

Tareekh pe tareekh.

Justice hangs fire as Nirbhaya convicts not to be hanged today

STAFF REPORTER NEW DELHI

Adeferred the "death warrant" of the four convicts of the Nirbhaya gangrape-murder case till further order as the mercy plea of one of the convicts is pending before the President. The hanging was scheduled for Saturday (February 1) at 6 am.

Additional Sessions Judge Dharmender Rana of the Patiala House courts ruled that four "death-row convicts"-Mukesh Kumar Singh (32), Pawan Gupta (25), Vinay Kumar Sharma (26) and Akshay Kumar (31) — of the Nirbhaya gangrape and murder case will not be hanged on Saturday and postponed the execution of their death war rants till further order.

Vinay's mercy plea before the President is pending, while Akshay has not filed a mercy plea yet. Pawan is the only one yet to file a curative plea. Mukesh's mercy plea was dismissed by President Ram Nath Kovind on January 17.

Earlier in the day, the Supreme Court dismissed Pawan's plea seeking review of the decision by which his application claiming to be a juvenile at the time of the commission of offence was rejected.

Convicts have the option of moving a mercy petition before the President only after the apex court dismisses their cura-tive plea.

CAPSULE

3 JeM ULTRAS KILLED IN JAMMU ENCOUNTER Bann Toll Plaza: Three Jaish-e-Mohammed terrorists were killed

on Friday in a fierce gunbattle with police at a toll plaza on the Jammu-Srinagar national highway here, officials said. A

An Air India jet landed in Wuhan on Friday evening group of three-four terrorists to bring back the Indian stuwere intercepted at the Bann toll plaza, about 28 km from Jammu dents stuck in China's Hubei province, the epicentre of deadcity, when they were trying to r the Valley on a t



Nirbhaya's mother breaks down on learning the court has put off the execution of the convicts, in New Delhi on Friday

sitioned for the hanging has

even carried out a dry run of

The court passed the order hangman, Pawan Jallad, requion the plea by the convicts seeking adjournment of the executions "sine die" (with no appointed date for resumption). This is for the second time that the execution of the death warrants has been deferred. The first order for execution of death sentence, issued on January 7 for January 22 was stayed on January 17.

Advocate AP Singh, the counsel for the three convicts - Pawan, Vinay and Akshay — had urged the court to adjourn the matter "sine die" saying their legal remedies

were yet to be exhausted. The Tihar jail authorities Tihar jail administration has completed all the formalihad challenged their applicaties for the execution. The tion saying it was not main-

tainable and the death-row convicts can be hanged separately. However, the argument of the Tihar jail authorities was not accepted by the court.

PTI

the hanging and has been housed on the jail premises. The convicts' lawyer had argued that rules dictate that when one convict's plea is pending, the others cannot be hanged. In the order, the judge noted that if an appeal or an application is made by only one convict, the execution of sentence shall be postponed in the case of co-convicts also.

Army, ITBP ready quarantine facilities for returnees; WHO declares coronavirus outbreak global emergency

The judge said, "Without commenting upon the dilato-ry tactics adopted by the con-victs, suffice it would be to state that seeking redressal of one's grievances through procedure established by law is the hall-mark of any civilised society. The courts of this country fiscal slippage fears cannot afford to adversely discriminate any convict, including death-row convict, in pursuit of his legal remedies, by turning a Nelson's eye towards him."

"As a cumulative effect of the aforesaid discussion, I am of the considered opinion that the execution of warrants issued by this court vide order dates January 17, 2020, deserves to be postponed till further orders," the judge said. The court said a copy of

this order be given to the counsel for convicts and the jail officials present in the court. "The jail superintendent is directed to file the compliance report by tomorrow," it said.

Reacting to the court's order, Nirbhaya's mother Asha

Devi on Friday said she will continue her fight till the convicts in the 2012 gangrape and murder case are hanged. Devi told reporters her "hopes are dashed" but she will

continue her fight till the con-victs are hanged. "These convicts have no right to live. We keep getting disappointed by the system. I will continue my fight till the convicts are hanged," she said. for \$5 tn economy Eco Survey sees growth pick-up, recommends labour-intensive export to create 4 cr jobs by 2025; markets recoil on

PNS/PTI NEW DELHI

The Economic Survey on Friday projected revival of economic growth to 6-6.5 per cent next fiscal and suggested that the Government should relax the budget deficit target to boost growth from a 11-year

low of 5 per cent this year. Sensex skidded 190 points while the Nifty closed below the 12.000-mark on Friday after the Economic Survey suggested relaxing fiscal deficit target to boost growth.

The Survey, released a day before Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman presents the Union Budget for 2020-21, suggested a cut in food subsidy to create fiscal space at a time when tax revenues were falling. Facing the worst econom-

ic slowdown since the global financial crisis of 2008-09 that worsened job prospects, the Survey said businessmen should be respected as they create wealth and jobs.

