Martini Rosso*, *Kahula*, *Triple Sec*, *Glenfidich* (12 Yrs), *Talisker* (10 Yrs), *Jim Beam*, *Jameson*, *Jack Daniel's* and a lot more at reasonable prices. **Date:** Till September 30 **Time:** 12 am to 12 pm **Price:** ₹165 Onwards (plus taxes) **Venue:** The Mellow Garden, Rajouri Garden.

Tea Lounge offers a variety of *Kulle ki chaat* to fill your between-the-meal time with different flavours. The menu offers *Papri chaat*, *Tikki chaat*, *Shakarkandi ki chaat*, *Samosa chaat* and various fruit *chaats* along with traditional condiments. **Date:** Till September 30 **Time:** 11 am to 8 pm **Price:** ₹500 (plus taxes) **Venue:** Tea Lounge, Eros Hotel, Nehru Place.



## RECIPES



### COCONUT CRUSTED FISH CAKES

#### WHAT YOU NEED

- Fresh coconut (grated)
- Indian salmon fillet: 500 gm
- Cilantro: 2 tbsp
- Cloves of garlic: 2
- Ginger: 20 gm
- Lime juice: 10 ml
- Chopped pineapple: 50 gm
- Red onion: 25 gm
- Coconut water: 1/2 cup
- Sriracha sauce: 10 gm
- Red pepper: 20 gm
- Tomatoes: 20 gm
- Sea salt: 1 pinch
- Coconut oil: 10 ml
- Chopped coriander: 10 gm

#### METHOD

- Marinate fillets with salt

and lime juice for 15 minutes.

- Grill the fillets well in coconut oil.
- Cool and mince the fillets or flake with hands and mix chopped onion, coriander, sriracha sauce, grated fresh coconut, chopped ginger and chopped garlic.
- Shape them into gallettes, coat with fresh grated coconut and grill in coconut oil.
- Prepare the salsa by mixing chopped pineapple, tomatoes, cilantro, mint leaves, red pepper and coconut water and oil.
- Serve the coconut fish cakes, with the salsa.

Courtesy: Executive chef Gautam Mehrihi at Vivanta New Delhi, Dwarka

# Evening in Paris

Angel's brace helps PSG thrash Real 3-0; Herrera snatches late point against Juve



Angel Di Maria celebrates after scoring PSG's opening goal against Real Madrid AP

## FIGURATIVELY

**1** Paris-Real Madrid is the first game in the history of the UCL where both teams have more players of the nationality of the opposing team than of their own in their starting 11 (3 in Real, 1 in Paris — 2 in Paris, 1 in Real).

**0** Real Madrid failed to have a single shot on target against PSG tonight, the first time they have failed to do so in the UCL since 2003-04 (in 167 games).

**3** Angel Di Maria is only the 3rd player to score at least 2 goals in a match against Real Madrid and Barcelona in the history of the UEFA Champions League after Mário Jardel and Andriy Shevchenko.

**4** Angel Di Maria has been involved in 4 of Paris' last 6 goals in the Champions League (1 goal, 3 assists).

**7** Kieran Trippier created seven chances for Atlético Madrid against Juventus, the most by any player on Match Day 1 of this season's tournament.

**2** Atlético de Madrid has conceded two or more goals in three straight matches in all competitions for the second time in the Simeone era, the first was in February 2014.

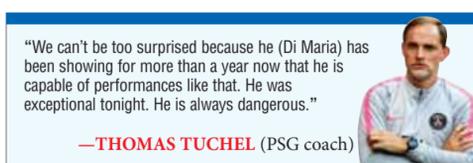
**4** Juan Cuadrado has scored each of his four UEFA Champions League goals in away games.

**1** The 2019-20 Champions League season is the first campaign to see two different players score a hat-trick on their debut (Mislav Orsic and Erling Haaland).

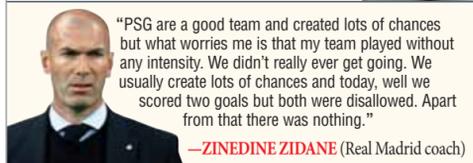
**16** The Bayern Munich wins for the 16th time in a row his opening match in the CL and thus expands the record in this competition.

**2011** It's the first time since Barca and Man Utd in 2011 when both Champions League winners and runners up did not win their first game in the following season.

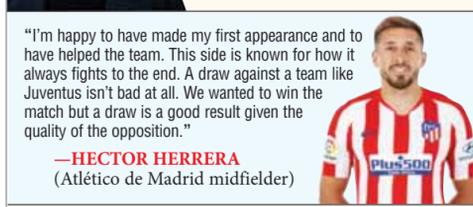
**82** Rodrigo completed all 82 passes that he attempted in Manchester City's win against Shakhtar, the most passes with a 100% success rate in UCL since Oct 2017 (Barzagli for Juventus v Sporting CP — 96/96).



