

OPINION 8
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Howdy, Modi echoes in Houston

Trump heaps praise on India, says under PM Modi world witnessing a strong country

PTI ■ HOUSTON

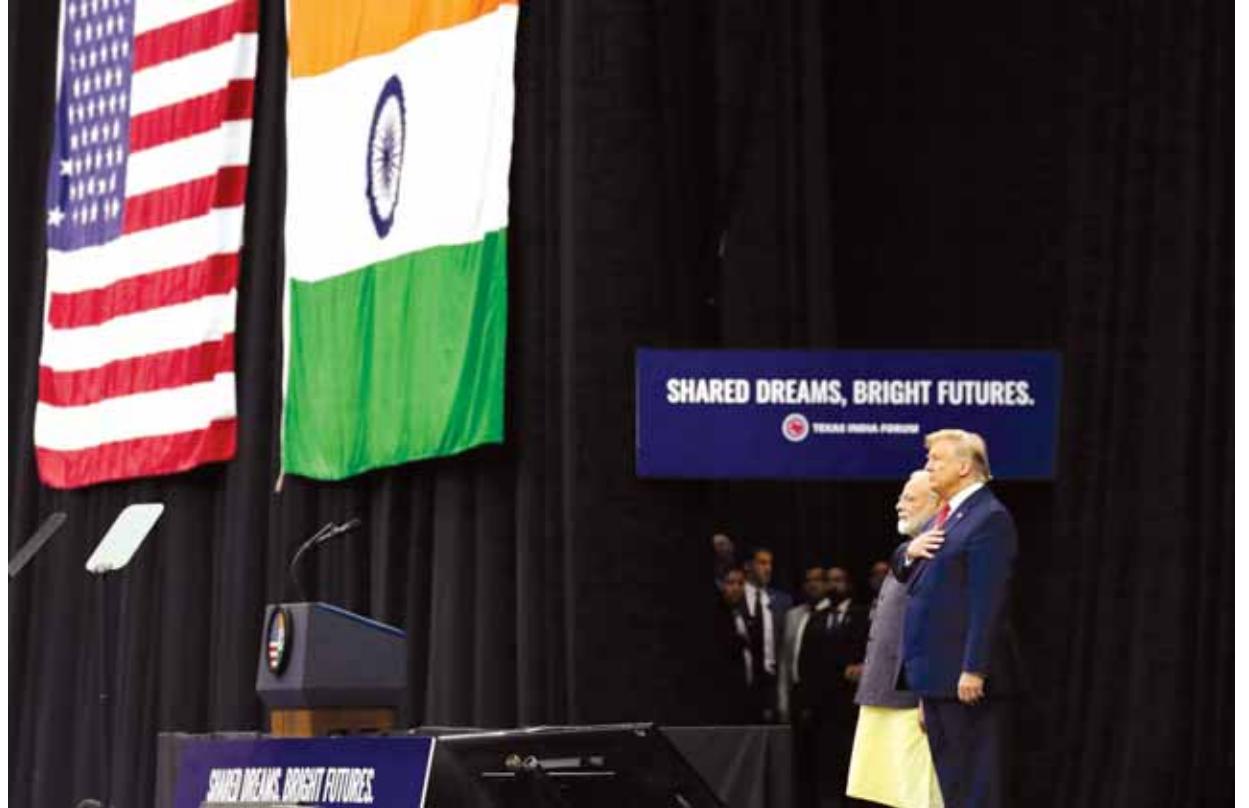
Prime Minister Narendra Modi was accorded a rousing welcome on Sunday when he arrived at the crowded NRG stadium on Sunday to address the Indian-American community with people chanting "Howdy, Modi."

Trump, who joined Modi as a "special gesture" by the US President to underscore the special bond between the two countries, said, "Modi is doing extraordinary job for India and under him the world is witnessing a strong India."

While addressing the Indian diaspora, Trump said, "I am happy to be here at the Houston event. We are celebrating everything that unites India and the US. The relationship between India and the US is stronger than ever before... We are strengthened by our love of liberty. The constitutions of both the countries begin with three beautiful words — We, the people."

It is for the first time that Trump and Modi shared a stage together and address a record crowd of 50,000 Indian-Americans.

Modi introduced Trump to Indian-American community; describes him as a "special person". Modi entered on the stage with folded hands. He



President Donald Trump stands on stage with Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi at NRG Stadium on Sunday

US Congress are also attending the event.

AP

Dallas-based Ashok Mago said 'Howdy, Modi' is an opportunity for the two leaders to showcase to the world the shared values and principles of the two largest democratic countries of the world.

Democrat Steny Hoyer welcomed Modi and invoked Mahatma Gandhi and former Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru in his speech. He said both Indians and Americans have the same purpose, growing the partnership between the two countries.

Earlier, Trump said he and his "friend" Modi will have a "good time" at the mega event.

"Look forward to being with our great India loving community!" he tweeted.

Responding to Trump's tweet, Mago said he was looking forward to meet the US leader in Houston. "It surely will be a great day! Looking forward to meeting you very soon @realDonaldTrump," Modi tweeted.

An eminent Indian

American, who has played a key role in strengthening India-US relationship, Mago was one four Indian-Americans who were invited by the White House to meet the president on his arrival at the Joint Reserve Base.

Organised by the non-profit Texas India Forum, the event, with the tagline 'Shared Dreams, Bright Futures,' will shine light on the tremendous contribution of Indo-Americans in United States and the strong and lasting partnership between the US and India. Ahead of Modi's address, Indian-American artists from Texas and elsewhere performed cultural programmes. Modi welcomed Trump and the two leaders embraced each other and walked together towards the stage.

"Today, there are no other leaders like Trump and Modi. For both of them the country comes first. Both of them are working for the people of the country," he said.

Earlier in the day, Modi had a "special interaction" with a 17-member delegation of Kashmiri Pandits here and assured them of "building a new Kashmir" which would be for everyone.

The delegation, which included Kashmiri Pandits from across the US, met Modi on his arrival in Houston as part of his week-long visit to the US.

"Kashmir mein nae hava bah rahee hai (New winds are blowing in Kashmir) and we will all build a new Kashmir together that will be for everyone," he told the delegation.

The Indian Government on August 5 revoked the special status given to Jammu and Kashmir and bifurcated it into two union territories. Modi also thanked the community for their patience for over 30 years. "I had a special interaction with Kashmiri Pandits in Houston," Modi later tweeted.

Earlier, MEA spokesperson Raveesh Kumar tweeted that the Kashmiri Pandits expressed support for the steps taken by the Indian Government for the progress of India.

CAPSULE

TWO NEWBORN GIRLS DROWNED BY PARENTS

Muzaffarnagar: Two newborn girls were drowned in a pond by their parents in an Uttar Pradesh village, with the father claiming that they killed the 20-day-old twins as they could not bear their expenses.



DON'T REPEAT MISTAKES, RAJNATH WARNS PAK

Patna: Warning Pakistan to not repeat the "mistakes of 1965 and 1971", Union Defence Minister Rajnath Singh on Sunday said the neighbouring country can get dismantled into various parts on account of flagrant human rights violations against Balochs and Pashtuns on its soil.

GREYHOUNDS OF AP POLICE KILL 3 MAOISTS

Amaravati: Elite Greyhounds of Andhra Pradesh Police on Sunday killed three members of the outlawed CPI (Maoist) in an encounter in Visakhapatnam district on the AP-Odisha border, police said.

70 IAS OFFICERS TRANSFERRED IN RAJ

Jaipur: The Rajasthan Government has transferred 70 IAS officers, including 10 district collectors, according to an official order.

DMK affidavit to EC puts CPM, CPI in tight spot

CPM affidavit doesn't mention DMK donation

J GOPIKRISHNA ■ NEW DELHI

The DMK's Lok Sabha election expenditure affidavit submitted to the Election Commission has put its alliance partners CPI(M) and CPI in a tight spot.

As per the affidavit submitted on September 20, the DMK has given ₹10 crore to CPI(M) and ₹15 crore to CPI which were allotted two seats each in Tamil Nadu by the major alliance partner DMK. Interestingly, this ₹10 crore donation from the DMK is not reflected in the CPI(M)'s affidavit to the Election Commission.

The CPI(M) had submitted the first expenditure affidavit on July 10 and on September 13 the party claimed that its total election expenditure across India is around ₹7.2 crore in

their last affidavit. The CPI has not yet submitted their affidavit to the Election Commission.

According to the DMK's affidavit, it had given ₹10 crore to the CPI(M) through bank transfer in three installments on April 5, 8 and 9. The DMK transferred ₹15 crore to the CPI through bank in two installments on April 5 and 16. The DMK also gave ₹15 crore to one of their regional alliance partners Kongu Nadu Democratic Party, which was allotted one seat in Lok Sabha elections from the DMK-led alliance.

It is interesting to note that the DMK's self-declared total expenditure is ₹79.26 crore including the above mentioned total ₹40 crore donations to its alliance partners. The DMK won 22 seats in Tamil Nadu.

The CPI(M) in its expenditure affidavit showed around ₹82 lakh as receipts from Coimbatore and Madurai constituencies, while the DMK's affidavit claims they have given ₹10 crore.

Al-Qaeda terrorist arrested in Jamshedpur

Kalimuddin indoctrinated youths to join terror groups

SAURAV ROY ■ RANCHI



Al-Qaeda terrorist Maulana Kalimuddin Mujahiri, arrested by Anti-Terrorist Squad (ATS) from Azad Nagar in Jamshedpur district, being taken to a press conference at ATS office in Ranchi on Sunday

2016. He was wanted by the ATS since early 2016.

Superintendent of Police, ATS, A Vijaya Laxmi said that Kalimuddin's role in Al-Qaeda was to identify vulnerable youths who could be easily brainwashed and encourage them to take up arms for their

religion. "He identified such youths, indoctrinated them. He then sent them to foreign countries for training. As per our records, he has visited South Africa, Bangladesh and parts of Saudi Arabia several times," said Laxmi.

Continued on Page 4

Centre to release buffer stock to arrest onion price increase

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Prices of onion have once again gone up by around 50 per cent from ₹30-40 per kg to ₹50-80 per kg due to uneven distribution and supply in the wholesale markets across the country and floods in major supplying States such as Maharashtra, Karnataka and Madhya Pradesh.

Taking note of increasing onion prices, the NDA Government is mulling imposing stock limits on onion traders.

Onion prices are on the rise despite several measures taken by the Ministry of Food and Consumer Affairs to boost supply.

The onion supply is expected to improve in November when the new crop will come in the market. The Centre has a buffer stock of 56,000 tonnes of onion, of which 16,000 tonnes have been offloaded so far. In Delhi, 200 tonnes a day is being offloaded.



The trade data showed retail onion prices skyrocketing to ₹70-80 per kg towards the end of the last week from ₹50-60 per kg in the previous week.

At wholesale market of Lasalgaoan, onion prices rose to ₹45 per kg last week, when compared with less than ₹10/kg during the same period last year.

The retail onion prices in Delhi and National Capital Region (NCR) areas are Rs 50-80 per kg depending on the localities and quality. "Onion prices have almost doubled in the last 7 to 10 days.

Landlord beats widow to death on suspicion of theft; four held

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

3 Delhi shootouts in last 24 hours; 4 dongs arrested, 1 injured

Police, criminals exchange fire near Akshardham Metro Station

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI



Odisha seeks help from Assam, Kerala to save tuskers from killer virus as 4 die

PNS ■ BHUBANESWAR

With as many as four elephants having died at the Nandankanan Zoo in a span of a month after being infected by Endotheliotropic Herpes Virus (EEHV), a worried Odisha Government has sought assistance of experts of Assam and Kerala to fight the virus.

"The State Government has contacted experts in Assam and Kerala, where a similar virus killed several elephants in the past," said Forest and Environment Minister Bikram Kishari Arukha on Sunday.

Efforts are on to save the remaining jumbos, Arukha said. Out of these four elephants, three are adults. The EHV mostly affects elephants below 15 years of age. Since most of the elephants were

Das takes jibe at former CMs from Santhal ACCUSES THEM OF DISLOYALTY TOWARDS REGION

PNS ■ RANCHI

Chief Minister Raghubar Das on Sunday took a jibe at three former Chief Ministers of Jharkhand, accusing them of being disloyal to Santhal Pargana despite belonging to the region. On the fourth day of his Jan Ashirwad Yatra in Sahibganj, Das sought people's support in keeping such politicians away from power and bestowing their trust upon the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP).

"Santhal Pargana has given birth to three Chief Ministers of Jharkhand. It is disappointing that none of them worked for the betterment and development of the region. Instead, they only worked for their own development," said Das.

His indirect attack seemed evidently aimed at the Soren family, which produced two



Chief Minister Raghubar Das interacts with an elderly woman during his fourth day of the seven-day-long "Jan Ashirwad Yatra" at Sahibganj on Sunday. Dumka MP Sunil Soren and others were also present.

CMs — Jharkhand Mukti Morcha (JMM) chief Shibu Soren and his son Hemant Soren. Both of them won elec-

tions from Assembly constituencies in the Santhal Pargana region. Jharkhand's first Chief Minister and founder of Jharkhand, Vikas Morcha-Prajatantrik Babul Marandi is also originally from the Santhal region.

On Sunday, Das also urged the people of Santhal Pargana to bring an end to dynastic politics — a clear hint at the JMM, which has never given the Chief Minister's chair to anybody outside the Soren family whenever the party was voted to power.

"They took your votes and became crorepatis themselves. I urge the people of Santhal Pargana to bring an end to dynastic politics and vote for a stable Government that works with the agenda of development," said Das.

Dilly-dally between Das and former Chief Minister Hemant Soren has been evident in both the senior leaders' public rallies lately.

Continued on Page 4

Team Amitabh clean sweeps JSCA polls

MRITUANJAY KUMAR ■ RANCHI

Once again Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI), Acting Secretary, Amitabh Choudhary proved his dominance in Jharkhand State Cricket Association's (JSCA) election held on Sunday for a total of 15 posts in the committee. Candidates supported by Choudhary clean swept the election by winning all the 15 positions.

The remaining three of the 18 members will be appointed—two former players from player's association and one representative of the Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG), said JSCA officials on Sunday.

More than 90 per cent voters turned out at JSCA Stadium in the State Capital from across the State to cast their votes. As many as 670 voters cast their votes out of total 741 members. The polling started at 9 am and continued till 1 pm. The results were declared after 6 pm.

Just after announcement of the election results, talking to media, Choudhary said that it is a victory of good work done by him for the betterment of cricket in Jharkhand and those people got disposed who were



Team members of Nafis Akhtar Khan celebrate after the Jharkhand States Cricket Association (JSCA) elections results were declared at JSCA International Stadium Complex, Dhrurwa in Ranchi on Sunday.

Vinay Murmu | Pioneer

wanting to malign it. Dr Nafis Akhtar Khan is new president of JSCA and he defeated Former Rajya Sabha MP Ajay Maroo. Incumbent Vice President of JSCA, Ajay Nath Shahdeo was the only person in contest for the position of Vice President and was therefore the

undisputed winner for the post. According to documents shared by the JSCA Electoral Officer, Shiv Basant, JSCA committee member Sanjay Sahay and V Janki Ram were in fray for the position of Secretary in which Sahay defeated Ram. Besides, incum-

bent Treasurer Partha Sarthi Sen and former Assistant Secretary Randhir Biswas were the two candidates for the position of Treasurer in which Sen bagged the post.

As many as 10 members were competing amongst themselves for the position of

Secretary in which Sahay defeated Ram. Besides, incum-

five committee members in which Priyabrata Das, Rajesh Singh, Sanjay Pandey, Shrawan Jajodia and Sunil Kumar Singh got elected. Apart from this, five JSCA members were in fray for the position of four representatives of affiliated district cricket associations in which Chandeshwar Prasad Sinha, Gopal Krishna Sahay, Pravir Kumar Singh and Sanjay Kumar Singh got elected.

While talking to media persons, JSCA Vice president Shahdeo said that all credits of the victory goes to Amitabh Choudhary's past works and the new committee will work for the betterment of Cricket in Jharkhand.

However, this election had witnessed its share of controversies. In a letter dated September 4, JSCA member Awadhesh Kumar Singh had requested Electoral Officer of JSCA to ask Choudhary from influencing the election.

Singh requested that Choudhary's chamber of ICC Director at JSCA be closed until the election was over.

Choudhary, however, told the media that the letter was "laughable" as no law can forbid any person from talking to another person.

37 Muslims leave for Ajmer Shariff under MMTDY THANK CM FOR PILGRIMAGE SCHEME

PNS ■ DALTONGANJ

AN ELABORATE ARRANGEMENT WAS MADE TO SEND OFF AJMER SHARIF PILGRIMS

band Ajmullah Ansari of village Korwa under Pipra block were elated to be a part of the journey. "We are grateful to this Government of Raghubar Das that has given us such a big opportunity to travel to the great shrine of Khawaja Garib Nawaz in Ajmer Sharif with no expenses from our end," said Ansari.

The holy trip which begins on September 22 will conclude on September 27.

Arvind Kumar said that two junior engineers of minor irrigation department, M G Ansari and M S Ansari, are with these pilgrims as nodal officers to take care of them during the entire period of the pilgrimage.

In 2017 and 2018, two batches of pilgrims had travelled under the scheme for visiting Hindu temples.

The Deputy Commissioner said that officials had suggested pilgrimage to Christian community's well known church Bandel church in West Bengal but no BPL family showed interest.

added that the special train has two medical staff for addressing medical emergencies. The pilgrims are mostly from Manatu, Untari Road, Pipra, Chhaterpur, Naudeeha Bazar, Mohammadganj, Pandu and Panki blocks of Palamu.

An elaborate arrangement was made for the send off of these pilgrims here by the Palamu administration following order by Deputy Commissioner Shantanu Kumar Agrahari.

Quite surprisingly there were no registered pilgrims for this journey from the Sadar block, which is located right in the municipal corporation area of Daltonganj.

Zaibun Nisa and her hus-

We are indeed privileged to have with us Dr Vandana Siva, a well-known environmental activist, food sovereignty advocate, an active participant in global solidarity movement

ty and indigenous knowledge to increase agricultural productivity, nutrition and farmer's income. She has devoted her life to give life to earth and the poor who have been affected."

Prof. Madhukar Shukla, Chairperson of XLRI's Fr Arrupe Center for Ecology & Sustainability (FACES) said in his address, "FACES at XLRI was established with the mission to promote practices and policies, which will help create an environmentally, socially and economically sustainable and just society." The Oration is to commemorate the memory of Dr Verghese Kurien, since, needless to say, that there is no better model for sustainable development - both in terms of his life and legacy - than Dr Kurien. It is an honour to have Dr. Vandana Siva, a well-known environmental activist, food sovereignty advocate, and an active participant in the global solidarity movement known as the alter-globalisation movement. She has actively promoted biodiversi-



Speakers at sixth Verghese Kurien Memorial Oration

Three Bokaro sites to be tourist spots

PNS ■ BOKARO

With an aim to promote tourism and boost revenue generations, Garga Dam, Satanpur Hill and Bhandaridah in Bokaro district have been selected to be developed as tourist spots.

This decision was taken in the district level meeting of Tourism Promotion Committee headed by Bokaro Deputy Commissioner Mukesh Kumar.

These three selected sites will be inspected soon by a committee and after inspection, one of these three proposed tourists destinations will be developed immediately, said Kumar adding

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MMKAY changing lives of farmers in Jharkhand

CASH ASSISTANCE SCHEME COUPLED WITH PMKSN DOUBLE BONANZA FOR PEASANTS

PNS ■ RANCHI

In a bid to realise Prime Minister Narendra Modi's dream of doubling farmers' income in the country by the year 2022, the Raghubar Das Government in Jharkhand has launched several revolutionary schemes for the benefits of farmers. One such scheme -- Mukhya Mantri Krishi Ashirwad Yojana (MMKAY) - the brainchild of CM Raghubar Das was launched in August 2019—a move which aims to provide maximum benefits to more than 35 lakh farmers of the State.

Vice President of India M Venkaiah Naidu in the presence of Chief Minister Raghubar Das inaugurated the scheme at a function held in Ranchi on August 10. The scheme is for the financial uplift of farmers, providing them cash support for their basic needs of agriculture.

Under the first phase of the MMKAY scheme, ₹5,000 was disbursed to 13.60 lakh farmers for each acre of land with a maximum amount of ₹25,000.

The amount was directly transferred through Real Time Gross Settlement to the registered bank accounts on August 10. The process of registering remaining 22 lakh farmers is going on and the funds are expected to be transferred by

October this year.

As soon as the Vice President launched the scheme, money was transferred into the bank accounts of farmers, and some of the farmers displayed their mobile phones with the money transfer message to the Vice President.

The Vice President while inaugurating the scheme had said that he saw happiness on faces of the farmers, who showed message on their mobile phones. The Vice President also said that Centre has taken a pledge to double the income of farmers by 2022 and in this endeavour the Government is continuously increasing minimum support price (MSP) for 23 farm produce.

Under the Mukhya Mantri Krishi Ashirwad Yojana (MMKAY) a sum of ₹3000 crore will be spent on the scheme and for the first phase ₹800 crore will be spent in two parts and for the first part a sum of ₹400 crore has been sanctioned. MMKAY is additional to Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi (PMKSN).

Chief Minister Raghubar Das on several occasions has stated that the launch of MMKAY will act as double bonanza for farmers.

The Chief Minister said that around 35 lakh farmers will get benefits through cen-



Farmers work in farm fields in suburban Ranchi during Monsoon season.



Farmers work in farm fields in suburban Ranchi during Monsoon season.

PNS

tre schemes of PM Kisan Samman Nidhi and CM Krishi Ashirwad Yojana. The Centre will spend ₹2,000 crore, while the State will spend ₹3000 crore.

For doubling the income of farmers, the State Government has identified several sources of income growth namely, improvement in crop productivity; improvement in livestock productivity; resource use efficiency; resource use efficiency or savings in the cost of production; increase in the cropping intensity; diversification towards high value crops; improvement in real prices received by farmers; and shift from farm to non-farm occu-

pation. Farmers who have received the funds are happy with the scheme. Mahavir Mahto, one of the farmer from Hesag village at Lohardaga said, "I have received ₹11,000 for my agricultural land which is more than two acres. The fund was used for purchasing fertilizers." Lauding the efforts of Chief Minister Raghubar Das, Mahto further said, "The real task of any Government is welfare of its people. For the first time any Government has cared for farmers since the separate state was carved out in 2000."

Echoing the views of Mahto, another farmer Sukhlal

Oraon from Gargoan of Bero Block said, "The Raghubar Das Government for increasing the crop productivity has taken several schemes, MMKAY is one such scheme. We are happy that both the centre and state thinks for Annada." Experts claim that MMKAY will definitely help the farmers and increasing crop productivity in State as through the scheme farmers will don't have to depend upon moneylenders for buying seeds, fertilizers and agricultural tools.

Apart from MMKAY, Raghubar Das Government from the beginning had given attention to agriculture result-

ing in the agriculture growth. Jharkhand is the only state in the country that has achieved a 19 per cent growth in the agriculture sector in last four years. The increase in agricultural growth rate assumes importance as Jharkhand is prone to drought like situations. Lack of water for irrigation was accounted as the biggest reason behind poor or no crop yield.

In November 2018, the State government declared 18 out of its 24 districts as drought-affected. While 93 blocks were severely affected, 36 were told to be moderately drought-affected.

As Jharkhand is drought-hit State, agricultural experts claimed that MMKAY will great boost the confidence of farmers. Pankaj Vatsal, an agriculture expert and official from Birsa Agriculture University (BAU) Ranchi said, "As Jharkhand farmers depend upon monsoon for irrigation and due to its varied topography, farmers always looks for support. ₹5,000 per acre to farmers under MMKAY will boost the confidence of farmers.

The money can be used by the farmers as seed money by farmers for purchasing seeds, fertilizers and other items."

Vatsal claimed that recently BAU had carried out a survey that given the opportunity, around 80 per cent farmers will opt for other source of livelihood, but such scheme will encourage farmers as they will have a confidence that there is someone who cares for them.

Apart from this the State Government is also encouraging farmers for water conservation and in this connection, Chief Minister Raghubar Das launched a campaign to conserve and manage water on July 7 across the state. He himself participated at a Shramdan (volunteer participation) at a function held in Ranchi.

The money can be used by the farmers as seed money by farmers for purchasing seeds, fertilizers and other items."



State tribal youths showcase traditional food during the Tribal food Jatra at Sangam Garden at Morhabadi in Ranchi on Sunday

Vinay Murmu | Pioneer

Top JPCC office bearers cannot contest elections: INC

MRITUJAY KUMAR ■ RANCHI

The Indian National Congress (INC) on Sunday decided that top party office bearers will not be allowed to contest the elections. The office bearers interested in contesting elections will have to step down from their position, the party said.

The State Assembly Elections here is slated by the end of this year. The Jharkhand Pradesh Congress Committee (JPCC) recently appointed a new President and his five aides for leading the party in the polls. The INC high command held a meeting with JPCC President Rameshwar Oraon and the party State Coordinator, RPN

Singh in New Delhi on Sunday and issued the guidelines.

During the meeting, the party also decided that only one member of a family will be allowed to contest the election – an effort to end nepotism and disparity. Former JPCC Chief Ajoy Kumar had openly accused some senior party leaders of mounting pressure on the party leadership for giving election tickets to their family members. Kumar had stated that growing nepotism in the party was one of the reasons behind his resignation.