For India to become a \$5 trillion economy by 2025, it prescribed strengthening trust in the economy, enabling and



CHARTING FUTURE

Uptick in growth projected in second half of current fiscal based on 10 factors: higher FDI flows, demands, positive GST revenue arowth

'Feel good' Budget may see cut in tax rate, sops for social sectors After moderation in 6 years, inflation shows reversal on veggies, \mathbf{O} pulses

primarily by deliberate spe

cialisation at large scale in

labour-intensive sectors, espe-

cially network products, where

production occurs across Global Value Chains (GVCs)

operated by multi-national cor-

investment to bring higher profitability and efficiency,

minimal government inter-

vention in markets, encourag-

ing entrepreneurship, and sup-

Commenting on the Survey, Prime Minister

Narendra Modi said the report

focuses on wealth creation for

Indians. "It outlines a multi-

faceted strategy to achieve a \$5

trillion economy through

enterprise, exports, ease of doing business and more," he

Continued on Page 4

porting wealth creation.

It batted for aggressive dis-

porations.

tweeted

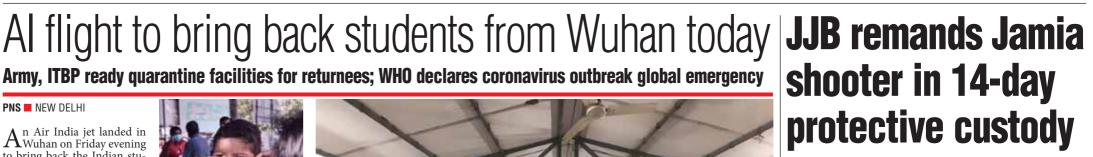
empowering markets, promotion of pro-business policies, and measures to enhance farmers' income.

It also suggested reforms to make it easier to open new businesses, register property, pay taxes and enforce contracts.

Giving a new dimension to "Make in India", the Survey suggested that the Government should integrate "Assemble in India for the world" into its flagship programme to boost exports and generate jobs. "By integrating Assemble in India for the world' into Make in India, India can raise its export market share to about 3.5 per cent by 2025 and 6 per cent by 2030. This will create 4 crore well-paid jobs by 2025 and 8 crore by 2030," the survey said.

The survey said China's

remarkable export perfor-mance vis-a-vis India is driven



STAFF REPORTER NEW DELHI e youth who fired at I group of anti-CAA protesters near Jamia Millia Islamia on Thursday injuring a university student on the hand, was on Friday sent to a 14-day protective custody by the Juvenile Justice Board (JJB). "The juvenile was presented before the JJB on Friday afternoon. We have also urged the board to form a medical panel to conduct a bone ossification test that will verify the age of the youth," said Deputy Commissioner of Police (Crime) Rajesh Deo. On Thursday, the accused opened fire at an anti-CAA tigated from all angles followprotester injuring him before ing claims that his Class Xth walking away while brandishmarksheet issued by the CBSE. ing the firearm aloft and shouting "Yeh lo aazadi" amid heavy police presence. He was soon overpowered by police. Delhi Police Commissioner Amulya Patnaik has asked the Crime Branch to probe the case as it is sensitive in nature and should be inves-



PM ASKS NDA LEADERS TO BACK CAA STRONGLY

New Delhi: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Fridav asserted that his Government has no reason to feel defensive about the CAA and asked NDA leaders to back the measure strongly in Parliament

CONG SUSPENDS EX-MP MAHABAL MISHRA

New Delhi: The Congress on Friday suspended ex-MP Mahabal Mishra for anti-party activities during campaigning for the Delhi Assembly elections.

KOREGAON PANEL: CAN'T WORK WITHOUT FUNDS

Pune: The panel conducting enquiry into the 2018 Koregaon Bhima violence asked the Maharashtra Government to wind it up, saving it cannot function due to "want of money and "the Government did not seem to be serious about it"

outbreak students, save two suffering from fever, boarded the plane which is scheduled to reach India early on Saturday After arrival in Delhi, they

PNS NEW DELHI

will be taken to the newly set up Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP) quarantine facility. Besides medical care, the paramilitary will provide them basic amenities like food, lodg-

ing and internet facilities. The Army and ITBP

have set up separate quarantine centres in the NCR. The ITBP has set up a 600-bed facility, the Army facility will cater to about 300 students being evacuated from China's

Hubei province. Meanwhile, as the death

toll due to lethal coronavirus climbed to 213 with nearly 10,000 infections across 15 countries, the World Health Organization (WHO) has declared the outbreak a public



A parent places a medical mask on a child as a safety precaution in view of the outbreak of coronavirus, at a hospital in Thrissur on Friday

> health emergency of international concern

The facility at ITBP's camp in Chhawla area of south-west Delhi is ready with medicines and monitoring equipment along with a team of qualified doctors from the

paramilitary and Safdarjung Hospital, ITBP spokesperson Vivek Kumar Pandey said. A team of doctors have

been stationed at the facility where special arrangements have been made to host chil-



A view of the quarantine facility which has been set up by the Army for the 300 students, who are being brought back from coronavirus-hit Wuhan in China, at Manesar, Haryana

dren and women at this quar-antine facility, Pandey said.