—THOMAS TUCHEL (PSG coach)



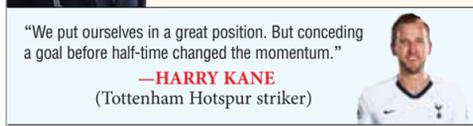
—ZINEDINE ZIDANE (Real Madrid coach)



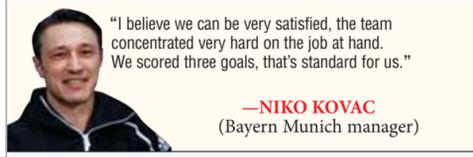
—HECTOR HERRERA (Atlético de Madrid midfielder)



—MAURIZIO SARRI (Juventus manager)



—HARRY KANE (Tottenham Hotspur striker)



—NIKO KOVAC (Bayern Munich manager)



—PEP GUARDIOLA (Manchester City boss)

## SINGLES

**DANANJAYA BANNED FOR ILLEGAL ACTION**  
**DUBAI:** Sri Lanka off-spinner Akila Dananjaya was on Thursday handed a 12 month ban by the International Cricket Council (ICC) for illegal bowling action. The decision was taken after an independent assessment of his action. The 25-year-old was assessed after the legality of his bowling action came under question during the first Test against New Zealand in Galle from August 14th to 18th. He subsequently underwent the independent assessment in Chennai on August 29, which revealed that he employed an illegal bowling action.

**INDIA SLIPS IN FIFA RANKING**  
**ZURICH:** The Indian football team on Thursday slipped a place to 104th position in the latest FIFA rankings. The Indian team, coached by Igor Stimac, have been regularly playing since the 2019 Intercontinental Cup in July. Earlier this month, India had held Asian champions Qatar to a goalless draw in Doha to gain their first point in the 2022 World Cup Qualifiers. Qatar held on to their ranking of 62nd position, despite not being able to beat India. Oman, however, gained three places to 84th spot, following their 2-1 win over India. Belgium managed to hold on to the top position, while France have surpassed Brazil to reach the second spot.

**MARKRAM, MULDER LED FIGHTBACK**  
**MYSURU:** Skipper Aiden Markram and allrounder Wiaan Mulder hit superb hundreds as South Africa 'A' fought their way to 400 all out against India 'A' on day three of the second unofficial Test on Thursday. Markram geared up for the three-Test series against India with a superb 161, while Mulder produced an unbeaten 131 — as the visitors came within 17 runs of India A's first innings of 417. The duo added 155 runs for the sixth wicket stand to resurrect the South Africa A's innings after they were struggling at 142 for 5 to one stage. The home team were 14 for no loss in six overs before bad light resulted in play being called off with over 25 overs still to be bowled.

**DIBABA OUT OF WORLDS WITH INJURY**  
**PARIS:** Genzebe Dibaba, the 2015 champion and world record holder in the women's 1,500 metres, will miss the World Championships due to a foot injury, the Ethiopian said on Instagram. Dibaba, 28, who won the world title in Beijing in 2015 and set the global best of 3min 50.07sec over the distance the same year, is suffering from a partial rupture to a ligament in her right heel which she suffered during the Zurich Diamond League meeting last month. "Unfortunately I am not able to be at Doha World Championship. I am already working to come back stronger!" she posted alongside a photo.

**TEAM ANNOUNCED FOR ASIAN SHOOTING**  
**NEW DELHI:** A 41-member strong Indian shooting squad will look to secure the maximum possible Olympic quotas in the 14th Asian Championship, which begins in Doha on November 3. Thirty-eight Olympic quota places will be up for grabs in the continental tournament in the Qatari capital. The selection committee of the National Rifle Association of India (NRAI), announced the team consisting of shooters across the 15 Olympic events, including six entries only for the non-competition Minimum Qualification Score (MQS) section. A notable selection was the fielding of seasoned rifle shooter Sanjeev Rajput in the MQS section of the men's 10m Air Rifle event. There are also some new faces who will be seen for the first time in senior India colours in the Olympic events.

**BENGAL BEAT HARYANA STEELERS IN PKL**  
**PUNE:** Maninder Singh was the star for Bengal Warriors as they beat Haryana Steelers 48-36 in their Pro Kabaddi League (PKL) match here on Thursday. The victory helped Bengal Warriors consolidate their stay in the second place of the points table. Bengal Warriors dominated the first half of the match with their raiding trio of Maninder Singh, K Prapanjan and Mohammad Nabibaksh picking points with ease against a Haryana defence that evidently lacked leadership. Bengal's dominance was limited to their raids though as their aggressive approach in defence paid rich dividends.