A senior party leader, who is among the few tribal legislators from the Congress party in Jharkhand, also said that the party's interest has taken a back



JPCC President Rameshwar Oraon

seat to internal rifts and personal propagandas here. "It is extremely disappointing to see that many senior leaders, including a few at the helm, are only concerned about their own political career. Some of these

leaders are practicing vindictive politics and have waged war against their own party members," he told The Pioneer last week.

Speaking to The Pioneer over phone from New Delhi, Oraon said that the party has started its poll preparation and the party workers are busy campaigning for the party in villages. The party will contest the election under the banner of 'Grand Alliance', he added.

Criticising the State Government, JPCC Chief said the Raghubar Das led State Government has done injustice with the people of the State by attempting to bring amendment in Chhotanagpur Tenancy Act and Santhal Paraganas Tenancy Act.

INBRIEF

MODERN INTERLOCKING SYSTEM AT RAMGARH STATION

Additional Divisional Railway Manager (Operations), MM Pandit on Sunday inaugurated modern interlocking system at Ramgarh railway station of Ranchi Rail Division. It was equipped with modern interlocking technique of operation before operation it was done by the old method in which the lever in the cabin was operated manually. The panel interlocking method makes the operation safer and easier than before.

JPCC TO ORGANISE GANDHI'S 150TH BIRTH ANNIV

Jharkhand Pradesh Congress Committee (JPCC) Chief, Rameshwar Oraon on Sunday announced name of district wise supervisor to ensure success of celebration of 150th birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi on October 2. JPCC spokesperson, Kishornath Shahdeo said that from October 3 to October 9, the birth anniversary will be celebrated by party at each district and block of the State.

ROCA ORGANISES DEALER'S MEET

Giving impetus to its aggressive expansion plans in country, Roca, India's leading manufacturer of bathroom products is planning to capture significant market share in Ranchi. Roca organised dealer's meet on Sunday to celebrate its success, announce new product launches and exciting initiatives to strengthen its market presence in Jharkhand region.

JCI CELEBRATES SUNDAY AS FUN DAY AT EXPO

The third day of the ongoing Expo Festival at Morabadi Maidan on Sunday, organised by Junior Chamber International, was celebrated as fun day. Thanks to the weekend fair witnessed an impressive footfall and at the same time every company gave huge discounts which were enjoyed by the visitors. A huge crowd was seen at every stall at Expo. The people of Ranchi are getting shopping and entertainment under same roof at expo, where different companies are offering huge discounts and at the same time there is arrangement for entertainment of visitors.

Pratul Shahdeo expresses happiness over ABVP's victory

PNS ■ RANCHI

Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) State Spokesperson Pratul Shahdeo expressed happiness over the thunderous victory of Akhil Bharatiya Vidyarthi Parishad (ABVP) representatives in the Ranchi University Students Union election on Sunday.

Mocking opposition parties, Shahdeo said that in the wave of the strong feeling of nationalism, the student organizations of other political parties have failed to stand any ground in the election.

Their scope for nominating candidates was limited. Even the combined opposition could not muster the courage to field a single candidate against the five ABVP candidates, he added. Lauding the



State Bharatiya Janata Party Spokesperson Pratul Shahdeo. PNS

NaMo Sena swings into action before polls

PNS ■ RANCHI

With an objective to create awareness about Prime Minister Narendra Modi's scheme ahead of year-end Assembly elections, the Namo Sena India is working in rural hinterland of State highlighting the benefits of centre's scheme. Namo Sena India—a social organisation named after Prime Minister Narendra Modi—aims at all-round development of the villages to help and manage all Government and Non-Government schemes like family planning, child and women empowerment among others.

The social organization is much active in tribal State Jharkhand due to vast population still unaware of various schemes of Modi Government. Jharkhand state president of Sena, Krishna Dev Singh said, "In Jharkhand vast population lives in rural hinterland. These people are educational and economically backward.

They are unaware of various schemes run by Centre and State." According to Singh, in many areas, people are availing the benefits of schemes, but they have little knowledge about who launched the scheme. The Sena's task is to inform people about all such schemes when it was launched and which government launched the scheme.

Citing an instance, Singh said, "At Porha toil village

under Karaundi block of Gumla district, majority of villagers from Oraon tribes were Congress supporters. The villagers used to avail all benefits of the centre and state schemes such as Ujjwala, toilets, housing, Ayushman and others, but were unaware about who launched the scheme. Before last parliamentary elections we visited the village and informed them about the schemes and the person launched, the result was that within a day all these people become BJP supporters thus playing an important role in BJP candidate Sudarshan Bhagat's victory."

Apart from creating awareness about Modi's scheme, the outfit also engages in philanthropic work. Namo Sena India president Rajesh Kumar Singh said, "On the occasion of 69th birthday of Prime Minister Narendra Modi on September 17, the Namo Sena carried out a blood donation camp through which 22 units of blood was collected.

Ten units were collected at Gumla while 12 units of blood were collected in Ranchi." Also the Namo Sena has encouraged many private doctors to render free medical service to poor patients. Dr Kumod Kumar, a medical practitioner in Lohardaga has decided to render free medical services to poor patients at his clinic.

Prashant Kumar, the national general secretary of Namo Sena said, "We also create awareness on social issue, as presently we are creating awareness on ban of single use plastic, water conservation and others."

The Namo Sena India founded by Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose grandnephew Somnath Bose in Kolkata in 2016 is spread across the country. Basically Namo Sena are swyamsevak of RSS having observed their honest working style & patriotism. In Jharkhand the Sena has more than 1000 members at different districts.

ROSHAN KUMAR ■ RANCHI

Ayushman Bharat Yojana—the ambitious healthcare scheme, touted as the world's largest scheme aimed to benefit more than 50 crore poor families in the country—has turned out to be Godsend scheme for Makhan Raut, a polio patient who underwent open heart surgery free of cost two months back.

As the country observes one year of successful launch of Ayushman Bharat scheme, Raut has a word of praise for Prime Minister Narendra Modi and the game-changer scheme.

Raut, a 32-year-old marginal farmer from Saur Patischa in Godda district underwent open heart surgery at Bhagwan Mahavir Medical Superspecialty Hospital



Dr. Kunal Hazari with patient Makhan Raut during an interview with The Pioneer at his residence in Ranchi on Sunday. Vinay Murmu | Pioneer

(BMMSSH) on July 25, 2019. Dr. Kunal Hazari, an eminent cardiac surgeon who is also the vice chairman of BMMSSH performed the open heart surgery. Around two years back, Raut complained of breathlessness and palpitation. Raut initially consulted doctors at Godda and Bhagalpur (Bihar).

The doctors informed him that he needed open heart surgery as he was suffering from last-stage valvular heart disease and was referred to Ranchi. Raut had two options for his surgery at State owned Rajendra Institute of Medical Science (RIMS) and at private Medica Superspecialty Hospital.

But getting operated at Medica Superspecialty Hospital was not an easy task for him as in private hospital

the operation cost around 2.5 lakh. Raut said, "As the cost for operation at private hospital was high, I was worried about the monetary aspect. At the same time my relatives informed me about the Ayushman Bharat Yojana.

I consulted the Medica hospital administration who informed me of getting the Ayushman Bharat Golden Card—the card through which any people living below poverty line (BPL) can avail the benefits." Dr Hazari helped me a lot as he not only guided me in getting the card but also motivated me a lot." On July 25, 2019 Dr Kunal Hazari and his team performed the operation and after two months he is fast recovering. Raut said, "Prime Minister Narendra Modi's free health scheme has given me a new life."

Dr Hazari, had done his MBBS and MS from Patna

Medical College and Hospital (PMCH) Patna. After working at Batra Hospital (Delhi) and BM Birla Heart Research Centre, Kolkata he went to Australia. However, in 2009 Dr Hazari came in touch with then Chief Minister Arjun Munda who pursued him to offer his medical expertise in Ranchi.

Dr Hazari said, "The then Chief Minister Arjun Munda asked me to lend my medical services to Ranchi. Munda jee despite being a politician has deep knowledge about medical science as he also encourages doctors about Ayushman Bharat scheme." Under the Ayushman Bharat in last one year, the government approved payment of Rs 7,500 crore as hospital bills for treating 47 lakh patients under the scheme.

Ayushman Yojana 'Godsend' scheme for poor farmer

Amit Shah blames former PM Nehru for POK

TN RAGHUNATHA ■ MUMBAI

Blaming late Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru for the creation of Pak-Occupied Kashmir (POK), Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Sunday exhorted voters of Maharashtra to "show the place" they deserved to political parties opposing the abrogation of Article 370 of the Constitution, in the State Assembly polls.

Launching the BJP's campaign for the Maharashtra Assembly polls at a party workers' rally held at Nesco ground at Goregaon in north Mumbai, Shah laid the blame for the creation of the POK at the door of the then Prime Minister Nehru. "Maharaj Hari Singh ceded Kashmir to India on October 26, 1947. On the following, Indian forces began to overthrow and capture areas under Kashmir. One fine day, Nehru declared ceasefire with Pakistan-supported forces. POK would not have come into

existence had Nehru not declared ceasefire at that time. It's because of Nehru's blunder, we have POK now," the BJP president said.

"Later on January 1, 1948 India approached the United Nations. Had India invoked charter 51 instead of charter 35, POK would have been part of India. But India invoked charter 35 which is meant for disputes. And the POK came to be declared as disputed territory," Shah said.

Charging that the Congress and its ally NCP were "shamelessly" opposing the abrogation of Article 370 of the Constitution, Shah said: "I have come here to appeal to see for yourself who is in favour of the annulment of Article 370 and who is against it. There are two major political formations in the fray."

One political formation owes its allegiance to Bharat Mata i.e., BJP and its allies, while the other formation --

Congress and NCP -- believes dynastic politics. The voters have to choose between these two political formations."

Making the abrogation of Article 370 main plank in the elections, Shah said: "As a leader and president of BJP, I have come to you with an appeal. Maharashtra is a land of Chhatrapati Shivaji. It was on this land that freedom struggle began. The fight against Moghuls started here. At the time when the elections are happening, the people of Maharashtra should decide and show the people they deserve to the political parties opposing the abrogation of Article 370 of the Constitution."

Taking a strong exception to Congress' former president Rahul Gandhi's statement that abrogation of Article 370 was a political issue, Shah said: "We have been fighting for this issue since the Jan Sangh days. Bharatiya Jan Sangh's first president Shyama Prasad



Home Minister Amit Shah speaks during a rally on the Centre's decision to abrogate Article 370 in Jammu & Kashmir and to campaign for next month's Maharashtra Assembly polls, in Mumbai on Sunday

three-fourth of majority in the Assembly polls, Shah said: "When I say that our victory is a foregone conclusion, I do so with some basis. I am saying this on the basis of the manner in which chief minister Devendra Fadnavis ran his government in Maharashtra, the Modi government performed at the Centre during the last five years. Through their mandate given in the recent Lok Sabha polls, the people have made public their intention that Devendra Fadnavis will become the chief minister once again in Maharashtra."

In some other part of his 30-minute speech, Shah heaped praise on Fadnavis and said: "Our Devendra Fadnavis has given a corruption-free government. Devendraji has given a development-oriented government. He has increased honour of Maharashtra. He has brought back Maharashtra to top position in the country."

In the field of education, he has brought the state to 3rd position from 17th position. In terms of investment, he has brought the state to second position in the country. The agriculture growth rate has also increased substantially. Even on the corruption elimination front, Devendra has done between the Congress and NCP".

Shah said that more than the performance of the Devendra Fadnavis government, the voters of the state had to choose between the forces that were with the government in its decision to abrogate Article 370 of the Constitution and those who opposed it.

Shah, who was briefing the party workers on the issues relating to abrogation of Article 370, said that the Jammu & Kashmir-based job aspirants from the SCs STs and OBCs would benefit from the abrogation of Article 370.

He said that the annulment

of Article 370 of the Constitution would contribute to eliminating corruption in the state, where the State had lost a staggering Rs 2,27,000 lakh crore owing to the lack of anti-corruption bureau there.

Dismissing criticism of the criticism about the alarming situation in Jammu and Kashmir, Shah said: "No bullet has been fired between August 5 and September 22. No life has been lost. He asked the critics with "political agenda" as to why they are scaring people through a false propaganda. "After the abrogation of Article 370, the people are living peacefully in Kashmir. The prohibitory orders have been lifted in all but two places. Ninety nine per cent of land lines have started working. Fifty seven per cent mobile phones are working. Curfew has been lifted from most places. Business is going on as usual in Kashmir".

Will reserve 75% jobs for Haryana youth: Dushyant

MANOJ KUMAR ■ ROHTAK

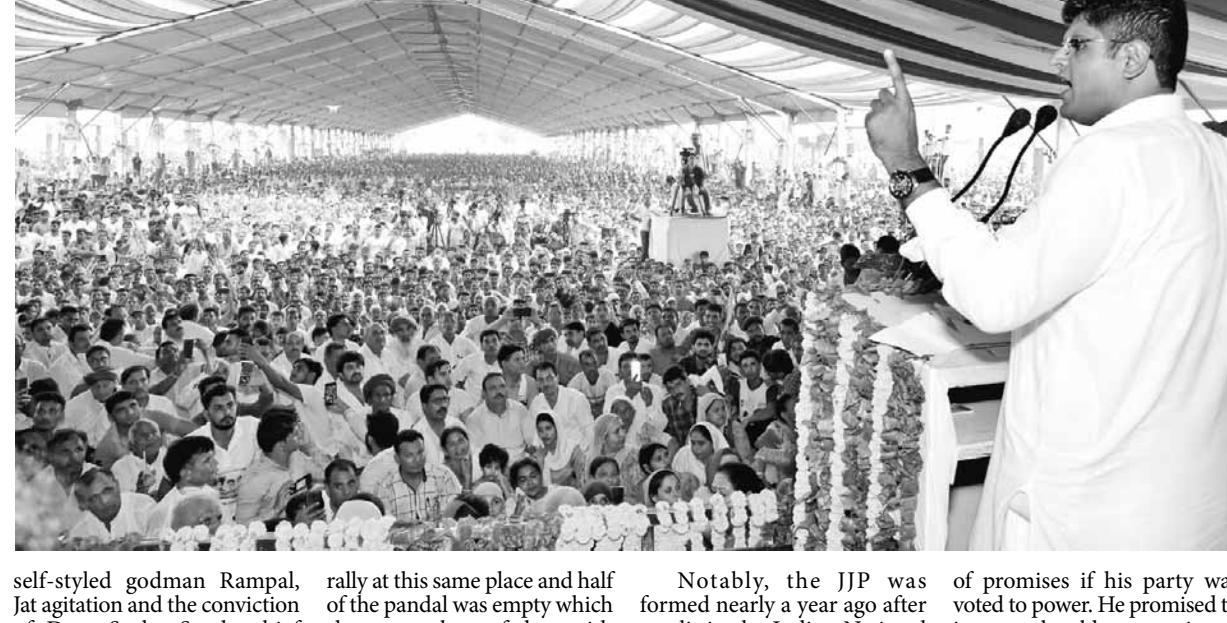
Jannayak Janata Party (JJP) senior leader and former Haryana MP Dushyant Chautala on Sunday promised 75 per cent of jobs for youth of the state in private and government sector.

Dushyant, while addressing a "Jan Samman Divas" rally to mark the birth anniversary of former Deputy Prime Minister Chaudhary Devi Lal here said that if comes to power, his party would reserve 75 per cent of jobs for youth only and also, assured his party's support to employees of the State. "The JJP is the only viable alternative. Your vote will decide the future of Haryana," he said, while making an appeal to the people to support the party in the elections.

The elections to 90 assembly seats in the State will be held on October 21 and the results will be declared on October 24.

Hitting out at ruling Bharatiya Janta Party (BJP) Government, he said that the BJP has befooled the common people of Haryana for last five years and now, each section of society wants to get rid of BJP.

Slamming the Haryana Government for the poor law and order situation, he said that Haryana was burnt thrice in the past five years under their rule. "80 people died during these incidents," he said, in an apparent reference to the violence suffered by the state during the episodes linked with



self-styled godman Rampal, Jat agitation and the conviction of Dera Sacha Sauda chief Gurmeet Ram Rahim Singh.

He also cornered the BJP led Government at Centre and State over economic slowdown, unemployment and farmers' woes. "Farmers and small businessmen are in crisis. Farmers are not getting remunerative prices for their produce. The rate of unemployment has increased in the last five years," he said. Unemployment, farmers' woes and law and order are the key poll issues, Dushyant added. He said that two weeks ago, Prime Minister Narendra Modi had also addressed a

rally at this same place and half of the pandal was empty which shows people are fed up with the false promises of BJP leaders.

Targeting the Congress, Dushyant said that their party leaders are already indulged in infighting and it is a divided house.

"When tickets are announced, these Congress people will once again fight amongst themselves," he said. The JJP leader also attacked the Indian National Lok Dal saying that he and his brother were expelled from the party. We made a separate party with the support of leaders and workers and became people's first choice, he said.

Dushyant also made a slew

of promises if his party was voted to power. He promised to increase the old-age pension to Rs 5,100, free treatment to the poor in government hospitals for life-threatening diseases, shifting of liquor vends outside village limits and a wage hike for government employees and panchayat members.

"People want change... We are working hard to oust the BJP from the power. 29 days have left ahead of polls," he added while making an appeal to the party workers to reach out to people through door to door campaign and seek vote for the future of Haryana.

DURGOSTAV

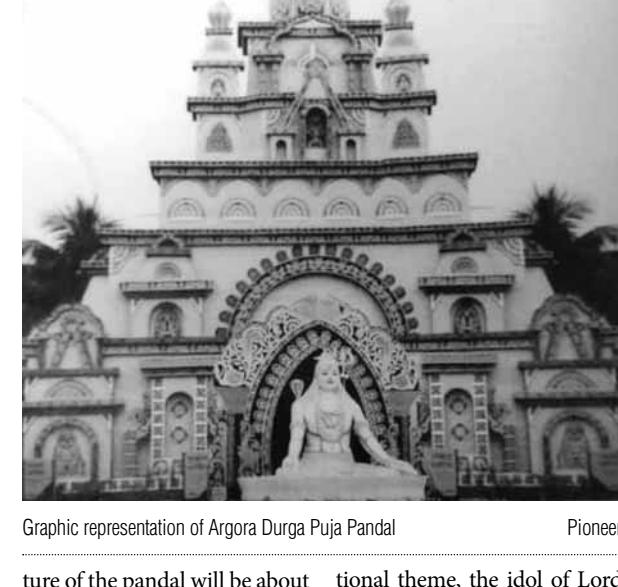
Goddess Durga to attract devotees at Fictional temple in Argora puja pandal

PNS ■ RANCHI

An iconic puja pandal of the Capital City, the Argora Puja Pandal is being decked up on the lines of a fictional temple to entice pandal hoppers this festival season. Celebrating the festival in a grand way since 1967, the pandal is primed up on a unique theme every year to attract visitors.

Special effects with lights have been combined with the theme to give it a more realistic look. Around seven large and 30 small lighted gates placed on either side of the road from Argora Chowk to the main pandal will attract devotees. Apart from depicting various Gods and goddess, the gates will also show farmers and other artisans.

At the main entrance of the pandal, a 12 feet tall idol of Lord Shiva will be placed with the holy Ganga flowing from his hair like a fountain. An idol of the deity will also be placed at the top of the pandal in a meditating posture. The statues of Goddess Durga and other deities are being made of clay and are being designed by the artist Jagdish Pal. The imaginary temple will have a colour combination of purple and white. Making sure to use reusable material, the complete structure is being made of plywood and plaster of paris. The entire struc-



Graphic representation of Argora Durga Puja Pandal

ture of the pandal will be about 80 feet high and 60 feet broad while the estimated budget is about Rs 20 lakh. The pandal will be open for visitors from Shasthi October 4. The committee is also organising a Ravaan Dahan on Dussehra - October 8 with a colourful display of fire crackers. "These days the trend is to make theme based puja pandals. The subjects range from architecture, heritage to more contemporary designs. Along with the concept of a fic-

tional theme, the idol of Lord Shiva and the use of multi coloured lights will prove to be a great source of attraction for the visitors," said Pankaj Sahu, General Secretary, Shri Durga Puja evam Ravaan Dahan Samiti, Argora.

Separate barricades for male and female worshippers will be placed while about 10 CCTV cameras will be installed and security guards will be deployed by the organising committee to maximize safety.

Al-Qaeda terrorist arrested in Jamshedpur

From Page 1

Kalimuddin was primarily active in Jharkhand, West Bengal and Odisha, said Laxmi. She added that he was made the in-charge of Eastern India by Al-Qaeda in the Indian Subcontinent (AQIS). "We are still investigating the objective behind his frequent visits to foreign countries," said the ATS SP.

Kalimuddin's arrest has also encouraged the police to investigate links between Kalimuddin and Abdul Rehman Katki, who ran a Madarsa in Bhubaneswar and allegedly motivated youths to join terror outfits. A majority of children studying in his Madarsa were from Jharkhand, the ATS said. Katki was arrested in 2015 after police found that he had been delivering hate

speeches in many parts of Jharkhand. Police said that Kalimuddin was wanted by the National Investigation Agency (NIA) as well as the ATS of many other states in India. Born in Chanco block of Ranchi, Kalimuddin had made a hideout in Jamshedpur since early 2000, they added.

Several arrested Al-Qaeda operatives, currently under custody in Tihar Jail and Jamshedpur Jail, are suspected to have worked as Kalimuddin's aides, police said. Two of them - Abdul Rehman Katki and Abdul Sami - are currently in Tihar Jail on charges of terror activities. Director General of Police (DGP), KN Choubey said that the arrest was a major breakthrough for the State police as it may lead to

further terror links in Jharkhand. "I am sure that the arrest will help Jharkhand Police identify and intercept terror sleeper cells in the State," Choubey said.

Kalimuddin's arrest further strengthens the suspicion of sleeper cell activities in Jharkhand. Since 2014, serial arrests have been made from Ranchi and Jamshedpur in connection with terror activities. In 2014, NIA sleuths found links of some Ranchi's Sithio village youths with the October 27 Patna serial blasts at Prime Minister Narendra Modi's Hunkar rally in Gaya. Post the Patna serial blasts, the NIA arrested four Indian Mujahideen operatives from Sithio village on May 21 last year. Besides, explosives were also recovered.

Aromatic plants perk up Leh-Ladakh farmers

ARCHANA JYOTI ■ NEW DELHI

The fragrance of the high revenue-earning aromatic plants seems to have caught the fancy of the small farmers residing in the high-altitude cold arid zones of Leh-Ladakh.

Tapping in on this growing interest among farmers, Ladakh Farmers and Producers Cooperative Limited (LFPCL), Leh and Ladakh recently inked a pact with Council for Scientific and Industrial Research's (CSIR) Palampur-based lab, Institute of Himalayan Bioresource Technology (IHBT) for cultivation of the high-value aromatic crops like rose, marigold and mint.

Under the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU), a processing unit to churn out essential oils from these crops at village Ranbirpura, Thiksay and Leh is being set up. Dr Sanjay Kumar, Director, CSIR-IHBT, Palampur said processing unit is indispensable for value addition of aromatic plants and establishment of this facility in Leh will benefit the local farmers of Leh district. "As the region is deprived of natural irrigation facilities and is suitable for the cultivation of high value aromatic crops such as damask rose, chamomile, wild marigold, dracocephalum, lavender and saffron, so CSIR-IHBT recognised this area for the cultivation of these crops," he explained. Dr Kumar said seeds of wild marigold, chamomile and saffron have



also been provided to the farmers along with the complete information package of agro technologies which will help them in proper cultivation of these crops.

The project is being undertaken under the CSIR's Aroma Mission programme started two years ago with an aim to promote the aromatic crops and to bring additional area of 5,500 ha under these crops for socio-economic upliftment and employment generation for farming community and rural masses. Dr ML Mantoo, CEO, LFPCL and former adviser to the

Ministry of Rural Development said this partnership will allow them to work in collaboration with premier CSIR institute in cultivating aromatic crops in larger area of Leh and Ladakh region and to provide maximum benefit to farmers.

Dr Rakesh Kumar, Principal Scientist, CSIR-IHBT said Leh and Ladakh region is suitable for cultivation of high value aromatic crops where unique aroma compound can be produced which have huge demand in the international perfumery and fragrance industries.

To promote cultivation, awareness-cum-training programme has been held in villages like Ranbirpura of district Leh where large number of farmers participated. Leh-Ladakh is located in the northern part of the Indian sub-continent with an area of about 59,146 km. With CSIR-

IHBT's efforts, Himachal Pradesh has already become the largest producer of high-quality wild marigold essential oil in India, meeting the demand of perfume, flavouring, and condiment industries. A good number of farmers in Uttarakhand, Himachal Pradesh and Jammu & Kashmir have already taken up the cultivation. In fact, an area of about 214 hectares has been bought under wild marigold cultivation by more than 600 farmers in the hilly region.

The crop is suitable for cultivation in the plains as well as on the hills as a mono-crop or inter-crop in orchards/forest/medicinal/aromatic plants. Aromatic crops are widely cultivated around the world due to its high-revenue earning essential oils which are utilised in perfumery, food, flavoring, pharmaceutical and agrochemical industry.

