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Chidambaram sent to Tihar Jail for 14 days

SC rejects ex-FM's anticipatory bail plea in money-laundering probe by ED

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Former Union Home and Finance Minister P Chidambaram was on Thursday sent by a Special Court to Tihar Jail for 14-day judicial custody in connection with the INX Media corruption case soon after the Supreme Court rejected his anticipatory bail plea in the money laundering probe by the Enforcement Directorate (ED).

Special Judge Ajay Kumar Kuhar sent Chidambaram to judicial custody till September 19. The court allowed him to carry his medicines to jail and directed that he be kept in a separate cell in the prison as he is a Z-category protectee.

Solicitor General Tushar Mehta, representing CBI, assured that there will be adequate security for Chidambaram in the jail. The special court also issued notice to the ED on Chidambaram's plea seeking to surrender in the money laundering case lodged by the agency in which the apex court on Thursday dismissed his plea against the August 20 order of the Delhi High Court denying him pre-arrest bail.



Congress leader and former Finance Minister P Chidambaram being taken to Tihar Jail in connection with the INX Media corruption case in New Delhi on Thursday

Chidambaram, 73, was produced before the special court on Thursday after the expiry of his 15-day CBI custody that was granted in five spells after his arrest on August 20 night.

Chidambaram's counsel opposed the CBI plea for judicial custody and said that the veteran Congress leader was ready to go into the ED custody for interrogation in the related money laundering case in which the Supreme Court on Thursday refused to grant him pre-arrest bail.

Chidambaram was brought to the Special Court hours after he withdrew his petition in the SC challenging the non-bailable warrant (NBW) issued against him by the trial court earlier leading to his CBI custody on August 22. Meanwhile, the SC decided on his appeal against the

Delhi High Court's August 20 order in the money laundering case lodged by ED and rejected his plea against denial of the anticipatory bail in the case. Hours after the apex court order denying him pre-arrest bail in the ED's money laundering probe, another special court granted Chidambaram and his son Karti anticipatory bail in the Aircel Maxis cases. In the INX Media case, Solicitor General Tushar Mehta represented the CBI and senior advocate Kapil Sibal appeared for Chidambaram.

The CBI had registered an FIR on May 15, 2017, alleging irregularities in the Foreign Investment Promotion Board (FIPB) clearance granted to the INX Media group for receiving overseas funds of ₹305 crore in 2007 during Chidambaram's tenure as the Finance Minister in the UPA Government.

Following the CBI's FIR in the INX case, the ED lodged a money laundering case in 2017. During the proceedings, the Solicitor General informed the Supreme Court's order in the ED case and also about the withdrawal of his petitions in the CBI case.

The CBI told the court that Chidambaram can be sent to judicial custody as he was a powerful public person and should not be set free. Sibal opposed the CBI contention saying there was no allegation that Chidambaram tried to influence or hamper probe.

Sibal further said that Chidambaram was ready to go to the ED custody in money laundering case related to the INX Media. Sibal told the court that Chidambaram would surrender and ED could take him into its custody.

"Why should I (Chidambaram) be sent to jail (Tihar)?" he said and pressed that the ED should take him into its custody.

"There is nothing found against me. There is no chargesheet. They say I am powerful and influential. But they have no evidence. There is no proof of tampering with evidence. Has a witness said anything like that?" Sibal argued.

The Solicitor General objected to Sibal's submissions contending that he is arguing for bail. However, Sibal asserted, "The reasons given in the application for judicial custody are non-existent. What do you need me for in judicial custody?"

Chidambaram has been allowed by the court to take his medicines, spectacles to the jail No 7. He will be lodged in a separate cell in the Tihar prison as he is a protectee under Z-security. He will be provided western toilet facility. But he will be given jail food comprising rotis, dal, sabji and rice.

Chidambaram has been provided a "wooden takht" without a mattress to sleep on. He will be served breakfast between 7 am and 8 am. In case 73-year-old Chidambaram, reportedly fond of south Indian meals, does not eat food prepared in the jail, then he reserves the right to order snacks cooked in the jail canteen. He can either drink water from a RO plant or purchase packaged bottle from the canteen. "He will have access to the prison's library and also watch television, just like a normal inmate," the official added.

Wooden plank, prison food for PC in jail no 7



Police personnel stand guard outside Tihar Jail ahead of the arrival of former Finance Minister P Chidambaram in New Delhi on Thursday

AGENCIES ■ NEW DELHI

Former Finance Minister P Chidambaram has been allowed by the court to take his medicines, spectacles to the jail No 7. He will be lodged in a separate cell in the Tihar prison as he is a protectee under Z-security. He will be provided western toilet facility. But he will be given jail food comprising rotis, dal, sabji and rice.

Chidambaram has been provided a "wooden takht"

Modi asks Mahathir to extradite Zakir Naik

PM tells his Malaysian counterpart reasons behind J&K decisions

PTI ■ VLADIVOSTOK

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Thursday raised the issue of Zakir Naik's extradition with his Malaysian counterpart Mahathir Mohamad as India stepped up efforts to seek the controversial radical preacher's return to India to face terrorism and money laundering charges.

Prime Minister Modi, who met Mahathir on the sidelines of the fifth meeting of the Eastern Economic Forum (EEF) held here, also explained to his Malaysian counterpart the rationale behind India's decision to revoke Jammu & Kashmir's special status.

"Had a great meeting with Dr Mahathir Mohamad, Prime Minister of Malaysia. We talked about bilateral ties between our nations and ways to further diversify cooperation," Modi tweeted. Briefing reporters on the meeting, Foreign Secretary Vijay Gokhale said Prime Minister Modi raised the issue of Naik's extradition from Malaysia during his meeting with Mahathir. "Both the parties have decided that our officials will stay in contact regarding the matter and it is an important issue for us," Gokhale said. Naik, a 53-year-old radical television preacher, left India in 2016 and



Prime Minister Narendra Modi shakes hands with his Malaysian counterpart Mahathir Mohamad on the sidelines of 5th Eastern Economic Forum at Vladivostok in Russia on Thursday

subsequently moved to the largely Muslim Malaysia, where he was granted permanent residency. He has been wanted by Indian authorities since 2016 for alleged money laundering and inciting extremism through hate speeches.

Naik has been banned from all public activities in the multi-ethnic Malaysia after his remarks against Malaysian Hindus and Chinese on August 8.

Gokhale said Prime Minister Modi discussed with Mahathir the "reorganisation" and the developments related to Jammu & Kashmir. The growing threat of terrorism also figured in their talks, he said. "Prime Minister Modi explained to Mahathir the rationale behind the reorganisation

of the state of Jammu & Kashmir, in terms of both giving effective governance and delivering socio-economic justice. And in that context the two leaders discussed the focus was on terrorism, on how to combat the growing threat of terrorism," Gokhale said.

"Prime Minister Mahathir acknowledged that terrorism was a global problem and Malaysia is against any form of terrorism," he added. India revoked Jammu & Kashmir's special status on August 5 and has categorically told the international community that the scrapping of Article 370 was an internal matter and also advised Pakistan to accept the reality. Pakistan is trying to internationalise the Kashmir.

Centre plans GST cut to bail out auto sector

Nitin Gadkari assures all possible Govt help to industry

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Government seems to be getting ready to consider the demand of the auto industry to reduce the GST to revive demand in the sector that has led to massive job losses and production cut. Auto sector invites 28 per cent GST.

Union Minister Nitin Gadkari on Thursday said he will discuss the demand for GST reduction with Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman and assured the crisis-hit automobile industry of all possible support from the Government. "I will follow it up with the Finance Minister. The sector needs help right now to increase vehicle sales," Gadkari said on the sidelines of an event attended by automobile industry stakeholders in Delhi.

Gadkari said with the impending increase of vehicles' prices and the upcoming BS VI norms deadline, the industry's suggestions for reduction in tax on petrol and diesel vehicles are appreciable. The next GST Council meeting to be chaired by the Finance Minister is scheduled for September 20 and on



agenda are deliberations on automobiles, tyres, cement, ACs, and large LCD televisions.

Automobiles also bear a cess, depending on the size of the vehicle, further increasing the total tax incidence.

While announcing that if GST is reduced for some time to help the industry, Gadkari asked automobile companies to have in-house finance companies to help generate sales.

Speaking at the event earlier organised by Society of Indian Automobile Manufacturers, SIAM president Rajan Wadhwa had asked the Government to consider reducing GST on automobiles to help it overcome the prolonged slowdown. "We have reduced GST in electric vehicles. Now I am trying that GST on hybrid vehicles is also reduced."

I am following up regarding this with the Finance Minister, Gadkari said. Gadkari, who had in 2017 stated the auto industry would be "bulldozed" if they didn't push for electric vehicles, also struck a conciliatory note saying that the Government has no intention to ban petrol and diesel vehicles.

PM to lay foundation of new Secretariat on Sept 12

Cabinet nod to 22 proposals, including special session of Assembly

PNS ■ RANCHI

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on his one day visit to State Capital on September 12 will lay the foundation stone of new secretariat building coming up at HEC area. The Prime Minister on the same day will also inaugurate the new building of Assembly building at Kute village and will also inaugurate the inland waterways project at Sahibganj.

The State Cabinet today gave its nod for construction of new secretariat building at HEC, which will come up at an estimated cost of Rs 1238.92 crore. State Cabinet Coordination department secretary-in-charge AK Singh said, "The Cabinet on Thursday gave the administrative approval for the construction of new secretariat building at HEC. The G+3 building having a built up area of 23.60 lakh sq feet has an estimated cost of Rs 1238.92 crore." The State-of-art building will have the height of 33.5 metre and will have chambers for Chief Minister, Chief Secretary and 12 ministers. The secretariat building will also have offices of 32 departments. The new secretariat building will be adjacent to new

Vidhan Sabha building.

Presently the State Government secretariat is running from Project Bhavan at HEC and Nepal House Doranda for past 19 years. The State Cabinet on Thursday also gave its nod for holding the one day special session of Vidhan Sabha a day after the Prime Minister Modi inaugurates the new building. The one day special session will have address of Governor Droupadi Murmu and other activities will be held during special session.

The new building of Jharkhand Assembly will be a State-of-Art building built with a budget of Rs. 465 crore. The dome shaped building will have the height of 37 metre replicating the rich culture and tradition of Jharkhand. Through the strength of Jharkhand Assembly is 81, but there will be sitting capacity for 150 lawmakers in central hall keeping in mind that the Assembly strength will go up due to delimitation in future.

The State Cabinet on Thursday also gave its nod for supplying food packets to Aaganwadi Centres by Jharkhand State Livelihood Promotion Society (JSLPS). Earlier, various private agencies are providing food packets at Aaganwadi Centres, but with JSLPS getting the work the women working under the self help groups will be benefited. Sources said that the State Government is going to save Rs 500 crore through supply of food packets by JSLPS. The State Cabinet also gave its nod

for decreasing the cut off marks required by particularly vulnerable tribal group (earlier: Primitive tribal group) youths in competitive examination being conducted by Jharkhand Public Service Commission and Jharkhand Staff Selection Commission. Earlier, the PVTG group needed 32 per cent for qualifying any competitive examinations but now the youths from these categories can be qualified even on getting 30 per cent marks. The State Cabinet also gave its nod for promotion of eight civil judge judicial officers to the rank of district judge.

Similarly nod for constitution of Dam Safety Review Panel was given in today's Cabinet meet. The panel which will consist of a chairman and experts will review the dams structure and other function. The panel time to time will also give its suggestion about how to improve the structural strength of the dams. The constitution of panel assumes importance as recently a portion (wall) of Konar irrigation project collapsed. The foundation of which was laid in 1978 with estimated cost of Rs 11.43 crore was inaugurated after 41 years on Wednesday when its estimated cost rose to Rs 2,176.25 crore.

In today's Cabinet meet approval to 22 agenda were given nod which included from health department for setting up Jan Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janashadhi Kendras as medical colleges and 500 bed hospitals among others.

CM fiat to complete electricity works in time

PNS ■ RANCHI

Chief Minister Raghubar Das today asked officials to complete electricity fortification work by October 31. Holding a review meeting of JUSNL and JBVNL here on Thursday the CM said that after seven decades of independence the villages of Jharkhand are now brightened with electricity. "It is just a matter of little work now, we have to move ahead towards zero cut with quality," he said.

Das said that completion of transmission work will ensure better quality electricity in far off areas, while situation will also improve in the urban areas. He said that work should be completed by the time given by contractors; else their funds will be



Chief Minister Raghubar Das holds review meeting with Energy department officials at Project building in Ranchi on Thursday

deducted. The CM said that work on most of the trans-

mission lines is on the verge of completion. If contractors

have any problems they can contact the department offi-

cial, who need to solve the issues of contractors by holding meetings in every fortnight. The deadline will not be extended at any cost, he said.

The CM expressed anguish over delay in zero power cut in the capital city and scolded the officers. He said that the timelines must have been given with proper evaluation of work. He asked the officials to complete the works in time.

Principal Secretary to CM, Sunil Kumar Barnwal, Energy Secretary Vandana Dadel, JBVNL MD Rahul Purwar, PCCF Shashi Nandkulyar, JUSNL's Niranjan Kumar along with contractors of the department were present in the meeting.



Governor Droupadi Murmu pays tribute to former President Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan on his birth anniversary, at Raj Bhawan in Ranchi on Thursday

STOLEN BABY GIRL FROM MGM STILL TRACELESS Police set up search teams

PNS ■ JAMSHEDPUR

Even after 24 hours the newborn baby girl stolen from the MGM Medical College Hospital is yet to be traced. A case has been registered with the Sakchi police station in connection to the incident late last night.

"We are making every effort to trace the woman who has picked up the newborn baby from the administrative building of the hospital last afternoon. A team of police officials led by sub-inspector Jogendra Rai is conducting raids," said OC, Sakchi police station LP Mandal.

The OC said the police team has studied the footage of the CCTV and is making best effort to trace the child. "We have sent teams to bus stands, including the Sitaramdera Bus terminus and also the Tatanagar railway station. The team has not returned back yet," said Mandal. A baby girl born to Horo and Pangela Purty from Chaibasa in West Singhbhum stolen by a middle-aged woman an hour after the caesarean section delivery at the hospital's labour room on Wednesday afternoon.



As the baby was handed over to the unknown unsuspecting woman by her grandmother near the registration section in the administrative building, the hospital authority claim that the theft was not due to any laxity by the hospital administration.

Hospital sources said Pangela Purty was taken to the labour room this morning where after a cesarean section she delivered a girl child around 12.20 pm.

As the newborn was healthy the nurses handed

over her to her grandmother, who was accompanying Purty.

The grandmother stepped down the stairs and came near the registration counter carrying the newborn with Pangela Purty still in labour room.

The middle aged woman appeared and befriended with the child's grandmother and later took her away. The matter came to light at 5.30 pm when it was reported to hospital authorities.

Deputy superintendent,

MGM Medical College Hospital, Nakul Chaudhury, said that they are in touch with police in searching for the stolen child. "We are confident that the police will detect the woman who has stolen the child," said Chaudhury. But when asked, about security of the hospital, Chaudhury said "The hospital management cannot stop anyone entering into the hospital. Moreover, criminals having injury or ailment use to visit our hospital regularly."

Bokaro Police launches crackdown on bikes with modified silencers

PNS ■ BOKARO

If you have a loud exhaust in your Royal Enfield or in any other bike in Bokaro, you might land in trouble soon.

Keeping a check on rising noise pollution, motorcycles with modified silencers are banned in Bokaro district. Following the directive Bokaro Deputy Commissioner Mukesh Kumar, police plan to launch a crackdown on bikers who use modified silencers that create bursting sounds, MM Prasad Sinha DSP Traffic Bokaro. "Our force will penalise the vehicle owners and will also ensure that these exhaust systems are replaced. Such nuisance will not be tolerated," he added.

The DSP said, under the Environment (Protection) Rules, 1986, 80 decibels is the maximum noise limit for motorcycles and scooters. But, bikers who use modified silencers on their vehicles violate the norms. "A bike fitted with modified silencer produces noise that is at least 120 decibels and often above 130 decibels," he added.

"Alteration of a factory model is illegal under the Motor Vehicles Act. The motorcycles have stock silencers with three filters to

produce low sound. But, bikers often alter the silencer to produce loud sound," said a district transport official. This can attract a penalty, he said. Most of the young bikers opt for aftermarket silencers on motorcycles especially on Royal Enfield bikes and many cities across the country are facing a nuisance, said another transport official.

The loud thumping noise from these silencers are not just a big cause of noise pollution but also reduces the efficiency of the bike and is a big safety hazard, he said.

There are a number of motorcycles in the district having modified silencers that produce high sound level, a number of motorcycles also generate firecracker-like sounds that have resulted in panic and accidents, said S Kewat a retired BSL employee and a resident of Sector 3 in B S City. "Such fire-cracker like sound from these vehicles shock commuters.

Stringent action should be taken against such rogue bikers," added Kewat. Any mobike owner who has been using such illegal silencer should switch back to stock exhaust in order to avoid legal action, appealed DSP.

IN BRIEF

TEACHER'S DAY AT LIONS CLUB OF RANCHI CITY

Lions Club of Ranchi City today celebrated Teacher's Day at Middle School Nagra Toli. The three teachers of the school Pramila Bala, Sushma Kerketta and Reena Rani Ekka were given felicitated by President Rinku Banerjee, who gave bouquet and gifts to them. The students presented a cultural programme and threw light on the life of Dr Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan. Swati Rastogi, Renu Thakur and Sushma Trivedi were present on the occasion and four chairs and biscuits, toffees and fruits were distributed for 70 students.



PROGRAMME HELD AT KAIRALI SCHOOL

A programme on teachers' day was organised at Kairali School on Thursday. The programme began with the teachers and students singing the school song. Congratulating the teachers on the occasion, Principal Jacob CJ said that the contribution of teachers is commendable for a developed society. They selflessly provide education to millions of youth nurturing them to lead the country and world. He also shared memories of his journey with the teachers. Kishagrah and Shreyasi asked the teachers witty questions and gave prizes. Under the guidance of dance teacher Kim Meshram, students of class VI to VIII presented a dance based on the theme of cleanliness. All students and teachers were present on the occasion.



DELHI PUBLIC SCHOOL ORGANISES SPECIAL PROG

A special programme was organised at Delhi Public School for the teachers and school staff on teachers' day. Great scholar and academic philosopher Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan born on this day was honoured. Students organised various games and activities for the teachers who participated with great fervor. Principal Ram Singh thanked all the teachers for their selfless work for the betterment of students. "A teacher's role in a child's life is as important as a parent. A teacher is like a candle, it consumes itself to light the way for others," said Singh.



TAURIAN WORLD SCHOOL CELEBRATES TEACHER'S DAY

Teachers' day celebrations were held at Taurian World School on Thursday. In one programme students acted like teachers while the teachers behaved like students and were made to learn in a classroom. Students also organised fun games, dramas, songs and dances for their mentors. The whole school was immersed in an atmosphere of gaiety. The principal also gave a motivational speech on the occasion.



TEACHER'S DAY HELD AT CAMBRIAN PUBLIC SCHOOL

Teachers' day was celebrated at Cambrian Public School on Thursday. Cambrian Group of Schools Chairman Panoram Singh was the chief guest. He said that education is the backbone of a nation and teachers play an important role in making a strong foundation. "Teachers should not just follow the syllabus but also teach rituals, discipline and love for the nation to the students," he said. Principal Neeta Pandey said that teachers should understand their responsibility and contribute to nation building. Students presented a short play on "Gurudev Maheshwar". Ankit Singhdev presented his views on the importance of teachers. Music teachers Satish Mishra and Monica Munda sang a song. Anandmai Singh, Sunita Bhatia and others were present on the occasion.



PROGRAMMES IN VIDYA VIKAS PUBLIC SCHOOL

VVPS students presented colourful programmes on the occasion of teachers' day on Thursday. Students presented a greeting card to the principal, teachers and staff. Principal Rajan Varghese and headmistress Dr Pratyusha Biswas offered flowers to Dr. Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan's photo. Varghese said that the relation of students and teachers should be of respect. "Not just teachers but every person who teaches us something is a guru," he said. Students Sejal Chandel Shri spoke about the achievements of Dr Radhakrishnan. Students from class VI to XII presented dance, poems, speech on the occasion.



TEACHER'S DAY AT CENTRAL UNIVERSITY, J'KHAND

Many programmes were organised by the students of various departments on teachers' day at Central University of Jharkhand. Addressing the gathering Vice Chancellor Nnad Kumar Yadav said that there is no greater contribution than that of a teacher in giving the right direction to the society. "Teachers have a major role in taking the universities to greater heights. Conducting the convocation ceremony is a very big goal of the university in which everyone's corporation is expected," he said. Registrar Dr Hari Kumar, DSW Dr Manoj Kumar, Librarian SK Pandey and others were present on the occasion.

SARLA BIRLA PUBLIC SCHOOL HOLDS TEACHER'S DAY

Teachers' day was celebrated with enormous gusto and gaiety at SBPS, Ranchi in order to mark the birth anniversary of Dr. Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan who was a scholar and above all, a Teacher. The students of junior wing made cards for their teachers; recited self-composed poems and enjoyed activities with the teachers. The students of senior wing performed a scintillating cultural show to acknowledge and recognise the hard work put in by the teachers towards their development. The cultural show incorporated songs, dance and drama. The various programmes 'Divine Dancers', 'Main Teacher Banna Chahiti Hun', 'Swing Squad', 'Dance Maniax', 'Anonymous Kalakar' and an exceptional MIME Act 'There was a Class' were highly appreciated. After the Cultural programme, the students enacted as the pupil teachers. They went to the classes and handled the class.



JBVNL takes steps to strengthen its infrastructure

PNS ■ JAMSHEDPUR

The Jharkhand Bijli Vitran Nigam Limited (JBVNL) has embarked on measures in Kolhan to strengthen its infrastructure. The move is aimed at checking power outage and intermittent cuts during the festive season ahead.

JBVNL has started a locality-wise drive to check all power lines and important installations like transformers, poles and substations to detect faults so that steps could be taken to mend them. "In view of Durga Puja and other festivals we have started the drive. We want to ensure hassle-free power supply to our consumers. Therefore, steps are being initiated in advance," said a JBVNL junior engineer.

During the drive electricians and other staff of JBVNL went through localities in Mango, Jugsalai, Adityapur, Govindpur, Sundernagar, Sonar and Kadma and check necessary installations. Those who are part of the drive have been asked to submit a daily status report to the office of the executive Engineer.

Currently, most JBVNL services are confronting with the problem of power cuts. Situation becomes grim whenever it rains. The problem of power cuts in JBVNL areas is because of the fact that all



cables are overhead unlike JUSCO command areas where all cables are underground.

The district administration and puja committees are making arrangements to ensure safe Durga Puja. The mess of unprotected, overburdened and expired electric wires supported on rusted poles is a common sight on all main roads, subsidiary streets and puja pandals alike.

And when, during Dussehra, electricity consumption increases 30 MW (to 210 MW from 180 MW) in the city, it is passed on to these wires. There are rules that say every pandal has to take a legal electricity connection by giving an application to the State electricity board.

This is a method of dealing with the increased electricity demand and to avoid any untoward happening because of the short-circuiting and wire breakdown during pujas.

Officials of JBVNL

Police seize 70 tonnes of illegally-mined coal

PNS ■ BERMO

A police team headed by officer-in-charge of Bokaro thermal police, Umesh Kumar Thakur on a day long conducted massive raids at Jarandih region of the same police station about 3 km from here and seized 70 tonnes of illegally mined coals, said police sources.

According to police sources, the patrolling party laid trap at Jarandih near Manjhitola and 10 no area after it got information that illegal coal is being transported from Kathara CCL mines to other destination. As per information, when the local Bokaro Thermal police reached at Manjhitola on Wednesday and found, 70 tonnes of stolen coal was dumped near by ground being stored by some locals was seized, Officer in-Charge



Umesh Kumar Thakur. The Officer-in Charge said that the operation was conducted following the directive of Bokaro Superintendent of police P

Murugan. Sources said coal is carted on local bicycle and begs and dumped near the Manjhitola and 10-no area near Jarandih from where it is

transported to other destinations. With the sudden raids panic seems to have spread among some of the illegal traders in the locality.

Three labourers injured in washery collapse at Gomia

SURESH NIKHAR ■ BERMO

At least three coal washery workers were injured after the main building of Swang CCL washery collapsed on Thursday afternoon. All labourers were rescued so far and three have been injured and admitted in CCL Kathara hospital, Gomia police said. Sources said that the main washery building near Swang in Gomia in Bokaro collapsed around 03:40 pm. "The building is around 50 years old. The entire focus is on rescuing the workers trapped. Investigation will be done," said CCL authorities. Sources said that three work-



ers were doing their job inside the main building of Swang washery at 3 pm, when it suddenly collapsed. All three workers have been rescued from the site. The min-

ing site, which is full of dilapidated buildings, had been flooded due to heavy rain in the past weeks, police reported. According to CCL authorities the local residents also joined in the rescue effort and formed a human chain to help remove the debris.

While a large number of workers reached the site following the accident and shifted the 3 injured workers identified as Chhotka Day, Mohan Hansda and Baidhnath Mahto to a nearby CCL hospital Kathara, said Inspector Umesh Kumar Thakur. Apart from CCL personnel, police teams, and ambulance are at the location.

2-day seminar 'Behind the Teacher's Desk' kicks off

PNS ■ JAMSHEDPUR

The two-day students' seminar on metallurgical engineering 'Behind The Teacher's Desk' (BTDD-2019), organised by Indian Institute of Metals (IIM) Jamshedpur Chapter in association with CSIR-National Metallurgical Laboratory (NML), and Tata Steel kicked-off on Thursday at CSIR-NML. The seminar was formally inaugurated with the release of seminar souvenir by the Tridibesh Mukherjee, chairman, TechnoPlus Consultants Pvt. Ltd., Jamshedpur.

The aim of the seminar is to provide a common platform for promising and aspiring metallurgists to interact with the pool of experts from industries, R&D centers and academia. The student participants of this event will get an opportunity to update their current knowledge base, and share



their academic achievements, innovative thoughts and new ideas in the field of metallurgy and materials technology. Since its inception in the year 2012, the seminar "Behind the

Teacher's Desk (BTDD)" has blossomed into one of the most sought after event among the student fraternity of India. Like previous years, this year also more than 150 students

from 50 engineering colleges/institutes from different parts of the country are participating, and around 55 technical papers and 20 e-posters are to be presented in two par-

allel sessions. Dr. Indranil Chatteraj, Director of CSIR-NML, Jamshedpur welcomed the Chief Guest and the student delegates.

He motivated the metallurgy graduates to work and contribute in core profession and to come up with noble and newer ideas for the advancement of the metallurgy and materials engineering. Dr. Tridibesh Mukherjee, Chairman, TechnoPlus Consultants Pvt. Ltd., Jamshedpur, and the Chief Guest of the inaugural function addressed the student participants.

He appreciated the involvement of huge number of student participants from metallurgical fraternity in this historical event and welcomed them participants to the steel city of Jamshedpur. Dr. Mukherjee highlighted the need of more dedicated work in

the area of metallurgical process development and at the same time reiterated the importance of Industry-Academia collaboration for mutual growth.

He advised the students to apply the first principle theory to solve any problem. Dr. Mita Tarafdar, Secretary IIM Jamshedpur Chapter and the organising committee, briefed about the Indian Institute of Metals and on the students' seminar BTDD-2019. She mentioned that the Indian Institute of Metals (IIM) makes utmost effort in creating a relationship among industry, R&D organizations and academia.

The persistent effort of the IIM, Jamshedpur Chapter has always strengthened the bond among various organisations by providing a befitting platform for interaction and sharing ideas and knowledge through the creation of opportunities

BJP bigwigs launch 5-day booth level campaign

Party aims 65 plus target by strengthening booths

SAURAV ROY ■ RANCHI

Senior leaders of the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) on Thursday kick started a five-day booth level campaign across Jharkhand, wherein they directly interacted with the party workers at the grass root level and passed on crucial instructions for the upcoming Assembly elections. Chief Minister Raghubar Das too participated in the campaign on Thursday and met party workers in his constituency, officials from the Chief Minister's Office said.

The campaign is perhaps the first major attempt by the party this year to launch a Statewide movement aimed at the upcoming elections. BJP is set to witness a slew of events in the days to come, said party insiders, adding that the election campaign here is set to gain momentum this month. Prime Minister Narendra Modi and party's National President Amit Shah are also likely to pay visits to Jharkhand this month, they added.

Ranchi MP Sanjay Seth, who met party workers in Jagannathpur and Dhurwa areas of Ranchi Parliamentary Constituency on Thursday evening, spoke about the party's mission and how the party wishes to go about achieving its target. "I will also be meeting party workers from Lower Bazar and Hindpiri

soon. The party workers are the backbone of any political organization, so it is important to keep them updated about the party's objectives," Seth said.

The campaign, he added, is being spearheaded by the stalwarts of the party in their respective constituencies across Jharkhand with the objective of building a consensus between the senior leadership and the grass root level workers.

BJP's Rajmahal Legislator Anant Ojha, who visited parts of his constituency on Thursday, said that the campaign is expected to motivate party workers and make them strive for better results in the upcoming polls. "It is extremely important to keep party workers motivated and aware of the party's objectives," he said.

Election in-charge for BJP in Jharkhand, Om Prakash Mathur, recently said that the party will achieve its target of winning more than 65 seats in the upcoming elections by strengthening its roots at the booth level. The campaign seems to be in accordance with Mathur's stand.

The BJP, which has 42 members in the 81-member assembly here, is the first ever party in the history of Jharkhand to achieve a majority in the Assembly. The party won 12 of 14 parliamentary constituencies in Jharkhand in the recent Lok Sabha polls and is expecting to replicate its success story in the Assembly polls. However, political gurus say that achieving the target of 65 seats may require all the party workers to put in extra efforts and work in tandem with the senior leadership here as well as in New Delhi.

State's employment feat enters Limca Book of Records

1,90,000 youths employed in State in 2018 & 2019

PNS ■ RANCHI

Under the Higher and Technical Education and Skill Development department, Jharkhand Skill Development Mission Society, gave employment to 1,06,619 youths on National Youth Day 2019.

In the year 2018, 26,674 youths were given employment in the State. This feat has been recorded in the Limca Book of Records. Speaking on the occasion, Chief Minister Raghubar Das said the aim of the government is to financially empower the youth by providing them

employment opportunities in the State.

The CM said, "This is a matter of great pride for the people of Jharkhand. This achievement will motivate the State to attain the leading position in the category of developed states. In the last two years, through skill development in various departments, 1,90,000 people have been given employment in the Jharkhand."

The CM said that the team Jharkhand is making new world records on a regular basis. This is possible only because of the strong will and commitment of the government.

The CM further said that the goal of the government is to employ the youth and empower them financially. As



Chief Minister Raghubar Das congratulates officials of Higher, Technical Education and Skill Development department along with Director of Industries, CEO of Jharkhand Skill Development Mission Society and all other personnel, in Ranchi on Thursday

PNS

per the Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKVY) the government is making continuous efforts to provide skilled training and employment to the youth in from the state in the coming years," Das said.

The CM congratulated the

Higher Education and Technical Education Department, Principal Secretary Shailesh Kumar Singh, Director of Industry Kripanand Jha, Jharkhand Skill Development Mission Society CEO Amar Jha and others personnel for this great achievement.

On National Youth Day 2019, observed on January 12, 26,674 youth were given employment in the State.

For this, the Jharkhand Skill Development Mission Society had set up 38 placement centres across the State and 221 placement dives were organised. In this 56,423 applicants had applied for jobs.

The digital record of the jobs offered by various companies is also available on the Department's web portal.

Govt plans to set up playgrounds in panchayats

Football players to get ₹1000 each

PNS ■ RANCHI

The State Government is going to set up playgrounds at every panchayat so as to promote sports activities at rural areas. The decision to this effect was taken at a Kamal Club meeting, which was chaired by Chief Minister Raghubar Das in the presence of sports Minister Amar Bauri and others. In 2016, the State Government set up Kamal Clubs across 24 districts to 'tap sporting talents' at the grass-roots level.

Das said, "The real sporting talents are at villages. To explore these talents the constitution of Kamal Clubs has been done at panchayats level. These clubs have been registered so that these clubs gets benefits of state government projects." Das said that it is Government's aim to have its own football team at national

level for this it requires good sportspersons and coach.

To train sportspersons the State Government plans to set playgrounds in panchayats level. In the first phase playground will be set up at two panchayats in a block and later such playgrounds will be set up at entire panchayats across the State.

The playground will have its boundary wall and will have changing rooms for players and urinals. Directives have been issued to all Kamal Club block president to provide the names of the panchayats and location of ground by September 15. To provide better diet to sportspersons at the meeting it was also decided that the government will provide Rs 1,000 each to sportsperson for their diet. Around 19,000 sportsperson will be benefited from the scheme.

The CM, on the occasion, also asked the Kamal Clubs, which have not been registered to get registration so that the benefits of government scheme



Chief Minister Raghubar Das, Art, Culture, Sports & Youth Affairs Minister Amar Kumar Bauri alongwith senior officials during a meeting at Project building in Ranchi on Thursday

PNS

can reach to sportspersons at these Clubs immediately.

The CM said that the entire country has acknowledged the potential of sportsperson in hockey and archery. The government aim is to develop football in same way so that footballers from State bring laurels to State. He also asked the sportsperson to remain fit and participate at Fit India Mission as conceptualized by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

State Sports and Youths Affairs Minister Amar Bauri present on the occasion said that in entire country Jharkhand is only state which has taken a lead in setting up Kamal Clubs at Panchayats level. The minister asked sportsperson to become members of Kamal clubs. On the occasion, sports secretary Rahul Sharma, sports director Anil Kumar Singh and others were present.

GER in higher education in State increases by 70%

100 colleges, 5 universities established

PNS ■ RANCHI

The Gross Enrolment Ratio in higher education has increased from 10.1 per cent in 2012-13 to 18 per cent in 2017-18. The information was provided by Education Minister Neera Yadav on Thursday at a press meet to share the achievement of the State government in field of higher, technical education and skill development.

Addressing the media persons Yadav said, "There has been an increase of 70 per cent in the GER in higher education which is a matter of pride for us. A number of steps have been taken by the department in the last four and a half years to encourage students to take up higher education in the State."

The minister informed that around 100 colleges have been established at those districts where there was a shortage of colleges. "Degree colleges have been established in 13 districts while women's college in 11 districts. Classes are already going on and the new buildings for all these colleges are under construction," she said.

Yadav also pointed out that

while in 2013-14 there were only five universities in the State, the number of universities has now increased to 10 with new universities including Vinod Bihari Mahato University, Dr. Shyama Prasad Mukherjee University, Raksha Shakti University, Jamshedpur Women's University and Jharkhand Technical University coming up in the last few years.

"Our focus is now on Sanskrit and we are in the process of establishment of a Sanskrit University in Deoghar," she said.