AFP ■ PARIS

Paris Saint-Germain launched their latest quest for Champions League success with a statement win over Real Madrid on Wednesday, while a late Atletico Madrid comeback foiled Juventus as Manchester City eased to their victory in Ukraine.

French giants PSG have failed to make their mark in Europe, crashing out of the Champions League in the last 16 each of the past three years despite the huge sums of money spent by their Qatari owners. With Neymar suspended and Kylian Mbappe and Edinson Cavani sidelined by injury, Angel Di Maria stepped up in their absence by grabbing two first-half goals in a 3-0 triumph at the Parc des Princes. Thomas Meunier added the third late on as Madrid, who beat PSG on the way to lifting the trophy in 2016

and 2018, were soundly beaten in their Group A opener with Eden Hazard kept quiet on his full debut. "There's no message sent, but we dominated this game very well," PSG captain Thiago Silva told RMC Sport. "We have to play like this all the time, in the league as well, with character and hunger." Real, the 13-time European champions, are still favourites to advance from a section that includes Club Brugge and Galatasaray, who drew 0-0 in Belgium, but the nature of the loss underscored the work that lies ahead for coach Zinedine Zidane. Diego Simeone's Atletico clawed their way back from two goals down in the final 20 minutes to rescue a 2-2 draw at home to Juventus in Group D. The anticipated clash between Cristiano Ronaldo and Joao Felix, the teenager



Atletico Madrid's Hector Herrera scores his side's second goal during Group D match against Juventus AP

touted as the heir to Ronaldo's throne, took a backseat to an Atletico rousing comeback after second-half goals from Juan Cuadrado and Blaise Matuidi put Juve in control. Stefan Savic nodded home from point-blank range to give Atletico hope

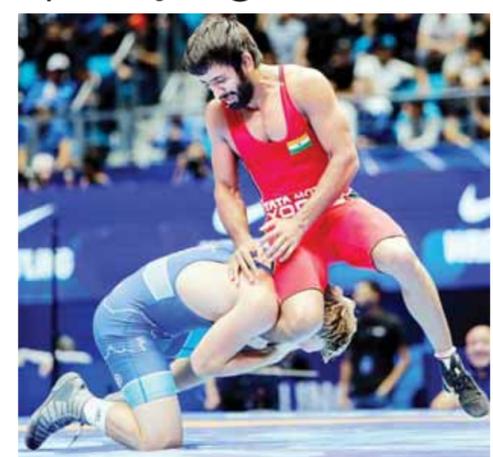
and substitute Hector Herrera headed in a corner in the final minute to snatch a point. "I think we played well but we have a bitter taste in our mouth now because we felt we had the game in our hands," said Juventus boss Maurizio Sarri.

**CITY'S RESPONSE**  
Both sides trail Lokomotiv Moscow following the Russians' 2-1 win at Bayer Leverkusen. Grzegorz Krychowiak and Dmitri Barinov scored for Lokomotiv either side of an own goal by former Germany defender Benedikt

Hoewedes. Premier League champions City bounced back from defeat by Norwich at the weekend with a comfortable 3-0 victory against Shakhtar Donetsk in Kharkiv. Riyad Mahrez slammed home a rebound after Ilkay Gundogan hit the post, and the German international smacked in a second before Gabriel Jesus sealed the points on 76 minutes. "When you win the manager makes the right decisions, when you lose the wrong decisions. We lost one game in eight months and we will not doubt who these players are. It is a joy to be their manager," coach Pep Guardiola told BT Sport. City are second to Dinamo Zagreb in Group C after the Croatian champions made it a night to forget for competition debutants Atalanta with a 4-0 rout. Dinamo failed to score a single goal as they lost all six matches on their last group stage appearance in 2016-17.

However, Marin Leovac gave them a 10th-minute lead and Mislav Orsic bagged a hat-trick as Dinamo got off to a dream start ahead of a trip to City on October 2. Bayern Munich needed late goals from Robert Lewandowski and Thomas Mueller to make sure of victory against Red Star Belgrade in Group D. Kingsley Coman's bullet header gave Bayern a first-half lead but the German champions were forced to wait until the 80th minute before Lewandowski ended Red Star's threat. Substitute Mueller volleyed in a third in stoppage time. Last year's finalists Tottenham blew a two-goal lead to draw 2-2 at Olympiakos. Harry Kane's penalty and a fine Lucas Moura strike put Spurs 2-0 up after 30 minutes in Greece, but Daniel Podence cut the deficit shortly before the break and Mathieu Valbuena levelled from the spot in the second half.