Das takes jibe...

From Page 1

change the face of Santhal Pargana and bring development," he said.

The Chief Minister said that in the past five years, the Government has taken several initiatives to provide water, electricity and toilets to the people of Sahibganj and its efforts will continue. "I have taken a resolution to develop Santhal Pargana and our Government is continuously working for the same," he added.

Talking about the initiatives taken by his Government for social security, Das said that the pension amount was increased from Rs.600 to Rs.1000 under old age pension scheme, widow pen-

sion scheme and disability pension scheme. "The Government is committed to uplift the weaker section of the society," he said.

Das said that he has worked as a labourer in the past and seen poverty from close frontiers. "I pledged to end poverty the day I swore in as a Chief Minister of Jharkhand," he said, adding that Jharkhand was a rich State but poverty resided at its heart.

"The Government will stick to its slogan of Sabka Satth, Sabka Vikas and make Jharkhand one of the developed States of India. Holistic development is our primary objective," Das added.

Dantewada goes to polls today amid security fear

STAFF REPORTER ■ DANTEWADA

Voting for the by-election in the Naxal-affected Dantewada Assembly constituency of Dantewada will be held on Monday amid heightened security.

Total nine candidates are in fray for the by-poll necessitated following the death of sitting BJP legislator Bhima Mandavi in a Naxal attack in April this year.

The main Opposition BJP in the State is fighting to retain the seat, reserved for Scheduled Tribe candidates.

"All preparations have been done for conducting a free and fair by-election in

Dantewada," State's Chief Electoral Officer Subrat Sahoo told reporters here on Sunday.

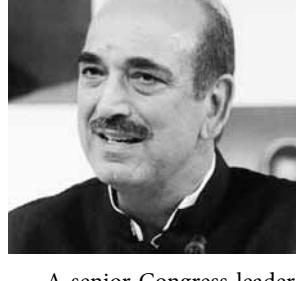
There are total 1,88,263 voters, including 89,747 men and 98,876 women, in the constituency where 273 polling stations have been established.

"Voting will be held from 7 am till 3 pm. Elaborate security arrangements have been made for conducting the bypoll," he said.

Nearly 18,000 security personnel, including paramilitary forces, have been deployed in the Naxal-infested Assembly segment, which is part of the Bastar region, a senior police official here said.

Azad visits Anantnag colony, meets people

PNS ■ NEW DELHI/SRINAGAR



Senior Congress leader Ghulam Nabi Azad, who is on a three-day visit to Kashmir following Supreme Court orders, on Sunday visited Anantnag district in south Kashmir where he met people in a Government housing colony.

Azad, who was scheduled to meet people at Dak Bungalow which has been declared a jail, had to change the venue after authorities refused him permission. Party sources said that Azad was at the housing colony from 11 am to 3 pm and several people visited the former Chief Minister of the State.

This is Azad's first visit to the State after being denied permission to deboard the plane when he was part of an all-party delegation led by Congress leader Rahul Gandhi last month. He was accompanied by nine senior political leaders from different parties including Left, Trinamool, DMK, RJD.

Rahul and other were barred from leaving the airport on August 24 where local authorities had warned that their visit could stoke heightened tension in the region. When their plane arrived in Srinagar, the politicians were not allowed to leave the airport and were sent back within a few hours.

A senior Congress leader alleged while the leader of opposition in Rajya Sabha was strictly following the Supreme Court order with respect to his visit to the valley, authorities were creating hurdles. He mentioned that during Azad's stay in Srinagar on Friday, the security personnel did not allow people to meet him.

Azad reached at Srinagar on Friday on his maiden visit following the abrogation of Article 370, Jammu & Kashmir government, currently headed by Governor Sat Pal Malik, has remarked that political leaders had been asked not to visit Srinagar as the administration turned back from the airport.

On Saturday, Azad visited Lalla Ded maternity hospital and inquired about the welfare of patients. He also visited the Tourist Reception Centre here and interacted with the members of Kashmiri Houseboat Owners Association. He is scheduled to visit Baramulla in north Kashmir on Monday.

Azad's visit became possible after a nod from the Supreme Court, which allowed

the Congress general secretary to visit the state. A bench, headed by Chief Justice of India Ranjan Gogoi, had on Monday allowed the former Jammu and Kashmir chief minister to visit four districts — Srinagar, Jammu, Baramulla, Anantnag — to meet people.

The bench was told by senior advocate A M Singhvi, who was appearing for Azad, that the Congress leader wants to meet the people and inquire about their welfare. In his petition filed in "personal capacity", Azad had told the Supreme Court that he had tried to visit the state thrice, but was turned back from the airport.

Upon the insistence of the political leaders to visit the valley post abrogation of Article 370, Jammu & Kashmir government, currently headed by Governor Sat Pal Malik, has remarked that political leaders had been asked not to visit Srinagar as the administration turned back from the airport.

A row emerged when Malik offered to arrange an aircraft for Rahul Gandhi to visit the Valley to which the former Congress chief said he will take up his invitation but requested the "freedom to travel and meet the people, mainstream leaders and our soldiers stationed there." Sooner the Governor accused Rahul of politicizing the invitation by putting conditions for visit.

"Often curtailments in estimates are done which cause misperception in the mind of field units as they are unable to understand the nature, quantum and reason of curtailments," the CPWD DG said in his two-page letter.

He said such curtailments are also a major reason for delay in the execution and completion of the project. The CPWD also examines the estimates prepared by other depart-

CPWD requests MHA not to examine its projects estimates as it delays works

PNS ■ NEW DELHI



The CPWD, a prime construction agency of the Central Government, has requested the Ministry of Home Affairs not to examine its project estimates as it causes delay in taking up the construction works.

In a letter to Union Home Secretary Ajay Kumar Bhalla, CPWD Director General Prabhakar Singh said that it has been observed that proposals or estimates submitted by the Central Public Works Department are examined at various levels in the MHA or Central Para Military Forces.

Singh said that estimates are made with "sound engineering practices" by competent technical professionals and should not require further scrutiny.

The CPWD is also the principal construction agency of MHA for creation of all types of built assets of Central Para Military Forces and for border infrastructure, he said.

"Often curtailments in estimates are done which cause misperception in the mind of field units as they are unable to understand the nature, quantum and reason of curtailments," the director general said in the letter.

He said such curtailments are also a major reason for delay in the execution and completion of the project. The CPWD also examines the estimates prepared by other depart-

ments and organisations, he said.

"Therefore in the interest of the work, there is no need for checking of CPWD estimates as it entails duplication," Singh said.

He said some of the CAPMFs are also insisting on detailed estimates instead of preliminary estimates.

"Detailed estimates require detailed planning such as soil testing, detailed survey, structural design, architectural detailing etc, which is a time intensive exercise and causes substantial delay," Singh also said.

"I, therefore, request your good self to kindly look into the above issues and advise the concerned organisations under your administrative control for appropriate needful," the director general said in the letter.

The CPWD is the central Government's largest construction agency and it carries out several development and border projects.

The agency also carries out projects in foreign countries which have friendship programmes with India.

EC announces bypolls to 2 more seats in Gujarat

PNS ■ NEW DELHI



Mid criticism by the Opposition Congress for not conducting polls for all the vacant seats, the Election Commission (EC) on Sunday announced two more Assembly bypolls — Radhanpur and Bayad seats in Gujarat taking the total number of seats going for by-election across India to 66. The bypolls to Radhanpur and Bayad Assembly seats, announced on Sunday, were necessitated after siting MLAs Alpesh Thakor and Dhavalsinh Zala of Congress resigned and joined the ruling BJP.

According to the EC, bypolls to Radhanpur and Bayad assembly seats in Gujarat and the Samastipur Lok Sabha seat in Bihar will be held on October 21. Bypolls to four assembly seats — Amraiwadi, Tharad, Lunawada, and Kherali seats, which fell vacant

qualified following invalidation of his caste certificate.

The main opposition Congress on Saturday criticised the EC for announcing by-elections to only four Assembly seats in Gujarat and leaving out three other vacant seats. "The commission was acting under the BJP's pressure," it alleged.

Meanwhile, Thakor and Zala have staked claims for their respective constituencies, Radhanpur and Bayad. Both the leaders belonged to the Thakor community.

"My decision to join the BJP was for the sake of the Thakor community and farmers of Bayad constituency. A former MLA has also demanded ticket from the seat. But people know me. I have helped resolve even small, personal problems of people in my area. If given ticket, I will help the

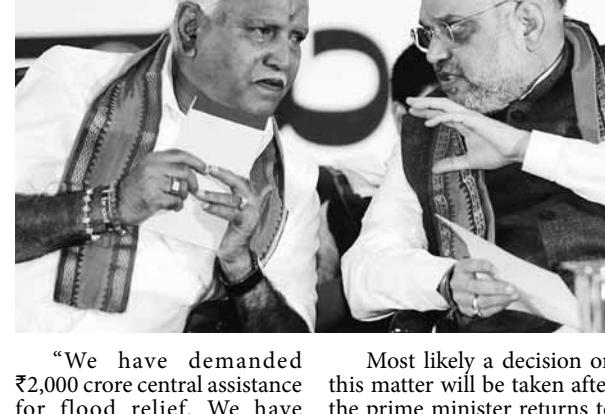
party win," said Zala.

Thakor said (abrogation of provisions of) Article 370 will remain the main issue in polls. "Prime Minister Narendra Modi has provided a capable leadership to the country. The way the Congress campaigned against Article 370 has disillusioned people," he said. Thakor added that people are also appreciating the work of the state government.

"The decision on likely candidate from Radhanpur will be decided by the parliamentary board of the BJP. However, senior BJP leaders have indicated that I will contest. I am very much interested..." he added. The EC has announced on Saturday that bypolls to 64 assembly seats and one Lok Sabha constituency, spread across 18 states, will be held on October 21, and the counting of votes will be on October 24.

BSY seeks ₹2K-cr flood relief from Centre

PNS ■ NEW DELHI



according to Yediyurappa. Bypolls in the state will be held on October 21.

Karnataka deputy chief ministers Ashwath Narayan and Laxman Savadi and home minister Basavaraj Bommai were also present in the meeting.

The 2019 floods in Karnataka are touted to have caused losses to the tune of ₹38451 crore and around 103 talukas in 22 districts have been badly hit with over 6.9 lakh hectares of crop loss. Around 75,317 houses have been damaged due to the rains. Last month, Union Home Minister Amit Shah along with Yediyurappa had undertaken an aerial survey of flood-affected areas. The Chief Minister had briefed Shah about the rescue and relief operations that were underway in the state.

"We have demanded ₹2,000 crore central assistance for flood relief. We have resource constraint. Despite all, the state government has released about ₹1,000 crore so far. Release of central funds will ease the burden on us," Yediyurappa told reporters.

Most likely a decision on this matter will be taken after the prime minister returns to India, he added. Shah has assured that flood relief and other emergency works will not be affected in the state as they have been exempted from the purview of the poll code,

which were under way in the state.



Vice-President M Venkaiah Naidu lights a lamp to inaugurate a free medical camp organised by KIMS Hospitals and Swarna Bharat Trust, in Hyderabad on Sunday. Telangana Governor Dr Tamilsai Soundararajan and other dignitaries are also seen

PIB

Only 2.5% colleges run PhD programmes, finds HRD survey

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The share of PhD Student is highest in State Public University (34.3 pc) followed by Institute of National Importance (21.6 pc), Deemed University-Private (21.6 pc) and State Private University (13.4 pc)

graduate level programme.

"Maximum numbers of students are enrolled in B.A. Programme followed by B.Sc. and B.Com. Programmes. At Undergraduate level the highest number (35.9 pc) of students are enrolled in arts, humanities or social sciences courses followed by science (16.5pc), engineering and technology (13.5 pc) and commerce (14.1 pc)," the report said.

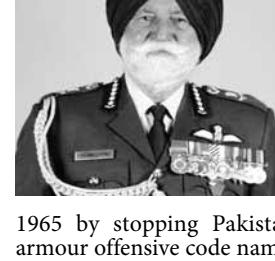
There are 34.8 per cent colleges, which run only single programme, out of which 83.1 per cent are privately managed. "Among these privately managed colleges, 38.1 per cent colleges run B.Ed courses only, 77.8 per cent colleges are privately managed, 64.3 pc private-unaided and 13.5 pc private-aided. Andhra Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh have about 88 per cent private-unaided colleges and Tamil Nadu has 87 per cent private-unaided colleges, whereas, Assam has 16 per cent."

"Around 16.3 per cent of colleges are having enrolment less than 100 and only 4 per cent colleges have enrolment more than 3,000," the report said.

The ASHE report pointed out that about 79.8 pc of students are enrolled in under-

IAF felicitates trust funded by MIAF Arjan Singh

PNS ■ NEW DELHI



In a gesture to honour the late Marshal of the Indian Air Force Arjan Singh, the force on Sunday felicitated a trust founded by him and his wife, with Air Chief Marshal B S Dhanoa applauding the noble work done by it towards welfare of serving and retired air warriors. The felicitation ceremony was held at Akash Air Force officers' mess here on the establishment day of the trust.

In his speech, Dhanoa expressed his gratitude to the founders of the trust and "applauded the noble work done by the trust towards welfare of the serving and retired air warriors including their widows

and dependents." The Marshal and his wife Teji Singh had contributed their personal funds of Rs 2.25 cr to establish this trust on September 22 in 2004, IAF officials said.

Marshal Arjan Singh, a Padma Vibhushan awardee, had played a crucial role in

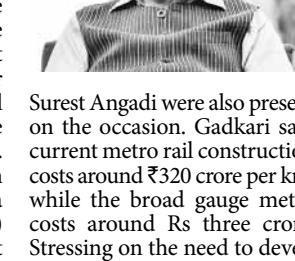
Arvind Singh, son of the Marshal and a life trustee of the organisation, delivered an emotional speech.

To mark the felicitation ceremony, a leaflet on the trust and a poetry book "Abhi Kaam Baaki Hai" on the Marshal were launched jointly by the IAF chief and Air Chief Marshal (retired) Arup Raha, the IAF statement said.

A memento was also presented to the trust.

Broad gauge Metro time saving option, says Nitin Gadkari

PNS ■ NEW DELHI



Road Transport and Highways Minister Nitin Gadkari has advocated the deployment of broad gauge Metro as an affordable, efficient and time-saving option for inter-city travel which will reduce stress on large cities like Delhi, Mumbai and Bangalore.

Speaking at the curtain raiser event of the India Manufacturing Show (IMS) 2020 in the national Capital last week, Gadkari said: "We are deploying broad gauge metro in my constituency Nagpur. It will connect Nagpur with Wardha, Bhandara Road, Ramtek and Narkhed. Running metro on the broad gauge should be considered as it makes travel between cities and its satellite towns affordable.

For instance, people can stay in Meerut or Panipat and easily travel to Delhi for work every day. So, it's a win-win for the city as well as the commuter."

Cabinet Minister for Parliamentary Affairs, Coal & Mines Prahlad Joshi and Union Minister of State for Railways

SC: Judges should possess sterling quality of integrity

New Delhi: The judiciary is an institution founded on honesty and integrity, the Supreme Court has said, reasserting that it is necessary judicial officers possess the "sterling quality of integrity" to be able to serve the public.

It made the observation while refusing to show any leniency to a Maharashtra-based judicial magistrate, who had challenged his 2004 dismissal from service following allegation he passed orders in favour of the clients of a woman lawyer he had a "proximate relationship".

Impeccable integrity should be reflected both in the public and personal life of a judge, the top court said, and added judicial officers must always remember they hold high office and serve the public.

A bench of justices Deepak Gupta and Aniruddha Bose said the petitioner did not live up to the "expectations of integrity, behaviour and probity" and no leniency can be shown to him. Hence, we find no merit in the appeal, which is accordingly dismissed," it said.

The petitioner was appointed as a judicial magis-

trate in March 1985. In February 2001, he was put under suspension and dismissed in January 2004.

He challenged his dismissal in the Bombay High Court but his plea was rejected. He then moved the apex court, which issued a notice on his plea limited to the question of the quantum of punishment.

In this case, the officer decided the cases because of his proximate relationship with a lady lawyer and not because the law required him to do so. This is also gratification - of a different kind," the bench said, explaining that gratification can be of various types. "It can be gratification of money, gratification of power, gratification of lust etc," it said.

The bench said the first and foremost quality required in a judge is integrity. Being a public servant, judicial officers should always remember they are there to serve the public. "The need for integrity in the judiciary is much higher than in other institutions. It is, therefore, necessary that judicial officers should possess the sterling quality of integrity," it said. PTI

Pak fake social media handles using KBC to trap people: Def Ministry

New Delhi: Security agencies have discovered that Pakistani-based operatives are attempting to use the popularity of the Amitabh Bachchan-anchored show Kaun Banega Crorepati (KBC) to trap individuals and propagate misinformation through fake social media handles.

"It has been reported by

Pakistan-based numbers found to be the administrators of WhatsApp groups, which were

trying to trap individuals. The Defence Ministry's cyber cell advised people who are part of these groups to "immediately exit such groups if one has already been added.

"The cyber cell also advised people to configure their WhatsApp settings in a manner that only a person whose contacts details are saved in your phone can add you without an invitation. After the abrogation of article 370, Pakistani spy agencies have become very aggressive in spreading misinformation about India and have been targeting the defence forces in a big way in the virtual world. The

security agencies had detected that over 200 fake handles of military officers including both serving and retired officers had come up on social media who were tweeting and spreading messages as per the Pakistani narrative on the Kashmir issue.

After the agencies con-

cerned approached Twitter, a large number of such handles were suspended for being fake. The Indian Army has now again asked its personnel to avoid putting up their service or posting details on social media as it can be used by the adversaries to spread misinformation.

Also, there have been cases of virtual honey traps where serving officers and jawans have been trapped and forced to leak military classified information to enemy operatives who generally pose as girls on social media.

Agencies

UNABLE TO BEAR EXPENSES

Parents drown 20-day-old twin daughters



Muzaffarnagar: Two newborn girls were drowned in a pond by their parents in an Uttar Pradesh village, with the father claiming that they killed the 20-day-old twins as they could not bear their expenses.

Waseem, a daily wager, and his wife Nazma were arrested on Sunday for killing Afra and Afya at Bhikki village here, Station House Officer (SHO) Ajay Kumar said.

"Our financial condition is very weak. We could not have borne the expenses for our two daughters," Waseem, who has a seven-year-old son, told PTI.

The couple had an argument on Saturday night following which the newborns were thrown by them in the pond near their house, the SHO said, adding that the twins drowned.

The father lodged a miss-

ing complaint on Sunday morning, but during investigation it was found that the twins had been killed, Kumar said.

Waseem, in the complaint, said when he woke up this morning, he found his daughters missing, the officer said.

The parents have been booked under Indian Penal Code sections 302 (murder) and 201 (causing disappearance of evidence of offence, or giving false information to screen offender), Kumar said.

The bodies were recovered and sent for postmortem, he said.

"The parents have confessed to killing their daughters," Kumar said.

Residents of the village said Waseem was angry over the birth of two girls and frequently fought with his wife over it. PTI

CHINMAYANAND CASE

Woman, SIT leave for Allahabad High Court for Monday hearing

Shahjahanpur: The student who levelled rape charges against BJP leader Swami Chinmayanand has left for Allahabad, where she will be appearing before the High Court on Monday, sources said.

The special investigation team (SIT), which will submit a status report in the court, too has left for Allahabad, they said.

Meanwhile, on Sunday, former MLC and BJP leader Jayesh Prasad met Chinmayanand in the jail and expressed concern over the health of the 72-year-old former Union Minister.

The health of Chinmayanand is continuously deteriorating. He should be shifted to the KGMU in Lucknow or any other prominent hospital for treatment," he said, adding that though he respected the legal process, the woman was "yet to be arrested" in the cases registered by the leader against her and other accused.

The student and her three friends were booked for extortion by the SIT.

Sources said the SIT also booked the woman on charges of causing disappearance of evidence.

Jai Superintendent Rakesh Kumar told PTI on Sunday that on September 20, the advocate of Swami Chinmayanand, Om Singh, had submitted an application



to the CJM court, urging it to allow the "shifting of the leader to the KGMU, Lucknow, for treatment".

Kumar said they had received directions from the court and the jail doctor was looking after the leader.

"A team of doctors from the Shahjahanpur Medical College came yesterday to see him and he is being given the medicines from time to time as prescribed by the doctors," he said.

The former Union Minister was arrested by the SIT on Friday and sent to 14 days' judicial custody.

According to Om Singh, the counsel for Chinmayanand, they could not approach the court for bail on Saturday as local advocates were on strike demanding that Shahjahanpur be attached with the Lucknow bench of the Allahabad High Court.

The sources said that the SIT had on Friday registered a

case against the woman's three friends -- Sanjay Singh, Sachin Sengar and Vikram -- and an unnamed person (Ms A).

They said the unnamed person was also a student but they did not disclose her identity in view of the Supreme Court guidelines.

SIT chief Naveen Arora had on Friday said the three friends, when questioned in view of a video clip in which they were purportedly discussing extortion, had accepted their involvement in the case.

They have been booked under Indian Penal Code Sections 35 (criminal act done with a criminal knowledge or intention), 385 (extortion), 506 (criminal intimidation), 201 (disappearance of evidence) and Section 67 of the Information Technology Act.

The three men were arrested by the SIT.

On her name being included in the extortion case, the woman had said, "I do not know if the people who helped me escape from Chinmayanand were using me. I have nothing to do with the extortion case. I think all this drama is being done to dilute my charges of rape."

The girl said, "The Supreme Court has taken cognisance of the entire matter and I am confident that I will get justice on September 23, which is the date of hearing in Allahabad High Court." PTI

JU row: Students union files complaint against Supriyo

Kolkata: The Arts Faculty Students Union (AFSU) of Jadavpur University has filed a police complaint against Union Minister Babul Supriyo, accusing him of misconduct during the ruckus at the varsity on Thursday.

The Left-leaning AFSU also lodged a complaint against five members of the Akhil Bharatiya Vidyarthi Parishad (ABVP) for assaulting students, including women, and vandalising university property.

"Various incidents had taken place after the Union Minister of State for Environment, Forest and Climate Change (Babul Supriyo) came to the JU campus in an event organised by ABVP, prompted by ABVP members," the AFSU said in its complaint on Saturday.

The complaint named Supriyo as the "prime accused" and also identified five other ABVP members. The three men were arrested by the SIT.

An officer of Jadavpur Police station confirmed the receipt of the complaint.

Alleging that the minister and his bodyguards had misbehaved with students on Thursday, it read, "A file of loaded magazine was found on the site of the event, which created unnecessary panic among the students, disrupting the campus life."

Supriyo could not be reached for comments despite repeated attempts.

The AFSU complaint also said that ABVP members "created a ruckus, burnt and

destroyed campus property, threw acid bulbs, burnt tyres and pelted stones at the students and beat them up with sticks."

The student union was referring to the incident when agitated ABVP supporters assembled outside one of the main gates of the varsity on Thursday evening, after Supriyo was confined in the campus for over five hours.

The ABVP members then barged into the campus and allegedly went on a rampage in the union room and arts building.

"Babul Supriyo being the prime accused, some other ABVP members recognised by us until now are..." the complaint said.

Asked to comment on the

action of AFSU, BJP leader Mukul Roy told PTI, "This is the present scenario in West Bengal, where a union minister, who has been assaulted by students of a university for attending a function at the institute, is named in a police complaint by those who had attacked him without any provocation."

He alleged that the police was not taking any action against those involved in the "attack on Supriyo" and instead accepting their complaint.

"We will take appropriate legal action," Roy said.

BJP leader Agnimitra Paul on Friday had filed a complaint at Jadavpur police station against some students, but did not name anyone. PTI

Was left with no other option but to visit JU: Bengal Guy

Kolkata: West Bengal Governor Jagdeep Dhankhar on Sunday said he was left with no other option but to rush to Jadavpur University for rescuing Union Minister Babul Supriyo, who was heckled and held up by a section of students at the varsity.

After being held up at the university campus by protesters from leftist students unions for nearly five hours, Supriyo was taken out by the Governor late on Thursday evening.

Dhankhar, who is also the

chancellor of the university, said there was nothing wrong in his decision to visit its campus to understand the prevailing situation at that time. "I am happy that after I went there, I got the cooperation and support of students and professors," he said.

"If I don't connect with the agitating students and understand their situation, who will connect with them? I have to connect, have a dialogue with them... Only then, we can go ahead," the Governor said at an event here. PTI

PM deserves respect when he represents India abroad: Tharoor

Pune: Senior Congress leader Shashi Tharoor, who is a strong critic of the Modi-led government, on Sunday said the prime minister deserves respect when he visits foreign countries as India's representative, but when he is in the country, people have the right to question him.

On the row over a common language in the country, he said the BJP's ideology of promoting Hindi, Hinduism and Hindustan is "dangerous" for our country.

"We need to carry on the three-language formula," he said.

Amid a heated debate over his remark that Hindi should be a common language, Union Home Minister Amit Shah on

"The prime minister deserves respect in foreign countries as (there) he is a representative of our nation. But when he is in India, we have the right to ask him questions," Tharoor said.

On the issue of one common language in the country, he criticised the ruling BJP over incidents of mob lynching, saying they are an "insult to Hinduism and Lord Ram".