The minister informed that the number of colleges and universities of State having accreditation from National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC) in 2013-14 was six which has now gone up to 96.

There has also been a significant increase in the number of polytechnic colleges in the State. In 2013-14 the total number of polytechnic colleges was 30 which increased to 43 in 2018-19 and the number of seats increased from 8820 to 11,575.

Yadav said that the planetarium at Science City, Chiraundi, has been constructed with a budget of Rs.



26.72 crore and will soon be inaugurated by the Chief Minister. A trial run of the planetarium was conducted on Thursday evening.

Talking about the work done in skill development sector, Yadav said that two Skill Summits were organized, one each in 2018 and 2019. In the first skill summit more than 26,000 youth were placed in various companies while in the second summit, total youths placed were over 1.06 lakh.

She informed that till date 79,300 youths have been trained by Jharkhand Skill Development Mission Society and 48, 672 of them have already been placed in various companies. Also, around 15,517 youths are undergoing training as of now.

SLBC to implement uniform banking hours from Oct 1

PNS ■ RANCHI

State Level Banking Committee (SLBC) on Thursday decided in a specially called meeting of representatives of Public Sector Banks (PSBs) that Uniform Banking Hours will be implemented at all branches of PSBs following the instruction given by Department of Financial Services, Government of India.

The special meeting was convened by the SLBC Jharkhand convener Bank of India General Manager CS Sahay and the meeting was presided over by Sahay. Giving information about the uniform banking working plan to the representatives of the banks present in the meeting, Sahay said that the Financial Services Department, Government of India has instructed to carry out uniform banking hours for the convenience of customers. He said that according to the order, it has been approved the uniform banking hours at all public sector banks' branches in the State.

"LDMs of all the Districts of the State have been meeting under the chairmanship of Deputy Commissioners recommended making the working period uniform for customers of public banks. The SLBC, Jharkhand has decided to extend the working hours of all other branches from 10 am



to 4 pm except eight branches in Dhanbad District of the State. Bank of India branch of Topchanchi block of Dhanbad District only, Hariharpur branch of Allahabad Bank, Bamhandiha of Central Bank of India and Maniadih of Bank of India of Tundi block, Sangramdiha, Maharajanj of State Bank of India, Ojhadih of United Bank of India and the working period for customers in Tundi branches will be 9 am to 3 pm," said Sahay.

The General Manager said that barring these eight branches, all public sector bank branches in the State will serve customers from 10 am to 4 pm. "This new working period will be implemented from October 1 at all bank branches of the State. The controlling heads of

all public banks of the State have been directed to give proper instructions in this direction to all their branches. In case of any change in the working period of all bank branches, notice should be given to the customers immediately. At present only branches of public banks are covered under this scheme," he added.

During the meeting it was also decided to digitize East Singhbhum district 100 per cent during the next one year. SLBC Deputy General Manager, Sanjeev Sarkar and other state level representatives of all the concerned banks, Assistant General Manager of RBI along with representatives of Finance Department of Jharkhand were present in the meeting.

Govt felicitates 200 teachers on Teachers' Day

PNS ■ RANCHI

As many as 200 teachers teaching in various Government schools of the State were felicitated by State Education Minister, Neera Yadav, on the occasion of Teacher's Day on Thursday.

A grand programme was organized at the auditorium of Jharkhand Academic Council, in which two teachers were given State level award and six were given district level award.

The State level awardees included Manoj Kumar Choubey of Middle School, Dwari of Chatra and Shweta Sharma of Middle School Vivekanand in Deoghar. Apart from certificate and medals, these teachers were also given

a cash award of Rs. 25,000 each. The district level awardees included Sanjay Kumar, Shilpi Gupta, Nand Dev Ram, Shipra, Praveen Kumar Sinha and Mamta Kumari, who were given medals and a cash prize of Rs.11,000 each.

On the occasion, the minister launched course books printed in Santhali language. She said, "This is for the first time that the books have been published in Santhali language. This will help the children of primary school learn better as they will be able to study in their mother tongue."

The minister also launched Diksha Portal, on which students can procure all the study material online. As many as eight teachers



HRD Minister Neera Yadav handing over a cheque of Rs one Lakh to a student during a felicitation ceremony on the occasion of Teacher's Day at JAC, Namkum in Ranchi on Thursday. Principal Secretary School Education and Literacy Amrendra Pratap Singh and JAC Chairman Arvind Prasad Singh are also seen in the picture

Photo | Ratan Lal

were felicitated for providing e-content for Diksha Portal, three were felicitated for preparing course material for Teachers' App. 11 teachers were felicitated for playing the role of editors in Pankh Magazine and 148 teachers were awarded for playing an important role in preparing the course material for

schools.

Suraj Kumar, student of High School, Littipara in Pakur was also felicitated by the minister for his innovation of Solar Cycle. On the occasion, 17 schools of the State which performed exceptionally in class 10 examinations this year were also felicitated.

Addressing the teachers on the occasion Yadav said, "Teachers should work on not just educating the students but providing them cultural education as well. Teachers shape the life and future of the students and they should put in all their efforts in doing so."

She also asked the teachers to work in such a way that the department does not get any complaints against them.

IN BRIEF

INTRA-DIVISION QUIZ AT RRD

Ranchi Railway Division today organised an intra-division quiz

competition here on Thursday. Among the four teams Duranto, Vande Bharat, Shatabdi and Rajdhani, Shatabdi team's Anil Kumar Singh and Namrata Kumari clinched the first position in the quiz. The second and third position were bagged by Vande Bharat and Duranto teams

respectively, while Rajdhani team was given consolation prize. DRM Neeraj Ambastha, DPO (incharge) S Srinivas, ADRM (Op) MM Pandit, ADRM (Infra) AS Yadav alongwith other senior officials were present on the occasion.

PNB HOLDS CUSTOMER MEET

Keeping in mind requirements and facility of the customers Argora

Branch of Punjab National Bank (PNB) Ranchi region, organised customer meet on Thursday.

PNB Ranchi Regional Chief, Sandip Kumar Panigrahi was present on the

occasion. Speaking on the occasion Panigrahi said that since 125 year the banks have been fulfilling requirements of customers.

TALK SHOW FOR TEACHERS' DAY

Books and Periodicals organized a talk show on the occasion of Teacher's Day. The talk show was nostalgic for Nishi Srivastava as she

used to be a teacher many years ago. On asking her about her experiences in the field of teaching and her inspiration, she said she owes it to her husband who has inspired her to never lose the thirst for knowledge. On the other hand, Reena Sahay, who used to be a full-time artist

and later switched to become a Hindi teacher, spoke about her one on one interactions with children who used to be her students and how teachers' play multiple roles. The talk show also threw light on the sacrifices teachers' make and how the profession of a teacher is a fulfilling one because, on a personal note, they ended up having relations with their students which they believe will last for a lifetime.

NOVA HELD AT BIT MESRA

NOVA, the first weekend of Pantheon'19 was organized on Thursday at BIT Mesra. The event hosted by Sharanya Jha and Bhavesh Chaturvedi,

kicked off with a short introduction to Pantheon'19, and its theme-Cosmos: Beyond The

Realms. The weekend was graced by the presence of Pantheon faculty coordinator Dr. Kirti

Avishek and other faculty members like Dr. O.P. Pandey, Dr. Sahu, Arvind Kumar and N K Singh. The

proceedings started with a live jamming session by Dhvani- the music club of BIT Mesra on occasion of

Teachers' Day. A musical skit by Eshaas-Dramatics Society on the Education System in our Country followed suit. Apama Shambhavi of

Literary Society then performed a heart touching poetry on the complicated yet beautiful feeling of love. The band Necromancers' rendition of Millennia, originally performed by the famous band Crown

The Empire, set the stage on fire.

TOYOTA LAUNCHES NEW YARIS

Toyota Kirloskar Motor (TKM) today announced the launch of the enhanced version of the Yaris-'The Happenin' New Yaris'. This stylish

enhanced version of the B-High sedan is loaded with flaunt-worthy features and has been redesigned for extra comfort. Built on Toyota's renowned philosophy of QDR (Quality, Durability & Reliability), this world-class sedan is now more spacious while retaining its luxury and

comfort. Speaking on the launch of the improved Yaris, N Raja, deputy managing director, Toyota Kirloskar Motor said, "Toyota Yaris is the first car to offer 7 speed CVT option under 10 lakhs in the segment backed by Toyota's legendary sales and service experience along with the

benefits of our value added services (Extended Warranty, Finance, Insurance, Q Service, EM 60, Toyota Edge). The low cost of ownership, low NVH levels, better rear comfort with Toyota's unique sales and service efficiency makes the ownership experience of the new improved Yaris more desirable.

CUSTOMISED HEALTH INSURANCE SOLUTIONS

Mahindra Insurance Brokers Ltd. (MIBL) has partnered with AISECT to introduce a customised group health insurance product for AISECT's

customers, across the nation. The strategic alliance is a significant step in MIBL's continuous endeavor to drive insurance penetration in semi-urban and rural India. This unique socially progressive health insurance

solution is specifically designed for AISECT's customers across its 20,000 centres in 29 states and 3 union territories and will offer improved coverage at an affordable premium. These centres serve customers largely in semi-urban and rural areas and help facilitate services related to Skill development, education, Training, Financial Inclusion, Aadhaar Card, Passport, PAN Card and other various online services. Customers can now also opt for customised health insurance solutions through MIBL at these centres.

Hemant, Babulal hold closed-door meeting in Dhanbad

JHARKHAND MUKTI MORCHA TO LEAD GRAND ALLIANCE, SAYS HEMANT SOREN

MRITUANJAY KUMAR ■ RANCHI

Head of the State Assembly Election of two former Chief Ministers of the State, Jharkhand Mukti Morcha (JMM) Executive President Hemant Soren and Jharkhand Vikas Morcha (JVM) Supremo Babulal Marandi held a closed-door talk at Circuit House in Dhanbad on Thursday.

Soren said after the meeting that it was a courtesy meeting, while Marandi said that there are several issues on which they held discussions. Replying to a question on seat sharing formula for the upcoming State Assembly elections, Soren said that everything will be cleared in days to come, while Marandi said that his party is ready to align with any likeminded party to defeat Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) in the State.

In a bid to regain its hold in Coal Belt of the State, ahead



JMM Executive President Hemant Soren being garlanded by party workers during his second phase of Badlav Yatra at Giridih on Thursday. PNS

of the upcoming State Assembly Elections, Soren held a massive public meeting during his eighth stoppage of

'Badlav Yatra' in Giridih and attacked the Government for 'failure in every field' including Konar Irrigation project. Soren

came to Giridih from Dhanbad to address public meeting. Addressing a public gathering, Soren said that Konar

Irrigation Project of the area, which took 42 long years to be commissioned, could not last for even 24 hours after its inauguration and was inundated with the water of the dam within hours of the launching. "As the project is very important for the people of this area and the government was patting its back for launching the project but the originality came before people within hours."

Das inaugurated the project in haste before completion of the project, similar several inauguration programmes are going on to attract attention of people just before the State Assembly Elections," said Soren. "The PM had promised that he will provide jobs to two crore people but instead of providing job the companies are retrenching employees," he added. The former Chief Minister said that if voted to power in the State, he will form a 'Kisan Bank' so that the farmers will get facility of easy

credit. Soren launched his 'Badlav Yatra' on August 26 from Sahebganj with a view to convey his message before State Assembly Elections. He will address public meetings in all districts across the State through the 'Yatra'.

Speaking on the local issue of Giridih, Soren said that BJP Government forcefully acquired land of farmers for its capitalist friend without constituting displacement policy. "A large numbers of people got displaced by various coal mines and electricity factories instead of rehabilitate them the Government has nothing for them. The victims of displacement are living life like nomadic people if JMM voted to power then it will give priority form a clear rehabilitation policy in the State and victim of past projects will also be rehabilitated," he added.

Veteran party leader Hazi Hussain Ansari was also present on the occasion.

IN BRIEF

SARLA BIRLA UNIV CELEBRATES TEACHER'S DAY



Teachers Day was celebrated with fervour at Sarla Birla University on Thursday. Registrar Dr Vijay Kumar Singh, Dean Dr SK Singh, Professor Sanjeev Bajaj and Subani Bara jointly inaugurated the event by lighting the lamp. Registrar Dr Vijay Kumar Singh said on the occasion that a teacher is attentive towards new ideas and changes taking place around him. He lives his life for students' well being rather than that of his own. A teacher needs to evaluate the talent of students and make them ready for empowerment of the nation just like Chanakya, he added.

TEACHER'S DAY AT ICAI UNIVERSITY JHARKHAND



Teachers' day celebrations were held with great enthusiasm at ICAI University Jharkhand on Thursday where students organised various cultural programmes. Tribal dance by the school students of Simalia Village was the highlight of the function. Vice Chancellor Prof ORS Rao said that teachers dedicate their lives to uplift the students and take satisfaction in their success. "Good Teachers instill in the students interest to learn, inspire, hope in them, ignite imagination and inculcate character so that they can learn and become successful professionals and happy human beings," added Rao. An online survey among students to find aspects in the best teacher was conducted. Students also voted for their favourite teacher. Teachers were given awards in various categories. Dr Hari Haran, Dr Midanish Jha and others received awards of recognition.

DAV HAZARIBAGH HOLD TEACHER'S DAY WITH ZEAL



DAV Public School Hazaribagh celebrated teachers' day with great zeal and enthusiasm. Former vice chairman DAV LMC, Hazaribagh Ranjan Jain and chief guest Deepak Verma IG (Retd) paid a floral tribute to the portrait of Late Dr Radha Krishnan. Khushi performed a solo dance while a Hindi skit on the importance of teachers was also presented by the students. Students also presented mimes and caricatures to entertain the guests. The guests felicitated all the teachers with gifts.



Students of Ursuline Convent pose for a photo during a cultural programme on the occasion of Teacher's Day in Ranchi on Thursday. Photo Vinay Murrmu

Protesting para teachers seek their arrest on Teacher's Day

Move petition in HC seeking regularization of services

PNS ■ RANCHI

The 65,000 odd para teachers in Jharkhand worked wearing black badges on Thursday and nearly 10,000 of them submitted requisitions at the concerned Sadar Police Station in their districts seeking their arrest as a mark of protest against the Government's alleged apathy towards them.

While no incidents of voluntary arresting were reported in Ranchi, para teachers in State Capital claimed to have moved a writ petition in the Jharkhand High Court on Thursday seeking regularization of services for all those para teachers who have served for more than 10 years. "We have moved a petition in the High Court seeking regularization of services for all such para teachers

who have completed 10 years of service in Jharkhand," said Vikrant Jyoti, President of National Contractual Workers' Association. The developments happened on a day when the Government felicitated at least 200 regular teachers for their work in the field of education.

Education Minister Neera Yadav gave away certificates of appreciation to the teachers at the Jharkhand Academic Council (JAC) in Ranchi and lauded their dedication towards work.

However, later in the day, she dodged questions related to the para teachers protest at a press conference of Higher and Technical Education Department by calling the issue "out of context" and not under the purview of the conference.

The para teachers, ad hoc teachers appointed under the Sarva Siksha Abhiyan (SSA) programme of the centre back in 2002, impart education to students in rural and semi-urban areas of the tribal State.

Some of the schools, hardly a few kilometers from the State capital's periphery are run by para teachers alone. These teachers often complain of irregularities in

payment of their monthly honorarium, which is around Rs.10,000 for most of them. Para teachers have been up in arms against the Government since years demanding better pay and regularization of services.

The latest in the series of protests by the teachers was a strike from November 16, 2018 to January 17, 2019. On January 17, a delegation of the teachers met representatives of the Government and decided to end their strike after they were assured a pay hike of Rs.4800 and set rules for regularization of their services, the teachers said.

Sanjay Dubey, a para teacher from Hazaribagh Basic High School in Barhi block, said that around 700 teachers sought their own arresting in Hazaribagh alone on Thursday. "Teachers in almost all the districts went to the concerned Sadar Police Station and sought their own arresting."

Many of us have dedicated our entire lives to teaching and the Government has simply turned a blind eye to our concerns," said Dubey, who also happens to be a member of the Jharkhand Ekakrit Para Sikshak Sangh.

Inculcate innovative methods in teaching: Guv



PNS ■ DEHRADUN

The Governor of Uttarakhand Baby Rani Maurya has said that teachers should recognise individual interests of the students and try to hone their intrinsic talents. She was speaking on the occasion of Governor's Teachers awards-2019 at Raj Bhawan on Thursday. The programme was organised on the occasion of Teachers' day. The Governor congratulated the teachers who received the awards and called upon the teachers to inculcate innovative skills in their teaching methods.

She added that the scientific temper should be promoted and emphasised that the education system should promote skill development among students so that they become job givers instead of job seekers.

The Governor also stressed the need to improve the quality of education being imparted in Government schools and asked the education department to formulate a concrete plan for it. Speaking on the occasion,

the Chief Minister of Uttarakhand, Trivendra Singh Rawat, said that the Government machinery and society should work in synergy in development of the nation. He said that his Government would ensure that lack of resources does not come in the way of the studies of bright students.

The CM said that the State Government would soon start a 'Know Your country' scheme in which top 25 students would be sent on a tour of the country.

The CM informed that an ultra modern residential school would be set up by the Government in next academic year and admissions in this school would be done on the basis of the an entrance examination. "In this school, best facilities would be provided and we are planning to set up a system of fees in which a percentage of the annual income of parents would be charged," he said.

The CM added that the Uttarakhand Government has started a scheme to adopt the severely malnourished children in the State.

Teachers felicitated with awards at Bokaro



PNS ■ BOKARO

Teachers' Day was celebrated with great pomp and show at various schools across the district. On the occasion of Teacher's Day 15 teachers from different schools run and managed by Bokaro Steel Plant (BSL) were felicitated in a grand function organised at T&D auditorium in Bokaro on Thursday. As many as 10 teachers were felicitated with 'Shiksha Shiromani Puraskar' for their outstanding contribution in the field of education while five got 'Special Mentor Award' for their exemplary performance, informed a PR official.

BSL's CEO PK Singh, presented the awards to the teachers, which was followed by the Lamp Lighting Ceremony by the Chief Guest and other distinguished guests. Commemorating the birth anniversary of Dr. Sarvapalli Radhakrishnan

Teacher's Day also celebrated with great enthusiasms at Chinmaya Vidyalaya, DPS Bokaro and DPS Chas. At DPS Bokaro the programme was initiated with the auspicious lamp lighting ceremony. The school then paid tribute to the great teacher cum philosopher Sarvapalli Radhakrishnan.

The cultural fiesta commenced with a melodious Guru Vandana followed by an orchestral performance by the children, expressing their gratitude for their teachers and a dance performance on Ganesh Vandana. 'Pratibimbh'- a fusion dance by the students accompanied by their teacher Nirmalya Sharma stole the show which wonderfully displayed how the students are a reflection of their teachers.

In the Primary wing students presented an enthralling cultural programme which included Guru Vandana and Group Dance in honour of teachers remem-

bering the second President of the country Dr. S Radhakrishnan. The representatives of the parent association felicitated the Principal and a few teachers for their contribution in creating global leaders.

Speaking on the occasion Principal DPS Bokaro, A. S. Gangwar said, "Being a teacher is a privilege. Teachers inspire and motivate the young aspirants to dream big and soar high yet hold on to the essential humanitarian values." Students, in teachers' attire, conducted a scintillating morning assembly at DPS Chas to denote their love, respect, acknowledgement and recognition of the hard work put in by the teachers towards their development.

Dr. Hemlata S Mohan, Chief Mentor and N Murlidharan, Pro-Vice chairman, DPS Chas were present there. A cultural fiesta was also organised at Chinmaya Vidyalaya to mark the day.

कार्यालय, जिला मत्स्य पदाधिकारी-सह-मुख्य कार्यपालक पदाधिकारी, गिरिडीह

मत्स्य कृषकों के लिए सूचना

स्वीकृतदेश संख्या 25 दिनांक 21.08.2019 के द्वारा वर्ष 2019-20 में राज्य योजना मद में फीड बेस्ड फिशरीज योजनांतर्गत मत्स्य उत्पादन में बढ़ोतरी के लिए 4mm साईज फ्लोट फिश फीड विभाग द्वारा स्थापित फिश फीड मील अथवा झारकोफिश से उत्पादित फिश फीड के क्रय पर ही यह लाम मत्स्य कृषकों/केज मत्स्य पालकों को देय है। फीड का दर 32/-रु प्रति किग्रा 300 निर्धारित है। देय अनुदान निर्धारित दर का 50% या 16/-रु प्रति किग्रा अधिकतम दिया जाना है। झारकोफिश उत्पादित फीड क्रय पर परिवहन व्यय मत्स्य कृषकों द्वारा वहन किया जायेगा। आवेदन के साथ क्रय किये जाने वाले मत्स्य आहर की राशि से संबंधित बैंक ड्राफ्ट/बैंकर्स चेक प्रबंध 'निदेशक, झारकोफिश, रॉबी के पद नाम से देय' संलग्न करना होगा।

इसके अतिरिक्त एक लामुक को अधिकतम कुल 700 किग्रा 2mm अथवा इससे छोटे साईज में फेद्री उत्पादित फ्लोटिंग फीड के क्रय पर भी 16/-रु प्रति किग्रा0.300 के समानुपातिक दर पर अधिकतम 11200/-रु की राशि लामुक के बैंक खाते में DBT की जायेगी। क्रय किये गये फीड का GST Billing होना जरूरी है। अतः इच्छुक मत्स्य बीज उत्पादक/मत्स्य पालक/केज मत्स्य पालक इस हेतु अपना आवेदन आधार कार्ड, बैंक पासबुक की छाया प्रति, एक कैंसिल चेक के साथ दिनांक 18.09.2019 तक अधोहस्ताक्षरी के कार्यालय में जमा कर सकते हैं।

नोट:- इस योजना के संबंध में विस्तृत जानकारी किसी भी कार्य दिवस को जिला मत्स्य कार्यालय, गिरिडीह से प्राप्त किया जा सकता है।

P.R. 216164 Fish(19-20)-D **बुध - बुध नहीं बरतें तो बुध को तरलें** जिला मत्स्य पदाधिकारी-सह-मुख्य कार्यपालक पदाधिकारी, गिरिडीह।

कार्यालय जिला मत्स्य पदाधिकारी सह मुख्य कार्यपालक पदाधिकारी, पलामू

अति अल्पकालीन निविदा आमंत्रण

एतद द्वारा जाल एवं फीड आपूर्तिकर्ताओं को सूचित किया जाता है कि वर्ष 2019-20 में तालाब तथा जलाशय मत्स्य का विकास एवं जीर्णोद्धार योजनांतर्गत मत्स्य बीज उत्पादकों को फाई कीचिंग नेट (जाल) एवं आर0एफ0एफ0 को फार्मुलेटेड फ्लोटिंग फीड (2mm एवं 4mm) की आपूर्ति किया जाना है। इस प्रयोजनार्थ निविदा फार्मों से मुहय्वद निविदा का आमंत्रण दिनांक 14/09/2019 को पूर्वाह्न 11बजे तक अधोहस्ताक्षरी के कार्यालय में स्वीकार किया जायेगा। फाई कीचिंग जाल की संख्या 370 है।

क्र0	सामग्री का नाम	अधिकतम दर राशि
1	फाईकीचिंग नेट/जाल	2000/-रु प्रति इकाई
2	फार्मुलेटेड फ्लोटिंग फीड (2mm एवं 4mm)	40/-रु किग्रा0.300

निविदा की अहर्ताएँ निम्नलिखित हैं:-

- निविदा की विस्तृत शर्तें www.palamu.nic.in/ कार्यालय के सूचना पट्ट पर देखा जा सकता है।
- दिनांक 14/09/2019 को पूर्वाह्न 11:30 बजे, उपायुक्त, पलामू द्वारा गठित समिति के समक्ष निविदादाता अथवा उनके प्रतिनिधि को उपस्थिति में अन्वेषक सह उप विकास आयुक्त, पलामू के कार्यालय कक्ष में निविदा खोली जायेगी।
- विभाग हित में निविदा की शर्तें में बिना कारण बताए, किसी भी समय बगैर पूर्व सूचना के परिवर्तन करने, निविदा की शर्तों में बिना कारण बताए स्वीकृत अथवा अस्वीकृत करने का अधिकार अधोहस्ताक्षरी के पास सुरक्षित होगा।

(बिरेन्द्र कुं0 बिन्हा) जिला मत्स्य पदाधिकारी-सह मुख्य कार्यपालक पदाधिकारी, पलामू

PR 216186 Fish (19-20)_D

Office of The District Legal Services Authority, Bokaro

राष्ट्रीय लोक अदालत

दिनांक:-14.09.2019

स्थान-न्याय सदन, व्यवहार न्यायालय, बोकारो एवं व्यवहार न्यायालय परिसर, तेनुघाट, बोकारो

सर्व साधारण को यह सूचित किया जाता है कि दिनांक 14.09.2019 को सुबह 10:30 बजे से न्याय सदन, व्यवहार न्यायालय, बोकारो तथा व्यवहार न्यायालय परिसर, तेनुघाट में राष्ट्रीय लोक अदालत का आयोजन किया जा रहा है, जिसमें निम्नलिखित मामलों का संबंधित वादों का निष्पादन किया जाना है :-

- सुलह योग्य आपराधिक वाद,
- N.I.Act.u/s138 से संबंधित वाद,
- घन वसूली वाद,
- मोटर-दुर्घटना क्षतिपूर्ति वाद,
- भ्रम निवाद,
- बिजली बिल और पानी बिल से संबंधित वाद,
- पारिवारिक/वेवाहिक वाद (तलाक को छोड़कर),
- भूमि अधिग्रहण संबंधित निवाद,
- वैतन, भते, सेवानिवृत्ति आदि से संबंधित सेवा मामले,
- राजस्व वाद-चाखिल खारिज से संबंधित वाद,
- अन्य सिविल वाद, जिन्हें लोक अदालत के माध्यम से सुलझाया जा सकता है।

अतः उपरोक्त वादों से संबंधित मामलों का संबंधित न्यायालय/विभाग से मिलकर राष्ट्रीय लोक अदालत में निष्पादित कराएँ एवं इस सुअवसर का लाभ उठाएँ।

पी0 मुरुगन मुक्ति अधिकारी-सह-सदस्य, जिला विधिक सेवा प्राधिकार, बोकारो

मुकेश कुमार उपायुक्त, जिला विधिक सेवा प्राधिकार, बोकारो

मोहम्मद शाकिर प्रधान-जिला न्यायोधीश-सह-अध्यक्ष, जिला विधिक सेवा प्राधिकार, बोकारो

PR 216169 (Law) 19-20 (D) **जिसे अब तक ना समझे, वो कहानी हूँ मैं, मुझे बर्बाद मत करो पानी हूँ मैं।**

India will not baulk at using strength : Rajnath

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

As tension prevails between India and Pakistan after the abrogation of special status under Article 370 for Jammu & Kashmir, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh said on Thursday India has never been an aggressor but it does not mean it will baulk at using its strength of defend itself.

He made this statement during a defence dialogue during his ongoing visit to South Korea and called for a collective international action to check perpetrators of terrorism. He said world politics today is in a state of flux and this has aggravated global and regional challenges to international peace and security.

He added that new and emerging technologies have impacted the regional as well as global security environment.

Delivering a keynote address at the 'Seoul Defence Dialogue 2019' with the theme, 'Building Peace Together: Challenges and Vision,' Singh said "of the numerous security challenges that the

world is facing, the gravest is that of terrorism."

No country in the world is safe from terrorism and India has been actively pursuing counter terrorism cooperation bilaterally, regionally and globally through UN and other fora, he added.

"India has never been an aggressor in its history nor will it ever be. But that does not mean that India would baulk at using its strength to defend itself," Singh said, in presence of South Korea's top military brass.

He arrived in Seoul on Wednesday on a three-day visit after a two-day visit to Japan. He posted a series of tweets from his handle.

In his address, the defence minister also spoke about the need for common rules-based order in the resource-rich Indo-Pacific region.

He said the "order" must be based on sovereignty and territorial integrity and equality of all nations, irrespective of size and strength, adding India is for an open and inclusive architecture for the region.

These observations come

in the backdrop of China expanding its military presence in the Indo-Pacific region triggering concerns in various countries of the region.

The US has been pushing for a bigger role for India in the Indo-Pacific which is seen by many countries as an effort to contain China's growing clout in the region.

Talking about India's 'neighbourhood first policy,' he said New Delhi is engaged with its neighbours in sub-regional groupings of IORA (Indian-Ocean Rim Association) and BIMSTEC apart from a trilateral maritime cooperation format with Sri Lanka and Maldives.

Singh also underlined ancient cultural links between India and South Korea and said people of two countries are linked through family ties that can be traced to the legendary Queen Heo Hwang-ok, who travelled all the way from Ayodhya to marry King Suro of Gaya in present day Gimhae. These linkages form a strong underpinning for our contemporary ties, he said.

SC allows Mehbooba daughter to meet her

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Thursday allowed former Jammu and Kashmir chief minister Mehbooba Mufti's daughter to meet her in Kashmir, where she is under detention following the revocation of the state's special status a month ago.

A bench headed by Chief Justice Ranjan Gogoi allowed the PDP chief's daughter Iltija to meet her after she submitted in court that she has no problem in going to their Srinagar home but has not been able to move freely in the city.

The bench, also comprising justices S A Bobde and S A Nazeer, noted that there was no problem in authorities permitting Iltija to travel from Chennai, where she is currently staying, to Srinagar to meet her mother.

As far as moving around in other parts of Srinagar goes, Iltija can do so subject to the permission from district authorities, the bench said in its order.

SC orders shifting of CPM leader Tarigami to AIIMS from Srinagar

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Thursday ordered that ailing CPI(M) leader Mohd Yusuf Tarigami be shifted from Srinagar, where he is under detention at his home, to AIIMS in Delhi without any delay for better treatment.

A bench comprising Chief Justice Ranjan Gogoi and Justices S A Bobde and S A Nazeer said the shifting will be done following consultations between doctors at Srinagar's Sher-i-Kashmir Institute of Medical Sciences (SKIMS) and the All India Institute of Medical Sciences.

The bench also issued notice to the Centre and the

Jammu and Kashmir administration on CPI(M) general secretary Sitaram Yechury's plea that there was no order for Tarigami's detention.

The bench sought a reply within one week and posted the matter for further hearing on September 16. "Having perused the report submitted by the petitioner (Yechury) pursuant to the order of this court, dated August 28, we are of the view that immediate steps should be taken to shift Mohammad Yusuf Tarigami to the AIIMS, New Delhi."

"The time and mode of travel of Tarigami will be decided by the State Government in consultation with the specialists of SKIMS," the bench said.

SC to hear Kashmir Times editor plea on Sep 16

New Delhi: The Supreme Court on Thursday fixed for hearing on September 16 pleas of the Kashmir Times Editor and others on alleged communication blockade in Jammu & Kashmir. Anuradha Bhasin, Executive Editor of Kashmir Times, told a bench headed by Chief Justice Ranjan Gogoi

that even after a month of scrapping of Article 370, journalists were "not allowed to move freely in the State".

However, Solicitor General Tushar Mehta told the court that editors of Kashmir Times chose not to publish their newspaper from Srinagar.

PTI

ED arrests ex-JKCA treasurer Mirza for money laundering

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Enforcement Directorate has arrested former Jammu and Kashmir Cricket Association (JKCA) treasurer Ahsan Ahmad Mirza in connection with a money laundering case.

Mirza, alleged to be close to former JKCA chairman and former Chief Minister Farooq Abdullah, was arrested last night under the provisions of the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA).

The ED had questioned Farooq Abdullah in this case for the first time in July this year in Chandigarh.

Mirza is suspected to be privy to financial dealings of the association and as he was not cooperating in the probe he was placed under arrest, official said.

Probe found "clear links" of details of the bank accounts used for misappropriation of JKCA funds with involvement of Mirza with no satisfactory explanation, he said.

He is to be produced before a court on Thursday.

The Enforcement Directorate had filed a money laundering case after taking cognisance of a CBI FIR and charge sheet relating to corruption in the expenditure of JKCA funds.

The charge sheet was filed in July last year against Abdullah and three others for allegedly misappropriating over Rs 43 crore from grants given by the Board of Control for Cricket in India to the JKCA for promoting the sport in the State between 2002-11.

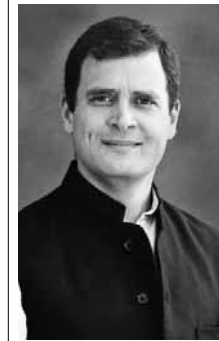
The CBI has charged Abdullah and three others, then JKCA general secretary Md Saleem Khan, Mirza, and J&K Bank executive Bashir Ahmad Misgar, under sections of the Ranbir Penal Code related to criminal conspiracy and criminal breach of trust.

The CBI took over the case from the State police in 2015 on orders of a division bench of the Jammu and Kashmir High Court.

However, Farooq Abdullah and his son Omar Abdullah had earlier denied any wrongdoing in the case.

INSHORT

RAHUL TAKES JIBE ON TEACHER'S DAY



New Delhi: Former Congress president Rahul Gandhi on Thursday took a swipe at his political opponents on Teachers' Day, thanking them for their "vicious barbs, false propaganda and anger" that made him stronger. "On Teachers' Day, I thank all those from whom I've learnt, over the years. That includes the army of social media trolls, some journalists-with-an-agenda and my political adversaries, whose vicious barbs, false propaganda and anger has taught me a lot and made me much stronger," he said in a tweet.

HRD MINISTRY AWARDS IOE TO FIVE INSTITUTES

New Delhi: The HRD Ministry on Thursday awarded Institution of Eminence (IoE) status to five public institutes including Delhi University, Banaras Hindu University, University of Hyderabad, IIT-Madras and IIT-Kharagpur. The decision was taken following a recommendation made by the UGC last month on the basis of the advice of an Empowered Expert Committee.

SC CALL ON JUSTICE AKIL ELEVATION NEXT WEEK

New Delhi: The Supreme Court Thursday said it will deal next week with a petition seeking direction to the Centre to notify the elevation of Justice Akil Kureshi as the Chief Justice of the Madhya Pradesh High Court.

ICS ORGANISES CANCER AWARENESS EVENT

New Delhi: A basic mobile cancer awareness and detection programme including chest x-ray, blood profile, and physical examination by specialist doctors was organised here on Thursday by the Indian Cancer Society (ICS) for the benefit of the journalists associated with the Indian Women Press Corp (IWPC) and their family members. Though cancer is a dreaded word when detected early can be completely cured, Dr Rajesh Bhalla, medical advisor, ICS said.

'FSSAI TRAINED 1.7 LAKHS SUPERVISORS'

New Delhi: To create awareness on healthy eating habits and ensure street vendors meet safety standards, top food regulator FSSAI has trained about 1.7 lakh supervisors over a span of two years, Union Health Minister Harsh Vardhan said on Thursday after launching a year-long social and mass media campaign 'Eat Right India' with the slogan: 'Sahi Bhojan, Behtar Jeevan'.