# Bajrang loses in semis after qualifying for 2020 Olympics



Bajrang Punia in action against David Habat during the pre-quarter round PTI

Bajrang Punia lost his semi-final bout against home wrestler Daulet Niyazbekov after controversial circumstances after sealing his Tokyo Olympics quota along with Ravi Dahiya, who made his presence felt in a star-studded field at the World Wrestling Championships, here on Thursday. Bajrang's frustrated coach Shako Benitidis kicked the coach's block in anger after the 65kg bout ended 9-9 following a nerve-wracking six minutes. Since Niyazbekov was given a bigger throw of four points in the bout, he was

declared the winner. In the fiercely-fought bout, the referee gave ample time to tiring Niyazbekov to catch his breath and he was not given caution at least thrice. Instead Niyazbekov was awarded four points when it was Bajrang who effected a throw at the edge of the circle. "I challenged it and they should have given at least two points to Bajrang for that hold," said coach Benitidis. Several times, Bajrang raised his hands in frustration but to no avail. The last edition Silver medalist Indian now fight for the Bronze today. "It was clear that the mat chairman favoured the home

wrestler," said a coach who did not wish to be named. Ravi, who felled a few stars on his way to the 57kg semifinals, lost 4-6 to reigning world champion Zaur Uguev of Russia and will also fight for the Bronze. Ravi also made it to the Tokyo Olympics in the 57kg after stunning Arsen Harutunyan, the 61kg European champion from Armenia and 2017 world champion and world number three Yuki Takahashi of Japan. Meanwhile, India's campaign in the women's competition folded following Pooja Dhand's defeat in the Bronze medal bout and first round exits of Sakshi Malik and Divya Kakran. Pooja could not match his last year's Bronze winning performance as she lost the 59kg Bronze medal play-off 3-5 to 2018 Asian champion Xingru Pei. There was no end to the woes of Rio Olympic Bronze medalist Sakshi Malik, who lost her opening round 7-10 to Nigeria's Aminat Adeniyi. She was knocked out of the tournament after the Nigerian lost her quarterfinal bout. Sakshi waited too long to attack while her powerful opponent moved quickly. In the 68kg, Divya Kakran could not do much against reigning Olympic champion Sara Dosho from Japan, losing the bout 0-2. Dosho later lost her quarterfinal bout, closing repechage doors on Divya.

### CANCELLATION/SHORT TERMINATION/ORIGINATION/REGULATION & RESCHEDULING OF TRAINS

In order to strengthen the existing infrastructure Northern Railway will undertake the Track Renewal work between Hapur - Moradabad, Moradabad - Bareilly, Bareilly - Shahjahanpur & Shahjahanpur - Alam Nagar sections on Moradabad Division. To execute this work traffic block for the duration of 04 Hrs. will be taken on 20.09.2019 consequently, the following trains will be temporarily affected as under :-

CANCELLATION OF TRAINS	
Train No. & Train Name	Date of Cancellation (from originating station)
54056/54055 Delhi - Moradabad - Delhi	20.09.2019

SHORT TERMINATION/ORIGINATION			
Train No. & Name	Train to short Terminate at/ Originate from station	Partially cancelled between Station.	Date of Cancellation (From Originating Station)
14235/14236 Bareilly - Varanasi Jn. - Bareilly Exp.	Lucknow	Bareilly - Lucknow - Lucknow - Bareilly	20.09.2019
55302/55301 Kathgodam - Moradabad - Kathgodam Passenger	Rampur	Rampur - Moradabad - Moradabad - Rampur	20.09.2019
55045/55046 Sitapur Jn - Shahjehanpur-Sitapur Jn Pass.	Bartara Halt	Bartara Halt - Shahjehanpur - Bartara Halt	20.09.2019
55308 Ramnagar - Moradabad Passenger	Pipalsana	Pipalsana - Moradabad - Moradabad - Pipalsana	20.09.2019
55311 Moradabad - Kashipur Passenger	Pipalsana	Pipalsana - Moradabad - Moradabad - Pipalsana	20.09.2019

### REGULATION/RESCHEDULING OF TRAINS

Train No. 15044 Kathgodam - Lucknow Jn. Express will be rescheduled by 02.00 hrs from Kathgodam on 20.09.2019

Train No. 14258 New Delhi - Varanasi Jn. Kashi Vishwanath Express will be regulated by 40 minutes on 20.09.2019 En-route.

Train No. 12318 Amritsar Jn - Kolkata Akal Takhat Express will be regulated by 50 minutes on 20.09.2019 En-route.

Train No. 12392 New Delhi - Rajgir Shramjeevi Superfast Express will be regulated by 30 minutes on 20.09.2019 En-route.