"There is no difference among people (of different communities) living in Kerala. Then why is it happening in Maharashtra," he said.

Even Maratha warrior king Shivaji Maharaj had people from different communities under his rule. But he instructed everyone to respect each other, he said. PTI

Amid a heated debate over his remark that Hindi should be a common language, Union Home Minister Amit Shah on

Police attach properties of absconding RJD MLA Arun Yadav

Ara: Police in Bihar's Bhojpur district on Sunday attached the properties of RJD MLA Arun Yadav, who is absconding in connection with a case of sexual abuse of a minor girl, a senior police officer said.

The process of attaching the Sandes RJD MLA's property at his native village Lasarhi began this morning amid tight security, the officer said.

"The properties belonged to MLA Arun Yadav located at his native village Lasarhi were attached today," Additional Superintendent of Police (Operations) Nitin Kumar said.

The process of attaching the Sandes RJD MLA's property at his native village Lasarhi began this morning amid tight security, the officer said.

"The properties belonged to MLA Arun Yadav located at his native village Lasarhi were attached today," Additional Superintendent of Police (Operations) Nitin Kumar said.

The move comes days after District and Sessions Judge R K Singh, who holds the charge of special POCSO court, issued the NBW against Yadav following an application filed by the district police.

The POCSO court had on September 13 issued a non-bailable warrant against the sitting RJD MLA in the sexual abuse case. The ASP said that the MLA has been absconding ever since an NBW was issued against him in the case besides a notice for attachment of properties was pasted on his house on the court's directive. PTI



A view of illuminated Mysore Palace in Mysore on Sunday

MAHARAJA HARI SINGH BIRTHDAY EVE

BJP's Jammu rally gets lackluster response

MOHIT KANDHARI ■ JAMMU

Multiple rows of empty chairs on Sunday greeted top BJP leaders including national vice-president Shyam Jaju, Union Minister of State PMO Dr Jitendra Singh and Union Minister of State for Finance Anurag Thakur as they arrived here to pay tributes and address public rally on the eve of 125th birth anniversary of Maharaja Hari Singh.

Thin attendance inside the pandal, raised outside Maharaja Hari Singh Park, also forced the organisers to delay the programme.

Interestingly, central BJP leaders waited for the green signal from the organisers to reach the venue as empty chairs inside the pandal, decked up



with king size images of Maharaja Hari Singh, kept staring at the organisers till the program culminated.

The public rally was organised by the Jan-Jagruti Abhiyan committee of BJP along with Jammu Bar Association and Civil Societies, Jammu.

On their arrival, the central BJP leaders offered floral tributes to the statue of Maharaja Hari Singh and later addressed a public rally.

Addressing the public rally, Minister of State for Finance and Corporate Affairs Anurag Thakur said the Government is committed to the development of Jammu & Kashmir.

He said the Government had taken a "historic" decision to abrogate Article 370, which he claims will result in massive development in the entire region.

"Our Government has taken a historic decision to abrogate Article 370. Now, J&K will witness massive development,"

Thakur also slammed Pakistan for spreading "fake propaganda" and went on to say that PoK is a part of India.

In his address, said the decision to abrogate Articles 370 & 35(a) has nothing to do with Hindu-Muslim but it is for betterment

of common masses. He said that Home Minister Amit Shah is very liberal towards house arrested leaders in J&K providing them Hollywood movies, gym facilities & brown breads to eat, as we remember also the times when our leaders were thrown way to far off places & abused and added that these are the "House Guests & not House Arrests".

Shyam Jaju, in his address, said the whole Nation is thankful to Maharaja Hari Singh for his contributions to the society and for acceding to the Union of India.

Pradeep Singh, in his address, said the decision to abrogate Articles 370 & 35(a) has nothing to do with Hindu-Muslim but it is for betterment

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Shyam Jaju, in his address, said the whole Nation is thankful to Maharaja Hari Singh for his contributions to the society and for acceding to the Union of India.

MP Jugal Kishore Sharma, Th. Narayan Singh and Adv. Abhinav Sharma also addressed the rally.

Serial killer 'cyanide' Mohan convicted in 16th murder case

Mangaluru: "Cyanide" Mohan, a serial killer who has murdered several women using the deadly chemical after befriending and raping them, has been convicted of killing another woman — a music teacher — in Karnataka, taking the total number of his convictions to 16.

Mohan, who has previously been convicted of killing women in public toilets by giving them cyanide capsules, murdered the 33-year-old woman after raping her at a lodge in Bengaluru in May 2007, the prosecution told the Mangaluru district sessions court.

The woman hailed from Uppala in Kasaragod district of Kerala.

The serial killer had introduced himself to her as Sudhakar Acharya, an employee of the forest department. He

gave her a poisonous capsule, telling her it was a contraceptive.

He has used the same modus operandi in all the 20 cases against him, the prosecution submitted to the court.

Judge Sayeedunnisa pronounced Mohan guilty on Friday under various sections of the Indian Penal Code relating to murder, robbery and punishment for cheating and others, after examining 38 witnesses and 49 exhibits.

The quantum of punishment would be pronounced on September 25.

This was the 16th case in which Mohan has been convicted. He had been accused of killing a number of women between 2003 and 2009 and had been sentenced to death in three cases and to life imprisonment in others.

PTI

Depression off Guj coast likely to turn into cyclonic storm: IMD

Ahmedabad: A depression formed over east-central and north-east Arabian Sea was now around 170 kilometres west-southwest off Veraval in Gujarat, the India Meteorological Department said on Sunday.

It is likely to intensify into a deep depression and subsequently convert into a cyclonic storm in 24 hours and move west-northwest towards Oman coast over the next 72 hours, the IMD added.

The cyclonic storm will cause light to moderate rains in several places in the Saurashtra-Kutch region of Gujarat, and heavy rainfall in isolated places in the coastal districts during

the next 24 hours, the IMD informed.

Fishermen have been advised not to venture into the east-central and adjoining north-east Arabian Sea along and off Gujarat coast during next 48 hours as the condition of the sea would be very rough with winds speeds of 45-55 kmph to 65 kmph, the IMD informed.

BABRI MASJID DEMOLITION CASE

Special CBI court issues summons to Kalyan Singh

Lucknow: A special CBI court here has issued summons to former Uttar Pradesh chief minister and BJP leader Kalyan Singh, directing him to appear before it on September 27 in connection with the Babri Masjid demolition case.

The court is conducting the trial of accused persons, including BJP leaders L K Advani, M M Joshi, Uma Bharti and others for allegedly conspiring to demolish the mosque at the disputed Ram Janmabhoomi-Babri Masjid site in Ayodhya.

Taking note of the information given by the members of the Bar association that Singh's term as Rajasthan governor expired in the first week of this month, special judge S K Yadav on Saturday passed the order on a pending application that the CBI had moved on September 9.

After serving a full five-year term as governor, the 87-year-old leader, who was the Uttar Pradesh chief minister when the Babri Masjid was demolished in 1992, rejoined the BJP on September 9.

The court had taken up the application and asked the CBI to produce papers that the



term of Singh as the governor has expired. The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) had then sought time to produce the papers, saying it did not receive any documents from its headquarters.

On the information given by the members of bar association, the court issued the summons to Singh for appearing before it on Friday.

Moving the application, the CBI pleaded that Singh was charged with 1993. It further pleaded that the Supreme

Gorkhas not to visit Foreigner's Tribunal: Body

Guwahati: The Gorkhas, whose names have been excluded from the National Register of Citizens (NRC) in Assam, will not visit Foreigner's Tribunals to prove their Indian citizenship, a community body said on Sunday.

Addressing a press conference here, Bharatiya Gorkha Parisangha (BGP) national president Sukham Moktan said that Gorkhas being tried in the Foreigner's Tribunals (FT) will be an "insult to us for being Indians," he said.

"We can file defamation suit against the system for challenging the citizenship of Gorkhas and Nepali speaking population being taken to FT," Moktan, who heads the only registered national organisation, representing 10.5 million Indian Gorkhas in 22 state units and five zones, said.

The BGP had organised a week-long tour across Assam to meet the victims of the Gorkha community who were not included in the NRC and directed to appeal against it at Foreigner's Tribunals.

During the visit to 18 districts that ended on Sunday, Moktan said they found that names of many Gorkhas had been left out from the final NRC list.

"We met NRC victims and arbitrarily marked D Voters and their descendants whose citizenship is challenged and are being directed to go to FT as per NRC guidelines while a recent Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) notification exempts the Gorkhas.

"This is an attempt of a few vested interests within the system to disrespect Indian

Gorkhas who are actually original inhabitants as is proved by our historically and mythologically recorded presence since centuries," Moktan said.

Nirmal Kumar Pun, BGP secretary general said, "No Indian Gorkhas should be left out of the NRC. As a vigilant civil society organisation, the BGP will play a vital role as it is a judiciary monitored process".

On being asked whether the BGP is planning to take the state government to High Court for the delay in filing fresh writ petition to uphold the MHA notification, Nityananda Upadhyay, president, Assam State Bharatiya Gorkha Parisangha (BGP) said, "BGP is a party to the NRC case in the Supreme Court of India."

If the Government of Assam does not do its duty as directed by the Union of India, the BGP will take a policy decision to take the matter to the Supreme Court and make the State Government party to it and contest the case to ensure that Gorkhas are not taken to Foreigner's Tribunals."

On Saturday a BGP delegation had urged Chief Secretary Alok Kumar to implement the MHA notification.

The chief secretary was urged to form an Empowered Committee to address the woes of the Gorkha community

regarding exclusion of many of their names from the NRC, BGP national secretary Nanda Kirati Dewan had said. More than 19 lakh of the 3.29 crore applicants have been excluded from the final NRC, released in Assam last month.

PTI



Exclusion of Hindu Bengalis from Assam NRC changing political narrative in Bengal

Kolkata: The spectre of NRC implementation is fast turning Bengal into a political battleground, with the TMC appearing to have an advantage over the BJP after the omission of a large number of Hindu Bengalis from the register in saffron party-ruled Assam.

The demand for the NRC exercise to weed out infiltrators has been gaining momentum since last year in the state, which shares over 2000-km-long border with Bangladesh.

However, the publication of the final NRC list in Assam, which left out over 19.6 lakh people - of which around 12 lakh are Hindus and Bengali Hindus - has changed the political narrative in the state to a great extent.

The ruling Trinamool Congress (TMC) has been on the offensive by milking the issue of updating the National Register of Citizens (NRC) as an "anti-Bengali" move on the part of the saffron party.

"What does the omission of 12 lakh Bengalis and Hindus from Assam NRC show? It shows that it is a tool to target Bengalis. The BJP which claims to be the champion of Hindus and its rights should first answer how come Hindus and Bengalis were omitted from the list," Bandopadhyay said.

The ripple effect of NRC in Assam has already been felt in Bengal, especially in districts bordering the neighbouring state, with panicked people lining up at government offices to get documents in place.

"The figures prove that their main target was Bengalis," TMC secretary general Partha Chatterjee said.

BJP national president

Amit Shah, who had repeatedly

said that the exercise would be conducted across India, is

expected to address a seminar

on the issue here on October 1.

Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee, who met the Union home minister in Delhi over the matter early this week, has

been building strong public

opinion against the exercise.

The TMC supremo had led a rally against NRC on September 12 here.

Last month, the West Bengal Assembly had passed a

resolution against NRC, with

Banerjee vowing not to allow

its implementation in Bengal.

TMC MP Sudip Bandopadhyay said the register has not just divided the masses, but also made people refugees in their own country.

The party has now said that the Citizenship (Amendment) Bill would be implemented first, which would provide Hindu refugees Indian nationality, and then the process to oust "Muslim infiltrators" would be carried out.

"The illegal Bangladeshi Muslims pose security threat to the inhabitants of the state and the country," state BJP chief Dilip Ghosh told PTI.

During the 1971 Liberation War in Bangladesh, millions of people had fled the country and moved to India, particularly in Bengal and the north-east region.

"In Bengal, we would first implement citizenship bill and then the NRC. The TMC is just trying to create a panic to reap political dividends," Ghosh added.

PTI

Meghalaya may add more teeth to MRSS Act to check illegal immigration: Dy CM

Shillong: Following the publication of NRC in Assam, Meghalaya government is contemplating to add more teeth to a law, enacted in 2016, to check illegal immigration into the state, Deputy Chief Minister Prestone Tynsong said on Sunday.

He said preliminary investigation revealed that Tanwar and his sons had on Friday complained about the theft to Dhulichand's father, who reprimanded his son and asked Tanwar to lodge a police complaint against him.

A case under Section 302 (murder) of the Indian Penal Code and the SC/ST (Prevention of Atrocities) Act has been registered against Tanwar, his sons and seven unidentified men, the SHO said.

PTI

be passed in the form of an ordinance, he said.

"We will soon hold consultations with all political parties as well as legislators for their views and suggestions in this regard," the deputy chief minister told PTI.

Once the consultation process is completed, Prestone said the Government would place the proposed amendments before the state cabinet for its approval. He also informed that the proposed amendment may be passed in the form of an ordinance. PTI

The state government will soon hold a consultative meeting with all political parties in the state to discuss on the proposed amendment of the Meghalaya Residents Safety and Security (MRSS) Act 2016 and once agreed, the same may

be passed in the form of an ordinance, he said.

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"The figures prove that their main target was Bengalis," TMC secretary general Partha Chatterjee said.

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claimed that it ran the risk of getting "dismantled" on account of flagrant violation of human rights.

"We do not need to do anything against Pakistan. It will get dismantled because of the very path it has chosen. The country will be devoured by flagrant violation of human rights and flourishing terrorism on its soil," Singh remarked grimly, without elaborating further.

He rubbished the "one man's terrorist is another man's freedom fighter" theory often used by the neighbouring country to justify militancy in the northern state.

"Let us see how many terrorists they can send (to India). None of them will go back," he added. Among others who addressed the gathering here were Union Ministers Ravi Shankar Prasad and Nitayanand Rai and Bihar Deputy Chief Minister Sushil Kumar Modi.

PTI

Dalit man beaten to death for 'stealing water pump' in Rajasthan's Jhalawar

Kota (Raj): A 40-year-old Dalit man was beaten to death for allegedly stealing a water pump in Rajasthan's Jhalawar district, police said on Sunday.

The incident took place in Ghatoli area on Saturday morning, when a 60-year-old man, his two sons, and some other unidentified people thrashed Dhulichand Meena of Mewakhera village, alleging that he stole a water pump from their fields, Station House Officer (SHO) Nainuram Meena said. When Dhulichand was on his way to a nearby village, Purilal Tanwar, his sons, Devi Singh (23) and Mohan (20) and the other men confronted him, the SHO said.

He said a heated exchange between Dhulichand and the group of men over the stolen hand pump soon turned violent and he was beaten up badly.

Dhulichand's father reached the spot and took his injured son home. Later, Dhulichand's condition deteriorated and he was rushed to a hospital, where doctors declared him brought dead, the SHO said.

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A dose of adrenaline

The Indian economy needed a booster shot. Was Nirmala Sitharaman's corporate tax cut the way to do it?



On the face of it, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman's announcement to cut the corporate tax rates in India from 30 to 25 per cent, making for an effective slab of 25.17 per cent for all companies in India that do not use incentives, is a smart move, both for the corporate sector and the optics of politics. This avoids any potential conflict with sector-specific reductions in Goods and Services Tax (GST) rates, which would have led to a showdown in the GST Council. By cutting a Central tax, a decision solely of the Central Government, days of headache have been avoided. Of course, Opposition politicians will make a fuss about these rates but the smarter among them will understand that not only did something need to be done but that the private sector was essential for creating employment and the challenges thereof might potentially be reduced. Now, how the tax cuts will be utilised could determine how they benefit the economy. Companies could use the extra cash to fund expansion, pare debt or even not reduce their workforces in what has been a difficult year. That said, the reduction in corporate tax rates would also be extremely beneficial for potential foreign investors who might have shied away from India due to higher rates and could, therefore, give a boost to the 'Make in India' initiative. This shows that the Government is not just taking half-hearted selective measures to revive the economy but is actually taking matters seriously.

The prime disappointment though has been felt by middle-class income tax payers, who were also hoping for some adjustments in personal income tax rates that remain relatively high. While the after-effect of demonetisation and the GST rollout, both of which brought in a lot of the informal economy into the formal scheme, was an increase in the overall tax base, there have been no commensurate rate reductions. The investing classes are still peeved about long-term capital gains tax on money market investments and any reduction in these will excite the markets once again. The problem is that while this might have given the bourses a booster shot, it could take several quarters for the effects to really start taking hold of the economy. In the short-term, consumer sentiment might take a while to recover. And that is worrisome. With companies already stressed, some feel that the rate cut will be absorbed in the near-term by firms balancing their books. While there could be some concerns and some cribs, there should be no doubt that the measures taken by the Government are on the whole an extremely positive given the overall state of the economy, and could even improve collections in the long-run once investments increase. If companies pare their debts, it could encourage the banks to start lending more. Increased investments could spur job creation as well. Yes, the Government has huge social responsibilities but the best way to help people is to create jobs and India's challenge on that front is unparalleled. This will help. However, this looks more like a distress management module rather than embodying a vision of either long-term goals, structural or big bang reforms that will take us to the next level irrespective of market trends and crisis. If only, this gives credence to the idea that no Government really changes the status quo unless it is forced to by the scale of an economic crisis. This is a repeat of the scenario in 1991 when the then Finance Minister Manmohan Singh liberalised the economy in the face of an unprecedented crisis. India's economy cannot afford to be reactive anymore, it has to be proactive.

Role model

Greta Thunberg's call is reverberating in India where school kids in metros are missing classes for a climate strike



Youth leadership is certainly changing the world. And the greatest impact among activist leaders has been achieved by 16-year-old Greta Thunberg from Sweden, who has taken upon herself the task of awakening the consciousness of the world community to the only issue that will matter to us — climate change. From launching a protest outside her country's Parliament on August 2018, till a little more than a year now, the teenager has indeed caught the attention of not just the intended audience, the law-

The fact that I found all these drivers in

level education far exceeds joblessness among illiterates in both rural and urban areas:

"The unemployment rate is highest among youth with education until diploma (37 per cent), graduate (36 per cent) and post-graduate and above (36 per cent), suggesting the lack of opportunities for a higher skilled workforce."

The crisis was found to be more acute in urban areas (7.8 per cent) than in rural (5.3 per cent). A report by the Centre for Monitoring Indian Economy (CMIE) had also found that qualified youth — those with bachelor's degrees and above — faced the highest unemployment.

Government salary is now ₹18,000 per month, higher than what 70 per cent employed people make in this country in desolate times. No data encapsulates this better than the Hindi film *Dream Girl*, where Ayushmann Khurrana plays an educated young man from Mathura, who has pursued the conventional path of BA, MA and MPhil but finds himself without a job. Out of sheer desperation, he signs up for a phone-sex call centre simply because it promises an income that his degrees cannot give him.

Undoubtedly, this trend is setting off a socio-economic transformation. At one level, it is offering recourse to students who are not academically brilliant and won't make the cut in higher institutions, just plain regulars who, however, make up the bulk of our educated workforce. At another level, it also means we are diluting their core competence, productivity and belief that education and knowledge are tools for an elevated life. We are teaching them the art of compromise, building values numerically than holistically. In fact, if basic skills like driving and cooking can earn people the moolah, then our young may just give up the idea of "becoming a graduate," still an aspiration that

cannot give him.

How then can we customise higher education for a segmented job market rather than dumping a one-size-fits-all formula on sectors that can hire but need specific domain knowledge? How can we make our graduates job-ready? As a recent skill research has shown, employers found 80 per cent of Indian engineering graduates failing to meet minimum requirements for a hire. Many such firms say prospective candidates lack sufficient industry experience because our courses are too theoretical and not application-oriented. There must be an industry-aided skill requirement map so that the problem of over-qualification, as evidenced by the latest job rush queues in Maharashtra, does not dash hopes. Besides, there must be a provision for career-long skill upgradation given that the economic paradigm can change due to technological breakthroughs and fluidity of the economy. There should be enough start-up incentives for engineers to set up small units that are viable. Yes, use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) may kill some traditional jobs but as seen with the IT revolution, they also encourage an allied layer of human services and talent. That spinoff is often overlooked in umbrella decisions. The jobs crisis is severely threatening our demographic dividend, given that half our population is below the age of 25. But a potential asset could become our biggest liability if we don't look at the bigger picture now.

(The writer is Associate Editor, *The Pioneer*)

makers across the world, but gathered traction among the youth. Her message has been plain and simple: Stop talking, start acting. And she is leading by example, taking the road and sailing the waters in solar-powered rides while strictly not flying. Now her call for "climate strikes" till the end of the month has ensured the largest student demonstration on planet earth till now. Millions of youth, predominantly school-going, are giving their classrooms a miss to take part in peaceful street protests demanding world leaders to take concrete actions and avert environmental catastrophes. Her echoes have been heard here, too, as millennials in Delhi launched a march from the city centre that snaked past Lodhi Garden and ended at the Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change. The students even submitted a memorandum to the powers that be. In the spirit of the freedom movement and a display of our vibrant culture, brightly dressed students held up placards that read, "The show must go on" and "if the weather can change, so can you." Young people in other metro cities like Bengaluru, Mumbai and Kolkata followed suit, setting aside their weekday pursuits.

Ahead of the 2019 Climate Action Summit, while speaking to the members of Congress in the House Ways and Means Committee last week, Greta said, "This is the biggest crisis humanity has ever faced, you cannot solve a crisis without treating it as one. Stop telling people that everything will be fine. As it looks now, everything won't be fine." Bluntly, she told the US lawmakers, "Listen to the scientists, unite behind the science, then take real action." Echoing her words, even the UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres could not afford to remain a mute spectator and asked member nations to bring a plan and not plain speeches to slash greenhouse gas emissions. Greta's success and freshness have been that as a disruptor, she is being heard more and as a representative of a generation we will be bequeathing the earth to, is stirring up enough guilt within us. Besides, her passionate campaigns and demonstrable actions of how to reorient modern living in a sustainable manner have given everybody an individual goal that is easier to meet than effecting a policy change. Climate scientists had for long warned that the world is running out of time to avert the worst effects of global heating. They had alerted about the consequences — food scarcity, water stress, deaths due to high temperatures, forest fires, and mass displacements — all of which have become a reality. Youth leaders are more aware in a knowledge society, more user-oriented and practical. It's time we go by their blueprint. For a child is indeed the father of man.

Sir — The world's largest oil facilities in Saudi Arabia have faced massive damages in the recent drone attacks. Various conspiracy theories have been doing the rounds regarding the culprits and the US President, Donald Trump, has as usual pointed a finger at Iran. But it must be remembered that Saudi Arabia has for long been threatened by internal conflicts by fringe elements and other radical groups. Further, the dependence of the world on Saudi Arabia for fuel makes it crucial for any strife there to be solved at once. This incident goes on to show how such attacks can impact world economics and politics.

P Senthil
Via email

Boosting the economy

Sir — This refers to the report, "Corporate tax slashed to 25% to rev up economy" (September 21). In a bold move to revive the economy, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman announced an eight percentage points cut in

the corporate tax rate. This means that the effective tax rate for firms who do not avail exemptions will fall from 34.94 per cent presently to 25.17 per cent. However, for new domestic manufacturing companies, incorporated after October 1, the tax rate

will be as low as 15 per cent. Due to high corporate tax rates, investments had remained at the lowest ebb. The present move will encourage private investment. It may also give a boost to foreign investments given that global value chains

stand disrupted due to the tariff war between China and the US. While the present rate cut bodes well for the overall economy, largely, the corporate sector must not falter now.

Srishti Mathur
Ujjain

This refers to the editorial, "Missing woods for trees" (September 20). With more than 100 million adult smokers, India has a huge market for both electronic and conventional cigarettes. Although few Indians vape at present, the Indian ban cuts off a vast potential market of 1.3 billion consumers for makers of e-cigarettes. In particular, the e-cigarette market is acquiring 'epidemic' proportions among the youth and children. Given their attractive appearances and the availability in a number of flavors, teenagers are likely to be more prone to such devices.

In this backdrop, the Government's comprehensive ban on these battery-operated devices is welcome. The perception that e-cigarettes are a less-harmful alternative to cigarettes is entirely wrong. In fact, youngsters who use ENDS are more likely to start smoking conventional cigarettes.

Bal Govind
Noida

What's a degree worth?

As graduates and class VIII dropouts are forced into the same career stream, India's joblessness is leading to desperate choices



RINKU GHOSH

They say the story of India is found in its people, its complexity unravelling in everyday life. And so it is that I chanced upon Ankit, who is an owner-driver of a Hyundai Xcent with taxi aggregator Uber and makes anything about ₹40,000-50,000 a month. That's not new or surprising. But Ankit was a verification officer at Barclay's bank, who found himself jobless at a time when he was expecting his first child and his family deep in a financial trough for other reasons. Maternity meant his wife, too, was hived off from her firm that justified job cuts in the name of smart-sizing. Another job with his qualifications was difficult to come by and the offer that came guaranteed him nothing more than ₹35,000 a month. With mounting debts, he invested his severance package in a car and drove around the city, 17 hours on normal days, 22 hours over the weekend, so that he could earn the high points and incentives that Uber guarantees. Despite the inhumanity of sleep deprivation that such trips entail, Ankit's biodata on the company's app flashes the only thing that has become his calling card; that he is healthy and ever-ready to run. Now a father of a one-and-a-half-month daughter, a fan of Adele whose songs motivate him on each ride, he has invested in a second car which he uses for inter-city tours. Some day, he hopes to grow his tourist car business, may be even set up his own agency. But a job he is not going back to, even if it means devaluing his education or explaining to neighbours in the Ghaziabad condominium he lives in why he scours the city at night. "Whatever gives me money, there is no shame. My education isn't working anymore."