Health Ministry notifies on setting up of tobacco testing labs

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Union Health Ministry on Thursday issued a much-awaited notification on the setting up of tobacco testing labs for the purpose of testing the nicotine and tar contents in cigarettes and other tobacco products.

These labs are being set up in order to strengthen the enforcement of Cigarettes & Other Tobacco Products (COTPA) 2003 to curb tobacco consumption in the country.

The tobacco testing labs to be set up in Mumbai, Guwahati and Uttar Pradesh would check for nicotine, ammonia and carbon monoxide for which the World Health Organization (WHO)'s TobLabNet has already established Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs). India is one of the few countries in the world to have these labs which will test all types of tobacco products in India and the only country in the South-East Asia Region.

Tobacco testing laboratories is one of the part of the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control (WHO-FCTC) that India is part of.

By setting up of these tobacco testing labs, India has shown its commitment to tobacco control, said a senior official from the Ministry.

Tobacco is the only product that does not contain the contents and emissions.

According to the WHO, cigarettes contain 7,000 chemicals of which 70 are carcinogenic or cancer-causing agents.

In most countries across the world tobacco use is synonymous to cigarette smoking. In contrast, tobacco use in India is in multiple forms. Broadly there are two types of tobacco products that are commonly used: smoking tobacco and smokeless tobacco. Smoking tobacco products include bidis, manufactured cigarettes, hand-rolled cigarettes, pipes, cigars, hookah, water-pipes and some other smoking tobacco products like chuttas, dhumtiao chillum. Smokeless tobacco is used by either chewing or, applying to the teeth and gums, or inhaling.

Smokeless tobacco products used in India include chewing tobacco items such as betel quid with tobacco, khaini, gutka, paan masala with tobacco.

Smokeless tobacco products such as mishri, gul, bajjar, gudakhu, etc. are applied to the teeth and gums, and the snuff is inhaled.

There are almost 267 million tobacco users in India. Among adults, 28.6 per cent of the population currently uses tobacco products (men 42.4 per cent; women 14.2 per cent). 21.4 per cent of adults use smokeless tobacco (men 29.6 per cent; women 12.8 per cent). Among youth (ages 13-15), 14.6 per cent currently use some form of tobacco, the official added.

India ranks 4th among 194 countries in measles cases, says WHO data

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Five countries in the South-East Asia region (SEARO) — Bhutan, DPR Korea, Maldives, Sri Lanka and Timor-Leste — may have eliminated measles, but India continues to grapple with 39,299 cases, ranking fourth among 194 countries in the number of measles cases registered between July 2018 and June 2019.

These are the latest measles surveillance data released by the World Health Organization (WHO).

On Thursday, member Countries of WHO South-East Asia Region resolved to eliminate measles besides rubella by 2023 as a resolution to eliminate the two diseases was adopted at the Seventy-Second Session of WHO Regional Committee for South-East Asia here in New Delhi.

With 39,299 cases India bagged the fourth spot after Madagascar (150,976), Ukraine (84,394) and Philippines (45,847). However, on the positive side, India had the lowest measles incidence rate per million in the top 10 countries - 29.68.

Member Countries of WHO South-East Asia Region have now resolved to eliminate measles besides rubella by 2023, to prevent deaths and disabilities caused by these highly infectious childhood killers diseases.

Currently, six countries have controlled rubella - Bangladesh, Bhutan, Maldives, Nepal, Sri Lanka and Timor-Leste.

The member countries have also adopted a 'Strategic Plan for Measles and Rubella Elimination 2020-2024' that lays down the road map and focus areas to achieve the elimination targets in the Region.

"The new target to eliminate both the diseases will leverage the existing momentum and strong political commitment which is being demonstrated through unprecedented efforts, progress and successes in recent years," said Dr Poonam Khetrpal Singh, Regional Director WHO South-East Asia.

The member countries have also adopted a "Strategic Plan for Measles and Rubella Elimination 2020-2024" that lays down the road map and focus areas to achieve the elimination targets in the Region.

"Eliminating measles will prevent 500,000 deaths a year in the Region, while eliminating rubella/ CRS would avert about 55,000 cases of rubella and promote health and well-being of pregnant woman and infants," the Regional Director said.

Measles is particularly dangerous for the poor, as it attacks malnourished children and those with reduced immunity.

Measles can cause serious complications, including blindness, encephalitis, severe diarrhoea, ear infection and pneumonia while rubella/ congenital rubella syndrome (CRS) causes irreversible birth defects.

Coordination needed between AI and human compassion for nation building: President

PNS ■ NEW DELHI



President Ram Nath Kovind pays floral tributes to the portrait of the former President of India, Dr. Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan, on the occasion of his birth anniversary at Rashtrapati Bhavan in New Delhi on Thursday

beings," the President said.

"The world is moving from information era to knowledge era. However, knowledge alone will not be able to ensure the safety of human civilisation. Along with knowledge, it is also necessary to have a conscience. Only when knowledge is combined with wisdom, it can solve human problems," he said.

Forty-six teachers, shortlisted by the Union Human Resource Development Ministry from across the country, were conferred the awards. The awards are given to teachers to acknowledge their contribution and honour their commitment to better quality of school education and enriching the lives of students.

UNCCD members have spent \$6.4 bn on rejuvenation of degraded land, says report

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

In the last two years--between July 2017 and June 2019--the member countries of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification's (UNCCD) have spent around USD 6.4 billion for rejuvenation of degraded land. As degraded land loses soil carbon and emits greenhouse gases, it is a major contributor to climate change, according to a report tabled at the 14th Conference of Parties on land desertification being hosted by India.

During a discussion on the latest report by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) at the COP 14 to UNCCD, experts said emissions from agriculture, forestry and land use sector make about one-third of the total global emissions.

"Land degradation is the driver of climate change. Degraded land loses soil carbon and emits greenhouse gases due to deforestation and loss of soil carbon," Minal Pathak, one of the authors of the IPCC report, said.

IT SAID THAT MAJORITY OF THE 1.3 TO 3.2 BILLION PEOPLE AFFECTED BY LAND DESERTIFICATION ARE LIVING IN POVERTY IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

According to the report, land degradation adversely affects people's livelihoods and occurs over a quarter of the earth's ice-free land area.

It said that majority of the 1.3 to 3.2 billion people affected by land desertification are living in poverty in developing countries.

Highlighting the key findings of the report, Pathak said since 1990, globally the forest area has decreased by 3 per cent.

"Lower carbon density in re-growing forests compared to carbon stocks before deforestation results in net emissions from land use change. Forest management that reduces carbon stocks of forest land also leads to emissions, but global estimates of these emissions are uncertain," he said.

60 per cent of their organic carbon content prior to cultivation, and soils under conventional agriculture continue to be a source of greenhouse gases, according to the report, authored by scientists from over 50 countries.

The member countries of the UNCCD have agreed to achieve the land degradation neutrality target by 2030 to mitigate climate change.

Land Degradation Neutrality (LDN) is a state whereby the amount and quality of land resources, necessary to support the ecosystem functions and enhance food security, remain stable or increase within specified temporal and spatial scales and ecosystems.

122 countries are working to achieve the LDN target by 2030.

An estimated 7,200 participants that include ministers and representatives of governments, non-government and intergovernmental organisations, scientists, women and youth from 197 countries are attending the event which started on September 2 and will end on September 13.

IMD to develop weather forecasting system at village level

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The India Meteorological Department (IMD) is planning to develop weather forecasting system at the village level, covering an area of 2-3 kilometres, to mitigate the loss of crops and livestock due to climate change. Speaking at the Global South Media Briefing on Desertification by the Centre for Science and Environment, IMD Deputy Director General SD Attri said climate change is the biggest threat facing the world and economic losses form an important part of it.

"To mitigate impact of climate change on crop and livestock, the IMD is planning to develop weather forecasting system at the village level covering area of 2-3 kilometres," he said.

"I also want to clarify that forecast cannot be 100 per cent correct but our target should be to reduce loss to the property and to the livestock," he added. He said 20 years ago, the forecast could be given to the state level but now it has come down to the district level and block level, which is about



12 kilometres in area.

The IMD issues operational long range forecast for the monsoon in two stages. The first stage forecast is issued in mid-April and consists of quantitative forecast for the season. The second stage forecast is issued by the end of June. It consists of update for the forecast issued in April, a forecast for July rainfall over the country as whole and forecasts for seasonal rainfall over broad rainfall homogeneous regions of India.

Noting that India is warm-

ing up, Attri said though the number of cyclones are decreasing but its fury is increasing. "Hence, we need more expertise in learning how to manage it," he said.

Condition of Kharif crops good: Tomar

New Delhi: Union Agriculture Minister Narendra Singh Tomar on Thursday said that the condition of Kharif (summer-sown) crops is good and the country is likely to have bumper production of foodgrains. With better monsoon rains in August, the sowing area of Kharif crops has improved significantly. The crop condition of Kharif crops is "good" and production will be "good", the minister said on the sidelines of global micro-nutrient summit, jointly organised by International Zinc Association (IZA) and Fertilizer Association of India (FAI).

PNS

Man beaten to death in UP over ₹180 food bill

Bhadohi (UP): A 25-year-old man was beaten to death by a hotel owner and his waiters following a dispute over a bill of Rs 180 in Uttar Pradesh's Bhadohi district, police said on Thursday.

Suraj Singh and Vishal Dubey were beaten up with sticks and rods on Wednesday after they got into an argument with Gurnail Singh over their dinner bill, Superintendent of Police (SP) Ram Badan Singh said.

Though Dubey managed to flee, Suraj Singh was caught and thrashed. He succumbed to injuries, he said.

The incident took place at Sardar Dhabha near Mahrajganj and the dispute was over a bill of Rs 180, the SP said.

The hotel's owner, Gurnail Singh, and his son Surendra Singh have been arrested, while two waiters of the hotel are at large, police said. **PTI**

Case against 43 for serving non-veg biryani to Hindus

Banda (UP): A case has been registered against 43 people for serving non-vegetarian biryani to Hindus at a community feast during a 'urs' festival in Uttar Pradesh's Mahoba district, police said on Thursday.

The feast was organised during the 'urs' of Sheikh Peer Baba, a religious congregation of Muslims, in Salat village in Charkhari area on August 31, they said.

The FIR was registered on Wednesday after intervention of BJP MLA Brijbhushan Rajpoot, who visited the area on Tuesday and some villagers raised the matter with him.

"The biryani was deliberately served to hurt the senti-

ments of Hindus. Strict action is needed in the matter," Rajpoot told reporters.

The FIR was lodged under various sections of the IPC, including 153A (promoting enmity between different groups on ground of religion), 295 A (deliberate and malicious acts, intended to outrage religious feelings of any class by insulting its religion or religious beliefs), 420 (fraud) and 506 (criminal intimidation).

Superintendent of Police Swami Nath said it was not true that people were deliberately served non-veg biryani.

"A probe is on in the matter. No arrests have so far been made," he said. **PTI**

AHMEDABAD BUILDING COLLAPSE

Elderly couple among three dead

Ahmedabad: Three persons, including an elderly couple, died and eight others were injured when a three-storey residential building collapsed here on Thursday afternoon, said officials.

Since some occupants are still feared trapped under the debris of the building, said to be over eight decades old, fire brigade along with local residents and policemen are engaged in sifting through the rubble in search of survivors, said Assistant Fire Officer PS Parmar.

Rescue teams have so far pulled out eight persons alive from the rubble and referred them to government run-LG Hospital, he added.

Of the total 11 people referred to the hospital, three - an elderly couple and a 36-year-



Old woman - were declared as 'brought dead' by doctors, said hospital authorities, adding eight others are currently under

treatment. The deceased were identified as Baldev Suri (84), his wife Vimala Suri (80) and one Asha

Ahmedabad Fire and Emergency Service personnel carry out rescue works after a building collapsed in Ahmedabad on Thursday **PTI**

Patel (36). According to survivors, 15 to 20 people belonging to different families and living as tenants were inside the three-storey building when it came crashing down.

As many as 20 firefighting vehicles were rushed to the spot for the rescue operation.

Police and local residents joined the operation to rescue the trapped people by removing concrete chunks and other materials.

"The rescue operation is still on as we suspect that four more persons are still trapped under the debris.

"Locals told us the building was around 80 years old and four to five families were living there," said Deputy Commissioner of Police, Akshayraj Makwana. **PTI**

RPF seizes contraband items worth ₹73 lakh

Guwahati: Railway Protection Force (RPF) personnel of Northeast Frontier (NF) Railway have seized contraband items worth about ₹73 lakh during the last fortnight of August, a railway spokesman said on Thursday.

The contraband items include narcotics, foreign cigarettes and more than 93 kg ganja was seized during regular checks at various stations and trains, NF Railway Spokesman Subhanan Chanda said.

During the same period, the RPF also rescued 51 chil-

dren at different stations in Assam, West Bengal and Bihar and handed them over to their respective guardians, Chanda said.

The RPF also continued its drive against offenders involved in stealing mobile phones, cash and other belongings of passengers and apprehended five persons from Furkating and Katihar railway stations.

During the fortnight, RPF has also apprehended three touts and handed them over to police for necessary action, Chanda added. **PTI**

Farmer standing in queue for urea dies in T

Hyderabad: Amid claims of urea shortage in Telangana, a 69-year-old farmer collapsed and died reportedly after suffering cardiac arrest while standing in queue for buying the fertilizer in Siddipet district on Thursday, police said.

G Yellaiah, a native of Achimayipally village, went to the Primary Agriculture Cooperative Society office at Dubbak and stood in the queue but suddenly collapsed after which he was rushed to the nearby Government hospital where doctors declared him brought dead, they said.

Farmers demanded that the state government release ex-gratia to the bereaved family.

An agriculture official said farmers gathered in large numbers as the urea stock arrived. "We gave them tokens to stand in the queue and suddenly one of them collapsed..." the official said.

The incident created a furore with the opposition Congress and BJP hitting out at the State Government. **PTI**

Andhra aims to achieve cent per cent literacy: CM

Amravati: Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister YS Jagan Mohan Reddy on Thursday said that the State is aiming to achieve 100 per cent literacy in the next five years.

Addressing a function to mark Teachers' Day in Vijayawada, he called for sweeping changes in the education system by strengthening the Government schools and improving the enrolment rate.

Noting that the rate of illiteracy is higher in the State, he underlined the need to make it zero. "While the national average illiteracy rate is 27 per cent, our State stands at 33 per cent which is not a good sign and with the Government initiatives and your commitment we can bring down the rate to zero per cent, he told the teachers and offi-

cials. He said that teachers play a pivotal role in shaping the future of the children by laying a strong foundation on moral and ethical grounds.

Stating that his government started many path-breaking schemes to improve the standard of education, the Chief Minister said the goal can be achieved only with the active participation of teachers.

He said Amma Vodi, fees reimbursement and paying ₹20,000 annually for hostel and mess charges were some of the initiatives from the Government to encourage enrolment, but it is the teacher who has to mould the child as a responsible citizen.

Jagan Reddy said the infrastructure of Government-run schools will be improved in three years. The Government will make public a pictorial comparison of the schools before and after the renovation.

"We have to go in for the active participation of parents in the child's education with periodic interaction with teachers besides converting all Government schools into English medium schools which will draw the attention of more and more parents towards Government schools," he said. **IAS**



SEARCH FOR MISSING/KIDNAPPED

General public is hereby informed that a female (depicted in the photo), **Namely : Lata W/o Sanjeev R/o A-63, Shayam Colony Budh Vihar Ph-II, Delhi** has been missing/ kidnapped since 26.07.2019 from the area of P.S. Budh Vihar, Delhi. In this regard a case vide DD No. 24-A, dated 28.07.2019 has been registered at Police Station Budh Vihar, Delhi. Her physical description is as under :-

Age : 35 Years, Height : 5', Complexion : Fair, Face : Lambotra, Wearing : Red colour sari and red colour blouse.

Any person is having any information/Clue about this missing/kidnapped female, may inform SHO, Budh Vihar, Delhi at E-mail Id - cic@cbi.gov.in or Website: <http://cbi.nic.in>

Phone: 011-24368638, 24368641
Fax No. 011-24368639
SHO P.S. Budh Vihar, Delhi
Rohini Distt., Delhi
DP/3226/IND/19

UJVN LTD.

H.O.: 'UJJWAL', Maharani Bagh, G.M.S. Road, Dehradun-248006
Telephones: 0135-2763508, 2763808 & Fax: 0135- 2763507
CIN No. U49101UR2019SG028866, Website: www.uttarakhandjalvidyut.com

Tender Notice
Tender No. 06/EE(Patnri)/2019-20

The office of Executive Engineer (M&G), Patnri Power House, Bahadragrad, Hardwar, invites sealed Tenders from the experienced Firms for the following supply/works:-
NIT No. 06 - Wiring of residential & non residential buildings of Patnri Power House Colony

1. App. value : Rs. 8,54,987/- (GST extra)
2. Earnest Money : Rs. 25,650/-
3. Cost of Tender : Rs. 590/-
4. Last date for downloading of tender documents : 28.09.2019 up to 14.00 Hrs.
5. Last date for submission of tenders : 28.09.2019 up to 16.00 Hrs.
6. Date of opening of Tenders : 01.10.2019 at 11.00 Hrs.

For Eligibility Criteria and fuller and further details kindly visit our website. These tenders are available on our website www.uttarakhandjalvidyut.com with the facility to download the tender documents.
Letter No. 500 Dated 05.09.2019 EXECUTIVE ENGINEER

"Avoid wasteful use of Electricity"

Government of Jammu and Kashmir

Office of the Executive Engineer, Electric Maintt. & R.E. Division, Kathua
Email: xenmrekathua123@gmail.com, (Ph./Fax Nos: 01922-236945 & 01922-234637)

SHORT TERM NOTICE INVITING e-TENDERS
e-NIT No. KED/14 of 2019 Dated: 02-09-2019

For and on behalf of Governor of J&K State, e-tenders valid for 360 days, are hereby invited for Fixing of Rate Contract for Repair/replacement of defective Street Lights and all allied accessories from Shastri Nagar Point to Hatli Morh Point (34 nos.) and from canal Point to Kalibari Point (33 nos.) Under the jurisdiction of EM&RE Division Kathua from approved "A" Class Electrical contractors having valid registration Certificate from Inspection agency of JK PDD/Registered Contractors with MES/CPWD and Eligible Self Help Groups having sufficient experience of the relevant job and meeting Qualification Criteria as per e-NIT.

The tender document is available on website <http://ktenders.gov.in>. Interested bidders may view or download the e-Bid document, seek clarification and submit their e-Bid online up to date as per the details mentioned in the table below:

A. Date & Time of downloading of Standard Bidding Document :- The Standard Bidding Document can be downloaded over <http://ktenders.gov.in> from 02-09-2019 02:00 PM onwards
B. Clarifications start date :- 02nd September 2019 02:00 PM
C. Clarifications end date :- 03rd September 2019, 01:00 PM
D. Pre-Bid meeting :- 03rd September 2019, 01:30 PM

E. e-Bid submission (start) date & time (Submission of e-tender fee, EMD and other supporting documents in PDF/XLS format) :- 03rd September 2019, onwards
F. e-Bid submission (end) date & time (Submission of e-tender fee, EMD and other supporting documents in PDF/XLS format) :- 09th September 2019, 02:00 PM

G. Online Commercial and Technical e-Bid opening date & Time :- 09th September 2019, 03.00PM
Sd/- (Er. Mohd Shaffi)
No. DIP/J-2489-P/19
Date: 04.09.2019
Executive Engineer, EM&RE Division Kathua

Indian navy ships to make port call at Cambodia from Sept 5-19

Visakhapatnam: As part of Indian Navy's Overseas Deployment to South East Asia and Western Pacific, Indian Navy ships Sahyadri and Kiltan are making a port call at Sihanoukville, Cambodia from September 5 to 19.

The ships are part of the Indian Navy's Eastern Fleet under the Operational Command of Flag Officer Commanding-in-Chief, Eastern Naval Command, based at Visakhapatnam, according to a navy release here.

"The port call is a demonstration of India's warm ties with Cambodia," it said.

According to the release, Sahyadri, under the command of Capt Ashwin Arvind and Kiltan, under Cdr Ginto George Chacko, are the latest, indigenously designed and built multi-role Guided Missile Stealth Frigate and Anti-Submarine Warfare Corvette respectively.

The two ships, equipped with an array of weapons and sensors, can carry multi-role



An Indian Navy ship makes a port call at Sihanoukville, Cambodia, on Thursday. The ships are part of the Indian Navy's Eastern Fleet under the Operational Command of Flag Officer Commanding-in-Chief, Eastern Naval Command, based at Visakhapatnam **PTI**

helicopters and represent the

'coming of age' of India's warship building capabilities.

During the port call, there would be professional interactions between personnel of both the navies, official calls and interaction with dignitaries of the Royal Cambodian Navy.

In addition, social engagements, visits by local populace and various sports events are also planned during the visit.

On completion of the visit, Indian Navy and Royal Cambodian Navy ships would be undertaking a Passage Exercise at sea, to further build on the levels of interoperability between the navies to ensure peaceful and secure seas for all.

The visit would further bolster the strong bonds of friendship between the two countries and contribute to the security and stability in the region, the release added. **PTI**

UNIDENTIFIED DEAD BODY

General Public is hereby informed that one male **Namely: Unknown, S/o: Unknown, Address: Unknown** was found at Rohtak Road, Metro Pillar No. 656, Mundka, Delhi. In the area of P. S. Mundka, Delhi, and was admitted in Safdarjung Hospital, Delhi on 26.08.2019 vide MLC No. 13538/19.

During the Treatment Doctors declared him dead on 26.08.2019. In this regard a case has been lodged vide DD No. 38-A, dated 26.08.2019 at P. S. Mundka, Delhi. The description of the dead person is as under: **Age: approx 40 years, Sex: Male, Height: 5'8", Complexion: Wheatish, Wearing: Blue colour Shirt and Black colour pant.** If any one having any information about this dead person please inform undersigned.
SHO P.S. Mundka, Delhi
DP/2668/OD/19 Ph.: 8586932309, 7065036126

THE PANIPAT CO-OPERATIVE SUGAR MILLS LTD., PANIPAT

WALK-IN-INTERVIEW

Sr. No.	Name of Post	No. of Post & Category	Qualification & Experience
1.	Dy. Chief Accounts Officer.	1 No., General	Academic: Chartered Accountant OR ICWA. Experience: One year of handling the accounts & finance of a reputed commercial organization having turn over of Rs.10 Crores per annum.
2.	Dy. Chief Chemist.	1 No., General	Academic: B.Sc. Degree (IInd Division) with Physics Chemistry & Math OR Chemical Engineering plus ANSI/VSI IInd Division (Sugar Technology). Experience: 3 years as Mfg. Chemist. Knowledge of Computer is necessary. Computer Course upto 'O' level will be preferred.
3.	Dy. Chief Engineer	1 No., General	Academic: Degree in Mechanical/ Electrical/ Instrumentation Engineering (55% marks) Experience: 6 years experience as Asst. I Engineer in Sugar Industry. Knowledge of Computer is necessary. Computer Course upto 'O' level will be preferred. OR Academic: Diploma in Mechanical/ Electrical/ Instrumentation Engineering (55% marks). Experience: 8 years exp. as Asstt. Engineer in Sugar Industry. Preference will be given to those who possess Sugar Engineering Certificate from NSI or Boiler Operation Engineering Certificate. Knowledge of Computer is necessary. Computer Course upto 'O' level will be preferred.
4.	Dy. Chief Engineer (Co-Gen.)	1 No., General	Academic: B.E./Diploma in Electrical/Power Electronic/Mech. (55% marks). Experience: 5 years (B.E.) & 7 years (Diploma), experience in Power Plant, out of which 2 (two) years in Erecton.-Commissioning Operation & Control of Power Co-generation Plant preferably in Operation & Maintenance of Electrical equipment & DCS Control Systems.
5.	Asstt. Engineer (Mechanical)	1 No., SC.	Academic: Degree in Mech. Engg. (55% Marks) Experience: At least 1 year apprenticeship in Sugar Industry or completion of the Sugar Engineering Course from the NSI, Kanpur or one year exp. in any established heavy industry like Paper, Chemical, Cement, Textile etc. Knowledge of Computer is necessary. Computer Course upto 'O' level will be preferred. OR Academic : Diploma in Mechanical Engg. (55% marks) however preference will go to first division. Experience : 3 Years experience as Assistant Engineer (Mechanical) in Sugar Industry or in any heavy industry like Paper, Chemical, Cement, Textile etc. or Sugar Engineering Course from the NSI, Kanpur with at least 1 year apprenticeship in Sugar industry or in any established heavy industry like Paper, Chemical, Textile etc. Knowledge of Computer is necessary. Computer Course upto 'O' level will be preferred.
6.	Turbine Engineer (Co-Gen.)	1 No., General	Academic: BE (Mech. Engg.) Experience: Two years as a Turbine Engineer in Power/Co-gen. Plant of minimum 10 MW Capacity. OR Academic: Diploma in Mech. Engg. Experience: Five years as a Turbine Engineer in Power/Co-gen. Plant of minimum 10 MW Capacity.

This engagement will be purely on temporary & contract basis and only for the incoming crushing season 2019-20 of the mill. The Salary will be paid as prescribed in Out-Source Policy of the Haryana Govt. Eligible candidates should come in office of the undersigned on 11-09-2019 at 11.00 a.m. alongwith original documents and two Photostat copies of the same for Walk-in Interview. No T.A. will be admissible.
MANAGING DIRECTOR

Arif Khan to take charge as Kerala Gov today

Thiruvananthapuram: Kerala Governor-designate Arif Mohammad Khan will take charge of his office on Friday morning at the Raj Bhavan here.

The former Union Minister arrived here in the morning and was received by State Minister KT Jaleel.

Other State Ministers also visited the Governor-designate and exchanged pleasantries.

After inspecting a guard of honour, Khan left for Raj Bhavan, his official residence



for the next five years and met the staff. "Swearing-in Ceremony of Honble Governor Shri Arif

Mohammed Khan will be held at Raj Bhavan auditorium at 11:00 am on September 6," a Raj Bhavan release said.

Khan, who was appointed as the 22nd Governor of the state on September 1, will be administered the oath by Kerala High Court Chief Justice Hrishikesh Roy.

Khan, 68, will be replacing Justice (Retd) P Sathasivam, who left for Chennai yesterday after being the Governor for five years since 2014.

PTI



College students dress in traditional clothes to celebrate Onam festival in Kochi on Thursday

PTI

Leh's first Mobile Science Exhibition van flagged off

Leh: Leh's first Mobile Science Exhibition (MSE) van was flagged off on Thursday by Union Tourism and Culture Minister Prahlaad Singh Patel from the iconic Leh Palace here.

The vehicle will hold lectures and sky observation sessions for school students, among other programmes.

According to the officials in the Ministry of Culture, the vehicle will travel across the Ladakh region to promote science and technology among the youth. The Ministry will also flag-off 24 more such vans from different parts of the country on Thursday. Originally launched in 1965 as Mobile Science Museum (MSM), these vans have science exhibits and hold exhibitions throughout the year at schools in rural areas, except during vacations.

"We had only 23 MSE vans since 1965. But thanks to Prime



Minister Narendra Modi, today we are adding 25 more such vans in one go, taking the total number to 48," Patel said.

"From today onwards, the 24 other vans will also be launched simultaneously across the country," he added.

The programmes aim to popularise science and technology among people.

"Over next 5 years, we will add 25 new vans every year. Twenty-five vans are being added in September 2019, which is also part of 100-day achievement of this government," said Nirupama Kotru, Joint Secretary in the Ministry of Culture. IANS

Edappadi succeeds in bringing 20K jobs to TN

KUMAR CHELLAPPAN ■ CHENNAI

Even as the whole country is upset with reports of thousands of people finding them-

selves out of work following a general recession in the economy, Tamil Nadu Chief Minister Edappadi Palaniswamy has sprang a surprise by signing Memorandum

of Understanding (MoU) worth Rs 2,780 crore with US based industrial giants which is expected to generate 20,000 jobs in the State.

According to officials accompanying the Chief Minister in his official tour to US, the MoUs signed in Manhattan on Wednesday with US-based companies have the potential to make Tamil Nadu a hub of aerospace, defence industries and also the capital of electrical vehicles manufacturing in India.

The Central government's proposed Defence Corridor linking Salem and Bangalore via Coimbatore is expected to boost Tamil Nadu's industrial dreams. Palaniswamy, who is always under criticism by the Leader of the Opposition M K



Stalin of the DMK has given a befitting reply to the latter by roping in US based industrialists like Warren Knapp, Melissa Kessler, Mark Johnson and Manish Bhandari. The two day gathering held at Manhattan in US on Wednesday and Thursday attracted more than 200 prospective investors who were looking for avenues to invest in India. The chief minister explained to them that his government has earmarked 8,000 acres of land along the Defence Corridor and also announced details of the single-door window system introduced by his government to

make the process of doing business in Tamil Nadu an easy proposition. A portal exclusively meant for the Tamil diaspora wishing to invest in the State too was dedicated by Palaniswamy.

As part of his mission to set up a world class dairy unit in his constituency of Edappadi in Salem, the Chief Minister visited an animal farm in Buffalo in US on Tuesday. Accompanied by dairy development minister Rajendra Bhallajee, the chief minister enquired with the farm management about the good practices being pursued by the animal farm to increase the output as well as the science behind preserving the native breeds and how to create breeds that are resistant to diseases.

NORTH DELHI MUNICIPAL CORPORATION				
Office of the Executive Engineer (M)-V/City-SPZ				
Nigam Bhawan, Kashmere Gate, Delhi				
No. EE_M_I_City_SPZ_TC_2019_20_15		Dated: 03.09.2019		
Seq No.	North Delhi Municipal Corporation stage	Start Date	Expiry Date	
1.	Request of Tender Document From	12.09.2019	17.30 PM	
2.	Request of Tender Document to	19.09.2019	15:00 PM	
3.	Issue of Tender Document From	12.09.2019	17:31 PM	
4.	Issue of Tender Document To	19.09.2019	15:01 PM	
5.	Tender Closing Date & Time	20.09.2019	15:00 PM	
6.	Opening Date	20.09.2019	15:30 PM	

For online tendering time table please refer to <http://www.tenderwizard.com/NORTHDMCETENDER> sealed percentage / item rate tenders are invited for the execution of the following works by the NORTH DMC from approved and eligible contractors and will be received as per time table and will be opened at 20.09.2019 at 15:30 PM. on the www.tenderwizard.com/DMCETENDER by Ex. Engineer (M)-V/City-SPZ. The registered contractor of MCD only are eligible to tender for the amount they have registered in their respective category subject to the conditions that they are neither black-listed nor debarred at time of purchase of tender.

S. No.	Name of work	Head of account	Tender amount (Rs.)	Estimated amount (Rs.)	Earnest Money	Time of completion	Rates hold good for	Cost of tender
1.	Imp. Dev. of Lane from P. No. 26 to P. No. 27B in Anand Parbat by pdg. RMC and Drainage in Ward No. C-82N CSPZ HA : XL-VIII-S, Tender No. : EE_M_I_CSPZ_TC_2019_20_15_01.	XL-VIII-S	2591557	2802200	51900	03	04	500
2.	Imp. Dev. of Drain From P. No. -Z-1/2 to Ram Dharam Kata in Shahzada Bagh, Daya Basti by pdg. RCC and Drainage in Ward C-82N/NC-SPZ. HA : XL-VIII-S, Tender No. : EE_M_I_CSPZ_TC_2019_20_15_02.	XL-VIII-S	4563849	4934900	91300	05	04	500
3.	Imp. Dev. of Footpath in Subhadra Colony Tuesday Bazaar Road both side from M. C. P. School to H. NO. - A116 by pdg. interlocking Tiles and drainage in Ward C-82N/NC-SPZ HA : XL-VIII-S, Tender No. : EE_M_I_CSPZ_TC_2019_20_15_03.	XL-VIII-S	2559678	2767800	51200	04	04	500

Condition :- 1. It is compulsory for the bidder to fill the name of Bidder column in "Quote Sheet for the Bidder" Note :- In case of difference in system generated EMD and that given in "NOTICE" the EMD Shown in "Tender Notice" will have to be deposited as EMD.

Rates hold good for 5 Months

Schedule 'F' for clause 10 CA Material = Cement (OPC), Rate 6359/- (in Rs. per Tonne) Material = Reinforcement bars Rate- 48970/- (in Rs. per Tonne) Material = Structural Steel Rate- 46503/- (in Rs. per Tonne)

Bidding documents can be downloaded on payment of tender fee and Earnest Money Deposit (as mentioned against each work) from online tendering portal www.tenderwizard.com/NORTHDMCETENDER. The tender cost and the earnest money should be submitted online Net Banking/Credit Card or in the form of Challan (NEFT/RTGS) generated from the website.

RO No. 79/DP/North/2019-20 E.E. (M)-V/City-SPZ

HAL's helicopter clears altitude test in Himalayas

KESTUR VASUKI ■ BENGALURU

In a major boost to Indian defence aviation the Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) built Light Utility Helicopter (LUH) successfully demonstrated high altitude capability in hot and high weather conditions in the Himalayas.

According to a Press release issued here by the HAL, the trials were carried out by the test pilots from HAL, IAF and the Army from August 24 to September 2, 2019.

R Madhavan HAL chairman and MD has said Light Utility Helicopter (LUH) has complied with all the requirements of the users and with the completion of hot and high altitude testing, it is close to operational clearance certification.

According to HAL, comprehensive test plan was executed at Leh (3300m) in temperatures upto International Standard Atmosphere (ISA) +32 degree C which included

envelope expansion, performance and flying qualities. The LUH then lifted off from Leh and demonstrated its hot and high hover performance at Daulat Beg Oldie (DBO) Advanced Landing Ground (ALG) at 5000m followed by another forward helipad (5500m at ISA +27degree C). While these extreme weather conditions imposed flight restrictions on all other civil and military aircraft, LUH flights were unhindered as it is designed for such operations.



The helicopter embarked on a 3000km flight from Bengaluru to Leh over a period of three days traversing many civil and military airfields. During the course of ferrying and trials at high altitude, the chopper revealed high reliability without any service support. The composite trials team included designers, flight test crew of HAL, the Indian Air Force and Indian Army. Representatives of CEMILAC and ORDAQA witnessed the trials for military and civil certification requirements respectively. The flights were completed by an HAL flight test team led by Wg Cdr (Retd) Unni Pillai, CTP(RW) and accom-

panied by Wg Cdr (Retd) Anil Bhambani, Gp Capt (Retd) Pupinder Singh, Gp Capt V Panwar, Wg Cdr A Jena, a representative from the Air Force Gp Capt R Dubey and Lt Col R Grewal from the Indian Army.