Train No. 54392 Gajraula Jn. - Aligarh Jn Passenger will be regulated by 40 minutes on 20.09.2019 En-route.

Note: For any kind of Information passengers are requested to contact Railway Enquiry No. 139 or visit Indian Railways website [www.enquiry.indianrail.gov.in](http://www.enquiry.indianrail.gov.in).

Security Helpline No. 182 and Passenger Complaint Helpline No. 138

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### PUBLIC NOTICE

General public is hereby informed that the following original equity shares certificates in the name of Sanjiv Saran Dass alias Sanjeev Saran Dass has been lost. Any person in possession may kindly contact Krishna Saran Dass at 9818530976

Name of Company- Jubilant Life Science Ltd. Qty.-300 Folio No. 13830 Certificate No. 207816

Name of Company- India Glycols Ltd. Qty.-2400 Folio No. 00111215 Certificate No. 162834-162857

### PUBLIC NOTICE

General public is hereby informed that the following original equity shares certificates in the name of Chitranjan Dass alias Dass C R, has been lost. Any person in possession may kindly contact Krishna Saran Dass at 9818530976

Name of Company- Ashok Leyland Ltd. Qty.-21000 Folio No. 820 Certificate No. S00820, 33992

Name of Company- Indusind Bank Ltd. Qty.-495 Folio No. 00700002 Certificate No. 635707

### RESEARCH DESIGNS & STANDARDS ORGANISATION, LUCKNOW

#### E-GT Notice no. 03/2019

Executive Director/Stores on behalf of President of India invites GLOBAL tender as follows.

E-tender Number	Description	Due Date
03195018	Procurement of TRI-NETRA	18/11/2019 (Monday)

For Complete details of tender conditions and Corrigendum issued in tender, if any, please visit IREPS website [www.ireps.gov.in](http://www.ireps.gov.in)

### DIESEL LOCOMOTIVE WORKS, VARANASI-221004

Bid. No. IREPS-GT/2019-20/50 Global Tender Notice Date: 16.09.2019

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.: 08191066, Due Date: 14.10.19, Description: Rubber Seal of Coupling Flex 1 Inch. DRG. No. D17282238 (ITEM-3), Alt-D, (P.L. No. 17272488), Quantity: 1340 Nos., S.No.: 2, Tender No.: 08191063, Due Date: 15.10.19, Description: Jack Screw-Male, Drawing No. 40028050, Chart DRG. No. 40028050 Alt-Aa, (P.L. No. 19151044), Quantity: 402 Nos., S.No.: 3, Tender No.: 08191061, Due Date: 16.10.19, Description: Jack Screw-Female, Chart Drawing No. 40028050, Alt-Aa, DRG. No. 40028054, (P.L. No. 19151056), Quantity: 572 Nos. Note: For complete details of tender cost/FEMD and downloading of tender documents please visit IREPS Website: <https://www.ireps.gov.in> GT Corrigendum Notice, Date: 12.09.2019, S.No.: 1, Bid Inv. No.: IREPS 2019-20/25, Tender No.: 10191141, Rev.: 2, Details of Revision: Tender No. 10191141 due on 12.09.2019 treated as cancelled, S.No.: 2, Bid Inv. No.: IREPS 2019-20/30, Tender No.: 10191154, Rev.: 2, Details of Revision: Opening date to be read as 23.09.2019 instead of 12.09.2019, S.No.: 3, Bid Inv. No.: IREPS 2019-20/21, Tender No.: 10191027, Rev.: 2, Details of Revision: Opening date to be read as 27.09.2019 instead of 12.09.2019. GT Corrigendum Notice, Date: 14.09.2019, S.No.: 1, Bid Inv. No.: IREPS 2018-19/104, Tender No.: 101810202, Rev.: 10, Details of Revision: Opening date to be read as 21.10.2019 instead of 16.09.2019. Note: All other terms & conditions remain unchanged.

PRO/DLW/S-75 Controller of Stores [diesellocoworks](https://diesellocoworks) Website: [www.dlw.indianrailways.gov.in](http://www.dlw.indianrailways.gov.in)

# FROM START TO STOP

## Deepak fond of bowling at death despite having success in starting overs

PTI ■ MOHALI

Most bowlers find it tough to contain batsmen in death overs but young India pacer Deepak Chahar relishes the challenge in the Twenty20 format.

With India giving youngsters opportunities ahead of the T20 World Cup next year, 27-year-old Chahar has impressed in the three games he has got since making his debut in July last year, taking six wickets at 11.50.

Used to opening the bowling for Chennai Super Kings in the IPL, Chahar has shown he can be equally effective in the death overs.