After preliminary diagnosis at the airport, these families will be brought to the quarantine centre which will coordinate with Safdarjung Hospital for assistance, said the official.

ity in Manesar near Gurugram will keep around 300 Indian students. Officials said the students will be monitored for any signs of infection for two weeks by a qualified team of doctors and staff members.

The procedure of screening and quarantine will comprise two steps. The first one will be at the Indira Gandhi International Airport followed by quarantine at the Manesar facility

Continued on Page 4

shows that he is a yet to attain 18 years of age and he is a minor. The injured Jamia student,

Shadab Farooq, was discharged from AIIMS after a surgery on Friday. No injury to blood vessels or nerves were sustained. a doctor said.

Atta at ₹2/kg, potable Farrukhabad captor shot, water: BJP's Sankalp

Party manifesto for Delhi polls pledges 10L jobs in 5 years

SAPNA SINGH NEW DELHI

The BJP has promised good quality wheat flour at ₹2 Nidhi in the national Capital. per $\bar{k}g$ for the poor and supply of clean drinking water to



BJP leaders Nitin Gadkari, Prakash Javadekar, Harsh Vardhan, Manoj Tiwari, Vijay Goel. Meenakshi Lekhi and Gautam Gambhir release the BJP Sankalp Patra for Delhi polls in New Delhi on Friday Ranian Dimri I Pioneer

every household in its Delhi Sankalp Patra for the February 8 Delhi Assembly elections.

The BJP also promised creation of 10 lakh jobs in Delhi in the next five years. It has also promised to implement Central Government's flagship schemes Ayushman Bharat and Kisan Samman

Continued on Page 4

wife lynched PNS LUCKNOW/ FARRUKHABAD

> The hostage drama ended early on Friday after the captor was shot by security forces and his wife was lynched by angry villagers. All 23 children held captive for eight hours were rescued.

Eight policemen and a local resident were hurt when Subhash Batham, 40, opened fire at them during the siege in Kasaria village, police said.

The accused had invited the children for his daughter's birthday party and held them hostage since 5.45pm, UP Director General of Police OP Singh said.

The crisis continued past midnight, he added. Continued on Page 4

India go 4-0 up as Kiwis Super Over jinx continues

PTI WELLINGTON

Anervous New Zealand threw it away yet again as a perseverant India prevailed in the Super Over for the second successive time to take a 4-0 lead in the T20 International series here on Friday

Needing just 11 runs off the last two overs with seven wickets in hand, New Zealand dug a hole for themselves yet again, taking the game to a Super Over two nights after doing the same in Hamilton.

New Zealand managed 13 runs in six balls and India got there effortlessly. "What's happened in last two T20 games is unbelievable...We are very proud of how we went about our business today," said India captain Virat Kohli, who struck the winning four in the game.

KL Rahul smashed 10 runs off the first two balls before he was caught. Then, a fired-up

Kohli and Sanju Samson fin-ished the game in style. "It is very tough. To get ourselves into the position we got today and then give them a chance... India grabbed it with both hands," said New Zealand

stand-in skipper Tim Southee. This was after New Zealand won a fourth consecutive toss and opted to field. Their regular captain Kane Williamson didn't take part in the match owing to a shoulder niggle. The Indians weren't off to a great start but Manish Pandey proved his value to the team with an unbeaten 50 off 35 balls, taking the visitors to 165 for eight from

88 for six in the 12th over. India's total wasn't enough considering the batting-friendconditions but the hosts made life a lot tougher for themselves from a commanding position before succumbing to ressure





Detailed report on P16 Virat Kohli during the T-20 cricket international between India and New Zealand in Wellington, New Zealand on Friday

The Army quarantine facil-





BJP's Sankalp a jumla patra: AAP BJP's manifesto deception, says Cong

STAFF REPORTER NEW DELHI

AP national convener Arvind Kejriwal on Friday said the BJP's manifesto has proved that it will stop facilities like free electricity and water given by the Delhi Government.

"Manifesto of the BJP proved that if you vote for them then your free electricity, free water and free bus journey will be stopped. Think and vote," he said in a tweet

Senior AAP leader Sanjay Singh termed BJP manifesto a "Jumla Patra". He said it clearly showed the BJP aims to end all the welfare schemes given by the Delhi government.

Singh said, "It is clear from this manifesto of the BJP that it has no intention of continuing any of the welfare schemes which the AAP Government started such as free electricity up to 200 units, water, and bus travel for women among others. This manifesto clearly says

Constituency profile

that all the welfare schemes from its vicious clutch. When being run for common people today will be closed down if BJP comes to power. So, basically, it's not a manifesto, but a scheme to completely ruin the

lives of the people of Delhi". Accusing the BJP of antiwomen party, he said the manifesto has not addressed issues like safety of women, education and health as they are not in position to say anything on these issues.