The LUH completed hot weather trials at Nagpur in 2018, cold weather trials at Leh in 2019, sea level trials at Chennai in 2018 and at Pudukcherry in 2019.

As the demand for military choppers is in peak this desi metal bird would be one more addition into IAF's kitty once it gets operational clearance certificate. According to HAL, the LUH "will be capable of flying at 220 kilometres per hour, with a service ceiling of 6.5 kilometres and a range of 350 kilometres with a 400-kilogramme payload... The helicopter, with a glass cockpit, can be deployed for reconnaissance and surveillance roles and as a light transport helicopter."

SEARCH FOR MISSING/ KIDNAPPED



General public is hereby informed that a lady named Aarti, D/o Sh. Anil Kumar Shah, R/O H.No. SCG/644, Nopal Singh Ka Makan, Near Pappu Dairy, Azadpur Village, Delhi. The lady has been missing since 26.08.2019 from the area of P.S. Adarsh Nagar, Delhi.

In this regard DD No. 30-A, dated 27.08.2019 has been lodged at P.S. Adarsh Nagar, Delhi. Sincere efforts have been made by the local police to trace out the missing lady but no clue has come to light so far.

The description of the missing lady is as under: Name: Aarti, Age: 30 Years, Height: 4'5", Complexion: Fair, Face: Long, Build: Strong, Wearing: Black Colour Suit, Blue Colour Salwar and Black Chappal in Feet.

If anyone has any information regarding this missing lady, kindly inform SHO/ P.S. Adarsh Nagar, Delhi.

Email: cic@cbl.gov.in, Website: <http://cbl.nic.in> Ph.: 011-23015229, 23015218 Fax: 011-23011334

SHO P.S. Adarsh Nagar, Delhi Ph: 011-27674452, 08750870233

DP/9346/NW/19

APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION



General public is hereby informed that this person Named: Unknown, S/o: Unknown, R/o: Unknown, Age: Approx. 52 Years, Sex: Male, Height: 5'6", Complexion: Wheatish, Wearing: Yellow -Black Checkdar Shirt and Blue Half Pant was found in unconscious condition at Near Sidh Baba Mandir, Peera

Garhi, Delhi on 01.09.2019 and admitted in SGM Hospital, Mangolpuri, Delhi vide MLC No. 13943/19. During treatment, he has been dead at 12:37 pm.

In this regard a FIR/DD No. 7-A, dated 01.09.2019 has been registered at P.S. Paschim Vihar West, Delhi. Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out information about this person but no clue has come to light so far.

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

SHO P.S. Paschim Vihar West, Delhi DP/2667/OD/19 Ph.: 011-25268394, 7065036130

UDF crisis ends as rebel candidate withdraws from race

PNS ■ CHENNAI/KOCHI

The Congress-led United Democratic Front heaved a sigh of relief on Friday as the independent candidate Joseph Kandathil, a close confidante of Kerala Congress working chairman P J Joseph withdrew his candidature from the September 23 bypoll scheduled from the Pala Assembly constituency.

The decision of Kandathil to withdraw from the bypoll came after minutes of the returning officer announced that Jose Tom Pulikkunnel, who had been fielded by the family of late K M Mani (whose death necessitated the by election) would be considered only as an independent candidate and not as a UDF candidate. This means that Pulikkunnel would not get Two Leaves, the election Commission approved symbol of the Kerala Congress.

Kandathil, who filed his nomination on Wednesday, the last day for filing the nomination, had created ripples in political circles, especially

in the UDF camp which was confident of winning the byelection. The last 24 hours saw the UDF leaders Oommen Chandi and Mullappalli Ramachandran (the KPCC chief) going into a huddle to resolve the issue.

"It was like a storm in the tea cup which has been blown away by the concerted effort of the UDF leaders. Now it is time for action and winning the election," said a senior Kerala Congress leader owing allegiance to the K M Mani family.

नलको NALCO
National Aluminium Company Limited
(A Government of India Enterprise)
Nalco Bhawan, Nayagalli,
Bhubaneswar-751013, Odisha, India
CIN: L27203OR1981GOI000920
A NAVRATNA COMPANY

GLOBAL TENDER NOTICE
NO.NBC/MM/PR3000006312/ICP/2019/PT
Date: 27.08.2019

Online digitally signed tenders, in two parts, are invited from bonafide indigenous as well as overseas manufacturers or their accredited Agents/ Authorized Dealers for supply, installation and commissioning of one no. of ICP-Mass Spectrometry along with all accessories and spares & consumables at NALCO Research & Technology Center (NRTC), Gothapatana, Bhubaneswar, Odisha, India. For further details and downloading Tender Documents please log on to www.nalcoindia.com / www.eprocure.gov.in. Bidders are requested to visit the above websites regularly for any modification/ addition/ bid due date extension for this tender as this information shall not be published in print media.

DGM(Materials)

HSIIDC Public Notice
Plot no.300, Industrial Area, Ph-II, Panchkula

Late Smt. Vijayeta Chugh W/o Sh. Om Parkash Chugh R/o House No. 473, Sector-7, Panchkula, co-sharer / co-owner/ re-allottee of Plot no. 300, Industrial Area, Phase-II, Panchkula, (Developed by HUDA/ HSNVP), had expired on 18.03.2019 as per the death certificate dated 05.04.2019, furnished by her legal heirs Sh. Om Parkash Chugh S/o Sh. Mohkam Chand Chugh & Sh. Ankur Chugh S/o Sh. Om Parkash Chugh (co-owner/ co-sharers) and Priyanka Chugh Mishra D/o Sh. Om Parkash Chugh, who have also furnished affidavit/ Indemnity bond relinquishing her right in the above said property. Thus, have approached to HSIIDC for transfer of shares of late Smt. Vijayeta Chugh W/o Sh. Om Parkash Chugh in favour of Sh. Om Parkash Chugh S/o Sh. Mohkam Chand Chugh (husband) and Sh. Ankur Chugh S/o Sh. Om Parkash Chugh (son) and the HSIIDC shall go ahead with request of transfer of the plot no. 300, Industrial Area, Phase-II, Panchkula in favour of above mentioned legal heirs of late Smt. Vijayeta Chugh W/o Sh. Om Parkash Chugh, R/o House No. 473, Sector-7, Panchkula.

Through this public notice, it is hereby to inform that in case any person has any reservation/ objection to the said transfer, then he/ she can file his/ her objection(s) in writing before the undersigned along with an affidavit, within a period of 30 days from the date of publication of this notice. In case no response is received within the above said period it will be presumed that no person has any objection for transfer of the captioned plot in favour of Sh. Om Parkash Chugh S/o Sh. Mohkam Chand Chugh (husband) and Sh. Ankur Chugh S/o Sh. Om Parkash Chugh (son) and the HSIIDC shall go ahead with request of transfer of the plot no. 300, Industrial Area, Phase-II, Panchkula in favour of above mentioned legal heirs of late Smt. Vijayeta Chugh W/o Sh. Om Parkash Chugh, R/o House No. 473, Sector-7, Panchkula.

Sd/-
Estate Manager
Haryana State Industrial and Infrastructure Dev. Corp. Ltd.
Regd. Office: C 13 & 14, Sector-6, Panchkula, Ph 0172-2590481-83
Fax: 2590474, E-Mail: info@hsiidc.org.in, Web page <http://hsiidc.org.in>,
Technology Park, Sec-22, Panchkula-134109, Tel/Fax No.: 0172-2590481-83
CIN: U29199HR1967SGC034545

RO NO. 78552 Dt. 05-09-2019

E TENDER NOTICE
YEAR 2018/19
Gandhinagar Smart City Development Ltd
GANDHANAGAR MUNICIPAL CORPORATION
Multi Storied Building, B-Block, First Floor, Sector 11, Gandhinagar

Gandhinagar Smart City Development Ltd, is inviting tenders for the work given below Bids are invited for the e-tendering rates from the reputable agencies

Tender No.	Name of work	Tender fee	E.M.D
GSCDL-VMD-ICT-03-2019/20	"Selection of Implementing Agency for Supply, Installation and Commissioning of variable massaging display (VMD) boards in Gandhinagar City"	10,000	7,15,000

The tender form can be filled online by downloading from website www.nprocure.com from Dt 05/09/2019 to Dt 07/10/2019 upto 18 00 hours Bid queries will be accepted through email till Dt 16/09/2019 (up to 18 00 hours)

Any documents for the necessary support of tender bid must be scanned in the electronic format and submitted online on www.nprocure.com. The technical bids and the amount of tender fees and the Demand Draft of EMD shall be submitted in hard copy in name of CEO, Gandhinagar Smart City Development Ltd. upto Dt 14/10/2019 by registered post or speed post till 18 00 hours Only those offers will be opened

Online Technical Bid Opening Dt. 15/10/2019 at 12 00 hrs

Place: - Gandhinagar Dt. 03/09/2019
NO/INF/VPN/2019/G/1036

Municipal Commissioner, Gandhinagar and Chairman Gandhinagar Smart City Development Ltd.

Auto shutdown

The Government has finally woken up to the chaos it has unleashed, thanks to the fear of massive job losses



A couple of years ago, while addressing the annual conference of the Society of Indian Automobile Manufacturers (SIAM), Minister of Road Transport and Highways Nitin Gadkari had threatened to bulldoze the automotive industry if it did not adapt to an electric future. Persuaded by some deeply flawed metrics used by policy wonks at the Niti Aayog about how India's future mobility was going to be electric, without giving any thought whatsoever about jobs and such other "extraneous" matters, he believed that our country could not

just catch up with China on electric vehicles (EVs) but also take the lead. A few years later, the automotive industry is not only suffering a massive sales slowdown but dull investment on EVs other than some glorified traders importing products from China and pretending to be technology leaders. Meanwhile, the automotive industry that directly and indirectly employs millions of people and affects the economy is talking of huge job losses. The impact of the slowdown is already being felt as suppliers have cut jobs due to reduced demand. This is showing in the towns and villages that support the automotive trade, particularly in the Gurugram-Manesar belt, Pune and Chennai. Everybody, from landlords to barbers and even bars and those who provide more salacious services, has been hit. In this case, like in many others, no serious thought was given to the consequences of the grandiose statements and plans. Suddenly, the fear of job losses and the subsequent social strife are ringing all sorts of alarm bells in the Government, especially at a time when a few States like Haryana and Maharashtra are going for polls in a couple of months. Tamil Nadu, where some plants have been hit, too, would go to polls in a couple of years under this shadow.

So, Gadkari appeared a chastened man at this year's SIAM conference. At least he had the dignity to attend the event unlike fellow Ministers who chickened out. Far from bulldozing the industry, he smacked down the silly talk from the Niti Aayog on electrification and even said that he would speak to the Finance Minister about a duty cut on cars, at least temporarily. But most importantly, he said that he would argue the case for a duty cut on hybrid vehicles as reducing fuel bill and emissions remained a valid concern. Hybrids, not pure electric, are the best solution for a cost-conscious market like India. In fact, given our reliance on thermal electricity and a lack of charging infrastructure, petrol-electric, plug-in hybrids would have the lowest carbon footprint in the Indian context for now, according to a paper by the Brookings Institution. That could change once India has more power coming from cleaner, renewable sources and has developed both charging infrastructure and mega-battery manufacturing facilities. Electric and other zero-pollution vehicles are still the future, of that there is no doubt. But the plan to rush headlong into electric vehicles without an iota of thought to fairly basic things like battery recycling and ambient heat in India, which severely impacts charging let alone the promise of 24/7 reliable, clean electricity across the country, was a stupid one. Sense seems to have come back in the Government but the senseless actions of a few in the past two years might have already caused the cancer to become malignant.

Cong's rescue or doom?

Sonia has to end faction fights in State units because only its Assembly score can guarantee its revival



The Congress is in a piquant situation. With an interim president whose ways of running the party are well past expiry date, the promised fresh wave being just a stray whiff of hope that blew away with the Modi gale force, a demoralised cadre and scattered ranks still expected to gel as the face of the Opposition and senior leaders being probed, it is at the cusp of an evolution. And that is dependent on whether to continue legacy burdens like an emperor's new clothes or not. The factionalism in State units perhaps presents an opportunity for the grand old party to become a brand new party. Although the generational change has not quite taken off — what with appointees of the Rahul Gandhi tenure resigning or being forced to step down following their electoral failures — and given the old guard enough room to call the shots again, it is Sonia Gandhi's steadying hand, one that is still respected, that can actually harness mutual strengths. Agreed that Haryana Congress veteran Bhupinder Hooda is representative of the coterie seniors, who have built subsidiary empires without the responsibility of ownership and blackmailed party positions with their turf clout. But he has a command of the grassroots network down to the pore, one that Rahul Gandhi had upset with the appointment of Ashok Tanwar as State unit chief. And although Hooda, a Jat leader, was paired with Kumari Selja, a Dalit face, for the Lok Sabha polls, the Congress strategy fell flat because the leadership paralleled Hooda with its favourite Randeep Singh Surjewala. Now that Hooda has been made Congress Legislature Party chief, he might just stake all his energies that could benefit both him and the Congress. At one time, the party's central leadership thrived on playing warring factions against each other in States to ensure their subservience to it. But now if the Congress wants to rebuild, it has to do so brick by brick, rather State unit by unit. It has to give up its old strategy, back the strongest horse and allow it a free run to get past the finishing line. The success of Punjab Chief Minister, Capt Amarinder Singh, who held back the Modi wave and didn't let the high command interfere in his choices and ticket distribution, shows that efficacious regional leaders can congeal as a spine of the party, considering legacy entitlements aren't working anymore. The history of Congress-run State Governments shows that a continuity has been built only when it has allowed autonomy to the State leader as the Chief Ministerial face. And that it has bungled spectacularly whenever it has played factions — Madhya Pradesh was at one time a battleground of the Shukla brothers, Arjun Singh, Digvijaya Singh and Madhavrao Scindia. One does not need to remind that strong State leaders, who didn't play stooges, now have regional outfits and governments, be it Trinamool Congress chief Mamata Banerjee, YSR Congress chief Jaganmohan Reddy and even the most successful export to the BJP Himanta Biswa Sarma. Ironic though it may sound, the Congress may now have to borrow a page or two from the BJP's playbook, which has always posited strong and charismatic State leaders, one of whom is now the Prime Minister. Besides, the party is lucky to have a new generation of leaders, who have volunteered to give up privileges of their birth, capital comforts and take charge of States. It is, therefore, important to give due credit and listen to young leaders like Jyotiraditya Scindia, Sachin Pilot and Milind Deora, who want to engage in meaningful politics before fossilising to old age. They did ensure Congress victories in Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh Assemblies last year. Sonia would do well to restrain egoistic seniors from sabotaging new enterprise, one that is fuelled by dedication that, if unsatisfied, may turn into a rebellion.

portunity for the grand old party to become a brand new party. Although the generational change has not quite taken off — what with appointees of the Rahul Gandhi tenure resigning or being forced to step down following their electoral failures — and given the old guard enough room to call the shots again, it is Sonia Gandhi's steadying hand, one that is still respected, that can actually harness mutual strengths. Agreed that Haryana Congress veteran Bhupinder Hooda is representative of the coterie seniors, who have built subsidiary empires without the responsibility of ownership and blackmailed party positions with their turf clout. But he has a command of the grassroots network down to the pore, one that Rahul Gandhi had upset with the appointment of Ashok Tanwar as State unit chief. And although Hooda, a Jat leader, was paired with Kumari Selja, a Dalit face, for the Lok Sabha polls, the Congress strategy fell flat because the leadership paralleled Hooda with its favourite Randeep Singh Surjewala. Now that Hooda has been made Congress Legislature Party chief, he might just stake all his energies that could benefit both him and the Congress. At one time, the party's central leadership thrived on playing warring factions against each other in States to ensure their subservience to it. But now if the Congress wants to rebuild, it has to do so brick by brick, rather State unit by unit. It has to give up its old strategy, back the strongest horse and allow it a free run to get past the finishing line. The success of Punjab Chief Minister, Capt Amarinder Singh, who held back the Modi wave and didn't let the high command interfere in his choices and ticket distribution, shows that efficacious regional leaders can congeal as a spine of the party, considering legacy entitlements aren't working anymore. The history of Congress-run State Governments shows that a continuity has been built only when it has allowed autonomy to the State leader as the Chief Ministerial face. And that it has bungled spectacularly whenever it has played factions — Madhya Pradesh was at one time a battleground of the Shukla brothers, Arjun Singh, Digvijaya Singh and Madhavrao Scindia. One does not need to remind that strong State leaders, who didn't play stooges, now have regional outfits and governments, be it Trinamool Congress chief Mamata Banerjee, YSR Congress chief Jaganmohan Reddy and even the most successful export to the BJP Himanta Biswa Sarma. Ironic though it may sound, the Congress may now have to borrow a page or two from the BJP's playbook, which has always posited strong and charismatic State leaders, one of whom is now the Prime Minister. Besides, the party is lucky to have a new generation of leaders, who have volunteered to give up privileges of their birth, capital comforts and take charge of States. It is, therefore, important to give due credit and listen to young leaders like Jyotiraditya Scindia, Sachin Pilot and Milind Deora, who want to engage in meaningful politics before fossilising to old age. They did ensure Congress victories in Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh Assemblies last year. Sonia would do well to restrain egoistic seniors from sabotaging new enterprise, one that is fuelled by dedication that, if unsatisfied, may turn into a rebellion.

Not a full-stop, it's a comma

The ruling on Section 377 was a watershed moment in Indian history. But a law alone cannot lead to acceptance from society. The challenge is to change perceptions



KESHAV SURI

Great wars are won by conquering small battles. While victory in these encounters needs to be cherished, it should never make one lose focus of the ultimate goal. After all, victory is not achieved overnight and a revolution isn't triggered out of nothing. Having said that, it does give me immense pleasure to ring in a year of dispelling the criminality tag around homosexuality in India. I am equally aware that it is but a drop in the ocean.

It was September 6, 2018, when the Supreme Court scrapped Section 377, decriminalising homosexuality in the country. Celebrations lasted for months, including back at our base in New Delhi. But it was time for us to get out of the festive mode to charter a course for the future. The apex court's verdict could resemble a notification on the phone — sometimes you read it and follow through and on other occasions you ignore it. But this alert could not be ignored. The road ahead for LGBTQIA+ rights in India is more personal and complicated. It is about acceptance and the fight for equal rights. The challenge now is to change individual perceptions. A law or Government ruling cannot force the society into acceptance.

Over the years, in my struggle, I have tried to be a conversation-starter. I have tried to skim a stone on the water in the hope that it will create a ripple effect. My quest is simple: I am not aiming for the stars when I say we all want basic civil liberties. The rights and duties that citizens of this country enjoy should be imparted to one and all.

I want to be a responsible citizen fulfilling my duties and I want the freedom to enjoy my rights. The great Nelson Mandela had said, "To deny people their human rights is to challenge their very humanity." I am waiting for that day when our liberties are not curtailed. When an inclusive and equal opportunity society is not a dream but a given. When respect is not a by-product of sexual orientation. If I sound like a pessimist to some, then I hope to change the perception of the readers by the time he/she reaches the end of this piece.

Take the basic institution of marriage for instance. Gay couples may no longer be prosecuted by law but they still don't have the legal standing to marry in the country. I am happily married today but I could neither go through the ceremony here nor does the country recognise my nuptials. Let's say a couple decides to forego the notion of marriage, they still can't plan a family in our country as it does not permit adoption when it comes to gay couples. Marriage is a beautiful institution and for me, modernity is the freedom to choose the right life partner, irrespective of gender.

If family life for gay couples is still a far-fetched dream, then basic personal security is not guaranteed either. We take mat-



ters of insurance for granted but the same can't be said for the LGBTQIA+ community. When I decided to provide health insurance to my queer employees, I was faced with an uphill task. After intense negotiations, ICICI Lombard came on board for a landmark insurance policy. As part of an all-inclusive drive, we were able to make additions to our employees' health insurance cover. We now provide insurance cover for LGBTQIA+ people and their families, adopted children or those born through surrogacy to heterosexual, same sex couples, single parents and also for sexual reassignment surgeries up to ₹3.5 lakh since May 2018.

I consider the above very important basic civil liberties. But it is shocking that they aren't the only rights being denied to us. The fight for the LGBTQIA+ community is still about survival. Education and ultimately employment are still a pipe dream for most. The lack of these basic rights led us to launch our foundation, whose motto is to embrace, empower and mainstream the LGBTQ community. We have been working tirelessly to impart skills that can aid job search. Towards this cause, we provid-

“ TAKE THE BASIC INSTITUTION OF MARRIAGE FOR INSTANCE. GAY COUPLES MAY NO LONGER BE PROSECUTED BY LAW BUT THEY STILL DON'T HAVE THE LEGAL STANDING TO MARRY. I AM HAPPILY MARRIED TODAY BUT I COULD NEITHER GO THROUGH THE CEREMONY HERE NOR DOES THE COUNTRY RECOGNISE MY NUPTIALS ”

ed scholarships to trans-students for a diploma programme in food production and bakery. Companies and institutions need to open their door and truly become equal opportunity workspaces.

In a private capacity, we have provided a platform to the community to express their concerns as we work towards finding solutions. We also organised RISE, India's first job fair for the LGBTQIA+ community, in Bengaluru, which saw healthy participation from corporates and community members seeking jobs. Our organisation is home to over 100 queer employees and we are working everyday to increase this number.

What concerned players can do is hold regular workshops for gender sensitisation and hold therapy sessions to help families and individuals come to terms with their true selves. In fact, to spread the message on a macro level, we have put our weight behind short films like *Intezaar*, *Queen*, *U for Usha* and *Sheer Khurma*.

As a group, we have worked hard to mobilise various platforms to spread the message of inclusivity and equality. We utilised the powerful written medium and collaborated with

several content creators to spread the message. I am particularly proud of our book series for children, *Elphie*. It is an attempt to mould the minds of the younger generation towards the ideas of respect, equality and inclusivity. And when it comes to inclusivity, how can I not mention about our night club that has been the epicentre of the revolution? It popularised drag culture, broke stigmas in many ways and helped people embrace their art and emerge from the closet. Today we have more than 35 drag kings and queens, who perform regularly at our club.

For the record, I am an eternal optimist. I am happy that we are no longer criminals in our country. I don't consider acceptance among society, friends and family a challenge to be ignored. I don't want education, financial freedom, marriage equality to be dreams. We needed allies, now we need accomplices. I believe in this country and that's why I continue to raise my voice for a just and equal society. Because I am waiting to celebrate again as we conquer frontier after frontier.

(The writer is a hotelier and a prominent LGBTQ+ activist and one among those who filed the petition against Section 377)

SOUNDBITE

In the near future, only female calves will be born through semen. Now, cases of mob lynchings in the name of stray cattle won't be reported.



Union Minister — Giriraj Singh

I think I just wanted to enjoy my life. And that took precedence over protecting my life, because in protecting it, I was ruining it.



Actor — Kristen Stewart

I thank all those from whom I've learnt over the years. That includes the social media trolls, some journalists with an agenda and my political adversaries.



Congress leader — Rahul Gandhi

Upset over the anti-people policies of the Congress, people rejected it. BJP Governments at the Centre and in UP are repeating the same mistakes.



BSP chief — Mayawati

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Safety first

Sir — This refers to the editorial, "Do the crime, pay fine" (September 4). The Government's move to introduce stringent laws for those violating traffic rules is historic and will likely help arrest the rising graph of road accidents besides instilling a sense of discipline in the road users. Statistics speak for themselves: India is one of the most accident-prone countries in the world, accounting for nearly 1,50,000 deaths — 10 per cent of all motor vehicles-related fatalities worldwide.

However, the stringent fines imposed by the Government may not lead to improving safety. For in most such cases, stringent penalties have either not been enforced or have led to bribery and corruption.

Nevertheless, the Act has certain provisions that are well-intentioned. For instance, it goes on to increase insurance penetration. It provides for an enhanced compensation of ₹5 lakh in case of death of a person in a traffic accident and ₹2.5 lakh where there is "grievous hurt." The compensation to be awarded follow-

Execution remains key in bank merger

The Government's decision to amalgamate major Indian banks comes as a surprise even though one understands that such a move has been taken cautiously by the Ministry of Finance. The need for such a step has been explained as a means to infuse capital into the banks as the economy now is staring at a gloomy picture of the markets. Such a restructuring exercise will help minimise bad loans and non-performing assets (NPAs). One will not be surprised if more such plans are implemented in future and set a trend with the concept of amalgamated banking systems in the coming years.

It needs to be seen as to how quickly and effectively such an amalgamated banking entity will penetrate into businesses. Anyway, all banks share a common banking software. It also needs to be seen as to how well the Government will convince such mammoth banks to restructure without affecting customers, employees, the banking union and other such entities. In a bid to succeed in the restructuring and strengthening requirement, it should also be noted that the move may impact the



already declining perception of existing customers and other beneficiaries associated with the otherwise traditional Indian banking system. Innovation is now necessary to be implemented to ensure that customers are moved to the new entity without too many procedural hassles, which would ensure the smooth transition of existing banks to the new ones.

Varun Dambal Bengaluru

child in a Government or Government-aided primary school one nutritious meal a day which must consist of either *roti* and vegetables with soybean or *tehrri* (pulaos) or *roti* with *dal*. And its not just Uttar Pradesh but there are many other schools in different parts of the country who have been found guilty of grievous lapses. Governments must work towards ensuring the success of the mid-day scheme which is vital for the future of the children.

Sravana Ramachandran Chennai

Welcome move

Sir — In view of the increasing cases of assault on doctors, the draft Bill introduced by the Government, which makes assault of healthcare professionals a criminal offence with an imprisonment of up to five years and fine extending up to ₹5 lakh, is welcome. At the same time, it must work towards uplifting the condition of Government hospitals.

Ravi Via email

Send your feedback to: letterstopioneer@gmail.com

ing hit-and-run accidents has also been raised to ₹2 lakh when a victim dies and ₹50,000 when he/she suffers a grievous injury. It is to be hoped that the public at large will follow the set guidelines in the interest of their own safety and that of others, too.

Ramesh G Jethwani Bengaluru

Shameful act

Sir — This refers to the editorial, "Shooting the messenger" (September 4). The video where children were seen squatting on the floor as they rolled their *rotis* to have them with a pinch of salt was damning. It was astonishing

that the Uttar Pradesh police sought to arrest the journalist to cover up its lapses. In a democracy, people have the right to know what the Government is doing with its money. Even Napoleon Bonaparte feared for the fourth estate than a thousand bullets. As per the guidelines, State Governments must provide every

FIRST COLUMN

Crying wolf about a recession?

Some more economic reforms and less shrill voices will help curb the slowdown many fear India is headed for



KUMARDEEP BANERJEE

The room was full of Chief Executive Officers (CEOs) discussing emerging consumer patterns in India. Topics like Artificial Intelligence (AI) dictating consumer choices and innovation-led business strategies steered the discussion to what perhaps was the most pressing question on everybody's mind. Is the Indian economy slowing down and are we in the middle of a recession? After a brief pause, the CEO of a multi-national food and beverage company asked, "Are we talking ourselves into a recession? Is the situation really bad or are we painting a gloomy picture on the basis of one dark cloud?"

Given that a dismal five per cent Gross Domestic Product (GDP) has shaken markets and wiped out crone in investor wealth besides giving naysayers the opportunity to gloat, are the reasons for this slowdown lack of Government push, policy errors or the reluctance of industries to adjust to the new normal? While a five per cent GDP growth may be an upsurge for many economies around the globe, for an ambitious India trying to gallop towards a \$5 trillion economy in the next five years, it seems like a setback.

While everyone will agree that the dismal GDP performance was mainly driven by falling consumption, not many will agree that there has been a rapid revolution in the Indian consumption space in the last few years. There has been a tectonic shift in the way Indians consume food (think ordering online vs eating out), stay in hotels (think OYO), commute to work (OLA, Uber, car pooling), or buy mobile phones, electronic goods and clothes (think Flipkart and Amazon).

Clearly, the urban vs semi-rural consumer divide in aspirations is disappearing fast and technology is assisting, if not dictating, consumption. Businesses that were waiting for the digital wave to pass are crumbling as innovation is here to stay.

The consumer is spoilt for choice with several, not so well known players creating niche markets in a space dominated by big players. People are getting the same products cheaper or at the same prices as previous years. The era of hyper-localisation or highly personalised service for consumers is here to stay.

The big story emerging from all this is that technology-led disruptions have severely changed the Indian consumption story. They have led to a deflationary impact on prices, directly hitting bottom-lines of industries still used to old patterns of consumption and cyclical consumer behaviour. Companies operating in this unwilling to adapt zone, have failed to deploy technological innovations for divesting their businesses, expanding or creating new market segments for themselves, thereby being forced to shut operations. However, a few bumps in the road are not the last word on the India recession story.

A few examples may be worth quoting at this stage. While many say the Indian smartphone segment may see the softest growth this festive season, there are 75 new smartphone launches planned in the next two months. Similarly, while many Fast Moving Consumer Goods (FMCG) players may have seen tapering down of revenues, some like Nestle have actually bucked the trend and seen double digit growth in premium categories. Encouragingly, while overall the real estate sector is facing 'court to consumption' issues, office space and office space rentals are staring at double digit growth. And people may not be buying new houses (whether to live in or for investment purposes) but they definitely are repainting their existing homes more frequently, leading to the paint sector recording a steady growth rate.

Significantly, while the civil aviation sector may be facing headwinds due to various difficulties like costly Aviation Turbine Fuel, governance issues with airlines and one carrier even stopping operations, the premium economy seats in airlines are actually flying fast. The above, recession-defying examples are in no way meant to dissuade the Government from carrying forward surgical strikes on growth barriers or let sticky economic issues take cover behind crucial national security and sovereignty issues, but to propel them faster. Relaxation in Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) limits of some job generating sectors such as coal and single brand retail; fund infusion in major Public Sector Banks (PSBs) and subsequent mergers are likely to free up more capital for small and medium enterprises, home and car buyers. Relaxation in policies and taxes for the automobile sector could be steps in the right direction. But this has to be continuously addressed.

Recent announcements by Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman are a welcome step but a war room set-up comprising key officials from various Ministries monitoring the situation and taking calls on the move may be good from the market optics point of view. This way at least, India won't shout itself into a recession.

(The writer is a policy analyst)

I URGE THE GOVERNMENT TO PUT ASIDE VENDETTA POLITICS AND REACH OUT TO ALL THINKING MINDS, TO STEER ECONOMY OUT OF THIS MAN-MADE CRISIS

—FORMER PRIME MINISTER
MANMOHAN SINGH

POINT COUNTERPOINT



WHEN THEY (SINGH AND CHIDAMBARAM) WERE IN OFFICE, INFLATION RATE WAS IN DOUBLE DIGITS AND THE ECONOMY WAS UNDER FIVE PER CENT.
 —UNION MINISTER
ANURAG THAKUR

No vague spaces online

India must understand which e-commerce policies can create uncertainty for firms as addressing them will help it reap benefits innovative technology companies bring



MEGHA PATNAIK

During Amazon's second quarter earnings announcement recently, its Chief Financial Officer (CFO) Brian Olsavsky commented on India's e-commerce policy and expressed the hope that the Government would provide a stable and predictable policy for the company to continue with its investments in technology and infrastructure. This demand is a new addition to the e-commerce debate and a novel one given that it is coming from a firm already heavily invested in India.

India must understand which policies in the e-commerce space can create uncertainty for companies, as addressing them will help the country reap the benefits innovative technology companies can bring to the table. Amazon services bring in jobs and investment to local economies globally and in India, along with innovation and knowledge that will help companies grow and improve productivity.

Amazon's inauguration of its Hyderabad-based office, that is the single-largest till now globally, housing 15,000 employees across 1.8 million square feet of space, is proof that it considers India a viable business environment despite the regulatory hurdles faced in tariffs, taxes, stringent Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) norms and ever-changing data regulations.

Globally, site selection by large multinationals follows an intensive bidding process, with US states offering incentives to woo them. Last year, the firm narrowed down its Amazon HQ2 locations, choosing Northern Virginia over New York. There were a total of 238 bids for the site. Some states, most notably New Jersey and Maryland, offered multi-billion dollar incentive packages — \$7 billion and \$8.5 billion, respectively — to Amazon, but did not make it to the shortlist. After taking into consideration the existing availability of skilled workers, the infrastructure, cost of doing business and a stable business environment, the tipping factor which influenced the location decision was the pushback in the New York location, in contrast to a warm welcome from the community in Virginia, despite its moderate offer of \$750 million in incentives.

Governments bid aggressively and offer incentives to attract successful multinationals as these firms generate economic activity through supporting and linked businesses, upskill workers and increase the uptake of more structured management practices, thus improving the overall productivity of local companies.

Recent research found that such million-dollar plants lead to significant increases in management, productivity and employment by the incumbent firm that boosts the local economy.

There is a stronger effect through companies which are in sectors where there are frequent flows in managerial labour from the plant's industry, found by comparing incumbent firms in locations, which were the winners of the bidding process with the runners-up who narrowly missed being selected for the site.

Policy uncertainty deters companies from investing and hiring. When organisations are unclear about the future economic environment, they hold back on investing until policies become clear. Productivity growth also falls because this pause in activity freezes reallocation across units. In the medium-term, the increased

“FOR INDIA TO REAP BENEFITS FROM GLOBAL MULTINATIONALS SUCH AS AMAZON, WE NEED TO PROVIDE COMPANIES A STABLE AND PREDICTABLE POLICY ENVIRONMENT THAT CAN FOSTER INVESTMENT AND INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT. EARLY INVESTMENTS FROM LARGE INNOVATIVE COMPANIES WILL GIVE A HEAD START TO INDIA, ENABLING IT TO PICK UP TECHNOLOGIES FROM GLOBAL LEADERS AND PUSH DOMESTIC INNOVATION FORWARD FASTER AS WELL. THIS IS CRITICAL FOR A CAPITAL-SCARCE COUNTRY LIKE INDIA, WHICH IS ASPIRING TO BECOME A \$5 TRILLION ECONOMY IN THE NEXT FIVE YEARS”



volatility from the shock induces an overshoot in output, employment and productivity. Thus, uncertainty shocks generate short sharp recessions and recoveries.

All this affects long-term investments that are irreversible in nature and for which horizons for cost recovery can run into years. This would include innovation and research and development investments, ventures into new markets and infrastructure development. When there is a lack of stability and certainty in the future actions of the Government and regulators, enterprises hold back from investing in these dimensions. This, in turn, limits the impact of such firms that can come from long-term investments, including benefits to employment, wages and growth.

The role of economic and policy uncertainty in the macro-economic level has been measured globally and has recently been highlighted in the 2019 Economic Survey. An index is created by quantifying newspaper coverage of policy-related economic uncertainty mentions in the national newspapers, through combinations of keywords related to policy and uncertainty. This measure correlates strongly with stock market volatility measures, such as the India VIX Index. This measure is used globally to study the effects of events such as Brexit, the US-China trade wars and so on.