"I don't know how I developed it (bowling at the top) but you have to do it when you are playing for India. It is challenging with only two fielders outside the circle. But I have started thinking sub-consciously that I will need to bowl three overs with two fielders outside the circle," said Chahar, who was India's standout bowler in their seven-wicket win over South Africa on Wednesday.

In his opening spell of three overs, Chahar swung the ball and picked up the wicket of Reeza Hendricks before returning in the 18th over to remove a set Temba Bavuma with a well-disguised slower ball.

"Earlier I used to bowl more in the death overs and find it easier because in Powerplay you have only two fielders outside the circle and after that you have the protection of five fielders. You can use variation also in death overs," he said.

Chahar said he focuses on out-guessing the batsman.

"How I bowl depends on the batsmen. In the death overs, the batsman is expecting yorkers or a slower ball but if you can also bowl a bouncer or knuckle ball, it can surprise him. You have to keep guessing the batsman,"



Deepak Chahar, left, looks on as Quinton de Kock completes a run during the second T20 match in Mohali on Wednesday

**Earlier I used to bowl more in the death overs and find it easier because in Powerplay you have only two fielders outside the circle and after that you have the protection of five fielders**  
— Deepak Chahar

said the Rajasthan pacer.

He feels bowling on flat wickets in Chennai during the IPL has made him a better bowler.

"There is no off the wicket help when you are playing in Chennai. But when we were playing in Pune last to last year, there was help both off the wicket and in the air. But in Chennai, the swing is there for maximum one over as there is no grass. So, I got confidence that if I could do well there, I could do well elsewhere too," he said.

Chahar has grabbed his chances so far but knows he is far from cementing his place in the side ahead of the T20 World Cup in Australia.

"There is one whole year left for that. I play each match as if it is my last for India. At this time Indian cricket is at the top. If you want to play you have to do well in almost every game. There is a lot of competition and may be that is why Indian cricket is at the top.

"There is no guarantee that you will get your place back even if you are returning from an injury."

Talking about Virat Kohli's match-winning knock of 72 not out, Chahar was all praise.

"He is just next level and all class," he said.



Temba Bavuma plays a shot during the second T20 international match

## We were not outplayed by beatable India: Bavuma

PTI ■ MOHALI

Inability to cash in on a good start cost South Africa but the visitors were in no way outplayed in the second T20 International against India, insists Proteas Test specialist Temba Bavuma, who had a decent outing in his debut in the shortest format.

South Africa looked set for 180 when skipper Quinton de Kock (52) and Bavuma (49) were in the middle before the southpaw's dismissal put the brakes on the scoring rate, limiting the total to 149 for five.

"The first 10-12 overs we played really well. I think we could not really get going after a good start and lost the game between 12th to the 15th over," Bavuma, who has played 36 Tests, said after the seven-wicket loss to India.

"When David came in the 13th over, we were in a strong position, 180 seemed very much gettable at the halfway stage. I was not really able to get that momentum and others as well. I don't think we were completely outplayed," said Bavuma who missed out on a well-deserved fifty by one run in his attempt

to accelerate.

The 29-year-old from Cape Town said India are formidable but not unbeatable as the Proteas aim to level the series in Bengaluru on Sunday.

"They are formidable but not unbeatable. It was just one phase with the bat where we let ourselves down and a quality side like India made us pay.

"There will always be moments in the game which we can win and it is about being aware of those moments and making sure we are in the right mental space to win those moments," said Bavuma.

Playing his first limited-overs game for South Africa in almost two years, Bavuma made it count.

"It was good to be out there. Facing the white ball again. It has been a while. It was a pleasing effort but did not do much to the result of the game. Last (domestic) season was a big season for me in white ball cricket. There were not many Tests and that allowed me to play white ball cricket. I got the opportunity to come back to the national fold. It helped me understand what my gameplan is in white ball cricket," he explained.

## Panghal, Manish aim for history

PTI ■ EKATERINBURG

India would be aiming to better their best ever show when Amit Panghal (52kg) and Manish Kaushik (63kg) step inside the ring against tough opponents in pursuit of summit berths in the World Men's Boxing Championship here today.

India have never had two semifinalists at the marquee event for amateur boxers and in that respect, the two Haryana boxers have already scripted history.

But if both or either of them manages to make the finals, it would be a gigantic step forward for the sport in the country.



Amit Panghal in action during his quarterfinal bout

The task, however, is easier said than done. Panghal has in his way Kazakhstan's Saken Bibosinov, who stunned Armenia's European Gold-medallist and sixth seed Artur Hovhannissyan in the quarterfinals.