He also said the BJP has not made any strategy to deal with pollution precisely. "One of the causes of pollution in Delhi is crop burning in the States of Uttar Pradesh and Haryana, both ruled by the BJP and Punjab ruled by the Congress," he said.

Singh said they promise to do away with tanker mafia, a system they themselves had facilitated in the first place, whereas it was Kejriwal who demolished this devious system in Delhi and rescued people

we came to power, only 58 per cent of Delhi received piped water but now this number reached at 93 per cent.

Targeting the BJP over promises to halt sealing in Delhi, he said "It is the BJP that spread the fear of sealing and ruined lives and livelihood of traders. None of their leaders stood with the traders at that time, while we fought for them coming on the streets and raised the matter even in the Parliament. Who is going to believe these blatant lies of the

BJP," he said. "The BJP will stop 'Farishtey Yojana', free surgeries, medicines, MRI, Ultrasound tests - and all these will be replaced by the

Ayushman Yojana if it comes to power," he said. h Т promise to reg-

ularise the safai

karamcharis is ridiculous, he said, adding as of now, the subject matter of 'services' is under their jurisdiction and Delhi BJP president Manoj Tiwari had said on record that the dues for all safai karamcharis will be paid. What happened to that promise? Now again, they have brought this up during the Assembly elections — it is nothing but a jumla, he added.

The country was now staring at the highest unemployment rate in 45 years and several lakhs have been rendered jobless in Delhi due to the sealing drive. The BJP has not only failed to generate fresh jobs but the existing jobs were also snatched away from the youth following demonetisation and the wrong implementation of GST during its six year rule at the Centre SUBHASH CHOPRA

STAFF REPORTER NEW DELHI

D^{elhi} Congress termed BJP's 'Sankalp Patra' as yet another 'Jhansa Patra' (deception paper) to throw dust into the eyes of the people of Delhi to get their votes.

Delhi Congress president Subhash Chopra said the promises like bringing back the black money stashed away in foreign banks, and depositing Rs 15 lakh to each account holder in the country made by the BJP in 2014 Lok Sabha elections is yet to be fulfilled.

Chopra said that the man ifesto has promised to provide 10 lakh jobs for the youth of Delhi, though it has woefully failed to fulfill its promise of giving two crore jobs to the youth of the country every year, made in the 2014 Lok Sabha

aap

election manifesto. "The country was now staring at the highest unemployment rate in 45 years and several lakhs have been rendered jobless in Delhi due to the sealing drive. The added. BJP has not only failed to generate fresh jobs but the existing iobs were also snatched away

from the youth following demonetisation and the wrong implementation of GST during its six year rule at the Centre. 'The economic slump,

wrong economic policies and GST have resulted in the closure of small and medium industries, and even big companies were forced to retrench their employees," he added.

Chopra said that the sealing drive in the Capital led to the closure of small and medium shops and businesses, leaving lakhs of people jobless.

SHAKURBASTI

"Despite BJP being in power industrial units, robbing lakhs both at the Centre and in the Municipal Corporations of Delhi, it did not take any step to stop the sealing drive," it

DPCC spokesperson Anil Bhardwaj said that the BJP manifesto only rubs salts into the wounds of the unemployed youth of Delhi. "The condition in Delhi was far worse as the unemployment rate in the Capital was 12 per cent. All the seven MPs from Delhi belong to the BJP, and the party is also in power at the MCDs, they could not bring any new law to stop the sealing drive in Delhi. The BJP and the AAP Government are responsible for the sealing of shops and

added.

of people their

jobs,"

he

BJP's Vats aims to wrest seat from Jain

CHANDAN PRAKASH NEW DELHI

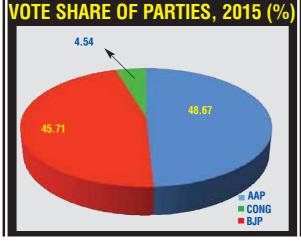
nhakur Basti constituency 1 Sappears to be locked into a straight fight between the ruling AAP and the BJP. The AAP has fielded sitting MLA Satyendar Jain who won the 2 seat defeating BJP candidate by 3133 votes in Assembly election held in 2015.

BJP candidate SC Vats, who represented the constituency two times on Congress symbol, is well known for development carried out during his tenure as an MLA. The Congress has fielded Dev Raj Arora.

Shakur Basti Assembly seat has witnessed an interesting battle since the first election held in 1993 in which BJP's Gauri Shankar Bhardwaj won the seat by huge margin, securing more than 51 per cent of vote share.