A less understood concept is that enterprises can also face uncertainty at sectoral, geographical and individual levels. Industry-level uncertainty can be measured through surveying firms sampled across sectors, asking them about expectations of future growth and costs at various horizons. Though this is harder to capture, it is imply clear that Amazon's statement alludes to policy uncertainty in the e-commerce space.

merce space.

Here are a few of the policies in the e-commerce space which increase uncertainty for businesses and thus deter investment: The draft National e-Commerce Policy rules earlier this year, preventing companies from influencing prices or selling products in which they hold stakes, disrupted business plans for e-commerce firms. It pushed firms back to the drawing board to ensure they can comply with the current regulations while limiting losses that arose from lack of clear direction from the start. The final e-commerce policy has been held back for another year, putting the investments of businesses in this sector in jeopardy during the interim months.

The recent recommendation by a high-level Government panel to do away with the need for foreign firms to store a copy of all personal non-critical data in India will help companies, though the decision on data localisation remains to be made.

Under data localisation, foreign companies would need to redesign internal algorithms to access data locally, pay up for new servers and face costs to protect data in less-secure environments. There is also uncertainty as to what constitutes non-critical data and how it would interact and overlap with critical data. E-commerce companies still face policy uncertainty while the due process of discussions with various Government bodies and stakeholders regarding data localisation is completed. We soon expect to hear from the Prime Minister's Office on data localisation. The announcements, though not final, do offer direction and some insights into the Government's thought process.

A related issue is the disclosure requirement of source code under the draft e-commerce policy. Amazon

depends highly on data-driven marketing and heavy use of its item-to-item collaborative filtering algorithm for customer recommendations.

A code submission requirement is a coercive technique aimed at achieving the transfer of technology and local needs. Technology transfers happen in an organic and legitimate manner through managers and employees developing skills and passing them onwards in data communities or by moving across companies. Whether this will come into effect through the final e-commerce policy will remain unresolved till mid-2020.

Multiple guidelines can also cause delays in the resolution of uncertainty. The RBI's *Report of the Working Group on FinTech and Digital Banking* includes e-aggregators, Robo advisers and Big Data all under FinTech. E-commerce firms, which are data-intensive and provide multiple services, will be included under this description. The Ministry of Finance FinTech Steering Committee report remains pending that will recommend another set of guidelines on regulation around technology-enabled activities in India.

For India to reap benefits from global multinationals such as Amazon, we need to provide companies exactly what they are asking for — a stable and predictable policy environment that can foster investment and infrastructure development.

Early investments from large innovative companies will give a head start to India, enabling it to pick up technologies from global leaders and push domestic innovation forward faster as well. This is critical for a capital-scarce country like India, which is aspiring to become a \$5 trillion economy in the next five years.

(The writer is faculty, ISI Delhi and Fellow at the Esysa Centre)

What makes apologists tick?

They often have a strange combination of helplessness against ideas they may not subscribe to and an optimism that somehow their end result will be for the better. Hence, they can be safely called defeatist-optimists



NADEEM PARACHA

I often understand apologists as defeatist-optimists. In the 1990s, when I worked as a reporter at an English daily, one of my assistant editors explained the 1996 take-over of Afghanistan by the Taliban in the following manner: "They may be extreme in the way they view and practise Islam, but at least they will get rid of the warlords and the loot, plunder and chaos that these warlords are causing."

In Pakistan, between 2007 and 2015, when suicide bombings by extremists were killing civilians, cops, soldiers and politicians with reckless abandon, one often saw men (and some women) on TV talk shows, condemning the killings.

But, at the same time, they were also admonishing the so-called economic and political reasons which were supposedly making young men blow themselves up amidst crowds of innocent men, women and children. They were urging the State and Government to "hold negotiations" and "talks" with the extremists because, according to them, the extremists' grudge against the State and society were legitimate. Those urging this became known as apologists.

The apologists didn't necessarily hold the same degree of views held by the extremists. Helpless to regulate the extremist narrative according to their own traditionalist ideas of faith and morality, they began to look for ways to rationalise the violence and, sometimes, even see a rainbow at the culmination of a terrorist attack. Therefore, defeatist-optimists.

This was like rationalising nihilism in an acceptable TV-friendly manner and then, perverted as this may seem, seeing an imaginary silver lining. Most apologists looked

quite like the ones they were apologising for. But not always. There were also those who could speak fluent English, were educated in the West and proudly identified themselves with the Left or real liberalism. Scholar and author Afia S Zia writes in her 2019 essay *Class is dead*, but *faith never dies* that a flurry of scholarship from Pakistani "activist-academics" (largely based in the West) emerged from a post-9/11 Empire anxiety.

Those who attacked the World Trade Center with the two hijacked planes and killed over 3,000 people, described the act as an attack on US arrogance, imperialism, decadence and enforced modernity. A week after the attacks, an acquaintance of mine, who was with me in a Left-wing student organisation at college in the 1980s and till a few years ago taught sociology at a college in Berlin, said: "Even though I disagree with the ideology of those who carried out the attack, this was the only way left to rebuff American arrogance and make them think twice before attacking other countries." So,

this gentleman, who had felt helpless at the fall of Communism in the 1990s, saw a rainbow at the end of the 9/11 attacks.

Of course, the attacks caused at least two more full-fledged US invasions in Afghanistan and Iraq, and a truly testing period for Muslims across the globe. In her essay, Zia writes that post-9/11 scholarship on Muslim identity became a cash cow. Post-modernism, post-structuralism, anthropology, Edward Said's Orientalism, et al, were still popular on American and European campuses when 9/11 shook the world in 2001. In the wake of reactions against Muslims after the attack, these academic disciplines that had largely been formulated by the western academia from the 1970s onwards and had put to the sword ideas of economic, social and political modernity, were refigured to fit the idea of the evil West and remnants of modernity in the context of the post-9/11 world.

For example, Islamophobia was a distasteful and discriminatory reaction by some segments in

Europe and the US. But in an attempt to censor it, the post-9/11 scholarship by various West-based Muslim scholars ended up providing apologia for those who refused to see anything problematic in the thinking which led to 9/11 and instead continued to put all blame on the West. Islamophobia was thus trivialised and shrunk into becoming an intransigent post-modernist idiom.

Zia critiques this tendency by evaluating the manner in which modern Pakistani women academics, operating from universities in the West, treated the subject of women's rights in Pakistan. She writes that these scholars and authors identify with the Left or Left-liberal tendencies but their thinking is at best, reactionary.

Zia is of the view that they are quicker to attack Pakistani liberals than they are Islamists, believing that the liberals are elitist. Zia demonstrates that the elite alone were not involved in the battle for women's rights in Pakistan. A lot of work done to improve the economic,

social and political condition of women in the country was also undertaken by common everyday groups of women. According to Zia, the scholars she critiques have casually ignored such groups, many of whom were also confronting the Islamists head-on. Instead, since scholarship based on an anthropological understanding of Muslim identity became an academic trend, the mentioned scholars began to romanticise and search for rainbows in the condition of those non-elite women who are forced to operate in masculine concepts of piety.

Book after book appeared explaining that such common (non-elite) women were taking rational steps to use concepts of piety such as the *hijab* to become active in the public sphere. But Zia questions this assumption. She asks how could a woman, who accepts a masculine idea of piety and morality, be seen as a challenge to a worldview which refuses to accept her as anyone capable of operating outside her kitchen? And what about the elite who are equally involved in this pursuit (e.g.

the upper-crust Farhat Hashmi phenomenon, brilliantly examined by Sadaf Ahmad in *Transforming Faith*)? What are they using piety for? Zia sees the critiqued scholarship as an inadvertent apologia for forces that are an impediment to reform regarding women's rights in Pakistan.

In her book *Modernism, Islam & Secularism in Turkey*, Turkish sociologist Alev Cinar writes that, in the 1990s when some women in Turkey defied a ban on the headscarf, they claimed that wearing the *hijab* liberates women from the male gaze in public. Cinar writes that by doing this they acknowledged that the public sphere was dominated by the male gaze and will remain so.

This actually defeated the purpose of women's rights, which should be to neutralise the public sphere and make it gender-equal. Therefore, this is a defeatist approach which still looks for male validation for women's participation in the public sphere. (Courtesy: *The Dawn*)

Auto sector seeks GST cut, fears more job loss

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Seeking urgent stimulus from the government in the form of GST reduction, the auto industry on Thursday cautioned that if the current slowdown in the sector continued, there would be further job losses that could have societal and social consequences.

With the industry slated to move to BS-VI emission norms from April next year, automobile makers fear that price increase amid a slowdown would further compound the problem.

The auto industry, through the Society of Indian Automobile Manufacturers (SIAM), has been asking the government to reduce GST on automobiles to 18 per cent from 28 per cent.

"I think there are societal and social consequences of that. I am sure government will look at that," SIAM President Rajan Wadhwa told reporters here.

He was responding to a query on what could happen if the demand for reduction in GST was not met.

"Let's say if for some reason you go down to such an extent that lot of people lost jobs, that

is going to create a lot of turmoil," Wadhwa said.

Expressing similar sentiments, Mahindra & Mahindra Managing Director Pawan Goenka said, "My worry is that if the industry does not turn back on a positive sort of growth for the remaining part of the months of fiscal year, you may see more layoffs."

According to SIAM, vehicle manufacturers have laid off around 15,000 temporary workers, while dealers have witnessed around 2.8 lakh job losses with nearly 300 dealerships closing in the past three-four months.

Components makers body ACMA had also said that around 1 million jobs could be on the line if the current slowdown persisted.

Goenka further said, "My belief is that the employment levels that we have today amongst OEMs (original equipment manufacturers) and suppliers is probably more than what the current level of production will justify."

Justifying the demand for a GST cut, Wadhwa said vehicle prices would go up when BS-VI norms are implemented, and government stands to gain from that.

"We are asking them (government) if they could reduce and share with us that price increase so that demand does not fall as a consequence of the BS-VI price going up," he said.

Citing past instances, he said, "Every initiative counts and fiscal stimulus is a very big initiative. In the past, history tells us that in 2008 and 2014 recession when we were hit by downturn there were tax rebates given by government. That did boost up demand."

Supporting the call, Tata Motors Managing Director and CEO Guenter Butschek said, "In order to get out of the current crisis and not miss the festive season, we require clarity from the government, here and now, on GST and scrap-pape policy."

Goenka termed the switch from BS-VI to BS-IV as "a major disruption to the industry", as the whole supply chain, inventory and processes at manufacturing plants goes through a change.

"Therefore nobody should underestimate the disruption it causes. To go into disruption when the industry is in a slow-down mode can become even a bigger disruption," Goenka said.

IL&FS auditors: NCLT adjourns hearing till Bombay HC verdict

PTI ■ MUMBAI

The National Company Law Tribunal Thursday adjourned the proceedings against the former auditors of the crippled IL&FS-Deloitte and BSR Associates, till further direction from the Bombay High Court.

A division bench of the Bombay High Court had on Wednesday stayed the proceedings against BSR in the Mumbai bench of the NCLT until further orders.

The relief to BSR was granted on two counts, one that the accounting firm was seeking relief from Section 140 (5) of the Companies Act under which NCLT had passed the order, and secondly against criminal proceedings brought upon by various government agencies.

BSR, a domestic affiliate of global major KPMG, had challenged the constitutional validity of Section 140 (5) in the High Court and also the NCLT's jurisdiction to take up the case against them.

The court had directed the corporate affairs ministry and the Serious Frauds Investigation Office to file their replies within four weeks.

The HC order came after

BSR and N Sampath Ganesh, a partner with the firm, had approached last month moved the court challenging the NCLT go-ahead to the government to remove as auditors of IL&FS Financial Services (IFIN) for its alleged role in financial irregularities in the firm as they are no longer the auditors of the firm therefore the maintainability of the plea.

BSR had resigned from the post of statutory auditor of the firm in June this year, well after the client-IFIN was sent for bankruptcy, while Deloitte had done so in FY18.

The ministry's counsel said the entire case filed by BSR was meant to confuse so that the proceeding against them did not progress further.

On July 18, NCLT gave the go-ahead to the government to prosecute Deloitte and BSR for their failure to detect and report the scams that took place across the now bankrupt IL&FS Group and 21 other entities, when they were the auditors of IFIN, on the basis of the findings of the SPIO probe.

It can be noted that the NCLT is yet to give its view on the ministry plea to ban them from business for five years as a penalty.

Govt to soon decide on Sinha panel report on MSME sector: Gadkari

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The Government will soon take a call on the recommendations of U K Sinha committee to strengthen micro, small and medium enterprises sector, Union Minister Nitin Gadkari said on Thursday.

The committee set up by the RBI under the former Sebi chief among other things had recommended creation of distressed asset fund with a corpus of ₹5,000 crore, insurance coverage to employees of MSMEs on the lines of Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana (PMSBY) and Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana (PMJJBY) schemes, and cash flow-based lending.

Referring to instances where goods are supplied by micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) but a particular person or entity does not make payment after taking their delivery on multiple occasions, Gadkari said stringent action needs to be taken against such habitual offenders and the Government will certainly take remedial measures in this regard.

Business Corner



2nd Bi-Annual 3-day Vigilance Conclave organised by Ministry of Steel and NMDC Limited commenced today at Hyderabad with over 150 Delegates from various CPSEs under Ministry of Steel across the country. The primary objective of this conclave is to sensitize officials on issues pertaining to Procurement, Tendering, Vigilance, Finance, Legal and Works. The conclave started with Guru Vandana as a tribute to Dr. Sarvepalli Radha Krishna, as 5th September happens to be Teachers Day



CISF in association with Central Social Welfare Board (Ministry of Women and Child Development) organised general sensitization session on family counseling services for CISF personnel and their families, at Metro Bhawan Auditorium, New Delhi



DDA involved Indian Forest Service Officers Wives Association (IFSOWA) for planting in park near CWG flats Akshardham on September 9, 2019 to make Delhi pollution free. IFSOWA has shown willingness to take care of planted saplings in future also and they will visit regularly to check the health of the planted saplings. Nearly 300 indigenous tree saplings were planted in the park



A two-day Agriculture Conclave was organised by Punjab National Bank at Siri Fort Auditorium, New Delhi on 2nd and 3rd Sept. 2019. Around 1000 Agriculture Officers of the Bank from all across the country participated in this GRANDUTSAV. The Conclave was inaugurated by Sunil Mehta, Managing Director & CEO, and R K Yaduvanshi, Executive Director of Punjab National Bank. The theme of the conclave was "Capital Formation & Investment Credit in Agriculture".

Iran agreed to buy OVL gas but US sanctions stalled talks

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Iran had agreed to buy the gas produced from ONGC Videsh Ltd-discovered Farzad-B field in the Persian Gulf, but talks got stalled after the US reimposed sanctions against Tehran.

ONGC Videsh Ltd (OVL), the overseas investment arm of state-owned Oil and Natural Gas Corp (ONGC), had in 2008 made a significant natural gas discovery in the Farsi offshore exploration block in the Persian Gulf, the company said in its latest annual report.

The discovery was named Farzad-B. "Since April 2016, both sides negotiated to develop Farzad-B gas field under an integrated contract covering upstream and downstream including monetization/marketing of the processed gas,

however, negotiations remained inconclusive," it said.

During 2018-19, the National Iranian Oil Company (NIOC) proposed the development of the gas field and "offtake of raw gas by NIOC at landfill point(s)," it said.

"However, due to imposition of US sanctions on Iran with effect from 5th November 2018, technical studies could not be concluded which is a precursor for commercial negotiations," OVL said.

Any company investing in the Iranian oil field will attract US sanctions, crippling its ability to access the international financial system. OVL has projects in 21 countries and cannot risk being cut off from international payment system.

The Exploration Service Contract (ESC) for the over 3,500 sq km Farsi block was signed on December 25, 2002.

India's solar energy addition dips 14% to 1.5 GW in June quarter: Report

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Solar installations in the country declined 14 per cent to 1,510 megawatts (MW) in the second quarter of 2019, compared to 1,761 MW in the previous quarter, according to a report by Mercom India Research on Thursday.

The installations were also lower on a year-on-year (y-o-y) basis and had stood at 1,665 MW in the corresponding April-June 2018 quarter, a Mercom India Research statement said. In the first half of this calendar year, the installations reached 3.2 gigawatts (GW), a decline of 35 per cent as compared with 5.1 GW of capacity added in the first half of 2018.

5th EEF: NSDC, Manav Rachna Institute sign MoU with Tulaganov Ruslan Kuchkarovich

PNS ■ VLADIVOSTOK

An MoU was signed between Manish Kumar, MD & CEO of NSDC, Amit Bhalla and Tulaganov Ruslan Kuchkarovich, a global evangelist in the presence of Presidents, Prime Ministers and Heads of five countries (India, Russia, Japan, Malaysia and Magnolia).

Amit Bhalla, VP, Manav Rachna Educational Institutions is a part of the delegation of business leaders accompanying Prime Minister Narendra Modi at the 5th Eastern Economic Forum being held at Russia. PM Modi has been invited as the Chief Guest of the Forum by Vladimir Putin, the President of Russia. This is the first visit by an Indian Prime Minister to the Russian Far East region.

At the forum, a MoU was signed between NSDC, Manav Rachna and ROBBO (Russia based global EdTech leader) in the area of Artificial Intelligence, robotics and skilling. This MoU shall pave the way for the incorporation of ROBBO classes, an innovative robotics solution for the students of India. It is noteworthy that the Eastern Economic Forum focuses on the development of business and investment opportunities in the Russian Far East Region, and presents enormous potential for developing close and mutually beneficial cooperation between India and Russia in the region.

Eastern Economic Forum focuses on the development of business and investment opportunities in the Russian Far East Region

Global health and pharma industry facing data security threat: Kaspersky

PTI ■ YANGON

The global health and pharmaceutical industry is facing threat of data breach, a senior official of Russian cybersecurity firm Kaspersky said on Thursday. The Asia-Pacific (APAC) region in recent years has seen a surge in cyber threats, Kaspersky Managing Director (Asia-Pacific) Stephan Neumeier told reporters at the 5th CyberSecurity Weekend event in Yangon, Myanmar.

"Attacks against hospitals and pharmaceuticals have been happening worldwide, especially in the West. Recent years have, however, seen the threat creeping towards APAC," he said.

PREMIUM MERCHANTS LIMITED
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CIN: L51909DL1985PLC021077, Tel: +91 11 61119658
Email id: premiummerchants123@gmail.com, website: www.pmltd.in

NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

NOTICE is hereby given that the 34th Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the Company will be held on Monday, 30th September, 2019 at 'The Sentinel', 47, Pocket A, Jasola, New Delhi-110025 at 11.00 A.M to transact the businesses mentioned in the Notice of Annual General Meeting.

The notice of AGM along with Annual Report, Proxy Form and Attendance Slip have been sent in electronic form to those shareholders whose email address are registered with the Company's Registrar and Share Transfer Agent/Depository Participants, unless the Members have requested for hard copy of the same. Physical copy have been dispatched through permitted mode to all other members. The Company has completed all dispatches through e-mail and other permitted modes on Tuesday 3rd September, 2019.

Members may note that the Annual Report, AGM Notice inter alia indicating the process and manner of e-voting process, Proxy Form and Attendance Slip are available on Company's website www.pmltd.in and can also be obtained from registered office of the Company.

In compliance with the provisions of Section 108 of the Companies Act, 2013 read with the Companies (Management and Administration) Amendments Rules, 2015 and Regulation 44 of the SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulation, 2015, the Company is pleased to provide its member the facility to exercise their right to vote by electronic means and business may be transacted through remote e-voting facility provided by National Securities Depository Limited (NSDL). The remote e-voting period commences from Thursday 26th September, 2019 at 9.00 a.m and ends on Sunday 29th September, 2019 at 5.00 p.m. The remote e-voting shall be disabled thereafter and no e-voting will be allowed thereafter. The Board has appointed Mr. Surinder Kishore Kapahi, Proprietor Kapahi and Associates, Company Secretaries as Scrutinizer for conducting the e-voting process in accordance with the law and in a fair and transparent manner.

The voting rights of members shall be in proportion to their share in the paid up equity share capital of the Company as on the cut-off date of 23rd September, 2019. Members holding shares either in physical or in dematerialized form, on the said cut-off date, are eligible to avail the facility of remote e-voting. Any person, who acquires shares of the Company after dispatch of AGM Notice and holds such shares as of the cut-off date i.e. 23rd September, 2019, may obtain the login ID and password by sending a request at evoting@nsdl.co.in.

At the AGM, facility for voting through ballot paper shall be made available and only the Members as on the "cut-off date" i.e. 23rd September, 2019, who have not cast their votes by remote e-voting, shall be entitled to exercise their rights to vote at the AGM through ballot paper. The members who have cast their votes through electronic means prior to the AGM may still attend the AGM but shall not be entitled to cast their votes again.

The notice of AGM containing, inter-alia, the procedure of e-voting is available on the Company's website www.pmltd.in and on NSDL's website <https://www.evoting.nsdl.com>.

In case of any queries, Members may refer to the Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) and e-voting user manual available at the Downloads sections of <https://www.evoting.nsdl.com> or contact NSDL at the toll free no. :1800-222-990 or write a mail to info@masserv.com.

Notice is also hereby given that pursuant to section 91 of the Companies Act, 2013 read with Rule 10 of the Companies (Management and Administration) Rules, 2014 and Regulation 42 of SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulation, 2015, the Register of Members and Share Transfer books of the Company will remain closed from Tuesday, September 24, 2019 to Monday, September 30, 2019 (both days inclusive) for the purpose of taking record of the Shareholders at the Annual General Meeting.

Thanking You
For Premium Merchants Limited
Sd/-
Balbir Singh
Director
DIN:00027438

Date: 04.09.2019
Place: New Delhi

ROTOGRAPHICS (INDIA) LIMITED
CIN: L74899DL1976PLC008036
Regd. Office: Unit No 8 Ground Floor, Pocket M, Sarita Vihar New Delhi-110076
Website: www.rotointdia.co.in Email: info@rotointdia.co.in Phone: 011-47366600

NOTICE
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Notice is hereby given that the Forty-fourth Annual General Meeting ("AGM") of the members of Rotographics (India) Limited ("the company") will be held on Monday, September 23, 2019 at 09:00 a.m. at B-1, DDA Local Shopping Complex, A Block, Ring Road, Naraina, New Delhi-110028 ("the Meeting").

The Integrated Annual Report for the financial year 2018-19 including the Notice convening the Meeting has been sent to the members to their registered address by courier, and electronically to those members who have registered their mail address with the Depositories/ Company.

The Integrated Annual Report for the financial year 2018-19 including the Notice convening the Meeting along with e-voting has also been displayed on the company's website www.rotointdia.co.in, the website of the National Securities Depository Limited (NSDL) at the <http://www.evoting.nsdl.com> and website of our RTA at the <http://skylinerata.com/downloads>.

Pursuant to provision of section 91 of the Companies Act, 2013 and the Companies (Management and Administration) Rules, 2014 as amended by the Companies (Management and Administration) Amendments Rules, 2015 and Regulation 42 of SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015, the Register of members and Share Transfer Books of the Company will remain closed from Monday, 16th September, 2019 to Monday, 23rd September, 2019 (both days inclusive), for the purpose of AGM.

In compliance with provision of section 108 of the Companies Act, 2013 and the rules made there under and Regulation 44 of the SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015, the Company is pleased to provide its members to cast their votes using an electronics voting system from a place other than the venue of AGM (remote voting) in respect of the business transacted in the AGM, through e-voting services provided by the National Securities Depository Limited (NSDL). This business to be transacted at the AGM may also be transacted by electronics means. The proposed Resolutions for e-voting are given in the Notice of AGM. Other information is as under:-

- The Cut-off date for the remote e-voting process is Friday, September 13, 2019. The remote e-voting period shall commence on Friday, 20th September, 2019 at 9:00 a.m and ends on Sunday, 22nd September, 2019 at 5:00 pm.
- The Remote e-voting shall not be allowed beyond the said date and time.
- Members holding share either in physical or demat form, on the cut-off date i.e. Friday, 13th September, 2019 may cast their vote electronically. Member can opt only one mode of voting i.e. remote e-voting or Ballot paper. In case of Member(s) who cast their vote by both modes, then voting done through e-voting shall prevail and physical voting of that member shall be treated as invalid.
- Any Person, who acquire shares and become members of the Company after dispatch of Notice of AGM but before cut-off date of Friday, 13th September, 2019 may obtain their USER ID and password for remote e-voting by sending a request at evoting@nsdl.co.in, info@skylinerata.com or info@rotointdia.co.in.
- The members who have cast their vote by remote e-voting may attend AGM but shall not be entitled to cast their vote again.
- The facility for voting through ballot paper shall be made available at the AGM and the members attending the meeting who have not cast their vote by remote e-voting shall be able to exercise their right at the meeting through ballot paper.
- In case of queries, you may refer the "Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)" for members and remote e-voting user manual for members" available at the "downloads" section of www.evoting.nsdl.com. For any further grievance related to the remote e-voting, members may contact NSDL at Toll Free no. 1800222990.

For Rotographics (India) Limited
Sd/-
Mohd Sagir
Company Secretary

Date: 02.09.2019
Place: New Delhi

SEARCH FOR MISSING GIRL

General public is hereby informed that one lady namely Babli, D/o Shri Gautam Prasad, R/o A-28, Gali No. 2, Sukar Bazar, Begumpur, Delhi, Age 22 years, Height 5' Complexion Fair, Round Face, Wearing Yellow colour suit and black colour pajami has been missing/ kidnapped from the area of PS Begumpur, Delhi since 23.07.19. In this regard a wide DD No. 51-A dated 24.07.19 has been lodged at PS Begumpur, Delhi.

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

E-mail ID: cic@cbi.gov.in SHO
Tele: 011-24368638, 24368641 PS : Begumpur, Delhi
Fax: 011-24368639 Ph.: 27579029, 27579030
DP3231/RD19

CROSS COUNTRY HOTELS LIMITED
Regd. Off.: Cross Country Heritage Hotel, Mukand Garh Fort, Mukundgarh, Jhunjhunu, Rajasthan, India-333 705 CIN: L55101RJ1990PLC013744
E-mail: sales@crosscountry.co.in Website: www.crosscountry.co.in Ph.011-65801008

NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that 29th Annual General Meeting ("AGM") of Members of the company will be held on Monday, the 30th day of September, 2019 at 11:00 A.M. at Shri Ashwiniyayak Dham, Dandlod Road Railway Station Mukandgarh Dist. Jhunjhunu, Rajasthan to transact the business as set forth in the Notice of the Meeting ("Notice"). Pursuant to section 91 of the Companies Act, 2013 and rules made there under and Clause 16 of the Listing Agreement the Register of Members and Share Transfer Register will remain closed from Saturday, 21st September, 2019 to Friday 27th September, 2019 (both days inclusive) for the purpose of the Annual General Meeting.

Place: New Delhi For Cross Country Hotels Limited (ISHAN RAI JUNEJA) (DIRECTOR)
Date: 05.09.2019

ZEL JEWELLERS LIMITED
CIN: L74899DL1994PLC058832
Regd. Office: E-5, South Extension, Part - II, New Delhi-110 049
Web: <http://www.zeljewellers.in> E-mail: zeljewellers@yahoo.co.in
Landline: (91)-11-26252416, Fax: 011-41640689

Notice of 25th Annual General Meeting & Book Closure

NOTICE is hereby given that the 25th Annual General Meeting of the Company is scheduled to be held on Monday, 30th September, 2019 at 3.00 P.M. at the registered office of the Company at E-5, South Extension, Part - II, New Delhi-110 049 to transact the business set out in the Notice of aforementioned AGM.

All the members are hereby informed that:

- The Notice along with Annual Report has been dispatched to all the members at their registered address on Thursday, 05th September, 2019 and the same is also available on the website of the Company www.zeljewellers.in.
- Mr Parveen Rastogi, Practising Company Secretary has been appointed as Scrutinizer for conducting the poll voting process in transparent manner during AGM.
- Pursuant to Section 91 of the Companies Act, 2013 and Regulation 42 of the SEBI (LODR) Regulations, 2015, Register of Members and Share Transfer Books of the Company will remain closed from Tuesday, 24th September, 2019 to Monday, 30th September, 2019 (both days inclusive).
- For any queries/issues share holders may also write to the Company Secretary at the email ID: zeljewellers@yahoo.co.in or contact at telephone no. 011-26252416.

By order of the Board
For Zel Jewellers Limited
Sd/-
Muazzam Hasan
Company Secretary

Place: New Delhi
Date: 05.09.2019

Vardhman Special Steels partners with Aichi Steel Corp

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Vardhman Special Steels Limited is proud and excited to announce partnership with Aichi Steel Corp Japan, an affiliate of Japan's Toyota Motor Corporation. Aichi Steel Corp will buy approximately 11.4 percent stake in Vardhman Special Steels Ltd and provide technical assistance aiming to establish a world class, socially and environmentally responsible special steel company in India. Aichi Steel will be posting three personnel in India while additional critical support from the Headquarters will be provided constantly.

AIR INDIA SET TO OFFER 'NAMASKAR SEWA' AT AIRPORTS

Mumbai: Air India passengers can soon avail 'Namaskar Sewa', a meet and greet service where dedicated personnel will receive the customers at airport entry gate and assist them till being seated in the aircraft. The disinvestment-bound national carrier, which is already providing similar services to first class passengers, would be rolling out the initiative on a pilot basis at the Delhi airport this month, according to an airline official. PTI

AI-ENABLED EVOLET E-SCOOTERS LAUNCHED

New Delhi: Rissala Electric Motors Pvt. Ltd., has launched Evolet e-scooter in India. Guest of honour Nitin Gadkari, Minister of Road Transport, and Bollywood actor Urvasi Rautela were present to launch the comprehensive range of e-scooters. The range which Rissala introduced included Polo, Derby, Pony and Warrior. The company forayed in the industry with various slow speed, fast speed as well as IoT-enabled models. PNS

M&M defers ₹1,000-cr capex plan amid slowdown in auto sector

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Owing to the slowdown in the automobile industry, Mahindra & Mahindra has deferred its planned capex of around ₹1,000 crore by a year, which, if not reversed within this fiscal, would lead to more job losses in the sector, the company's MD Pawan Goenka said on Thursday.

The company, which recently underwent a plant shut-down exercise to adjust production, also said that if sales do not pick up in the festive season, it may have to undertake the exercise again in October.

"At Mahindra & Mahindra (M&M), we probably will end up deferring about 10 per cent capex for auto and tractor (together)... it will come to around ₹800-₹1,000 crore,"

Goenka told reporters here on the sidelines of SIAM annual convention. He was responding to a question on whether the current slowdown in the auto industry has forced the company to postpone investments.

While the company has not slowed down on investments on new products, it has deferred investments on other activities such as capacity enhancement and discretionary capex like repair and maintenance, Goenka said. "The capacity that we expected to need in two or three years from now is less as compared to the year ago, therefore there will be slowdown in capacity investment as we would not like to invest... probably for a year," Goenka said.

He said the auto industry was currently going through a challenging slump which had already resulted in mass job losses.

"...If the industry does not turn back on to positive growth for the remaining part of the months of fiscal year, we may see more layoffs," he said.

According to the Society of Indian Automobile Manufacturers (SIAM), vehicle manufacturers have laid off around 15,000 temporary workers while dealers have witnessed around 2.8 lakh job losses.

Goenka further said, "Employment levels that we have today amongst original equipment manufacturers and suppliers is probably more than what the current level of production will justify."

Referring to the lay off of 1,500 temporary workers out of a total of 30,000 at M&M, he said, "That is like 5 per cent reduction when volume is down by 20 per cent. We are not removing (employees) just

because volumes are down, but if it continues beyond a certain point then the industry would be unable to carry the extra (workforce)."

Goenka said there was a need for support from the government to help the auto industry come out of the current slowdown in the form of GST cut. He said that in the past, when slowdowns happened, reduction in excise duties had helped in picking up demand immediately.

M&M, which underwent plant shutdown in August to adjust production, may have to undertake similar exercise again in October if demand remains subdued, Goenka said.

"Probably in the month of September, we will produce full capacity; and in October, we may adjust if sale in Navratra don't go as per expectations," he said.

NCLT approves JSW Steel's ₹19,700 crore bid for Bhushan Power & Steel

New Delhi (PTI): The National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT) on Thursday approved the JSW Steel's ₹19,700 crore resolution plan for debt-ridden Bhushan Power & Steel Ltd (BPSL).

A two-member principal bench of the NCLT headed by President Justice MM Kumar has also said the criminal cases against the promoters of BPSL for siphoning of the funds from the company will not impact JSW Steel as its new promoter. The tribunal has also said the profits made by BPSL during insolvency period will be distributed between creditors of Bhushan Power, in accordance with the ruling by the National Company Law Appellate Tribunal in the ArcelorMittal case.

The NCLT also rejected the objections raised by Tata Steel over the bids submitted by JSW and its erstwhile promoters.

In April, the NCLT had reserved its judgement after concluding hearing from the parties.

Tata Steel had objected the improved financial offer of JSW Steel before the Resolution Professional and the Committee of Creditors of Bhushan Power and Steel.

The tribunal had initiated corporate insolvency resolution process (CIRP) against BPSL on July 26, 2017, admitting the plea of its lead lender Punjab National Bank (PNB).

Indian equities subdued; banking, IT stocks top drag

Mumbai (PTI): Indian equities gave up early gains to settle lower on Thursday due to sell-offs mainly in banking stocks after the Reserve Bank directed banks to link interest rates on all new loans with external benchmarks. Losses on the indices, however, were restricted by emergence of buying in stocks of somewhat relieved auto sector after Union Transport Minister Nitin Gadkari assured the crisis-hit industry of all possible support.

After rising over 174 points in early session, the 30-share Sensex failed to sustain the momentum and gave up all gains to end 80.32 points, or 0.22%, lower at 36,644.42. It hit an intra-day high of 36,898.99 and low of 36,541.88. The broader Nifty, on the other hand, ended 3.25 points, or 0.03%, higher at 10,847.90.

Banking and IT stocks were mainly responsible for bringing the benchmark indices — Sensex and Nifty — under pressure. A significant rise in the rupee value was the reason behind the selling in shares of export-oriented IT companies. Top laggards in the Sensex pack included HDFC, ICICI Bank, TCS, HCL Tech, Kotak Bank, Asian Paints, TechM and HUL, dropping up to 2.67%. On the other hand, Tata Motors, ONGC, Yes Bank, NTPC, Maruti, M&M, Vedanta, Tata Steel and Bajaj Auto rallied up to 7.81%. Sectorally, BSE oil and gas, metal, auto, utilities, power, industrials, healthcare and energy indices rose up to 2.47%. While BSE realty, finance and banking indices fell up to 1.77%. Broader BSE midcap and smallcap indices outperformed benchmarks, rising up to 0.72%.