Kaushik, on the other hand, faces the most accomplished boxer in his weight category — Cuban top seed Andy Gomez Cruz, who out-punched Russia's eighth-seeded Ilya Popov in the last-eight stage.

"Now begins the tough job. We have already delivered on bettering the medal count and now we aim to better their colour," Indian Boxing's High Performance Director Santiago Nieva said.

"I am happy but I won't be completely happy till the time both of them reach the finals and they surely can, both of them," added the country's chief coach C A Kuttappa.

They are up against tough challengers but that in no way makes them automatic underdogs.

### QUALIFIERS SEALED

Amit Panghal (52kg) and Manish Kaushik (63kg) have also made the Indian boxing squad for next year's Olympic Qualifiers owing to their medal-winning show.

The Boxing Federation of India (BFI) had made it clear that boxers who win medals at the world championships will be automatic picks for the Olympic qualifiers scheduled in February in China.

"Yes, Amit and Manish will be going to the qualifiers. There will not be any trials in their weight categories now," Indian Boxing's High Performance Director Santiago Nieva said.

The rest of the squad will be picked on the basis of camp performance, points accumulated at international events and trials.

## Praneeth keeps hopes alive



Praneeth returns a shot during World Cup match

PTI ■ CHANGZHOU

Reigning world champion PV Sindhu made an early exit from the China Open but B Sai Praneeth kept the Indian flag fluttering with a hard-fought straight-game win to reach the men's singles quarterfinals here on Thursday.

Sindhu, an Olympic Silver medallist, squandered a first-game advantage to go down 12-21, 21-13, 21-19 to Thailand's Pornpawee Chochuwong in a women's singles pre-quarterfinals that lasted 58 minutes here.

Praneeth, who had claimed a Bronze

medal at Basel, edged out China's Lu Guang Zu 21-19, 21-19 to set up a meeting against Indonesian seventh seed Anthony Sinisuka Ginting.

Ginting beat India's Parupalli Kashyap 23-21, 15-21, 21-12 in a thrilling contest. Doubles specialist Satwiksairaj Rankireddy also had a dismal day as he suffered twin defeats, losing both the men's doubles and mixed doubles pre-quarterfinals.

In men's doubles, Satwik and Chirag Shetty, ranked 15th in the world, ran out of steam after a decent start against fourth-seeded Japanese pair of Takeshi Kamura and Keigo Sonoda and went down 19-21, 8-21 in the second-round match that lasted 33 minutes.

This is the second time Satwik and Chirag have lost to the combination of Kamura and Sonoda this year. They had lost to the world No 4 pair at the Japan Open in July.

Satwik then paired up with his mixed doubles partner Ashwini Ponnappa but the duo couldn't get past Yuki Kaneko and Misaki Matsutomo, losing 11-21, 21-16, 12-21 to the Japanese pair.

Ashwini also tasted defeat in women's doubles after she and her partner N Sikki Reddy lost 12-21, 17-21 to second seeded Japanese pair of Misaki Matsutomo and Ayaka Takahashi.

## Paine sees 'very exciting era'

AFP ■ SYDNEY

Captain Tim Paine has predicted a "very exciting era" for Australian cricket after the team retained the Ashes against England, while revealing he broke his thumb in the final Test.

"I'm looking forward to Australia seeing how far we've come this summer," Paine said in a column for *The Australian* newspaper, referring to upcoming home Tests against Pakistan and New Zealand.

"Last year we were a bit lost and were finding our way," he added after the side struggled in the wake of the ball-tampering scandal in South Africa.

"I know we have found it now and I am confident this group is the beginning of a very exciting era in Australian cricket.

"We've got the best bowling attack in the world and the basis for a great batting line-up"

Australia retaining the Ashes was built on the back of an incredible series by former skipper Steve Smith, who scored 774 runs in just seven innings, and an impressive bowling attack led



Australian players celebrate after dismissing English batsman during fifth Ashes Test

by Pat Cummins and Josh Hazlewood.

Paine called Smith "a freak" while also praising Marnus Labuschagne as having "a huge future" after he too enjoyed a stellar tour with the bat.

Coming off a long overseas tour and with five home Tests starting from

November 21, Paine said he needs to rest and will not play the domestic Big Bash League Twenty20 competition this season.

"Being captain is draining and I think I should take every chance to recharge my batteries," he said.

## Mirabai betters national record but misses medal

PTI ■ PATTAYA

Former champion Mirabai Chanu bettered her own national record but missed out on a podium, finishing a creditable fourth, in the women's 49kg event at the World Weightlifting Championship here on Thursday.

The 25-year-old Mirabai lifted a personal best in all the three sections. In snatch she lifted 87kg followed by 114kg in clean and jerk for a total of 201kg.