Dr SC Vats won the seat consecutively in 1998 and 2003 on Congress ticket. In 2008 assembly election, BJP's regained the seat as its candidate Shyam Lal Garg defeated SC Vats of the Congress by a

| | | | | | | - |
|--------------|--------------------------|----------------------|--------------|---------------------|---------------------|---|
| ELECTION | CANDIDATE | PARTY | VO | TE SHAF | RE (IN PE | |
| 1993 | Gauri Shankar Bhardwaj | | Year 2015 | AAP 48.67 | BJP 45.71 | |
| 1998 2003 | Dr SC Vats Dr SC Vats | Congress Congress | 2013 | 42.30 | 34.87 | |
| 2008 | Shyam Lal Garg | BJP | 2008 2003 | — | 50.20 36.14 | |
| 2013 | Satyendar Jain | AAP | 1998 | _ | 42.67 | |
| 2015 | Satyendar Jain | AAP | 1993 | _ | 51.45 | |



margin of 4,000 votes. this seat as it got on average 42 The voting percentage for per cent in last five assembly elections. Interestingly, the BJP the BJP has been constant on

56.21 56.14 38.12 gained 10.84 per cent vote share in 2015 compared to 34.87 of en in the area. total votes polled in 2013. While the Congress vote share has seen a declining trend in last five Assembly elections as the party

R CENT)

CONGRESS

secured 56.14 per cent in 1998, 56.21 per cent in 2003, 45.20 in 2008, 19.76 in 2013 and reduced to just 4.54 per cent in 2015. The share of Congress votes has come down to 14.42 per cent on average in last two years as the voters were shifted to AAP. If political experts are to believed the BJP candidate may win the seat comfortably after Congress managed to reach its average vote share which is 36.37 per cent. When asked about pace of

development in the area, most of the residents expressed satisfaction but also denied that polls. People praised AAP Government for providing free electricity and ensuring 24 hours water supply, saying that it has provided a great relief to poor and middle class. Puneet Bansal, a businessman and a resident of Rani Bagh said that undoubtedly Kejriwal

IJ

has done some good work such as providing free electricity, water and transport and people are being benefited from it but there is not even a single infrastructural works are undertak-

'Vats is our favorite here. He transformed the area by completing many infrastructural projects. Besides, constructing roads and developing educational institution, the credit of 200 bedded multi specialty Hospital with a state of art equipments, operation theatres and staff quarters is also goes to him," said Gurpreet Singh, a resident of Paschim Vihar.

"A state of art flyover with sound absorbers (to reduce vehicle noise pollution up to 50 decibels) was constructed with a total cost of seven crores, was also constructed during his tenure as an MLA which has reduced traffic congestion considerably at Britania Chowk," he said.



held on February 8 and the There are about 1, 05,077 counting of votes will take eligible voters in this conplace on February 11. The last stituency. The voting in the Delhi Assembly Election will be Assembly election in Delhi

was held in 2015 in which the AAP won with a thumping majority securing 67 seats out of 70 seats



19.76 45.20

hief Minister Arvind Kejriwal on Friday attacked the BJP over the Jamia Nagar firing incident and said while his Government gave computers and pens to children while "they are giving guns and hate".

Tweeting a video of a Delhi Government school student addressing an IT-Tech conference, Kejriwal said in Hindi, "We have given pens and computers in the hands of children and dreams of entrepreneurship in their eyes! They are giving guns and hate.

sense its defeat. मेरा वोट दिल्लीकावीर जिल्लीकाव मेरे लिये, मेरे अपनो के लिये मेरी तरक्की मेरे सपनों के लिये VOTE आओ चलो वोट करें मतदान - 08 फरवरी 2020,शनिवार समय - प्रातः 08 बजे से शाम 06 बजे तक 🛃 💟 @1950 मुख्य निर्वाचन अधिकारी,दिल्ली

Govt. 💥 of Bihar

Police Headquarters, Bihar, Patna Notice Inviting Short Re-Tender No.-47/2019-20

1. Name of the Department: Office of Director General of Police, Bihar, Patna.

- 2. Last date & time for the acceptance of the short re-tender : 10/02/2020, Till 02:00 PM
- Date & time fixed for the opening of the short re-tender: 10/02/2020, At 04:00 PM 3.
- Place fixed for receiving & opening the tender : Office of Director General of Police, Bihar, Patna.

5. Details of Job:

| S.N. | Item name | Quantity |
|------|--|----------|
| 1 | High End Rack Server System with Accessories | 01 |

Specifications and other terms & conditions of the tender may be obtained in person from this office or may be downloaded from the website www.prdbihar.gov.in or www.biharpolice.bih.nic.in

PR. No. 14904 (Police) 2019-20

अवैध शराब एवं मादक द्रव्य के सम्बंध में शिकायत टॉल फ्री नं. 18003456268 या 15545 पर करें।

children? Tell me on February 8!" Tension spiralled in Jamia Nagar on Thursday after a man fired a pistol at a group of people protesting against the new citizenship law, injuring a student, before walking away waving the firearm and shouting "Yeh lo aazadi". He was subsequently overpowered by police. The AAP smelt a BJP conspiracy behind the incident, saying the saffron

party wants to create a "riot-like" situation and get the assembly polls, scheduled for February 8, postponed as it can

AIG (Q)

Bihar, Patna

STAFF REPORTER NEW DELHI

Hundreds of Jamia students staged a peaceful protest against the amended Citizenship Amended Act (CAA) on Friday, a day after the violent incident where a man fired a pistol at a group of agitators there, injuring a student.