"The Reserve Bank has made it mandatory for banks to link their new floating rate for home, auto and MSME loans to an external benchmark from October 1 so that the borrowers can enjoy lower rate of interest. However, that triggered a sell-off in bank stocks, especially in private banks, which closed in the negative," Shrikant S Chouhan, Senior Vice President (Equity Technical Research), said.

Market opened in green following positive global cues from Asian markets as withdrawal of a controversial extradition bill in Hong Kong and on the back of news that the US and China had agreed to meet in early October for another round of trade negotiations, Narendra Solanki, Head Fundamental Research (Investment Services) - AVP Equity Research, Anand Rathi Shares & Stock Brokers, said. However, the global positive cues failed to sustain momentum by noon as domestic sentiments turned pessimistic following a cut in GDP growth estimates by Crisil, he said, adding that the market seemed lacking direction by end of day's trade as it awaits some more policy announcements from the government.

Elsewhere in Asia, Hang Seng gave up all its gains to end a tad lower, while Shanghai Composite Index, Nikkei and Kospi settled up to 2.12% higher. Exchanges in Europe were also trading on a mixed note their respective early sessions.

The Indian rupee appreciated by 28 paise to trade at 71.84 per US dollar. Foreign investors continued with their equity selling spree by pulling out ₹561.17 crore on Thursday. Global oil benchmark Brent crude rose 0.23% to 60.84 per barrel (intra-day).

Kribhco's profit before tax up 26% at ₹205.54 cr last fiscal; declares 20% dividend

New Delhi (PTI): Fertiliser co-operative Kribhco on Thursday reported 26 per cent increase in profit before tax to ₹205.54 crore during the last fiscal and announced 20 per cent dividend for the members. Its profit before tax stood at ₹162.56 crore in the 2017-18 and had declared 18 per cent dividend.

"Your society has posted a pre tax profit of ₹205.54 crore and the society's net worth has increased from ₹3,413.05 crore in the year 2017-18 to ₹3507.88 crore on 31st March, 2019," Kribhco Chairman Chandra Pal Singh said while addressing the 39th annual general meeting.

It has a total membership of

9,462 co-operative societies and paid up share capital of the society was ₹389.11 crore as on March 31, 2019, he added.

Kribhco's urea production stood at 23.42 lakh tonne and ammonia output was 13.65 lakh tonne MT with 106.74 per cent and 109.39 per cent capacity utilisation, respectively. "The society achieved

ever highest sales of 53.16 lakh tonnes fertilisers during 2018-19 breaking its previous record of 48.62 lakh tonnes during 2017-18," Singh said.

Its subsidiary KRIBHCO Infrastructure Ltd (KRIL), which operates eight container rakes under Category-1 license on pan-India basis, reported ₹186.65 crore

revenue during the last fiscal.

"Kribhco's fertilizer complex plant in Hazira, Gujarat has maintained its good performance during the year. Kribhco is committed to achieve the revised energy consumption norms of 5.5Gcal/tonne of urea by March 31, 2020 at this manufacturing unit," Singh said.

NIFTY 50

SCRIP	OPEN	High	Low	LTP	CHANGE
NIFTY 50	10860.95	10920.10	10816.00	10847.90	3.25
TATAMOTORS	1097.5	1193.5	1095.0	1188.5	8.85
COALINDIA	183.90	196.40	183.80	195.45	13.30
ONGC	119.45	129.90	119.45	125.30	6.30
BPL	363.00	385.00	361.00	380.60	16.40
YESBANK	59.70	62.35	58.65	61.80	2.35
IOC	120.60	129.20	120.60	124.45	4.10
DREDDY	2636.75	2694.80	2636.75	2684.95	82.25
NTPC	119.85	129.65	119.85	123.20	3.75
GAIL	126.10	132.25	126.00	131.00	3.70
MARUTI	5805.00	5998.00	5791.25	5977.40	146.65
M&M	506.85	519.50	506.70	518.00	12.30
VEDL	139.10	142.50	138.30	139.30	2.60
BRITANNIA	2651.00	2705.00	2640.00	2680.00	44.55
INFY	830.10	837.50	826.65	835.10	13.80
HEROMOTOCO	2574.95	2614.00	2567.15	2609.42	9.85
HINDALCO	182.25	188.65	182.25	184.90	2.95
UPL	558.30	573.90	558.30	570.00	8.95
TATASTEEL	346.00	352.00	342.25	344.55	5.00
BAJFINANCE	3286.00	3305.00	3242.80	3298.90	48.65
SUNPHARMA	428.00	433.95	423.35	427.60	6.25
ZEELE	356.30	363.30	354.30	360.50	5.00
POWERGRID	199.00	203.30	197.35	199.40	2.50
CIPLA	472.00	479.75	470.60	477.10	7.00
LIT	1312.85	1338.00	1308.65	1319.85	11.80
TITAN	1037.00	1075.90	1036.25	1046.10	8.90
BAJAJ-AUTO	2740.05	2752.45	2740.05	2759.00	23.30
JSWSTEEL	217.10	222.30	213.50	216.10	7.00
ADANIPORTS	365.70	367.75	361.25	367.00	2.65
EICHERMOT	1574.90	1589.95	1541.15	1574.15	102.75
BHARTIARTL	345.00	349.35	349.35	347.35	1.65
ITC	242.00	246.90	242.00	244.30	1.05
GRASIM	692.00	705.60	691.60	696.95	2.90
ULTRACEMCO	3899.00	3927.45	3872.50	3890.50	14.00
AXISBANK	652.00	659.75	644.05	648.60	1.30
INFRAEAL	248.10	249.70	247.10	248.00	-0.05
WIPRO	258.90	258.90	254.50	255.60	-0.40
BAJAJFINSV	7050.00	7094.95	6953.60	6993.00	-30.10
SBIN	275.00	276.35	271.05	273.50	-1.60
RELIANCE	1206.80	1213.20	1193.30	1193.40	-7.75
HDFCBANK	2249.00	2274.00	2225.00	2235.75	-15.75
INDUSINDBK	1327.00	1335.00	1303.45	1307.00	-10.60
HINDUNILVR	1842.00	1845.00	1818.15	1830.00	-16.60
HCLTECH	1125.45	1125.45	1103.75	1114.15	-11.10
TECHM	710.00	710.00	691.05	695.00	-8.25
ASIANPAINT	1537.00	1545.90	1515.25	1516.60	-18.55
KOTAKBANK	1431.90	1441.85	1405.45	1409.00	-17.45
TCS	2242.20	2253.65	2207.30	2215.95	-29.45
ICICIBANK	389.55	394.00	388.00	388.80	-8.90
IBULHSRGFN	458.30	468.60	443.05	444.00	-10.30
HDFC	2100.00	2100.00	2040.00	2081.00	-59.10

NIFTY NEXT 50

SCRIP	OPEN	High	Low	LTP	CHANGE
NIFTY NEXT 50	25878.95	26038.80	25833.55	25935.05	134.50
ICICI	1154.00	1184.00	1151.00	1184.00	38.55
LUPIN	745.85	769.90	741.00	766.10	24.15
NIAL	105.00	111.00	104.50	107.60	3.05
HINDPETRO	255.00	275.00	254.80	264.50	7.30
NHPC	23.70	24.50	23.45	24.15	0.65
MOTHERSUMI	95.90	98.00	95.35	97.60	2.60
HAVELLS	637.00	654.65	636.80	652.10	16.10
CADILAHC	232.00	237.00	231.05	236.50	5.75
AUROPHARMA	600.10	615.00	600.10	614.00	14.85
CONCOR	504.90	521.80	498.35	515.00	12.10
GOODRECP	583.50	599.00	572.00	596.10	13.20
BHEL	50.50	52.50	50.40	51.15	1.05
IDEA	5.05	5.20	4.95	5.10	0.10
PAGEIND	17723.20	18140.00	17777.00	17948.00	305.40
NMDC	79.50	82.75	79.40	80.90	1.30
ACC	1449.00	1465.90	1436.65	1460.65	19.70
HDFCAML	2955.00	2957.60	2933.00	2950.50	31.55
BOSCHLTD	13400.00	13661.80	13400.00	13530.20	135.65
AMRUFACEN	192.55	193.80	190.40	192.60	1.70
BANKBARODA	93.65	96.00	91.80	94.00	0.70
SAIL	32.65	33.25	32.10	32.45	0.20
SBILIFE	831.55	835.00	820.70	830.15	3.75
HINDZINC	217.80	219.50	214.65	215.75	0.95
ASHOKLEY	42.60	43.50	42.30	42.80	0.20
L&T	92.60	94.00	91.40	91.60	0.25
POLLITIND	116.95	137.95	116.65	116.40	-0.35
MARICO	385.05	386.00	381.65	384.70	0.55
SIEMENS	1173.65	1182.10	1164.05	1168.55	0.75
BAJAJHLDNG	3283.95	3326.35	3283.95	3306.40	1.90
PGHIL	10179.70	10179.70	10031.55	10099.95	-1.90
DMF	1534.95	1542.95	1515.00	1523.00	-1.85
MARUTI	57880.00	58260.00	57883.60	57613.15	-78.05
GICRE	171.50	173.70	170.00	172.50	-0.40
ICICIPRULI	432.00	434.45	425.05	430.55	-1.30
ABB	1329.40	1333.00	1313.00	1314.90	-4.70
PEL	1949.90	1970.00	1923.00	1941.45	-7.35
PETRONET	264.45	266.75	262.90	264.60	-1.05
COLPAL	1253.00	1261.00	1238.00	1239.00	-6.25
URL	1329.80	1340.00	1319.90	1329.90	-6.90
SHEREEAM	1791.85	1803.90	1746.00	1760.00	-111.15
OFSS	3057.10	3060.25	3033.00	3040.05	-21.70
DABUR	444.45	445.65	437.10	440.00	-3.20
INDIGO	1638.00	1642.65	1616.05	1628.75	-12.45
BANDHANBNK	45.00	45.00	44.60	44.25	-3.90
SRTANSFIN	986.85	998.65	973.10	976.00	-8.55
MCDOWELL-N	610.00	613.80	599.80	605.85	-2.00
BIOCEN	23.00	23.20	22.70	22.80	-2.80
HDFCLIFE	538.80	547.00	527.00	527.95	-7.70
DIVISLAB	1660.30	1666.20	1633.60	1638.00	-25.45
DLF	163.90	164.25	157.15	159.65	-4.30

BSE 500

SCRIP	Open	High	Low	LTP	BHARTIARTL	349.95	349.95	340.95	347.20	PRESTIGE	301.70	302.35	287.70	293.80	THERMAX	1000.65	1009.15	985.50	985.65	IOB	10.05	10.25	10.00	10.08
IDEA	5.08	5.20	4.98	5.09	POWERGRID	198.85	203.20	197.40	199.35	GODREJAGRO	454.00	456.35	449.00	450.00	JISLJALEQ	1								

GLOBE TROTTER

HURRICANE DORIAN LASHES US EAST COAST
Nassau (Bahamas): Hurricane Dorian lashed the Carolinas with driving rain and fierce winds as it neared the US east coast Thursday after devastating the Bahamas and killing at least 20 people. Parts of downtown Charleston were flooded, with video footage showing people kayaking in the dark in gushing knee-deep water in the stately city on the coast of South Carolina.

KABUL ATTACK KILLS US, ROMANIAN SOLDIER
Kabul: A Taliban suicide car bombing in Kabul on Thursday killed a US service member, a Romanian soldier and at least 10 Afghan civilians in a busy diplomatic area that includes the US Embassy — the second such attack this week underscoring Afghan Government warnings that a preliminary US-Taliban deal on ending America's longest war was moving dangerously quickly.

UKRAINE RELEASES MH17 'SUSPECT' PENDING TRIAL
Kiev: A court in Ukraine on Thursday released from pre-trial detention a man suspected of involvement in the downing of flight MH17, amid speculation he might be used in a prisoner swap with Russia. Ukraine captured Vladimir Tsemakh, accused of fighting for pro-Russian separatists, in June, but he is believed to be a person of interest in the downing of MH17.

SA SHUTS EMBASSY IN NIGERIA AFTER ATTACKS
Johannesburg: South Africa has temporarily closed its embassy in Nigeria following violence against South African businesses in reprisal for attacks on foreign-owned stores in Johannesburg, while Nigeria has announced plans to evacuate its nationals from South Africa.

N KOREAN WAITRESSES ABDUCTED TO SOUTH
Seoul: A group of North Korean waitresses who "defected" to Seoul in 2016 were actually abducted by the South, a fact-finding team of international lawyers has concluded after a visit to Pyongyang. The case has long been controversial, with Pyongyang saying the 12 women were kidnapped from a North Korean state-run restaurant in China while Seoul insists they defected of their own free will.

HINGLAJ TEMPLE TO BE UPGRADED
Quetta: Shri Hinglaj Mata temple, situated in Balochistan province of Pakistan, is to be developed and facilities for the pilgrims will be increased, media reports said.

BREXIT TURMOIL

UK in effective general election mode

PTI ■ LONDON

The UK on Thursday went into what Downing Street has branded as the first day of a general election campaign, despite Prime Minister Boris Johnson failing to get his motion for a snap poll through the House of Commons. Following a night of blow after blow over Brexit on Wednesday, Johnson is determined to get his October 15 election date through and has accused Opposition Labour leader Jeremy Corbyn of being a "chicken" for his party's abstention from the election vote in Parliament.

The Labour and other Opposition parties, refused to hand him the two-thirds majority he requires to overturn the UK's Fixed Term Parliament Act until their own motion to block a no-deal Brexit by the October 31 deadline has passed through the Lords and on course to become law.

"It is clear the only action is to go back to the people and give them the opportunity to decide what they want: Boris to go to Brussels and get a deal, or leave without one on 31 October or Jeremy Corbyn arriving in Brussels with his surrender bill begging for more delay, more dither and accepting whatever terms Brussels imposes over our nation," a Downing Street spokesperson said on Thursday.

"For Jeremy Corbyn to continue to avoid an election would be a cowardly insult to democracy," the spokesperson said. The Opposition emerged buoyed from parliamentary proceedings on Wednesday, having got their proposed legislation to prevent the UK crashing out of the European Union (EU) without an agreement in place through its various stages. The bill says

Johnson has until 19 October to either pass a deal in Parliament or get MPs to approve a no-deal Brexit — and after that he will have to request an extension to the UK's departure date to January 31, 2020. Johnson, who assumed charge on July 24 after his predecessor Theresa May resigned, had branded the motion a "surrender bill", which in effect handed power to the EU negotiators over the terms of the UK's exit from the 28-member economic bloc.

The UK Government ultimately had to drop its attempt to drag on the so-called "surrender bill" in the Lords late on Wednesday night, meaning it is set to pass and go through as law by Monday. This could mean Johnson attempting to push through another election motion again next week because he is determined to go back to the electorate rather than back to Brussels to seek another delay to the Brexit deadline.

"I think the position by the Labour Party, to be so consumed by cowardice as to resist a general election, is not politically sustainable," Johnson said at the end of a marathon Commons session on Wednesday. The British Prime Minister has claimed he is serious about striking a deal with EU leaders to allow for an orderly withdrawal from the bloc at the end of next month after 46 years of membership.

But the EU side has spoken of a paralysis in the talks, with no movement or solutions to the most controversial aspect of any divorce arrangement — the Irish backstop. The British PM had a month's time to come up with his proposed alternative arrangements to ensure an open border between EU member-country Ireland and UK territory Northern Ireland after Brexit.

Johnson's Brexit plans in tatters after stinging defeats

AFP ■ LONDON

British Prime Minister Boris Johnson's hardline Brexit strategy stood in tatters on Thursday after a humiliating week left him without a working majority but unable to call an election. His supporters ended a night-long filibuster in the upper House of Lords when the Government gave up trying to block a measure designed to stop a no-deal Brexit by forcing Johnson to seek a delay if he fails to reach an agreement with Brussels.

The Opposition said they should now be able to pass the bill — which he has branded a "surrender document" —

before he suspends parliament for over a month next week. "Govt commits to allowing (the draft legislation) to complete all stages in course of Thurs & Friday — with the bill then going back to the Commons for any further consideration on Monday," the main Opposition Labour Party tweeted in the early hours of Thursday morning.

The Lower House of Commons fast-tracked the legislation on Wednesday and then blocked Johnson's call for an early election that he wants held on October 15. Labour said it will only back the snap poll once it makes sure Johnson is unable to follow through on his threat

to take Britain out of the EU with no deal by the October 31 Brexit deadline.

Parliament has now dealt Johnson a rapid series of stinging defeats that have left him a weakened leader just six weeks into his term. The splintered country still stands no closer to finding out how or when — or even if — it will leave the European Union more than three years after the original Brexit vote.

Johnson will also face another legal challenge on Thursday against his decision to order the suspension of parliament from next week until October 14 — a move that his critics have called a "coup" and a "constitutional outrage".

Global shares rise amid optimism on US-China, Brexit

AP ■ TOKYO

Global stocks turned higher on Thursday as the news that US and Chinese officials will meet in October to try to end a tariff war and as British lawmakers sought a less chaotic exit from the European Union.

The US and China agreement on a date for talks came in a phone call conducted by the chief Chinese envoy, Vice Premier Liu He, with US Trade Representative Robert Lighthizer and Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin, the Chinese Commerce Ministry said.

Plans to rank English skills high in post-Brexit UK visa system

London: An applicant's English language skills are likely to be ranked according to levels of proficiency in a new post-Brexit visa regime being finalised by UK home secretary Priti Patel.

Britain's senior-most Indian-origin Cabinet Minister in the Boris Johnson-led Government commissioned a major review on Wednesday to kickstart her plans to implement an Australian-style points-based system of immigration in a letter to the UK's influential Migration Advisory Committee (MAC).

Johnson's brother quits as Min, MP

London: British Prime Minister Boris Johnson on Thursday suffered yet another Brexit blow, this time closer to home, as his younger brother Jo Johnson quit as a Minister in his Cabinet and also resigned as a parliamentarian of the Conservative Party.

In a move reflective of just how deeply divided the UK remains over its membership of the European Union (EU), the business Minister and member of parliament from Orpington said that he had been forced to take the step after being torn between family loyalty and national interest. Jo Johnson was seen as a popular Tory parliamentarian.

Iran to unveil details on cuts to N commitments

AFP ■ TEHRAN

Iran is set to detail its latest cut to commitments under a 2015 nuclear deal on Saturday, in response to US sanctions and perceived inaction by other parties to save the accord.

Iran's atomic energy organisation spokesman Behrouz Kamalvandi will hold a news conference to detail Tehran's third round of cuts in its nuclear commitments since May, the semi-official ISNA news agency reported on Thursday.

Iran and three European countries — Britain, France and Germany — have been

engaged in talks to reduce tensions and rescue the multi-party deal, which has been unravelling since the US withdrew in May last year.

But with no apparent agreement in sight, Iran's President Hassan Rouhani on Wednesday made good on a promise to take another step away from the deal between Iran and the five permanent members of the United Nations Security Council powers, plus Germany (P5+1).

"The atomic energy organisation (of Iran) is ordered to immediately start whatever is needed in the field of research and development, and abandon

all the commitments that were in place regarding

research and development," said Rouhani, without elaborating.

EU urges Iran to 'reverse' scale-back from nuclear deal

AFP ■ BRUSSELS

The EU on Thursday urged Iran to reverse its scale-back of commitments to the nuclear accord struck with world powers after the Islamic Republic announced it was ending curbs on atomic research.

European Commission spokesman Carlos Martin Ruiz de Gordejuela told a media briefing in Brussels that the decision was "inconsistent" with the Joint Comprehensive

Plan of Action, under which the accord is implemented.

"And in this context we urge Iran to reverse these steps and refrain from further measures that undermine the nuclear deal," he said.

Iran has been progressively pulling back from the terms of the 2015 deal as it comes under intensifying sanctions pressure from the United States, which exited the accord under President Donald Trump.

Iran's arch-enemy Israel responded by calling for more international pressure on Iran.

"This is not the time to hold talks with Iran; this is the time to increase the pressure on Iran," said Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu.

बिहार सरकार

North Bihar Power Distribution Company Limited
 (A Government of Bihar Undertaking)
 (Regd. Office : Vidhut Bhawan, Baily Road, Patna)
 (Department of Stores & Purchase)

Contact No. : 9264437182/ 9264437179, Email- cesnp2.nb@gmail.com,
CIN NO: U40109BR2012SGC018920

(Through e-procurement mode only - www.eproc.bihar.gov.in)
 NIT NO:- 43/PR/NBPDC/2019

North Bihar Power Distribution Co. Ltd. (NBPDC), a Government of Bihar Undertaking, invites NIT for Supply of 200 Kg, 8 Meter Long PSC Pole & 400 KG, 9 Meter Long PSC Pole with in two-tier (Technical and Financial) online bid technically and financially sound, capable and the reputed manufacturers for NBPDC.

Sl.No.	Particulars	Quantity	Estimated Cost (Rs)	E.M.D. (Rs.)	Tender Cost (Rs)
1.	200 Kg, 8 Meter Long PSC Pole & 400 KG, 9 Meter Long PSC Pole	200 Kg PSC Pole -31000 nos. & 400 Kg PSC Pole - 3100 nos.	10,11,22,000.00	20,11,220.00	25,000.00

Period of Sale/download of Bid document: Up to 20/09/2019 (up to 13:00 Hrs.) in through website www.eproc.bihar.gov.in

Submission of Bid in soft-copy through website: Up to 20/09/2019 (up to 17:00 Hrs.) Rs 25,000.00 (Rupees Twenty Five Thousand) needs to be paid as cost of NIT through online mode only and Rs. 20,11,220.00 (Rupees Twenty Lakh Eleven Thousand Two Hundred Twenty) only needs to be paid as Earnest Money Deposit by DD/BG to Senior Manager (Finance) NBPDC in favour of "NO RTH BIHAR POWER DISTRIBUTION COMPANY LTD." payable at Patna

Date of opening of Technical & Commercial Part: 21/09/2019 on or onward 11:00 Hrs.

Date of opening of Price Part: To be notified after Technical Bid Evaluation (www.eproc.bihar.gov.in)

- The NIT can be downloaded from website www.eproc.bihar.gov.in.
- Payment of Cost of NIT & Bid processing fees :- NIT and Bid processing fee is mandatory to be paid through online mode i.e., internet payment gateway (Credit/Debit Card), Net Banking, NEFT/ RTGS. Online payment details of NIT & Bid processing fees, etc. must be submitted to Senior Manager (Finance), NBPDC on or before 19/09/2019 at 15:00 Hrs failing which tender shall be summarily rejected.
- Payment of Cost of EMD fees:- The cost of EMD as per the details mentioned in NIT must be paid through offline mode, Bank Guarantee/DD which must be submitted to Senior Manager (Finance), NBPDC in favour of "NORTH BIHAR POWER DISTRIBUTION COMPANY LTD." payable at Patna on or before 19/09/2019 at 15:00 Hrs failing which tender shall be summarily rejected.

Note:- The department does not take any responsibility for the delay / Non submission of Tender / Non Reconciliation of online Payment caused due to Non-availability of Internet Connection, Network Traffic/ Holidays or any other reason

"बिदायो के निपादन के लिए लोक अदालत का काम उदावे।"
 "सरकार राहगति से न्यायिक निर्णय प्राप्त करे।"
 "समय एवं खर्च की बचत करे।"

Chief Engineer (S&P)
NBPDC

PR.007065 (Ni Ni) 2019-20
भ्रष्टाचार से संबंधित शिकायत 0612-2217048 पर करें।

SEARCH FOR MISSING

General public is hereby informed that one male namely **Shambhu, S/o Late Kamal Singh, R/o: RZ-82, Gali No. 10, Part-1, Deep Enclave, Vikas Nagar, Delhi, Age: 34 years, Height: 5'6", Complexion: Shallow, wearing Black Shirt-Black Jeans Pant and Brown Shoes in feet, has been missing/kidnapped from the Area of P.S. Ranhola, since 19.06.2019. In this regard a DD No. 57-A, dated 21.06.2019 has been registered at P.S. Ranhola, Delhi.**

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

Website: http://cbi.nic.in
 E-mail: cbc@cbi.gov.in
 Ph. No. : 011-24368639
SHO P.S. Ranhola, Delhi DP/2612/OD/19 Ph.: 011-28363001, 28363002

SEARCH FOR MISSING/KIDNAPPED

General Public is hereby informed that one man namely **Vishal Kumar S/o Arvind Kumar R/o H.No. A-89, Near Rajdhani Public School, Vikas Nagar, Delhi** has been missing/kidnapped since 23.06.2019 from the area of P.S. Ranhola, Delhi. In this regard a case vide **DD No. 66-A dated 27.06.2019** has been registered at P.S. Ranhola, Delhi.

The description of missing/kidnapped man is as under:

Name: Vishal Kumar, **Father's Name:** Arvind Kumar, **Age:** 28 years, **Height:** 5'5", **Face:** Round, **Complexion:** Fair, **Wearing:** Red T-Shirt Blue Jeans and shoes in feet.

If anyone having any clue/information, kindly inform the undersigned.

SHO P.S., Ranhola, Delhi Ph. : 011-28363001 28363002, 28363003 DP/2637/OD/19

HINDUSTAN EVEREST TOOLS LTD.

Regd. & H.O. Dohil Chambers, 46, Nehru Place, New Delhi 110 019
 CIN : L74899DL1962PLC003634, Ph:91-11-46692600
 E-mail: admin@everesttools.com, Web-site: http://www.everesttools.com

Notice of 56th Annual General Meeting, Book Closure & E-Voting
 05-09-2019: The Annual Report of the Company for the year 2018-19 along with the Notice of the AGM has been dispatched to all the Members.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT the 56th Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the members of the Company is scheduled to be held on **Monday, 30th September, 2019** at 10:30 A.M. at PHD House, Opposite Asian Games Village, Siri Fort Road, New Delhi 110016 to transact the Business as set forth in the Notice of AGM dated 12th August, 2019.

The Notice of AGM, Annual Report and Attendance Slip has been sent in electronic mode to Members whose e-mail IDs are registered with the Company or the Depository Participant (s) unless the Members have registered their request for a hard copy of the same. Physical copy of the Notice of AGM, Annual Report and Attendance Slip has been sent to those Members who have not registered their e-mail IDs with the Company or Depository Participant (s).

The copy of the Annual Report is also available on the Company's website www.everesttools.com. Members, who do not receive the Annual Report, may download it from the Company's website or may request for a copy of the same by writing to the Managing Directors at the Registered Office of the Company or at the Company's email ID admin@everesttools.com. The Company has completed its dispatch as well as sending of email to Members on 5th September, 2019. The documents pertaining to the items of business to be transacted in the Annual General Meeting are open for inspection at the Registered Office of the Company during business hours on any working day.

The Company is pleased to provide its Members with the facility to exercise their right to vote by electronic means and the business may be transacted through e-Voting Services provided by National Securities Depository Limited (NSDL). The e-voting period commences on Friday, 27th September, 2019 at 09:00 A.M. and ends on Sunday, 29th September, 2019 at 05:00 P.M. The e-voting module shall be disabled for voting after 05:00 P.M. on Sunday, 29th September, 2019. Once the vote on a resolution is cast by the shareholder, the shareholder shall not be allowed to change it subsequently. A member may participate in the AGM even after exercising his right to vote through e-voting but shall not be allowed to vote again in the AGM.

The voting rights shall be as per the number of equity shares held by the Member(s) as on Monday, 23rd September, 2019 (cut-off date). Members are eligible to cast vote electronically only if they are holding shares as on that date. The persons who acquire shares and become members of the Company after the dispatch of the Notice and hold shares as on cut-off date, may obtain User Id and Password by sending a request at evoting@nsdl.co.in.

The Notice of AGM is available on the Company's website www.everesttools.com and on NSDL website <http://www.evoting.nsdl.com>. The procedure of electronic voting is available in the Notice of the 56th Annual General Meeting as well as in the email sent to the Members by NSDL and NSDL website <http://www.evoting.nsdl.com>. In case of any queries pertaining to e-voting, you may refer to the Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) for Members and e-voting user manual for Members available at the Downloads section of <http://www.evoting.nsdl.com> or contact Mr. Ankur Mittal, Assistant Vice President, NSDL at the designated emails ID: evoting@nsdl.co.in or AnkurM@nsdl.co.in or at following Telephone Nos : 011-23353814 (15).

The entry to the meeting venue will be regulated by Attendance Slips, which have been sent along with the Annual Report to the Members. Members who have received Attendance Slips by electronic mode are requested to print the Attendance Slip and submit a duly filled in Attendance Slip at the registration counter to attend the AGM. Please note that duplicate Attendance Slips will not be issued.

Pursuant to the provisions of Section 91 of the Companies Act, 2013 and Regulation 42 of SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015, the Register of Members and the Share Transfer books of the Company will remain closed from Tuesday, 24th September, 2019 to Monday, 30th September, 2019 (both days inclusive).

A member can download the Notice of the AGM or Annual Report from Company's website (www.everesttools.com) or write to the Company. The Results shall be declared on or after the AGM of the Company. The Results declared along with the Scrutinizer's Report shall be placed on the Company's website: www.everesttools.com and on the website of NSDL within two (2) days of passing of the resolutions at the AGM of the Company and communicated to the BSE Limited.

Place: New Delhi
 Date: 05.09.2019
 For Hindustan Everest Tools Ltd. Sd/- (Sonam Gupta) Company Secretary

N K TEXTILE INDUSTRIES LIMITED
 Registered office: Omaxe Square, Plot No. 14, 5th Floor, Jasola District Centre, Jasola, New Delhi-110025
 CIN: L17299DL1983PLC163230, Tel: +91 11 61119313
 Email Id: n.ktextiles123@gmail.com, website: www.nktil.com

NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
 NOTICE is hereby given that the 36th Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the Company will be held on Monday, 30th September, 2019 at 'The Sentinel', 47, Pocket A, Jasola, New Delhi-110025 at 12.00 P.M. to transact the businesses mentioned in the Notice of Annual General Meeting.

The notice of AGM along with Annual Report, Proxy Form and Attendance Slip have been sent in electronic form to those shareholders whose email address are registered with the Company's Registrar and Share Transfer Agent/Depository Participants, unless the Members have requested for hard copy of the same. Physical copy have been dispatched through permitted mode to all other members. The Company has completed all dispatches through e-mail and other permitted modes on Tuesday 3rd September, 2019.

Members may note that the Annual Report, AGM Notice inter alia indicating the process and manner of e-voting process, Proxy Form and Attendance Slip are available on Company's website www.nktil.com and can also be obtained from registered office of the Company.

In compliance with the provisions of Section 108 of the Companies Act, 2013 read with the Companies (Management and Administration) Amendments Rules, 2015 and Regulation 44 of the SEBI (Listing Obligation and Disclosure Requirement) Regulation, 2015, the Company is pleased to provide its member the facility to exercise their right to vote by electronic means and business may be transacted through remote e-voting facility provided by National Securities Depository Limited (NSDL). The remote e-voting period commences from Thursday 26th September, 2019 at 9.00 a.m. and ends on Sunday 29th September, 2019 at 5.00 p.m. The remote e-voting shall be disabled thereafter and no e-voting will be allowed thereafter. The Board has appointed Mr. Surrinder Kishore Kapahi, Proprietor Kapahi and Associates, Company Secretaries as Scrutinizer for conducting the e-voting process in accordance with the law and in a fair and transparent manner.

The voting rights of members shall be in proportion to their share in the paid up equity share capital of the Company as on the cut-off date of 23rd September, 2019. Members holding shares either in physical or in dematerialized form, on the said cut-off date, are eligible to avail the facility of remote e-voting. Any person, who acquires shares of the Company after dispatch of AGM Notice and holds such shares as of the cut-off date i.e., 23rd September, 2019, may obtain the login ID and password by sending a request at evoting@nsdl.co.in.

At the AGM, facility for voting through ballot paper shall be made available and only the Members as on the "cut-off date" i.e., 23rd September, 2019, who have not cast their votes by remote e-voting, shall be entitled to exercise their rights to vote at the AGM through ballot paper. The members who have cast their votes through electronic means prior to the AGM may still attend the AGM but shall not be entitled to cast their votes again.

The notice of AGM containing, inter-alia, the procedure of e-voting is available on the Company's website www.nktil.com and on NSDL's website <https://www.evoting.nsdl.com>.

In case of any queries, Members may refer to the Frequently Asked Questions (FAQS) and e-voting user manual available at the Downloads sections of <https://www.evoting.nsdl.com> or contact NSDL at the toll free no : 1800-222-990 or write a mail to info@masserv.com.

Notice is also hereby given that that pursuant to section 91 of the Companies Act, 2013 read with Rule 10 of the Companies (Management and Administration) Rules, 2014 and Regulation 42 of SEBI (Listing Obligation and Disclosure Requirement) Regulation, 2015, the Register of Members and Share Transfer books of the Company will remain closed from Tuesday, September 24, 2019 to Monday, September 30, 2019 (both days inclusive) for the purpose of taking record of the Shareholders at the Annual General Meeting.

Thanking You
 For N K Textile Industries Limited
 Sd/-
Balbir Singh
 Director
 DIN:00027438

Date: 04.09.2019
 Place: New Delhi

Trend
Blazer

'Hrithik-Vaani pair brings freshness'

Director Siddharth Anand says actors HRITHIK ROSHAN and VAANI KAPOOR bring a lot of freshness in the film *War*. "Hrithik and Vaani's pairing brings a lot of freshness on screen. They are good looking actors, have steamy chemistry and are brilliant dancers," Anand said.

The two will be seen dancing on the song *Ghungroo*, which has been shot on the Amalfi Coast. The director describes it as a party anthem.

He further says that *War* has many firsts and no other film or artist has ever shot a song on the Amalfi Coast, an exclusive destination.

The film is set to be a visual spectacle for quintessential action lovers.



'As a kid I wanted to be an astronaut but I did not know where to go. I always wanted to go

NASA but was rejected, so I got myself a telescope, which can zoom in on any creator on a bright moon night. It was two years back that I had a chance to go to NASA and I did a workshop. One year later I sent two kids to NASA, one of them won a gold medal too.' —Sushant Singh Rajput

The special screening of *Chhichhore* was attended by 2000 IIT Bombay students and the alumni as well.

At the screening, the team including the director Nitesh Tiwari, the cast — Varun Sharma, Saharsh Kumar Shukla, Tushar Pandey, Naveen Polishetty, Tahir Bhasin, Nalnees Neel were present.

Since the film is based on the life of the IITians, the students were much amused to watch it. The film releases today.

Aniston won't go to social media

JENNIFER ANISTON has broken a new-age celebrity stereotype by remaining a top Hollywood star despite saying no to social media.

Her reason for staying away from interactive cyber space is clear. She says, "I know when I'm comfortable with something, and I know when I'm not."

Aniston feels the constant pressure to be liked on social media can particularly have damaging effects on young people figuring out their identity.

"They (the young adult) are doing it through someone else's lens, which has been filtered and changed and then, there is that constant fear of getting liked. There is a lot of comparing and despairing," she adds.