Many like Ankit, young graduates and with middling incomes that are on freeze in a sputtering economy, are signing up with taxi aggregators to make ends meet across the country. A very infrequent user, over the last couple of months I have chanced upon at least six graduates who believe in dignity of labour provided it ensures the right price. There was Sandeep, who was a junior sales executive at a company and a people's person but once retrenched, chose the graveyard shift to rush people to their destinations. There was Vikas, who junked a job of ₹25,000 simply because it involved gruelling long hours and he realised he could make more money in the same time period. "Now I can pace out my work on my own terms, be my boss and take home everything," he had told me. "What social embarrassment, I am my own company and I can vary my workflow depending on my needs. Which job will give me this flexibility? This is my choice." There was a young woman too, Suman, who is funding her vocational course by driving around women professionals in a WagonR owned by the family. "I drive select hours, am on GPS, so safety isn't an issue. This is good supplementary income for me!"

The fact that I found all these drivers in



Noida's one-time booming SEZ area also presents a sordid tale of a slowdown and shutdown that's forcing our young people to find their own means of survival. With taxi aggregators like Uber and Ola finding the third largest ride-sharing market in India after the US and China, a driving partnership has now become a viable self-employed entrepreneurial option. Yet others are signing up with food and other service aggregators. Some are even relooking at their passions and acquired skills as there is a shop for every kind of service, utilitarian and entertainment, online.

If a report released by the Azim Premji University's Centre for Sustainable Employment is to be believed, then people with a graduate degree are more than twice as likely to be unemployed than the national average.

The same study also found that women are more likely to fall by the wayside. Not only that. Even if graduates decide to take up low-skill work, they have to face intense competition from those who apply to such categories normally. This trend was echoed by a Kotak Institutional Equities report too, which cited data from the Government's periodic labour force survey (PLFS). The unemployment rate among male job seekers with secondary-

level education far exceeds joblessness among illiterates in both rural and urban areas: "The unemployment rate is highest among youth with education until diploma (37 per cent), graduate (36 per cent) and post-graduate and above (36 per cent), suggesting the lack of opportunities for a higher skilled workforce." The crisis was found to be more acute in urban areas (7.8 per cent) than in rural (5.3 per cent). A report by the Centre for Monitoring Indian Economy (CMIE) had also found that qualified youth — those with bachelor's degrees and above — faced the highest unemployment.

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(The writer is Associate Editor, *The Pioneer*)

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Congress leader —Shashi Tharoor

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

A wake-up call

Sir — The world's largest oil facilities in Saudi Arabia have faced massive damages in the recent drone attacks. Various conspiracy theories have been doing the rounds regarding the culprits and the US President, Donald Trump, has as usual pointed a finger at Iran. But it must be remembered that Saudi Arabia has for long been threatened by internal conflicts by fringe elements and other radical groups. Further, the dependence of the world on Saudi Arabia for fuel makes it crucial for any strife there to be solved at once. This incident goes on to show how such attacks can impact world economics and politics.

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Apathy towards a football player

Sir — The Government has initiated a major exercise to formulate a National Education Policy that will aim to fulfil the aspirations of the youth.

HRD Minister —Ramesh Pokhrayan

Filmmaker —Karan Johar

UN chief —Antonio Guterres

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The people of the country have been divided into black and white and there

FIRST COLUMN

Unsung hero of the downtrodden

Though Bhola Paswan Shastri worked tirelessly for the benefit of the underprivileged, he was never credited for his socio-political work



RAJ PARASHAR

The name, Bhola Paswan Shastri, might have a different meaning for different sections of society, but his contributions and accomplishments in the social and political arena speak for themselves. It is unfortunate that Shastri's endeavours have not been accommodated in the political history of India. Though he worked tirelessly for the benefit of the underprivileged and the oppressed, and for the freedom of the country from colonial rule, Shastri has never been duly credited for his socio-political work.

Simple living and high thinking was a way of life for the three-time Chief Minister of Bihar, who not just dedicated his whole life for the uplift of the marginalised sections of society but also followed a righteous path in the murky world of politics.

Not one to believe in politics of opportunism, nepotism, favouritism, glorification and cashing in on his following by bargaining for political posts, Shastri charted his own course in life and was always guided by political ethics and constitutional morality.

Born in 1914 in Bairaghchi, Purnea district, Bihar in a family that belonged to the Pasi community (considered untouchables) Bhola Paswan, as he was known at that time, faced intense discrimination and atrocities. However, rising above that, he charted his way forward and was a brilliant student. He gained a respectable position in society by studying from the renowned Kashi University and the title of Shastri was conferred on him due to his keen intellect. Using his education as a means to fight for the emancipation of his people, Shastri began raising his voice against the caste system and the atrocities inflicted on members of the Dalit community. He participated in many of the struggles launched for the betterment of Dalits and later on joined active politics to make their voice heard as their representative.

Being a follower of Gandhi, he strongly advocated the Mahatma's ideas during the days of freedom struggle and reiterated that political independence could not be achieved unless one was socially equal and liberated. Realising the important role education had played in his life; Shastri always stressed on the need for learning and urged Dalits to pursue higher education for an overall and holistic development. His keen understanding of socio-political dynamics allowed Shastri to ignite the minds of the oppressed and encourage them to break the shackles of poverty and social stigma attached to the caste-system.

Later Shastri, who also had a nationalistic bent of mind, was to jump into the struggle for India's independence as a revolutionary and play a significant role in it. Shastri's dynamic personality and love for the country, politics and social issues resulted in him becoming the first Dalit Chief Minister of Bihar in 1968. He was to occupy that post twice more. Shastri was also a member of the Rajya Sabha and a vocal advocate for his community and the progressive plans he had for them.

Shastri's unmatched wit and intellect came through in an interview he gave in 1978 in his capacity as the Chairman of the then newly-founded Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Commission. When asked about caste-based discrimination in the country, he said, "With more people from different communities becoming educated, the discrimination against Harijans is slowly becoming less. But then, you also have rigid Hindus, like the ones who washed with Ganga water a statue that Jagjivan Ram had unveiled at Varanasi, in order to 'purify' it."

He mobilised the Harijan community to enter the national mainstream and join hands with other landless peasants to change their lives for the better. Shastri supported affirmative action and termed it as a way to rectify the history of injustice dating back thousands of years. A proponent of the reservation policy, Shastri often pointed out that Harijans have a double impediment, poverty and social discrimination, to overcome and quota would help them beat this.

Shastri was one of the unsung leaders and visionaries of yesterday who contributed a lot to the nation but never took advantage of their capacity and position. He always gave priority to society over his family and was against amalgamation of wealth, which is why Shastri was left with just a few clothes, a pair of shoes and a meagre bank account at the time of his death. Socialism and egalitarianism were the inalienable attributes of Shastri's personality which is evident from the journey of his life.

It will be an injustice to let his name be erased from the annals of history, especially whenever we remember frontline social reformers and Dalit ideologues. In an era where politics of vendetta and nepotism is being used as a means to further personal agendas or decimate rivals, his simple lifestyle and brand of selfless politics can prove to be the guiding light for modern-day politicians and inspire many budding leaders.

(The writer is a Research Scholar at Patna University.)

analysis

09

POINT COUNTER POINT

BJP SHOULD STAGE A SIT-IN AT DELHI FOR RELEASE OF FLOOD RELIEF FUNDS INSTEAD OF INDULGING IN TONGUE WAGGING AGAINST MY GOVERNMENT.

—MADHYA PRADESH CHIEF MINISTER

KAMAL NATH

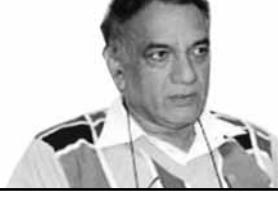


KAMAL NATH SHOULD GO TO DELHI HIMSELF AND ASK FOR HELP. HAVE I EVER TOLD THE OPPPOSITION TO GET HELP FROM DELHI WHEN I WAS CM?

—FORMER MP CHIEF MINISTER AND BJP LEADER SHIVRAJ SINGH CHOUDHARY

Beating desertification

At the COP14 held in India, 196 countries and the EU adopted voluntary land degradation neutrality targets that include their restoration by 2030



VK BAHUGUNA

At the just-concluded Conference of Parties (COP) 14 hosted by India under the aegis of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD), 196 participating countries and the European Union adopted the 'New Delhi Declaration' wherein they agreed that land degradation is a major economic, social and environmental problem, and welcomed strengthening of the adoption of voluntary "land degradation neutrality" targets that include restoration of degraded land by 2030.

The UNCCD, one of the three environmental conventions running after the Rio de Janeiro Earth Summit in 1992, (the other two being The United Framework Convention Climate Change and Convention on Biological Diversity) was established in 1994 as a legally-binding international agreement within the parameters of the UN and connects the environment and development with sustainable land management. The conventions deal with most vulnerable ecosystems in arid, semi-arid and dry lands areas. The basic aim of the convention is to work for improving the livelihoods of the people in these ecosystems through restoration of soil and land and combat drought conditions.

Under the UNCCD, the developed countries are supposed to transfer technologies to the developing countries for sustainable land development. The UNCCD had adopted a strategic framework for the period 2018-2030, which among other things, primarily focusses on improving the condition of affected ecosystems, combat desertification, land degradation, promote sustainable land management and contribute to land degradation neutrality. It also aims to mitigate, adapt to and manage the effects of drought in order to enhance resilience of vulnerable populations and ecosystems; mobilise resources for implementation of the convention and improve the living conditions of the people residing in dry land ecosystems.

By far this is the most important convention and the success of two other conventions' objectives depends upon the success of the UNCCD. The secretariat of the convention had taken lot of programmes to achieve its mandate and some excellent work has already been achieved by India though almost one-third of country's landmass remains degraded and prone to desertification.

The document laid special emphasis on community-driven transformative projects that are gender-sensitive at local, national and regional levels to drive implementation.

While the declaration is a statement of consensus, the 35 decisions are legally binding on each of the 197 signatories. Activities carried out over the next two years would be monitored by India.

The resolutions adopted in the New Delhi Declaration are vital for India and the world, which is grappling with the ever-increasing effects of climate change and faces a major desertification threat.

China, which became the president of the convention in 2017, passed the baton to India at the programme held in Greater Noida, Uttar Pradesh. Environment, Forest and Climate Change Minister Prakash Javadekar, now has the mammoth task of steering the mandate of the convention for the next two years. The four issues discussed during COP14 were land and drought; land and human security; land and climate change and land and sustainable development goals.

Signatories to the New Delhi Declaration endorsed 35 decisions, including commitments to combat land degradation, desertification and drought. In the resolutions, the conference agreed to make the Sustainable Development Goal target of achieving "land degradation neutrality" (LDN), a national target for action. Besides the LDN agreement, whereby countries have pledged to halt the degradation of land to the point where ecosystems and land use can no longer be supported, there was a landmark decision to boost

global efforts to mitigate and manage the risks of crippling drought.

Countries will now be expected to address insecurity of land tenure, including gender inequality; promote land restoration to reduce carbon emissions and mobilise innovative sources of finance from public and private sources to support the implementation of these decisions at a national level.

All countries recognised that desertification undermines health, development and prosperity in all regions and were deeply concerned that the impacts would be felt most keenly by vulnerable people. They were also convinced that participation from civil society organisations, local governments and the private sector would be crucial to achieving the objectives of UNCCD.

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Around 30 per cent of the world's populations live in dry areas, which cover more than 40 per cent of Earth's land surface. Countries like Ethiopia, Sudan, Eritrea, Afghanistan, China and Pakistan are prone to repeated draught and in fact, 40 per cent of the world is now facing drought-like conditions due to climatic vagaries.

In India, around 20 per cent (63.8 million hectares) of the land is categorised as waste lands and most of this is in dry areas. Latest statistics shows that 42 per cent of the Indian land mass faces draughts where more than 600 million people live.

In the light of these findings, the COP14 is vital for the entire world and its recommendations need to be implemented in all seriousness. The people and the institutions of governance must focus on physical structure of land and quality of soil; improve the availability of water; control landslides, floods and movement of soil and conserve

changes occurring in the post-9/11 world and the mushrooming of social media sites, have all contributed in making fantastical explanations — that were once relegated to the lunatic fringe — migrate to the mainstream.

Confusion and polarisation in this context allows people to latch on to theoretical concoctions connecting disparate dots to complete an (often diabolical) explanatory whole. Nothing new about this, as such. In 1902 a tome appeared in Russia titled *The Protocols of the Elders of Zion*.

The book reports how a group of powerful Jews got together to plan a sinister takeover of the world's economic, political and media institutions. The book is also a hodgepodge of segments plagiarised from certain 19th-century anti-Semitic literature. Russian scholar and professor Cesare G. De Michelis writes in his book *The Non-Existent Manuscript* that *The Protocols* was an anti-Semitic satire on a seminar organised by Russian Zionists. Anti-Semitism was peaking in Russia at the time, and this is why this satire was then published more

widely, but this time as fact, according to Michelis.

After doing the rounds in Russia, *The Protocols* reached the US in 1917. In 1921, US car manufacturer Henry Ford financed the publishing of 50,000 copies of the tome. He also published a series of articles inspired by the book in a newspaper that he owned. The articles all appeared under the title *The International Jew*.

Everything from the communist revolution in Russia to the creation of trade unions and inter-racial marriages in the West was blamed on the Jews. In 1922, the book and the articles were translated into German and became popular in Germany. It would go on to influence the ideology of Nazism in that country. It didn't matter that the British daily *The Times* had already thoroughly exposed the book as a hoax and a forgery. At the end of World War II, when facts about the Holocaust began to emerge, the book lost mainstream traction and readership in Europe and the US, and was relegated to the Right-wing fringe.

But it rebounded by finding a

brand new audience in the Arab world after the creation of Israel in 1948. Its first Arabic translation appeared in 1951 in Egypt. It soon made its way into the non-Arab Muslim world as well.

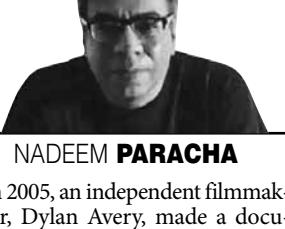
I am not sure when it appeared in Pakistan as an Urdu translation, but I once found a 1968 Urdu edition of it in a second-hand book store in Islamabad in 2005. In 1987, when the Palestinian Islamist outfit Hamas was formed, its first charter (published in 1988) heavily referenced *The Protocols*. But by then the book had already begun to lose purchase in the Muslim world as well, until it returned with a bang a decade or so later due to the internet explosion.

Uploaded by Neo-Nazi and white supremacist groups and by various Islamist outfits, *The Protocols* once again managed to migrate from the fringes to the mainstream. Its readers again outnumber those who are more interested in reading the many exposés that completely debunked the book as a vicious fraud.

(Courtesy, *The Dawn*)

The rise of conspiracy theories and fantasies

Complex political, economic, demographic shifts and the mushrooming of social media sites have all contributed in making fantastical explanations, that were once relegated to the lunatic fringe, migrate to the mainstream



NADEEM PARACHA

In 2005, an independent filmmaker, Dylan Avery, made a documentary called *Loose Change*.

The film explores the many conspiracy theories which began to emerge after the 9/11 attacks in New York.

The documentary does not discuss the theories as much as it actually promulgates them in a rather dramatic manner. The film claims that it has enough evidence to prove the conspiratorial notion that the 9/11 attacks were an "inside job," meaning they were organised by the US Government.

In 2006, Avery and the film's producers released a second edition of the film, claiming that this one included some new evidence. But,

actually, this one left out certain claims made in the first edition of the film after they were debunked.

A year later in 2007, a third version of the documentary emerged called *Loose Change: Final Cut*. This edition almost entirely edited out the many speculative claims of the previous editions. This left the film looking more like a compilation of reports on the attacks because, by then, *Loose Change* had been systematically debunked through a series of articles in various newspapers in the US and the UK.

Ironically, the American business tycoon, Mark Cuban, who had bought the rights to distribute the last edition of the film — which, unlike the first two editions, was not released online for free — was quoted as saying that he entirely disagreed with the contents of the film. One of the film's producers, Mathew Brown, echoed the sentiment but added that he had financed the film because he believed in freedom of speech.

The first edition was a sloppy and amateur attempt to cynically draw

traction from online fans of conspir-

acy theories. However, it became a huge online hit, encouraging the makers of the film to turn it into a lucrative franchise of sorts.

The first edition cost just \$2,000,

the second \$6,000 and the third \$20,000, after the rights of the film were sold to a major DVD distribution company. Translated versions of the film were also screened on TV channels in various countries, including Pakistan.

Geo TV ran it with an Urdu commentary, even though, by then, the film had been significantly discredited. Influenced by the successful manner in which it had managed to draw a large audience, another local TV channel, *Indus TV*, began to run a series of translated documentaries funded by the wealthy Turkish 'Islamist creationist' and cult figure Harun Yahya. These films explained Darwinism, secularism, democracy, 'Western modernity' and so on, as the core reasons behind the misery in the Muslim world and on Earth in general.

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No plans to revise fiscal deficit target: Nirmala

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on Sunday said there are no plans to revise the fiscal deficit target for the current fiscal at the moment and a decision in this regard will be taken before the annual Budget.

Experts are of the view that India's fiscal deficit will widen as a result of the corporate tax reduction by the government.

When asked if the government will consider revising the fiscal deficit target, Sitharaman said these are "decisions taken near the Budget".

In the biggest reduction in 28 years, the Government on Friday slashed corporate tax by almost 10 percentage points as it looked to pull the economy out of a six-year low growth and a 45-year high unemployment rate by reviving private investments with a ₹1.45-lakh crore tax break.

Base corporate tax for existing companies was reduced to 22 per cent from the current 30 per cent; and for new manufacturing firms, incorporated after October 1,



On raising the borrowing target for the second half of the current fiscal, the Finance Minister said, it will be decided in the next few days

2019 and starting operations before March 31, 2023, to 15 per cent from the current 25 per cent.

On raising the borrowing target for the second half of the current fiscal, the Finance Minister said, it will be decided in the next few days.

"Not touching any of the given targets now. When the meeting for revised estimates takes place, we will look at it," Sitharaman said.

According to global rating

agency Moody's, the reduction in corporate income tax revenue — even when balanced against the windfall from the recent transfer of central bank surplus reserves, equivalent to around 0.3 per cent of GDP in the current fiscal year — further narrows fiscal room for manoeuvre.

However, it described the rate reduction as credit positive for companies because it will enable them to generate higher post-tax incomes.

Corp tax cut makes India an investment destination, says FM

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

India has become a highly competitive investment destination post corporate tax reduction as the rates are now lower than that in China and most Southeast Asian countries, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman said on Sunday.

India was earlier at disadvantage because of a couple of factors and on top of it was the high corporate tax rate, she said, adding that the reduction has made it attractive for foreign investors, including iPhone maker Apple, to set up units in the country.

"The top consideration on which India was rejected as investment destination is now better than everybody else... For some one who is coming up with new investment, no country is offering 15 per cent (tax rate). We are giving 15 per cent with no MAT (minimum alternate tax) and simpler taxation structure," she said.

Quoting experts, she said

India is now much better than China in terms of rate, transparency, and tax administration so companies can now look at India for setting up new units.

"Apple and its entire ecosystem's moving will have a greater impact. Everyone who comes now will straightaway get 15 per cent tax benefit. Component manufacturers of Apple in China will find India more attractive to have units at 15 per cent in India than 25 per cent," she said.

Apple or any foreign company can come and set up business and enjoy the competitive rate of 15 per cent, she said, adding that the stipulated timeline for the product roll-out from the new unit is on or before March 31, 2023.

In the biggest reduction in 28 years, the government on Friday slashed corporate tax by almost 10 percentage points as it looked to pull the economy out of a six-year low growth and a 45-year high unemployment rate by reviving private investments with a Rs 1.45-lakh crore tax break.

Top 1K listed firms may see savings of ₹37K cr post corp tax cut: CRISIL

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Crisil Research on Sunday said top 1,000 listed companies could see tax savings of ₹37,000 crore on account of the corporate tax cut.

"Over the past few days, a slew of measures have been introduced to address the slowdown in the Indian economy. Friday's announcement, however, is the most material... Our analysis indicates these 1,000 companies could see tax savings of ₹37,000 crore, or nearly a fourth of the total savings anticipated by the government," it said in a statement.

The drop in tax rate would now bring India at par with most Asian economies, it added.

"Crisil Research's analysis of nearly 1,000 companies — spread across 80+ sectors such that they cover more than 70 per cent of NSE's market capitalisation — indicates that effective tax rates had risen over the past 5 years," it said.

These companies, including oil & gas and financial services, account for nearly a third of the tax paid by India Inc.

BUSINESS CORNER

PRADHAN REVIEWS PERFORMANCE OF NMDC

New Delhi: Dharmendra Pradhan Union Minister of Petroleum & Natural Gas and Minister of Steel, Govt. of India visited the Head Office of NMDC Limited at Hyderabad on 21.09.2019.



The Minister met CMD, Directors and employees of the company and reviewed NMDC's performance in presence of G Kishan Reddy Minister of State for Home Affairs, Govt. of India. Pradhan said, NMDC being one of the largest mining companies in India should focus on increasing iron ore production. This will have the benefit of keeping prices in check and ensuring equitable supply of raw material to all steel producers. He further asked NMDC to carry out sustainable and responsible mining using digital means. The Minister directed that the execution and commissioning of the ongoing projects especially NMDC Iron and Steel Plant (NISP) should be monitored regularly so that it can be completed on priority. Pradhan also reviewed the Slurry Pipeline Project of NMDC.

AAI PARTICIPATES IN WORLD ROUTES 2019

New Delhi: Airports Authority of India, the sole provider of air navigation services and responsible for management of airports across the country is participating in the 25th World Route Development Forum - World Routes 2019 at Adelaide in Australia. The India Pavilion jointly representing Airports Authority of India and Mumbai International Airport at this global event was formally inaugurated today by Usha Padhee, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Civil Aviation, Government of India in presence of IN Murthy, Member (Operations), AAI; Kaushik Bhattacharjee, Airport Director, NSCBP Airport, Kolkata; Ajay Kumar Bhardwaj, Airport Director, Pune; JB Singh, GM (CC), AAI and Ajay Kumar Verma, DGM (Operations), AAI.

GRSE CONDUCTS ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

New Delhi: The 103rd Annual General Meeting (AGM) of Garden Reach Shipbuilders & Engineers Limited (GRSE) was held on Friday 20 Sep 19 at 1030 Hrs. at Bhasha Bhawan of National Library, Kolkata.



Commenting on the outcome of the Annual General Meeting, Rear Admiral V K Saxena, IN(Retd.), Chairman and Managing Director, Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers Ltd., stated that this AGM had a very special significance as it was GRSE's first AGM after the successful IPO of the Company, wherein the Government of India disinvested 25.50 per cent of its shareholding in the Company. The Public Issue was well received and the shares of the Company are now listed at NSE and BSE. The CMD took the opportunity to extend his gratitude to all the investors for the confidence they reposed in the Company, which was further reflected by the increased market capitalisation post listing of its shares.

MNRE AWARDS GRANTS TO FOUR PROJECTS

The Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE) awarded Grants to the awardees of the second round of PACeSetter fund programme in a ceremony organised by the Ministry yesterday. Anand Kumar, Secretary, MNRE and Kenneth Ian Juster, the US Ambassador to India co-chaired the felicitation ceremony. In the second round of awards, a total of 168 Expressions of Interest were received. Out of these, four projects were selected for award of grants. The awardees include Society for Economic and Social Studies, New Delhi, Customized Energy Solutions India Pvt. Ltd., Pune, The Energy & Resources Institute (TERI), New Delhi and Raghavendra Suntech Systems Pvt Ltd (RSSPL), Bengaluru.



"The government has put liquidity into the bottom line of the companies. Roughly, close to Rs 75,000 to Rs 80,000 crore will be flowing because of the tax cuts into the bottom line of the world."

Addressing the India Today Conclave here over the weekend, he said there is now a need to focus on improving demand.

RC Bhargava, chairman of Maruti Suzuki, said manufacturing's growth rate or share in GDP is nowhere near the required level. Manufacturing

and Godrej to act by cutting their prices and offering more sops to consumers.

Experience more relevant than what you learnt 35-40 years ago, says Das

annual Jackson Hole retreat of the US Federal Reserve with economists.

As against this, Das has done history from St Stephen's, New Delhi, who, after this, joined the civil service and retired in May 2017 as the economic affairs secretary. At the time of joining the RBI, he was a member of the 15th Finance Commission.

Das' role in the note ban and how he managed the changing narratives for the government in its aftermath has got him the moniker of a being an insider who will toe the government line as the past two governors hardly were on the same page with New Delhi on most matters.

"The chief of US Fed (Jerome Powell) has a political science background, the incoming chief of the European Central Bank and former IMF president Christine Lagarde has a legal background and the chief of the Bank of Japan (Haruhiko Kuroda) has a civil service background," Das has said at the India Today Conclave over the weekend here. Das was responding to a question from the audience whether his academic qualification has weighed him down as the governor.