Condemning the attack on their fellow students, the protesting students carried posters and placard with slogans written it saying, 'Stop Hate Speech, Safety really?, What's in the name' and 'Tamache Pe Disco, Jamia se Khisko'.

The students said they were shocked when they saw the man emerge from the crowd and open fire in full public view amidst heavy police presence.

"I am protesting here for the last two months and it was a peaceful protest till yesterday but witnessing the firing incident, it feels like there is no safety at all inside and outside the campus and in this area. All we wanted was a peaceful protest to Rajghat on the death anniversary of the father of our nation. The police were standing still talking on phone and hands inside the pocket. They could have done something during the incident," said a protesting student on condition of anonymity.

Thousands of people and police personnel faced off against each other near the university on Thursday after a man fired a pistol at a group of anti-CAA protesters. As night fell, massive protests broke out with agitated students and others gathering near the university, breaking barricades and clashing with police person-

nel. The protests ended around 9 pm after police released four detained demonstrators, according to university and police officials.

"We students have been protesting peacefully for the last



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- Students also said the protest is solely by the student's community and politicians and unscrupulous elements will not be allowed to take part in their peaceful protest

two months. On Thursday, we were heading for a peaceful march towards Rajghat where we were to form a human chain. But police had already put up barricades at several intersections. We somehow wanted to cross those barricades peacefully and head towards our destination," another student said. A resident of Jamia area said,

"We are living here and watching this protest for the last two months but no such act happened. But, firing openly in public creates sense of fear among the students and residents?

Another protesting student who is from Bihar, said "Now, our parents more scared and they want us to leave the university and return to hometown."

Students also said the protest is solely by the student's community and politicians and unscrupulous elements will not be allowed to take part in their peaceful protest. "The political parties which is making this CAA protest their political agenda for the elections will not be allowed to entered the protest site," they said.

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SHAH BLAMES **AAP FOR DIRTY RIVER YAMUNA** Launches campaign blitz



ed the country on the basis of religion, with millions of

Hindus, Buddhists, Jains, Sikhs, Parsis and Christians left in

Pakistan, Bangladesh and

Afghanistan," "Today the BJP Government is giving citizen-ship to them, both the Congress and the AAP have a

problem. Communist, SP, BSP and Mamata are all the same,

so they could not abolish

Article 370 because they only care for their own vote bank." Lauding Prime Minister Narendra Modi on resolving

Ram Mandir issue, Shah said, "Modiii resolved all the 70-

year-old issues within just eight months, the decision of Ram

Mandir came and now where

Sri Ram was born, the grand temple construction will start

there itself within four months.

The BJP is the only party

which follows the ideology of

nationalism and is always mov-

ing forward to make successful

the works of national interest,"

Raising the slogan of "Modi hai to Mumkin hai",

With few days left for Delhi Assembly elections, the BJP has

The BJP has planned the

public rallies and meeting of the

Prime Minister Narendra Modi

and Uttar Pardesh Chief

omb the pol

made a major shift in its strategy while it entered into the last leg of campaigning for the high voltage Delhi Assembly

he added.

1731 colonies.

STAFF REPORTER NEW DELHI

nion Minister Amit Shah has launched an aggressive campaign and has held several public gathering of around 1,000 to 15,000 people in one day Jan Samvad in Ashok Vihar, Tri Nagar and Pitampura on Friday. Addressing masses in Pitampura, Shah lashed out at Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) for dirty river Yamuna in Delhi.

Referring Ganga in Paryagraj, Shah dared AAP supremo Arvind Kejriwal to take a dip in Yamuna. "Go and take a dip in Prayagraj, you will learn work done by Modiji and Yogiji in cleaning the river," Shah lauded, "Kejriwal promised to clean Yamuna!"

Shah bordered Kejriwal in his for not fulfilling AAP's promises in Delhi. "Where is free WiFi, jobs for youth?"

Citing report of Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS), the BJP leader said out of 21 samples of waters collected from 21 cities across India, Delhi's water report was poor. "Delhi people are drinking polluted water," Shah added.

Quoting BJP national pres-ident JP Nadda's tweet in which Shah said Modiji has dreamed of grooming Delhi, and also he uploaded a video of Mohalla working for it continuously, under which regularisation of clinic, Shah said there are no facilities in the clinic.

Accusing the AAP for depriving Delhi people from Centre-run Ayushman Health Scheme, the Union Home Minister said for the sake of your (Kejriwal's) selfish politics, you played with lives of poor's in Delhi

elections to be held on February 8, 2020. Attacking both the AAP and the Congress, Shah said on one side the BJP is contesting election which is dedicated and committed for the security of the Minister Yogi Adiyanath to ountry while on

Delhiites have adopted me, CM retorts to Vardhan's outsider jibe

STAFF REPORTER NEW DELHI

Tar of words erupted between Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) national convener Arvind Kejriwal and Union Minister Harsh Vardhan on Friday after the latter called him an "outsider".