Mirabai's earlier national record was 199kg (88kg+111kg) which she recorded in the Asian Weightlifting Championship in

China in April.

The Gold medal went to Jiang Huihua of China who set a new world record with an effort of 212kg (94kg+118kg). The earlier record was held by Hou Zhihui of China, who had lifted 210kg.

Incidentally Zhihui clinched the Silver medal, lifting 211kg (94kg+117kg) in the gold level Olympic qualifier. North Korea's Ri Song Gum claimed the final spot on the podium by lifting 204kg (89kg+115kg).

After clearing 87kg in snatch, Mirabai began her clean and jerk with a 110kg and then lifted 114kg.

But in her third attempt, the



Mirabai Chanu attempts to lift in clean and jerk during Gold Coast CWG

Manipuri could not lift 118kg and that cost her dear. Had she been successful, she would have won an overall Bronze medal with a total of 205kg. She would

have also won a Silver in the clean and jerk section.

In World Championships and continental championships, medals are awarded separately for

snatch, clean and jerk, and total lift. But in the Olympics, medals are awarded only for total lift.

This was Mirabai's fourth international competition in this category after the International Weightlifting Federation re-jigged the weight categories last year. She was earlier competing in 48kg.

The other Indian in the fray, Sneha Soren finished second in group D of the women's 55kg event.

The 18-year-old lifted a 173kg (72kg+101kg) to be placed at the second spot in the eight-woman field of the easiest group competition.

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The Indian men's doubles pair of G Sathiyam and Achantha Sharath Kamal sailed into the quarterfinals of the 24th ITTF Asian Table Tennis Championships with easy win over Mahfooth Sayed Murtadha and Rashed Rashed of Bahrain at Yogyakarta, Indonesia on Thursday.

The Indian duo beat Murtadha and Rashed 11-8, 11-6, 11-3 in a lopsided affair.

In the quarterfinals, Sathiyam and Sharath Kamal will be up against Chinese pair of Liang Jingkun and Lin Gaoyuan.

Earlier in the day after receiving first-round bye,

## Kamal-Sathiyam storm into quarters



Sharath Kamal and Sathiyam in a file picture

Sathiyam/Twitter

the Indians got the better of Jordan's Abo Yaman Zaid and Aldmaizy Zeyad 11-4, 11-7, 11-7 in the round of 32.

But the other Indian pair of Harmeet Desai and Anthony Amalraj, after enjoying a bye in the round of 64, lost to Chinese Taipei's Liu Hsing-Yin and Peng Wang Wei.

Harmeet and Amalraj fought hard before losing 11-5, 7-11, 11-3, 8-11, 6-11 against their accomplished Chinese rivals.

It was curtains for India in the women's

doubles as the pair of Manika Batra and Archana Kamath and Madhurika Patkar and Sutirtha Mukherjee bowed out the tournament.

In the mixed event, the pairs of Sharath Kamal-Manika and Sathiyam-Archana lost in the round of 32.

While Korean pair of Lee Sangsu and Jeo Jhicee accounted for Sharath and Manika 11-9 11-8 11-7, China's Wang Chuqin and Sun Yingsha beat Sathiyam and Archana 11-7 11-9 13-11.

In men singles, Sharath Kamal, Sathiyam, Amalraj, Harmeet and Manav Thakkar had all received first-round byes and registered 3-0 wins over their respective rivals in the round of 128.

Only Harmeet dropped a game against Panagitgun Yanapang of Thailand before overcoming his rival 11-9, 6-11, 11-5, 11-5.

In women singles, Archana enjoyed the random bye in the round of 128 while others had to play their first round matches to enter the round of 64.

## Sri Lanka to go ahead with Pak tour

AFP ■ COLOMBO

Sri Lanka's cricket board on Thursday said it will go ahead with its tour of Pakistan despite fears that players could be the targets of terror attacks during the six-match visit.

Sri Lanka Cricket secretary Mohan de Silva said they received the all-clear from the defence ministry to leave for Pakistan on Tuesday after establishing that there was no threat to the national team.

Sri Lanka Cricket added in a statement that the governing body was assured the Pakistan army would coordinate security set at a level usually reserved for a head of state.

"Sri Lanka Cricket wishes to announce that the forthcoming tour of Pakistan will go ahead as planned, following assurances given by the government of Pakistan that it will provide maximum security," the statement said.

De Silva added that he and "our office bearers will also be accompanying the team."

The six-match tour, due to start on September 27, was put on hold last week after the Sri Lanka prime minister's office warned the board it had unspecified information about a possible attack against its players.

The Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) said it was not aware of any information relating to the safety of the Sri Lankan team, but reiterated its commitment to providing security.