Dream Girl's eyebrows are bushy

Actor AYUSHMANN KHURRANA tells CHAHAK MITTAL that his film is about gender fluidity and how it's up to the people to dress up and act the way they want to irrespective of their sex for it is 2019

When I greet him by saying, "Hi dream girl with bushy eyebrows!" (going by his Instagram bio)," actor Ayushmann Khurrana laughs and recalls how at 14, he used to call his first girlfriend to talk to her. It was the early 1990s and as those who have lived in the time know that a single landline sufficed for the entire family, the girl's father answered the calls and Ayushmann spoke in a woman's voice, pretending to be his girlfriend's female friend. The girl's father did not suspect a thing when he heard his (turned her) voice and promptly handed over the phone to his daughter. "And we used to talk for hours because her dad thought that she was talking to a girl," says the actor and bursts out laughing even before we start asking questions. Well, who knew a little stint in his teenage years would come back to him as one of his roles today?

For his forthcoming film *Dream Girl*, this is one of the first things Ayushmann recalls when we ask him about how he established a command over the feminine voice he uses to make prank calls in the film. He also points out that he has done radio commentary in the past, "which enabled me to make prank calls. That also helped. But of course, this was not something that I was used to. I did practise to be fluent in it. And mostly, I dubbed a n d recorded my voice in a studio so that I could get multiple takes of it. So now it



sounds so much like a girl that it doesn't even look like it's dubbed (laughs)."

The actor believes that this is one of his "most commercial films," which is very different from others. "The tonality of this film is its masala. This is one of most commercial films because I have been known for my realistic performances. But this one is out there. So it has given me the chance to explore that territory of a commercial film. And it's a lot of fun."

The trailer of the film has left the audience anticipating what exactly it has to offer as Ayushmann is seen essaying roles of Sita and Radha in *Ramlilas* and engaging in sex-talk with strangers on the phone during his job at a call centre. The actor says, "In our country, most of the actors who are playing characters of women in *Ramlilas* in small towns are males. There are many men who play the role of Sita. So this is also a story of one of those guys and I am that guy here. My character has the talent of being able to speak in both male and female voices. So he just explores it to earn money. But in the end, it's not bound to just adult chat or sex-talk but it is also about how I enable lonely people to have fun. They are looking for companions. It's a comedy but it certainly touches some souls with its humour."

In one of the scenes in the trailer, Ayushmann is seen playing Draupadi and during the time of her *vastra haran* or the unveiling of Draupadi in the court, he yells, "#MeToo agar Mahabharata ke time par hota na, toh sabse pehle tum sab andar jaate (If #MeToo happened during the time of Mahabharata, you all would have been jailed first.)" It appears to be funny at first but strikes as an epiphany later about how the film enables a man to

see the world from a woman's point of view when he puts himself into her shoes. So what was Ayushmann's idea of it? He says, "I feel that empathy is very important. When you know a woman personally, up close and inside out, as a friend, a brother or a husband, you realise the issues that she is facing in a social set-up. Hence, the film is also about gender fluidity. It says that a man should not think twice if he wants to dress up like a woman. No one should be stopped from doing that. Similarly, no one should stop a woman from dressing up like a man." It's 2019 and the actor believes that we should have that liberty as it's our "prerogative" to do that.

However, *Dream Girl*, he tells us, is not a film which tries to give a message. "It's funny and humorous. Though there are certain lines which will briefly touch and go. But overall, it is just for laughs. It is the funniest film that I have done till now." The film is set in Mathura and the best part about shooting for it, for Ayushmann, was the weather as it was during the Winter.

The recent films and even web series are evidence that more interesting plots are coming from small towns and middle-class family scenarios in our country, unlike the rich, affluent people in metro cities which inhabit a typical Karan Johar film. Some examples being *Stree*, *Badhaai Ho!*, *Luka Chuppi*, *Jabariya Jodi* and more. Why? It's certainly because of their high relatability factor and connect with the audience. And the theme of realism. However, Ayushmann believes that a good story is not place-specific. "It doesn't have anything to do with a small town or a metro city. It is also because 70 per cent of the nation lives in small towns. I am also from one of them.

Even though I have stayed in Mumbai and Delhi but eventually, I am from Panchkula, a small city near Chandigarh. So when people from such places go out and watch these films, they connect to them. But there are also films like *Dil Dhadakne Do*, which give a glimpse of the urban lifestyle, but do fairly well too. So venues don't really matter as long as the stories are good," says he.

Talking about the realistic portrayal of issues in films today, do films with a message actually create an impact on society? A recent example being his *Article 15*, which presented a take on the discriminatory caste system in India. And Ayushmann agrees that it does: "The representation of these issues do make an impact on society. It reaches to a wider audience collectively especially to those for whom the issue of casteism doesn't really exist. But in the larger realm, it still does. It acts as an eye-opener for most of them."

It was certainly a film which not only might have created an impact on the audience, but provided some "great learning" to the actor as well. He tells us how and what he learnt the most from it. "It was empathy more than anything else. Getting into that character was like knowing the situations of a society in a country. If you know that, it will help you build that empathy towards the downtrodden. It was also about acknowledging the casteism in our country. Probably, I was more aware than the character on-screen about the issue because I come from the street theatre background and have done plays on social issues in small towns, which really helped me to get into the character. It was the only dark film that I have done till date and it was quite a learning experience," he adds.

The actor, who is currently living a dream after his successful three blockbusters and winning a National Award, tells us how he balanced the roller-coaster of a ride his life has been during the past year. It was extreme as he had to balance swinging emotions — his wife's (Tahira Kashyap) illness and two back-to-back hits (*Andhadhun* and *Badhaai Ho!*). "I have realised that life is a great leveller. It gives you something and also takes something away from you. There are equal phases of sorrow and happiness. There are tough times but good times too exist. At the same time, everybody has a void in their life and they have to accept it as a part of it. And at the end of the day, they have to keep going with the circumstances. But we just need to be in a happy state to go through the challenges ahead. So that's about it. I am glad we came out of that," says he.

However, there certainly comes a pressure after being honoured with a National Award, as it creates a particular benchmark for an actor to not fall below it, requires him/her to keep doing good and not 'disappoint' the viewers. "There is nothing like that," he laughs and adds that it's a "happy pressure, which will give me the courage to choose scripts which are more radical. And I always follow my gut and intuition. I have been doing that for many years now."

(The film releases on September 13.)

Photo: Pankaj Kumar

Return of Gilead

During the announcement of *The Testaments*, MARGARET ATWOOD recalls how women weren't allowed into the classical art schools during the 1960s because they could run into nude models



place" in her books, says fellow author and Canadian Michael Ondaatje. "And as an individual, she has been a remarkably brave spirit, supporting many causes to do with writers and politics," she adds.

She has written more than 40 books, novels, stories, essays and poems and her awards include the Booker Prize for *The Blind Assassin* and Canada's Giller Prize for *Alias Grace*. She is a feminist heroine who in the

'GILEAD IS NOT INVENTED BUT CURATED AND ROOTED IN THE ACTUAL AND THE POSSIBLE. EACH DETAIL I CAN TELL YOU CHAPTER AND VERSE WHO DID IT WHEN'

introduction to a recent edition of *The Handmaid's Tale* defines a feminist novel not as idealising women, but humanising them, with all the variety and character and behavior that implies. In her fiction, women are both killers and killed, betrayers and betrayed, rebels and oppressors. *The Handmaid's Tale* reflects an imagination both expansive and grounded. As Atwood likes to point out, everything in the novel either has happened or

could happen. Gilead, she says, is not "invented, but curated" and so rooted in the actual and the possible that she speaks of reissuing the book with footnotes. For instance, the iconic handmaid uniforms of bright red cloaks and white bonnets that obscure their faces were inspired by the image on a container of old dutch cleanser. "Each detail I can tell you chapter and verse who did it when," Atwood says.

In announcing *The Testaments* last fall, she cited readers' curiosity about Gilead and, more darkly, the world we've been living in. As she explains, she wrote *The Handmaid's Tale* in part as a response to the anti-feminist backlash of the 1980s. She didn't expect to write a sequel because she didn't expect the rise of Donald Trump and the world becoming more like the original novel. Even before he became president, she was resurrecting Gilead. In February 2017, she sent a memo to her literary representatives that outlined *The Testaments*, how it would have three narrators and would be set around 15 years after Offred fled to an undetermined future.

Praised by The New York Times as a "compelling sequel," *The Testaments* was in the top 10 on Amazon a week before its publication. Atwood has received letters from readers saying her book helped them cope with depression or make sense of living in religious communities. Naomi Alderman, who wrote *The Power*, says she was a teenager and an Orthodox Jew when she read *The Handmaid's Tale*, which pretty well rearranged her brain. Woman activists around the world have worn the handmaid outfits, protesting in silence against everything from anti-abortion laws in Ireland to the general policies of Trump.

Screen adaptations of acclaimed novels have a long and often unhappy history, but *The Hulu Project* has been embraced by Atwood, audiences and critics. The series has received six Emmys, including one for lead actress Elisabeth Moss. The writ-

ing of *The Testaments* ran parallel to the making of the series, and was a process of subtle coordination. Atwood says she tried to avoid interfering or revealing any plot details beyond advising the makers. "She's in the unique position of understanding very well how to adapt her books to different art forms," says Miller, noting that *Handmaid's Tale* had previously been made into an opera and a feature film.

Atwood first gained attention as a poet, starting in the early 1960s with *Double Persephone* and reaching a national audience in 1966 with *The Circle Game*. Her emphasis on poetry wasn't only artistic, she says, "poetry was cheaper to publish than fiction, and Canadians writers in the 1960s were just beginning to establish themselves." Atwood, Nobel laureate Alice Munro and Robertson Davies were among those who helped Canadian literature become worldwide, with Atwood's early contributions also including such novels as *Surfacing* and an influential work of criticism, *Survival*.

"Atwood deserves recognition as a tireless and unselfish cultural ambassador," says Russell Brown, co-editor of the Oxford University Press' anthology of Canadian literature. "She has done more to promote Canadian writing — both within Canada and beyond — than any other writer of her generation."

Her thoughts may run to the macabre and to disaster, but rarely to despair. Along with tyranny in Gilead, there is resistance, and confidence that hate is no more permanent than love. She has called herself a realist whose outlook is neither better nor worse than the world itself. But she also can't help believing that better is always possible.

Brown's co-editor of the Oxford anthology, Donna Bennett, says Atwood's thinking is characteristically Canadian. Atwood says it's characteristic of her profession.

LET THE GOOD TIMES ROLL

DONTELMAMA scores both hits and misses. While it would let you bond over salsa, tacos and peppery cocktails, it might make you question some of your choices, says AYUSHI SHARMA

Usually we hear of Bollywood nights, live music and sufi nights at gastropubs. But how often have you heard of one celebrating salsa and that too at a pub? Do you wonder if that would create the right vibe? However, my recent outing at *Dontelmama*, South Extension II, put my questions to rest. The blue lights all across its walls, the levelled-up dancing floor, jazzed-up music, garnet maroon, lapis and navy blue velvet chaise-lounges around, would do the same to yours too. Even though the salsa began late in the night, it added the charm to the place's already-vibrant ambience. The pub was sprawled across three levels, which gave off a rich vibrant feel. And the rooftop, which was further segregated into a lower section with a cool laid-back vibe, was complemented by the lush green and soft warm lights. A third 'bird's eye' level, gave a 360-degree view of the city. The smoking area was perky and exuberant and had a spectrum of colours that lend it a quirky aura.

Well, what could be better than enjoying such an evening (and spoiler alert: finger-licking food) with your mate? The place offers a mix of different cuisines including fusion. A staff member suggested that we must begin our meal with their signature *chaat* platter. As I had it, I realised that while the right amount of flavours in the *tikkis* left a mark on one's tastebuds, the sweetness of the *gol-gappas*, on the other hand, might make one not opt for it. They were too sweet. I am one of those for whom the tanginess of the *chaat* is intrinsic to the dish and makes me relish it. Nothing like a spicy stuffing made out of potato-chickpea mash and tangy water, liberally infused with mint leaves. Even though I tried the *gol-gappas* with the tangy water or the *khanta paani*, that too tasted sweet. Or rather, failed to tingle my palate.

So from Indian, I decided to dash across continents and order tacos, something that I had been eyeing since the very beginning. However, we couldn't order it at first as we followed the chef's suggestion. Peas



rooms tacos were the ones that we opted for. With a name like that, we expected it to be a mix of the two vegetables, but it turned out to be a thick paste where both the ingredients were blended together. But having said that, it was a delightful mix. And who says tacos are just for Tuesdays? These were way too good to eat just about on any day of the week.

It was the time to make a trip to the European subcontinent or rather try the *Vilayati subz pasta*. The very first bite made me wonder why we ordered something that sounded like a mish-mash in the first place. However, gulping it down somehow improved its flavours. At first, it tasted sweet due to the

thick, butter tomato sauce. It was only later that the peppery flavour hit home.

I wasn't satisfied and decided to taste another pasta of a different flavour. This time I went

with the basil with spinach and corn sauce. It's very name was enough to raise the bar of my expectations. It was laced with goodness of spinach, packed with flavours of garlic and sweet

corn, surely making it the best dish of the evening. To accompany it, I ordered their signature cocktail — *Cinnamon whisky* story. With a base of bourbon whisky, it was blended with lemon juice and honey and a cinnamon stick to top it with.

Moving on to the main course, they've hit upon a great idea where they serve combo meals. This obviously saves time and prevents confusion as most people usually end up ordering only starters in a pub. We went ahead with *Paneer tikka ajwaini masala* and *Dal makhani* with *Lachcha parantha* combo. We were so full by the time that we asked them to lessen the quantity. The *paranthas* were crispy outside and buttery soft inside.

The deal breaker? *Dal makhani* loaded with unnecessary amount of cream and fat. Of course, as the name suggests it should have a certain amount but it doesn't have to be practically drowning in them. However, the *Paneer tikka ajwaini masala* just had the right amount of everything.

The night ended on a good note with people rejoicing and bonding over salsa, tacos and peppery cocktails. Well, so did

We preserve food to stop its natural decomposition. Here are some smart techniques to do it



Freeze, can, pickle and dry

In the warm weeks, it is hard to imagine that today's tomatoes, corn, peaches and other late-summer bounty will soon be just memories. But wait, they don't have to be. With a bit of forethought and a bit of time, we can safeguard some of this magnificent produce and draw upon it all winter long.

When you preserve food, you are using techniques to stop its natural decomposition, killing or preventing the growth of microbes. It's important to follow experts' directions closely for safety and food quality. Four basic ways to preserve late-summer fruits and vegetables are:

FREEZING

The simplest and most accessible way to preserve all kinds of produce quickly. The two most critical things about freezing produce are to freeze it as quickly as possible, and in freeze-grade containers.

Chill food before freezing to fasten the process, says Eugenia Bone, author of books including *Microbia* (Rodale, 2018), James Beard-nominated *Well Preserved* (Clarkson Potter, 2009), etc. "The slower the freezing process, the larger the ice crystals, which can cause the cell walls of the produce to rupture. This is what makes defrosted foods mushy," she says.

To prevent freezer burn, which can affect the taste and texture of food, use plastic bags, wraps or containers designed specifically for the freezer. If you use a container, leave the right amount of headspace, since the food will expand when it becomes frozen. Too much extra space will result in trapped air. Freezer-proof, zipper-top bags are terrific since you can label them easily, squeeze out excess air and freeze them flat on a tray. Once frozen, they can be stacked vertically or horizontally to save space — and they can be washed and reused. Consider blanching fruits and vegetables — putting them in boiling water and then shocking them in a bowl of ice water — before you freeze them, to enhance their quality after they thaw. Fruits with skins can be blanched, pitted and peeled before freezing so they are ready to use once defrosted.

A note on tomatoes: If you freeze them, their skin will slip off when they thaw, as if you had blanched and peeled them.

Try roasting them first.

Most vegetables and pretty much all fruits will have a softer texture when thawed, depending on how cold your freezer is. The closer to 0 degrees Fahrenheit it is, the better your frozen product will be and the longer it will keep. Frozen fruit should be used either in that state in smoothies and icy desserts, or, if you are thawing it, in a pie, crumble or other baked dessert.

CANNING

There are two main ways to can the produce: boiling water bath and pressure canning.

The water bath method involves packing glass canning jars with food, leaving adequate headroom and heating the jars in a pot of boiling water for a prescribed amount of time. The heat drives air out from the jar, sterilising the food and creating a vacuum that causes the rubber flange on the lid to seal. This method works best with naturally acidic foods like fruits and alkaline foods that have been acidified, like pickles. Low-acid foods like vegetables and mushrooms cannot be canned using this method unless acidified.

The pressure canning method requires a pressure canner (not a pressure cooker), and involves pressurised steam heat, which can reach a higher temperature than boiling. At these temperatures, alkaline foods can be safely canned without acidification. Pressure canners should be purchased based on the type of stove you have and the amount of food you plan to can. Bone's book *The Kitchen Ecosystem*, for instance, has advice on how to choose a pressure canner. Similar to water-bath canning, the heat pushes air out of the food and jars, sterilising both and creating a vacuum seal.

"The best way to test your seal," says Bone, "is to wait until the jar has cooled totally. Then remove the band and see if you can lift the jar by the rim of the

lid. If you don't spill the contents of your jar all over the counter, then your seals are good." Improper canning can result in the growth of harmful spoilage, so find a reliable source to follow.

PICKLING

There are many methods. You can prepare fermented pickles, which use salt or salt brine, and quick pickles, which use vinegar. Pickling acidifies the vegetables so they can be safely water-bath canned.

You can pickle whole vegetables, like green beans or okra, or you can make chutney or relishes with chopped produce plus some seasonings. Most of the techniques and rules of regular canning apply. There are some pickling methods that don't involve canning like refrigerator pickles. These don't have the shelf life of processed pickles and must be kept in the fridge but they will extend the life of the produce somewhat. Refrigerator pickles offer a fresh flavour and usually have a crisp texture.

DRYING/DEHYDRATING

Whatever food you are drying should be ready to eat and not overripe or underripe, and without bruises or dings. In some cases, produce to be dried should be pretreated — either blanched, or dipped in solutions to retain color and texture.

Again, find specific directions for each food to ensure quality and safety. Drying methods include air drying, oven drying and using a dehydrator. A dehydrator is the most reliable. If you think you will be drying foods regularly, invest in an electric dehydrator. Bone recommends one with an enclosed thermostat which ranges from 85 to 160 degrees Fahrenheit, a fan or blower to circulate air, and trays made of plastic. Fruits can also be made into fruit leather.

—AP

gorge us

Zambar brings the taste and festivity from Kerala with Onam round the corner. Its *Sadhya* menu has 27 vegetarian dishes — *Aviyal*, *Eriserry*, *Khichadi* beetroot, *Mambazha Puliserry*, *Kootu* curry, *Cabbage thoran*, *Beans Mezhukkupuratti*, *Inji puli*, *Thiyal*, *Pineapple pachadi*, *Choru*, *Parippu* curry, *Sambar* and *Rasam* along with crunchy *Nendran*, jackfruit chips and various *chutneys* and pickles to go with the meal. It also has desserts like *Ada paradhaman* and the *Pal payasam*, redolent with creamy coconut milk. **Date:** September 11 **Time:** 11:30 am to 4:30 pm (lunch); 7 pm to 10:30 pm (dinner) **Price:** ₹900 per person (plus taxes) **Venue:** Zambar, Ambience Mall, Gurugram.



La Piazza introduces its first edition of *Wine Bazaar* for 10 days which will have 30 wines from nine countries. The bazaar offers wines like Valdivieso Cabernet Sauvignon from Chile, Chateau Lamouroux from France, Borsao Garnacha from Spain, Piccini Merlot and Chardonnay from Italy, and La Piazza's own collector's wine too. There will also be wine experts from various wineries who would offer a whiff of their culture. **Date:** Till September 10 **Venue:** La Piazza, Hyatt Regency.



Mellow Garden offers favourite drinks Mat 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.

Time Machine hosts white collar Thursdays and are giving away 33 per cent off on their corporate nights on all the favourite drinks. **When:** Thursdays **Time:** 7 pm **Venue:** Time Machine, sector 38, Noida.

Together At 12th, a concept curated by Nitin Tewari and chef Vanshika Bhatia, collaborates with the trio of Nadodi from Kuala Lumpur — chef Sricharan Venkatesh, Akshar Chawadi and Kartik Kumar. Sricharan Venkatesh and Vanshika Bhatia will serve a nine-course menu that they have conceptualised. Akshar and Nitin will create the beverage menu that will be paired with the food. **Date:** September 13 and 14 **Price:** ₹4500 (plus taxes) **Venue:** Le Meridien, Gurugram.



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 dice 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 Mehriishi at Vivanta New Delhi, Dwarka.

GOSHT DUM BIRYANI

WHAT YOU NEED

- Cinnamon sticks: 1-2 pieces
- Cumin seeds: 2 tsp
- Coriander seeds: 2 tsp
- Star anise: 2 pieces
- Green cardamom: 3 pieces
- Fresh Mutton: ½ kg
- Salt: 2 tsp
- Milk: 2½ cups
- Basmati rice: 2 cups
- Clove: 10 pieces
- Fennel seeds: 1 tsp
- Black pepper: 1 tsp

- Mace powder: 1½ tsp
- Black cardamom: 2 pieces
- Ghee: 3 tsp
- Refined oil: 4 tbsp
- Saffron: 1 pinch
- Onion: 1
- For mutton marination:
 - Ginger paste: 3 tsp
 - Turmeric: 1 tsp
 - Cashew paste: 2 tsp
 - Curd: 4 tsp
 - Garlic paste: 1 tsp
 - Red chilli powder: 1 tsp
 - Garam masala powder: 1 pinch

METHOD

● To make the garam masala, dry roast all the spices. Then set aside the spices and let them cool. Once they are at room temperature, transfer them to a mixer grinder and grind them finely.

● Simultaneously, wash the basmati rice and drain excess water. Boil the rice and drain it once it is half

done.

● For mutton marination, take half kilogram mutton, add ginger-garlic paste, turmeric and chilli powder. Then add cashew paste, garam masala, curd and mix it well.

● Cover it with a lid and put it in the refrigerator for an hour.

● Then slice the onion and deep fry it. Take out meat

from the refrigerator and allow it to come to room temperature. The, add salt for seasoning.

● Prepare the handi by adding ghee and oil into it. Once it is sufficiently hot, add the marinated meat.

● Stir and cook the meat for a few minutes on high flame, until it is nicely roasted. Cover it with a lid and let it simmer for another half an hour.

● Meanwhile, add saffron to the milk and mix it well so that the saffron releases its

colour and aroma in the milk.

● Then layer the mutton with cooked rice and add the saffron-milk mixture.

● Add a little salt, *garam masala*, fried onions and the remaining ghee over it. Add mace powder and mix it well.

● Cover the handi with the lid and weight it down with something heavy. Cook it at a low flame for half an hour. It is best enjoyed hot with some chilled *Burani raita* on the side.

Courtesy: Chef Sadab Quershii at The Westin, Gurugram.



कार्यालय अभियंता का कार्यालय
पेयजल एवं स्वच्छता प्रमण्डल तेनुघाट

शुद्धि-पत्र

इस प्रमण्डल द्वारा आमंत्रित ई-निविदा सूचना संख्या- (तेनुघाट) (DMFT) 10/2019-20 दिनांक 24-08-2019 जिसका PR No. 215260 है में अपरिहार्य कारणवश आंशिक संशोधन किया जाता है जो निम्न है-

2	प्रारंभिक राशि	859.911 लाख
3	अग्रिम की राशि	8.60 लाख
4	वेबसाइट पर निविदा प्रकाशन की तिथि	07.09.2019 समय 11.00 बजे पूर्वानु
7	बीड मॉडिफिकेशन की तिथि	13.09.2019 समय 12.30 बजे अपराह्न
8	निविदा प्राप्ति (ऑन लाईन बिक्री) की अंतिम तिथि एवं समय	27.09.2019 समय 05.00 बजे अपराह्न तक
9	पेयजल एवं स्वच्छता प्रमण्डल, तेनुघाट में परीक्षण विपत्र का मूल एवं अग्रिम की राशि की मूल प्रति जमा करने की अंतिम तिथि एवं समय	30.09.2019 समय 04.00 बजे अपराह्न तक
10	तकनीकी बिड खोलने की तिथि एवं समय	01.10.2019 समय 11:30 बजे अपराह्न समय

निविदा की शेष नियम एवं शर्तें यथावत रहेंगी। कार्यालय अभियंता
PR 216253 Drinking Water and Sanitation (19-20)_D पेयजल एवं स्वच्छता प्रमण्डल तेनुघाट

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER
QUALITY CONTROL DIVISION, MEDININAGAR
(WATER RESOURCES DEPARTMENT, MEDININAGAR)

Procurement Notice
Short Tender Reference No. - WRD-QCD-MED-03/2019-20
Date: - 11.09.2019

1.	Name of the work	Repairing of Quality Control Lab Building at Medininagar of Quality Control Division, Medininagar, Palamu
2.	Estimated Cost (Rs.)	Rs. 5,93,860.00 (Rs. Five Lacs Ninety three Thousand Eight Hundred Sixty only)
3.	Time of Completion	(45 days)
4.	Date for receipt of tender document with earnest money and document cost.	11.09.2019 to 25.09.2019 (upto 5:00 PM)
5.	Date of Opening of Tender	26-09-2019 at 2:00 P.M
6.	Name & address of office Inviting tender	Executive Engineer, Quality Control Division, Medininagar, Palamu
7.	Contact no. of Procurement officer	7677088391

Note: Only Offline tender will be accepted in sealed packet.
Tentative amount may increase or decrease.

PR 216190 Water Resource(19-20)D Executive Engineer Quality Control Division, Medininagar

समाहरणालय, गढ़वा
(अनु0ज0जा0, अनु0जा0, अल्पसंख्यक एवं पडोवर्ग, कल्याण शाखा)

प्रेस विज्ञापित

एतद द्वारा गढ़वा जिला के शैक्षणिक संस्थानों को सूचित किया जाता है कि अल्पसंख्यक छात्रवृत्ति योजना के अन्तर्गत 2019-20 के लिए प्री-मैट्रिक छात्रवृत्ति, पोस्ट मैट्रिक छात्रवृत्ति तथा मेरिट कम मीनस छात्रवृत्ति के लिए NSP Portal पर 1686 संस्थाएं/विद्यालय/महाविद्यालय सूचीबद्ध हैं जिनकी सूची garhwa.nic.in पर देखी जा सकती है।

अल्पसंख्यक छात्रों के आवेदन देने की प्रक्रिया 15 जुलाई 2019 से प्रारंभ है तथा 15 अक्टूबर 2019 को समाप्त हो जायेगा। छात्रों का छात्रवृत्ति स्वीकृति की जांच से पहले संस्थाओं का KYC करना आवश्यक है, लेकिन अभी तक किसी भी संस्थान KYC के लिए आवेदन के साथ Hard Copy उपलब्ध नहीं हुआ है, जो चिन्ताजनक है।

अतः सभी संस्थानों के प्रधान से अनुरोध है कि एक सप्ताह के अन्दर अपने-अपने संस्थान के KYC हेतु ऑनलाईन आवेदन पत्र, Hard Copy के साथ जिला कल्याण कार्यालय, गढ़वा में उपलब्ध कराया जाय, ताकि छात्रवृत्ति की स्वीकृति दी जा सके।

ह0/- जिला कल्याण पदाधिकारी गढ़वा
PR 216260 Welfare (19-20)_D

कार्यालय उप विकास आयुक्त-सह-जिला कार्यक्रम सार्वजनिक, पलामू (मनरेवा कोषांग)

कार्यालय का पता: पलामू, जिला कल्याण पदाधिकारी गढ़वा

सूचना

सरकार के प्रधान सचिव, ग्रामीण विकास विभाग, झारखण्ड सरकार के संकल्प संख्या- 4729 दिनांक 04.06.2007, 7646 दिनांक 23.10.2009, 6440 दिनांक 17.07.2012 नियुक्ति सेवार्थ कर्तव्य (संसोधन) नियमावली 2012 एवं ज्ञापांक 848 दिनांक 21.03.2017 के आलोक में महात्मा गांधी नरेगा अन्तर्गत पलामू जिले के लिए विभिन्न पदों यथा- तकनीकी सहायक (सहायक अभियंता के समकक्ष), लेखा सहायक, कम्प्यूटर सहायक एवं ग्राम रोजगार सेवक के पद पर नियुक्ति किया जाना है। नियुक्ति से संबंधित विज्ञापन की पूर्ण विवरणी पलामू जिले के Official website - palamu.nic.in पर उपलब्ध है।

उप विकास आयुक्त-सह-जिला कार्यक्रम सार्वजनिक पलामू।
P.R. 216172 District(19-20)-D

कार्यालय जिला परिषद, पलामू

आम सूचना

ग्रामीण विकास विभाग (पंचायती राज), झारखण्ड, राँची के संकल्प संख्या- 3428 दिनांक 10.10.2017 के माध्यम से झारखण्ड राज्य के पंचायती राज संस्थाओं के क्षेत्राधिकार के लिए झारखण्ड बिल्डिंग बायलॉज- 2016 को अंगीकृत किया गया है। तदनुसार दिनांक 10.10.2017 के उपरांत ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों में निर्माण किए जाने वाले भवनों का जिला परिषद, पलामू स्तर से URL-103.13.97.2 or BPAMS वेबसाईट से नियमानुसार ऑनलाईन नक्शा पारित कराने के उपरांत ही निर्माण कार्य कराना है।

अतः उक्त के आलोक में सर्व साधारण को सूचित किया जाता कि ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों में निर्माण होने वाले भवनों का जिला परिषद कार्यालय, पलामू से नियमानुसार ऑनलाईन नक्शा पारित कराना सुनिश्चित करें।

उप विकास आयुक्त-सह-मुख्य कार्यपालक पदाधिकारी, जिला परिषद, पलामू।
PR 216181 (District)19-20#D

जिससे अब तक ना समझे, वो कहानी है मैं, मुझे बर्बाद मत करो पानी है मैं।

कार्यालय, जिला मत्स्य पदाधिकारी-सह-मुख्य कार्यपालक पदाधिकारी, चतरा

इच्छा की अभिव्यक्ति हेतु आमंत्रण

राज्यादेश सं 20/रा0 (विभाग) दिनांक 25.08.2019 के आलोक में एतद द्वारा चतरा जिले के मत्स्य बीज उत्पादकों को सूचित किया जाता है कि समेकित मात्स्यिकी को बढ़ावा देने हेतु अयोध्या नदी के तटस्थ तथा जलाशय मत्स्य का विकास एवं जीवित प्रजनन योजना अन्तर्गत जलाशयों/नदियों में बनाए गए आर0एफ0एफ0 तथा केजों में क्रमशः भारतीय मेजर कॉर्प तथा पंगेशियस एवं अन्य उपयुक्त वायुवासी मछलियों के बीजों का संचयन किया जाना है। इच्छुक स्थानीय मत्स्य बीज उत्पादकों/आपूर्तिकर्ताओं से मत्स्य बीजों की आपूर्ति हेतु इच्छा की अभिव्यक्ति का आमंत्रण दिनांक 14.09.2019 तक कार्यालय अर्थात् अयोध्या नदी के कार्यालय में किया जाता है।

विदित हो कि भारतीय मेजर कॉर्प तथा पंगेशियस एवं अन्य उपयुक्त वायुवासी मछलियों के बीजों के क्रय का सरकारी दर क्रमशः मी0 250/- रु0 तथा मी0 1500/- रु0 मात्र प्रति हज़ार परिवहन व्यय सहित निर्धारित है।

समान मूल्य दर पर स्थानीय मत्स्य बीज उत्पादकों/प्रशिक्षित मत्स्य बीज उत्पादकों को प्राथमिकता दी जाएगी।

मछलियों के बीज की आपूर्ति से संबंधित शर्तें निम्नवत् होंगे :-

1. आपूर्तिकर्ता/मत्स्य बीज उत्पादक को जलाशयों/नदियों तक मत्स्य बीज को अपने खर्च पर जीवित तथा स्वस्थ अवस्था में पहुंचाना होगा।
2. आपूर्तिकर्ता/मत्स्य बीज उत्पादक के द्वारा जिस तालाब में मत्स्य बीज तैयार किया जा रहा है, उस तालाब का पूर्ण विवरण/मत्स्य बीज की उपलब्धता एवं पूर्ण पता से कार्यालय को अवगत कराना अनिवार्य होगा, जिससे संचयन के पूर्व उनकी जांच कराई जा सके, विवरण प्रस्तुत करने हेतु विहित प्रपत्र कार्यालय से प्राप्त किया जा सकता है।
3. जिन मत्स्य बीज उत्पादकों को अयोध्या नदी के तट पर मत्स्य अण्ड बीज की आपूर्ति की गई है, उन्हें प्राथमिकता दी जाएगी।
4. एक आपूर्तिकर्ता/मत्स्य बीज उत्पादक न्यूनतम 50 हज़ार तथा अधिकतम 2 लाख मत्स्य बीज की आपूर्ति कर सकेंगे।
5. आवेदक मत्स्य बीज उत्पादक को बीज उत्पादन के प्रशिक्षण का प्रमाण-पत्र, बैंक खाता एवं आधार कार्ड की छायाप्रति आवेदन-पत्र के साथ संलग्न करना अनिवार्य होगा।
6. बकायदार समिति के पदाधिकारी/सदस्य अथवा बकायदार पट्टेदार का प्रस्ताव/निविदा अस्वीकृत किया जायेगा।
7. आपूर्तिकर्ता/मत्स्य बीज उत्पादक के प्रस्ताव/निविदा अथवा उनके द्वारा प्रदत्त मत्स्य अंगुलिकाओं को रद्द अथवा अस्वीकृत करने का अधिकार अयोध्या नदी के पास सुरक्षित रहेगा।

जिला मत्स्य पदाधिकारी-सह-मुख्य कार्यपालक पदाधिकारी चतरा।
P.R.216243 Fish(19-20)D
जिससे अब तक ना समझे, वो कहानी है मैं, मुझे बर्बाद मत करो पानी है मैं।

कार्यालय जिला परिषद, चतरा
(अतिअल्पकालीन निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना सं0:- 20, वर्ष 2019-20)

1. विज्ञापन दाता का नाम एवं पता : जिला अभियंता, जिला परिषद, चतरा।
2. परिमाण विवरण की विधि की तिथि : 19.09.2019 से 20.09.2019 तक कार्यालय कार्य अर्थात् (राजपत्रित अवरकाश को छोड़ कर)।
3. परिमाण विवरण की विधि का स्थान : जिला अभियंता का कार्यालय, जिला परिषद, चतरा।
4. निविदा प्राप्त करने की तिथि एवं समय : 21.09.2019 को कार्यालय अर्थात् 3.00 बजे अपराह्न तक।
5. निविदा प्राप्ति का स्थान : जिला नियंत्रण कक्ष, चतरा।
6. निविदा खोलने की तिथि एवं समय : 21.09.2019 को कार्यालय अर्थात् 3.30 बजे अपराह्न में।
7. निविदा खोलने का स्थान : जिला नियंत्रण कक्ष, चतरा/जिला परिषद, चतरा।
8. कार्य की विस्तृत विवरणी/मद :-