Kejriwal hit out at Union Minister for calling him an "outsider", saying the people from Uttar Pradesh and Haryana settled in Delhi can be outsiders for the saffron party but the city has "adopted" them.

Responding to Vardhan's tweet in which he questioned the CM for calling himself as 'Delhi's son', Kejriwal tweeted in Hindi, "Doctor Sahib, you hate me. You can abuse me. How can you call all those born in UP and Haryana who are settled in Delhi outsiders? They may be outsiders to the BJP. But they are part of our Delhi family. We Delhiites adopted them all, made them our family."

While attacking the oppo The Union Minister said sition on CAA, Shah said that while Kejriwal was born in Hisar, the Congress party had divid-

Haryana, he was settled in Kaushambi in Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh. "How can he be Delhi's son?" Vardhan asked.

In another tweet, Kejriwal responded to the recent "sting" of the BJP on mohalla clinics, saying the party has again "mocked" the people of Delhi by issuing "fake" videos.

"The BJP once again mocked the people of Delhi by issuing fake videos. Delhiites worked hard to build 450 world class mohalla clinics. Mohalla clinics have brightened the name of Delhi all over the world. Today, BJP's lie was caught in media investigation. People of Delhi are very happy with mohalla clinic," he said, tagging a news report.

AAP senior leader Sanjay Singh said the BJP is an antimigrant party and that is the reason that senior BJP leader believes that Arvind Kejriwal who was born in Haryana, lived in UP but settled down in Delhi and then served Delhi as the CM for five years, cannot be a son of Delhi.

Union Minister Harsh Vardhan said while Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) national convener Arvind Kejriwal was born in Hisar, Haryana, he was settled in Kaushambi in Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh. "How can he be Delhi's son?" Vardhan asked

Keiriwal responded in a tweet, doctor sahib, you hate me. You can abuse me. How can you call all those born in UP and Haryana who are settled in Delhi outsiders? They may be outsiders to the BJP. But they are part of our Delhi family. We Delhiites adopted them all, made them our family





Congress and the AAP says "We are with Shaheen Bagh"

Taking a jibe on the AAP, the State Shah said Governments compete for various development works, but Delhi Government is nowhere at number one, where are new 50 colleges.

Citing an audit report of Delhi Jal Board (DJB), he said earlier the civic body was in profit of ₹178 crore and today is in a loss of ₹800 crore whereas Kejriwal himself is the chairman of the DJB.

part of the reworked strategy the BJP has asked its various mandals to organise public meetings of 10,000-15,000. Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar will also hold a rally," a BJP leader said.

According to a party insider, the big rallies would begin from February 1. While Nukkad meetings will take place till the last day of campaigning, there would be big rallies of the top leadership of the party," informed a senior party leader.

Ensure law & order during polls, EC directs police "As Special Expenditure

PNS NEW DELHI

he Election Commission (EC) on Friday directed the Delhi Police to ensure law and order in the national Capital during polls in view of the ongoing protests in several parts of the city on CAA. This comes after a review meeting with the Delhi Chief Secretary, police commissioner and other top officials to review poll preparedness.

The EC also appointed for-mer IRS officer B Murli Kumar (former IRS 1983) as special expenditure observer and ex-IPS officer Mrinal Kanti Das (IPS 1977) as special police observer for the Delhi polls.

Sources said the Delhi Police Commissioner has assured the poll panel in the review meeting that police will keep a strict vigil on law and order situation and take prompt and strict action against violators of law. Police have also shared a detailed plan for polling officials and vehicle transportation during polls on February 8. Besides, sensitive and hyper sensitive polling booths have increased this year due to protests.

On the appointment of special observers, the EC said Jharkhand.

Observer, Murali in consultation with the Delhi Chief Electoral Officer, will be supervising and monitoring the work being done by the electoral machinery and ensure that stringent and effective enforcement action is undertaken based on intelligence inputs and complaints received through C-VIGIL, Voter Helpline 1950 against all persons/entities trying to induce voters by distributing cash, liquor & freebies etc. "Similarly Das as the Special Police Observer is assigned to oversee the deployment and other security related issues", it said.

Das, who retired as Director General of Manipur Police, was also deputed earlier as Special Police Observer for Tripura and Mizoram during the 2019 Lok Sabha Elections and also the recently held Jharkhand Assembly elections. Given past experience in the Investigation Wing of Income Tax Department, Kumar was also appointed Special Expenditure Observer for 8-Vellore Parliamentary Constituency and for the recently concluded Assembly elections in Maharashtra and

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to the quarantine facility.