Both Patel and his predecessor Raghu Rajan have illustrious academic records. While Rajan is an internationally acclaimed economist, writer and sociopolitical thinker, Patel is known for his papers on monetary economics from among the world's universities.

Rajan is also known for exactly predicting the 2008 global financial meltdown more than a year before it really engulfed the world at the

"Both of my immediate predecessor and the one before that have made their contributions to the RBI. The RBI and the nation are fortunate to have had a number of outstanding governors over the years," he smiled.

We are committed to meet India's energy security needs: Saudi envoy

PTI ■ NEW DELHI



The envoy said Saudi Arabia will continue working with its partners and allies in stabilising the security of the region

Saudi oil facilities which severely impacted global oil supply. Saudi Arabia and its ally, the US, have blamed Iran for the attacks but Tehran has strongly denied the allegations.

"The recent attack against Saudi Aramco was not only against the Kingdom, but against the international community as a whole, and was a deliberate attempt to disrupt the global economy. Therefore, the perpetrators should be held accountable," the envoy said.

Industry leaders from diverse sectors such as manufacturing and services expect the reduction in corporate tax rates to create a positive impact on the economy, leading to a speedier turnaround.

Last Friday, the government announced a massive 10-12 percentage points reduction in taxes for corporates, bringing down the effective corporate tax to 25.17 per cent inclusive of all cess and surcharges for domestic companies. The new tax rate will be applicable from April 1, involving revenue loss of Rs 1.45 lakh crore this fiscal.

Welcoming the step, Godrej Group Chairman Adi Godrej said, "This great announcement will totally change the economic progress. I would say the only other announcement which is of greater importance was in July 1991. This tax cuts will have tremendous positive effect. We will soon see a turnaround."

Addressing the India Today Conclave here over the weekend, he said there is now a need to focus on improving demand.

RC Bhargava, chairman of Maruti Suzuki, said manufacturing's growth rate or share in GDP is nowhere near the required level. Manufacturing

Tax cuts to boost industry; now need to focus on spurring demand: India Inc

PTI ■ MUMBAI

is barely limping at around 5 per cent and we need to lift it to 10 per cent, he said, adding that the tax cuts will be a big step in that direction.

The need is now to address the demand side issues, Bhargava also opined.

Niranjan Hiranandani of realty major Hiranandani Group said the tax cuts address only the supply-side economics but we also need "to address the demand side."

Piramal Group's Ajay Piramal said the tax cut sends out a clear message that the government is listening to the issues. It is a brave step but more needs to be done to spur demand, he added.

Niti Aayog CEO Amitabh Kant said the government has brought corporate tax on par with the East Asian neighbours and on par with the best tax regimes across the world.

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and Godrej to act by cutting their prices and offering more sops to consumers.

Petrol price jumps ₹1.59/ltr, diesel ₹1.31/ltr after Saudi attacks

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

per cent of the global supply.

Oil prices have cooled since the spike on September 16 but remain on the edge.

Attackers using low-flying drones and cruise missiles knocked out 5.7 million barrels of production, or about 60 per cent of what Saudi Arabia currently produces. It was the largest supply disruption in history. On Monday, Brent oil futures soared 15 per cent.

Analysts have warned that the style of the attacks on Saudi Aramco's Abqaiq and Khurais oil facilities jolted oil markets.

Yemen's Houthi terror group has taken responsibility for the biggest-ever attacks on

global energy supplies, resulting in the suspension of approximately 50 per cent of Saudi Aramco's production.

"As the investigations are

ongoing, the Kingdom will

invite UN and international experts to view the situation on

ground and to participate in the

investigations," the ambassador said.

The Kingdom will take appropriate measures to ensure its security and stability. The Kingdom affirms that it has the capability and resolve to defend its land and people, and to forcefully respond to these aggressions," he said.

"The recent attack against

Saudi Aramco was not only

against the Kingdom, but

against the international com-

munity as a whole, and was a

deliberate attempt to disrupt

the global economy. Therefore,

the perpetrators should be held

accountable," the envoy said.

While Saudi Aramco's

Abqaiq and Khurais oil

facilities were jolted by

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Scheme	NAV	1Yr%	Tata Large Cap Fund(G)	217.18	2.50	Edelweiss Multi-Cap Fund-Reg(G)	14.28	0.04	Fund(G)	L&T Equity Fund-Reg(G)	79.25	-3.17	Fund(G)	PGIM India Euro Equity Fund(G)	13.63	-7.97
DSP World Gold Fund-Reg(G)	14.29	35.51	Mirae Asset Great Consumer Fund-Reg(G)	34.79	2.46	DSP Global Allocation Fund-Reg(G)	12.74	0.03	DSP US Flexible Equity Fund-Reg(G)	25.97	-3.27		IDFC Focused Equity Fund-Reg(G)	35.39	-7.98	
Kotak World Gold Fund(G)	10.35	30.83	DSP India T.I.G.E.R Fund-Reg(G)	89.14	2.38	ICICI Pru Nifty Low Vol 30 ETF	89.75	-0.01	Invesco India Contra Fund(G)	46.06	-3.32		SBI Contra Fund-Reg(G)	100.77	-8.01	
BNP Paribas India Consumption Fund-Reg(G)	11.85	18.66	Parag Parikh Long Term Equity Fund-Reg(G)	25.39	2.23	UTI Mastershare-Reg(G)	120.46	-0.06	ICICI Pru Value Fund-10(G)	11.06	-3.32		Principal Nifty 100 Equal Weight Fund(G)	68.35	-8.03	
Sundaram Fin Serv Opp Fund(G)	42.97	13.83	Aditya Birla SL Banking & Financial Services Fund-Reg(G)	28.29	2.02	Motilal Oswal Multicap 35 Fund-Reg(G)	25.84	-0.09	UTI Dividend Yield Fund-Reg(G)	63.94	-3.33		Sundaram Mid Cap Fund(G)	440.33	-8.03	
Tata Banking & Financial Services Fund-Reg(G)	19.32	12.81	SBI LT Advantage Fund-IV-Reg(G)	12.95	-0.19	Aditya Birla SL MNC Fund(G)	742.05	-3.34		DSP Equal Nifty 50 Fund-Reg(G)	9.41	-8.04				
Baroda Banking & Fin Serv Fund(G)	23.35	11.14	Reliance Consumption Fund(G)	65.11	1.96	HDFC Focused 30 Fund(G)	74.39	-3.39		SBI Magnum TaxGain'93-Reg(G)	136.24	-3.46				
Edelweiss ETF - Nifty Bank	2952.49	10.75	Tata Mid Cap Growth Fund(G)	135.17	1.95	Invesco India Largecap Fund(G)	27.86	-0.21	ICICI Pru Technology Fund(G)	59.40	-3.52		Sundaram Emerging Small Cap-Sr-IV-Reg(G)	8.91	-8.21	
SBI Banking & Financial Services Fund-Reg(G)	17.98	10.26	ICICI Pru Value Fund-11(G)	12.15	1.84	Tata Value Fund-Sr-2-Reg(G)	9.52	-0.24	Kotak India Growth Fund-Sr 4(G)	9.19	-3.53		L&T Emerging Opp Fund-Reg(D)	9.09	-8.31	
Axis Bluechip Fund(G)	30.10	10.01	DSP Equity Opportunities Fund-Reg(G)	219.43	1.83	Edelweiss Large Cap Fund(G)	35.41	-0.34		Tata Digital India Fund-Reg(G)	15.02	-3.58				
Axis Multicap Fund-Reg(G)	12.03	9.46	SBI LT Advantage Fund-II-Reg(G)	1160.23	1.74	UTI Banking and Financial Fund-III-Reg(G)	94.45	-0.37	Aditya Birla SL Resurgent Fund-IV-Reg(G)	9.76	-3.65		L&T Midcap Fund-Reg(G)	126.01	-8.32	
SBI Tax Advantage Fund-III-Reg(G)	25.36	9.08	Axis Focused 25 Fund(G)	28.43	1.68	SBI LT Advantage Fund-I-Reg(G)	12.98	-0.48	India Fund-4-Reg(G)	1273.93	-8.34		HDFC Capital Builder Fund-Reg(G)			
BNP Paribas Large Cap Fund(G)	91.25	9.06	Canara Rob Equity Tax Saver Fund-Reg(G)	63.76	1.64	UTI Focussed Equity Fund-V(G)	9.15	-3.88		Value Fund(G)						
Invesco India Financial Services Fund(G)	56.53	8.92	Baroda Large Cap Fund(G)	14.31	1.63	ICICI Pru Infrastructure Fund(G)	49.25	-0.51	Aditya Birla SL Resurgent Fund-IV-Reg(G)	11.53	-8.42		Sundaram Emerging Small Cap-Sr-IV-Reg(G)	11.53	-8.42	
DSP A.C.E. Fund-Sr 2-Reg(G)	10.48	8.60	HDFC Nifty 50 ETF	1181.39	1.63	PGIM India LT Equity Fund-Reg(G)	13.99	-0.57	Reliance Focused Equity Fund-Reg(G)	283.75	-3.96		India Fund-2-Reg(G)			
Tata Large & Mid Cap Fund(G)	205.43	7.76	IDFC Nifty ETF	116.50	1.62	SBI PSU Fund-Reg(G)	9.77	-4.08	ICICI Pru Value Discovery Fund(G)	138.88	-8.60					
DSP 3Y Close Ended Equity Fund-Reg(G)	15.69	7.41	IDFC Equity	10.08	1.61	Sundaram LT Tax Adv Fund-Sr II-Reg(G)	14.08	-4.12	Aditya Birla SL Mfg. Equity Fund-Reg(G)	12.63	-8.68					
Canara Rob Consumer Trends Fund-Reg(G)	39.73	7.41	Opportunity-6-Reg(G)	34.35	1.59	ICICI Pru Bluechip Fund(G)	41.62	-0.62	Reliance Capital Builder Fund-IV-B(G)	7.49	-8.71					
ICICI Pru Value Fund-18(G)	11.40	7.34	Sundaram Large and Mid Cap Fund(G)	28.43	1.68	DSP Midcap Fund-Reg(G)	53.54	-0.69	Edelweiss Eur Dynamic Equity Fund-Reg(G)	11.02	-8.77					
DSP A.C.E. Fund-Sr 1-Reg(G)	10.44	7.32	Sundaram Select Small Cap Series-III-Reg(G)	14.13	1.56	Motilal Oswal Midcap 30 Fund-Reg(G)	25.40	-0.69	Off-shr Fund-Reg(G)	9.49	-8.93					
ICICI Pru Banking & Fin Serv Fund(G)	63.22	7.28	Franklin India Feeder - Fund(G)	32.44	1.54	Kotak Emerging Equity Scheme(G)	37.93	-0.71	IDFC Equity Fund-Reg(G)	24.10	-4.26					
BNP Paribas Long Term Equity Fund(G)	38.60	7.17	Franklin U.S. Opportunities Fund(G)	10.08	1.51	Kotak Infra & Eco Reform Fund(G)	19.39	-0.82	ICICI Pru Focused Equity Fund(G)	28.79	-8.98					
JM Tax Gain Fund(G)	17.49	7.12	PGIM India Large Cap Fund(G)	165.67	1.53	PGIM India Diversified Equity Fund-Reg(G)	13.01	-0.84	Agri-Reg(G)	10.30	-9.47					
Aditya Birla SL Global Real Estate Fund(G)	20.58	6.78	Sundaram Select Small Cap Fund-IV-Reg(G)	14.15	1.51	DSP World Mining Fund-Reg(G)	8.38	-0.91	PGIM India Midcap Opp Fund(G)	267.79	-9.13					
Reliance US Equity Opp Fund(G)	16.25	6.77	IDFC Nifty Fund-Reg(G)	73.91	1.44	Tata Value Fund-Sr-1-Reg(G)	9.76	-0.95	Sundaram Value Fund-IX-Reg(G)	8.72	-9.21					
DSP Equity Fund-Reg(G)	40.09	6.63	Sundaram Select Small Cap Fund-III-Reg(G)	23.39	1.38	JM Value Fund(G)	31.52	-0.95	Aditya Birla SL Infrastructure Fund(G)	29.38	-9.24					
ICICI Pru Growth Fund-1(DP)	11.13	6.61	Aditya Birla SL Frontline Equity Fund-IV-Reg(G)	9.85	1.35	IDFC Core Equity Fund-Reg(G)	43.52	-4.35	IDFC Equity Fund-Reg(G)	152.98	-9.28					
JM Multicap Fund(G)	32.88	6.17	Edelweiss ETF - Nifty 100 Quality 30 Fund-Reg(G)	282.09	1.29	Franklin India Opportunities Fund(G)	70.61	-4.37	Sundaram Value Fund-X-Reg(G)	10.30	-9.47					
SBI Magnum Equity ESG Fund-Reg(G)	106.07	6.15	Sundaram Emerging Small Fund-Reg(G)	10.15	1.30	Aditya Birla SL Sensex ETF	355.34	-1.06	ICICI Pru Bharat Consumption Fund-Reg(G)	9.59	-4.39					
BNP Paribas Long Term Equity Fund(G)	38.60	7.17	Sundaram Select Small Cap Fund-IV-Reg(G)	14.15	1.51	PGIM India Large Cap Fund(G)	12.19	-1.07	HDFC Infrastructure Fund(G)	15.21	-9.86					
JM Tax Gain Fund(G)	17.49	7.12	IDFC Nifty Index Fund-Reg(G)	73.91	1.44	Tata Resources & Energy Fund-Reg(G)	13.95	-4.34	Sundaram LT Tax Adv Fund-Sr Fund-Reg(G)	8.91	-9.91					
Aditya Birla SL Global Real Estate Fund(G)	20.58	6.78	IDFC Nifty Fund-Reg(G)	23.39	1.38	UTI Resources & Energy Fund-Reg(G)	12.98	-5.16	Reliance Value Fund-Reg(G)	10.10	-11.17					
Reliance US Equity Opp Fund(G)	16.25	6.77	Sundaram Select Small Cap Fund-III-Reg(G)	9.85	1.35	Franklin India Opportunities Fund(G)	70.61	-4.37	Sundaram Emerging Small Fund-Reg(G)	7.99	-11.18					
DSP Equity Fund-Reg(G)	40.09	6.63	Sundaram Emerging Small Fund-IV-Reg(G)	10.15	1.30	Aditya Birla SL Sensex ETF	355.34	-1.06	Sundaram Value Fund-II-Reg(G)	12.46	-11.25					
ICICI Pru Growth Fund-1(DP)	11.13	6.61	Sundaram Select Small Cap Fund-III-Reg(G)	10.08	0.60	PGIM India Large Cap Fund(G)	12.19	-1.07	Sundaram Select Micro Cap-Sr-III-Reg(G)	12.46	-11.25					
JM Multicap Fund(G)	32.88	6.17	Edelweiss ETF - Nifty 100 Quality 30 Fund-Reg(G)	282.09	1.29	Fund-2-Reg(G)			Cap-Series VIII-Reg(G)							
SBI Magnum Equity ESG Fund-Reg(G)	106.07	6.15	Sundaram Emerging Small Fund-Reg(G)	10.08	0.60	Invesco India Infrastructure Fund(G)	16.38	-1.27	Franklin India Smaller Cos Fund(G)	48.96	-11.45					
Aditya Birla SL India GenNext Fund(G)	84.54	6.13	Sundaram Emerging Small Fund-Reg(G)	10.08	0.60	Reliance Power & Infra Fund(G)	93.87	-4.45	Sundaram Select Micro Cap-Sr-III-Reg(G)	12.38	-11.59					
ICICI Pru US Bluechip Equity Fund(G)	29.18	5.57	Sundaram Emerging Small Fund-Reg(G)	10.08	0.60	ICICI Pru Midcap Fund(G)	91.54	-4.49	Cap-Series IX-Reg(G)	8.16	-11.68					
Mirae Asset Emerging Bluechip-Reg(G)	53.05	5.13	Sundaram Emerging Small Fund-Reg(G)	10.08	0.60	Sundaram Diversified Equity Fund-Reg(G)	96.89	-4.49	Sundaram Value Fund-Reg(G)	39.07	-10.04					
DSP Tax Saver Fund-Reg(G)	48.46	5.12	Sundaram Emerging Small Fund-Reg(G)	10.08	0.60	Edelweiss Mid Cap Fund-Reg(G)	15.92	-4.73	Templeton India Value Fund(G)	233.20	-10.15					
IDBI Banking & Financial Services Fund-Reg(G)	10.34	4.76	Sundaram Emerging Small Fund-Reg(G)	10.08	0.60	Reliance Capital Builder Fund-IV-A(G)	25.77	-4.83	Sundaram Emerging Small Fund-Reg(G)	8.59	-10.15					
Sundaram Multi Cap Fund-Sr II-Reg(G)	10.19	4.69	Sundaram Emerging Small Fund-Reg(G)	10.08	0.60	SBI Consumption Opp Fund-Reg(G)	112.82	-4.93	PGIM India Midcap Opp Fund-Reg(G)	16.97	-10.16					
Tata India Tax Savings Fund-Reg(G)	18.06	4.64	Sundaram Emerging Small Fund-Reg(G)	10.08	0.60	UTI Nifty Next 50 ETF Fund-Reg(G)	281.17	-5.04	IDFC Infrastructure Fund-Reg(G)	144.02	-11.74					
Canara Rob Bluechip Equity Fund-Reg(G)	24.95	4.35	Sundaram Emerging Small Fund-Reg(G)	10.08	0.60	Reliance Vision Fund(G)	506.85	-5.05	Sundaram Emerging Small Fund-Reg(G)	7.81	-10.97					
Axis Long Term Equity Fund(G)	45.91	4.31	Sundaram Emerging Small Fund-Reg(G)	10.08	0.60	HDFC TaxSaver(G)	492.20	-5.12	IDFC Infrastructure Fund-Reg(G)	11.91	-12.47					
SBI Tax advantage Fund-II(G)	36.85	4.29	Sundaram Emerging Small Fund-Reg(G)	10.08	0.60	IDBI Focused 30 Equity Fund-Reg(G)	9.62	-5.13	IDBI Small Cap Fund(G)	8.79	-11.92					

Iran warns foreign forces of meddling

AFP ■ TEHRAN

President Hassan Rouhani on Sunday denounced the presence of foreign forces in the Gulf and said Iran will offer a peace plan, after arch-foe the United States ordered reinforcements to the tinderbox region.

"Foreign forces can cause problems and insecurity for our people and for our region," Rouhani said in a televised speech at an annual military parade.

Rouhani also said Iran would present a peace plan to the United Nations in the coming days.

"In this sensitive and important historical moment, we announce to our neighbours that we extend the hand of friendship and brotherhood to them," he said.

Tensions between Iran and the US and its allies have threatened to boil over since May last year when President Donald Trump unilaterally withdrew from a 2015 nuclear deal and later began reimposing sanctions in a campaign of "maximum pressure".

The tensions escalated in the wake of devastating September 14 attacks on Saudi oil installations that Washington and Riyadh have, to varying degrees, blamed on Tehran. Following the attacks, which caused global oil prices to spike, Trump initially raised

MILITARY PARADE ON IRAN-IRAQ WAR ANNIVERSARY



In this photo released by the official website of the office of the Iranian Presidency, President Hassan Rouhani speaks at a military parade marking 39th anniversary of outbreak of Iran-Iraq war, in front of the shrine of the late revolutionary founder Ayatollah Khomeini at Tehran, Iran on Sunday

comes from within," said the Iranian president.

Following his speech, the Iranian armed forces paraded their latest equipment, including tanks, missiles and armoured vehicles as Rouhani and top military commanders saluted them.

Rouhani is expected to travel to New York on Monday, a day before general debate kicks off at the United Nations General Assembly.

Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif, who is subject to US sanctions, has already arrived in New York ahead of the annual gathering.

Tensions have flared in the Gulf since May, when Iran began reducing its commitments to the nuclear deal and the US said it was sending forces to waters near the Islamic republic in response to "indications of a credible threat" from its forces.

The US deployed an aircraft carrier strike group and a bomber task force to the sensitive waterways, before sending B-52 bombers, an amphibious assault ship and Patriot missile battery.

Following the deployments, commercial ships were mysteriously attacked, drones downed and oil tankers seized in Gulf waters. Trump in June authorised a military strike after Iran shot down a US drone, only to call off the retaliation at the last moment.

US likely to escalate trade war with China if no deal is agreed soon: Trump's advisor

PTI ■ BEIJING

intellectual property rights (IPR) technology transfer and more access to American goods to Chinese markets.

Trump delayed a planned tariff hike on USD 250 billion of Chinese goods as a "gesture of good will" ahead of China's 70th year of National Day celebrations on October 1.

The two countries are preparing for the next round of trade talks in Washington in October.

"Does the president have options to escalate the trade war? Yes, the tariffs can be raised higher. These are low level tariffs that could go to 50 per cent or 100 per cent,"

Pillsbury was quoted as saying by the Hong Kong-based South China Morning Post on Sunday.

Trump's critics were wrong to assume the President was "just bluffing" when he threatened an all-out trade war, he said.

"There are other options involving the financial markets, Wall Street, you know, the president has a whole range of options," he said.

Pillsbury said Trump was not seeking to cripple US-China trade, instead positioning that he wanted to "increase the level of trade to rectify the deficit"

GLOBE TROTTING

NOT TOO LATE FOR BREXIT DEAL: JUNCKER

Madrid: There is still time for London and Brussels to make a Brexit deal, outgoing European Commission president Jean-Claude Juncker said in remarks published Sunday, as the clock runs down to a October 31 deadline.

Juncker also told the Spanish daily El País that he wished the Commission had played a more active role in the 2016 British referendum to counteract "lies and fake news".

WORLD FEELS HEAT OF CLIMATE SUMMIT

United Nations: Saying humanity is waging war with the planet, the head of the United Nations isn't planning to let just any world leader speak about climate change at Monday's special "action summit."

Only those with new, specific and bold plans can command the podium and the ever-warming world's attention, Secretary-General Antonio Guterres said.

TANZANIA NOT SHARING EBOLA INFO: WHO

Nairobi: The World Health Organization has accused Tanzania of failing to provide information on suspected cases of Ebola in the country, potentially hindering efforts to curb the spread of the deadly virus.

Israeli Prez says 'stable' Govt should include Likud, Blue and White

Jerusalem: Israeli President Reuven Rivlin said Sunday the country's next Government should include both Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's Likud party and Benny Gantz's Blue and White alliance to form a "stable" coalition.

Rivlin made the comments during meetings with representatives from political parties to hear their recommendations on who should be prime minister following last week's deadlocked elections.

Blue and White won the most seats in Tuesday's poll, with 33 out of parliament's 120, while Likud finished second with 31.

Neither has an obvious path to a majority coalition, raising the possibility of a third election in a year's time after April polls also ended inconclusively. Rivlin had so far met representatives from Blue and White and Likud as part of his consultations.

Trump, Biden spar over Ukraine after whistleblower complaint

AFP ■ WASHINGTON



Joe Biden accused Donald Trump Saturday of "an overwhelming abuse of power" and called for an investigation into accusations the US leader pressured his Ukrainian counterpart to investigate the presidential candidate's son.

Biden's allegations prompted a swift rebuke from Trump, who himself accuses the Democratic frontrunner of wrongdoing in Ukraine during his time as vice president under former president Barack Obama.

The back-and-forth recriminations stem from a Washington Post report stating a whistleblower complaint had been filed over Trump's communications with Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky, and a "promise" allegedly made by the US leader.

Trump allegedly pressured Zelensky to investigate possible corruption involving Biden and his son Hunter, who had worked with a Ukrainian natural-gas company while his father was vice president.

Trump has urged media to "look into" Biden's comments in early 2016 when the then US vice president said the Obama administration would freeze \$1 billion in US loan guarantees unless Kiev fires its top prosecutor, who was investigating his son.

He also accused news outlets of fabricating "a story about me and a perfectly fine and routine conversation I had with the new President of the Ukraine. Nothing was said that was in any way wrong, but Biden's demand, on the other hand, was a complete and total disaster."

Biden had on Friday demanded Trump immediately release the transcript of a July 25 call with Zelensky while saying reports that the president sought to coerce his Ukrainian counterpart, if true, amounted to "clear-cut corruption."

Trump slammed the allegations as "ridiculous" and on Saturday accused Biden on Twitter of having demanded, during his time as vice president, "that the Ukrainian Government fire a prosecutor who was investigating his son."

He also accused news outlets of fabricating "a story about me and a perfectly fine and routine conversation I had with the new President of the Ukraine. Nothing was said that was in any way wrong, but Biden's demand, on the other hand, was a complete and total disaster."

"This appears to be an overwhelming abuse of power, to get on the phone with a for-

Trump to boast to UN about US success, but troubles mounting

AFP ■ UNITED NATIONS

US President Donald Trump will stand before the United Nations on Tuesday to declare his country top of the world. But with diplomatic troubles building, his annual boast may ring hollow.

Trump's political brand is as well known inside the United Nations as his businessman version is to the rest of New York: brash, unabashedly self-promoting, and all about claiming the win.

At this year's UN General Assembly, the former real estate tycoon won't disappoint.

"We'll say the United States is the greatest country in the world. It's never been stronger and it's never been better," he said in a mini-review of his speech.