क्र.सं.	योजना का नाम	प्राकल्पित संख्या/पैकेज राशि	अग्रिम की राशि	परिमाण विवरण की राशि	कार्य पूर्ण करने की अवधि
1	1. Construction of PCC Road from Imbamba to saradhu main road. 2. Construction of Drain with guardwall south side. 3. Construction of PCC Road and retaining wall from moti rana house to khet & 4. Construction of Drain with Guardwall from PCC road to south, At -Block-Tandwa, GP- Saradhu, GP- Saradhu	7613600	153000	10000	03 माह

निविदा की शर्तें -

1. जिला परिषद/जिला ग्रामीण विकास अधिकार, चतरा अन्तर्गत निविदा तथा UCAN Portal में update Registered संबद्ध की निविदा में भाग ले सकेंगे।
2. जिला द्वारा निर्गत आवेदन से जिला अन्तर्गत किसी भी कार्यालय एजेन्सी में संबद्ध के नाम से कार्य लिखित है, तो उनके पक्ष में निविदा निस्तरा नहीं की जायेगी।
3. परिमाण विवरण मूल्य का डिमाण्ड ड्राफ्ट "जिला अभियंता, जिला परिषद, चतरा" के पदनाम से बैंक ऑफ इंडिया/भारतीय स्टेट बैंक, चतरा में भुगतान होगा।

अन्य निविदा की शर्तें कार्यालय सूचना पत्र पर देखी जा सकती है।

जिला अभियंता, जिला परिषद, चतरा।
PR216252 (District)19-20#D जिससे अब तक ना समझे, वो कहानी है मैं, मुझे बर्बाद मत करो पानी है मैं।

जिला विधिक सेवा प्राधिकार, बातेहार सूचना

राष्ट्रीय लोक अदालत का आयोजन दिनांक-14/9/2019

व्यवहार न्यायालय, लातेहार में निःशुल्क, सुलभ एवं त्वरित न्याय के लिए विदित हो कि राष्ट्रीय विधिक सेवा प्राधिकार, नई दिल्ली के तत्वावधान में झारखंड राज्य विधिक सेवा प्राधिकार (झालसा), राँची के निर्देशन में जिला विधिक सेवा प्राधिकार, लातेहार के द्वारा दिनांक 14.9.2019 दिन शनिवार समय 11.00 बजे पूर्वानु में 02.30 बजे दिन तक व्यवहार न्यायालय, लातेहार के परिसर में राष्ट्रीय लोक अदालत का आयोजन किया जा रहा है, जिसमें निम्नलिखित मामलों का निष्पादन किया जाएगा। आप से अनुरोध है कि दिनांक 11/9/2019 से दिनांक 13/9/2019 तक जिला विधिक सेवा प्राधिकार, लातेहार में Pre National Lok Adalat Conciliation Sitting में अपने मामलों का निष्पादन हेतु उपस्थित होकर लाभ उठावें जिससे आपके मामलों का निष्पादन 14/9/2019 को राष्ट्रीय लोक अदालत में हो सके।

उक्त राष्ट्रीय लोक अदालत में निम्नलिखित प्रकार के मामलों का निष्पादन किया जायेगा।

1. समी प्रकाश के दीवानी मामले	8. वाहन दुर्घटना से संबंधित मामले
2. सुलहनीय अपराधिक मामले	9. बिजली विभाग से संबंधित मामले
3. बैंक सर्टिफिकेट केस	10. वजन विभाग से संबंधित मामले
4. वैवाहिक पारिवारिक मामले	11. माप तौल विभाग से संबंधित मामले
5. श्रम संबंधित मामले	12. चेक बाउन्स से संबंधित मामले
6. भू-अधिग्रहण से संबंधित मामले	13. विवाद पूर्व निस्तरण योग्य मामले
7. राजस्व संबंधित मामले	14. अन्य सुलहनीय मामले

अतः सामान्य जनता एवं समस्त वादकारीगण एवं संबंधित पक्षकारों से अनुरोध है कि वे अपने उपरोक्त वर्णित मामलों से संबंधित वादों को उक्त राष्ट्रीय लोक अदालत में निष्पादित करा कर लाभ उठावें तथा इसे सफल बनायें।

(प्रशांत आनंद) (जिज्ञान कर्मर) (विष्णु कान्त सहाय)
पुलिस अधीक्षक-सह-सदस्य उपायुक्त-सह-उपायुक्त, प्रधान जिला एवं सत्र न्यायाधीश-जिला विधिक सेवा प्राधिकार, जिला विधिक सेवा प्राधिकार सह-अध्यक्ष, जिला विधिक सेवा प्राधिकार, लातेहार। लातेहार। लातेहार।

नोट:- उक्त राष्ट्रीय लोक अदालत के संबंध में किसी भी प्रकार की विस्तृत जानकारी हेतु आप किसी भी कार्य दिवस को 11.00 बजे पूर्वानु से 04.30 बजे अपराह्न तक लातेहार, व्यवहार न्यायालय परिसर में स्थित जिला विधिक सेवा प्राधिकार, लातेहार के कार्यालय में उपस्थित होकर या जिला विधिक सेवा प्राधिकार (कार्यालय दरनाथ सं-06565-247306) से सम्पर्क कर सकते हैं।

निवेदक (कमला कुमारी) सचिव, जिला विधिक सेवा प्राधिकार, लातेहार।
P.R.216191 Law(19-20):D जिससे अब तक ना समझे, वो कहानी है मैं, मुझे बर्बाद मत करो पानी है मैं।

जिला निर्वाचन पदाधिकारी-सह-उपायुक्त का कार्यालय, लोहरदगा (जिला निर्वाचन)

सविदा के आधार पर कम्प्यूटर आपरैटर चयन हेतु विज्ञापन (विज्ञापन संख्या : 01/2019)

मुख्य निर्वाचन पदाधिकारी, झारखण्ड राँची के ज्ञापांक 682, दिनांक 29.04.2013 एवं पत्रांक 904, दिनांक 12.05.2016 के आलोक में निर्वाचन कार्य के सफलतापूर्वक एवं त्वरित निष्पादन के लिए आरक्षण रोस्टर के तहत जिला निर्वाचन पदाधिकारी/निर्वाचन निबंधन पदाधिकारी एवं सहायक निर्वाचन निबंधन पदाधिकारी के कार्यालयों में पदों के विरुद्ध सविदा पर कम्प्यूटर आपरैटर की चयन हेतु योग्य इच्छुक उम्मीदवारों से विहित प्रपत्र में आवेदन पत्र दिनांक 20.09.2019 के 5:00 बजे अपराह्न तक आमंत्रित की जाती है।

क्र0	पद का नाम	कुल पद	सामान्य	आरक्षण स्थिति	अनुसूचित जाति	अनुसूचित जाति
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
01	कम्प्यूटर ऑपरेटर	05	02	03	00	00

• अनिवार्य योग्यता :- (क) मान्यताप्राप्त संस्थान से न्यूनतम स्नातक (ख) मान्यताप्राप्त संस्थान से कम्प्यूटर में एक वर्ष का डिप्लोमा (ग) कर्मिक, प्रशासनिक सुधार तथा राजभाषा विभाग, झारखण्ड, राँची।

के संकल्प संख्या 2096 दिनांक 25.04.2011 के अनुसार दिनांक 01.01.2019 को न्यूनतम 18 वर्ष एवं अधिकतम उम्र कोटिदार निम्न प्रकार होगी :-

- सामान्य वर्ग (अनारक्षित) :- 35 वर्ष
- अधिष्ठाक/डिप्लोमा :- 37 वर्ष
- अनुसूचित जाति एवं अनुसूचित जनजाति :- 40 वर्ष
- महिला (सामान्य एवं अधिष्ठाक) :- 38 वर्ष

➤ सविदा पर चयन प्रक्रिया -

1. कम्प्यूटर ऑपरेटर का पद अस्थायी है। मतिथ में किसी प्रकार के स्थायीकरण की मांग स्वीकार नहीं की जायेगी।
2. जिला निर्वाचन पदाधिकारी-सह-उपायुक्त, लोहरदगा द्वारा गठित जिला स्तरीय चयन समिति द्वारा चयन की जायेगी।
3. MS OFFICE की पूर्ण जानकारी/शैक्षणिक योग्यता/कम्प्यूटर योग्यता/निर्वाचन से संबंधित सॉफ्टवेयर की जानकारी/कम्प्यूटर टेस्ट (हिन्दी एवं अंग्रेजी भाषाओं) के अंको के कुल प्राप्तांकों पर आधारित होगा।
4. जांच-परीक्षा-सामान्य ज्ञान एवं Election works related questions.
5. आवेदन पत्र निबंधित ढाक द्वारा जिला निर्वाचन पदाधिकारी-सह-उपायुक्त, लोहरदगा के पदनाम से बंद लिफाफे में लिखित तिथि तक जिला निर्वाचन शाखा, लोहरदगा में प्राप्त किया जायेगा।
6. पूर्ण एवं सही-सही भरे आवेदन पत्र के आलोक में जांच परीक्षा के लिए सूची तैयार की जायेगी।
7. चयन एक वर्ष के लिए की जायेगी। कार्य सौंपे जाने पर अगले वर्ष के लिए चयन का नवीकरण किया जायेगा।
8. मुख्य निर्वाचन पदाधिकारी, झारखण्ड राँची द्वारा निर्धारित दर पर मानदेय भुगतान किया जायेगा।
9. अनुभव प्रमाण-पत्र वाले कम्प्यूटर आपरैटर को प्राथमिकता दी जायेगी।
10. आवेदन पत्र के जांचोपरांत योग्य उम्मीदवारों की सूची का प्रकाशन जिला के वेबसाईट www.Lohardaga.nic.in पर किया जायेगा। जांच परीक्षा में भाग लेने के लिए अपना स्नातक परीक्षा का मूल प्रमाण-पत्र, पदचान पत्र (आधार) तथा दो रंगीन पासपोर्ट साईज फोटो लाना अनिवार्य है। विज्ञापन से संबंधित सभी सूचनाएँ जिले के अधीक्षक वेबसाईट पर प्रकाशित की जायेगी।
11. अर्थव्ययों को Walk-in Interview हेतु आने-जाने का यात्रा भत्ता देय नहीं होगा।
12. उपयुक्त सभी शर्तों को कार्यविहित में स्थित/रख/संशोधन करने का अधिकार जिला निर्वाचन पदाधिकारी-सह-उपायुक्त, लोहरदगा को सुरक्षित होगा।

जिला निर्वाचन पदाधिकारी-सह-उपायुक्त, लोहरदगा।
PR 216167 Lohardaga (19-20)_D जिससे अब तक ना समझे, वो कहानी है मैं, मुझे बर्बाद मत करो पानी है मैं।

कार्यालय:
धनबाद नगर निगम

अति अल्पकालीन निविदा सूचना

सर्वसाधारण को सूचित किया जाता है कि धनबाद नगर निगम क्षेत्रांतर्गत राजेन्द्र सरोवर बेकारबांध धनबाद में निगम सवामित्त्व की नव निर्मित 04 दुकानों की बन्दोबस्ती प्रक्रिया 05 वर्षों के लिए दिनांक 21.09.2019 को खुली निलामी बन्दोबस्ती प्रक्रिया के द्वारा सम्पन्न की जानी है।

क्र. सं0	दुकानों का स्थल	दुकान का आकार	जमानत राशि	प्रति माह / प्रति वर्ग फीट दर
1	STP के पास स्थित दुकान (संख्या-03) (Food Kiosk A)	154 Sq/Ft (कुल03 दुकानों का)	05 (पाँच लाख रुपये मात्र)	30 रु0/प्रति वर्गफिट
2	स्टेडियम के अन्दर स्थित 03 दुकान	121 Sq/Ft	1.5 (एक लाख पचास हजार रुपये) मात्र प्रति दुकान	15रु0/प्रति वर्गफिट

जमानत की राशि का बैंक ड्राफ्ट धनबाद नगर निगम के नाम से जमा करना होगा। निविदा आमंत्रण निम्न प्रकार से किया जाता है:-

दुकान संख्या	निविदा प्राप्त करने की तिथि	निविदा निष्पादन की तिथि
STP के पास स्थित दुकान-(Food Kiosk A)	दिनांक 06.09.2019 अपराह्न 05:00 बजे तक	दिनांक 21.09.2019 अपराह्न 2:00 बजे
स्टेडियम के अन्दर स्थित 03 दुकान-3A, 2 B, 3 B	दिनांक 06.09.2019 अपराह्न 5:00 बजे तक	दिनांक 21.09.2019 अपराह्न 02:00 बजे

नोट :- आवेदन पत्र दिनांक 06.09.2019 से 20.09.2019 तक किसी भी कार्य दिवस को निगम कार्यालय में 5:00/- रु0 जमा कर प्राप्त किया जा सकता है।

बन्दोबस्ती की नियम एवं शर्तें निगम वेबसाईट www.udhd.jharkhand.gov.in पर एवं कार्यालय नोटिस बोर्ड पर प्रदर्शित है। अधिक जानकारी के लिये किसी भी कार्य दिवस में धनबाद नगर निगम में सम्पर्क किया जा सकता है।

P.R.216231 Urban Development(19-20)-D नगर आयुक्त धनबाद जिससे अब तक ना समझे, वो कहानी है मैं, मुझे बर्बाद मत करो पानी है मैं।

कार्यालय अभियंता का कार्यालय
ग्रामीण विकास विभाग (ग्रामीण कार्य मामले), कार्य प्रमंडल, धनबाद

प्रथम तल, मिश्रित कार्यालय भवन परिसर

ई- अति अल्पकालीन आमंत्रण सूचना

ई-निविदा संख्या:- 03/2019-20/RDD (RWA)/EE / DHANBAD दिनांक - 04-09-2019

1. कार्य का नाम : रायच संपोषित योजना के अन्तर्गत

क्रम सं0	आइडेंटिफिकेशन संख्या/पैकेज संख्या	कार्य का नाम	प्राकल्पित राशि (लाख में)	अग्रिम की राशि (लाख में)	परिमाण विवरण की राशि (रु0 में)	कार्य समाप्ति की तिथि	टेण्डर कोल नम्बर
1	Dhanbad/05/RDD (RWA)	मैथन पोस्ट ऑफिस से महालाहीह भाया तेलुल्हदा पथ का मजबूतीकरण कार्य (लम्बाई 3.80 कि0मी0)	97.962	1.96	10000.00	9 month	प्रथम
2	Dhanbad/06/RDD (RWA)	कुमारदुही मोड़ से जामकुंदर बस्ती तक पथ का मजबूतीकरण कार्य (लम्बाई 2.90 कि0मी0)	94.439	1.89	10000.00	9 month	प्रथम
3	Dhanbad/07/RDD (RWA)	गल्फइन्डारी मोड़ से सियालकनारी रेलवे फाटक तक पथ का मजबूतीकरण कार्य (लम्बाई 1.50 कि0मी0)	35.449	0.71	5000.00	6 month	प्रथम
4	Dhanbad/08/RDD (RWA)	सासनबेरीया मोड़ से जामकुंदर तक पथ का मजबूतीकरण कार्य (लम्बाई 2.05 कि0मी0)	48.127	0.96	5000.00	6 month	प्रथम
5	Dhanbad/09/RDD (RWA)	एनएच0 2 से अलगदुहीह तक पथ का मजबूतीकरण कार्य (लम्बाई 1.04 कि0मी0)	34.119	0.685	5000.00	6 month	प्रथम
6	Dhanbad/10/RDD (RWA)	सियालकनारी पंचायत भवन से नगर निगम तक पथ का मजबूतीकरण कार्य (लम्बाई 1.32 कि0मी0)	41.759	0.84	5000.00	6 month	प्रथम

2. वेबसाईट में निविदा प्रकाशन की तिथि:- 18.09.2019
3. ई-निविदा प्राप्ति की अंतिम तिथि एवं समय :- 26.09.2019 अपराह्न 5.00 बजे
4. जिला नियंत्रण कक्ष / सहाय धाना परिसर, धनबाद में निविदा शुल्क, अग्रिम की राशि, शपथ पत्र के मूल प्रति एवं अपलोड किये गये तकनीकी योजना दस्तावेज की एक प्रति जमा करने की तिथि एवं समय 27.09.2019 अपराह्न 3.30 बजे तक
5. निविदा खोलने की तिथि एवं समय 28.09.2019 पूर्वानु 11.30 बजे
6. निविदा आमंत्रित करने वाले पदाधिकारी का नाम एवं पता:- कार्यालय अभियंता ग्रामीण विकास विभाग (ग्रामीण कार्य मामले), कार्य प्रमंडल, धनबाद, प्रथम तल, मिश्रित कार्यालय भवन परिसर, धनबाद
7. ई-निविदा प्रक्रिया का दृष्टांक सं0- 0326-2313168
8. निविदा शुल्क भारतीय स्टेट बैंक द्वारा निर्गत बैंक ड्राफ्ट के रूप में कार्यालय अभियंता, ग्रामीण विकास विभाग (ग्रामीण कार्य मामले) कार्य प्रमंडल, धनबाद (Executive Engineer, RDD (RWA) Works Division Dhanbad, Payable at SBI Hirapur Dhanbad) के पक्ष में भुगतान होगा जो लौटाया नहीं जायेगा।
9. निविदादाता को UCAN Registration (New Site) की फोटोकॉपी Upload करना अनिवार्य है।
10. Form of Bid एवं Bill of Quantity में दर निम्न रहने पर संबंधित निविदादाता का निविदा अमान्य समझा जायेगा।
11. प्राकल्पित राशि घट-बढ़ सकती है।

विस्तृत जानकारी के लिए वेबसाईट <https://jharkhandtenders.gov.in> में देखा जा सकता है।

ई-निविदा प्रक्रिया के लिए वेबसाईट <https://jharkhandtenders.gov.in> में देखा जा सकता है।

ई-निविदा प्रक्रिया के लिए वेबसाईट <https://jharkhandtenders.gov.in> में देखा जा सकता है।

कार्यालय अभियंता ग्रामीण विकास विभाग (ग्रामीण कार्य मामले) कार्य प्रमंडल, धनबाद।
P.R.216177 Rural Work Department(19-20)-D जिससे अब तक ना समझे, वो कहानी है मैं, मुझे बर्बाद मत करो पानी है मैं।

झारखण्ड सरकार
श्रम, नियोजन एवं प्रशिक्षण विभाग
जिला नियोजन, लोहरदगा

मेगा ईम्प्लॉयमेंट डेपेंडेंसी योजना अन्तर्गत रोजगार मेला- 2019

जिले के बेरोजगार युवक/युवतियों को निजी क्षेत्र में नियोजन के अवसर उपलब्ध कराने के उद्देश्य से दिनांक 07.09.2019 को लोहरदगा में मेगा ईम्प्लॉयमेंट-दोपहरी डेपेंडेंसी रोजगार मेला अन्तर्गत समाहरणालय मैदान, लोहरदगा, समय 10:30 बजे पूर्वानु से किया जाना है, जिसमें निम्नलिखित निजी क्षेत्र के प्रतिष्ठानों में उपस्थित रहने की सहमति जताई है:-

Sl. No	Name of the Employer & Address	Name of the Post	No. of Vacancy	Qualification Required	Age	Experience	Remarks (Pay Scale)
1	G4S Secure Solution India Pvt. Ltd. Gunanakh Tower, Hamirgha Bagas, 2nd floor, New Kallimati Road, Sakchi, Jamshedpur 831001.	Security Guard	50	10 th	18-35		7500-11000-Height 168 cm
2	NYSAA Retail Pvt. Ltd. (Indiafamilymart) Mission Chowk, Lohardaga.	Cashier	02	10 th /2/ Desirable Graduate	25 & Above	0-2 Yrs	6784/-
3	Sunati Enterprises Near Block Office, Lohardaga.	Manager	07	B.A	18-40		10000-15000-
4	Shri Technologies Lohardaga, Patel Nagar, Opp: Mhanka Cinema Hall, Lohardaga.	Inventory Clerk (Logistic)	150	12 th	18-35		7500-9000/- (After completion of 02/03 months training programme.)
5	Pipal Tree Ventures Pvt. Ltd., Mission Chowk, Lohardaga.	Construction	240	10 th	18-35		7500-9000/- (After completion of 02/03 months training programme.)
6	IL&FS Skill Development Corporation Ltd., Near Soman Bazar, New Road, Lohardaga.	Sewing Machine Operator	150	5 th Pass	18-35	Fresher	7000-10000/- (After completion of 2-3 months training)
7	Orient Craft Fashion Institute of Technology Pvt. Ltd., Sindgega.	Customer Care Associate	90	12 th	18-35	Fresher	7000-10000/- (After completion of 2-3 months training)
8	IL&FS Skill Lohardaga, Baksidipa, M.S. Complex Near mitra Petrol Pump, Lohardaga.	Electrician	120	10 th	18-35	Fresher	7000-10000/- (After completion of 2-3 months training)
9	CMC Mitcon Mega Skill Pvt. Ltd., Ranchi, Jharkhand.	IT Trainer	01	B.C.A/M.C.A	18-35	01 year	12000-15000/- (After completion of 2-3 months training)

हर घर पोषण त्योहार
1 से 30 सितंबर, 2019

हमारा संकल्प : कुपोषण मुक्त झारखण्ड

नवजात शिशुओं को जन्म के तुरंत बाद ही स्तनपान कराएं

पंचायत प्रतिनिधि, ग्रामीण स्तर पर सभी कार्यकर्ता/संस्थाएं एकजुट होकर कुपोषण मुक्त, स्वस्थ और मजबूत झारखण्ड का निर्माण करें

महिला एवं बाल विकास विभाग, झारखण्ड सरकार

10 YEARS CHALLENGE Nadal into last 4

Andreescu becomes first teenager in a decade to reach Flushing Meadows semis

AFP ■ NEW YORK

Canadian Bianca Andreescu became the first teen US Open semi-finalist in a decade, rallying to defeat Belgium's Elise Mertens on Wednesday and advance to a last-four matchup with Belinda Bencic.

Andreescu, a 19-year-old from suburban Toronto, downed 25th seed Mertens 3-6, 6-2, 6-3 to book a Thursday clash against fellow Slam semi-final debutante Bencic, the Swiss 13th seed who beat Croatian 23rd seed Donna Vekic 7-6 (7/5), 6-3.



hit 40 winners to 22 for Mertens. Mertens broke for a 3-1 edge when Andreescu missed a backhand volley then held twice to claim the first set in 38 minutes.

"I was getting irritated because I wasn't playing my best tennis," said Andreescu.

Andreescu broke at love for a 4-2 lead and closed the second set by taking 16 of the last 20 points.

In the third, Andreescu smashed a backhand winner to break for a 5-3 lead and another on match point.

"I'm honestly speechless," Andreescu said. "I need someone to pinch me right now. Is this real life?"

Serena Williams, seeking her 24th Grand Slam singles title to match Margaret Court's all-time record, faces Ukraine's fifth-seeded Elina Svitolina in Thursday's other semi.

Either Bencic or Andreescu, who have never played each other, will reach her first Slam final on Saturday at Arthur Ashe Stadium, where first-time Slam winners have been crowned three of the past four years.

"Semi-final feels great right now," Bencic said. "I was dreaming about this day coming but you never know. I worked hard for this. Yeah, very nice feeling."

Andreescu, a winner this year at Indian Wells and Toronto, is the first teen in the US Open's last four since Caroline Wozniacki in 2009.

She credited being tested in her wins with giving her the poise

to battle back after dropping the first set against a foe who had not dropped a set in the tournament.

"I think it's just the experience from playing these huge events this past year," she said. "All that experience is just catching up."

Andreescu could become the first teen to win a Grand Slam title since Maria Sharapova captured the 2006 US Open and she would

be the youngest US Open champion since Russia's Svetlana Kuznetsova in 2004.

"This is honestly so crazy," said 15th seed Andreescu. "A year ago I was in the qualifying round. I remember I was suffering from a back injury."

Mertens had lost only 16 games in four matches, but Andreescu, her first seeded foe,

CALM IN BIG MOMENTS

Bencic knocked out top-ranked defending champion Naomi Osaka in the fourth round, assuring the Japanese star will be replaced atop the rankings on Monday by French Open champion Ashleigh Barty of Australia.

Bencic, who reached the 2014 US Open quarter-finals, ensured

a return to the world rankings top-10 for the first time since June 2016 with the victory.

She sank as low as 328th after numerous injuries and 2017 left wrist surgery but the 22-year-old Swiss began the year 55th and has climbed from there, thanks in part to her third career WTA title in February at Dubai.

"Through the tough times it helped me to see a little different way the tennis when you can't always play," Bencic said. "For me this perspective changed and I'm enjoying so much the tennis now."

Bencic went on a 5-1 tie-break run to seize a 6-3 edge and took the first set after an hour when Vekic swatted a forehand beyond the baseline.

"I stayed calm in the important moments," Bencic said.

"She was just playing better tennis," Vekic said. "I felt like I couldn't get three good points together. I didn't really have a lot of rhythm out there."

AFP ■ NEW YORK

Rafael Nadal will play Italy's Matteo Berrettini in the US Open semi-finals after the 18-time Grand Slam champion defeated Argentine 20th seed Diego Schwartzman 6-4, 7-5, 6-2.



Second seed Nadal — a winner at Flushing Meadows in 2010, 2013 and 2017 — beat a spirited Schwartzman for the eighth time in as many meetings in a nearly three-hour match that finished early on Thursday morning.

Schwartzman put up firm resistance against Nadal and twice fought back from double-break deficits in the first two sets, but the Spaniard found another gear at crucial moments to secure an eighth semi-final berth in New York.

"Straight sets but big challenges especially after the first two sets, having 4-0 and 5-1 and losing both breaks in a row, but I know how good he is when he's confident," Nadal said.

"I'm so happy how I accepted the situation and challenge and kept going, point after point. Here I am in the semi-finals. I'm super happy, it means everything."

He is the only former major champion left in the men's field following the elimination of Roger Federer and Novak Djokovic, leaving him as the clear frontrunner in his pursuit of a 19th major title.

Schwartzman, who stands a mere 5ft 7in (1.70m), was bidding to become the shortest Grand Slam semi-finalist since 5-foot-6 Harold Solomon at Roland Garros in 1980.

"He's like a lion in the middle of the jungle. He's a fighter," Schwartzman said of Nadal.

"He knows how to play the important moments every single time. I played eight times, and every important moment he played better than me."

'GREAT FIGHT'

Berrettini, the 24th seed, became the first Italian man to reach the US Open semi-finals in 42 years.

He matched Corrado Barazzutti's run to the last four in 1977 after outlasting 13th-seeded Frenchman Gael Monfils 3-6, 6-3, 6-2, 3-6, 7-6 (7/5) in three hours and 57 minutes.



Rahmat smashes historic ton

AFP ■ CHITTAGONG

Batsman Rahmat Shah on Thursday became the first Afghanistan cricketer to score a Test century, helping the minnows start strongly against Bangladesh on the opening day of the one-off match.

Shah made 102 and put on a crucial 120-run fourth-wicket stand with Asghar Afghan, batting on 88, to counter the Bangladesh spin attack at the Zahur Ahmed Chowdhury Stadium in Chittagong.

Afghanistan were 271 for five at stumps with Afghan and Afsar Zazai, on 35, putting together a 74-run partnership in the final session of play.

But it was Shah and Afghan who ensured that Afghanistan fought their way back in to the contest after being in trouble at 77 for three at lunch.

Tajjul Islam and Nayeem Hasan took two wickets each to hurt Afghanistan after the tourists elected to bat first in just their third five-day game.

The top-order batsman, Shah extended his prolific run of form as he reached his hundred with a boundary off Hasan, raising his bat to a standing ovation from the crowd and the dressing room.

His celebration though was shortlived as Hasan got the batsman, who hit 10 fours and two sixes in his 187-ball knock, out on the next ball.

Hasan struck again with his off spin three balls later in the same over, rattling the stumps of Mohammad Nabi for nought as Afghanistan slipped to 197 for five.

Afghan, who survived a reprieve on 42 after being given lbw out off Mehidy Hasan, struck three fours and two sixes so far in his second Test fifty.

Bangladesh fielded an all-spin attack without picking a single pace bowler while Afghanistan handed a Test debut to Ibrahim, Qais Ahmed and Zahir Khan.

Afghanistan skipper Rashid became the youngest ever Test captain at the age of 20 years 350 days with the toss, overtaking the record of Zimbabwe's Tatenda Taibu.

Prepared for the worst: De Kock

PTI ■ PRETORIA

South Africa batsman Quinton de Kock doesn't want his team to lose sleep over an expected spin threat but warned the players to "prepare for the worst" during their tour of India this month.

The Proteas will begin their tour with a three-match T20I series, the first of which will be held at Dharamsala on September 15.

It will be followed by a three-Test series beginning with the first game at Visakhapatnam on October 2.

"From our side, what we are going to do is to make sure that we prepare for the worst," said De Kock, who will be leading the T20 side in the absence of Faf du Plessis.

"To be honest, I don't know what we are going to get. In T20s I don't think it will spin that much because in the IPL they prepare pretty good wickets."

"But Test matches are a dif-



Quinton de Kock trains during SA training session. CSA

ferent story and it could end up turning on day one. It is more of a mental thing and not being caught up too much on whether it is spinning or not, that is what it boils down to."

Questions were raised regarding the quality of surfaces after South Africa lost 0-3 in the Test series in their last tour of India four years ago. The Tests at Mohali and Nagpur didn't last five days with the South Africa batsmen falling prey to the Indian spinners. In fact, the Nagpur pitch had received 'poor' rating from the ICC.

"The last time we were there, guys didn't really expect those type of surfaces but this time around we will have a little bit of head start about that," De Kock said.

"We will keep our eyes open and make sure that we are a little bit better than last time. I am not sure if they are going to prepare similar or better wickets than the last time we were there."

Rabada counting on past experience

PTI ■ PRETORIA

South Africa pacer Kagiso Rabada says his team will look to use the past experience of playing in the sub-continent when they take on India in the upcoming tour beginning September 15.

The Proteas are scheduled to play three T20s and as many Tests against India.

"You need to figure out what you need to do to give the team a better chance to win — that is what I try to focus on. When you have played there before, you will have an idea of what to do in certain tough situations," he said at South Africa's training camp here on Wednesday.

South Africa had won the T20 and ODI series but lost the Tests during their last tour of India.

"The previous tour we were successful because we won the T20 and ODI series but the



Test series was a bit of a shambles because those wickets were just terrible," Rabada said.

"If I could give an example, the first Test match it was 200 v 200 in first innings. If we batted first, it was going to be a different ball game because we ended up having to chase the game. We lost 3-0 and we were truly hammered."

Asked how they will approach spin bowling during the tour, Rabada said: "On our recent tour to Sri Lanka, it was tricky conditions. There is a whole lot of talk about how to approach spin but we will see how it goes."

"What helps is that there are guys who have played there in the past and I guess what you can do is to use what worked and what did not work during the Sri Lanka tour to have a base."

"When you go there for the first time it's weird and you don't know what to do. If you look at how Faf (Du Plessis) batted in Sri Lanka, he got good starts, which showed that he had played there and knew the conditions."

India A taste defeat

PTI ■ THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

Opener Shikhar Dhawan was back amongst the runs with a brisk 52 off 43 balls but it wasn't enough to get India A over the line against South Africa A in a rain-hit unofficial fourth ODI, ending the visitors' losing streak on Thursday.

South Africa A pacemen Anrich Nortje and Marco Jansen shared three wickets each, triggering a middle-order collapse to help the team win the game by four runs via Duckworth-Lewis method.

The game, which was extended to a reserve day, resumed on Thursday afternoon after another delay to due to rain and wet outfield with India requiring 137 more runs in 17.2 overs to secure a fourth successive win, having already sealed the series.

One big positive from the game was Dhawan being back among the runs ahead of the T20 series against South Africa beginning on September 15.

India A were on course for victory when skipper Shreyas Iyer (26) and his

Mumbai teammate Shivam Dube (31) were in the middle.

However, their dismissal in the space of two balls by the pacy Nortje (3/36), began the India A slide as the host slipped to 178 for 9.

Dube, who carted three big sixes, was well caught by substitute Khaya Zondo in the deep off Nortje's bowling. Two balls later, the captain fell to a catch in the deep.

Local star Sanju Samson, from whom a lot was expected, fell to a superb catch by the 'keeper Sinethemba Qeshile off rookie Lutho Sipamla for 1.

Nitish Rana and M S Washington Sundar fell while going for big shots and it was left to Rahul Chahar to try and pull off a win in the company of No 11 Ishan Porel.

He tried his best, hitting a six and a four, but couldn't take the team past the line as Beuran Hendricks didn't allow him to score off the final delivery.

India A lead the five-match ODI series 3-1. The final unofficial ODI will be played today.

Abhimanyu puts India Red in command

PTI ■ BENGALURU

Bengal opener Abhimanyu Easwaran (102 batting) struck a superb ton to put India Red in a strong position on day two of the Duleep Trophy final against India Green on Thursday.

India Red were 175 for 2 in 52 overs at close of play in reply to India Green's 231 all out in 72.1 overs at the M Chinnaswamy stadium.

Stylish right-hander Abhimanyu hit 11 fours and two sixes in his knock, which set the platform for India Red to take control of the proceedings.

Abhimanyu was involved in an 87-run opening partnership with captain Priyank Panchal (33), during which the two played some beautiful shots.

India Red are trailing India Green by 56 runs with eight first innings wicket intact.

Earlier, leggie Mayank Markande came to India Green's rescue with the bat with a gutsy knock of 76 not out (121 balls). His 59-run last wicket partnership with Ankit Rajput (30 off 39 balls) took India Green to a decent total.

Linde replaces Smuts for T20s

PTI ■ JOHANNESBURG

Uncapped left-arm spinner George Linde was on Thursday named as replacement for all-rounder Jon-Jon Trevor Smuts in South Africa's squad for the three-match T20 International series against India, starting September 15.

Linde, who is currently playing in India in the unofficial ODI series against India A, was drafted in after Smuts was pulled out of the squad for "failing to meet the required fitness standards", a Cricket South Africa (CSA) release said.

The 27-year-old from Cape Town scored a quickfire unbeaten 52 in the second game of the five-match series, and has snapped three wickets in as many matches so far.

Linde, who was part of the 15-member spin camp that practised in Bengaluru last month, has played 75 T20 matches so far, scoring 611 runs at a strike rate of 139.81. He also snapped 77 wickets at a strike rate of 19.3.

The rest of the squad is expected to depart for India today.