Oh -- and that Americans "certainly have one of the great presidents in our history."

Trump's declaration last year that he had "accomplished more than almost any administration in the history of our country" triggered laughter in the cavernous UN hall.

Headlines like "The Whole World Laughed at Trump" followed, to which Trump insisted that diplomats were chuckling, not at him.

A year later, with Trump beset by setbacks from North Korea to Iran and Venezuela to China, will his Big Apple bragadocio get a better reception?

A senior administration official told reporters ahead of the assembly that Trump would work to "affirm America's leadership role in the rules-based international system."

But the US president prefers to go it alone, preferring bilateral deals to coalitions, negotiating with enemies and clashing with friends.

On Monday, he'll skip a big climate change summit organised by the UN secretary general. Trump, who promotes fossil fuels and derides the need for renewable energy, also missed climate change talks at the recent G7 summit in France.

While at the UN, he'll meet separately with around a dozen leaders.

But of them, the only European representative currently on the list is Boris Johnson, the prime minister running the chaotic Brexit process of trying to pull Britain out of the EU.

There will be intense scrutiny of a meeting on Wednesday with Ukraine's President Volodymyr Zelensky.

Trump is alleged to have attempted to persuade the Ukrainian to investigate one of his 2020 presidential challengers, Joe Biden.

There will be intense scrutiny of a meeting on Wednesday with Ukraine's President Volodymyr Zelensky.

Trump believes that his personality enables him to succeed where conventional diplomacy fails.

UN welcomes Houthi offer to halt attacks on Saudi Arabia

AFP ■ UNITED NATIONS

The United Nations envoy for Yemen welcomed Saturday an offer from the country's Houthi rebels to halt all attacks on Saudi Arabia, saying it could bring an end to years of bloody conflict.

Implementation of the initiative by the Huthis "in good faith could send a powerful message of the will to end the war," Special Envoy for Yemen Martin Griffiths said.

The Iran-backed Huthis, which control the capital Sanaa and other parts of Yemen, have been fighting against a Saudi-led coalition which supports the country's internationally recognised government in a devastating five-year war.

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Demonstrators clash with Egyptian security forces in rare anti-Sisi protests

AFP ■ CAIRO

Egyptian security forces clashed with hundreds of anti-government protesters in the port city of Suez on Saturday, firing tear gas and live rounds, said several residents who participated in the demonstration.

Another resident, who also preferred to remain anonymous, said the tear gas was so thick it had reached her apartment block a few kilometres away from the turbulent downtown area.

"My nose started burning up. The smell was seeping through the balcony. I also saw some youth run and hide in our street," the woman said.

On late Friday, hundreds of Egyptians poured through the streets of Cairo, chanting slogans including "Leave, Sisi" and demanding the "fall of the regime".

At least 74 people were arrested after clashes between the crowds and police in the capital, a security source told AFP. The protests came after Mohamed Aly, an exiled businessman and opponent of Sisi posted calls online for demonstrations against Sisi.

He upped the pressure on Saturday in an explosive-filled video, imploring Egyptians to join a "million-man march" next Friday and to fill all "major squares" of the country.

"This is a people's revolution... We have to link up together as one... And organise going down to the major squares," he said in a Facebook appeal to his followers.

Study: Melting Antarctic glaciers to slip faster towards ocean

PTI ■ LONDON

The water from melting Antarctic glaciers, flowing through the ice and beneath them, is rapidly accelerating further thawing of the continent's ice sheets towards the sea, according to a study.

The study, published in the journal Nature Communications, is the first time researchers have found that melting on the surface impacts the flow of glaciers in Antarctica.

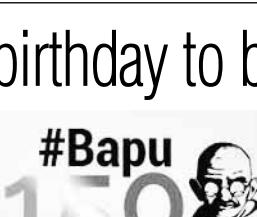
Researchers, including those from the University of Sheffield in the UK, used imagery and data from satellites along with regional climate modelling and found that meltwater is causing some glaciers to move 100 per cent faster than average — by up to 400 metres per year.

According to the researchers, gravity causes glaciers to move downhill with the internal deformation of ice, and by sliding over the ground beneath them — a process lubricated by liquid water called basal sliding.

The study shows that the movement of glaciers in the

Gandhi's 150th birthday to be celebrated in Netherlands

PTI ■ THE HAGUE



A number of public awareness events, including a Gandhi March for non-violence, will be held next week in the Netherlands to mark the 150th birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi.

The exhibition in Dutch will show the viewers the important phases of Mahatma Gandhi's life.

From September 24 to October 3, volunteers will fan out to schools and universities of the Netherlands in a "Follow the Mahatma" campaign and talk about Gandhi's message of non-violence and its relevance in today's world.

This school project aspires to reach over 25 schools and over 1,600 children.

The aim of the programme is to bring together volunteers who in turn can reach out to several thousand students aimed at disseminating the message of non-violence.

The International Day of



Non-Violence on October 2 will be marked by a "Gandhi March for Non-Violence" through the city of The Hague to highlight the importance of the message of non-violence.

Around 300 school children and 150 adults will take part in the march which will begin from the Gandhi statue at Hobbemaplein and conclude at the iconic Peace Palace.

The rally will be addressed by India's Ambassador Venu Rajamony and other dignitaries in the courtyard of the Peace Palace.

This will be followed by planting of a tree in the Peace Palace. A plaque with a message of Mahatma Gandhi will be placed by the tree.

Other celebrations on October 2 include garlanding of Gandhi statues in The

Hague, Amsterdam, Utrecht and Zoetermeer, with the public paying tributes by placing flowers at the feet of the statues as a mark of respect amidst speeches, singing of favourite songs of Gandhi, cultural programmes

and a memorial meeting by Stichting Standbeeld Mahatma Gandhi in the Peace Palace.

A social media campaign will also be conducted inviting people to post messages reiterating their commitment to the principle of non-violence.

This year marks the 150th anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi, the Father of the Nation. He led India to independence from the British rule through peaceful and non-violent resistance. In 2007, the United Nations declared his birthday October 2 as the International Day of Non-Violence and called upon countries and people across the world to celebrate and observe this day by disseminating the message of non-violence, including through education and public awareness.

The bus rams into a mountain in Pak

PTI ■ PESHAWAR

Trend Blazer

Hrithik vs Tiger in War promotions

Actors HRITHIK ROSHAN and TIGER SHROFF will not share the same stage during the promotions of their film *War*.

Director Siddharth Anand confirms this news saying, "We want to hold the magic of seeing them going after each other and increase the anticipation for the film. We wanted to translate this on-screen rivalry into an off-screen conversation point. The team is designing events and moments that pitch them against each other at every given opportunity. You have to wait and watch for this plan to unfold."

The film has been shot in seven different countries and is set to release on October 2.



There's so much madness and unpredictable situations on sets that become an adventure and my recreational habits of climbing trees and swimming in the ocean have proved useful for some of my work. Travelling is just a normal organic part of my life. If I have a weekend off, I like to go somewhere and if there's a chance to explore I take it.

—Kalki Koechlin



Singer-rapper YO YO HONEY SINGH strikes big as he wins best music direction award at the IIFA awards.

He received the award for his music direction and songs like *Dil Chori* for *Sonu Ke Titu Ki Sweety*.

Taking the award he said, "I tried to keep this song quite *desi*, for which I also used *dholak* and I am very happy that the audience liked my song. I am very thankful to my parents and friends."

Britney makes red carpet appearance

Singer BRITNEY SPEARS recently made a rare red carpet appearance to support her beau Sam Asghari.

The singer has mostly stayed out of the spotlight in last few months amid personal and legal turmoil involving her and her family. Recently, a hearing was held to discuss the status of her conservatorship. Her 67-year-old father,

Jamie Spears, had mostly controlled her financial and medical affairs since her 2007 public meltdown. The case remains pending.

Earlier this month, her ex-husband Kevin Federline filed a criminal complaint and obtained a restraining order against Jamie, which bans him from contact with the former couple's two sons, after accusing him of getting physical with one of them.



Excerpts from literature

Jio MAMI Mumbai Film Festival engages the literary world directly with content creators for film, television and digital. This will give the filmmakers an opportunity to discover the untapped reservoir of Indian classics that can become the next hit.

By TEAM VIVA

What do films like *Gone With The Wind*, *Fault in Our Stars*, *Harry Potter* series or *Kai Po Che* and *3 Idiots* have in common? Yes, all of them have been inspired by books and were discovered by a content creator who then crafted them into films.

Now imagine another scenario. What if Yash Raj Films or Sanjay Leela Bhansali decide their next film by interacting with the authors and publishing houses directly? The mind boggles at the exchange of ideas and the great content that films would have access to. The audience would also get to know about books which might be embedded with a great idea but have ended up in the back shelves of the publishing houses.

Therefore, it is very important to have a platform where the literary world engages directly with content creators for film, television and digital. This word to screen market gives filmmakers an opportunity to discover the untapped reservoir of Indian literature that can become the next hit story of Indian cinema.

It is this idea that Jio MAMI Mumbai Film Festival has decided to put it into practice. In the fourth edition of the 'Word to Screen Market' it takes a big format leap that will enable the authors and content creators to have more face time with each other.

Focusing on what is different in this edition, Smriti Kiran, artistic director, MAMI says, "In the earlier editions we would ask authors and publishers to pitch their work to us. And

then we curated some of their works and created a list. But we have upgraded our system this year because it is important to consistently learn from what is happening in the market and adapt to it."

This year the festival has asked the publishers to bring forth the backlog of books that people are not aware about and pitch it directly to the content creators. This will showcase the hidden gems that have been lying neglected with publishers and open up avenues for both the directors and the writers.

The platform will witness 550 titles ranging across 30 genres — thrillers, romance, spy drama, paranormal, biographies, historical fiction, mythological fiction, sports drama, sci-fi, corporate drama, politics, social satires and several non-fiction best-sellers on subjects ranging from history, society, culture and politics to environment and spirituality.

Some of the renowned publishers such as — Harper Collins, Penguin Random House, Juggernaut Books,

DC Books, Westland Publications and Rajkamal Prakashan will take part in the festival. There will also be 40 buyers and 24 authors including New York-based award-winning author Manreet Sodhi Someshwa of *The Taj Conspiracy* fame, Amazon bestseller Sundari Venkatraman, Jagran-Nielsen best-selling authors, Satya Vyas, Nikhil Sacchan, Nilotpal Mrinal, Divya Prakash Dubey and Shashank Bharatiya. as well as several other new voices from the literary world.

The stories will be presented to 40 content creation companies — Jio Studio, Netflix, Aamir Khan Productions (AKP), Disney India, Amazon Prime Video, Dharma Productions, Yash Raj Films (YRF), Sony Pictures Entertainment and many others.

Swati adds that this will help the authors, publishing houses and content curators to interact closely and build relationships and explore the stories which can be portrayed on the silver screen.

However, the transformation of a

book to a film is not easy. The director has to plot deviations, condense plot points and jot down set pieces that could be showcased on screen. It is almost like retelling the story, this time visually.

Such festivals play a vital role in this scenario especially because the avenues for storytelling have gone up. The web space has paved way for more people to showcase their talent and bring more content forward.

Anu Singh Choudhary, consultant and an expert in the publishing industry says, "This is the best time for a storyteller. There is an unquenchable thirst for riveting stories across

mediums and we are constantly going back to our bookshelves and bookshops in search of magic that narratives deeply rooted in Indian sensibilities deeply rooted in Indian sensibilities deeply rooted in Indian sensibilities.

Swati adds that the people who will be benefitting from this shared space will be the end target consumer — readers, viewers and audience. A rise in such platforms is important because they push the boundaries of Indian content by celebrating literature as a potent muse.

Battle of 5G

Here is why you don't need the technology in your phone just yet



South Korea, Samsung has sold two million 5G phones worldwide since April and expects to double that by the end of the year. Motorola has seen "tremendous engagement and excitement" from customers. But Motorola said such first-generation products primarily suit early adopters who need to be first on the block. New iPhones

won't support 5G.

THE PRICE OF 5G

The speedy wireless technology can add a few hundred dollars to phone price tags. For instance, Samsung's standard Galaxy S10 phone costs \$900; the 5G model costs \$1,300, though Samsung said it also showcases the company's best features.

including a larger screen and a better camera. For Motorola, 5G comes as a \$350 option for the existing Moto Z series phones.

"This territory is reserved for the leading-edge type of consumer, those willing to sacrifice money to be first," said Wayne Lam, an analyst at IHS Markit. The price gap is expected to narrow and eventually disappear as 5G becomes a standard feature, Geoff Blaber of CCS Insight said.

NETWORK LIMITATIONS

5G coverage is limited to certain neighbourhoods in a handful of cities. While 5G phones can still connect over existing 4G LTE networks, "are you willing to spend extra for something you might not see consistently until 2021?" IHS Markit analyst Josh Builtka asks.

Wireless networks have a history of Balkanisation, although it tends to sort itself out. Verizon and Sprint have been using a wireless technology called CDMA, while AT&T and T-Mobile use an incompatible version called GSM. Early on, phone makers produced separate CDMA and GSM models. But as technology advanced, they were

able to pack all the necessary components into phones.

Similar all-in-one 5G phones should be fairly common by next year, experts say. In fact, T-Mobile CEO John Legere suggested the company is holding back on 5G network expansions until compatible phones come out later this year. T-Mobile's current 5G phones only work with parts of its planned 5G network.

Sprint, which T-Mobile is in the process of acquiring, said first-generation phones are intended to show off 5G benefits to those who live or spend a lot of time in the company's nine 5G markets.

Verizon didn't return messages. AT&T isn't offering 5G to consumers yet, although it has rebranded some existing 4G service as "5G E."

TO WAIT OR NOT

If you can squeeze another year or two out of your current phone, there will be plenty of 5G phones to choose from by the time you're ready to upgrade. But it's ok to buy a new, pre-5G phone now if you can't wait. You can always trade that in for a 5G model later.

—AP

WEBBED

MO GILLIGAN: MOMENTUM

Comedian Mo Gilligan blends smooth moves and sharp humour as he riffs on humble beginnings, family dynamics and the complex art of dancing in the club.

The comedy film releases on September 30 on Netflix.



IN THE SHADOW OF THE MOON

A Philadelphia detective slowly unravels as he nurses a lifelong obsession with an enigmatic female serial killer whose crimes defy explanation.

Starring Boyd Holbrook, Michael C. Hall, Cleopatra Coleman, the film releases on September 27 on Netflix.



GOLIATH SEASON 3

The unexpected death of an old friend leads Billy McBride to take a case in the drought-stricken Central Valley where he comes face-to-face with a new Goliath: a billionaire farmer and his sister and their scheme to steal California's most valuable resource — water. As Billy and his team pursue truth, old enemies and personal demons resurface forcing him to confront his own mortality.

Starring Billy Bob Thornton, Dennis Quaid, the drama releases on October 4 on Amazon Prime Video.



Arya GoT immortalised

Famously, Arya Stark always preferred her sword Needle to needlework. Still, even she would be impressed with the giant tapestry now on show in France that recounts the plot of *Game of Thrones* in glorious and, of course, gory and salacious detail.

With the award-winning saga about power struggles in mythical Westeros poised for more success at the Emmy Awards on Sunday, the tapestry's unveiling this month in the Normandy town of Bayeux could hardly be better-timed. The show's 32 nominations broke a single-year record.

Fans who have flocked in their thousands to see the embroidered artwork are giving it a thumbs-up.

"It's fantastic. You can see kind of the story, how it all lays out," Amanda Zides, visiting from a suburb of Boston, said as she pored over the tapestry this week. "They did a nice job — great colour, great detail."

At 87 meters (285 feet), the tapestry is longer than the width of a soccer pitch and longer than the famous 11th-century Bayeux Tapestry that recounts the Norman invasion of England in 1066. That tapestry served as an inspiration for the *Game of Thrones* look-alike.

The work was commissioned by the tourism office of Northern Ireland, where HBO filmed many of the scenes. Irish officials hope the Bayeux exhibit will boost tourism to Northern Ireland. Its *Game of Thrones* sites are already a big draw, attracting 350,000 visitors in 2018 alone.

"We consider the Bayeux Tapestry as the grandmother of our *Game of Thrones* tapestry," said Séverine Lecart, director of marketing in France for Tourism Ireland.

Obvious parallels between the two tapestries include the embroidery styles, colours and structures. Both are divided into three segments, with their central storylines running through the middle bordered by smaller panels displaying motifs like winged beasts or weaponry. The two works evoke similar themes of violent conquest and feudal loyalty.

The Bayeux Tapestry is thought to have been commissioned by William the Conqueror's brother. It tells the story of William's conquest of England with vivid scenes of battle and palace intrigue. It attracts nearly 400,000 visitors annually and Bayeux officials hope the *Game of Thrones* exhibit will



grow that number.

The tapestry begins with fictional King Robert Baratheon visiting the Stark family in Winterfell and ends with the final scenes from the eighth and last season. It took a 30-strong team of volunteer embroiderers in Northern Ireland nearly four months to stitch the tapestry in 2017, adding final scenes after *Games of Thrones* last aired in May.

Like the often-racy show, the tapestry includes several sex scenes. But among visitors on Wednesday, scenes depicting Daenerys Targaryen with her dragons and Jaime Lannister getting his hand chopped off proved particularly popular.

"Amazingly-well presented," said Geoffrey Vasse, visiting from the Normandy city of Caen. "I'm a fan of the series of *Game of Thrones* and if there is a tapestry just nearby, I wanted to come and see it."

—AP



THE WAY WE WERE

One of the best-known figures from Madhubani, GAURI MISHRA questioned and challenged the orthodoxies and worked relentlessly for women's empowerment, says SUJATA PRASAD

Exhuming the legacy of someone as extraordinary as Gauri Mishra is not easy. Her demise on August 17 has been entirely overlooked. It is not easy to explain this amnesia or indifference. One of the best-known figures in Madhubani, Bihar, she had a fearless and an indomitable approach towards supporting impoverished women. She took upon herself to question orthodoxies of every kind and was the go-to person for every woman battered by violence.

One of the strongest voices against regressive gender politics of the '80s and the '90s, she was part of an upswell of activism against gender violence and sexism. Her freedom of thought and invincible spirit was infectious. Posted in Bihar during that time as the head of women's empowerment programme, Development of Women and Children in Rural Areas (DWCR), I found myself visiting her *karmabhoomi*, Madhubani, repeatedly for a quick dose of inspiration.

Born in 1933, Gauri married Dr Bhavanath Mishra of the Darbhanga Medical Hospital when she was a teenager and studied for a few years in England. She started her work life as an academic interested in gender issues. In 1974, the Committee on Status of Women presented its watershed report *Towards Equality*, that confirmed the worst fear of sceptics. The report combined with nationwide protests on the custodial Mathura rape case and an avalanche of dowry deaths, resulted in the emergence of several tightly-knit women's organisations.

Gauri's direct involvement in women's issues started in the '70s, when she began assisting German anthropologist and folklorist Erika Moser and American Fulbright Scholar Raymond Lee Owens in their research on the Mithila art. She began working on the historiography of the art, exploring its social dimensions and tracing the antiquity of some of the artifacts to the Brahma Purana.

By 1977, women artists from the area became her prime focus. She founded the Master Craftsmen's Association of Mithila



in partnership with Owens to put an end to the exploitation of impoverished, struggling artists by middle-men. The association provided a platform to eminent women artists like Jagdamba Devi, Sita Devi, Ganga Devi, Maha Sundari Devi, Bauwa Devi, Yamuna Devi, Shanti

Devi, Chano Devi, Lalita Devi, Shashikala Devi, Leela Devi, sikki artist Bindeshwari Devi, paper-mache artist Chandrakala Devi and sujani artist Karpoori Devi. It encouraged them to combat the patriarchal gaze with their artwork. Young artists like Rani Jha were encouraged to

introduce avant garde feminist themes in their pictorial vocabulary.

By the '80s, she teamed up with activist Viji Srinivasan to give a new visibility, potency and legitimacy to women's struggle. Patterned on Ela Bhatt's SEWA, the SEWA Mithila was launched in 1983.

Gauri also founded the Nirbhaya Ashram, a shelter for widows and homeless women. She helped them to deal with their heartbreaks by involving them in her crusade for social justice and change, a crusade that was much bigger than their own personal stories. She was deeply

influenced by the Bodhgaya land struggle, where women's quest for independent rights in land had received traction. Viji was with the Ford Foundation from 1980-86, and then with Oxfam America before founding her own organisation in Bihar. She supported Gauri in setting up economically viable craft and animal husbandry projects. The NGOisation of women's issues may have resulted in certain serious concerns, but no one could doubt that Viji and Gauri were leading genuine movements for gender rights and justice in Bihar.

Our work with grassroots women brought us together. We fought for women's right to livelihood and their independent rights in land and water assets. We created radical new templates and toolboxes. Giving up hope was not an option. I joined their protest marches and listened to their fiery oratory against dowry and female foeticide at the Saurath Sabha (where Maithil Brahmins traditionally assembled to negotiate marriage) and other forums. I can't but be nostalgic about our collective joy when a government owned pond was leased to a woman's group in Raiyam. I am equally nostalgic about our schmaltzy moments together, when at the end of a day spent travelling through villages, we would eat our rice and fish meal in the moonlight on a charpoy, surrounded by radiant women from Gauri's ashram, our night sound tracked by romantic songs of the celebrated Vaishnava poet Vidyapati. I began to see myself less as a civil servant and more as an activist.

Viji's death in 2005 affected Gauri Mishra deeply. For some time, she leaned on her son Samarendra who joined SEWA as a project coordinator. His death in 2011 devastated her completely. She failed to take charge of her life, abandoned whatever was left of her work and retreated to her family home in Darbhanga. Her work needs to be recognised, especially at a time when India has one of the lowest female labour force participation rate in the world and is nearly at the bottom of the Gender Development Index and Gender Inequality Index.

(The writer is a former civil servant and an art columnist.)



Wise beyond her years

For POOJA PASI, a young fierce advocate of girls' rights, it was incomprehensible that only boys were entitled to privileges. By URVASHI SARKAR

Nineteen-year-old, Pooja Pasi along with other children in the neighbourhood began a programme run by Committed Communities Development Trust (CCDT), a non-governmental organisation. She is a member of Child Protection Committee.

Her knowledge about civic concerns and challenges that the residents of the slum face are beyond her age. Being a girl, she is passionate about the rights of women. "There is only one playground in our area. Earlier only boys played there. They would drink and smoke and even the lighting was poor. Parents did not allow their daughters to go near the ground as they were concerned about their safety. The girls themselves did not wish to go there as they did not feel safe," the teenager says.

To Pooja, a young fierce advocate of girls' rights, it was incomprehensible that only boys should have the access to the only playground in the vicinity of the area. She tried to resolve and address the issue. And as a member of the Child Protection Committee, she took it as her responsibility to write to the municipal corporation requesting for installation of lights so that at least the ground would be well-lit. "We also met the police and requested them to patrol the area. They understood our problems and



now there is a police van stationed near the ground every day," she says.

Hema Pasi, Pooja's mother, was initially apprehensive of her daughter's involvement with the activities concerning girls' rights. But then, Pooja's actions began to bear fruit. Now, Hema is a staunch supporter of her daughter.

"Initially, my mother was opposed to me but when I explained to her that girls too have the right to access public spaces just like the boys, she understood the cause for which I was

fighting. I convinced her to help me. In turn, she convinced other parents to encourage their daughters to participate," Pooja says.

Gradually, the other girls started to notice the positive changes that were taking place in and around the locality, especially with regard to the playground. The girls were finally able to use the ground. "I achieved my real victory when I helped in organising a *kho-kho* tournament for girls at the ground," she says beaming with pride.

The tournament was a success. Many girls took part in it. When the boys from the locality wanted to participate in the tournament, Pooja and other members of the committee organised a separate one for them.

"I feel very proud because it was through my agency that girls can now play at the playground, which was earlier occupied exclusively by boys," Pooja says with a grin on her face.

As a member of two committees under the Child Protection programme, Pooja takes part in various community activities. "I assist in children's school admissions, Aadhaar card registration while mobilising the women of the community whenever we need to raise or respond to any issue or put forth requests or demands to the municipality," she says.

Concerned with children's rights, especially those of girls', she is critical and questions, "Boys are always better treated than girls, which is why it seems that the two have different rights. But in reality, they have the same ones. Then, why should girls not be treated at par with boys?"

She has her future charted out. "I want to be in a position of responsibility and help people to the best of my ability. I want to be a bank manager" says Pooja who is a Bachelor of Commerce student.

—Charkha Features

The right service

There is a need for institutions to create and promote a socio-spiritual education system as it has the power to eradicate deprivation and crimes from society, says RAJYOGI BRAHMAKUMAR NIKUNJ JI



Social work has often been looked at as a synonym of welfare. However, the term has a very loose meaning and may imply as different things in different jurisdictions of the world. Individuals and institutions which help the poor, the handicapped, and those affected by a calamity are usually looked upon as doing great social service. However, if such institutions charge money for the work, it isn't regarded as social service. However, one feels truly amazed when one finds that such other individuals and institutions as are sincerely and honestly devoted to the great task of final eradication of poverty, disease and crime from the society but whose mode of work does not require the distribution of money or materials are not regarded as institutions of social service.

This is because those, who react to such institutions with apathy and a lack of appreciation, fail to realise that the relief measures taken to provide them necessary materials, however important, touch only the tip of the iceberg or deal with only the surface problems. These measures do not actually rid the society of poverty or disease or the tendency to commit crimes nor do they attempt to prevent the suffering at its source. In other words, these people lack a proper perspective. They take only a short-term, surface-view of things. Second, not many know that most of the diseases are caused by anxiety, trauma, mental depression, bad eating habits, smoking and drinking. It is also because people don't practice meditation and yoga, which could be as effective in treating or managing such problems as medicines. Likewise, it is not known to many that most of the crimes take place due to mental or criminal tendencies in a person. Even poverty is a result of an



economic exploitation of the deprived by the rich, apathy of the society for the less-privileged and sloth of the poor. All this can be eradicated by a socio-spiritual education system, which strikes at the roots of these problems.

If facts and figures had been published to give people the awareness that the ancient technique of yoga gives hundred-and-one benefits simultaneously and is better and cheaper than any other mode of service, importance of social work done by institutions teaching meditation would never be underrated. On the other hand, their work will be considered as social service par excellence.

Your time is limited. Don't waste it living someone else's life.
—Steve Jobs

WOMEN QUICKER TO PREPARE FOR DISASTERS

Women are quicker to take cover or prepare to evacuate during an emergency but often have trouble convincing the men in their life to do so, a new study suggests.

"We also found that there are many barriers that disadvantage women in the event of a disaster, leaving them behind when it comes to decision-making and potentially slowing down their recovery," said lead author Melissa Villareal from the University of Colorado Boulder in the US.

For the study, the researchers analysed in-depth interviews with 33 women and 10 men across two Texas towns. Some were from Granbury, which in 2013 was hit by an EF-4 tornado that killed six people and cut a mile-wide swathe of destruction, damaging 600 homes. Others were from West, where an explosion at a fertilizer company that same year killed 15 people and destroyed 100 homes.

Residents were asked about their experiences in the midst of and after the disaster. While the circumstances surrounding the events were very different, common gender-influenced patterns emerged.

KINDNESS IS PRIORITY IN RELATIONSHIP

One of the top qualities that people look for in a long-term relationship is kindness, a new research suggests.

For the study published in the Journal of Personality, the research team picked over 2,700 college students from across the globe and asked them to build themselves an ideal lifelong partner by using a fixed budget to 'buy' characteristics.

While traits like physical attractiveness and financial prospects were important, the one that was given the highest priority was kindness, said the researchers.

"Looking at very different culture groups allows us to test the idea that some behaviours are human universals. If men and women act in a similar way across the globe, then this adds weight to the idea that some behaviours develop in spite of culture rather than because of it," said study principle researcher Andrew G. Thomas from Swansea University in Britain.



HEARTFULNESS MEDITATION CULTIVATES GRATITUDE

Heartfulness meditation can contribute to cultivating gratitude among practitioners, a study said.

The study published in the International Journal of Recent Scientific Research has confirmed that Heartfulness meditation, the popular meditation practice around the world, helped to create a sense of gratitude among its practitioners.

World Gratitude Day is celebrated on September 21 annually. The celebration started in 1965 in Hawaii to formally express gratitude and appreciation for all the wonderful things in life.

The awareness of the benefits of gratitude on the general well-being of a person is increasingly becoming apparent and numerous studies have supported the same,

Heartfulness Institute said.

The study is authored by

Raja Amarnath G. Prabhakar

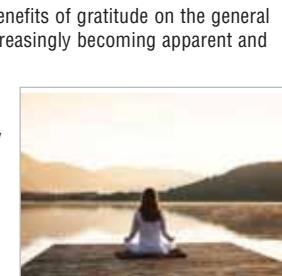
Akurathi, Chitra Rajan,

Aiswarya Ravichandran,

Ravindra Deshpande,

Varalakshmi A. Ved Prakash

Vyas and Rani Vijayan.



FOOD DOESN'T APPEAL TO NON-SMOKERS

Smokers who quit do not generally turn their gaze towards mouth-watering food as normally thought.

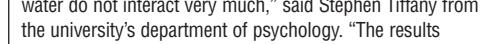
According to researchers

from University at Buffalo, smoking abstinence

doesn't greatly affect the motivation for food.

"We found that the motivations for cigarettes, food and water do not interact very much," said Stephen Tiffany from the university's department of psychology. "The results suggest that smoking abstinence does not affect the motivation for food and water."

The study, published in the journal Drug and Alcohol Dependence, used cues and money to learn how much smokers might spend for cigarettes, food and water during abstinence. The insights tell how different systems control motivation and reward. Food doesn't appeal during those times when a smoker is in a smoke-free environment. "If you can't smoke on an airplane, you're not likely to be spending more money than usual on snacks," said Tiffany.



PERSONALITY AFFECTS EXERCISE SCHEDULE

If you have not been able to meet your gym goals despite persistent efforts to wake up early or hitting that running session on a hot summer afternoon, blame it on your personality.

According to researchers from University of Oregon, some people seem to be more consistently meet their goals than others, but it remained unclear if personality traits encourage long-term goals in their day-to-day lives.

Conscientiousness has long been tied with healthy behaviours. Narrowing their focus to "planfulness" — lead researcher Rita M

Ludwig and colleagues Sanjay Srivastava and Elliot T Berkman, they zeroed in on psychological processes — such as mental flexibility, and a person's ability to make short-term sacrifices in pursuit of future success that contribute directly to achieving long-term goals. "There appears to be a certain way of thinking about goals that correlates with long-term progress," said Ludwig.



Rahul clinches bronze

PTI ■ NUR-SULTAN (KAZAKHSTAN)

Rahul Aware won the biggest medal of his career by bagging a Bronze while an injured Deepak Punia settled for a Silver after pulling out of the final as India celebrated its best-ever performance at the World Wrestling Championship here on Sunday.

Aware outclassed Tyler Lee Graff, the 2017 Pan-American champion, 11-4 in the 61kg bronze play-off to take India's tally to five medals.

Deepak, the reigning junior world champion did not take mat against Iranian great Hasan Yazdani due to an ankle injury, sustained during the semi-final.

The other medal winners in this edition are Bajrang Punia, Ravi Dahiya and Vinesh Phogat.

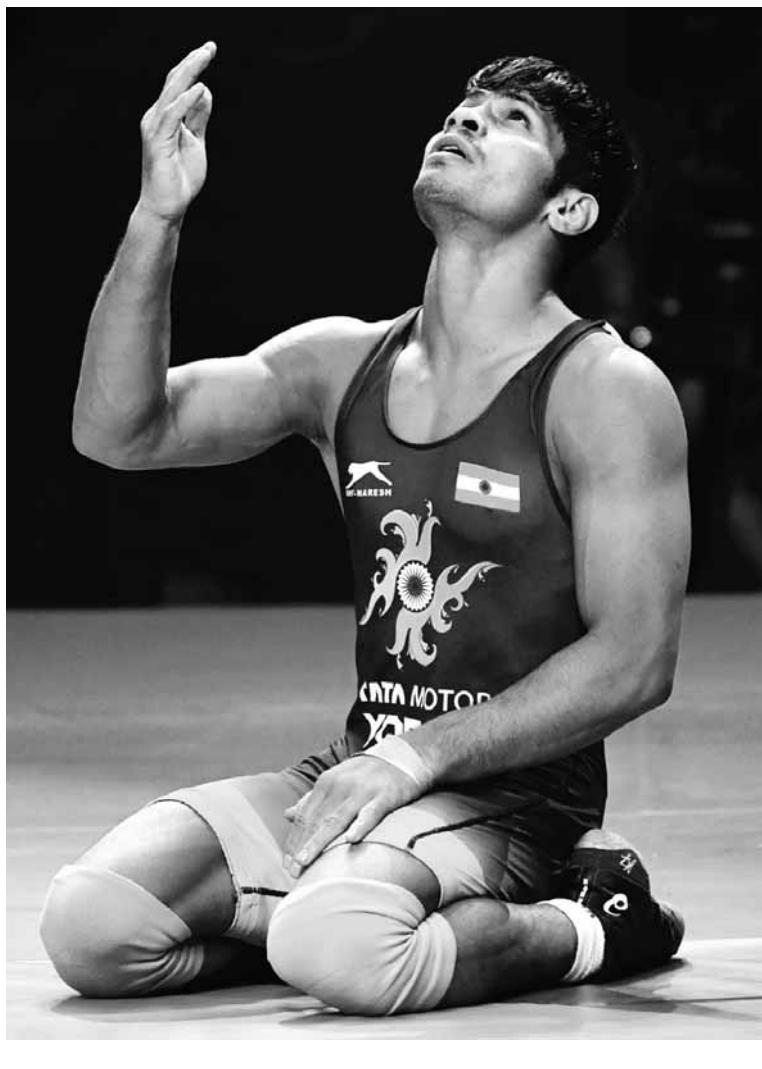
India's previous best show was at the 2013 edition, when the country had won three medals through Amit Dahiya (Silver), Bajrang Punia (Bronze) and Sandeep Tuli Yadav (Bronze) in Greco-Roman.

Winning Gold medal at the 2018 Commonwealth Games was 27-year-old Aware's best performance before.

"I could have won a Gold. It was within my reach. I could have won that semi-final (against Beka Lomtadze). I botched it up in the first period," Aware told PTI.

Aware had shown early promise when he won Bronze medals at the Asian Championships in 2009 and 2011 but suddenly vanished from the scene after that.

"The injuries pegged me back. I was ready in 2014 but then there were no trials for the CWG or the Asian Games. So



I could have won a Gold. It was within my reach. I could have won that semi-final (against Beka Lomtadze). I botched it up in the first period

I did not get a chance to prove my worth," he argued.

"I feared for losing this chance. After a long time, something good was waiting for me and I was really scared to lose it. I am glad I pulled it off," Aware heaved a sigh of relief.

Wrestling of late has been a sport dominated by grapplers from Haryana and Aware is first from Maharashtra to win a senior World medal.

"But Maratha sports history will remember me for winning this medal. I am first from that region to do this," he said adding that he would dedicate his medal to his first coach, late Harichander Brajdar.

For the record, the greatest ever Maharashtrian wrestler undoubtedly is late Kard Jadhav, who won independent India's first individual medal, a bronze in the 1952 Helsinki Olympics.

Aware, who now trains under Kaka Pawar in Pune, said he was under a lot of self-imposed pressure going into the bout. The American surprised Aware with a double leg attack, the moment the bout started and earned two points with a takedown.

However, he became alert and twice

wriggled out of Graff's right leg attacks. He also scored consecutive takedown points to lead 4-2 at the break.

In the second period too, Graff got hold of Aware's right leg but the Indian got himself out of trouble in an impressive manner.

He then pulled the bout away from the American with a flurry of moves - the takedowns and exposé - taking a commanding 10-2 lead. It consolidated further when the American lost a challenge. Eventually he won 11-4.

The morning of the final day of the championships brought with it the news that Deepak will not be able to compete in Sunday's final.

"The left foot is not taking the load. It's difficult to fight in this condition and could have aggravated the injury. I know it was a big chance to fight against Yazdani but I can't help it," Deepak told PTI.

Deepak had come out of the mat limping and a swollen right eye after his semifinal against Switzerland's Stefan Reichmuth.

It was a good draw for Deepak and he exploited it to get the biggest medal of his career.

In a dream run, Deepak reached the final with wins over Reichmuth, Colombia's Carlos Arturo Mendez and Kazakhstan's Adilet Davlumbayev. He became only the fifth Indian ever to reach the World Championship final after Bishamber Singh (1967) Sushil Kumar (2010), Amit Dahiya (2013) and Bajrang Punia (2018). Only last year he had won the junior world championship.

Sushil Kumar remains India's only World Champion. He had won a Gold in 2010 in Moscow



Lure of job brought Deepak to wrestling

PTI ■ NUR-SULTAN (KAZAKHSTAN)

Wrestling was just a route which Deepak Punia hoped would find him a good job to help sustain his family.

He wanted a job and was even offered the post of a sepoy in the Indian Army back in 2016.

But he was told to dream big and not settle for little things in life by none other than Sushil Kumar.

"Keep wrestling as your priority, jobs will chase you later," Sushil, India's most successful wrestler with two Olympic medals and a world title, had told him, besides arranging for a sponsorship.

He became a World Cadet champion in 2016 and only last month won the junior World title, only the fourth Indian ever to do so and first in 18 years.

Within one month of that feat in Estonia, he found himself face-to-face with his idol and Iranian great Hasan Yazdani for a clash, the winner of which would be crowned the senior world champion.

It is a pity that the bout did not happen because of the ankle injury he sustained during the semifinal against Switzerland's Stefan Reichmuth and he settled for a silver.

He missed out on a great opportunity to wrestle with one of the best the sport has seen in its history.

But the last three years in Deepak Punia's life still sounds like a dream.

So, what is it that makes Deepak India's best in heavyweight category in recent times. The results have come thick and fast.

"It's a combination of a lot of things. Everything has to come together," said India's former foreign coach Vladimir Mestvirishvili, who has played a key role in Deepak's progress as a world-class grappler.

"You need four things — brain, power, luck and flexibility on the mat. Deepak has all. He is a disciplined wrestler and that he gets from his father.

"Boys usually get bored with the repetition process when they are told to learn a new technique but Deepak would do it for two, three, four days unless he gets it. It comes from family."

It's true.

His father Subash has been coming to his training centre every morning to deliver milk and fruits to him since 2015 despite the fact their Chhara village in Haryana district is at a distance of 60km.

That Deepak has immense appetite for milk was known from his childhood when he was a four-year-old kid and even it has a role in him getting the moniker 'Ketli pehalwan'.

The Sarpanch of his village once offered him milk which was kept in a ketli (kettle). He drank that in one gulp. He was offered a second, a third and a fourth and he finished all.

From then onwards, people started calling him 'ketli pehalwan'. Deepak said staying disciplined has been a big reason for his success.

"I like hanging out with friends, going to malls and doing some shopping. But we are not allowed to go out of the training centre. I like buying shoes, shirts and jeans, though I don't get to wear them because I am always in a tracksuit," he said.

"Whenever I get a chance, like after the tournaments, I go out and eat even junk food. But once the break is over, I don't think about anything else. Wrestling and training is life then."

The sponsorship he got from OGQ took away a bit of worry and he began to concentrate on honing his skills.

From bad to worse (Barcelona suffer shocking defeat against Granada)

AFP ■ MADRID

Barcelona threw on their stars of the present and the future but neither Lionel Messi nor Ansu Fati could save them from a dismal 2-0 defeat away at Granada.

Messi was still not deemed fit enough to start at Los Carmenes while Fati, the 16-year-old who has lit up La Liga in recent weeks, also began the game on the bench on Saturday.

But while both came on at half-time with Barca trailing to Ramon Azeez's opener, it was Granada that scored again, Alvaro Vadillo converting a penalty after Arturo Vidal was found guilty of a handball.

Barcelona have now won only two of their opening five league games and none away from Camp Nou, thus their second loss already, just one fewer than the three they suffered during the entirety of last season.

With seven points on the board, this is their worst start to a season since 1994.

"Obviously I am worried," said coach Ernesto Valverde.

"Because we are not getting good results and when that happens in two or three games, it means we are not playing well."



Instead, Granada go top of the table after capitalising on Atletico Madrid's goalless draw at home to Celta Vigo a few hours before.

They will stay there until Sunday, when Sevilla, Real Madrid or Athletic Bilbao could overtake them.

Barcelona are sixth, grasping onto the consolation of Messi's second substitute appearance in five days that now sug-

gests he has finally recovered from the niggling calf injury sustained at the start of August.

Their problems though are unlikely to be solved simply by their captain's return. Junior Firpo's error two minutes into his first start for the club gifted Granada their opening goal and set the tone for a chaotic night in defence.

And up front, Antoine Griezmann was quiet again,

with little in any of the combinations to suggest Ernesto Valverde has yet worked out who will form his best attacking trio and in what positions.

"In the end, the coach is responsible and I feel responsible," Valverde said.

"I always think you can win or lose but at least you have to deserve to win when you lose, and today it hasn't been like that.

MESSI IMPACT LIMITED

With Firpo on the floor, Gerard Pique scrambled across but Puertas' shot only looped up off the defender to the back post where Azeez headed in.

Granada seemed hungrier than Barca and their dominance persuaded Valverde to make two changes at half-time, Messi and Fati replacing Carles Perez and Firpo.

Messi won a free-kick 30 yards out but hit it straight at the wall while Marc Andre ter Stegen fumbled a cross and had to react quickly to claw it back off his own line.

Any hopes of a Barca comeback were dashed in the 66th minute as Vidal handballed at the end of a scramble in the box and Vadillo made no mistake with the spot-kick.

Milan belongs to Inter

AFP ■ MILAN

Romelu Lukaku fired Inter Milan back top of Serie A with the second goal of a 2-0 derby win that extended their perfect start to the season at the expense of city rivals AC Milan.

Belgium striker Lukaku and Marcelo Brozovic's second half strikes gave Inter their fourth win in as many games, putting them two points ahead of Juventus after the champions' came back from a goal down beat Verona 2-1 thanks to Aaron Ramsey's first Serie A goal and a Cristiano Ronaldo penalty.

Antonio Conte's Inter were looking for a boost after their dismal 1-1 draw in their Champions League draw against Czech outsiders Slavia Prague.

And they hit back in a fiery Milan derby with Belgian striker Lukaku heading in his third goal in four games with 12 minutes remaining after Brozovic's 49th-minute opener.

"At 26 years old, I needed and wanted a coach like this, one who motivates me every day," said Lukaku of Conte.

"My relationship with Conte is very strong, he's a really good coach because he's someone who helps players to develop a lot."

"I'm really happy to be here and to be wearing this shirt."

Milan could thank Gianluigi Donnarumma for keeping the match goalless in the first half after



he denied Lautaro Martinez, Lukaku and Danilo D'Ambrosio.

Lautaro had a goal ruled out after 35 minutes for being marginally offside.

But the breakthrough came four minutes after the break when Stefano Sensi set up Brozovic, whose deflected shot beat Donnarumma and was confirmed after consultation with VAR.

Lukaku sealed the win and a perfect 12 points from four games when he guided Nicolo Barella's cross home with a glancing header, as AC Milan slip to ninth place with six points.

"We came from a performance in the Champions League that left us with a bitter taste, but gave us more impetus to face the derby in the best way," said Conte.

"It is a deserved victory, I am happy for our fans, because the derby is always the derby."

Ole's veering off road

AFP ■ LONDON

West Ham inflicted more away-day pain on a poor Manchester United side on Sunday, lifting themselves to fourth in the Premier League with a comfortable 2-0 win at the London Stadium.

Andriy Yarmolenko's goal shortly before half-time and a wonderful late Aaron Cresswell free-kick extended United's barren run on the road.

United, who started the season by thumping Chelsea 4-0, have lost twice already in their opening six league games and lie seventh, without an away win in any competition since March.

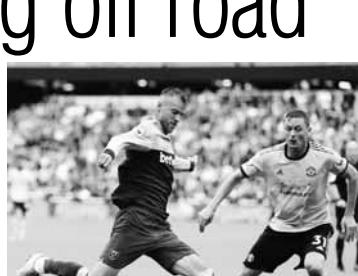
Injury-hit United were without midfielder Paul Pogba and forward Anthony Martial and huffed and puffed but failed to break down their dogged opponents.

West Ham are riding high under Manuel Pellegrini, unbeaten since a 5-0 drubbing in the first match of the season and this victory followed a home win last season against United at the London Stadium.

But it was a chastening day for Ole Gunnar Solskjaer's men, just a day after champions Manchester City came close to matching United's Premier League record for margin of victory -- 9-0 against Ipswich in 1995.

Solskjaer played the same side that triumphed against Leicester last week while Pablo Fornals came in for the injured Manuel Lanzini for the home side. Both sides were cagey at the start of the match, with neither side able to clear-cut chances.

West Ham looked the more inventive team when they broke forward



while United looked ponderous in attack and lacking in ideas, with Marcus Rashford isolated up front.

The match was drifting towards the interval before Felipe Anderson and Yarmolenko combined to sap United's confidence with a goal in the 44th minute.

United went close to an equaliser early in the second half as the rain came down in London, with Juan Mata missing from close range after an Andreas Pereira cross.

Already short of options up front and missing creators in midfield, they lost Rashford just before the hour mark, replaced by the out-of-form Jesse Lingard. West Ham went close to doubling their lead shortly afterwards but David De Gea got down low to keep out an Anderson shot from a tight angle.

United upped the pressure and West Ham had goalkeeper Lukasz Fabianski to thank for keeping out a Harry Maguire strike from close range.

But West Ham continued to look more dangerous on the break and made United pay when Ashley Young brought down Mark Noble on the edge of the penalty area.

Sock, Kyrgios keep World in touch

AFP ■ GENEVA

Jack Sock and Nick Kyrgios paired up to defeat Rafael Nadal and Stefanos Tsitsipas as Team World cut Europe's lead to 7-5 heading into the final day of the Laver Cup in Geneva.

Sock and Kyrgios won Saturday's doubles 6-4, 3-6, 10-6 after Nadal defeated Milos Raonic in his first match since his US Open triumph in the singles.

"There was a lot on the line there," said Sock. "We obviously wanted to keep the overall weekend close. Being down 9-3 is different than 7-5."

The match was drifting towards the interval before Felipe Anderson and Yarmolenko combined to sap United's confidence with a goal in the 44th minute.

United went close to an equaliser early in the second half as the rain came down in London, with Juan Mata missing from close range after an Andreas Pereira cross.

सुरक्षित करें अपने परिवार का भविष्य



नरेन्द्र मोदी
प्रधानमंत्री



रघुवर दास
मुख्यमंत्री, झारखण्ड

**भवन एवं अन्य
निर्माण कार्यों से जुड़े
श्रमिकों के लिए
कल्याणकारी योजनाएं**

श्रमिकों के सर्वांगीण विकास के लिए

श्रमशक्ति अभियान

25 सितम्बर से 2 अक्टूबर, 2019

अभियान के तहत प्रत्येक प्रखंड एवं शहरी क्षेत्रों में
विशेष शिविर का आयोजन

अभियान के दौरान मजदूरों का निबंधन मुफ्त होगा

9 लाख श्रमिक भाई-बहनों को मिल रहा है इन योजनाओं का लाभ

- मेधावी पुत्र/पुत्री छात्रवृत्ति योजना - 5,000 रुपये से 50,000 रुपये तक की वार्षिक छात्रवृत्ति का लाभ।
- मातृत्व प्रसुविधा योजना - प्रथम दो प्रसव के लिए 15,000 रुपये का भुगतान।
- चिकित्सा सहायता योजना - पांच से अधिक दिनों तक अस्पताल में भर्ती रहने पर अधिकतम 40 दिन की मजदूरी का भुगतान।
- चिकित्सा प्रतिपूर्ति योजना - गंभीर बीमारी से पीड़ित होने पर 2,50,000 रुपये तक का इलाज खर्च

- निर्माण श्रमिक सेफटी किट योजना - सेफटी किट खरीदने के लिए 1,000 रुपये की मदद।
- श्रमिक औजार सहायता योजना - औजार खरीदने हेतु 2,500 रुपये की मदद।
- साइकिल सहायता योजना - 18 से 45 वर्ष के लाभुकों को साइकिल खरीदने हेतु 3,500 रुपये का भुगतान।
- विवाह सहायता योजना - दो संतानों के विवाह एवं महिला सदस्य के विवाह हेतु 30,000 रुपये की सहायता।

- झारखण्ड निर्माण कर्मकार मृत्यु/दुर्घटना सहायता योजना - अधिकतम 5 लाख रुपये तक की सहायता का प्रावधान।
- प्रधानमंत्री जीवन सुरक्षा बीमा योजना/प्रधानमंत्री जीवन ज्योति बीमा योजना - सरकार भरती है योजनाओं का प्रीमियम।
- अंत्येष्टि सहायता योजना - अंतिम संस्कार हेतु आश्रित को 10,000 रुपये की आर्थिक मदद।
- पेंशन योजना - 3 वर्षों तक लगातार अंशदान करने एवं 60 वर्ष की आयु पूर्ण होने पर व्यूनतम 1000 रुपये प्रतिमाह पेंशन।

- निःशक्तता पेंशन योजना - लकवा/कुछ/टीबी/दुर्घटना के कारण स्थायी रूप से अशक्त होने पर 1,000 रुपये प्रतिमाह पेंशन।
- पारिवारिक पेंशन योजना - मृत्यु होने पर पति/पत्नी को पेंशन का 50 प्रतिशत या अधिकतम 500 रुपये प्रतिमाह पेंशन।
- अनाथ पेंशन योजना - लाभुक की मृत्यु होने पर 18 वर्ष से कम उम्र के बच्चों के मध्य पारिवारिक पेंशन का समान वितरण होगा।

सभी श्रमिक भाई-बहनों से आग्रह है कि झारखण्ड भवन एवं अन्य सन्जन्माण कर्मकार कल्याण बोर्ड में अपना रजिस्ट्रेशन कराकर सभी योजनाओं का लाभ उठाएं

shramadhan.jharkhand.gov.in पर भी आप अपना ऑनलाइन रजिस्ट्रेशन करा सकते हैं

श्रम नियोजन एवं प्रशिक्षण विभाग, झारखण्ड सरकार

काम किया है... और करेंगे