The facility will be admin-

istered by a nominated officer

who will have under his com-

mand a Community Medicine

Specialist, two Nursing Officers, a Lady Medical

Officer and one Nursing

Assistant. No civilian or serv-

ing personnel detailed to work

inside the facility will be

allowed to go outside unless compelled by extreme emer-

gency situation. With the DefExpo 2020

scheduled to begin in Lucknow

on February 4-8 and more

than 40 countries expected to

take part in the mega interna-

tional event, Defence Secretary

Ajay Kumar said here on Friday

all precautions have been taken

for foreigners as regards coro-

navirus. A delegation from

China is also coming. The

standard operating procedure is in place and screening will be

done as per procedure, he said.

DefExpo, the defence exhibi-

tion is held every two years.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi

will inaugurate the exhibition

on February 5.



Rural students spend more on books than urban: Survey

New Delhi: Expenses of a student on books, stationery and uniform in rural India on an average are over 10 percentage points higher than those in urban areas, although participation in education system has seen improvement at all levels, according to the Economic Survey

As per the Economic Survey 2019-20 tabled in the Parliament by Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman, the absence of suitable financial support system and high burden of course fee, especially in higher education, pushes the poor and underprivileged out of the education system.

Citing data from the National Sample Survey (NSS) report on 'Key Indicators of Household Social Consumption on Education in India 2017-18', the survey said that in 2017-18, there were about 13.6 per cent persons of age 3 to 35 years who were never enrolled in the education system.

"The reasons they cite for not enrolling were 'not interested in education' and 'financial con-

straints'," it said. Among those who were enrolled, drop-out rate was as high



as 10 per cent at primary level, 17.5

per cent at upper primary/middle,

and 19.8 per cent at secondary

for 'Education for All' initiative, the

survey said the composition of

various components of expendi-

ture on education indicates that

the course fees, which is 50.8 per

cent at all India level, among oth-

ers contributes about half of the

average expenditure of a basic

Course fees include tuition,

Highlighting the challenges

level, the survey added.

course.

areas, it added.

average student in the rural areas is surprisingly spending more than 10 percentage points as compared to urban areas," the survey said.

It also pointed out that students pursuing education in private aided institutions are spending significantly higher as compared to government institutions across rural-urban India.

Quoting the NSS report, the survey said in 2017-18, the average expenditure of an average student in government institutions pursuing secondary education was ₹4,078 whereas the same for a student in private aided institution was ₹12,487.

When it comes to graduation, the expenditure for an average student in Government institutions was at ₹10,501, while in private aided institutions it was ₹16,769

examination, developmental fees and other compulsory payments. The survey said "due to The proportion of course fee absence of competition in govis also high in rural and urban ernment schools/institutions, quality of education in "The second largest compo-Government schools/institutions nent of average expenditure on is low. As a result, more and more education by student is books, stastudents prefer to enrol themselves tionery and uniform where an PTI in private institutions".

New Delhi: India on Friday banned exports of all kinds of personal protection equipment, including clothing and masks used to protect people from air borne particles.

The move assumes significance as there could be a spurt in demand for such products due to outbreak of deadly coronavirus that has claimed more than 200 lives in China while the number of confirmed cases reached near 10,000

"Exports of all varieties of personal protection equipment including clothing and masks

used to protect the wearer from air borne particles and/or any other respiratory masks or any other personal protective clothing (including coveralls and N95 masks)...Is hereby prohibited with immediate effect till further orders," the directorate general of foreign trade (DGFT) said in a notification.

Air India's 423-seater jumbo B747 plane took off from the Delhi airport on Friday to evacuate Indian nationals from Wuhan as China deals with the novel coronavirus outbreak. Around 400 Indians are expected to be evacuated. Air India Chairman and Managing Director Ashwani Lohani said on Friday morning, "No ser-vice will take place in the plane. Whatever food is there will be kept in seat pockets.



India bans export of all

As there will be no service, there will be no interaction (between cabin crew and passengers).

'Masks have been arranged for the crew and passengers. For our crew, we have also arranged a complete protective gear," he added. The government has reached out to over 600 Indians living in China's Hubei province, the epicentre of the outbreak, to ascertain their willingness to be brought back to India. In a separate notification, the DGFT has also banned imports of stock lot papers. These are kind of discarded, improper sized and unused papers.

The move aims at cutting down imports of non-essential items into the PTI country.

Al flight on way... close contact category and sent

From Page 1 If any individual is sus-

pected to be infected, he or she will be shifted to the isolation ward at the Base Hospital Delhi Cantonment, they said. Screening at the airport will be done by a joint team of Armed Forces Medical Services (AFMS) and Airport Health Authority (APHO). During the screening they will be classified into three groups.

They include suspect case where an individual with any signs of fever, cough or respi-ratory distress will be directly transferred to Base Hospital. Second step will cover any

individual without symptoms but having visited a sea food or animal market or a health facility or having come into contact with a Chinese person with symptoms in the last 14 days. He will be escorted in an earmarked vehicle directly to the quarantine facility. The third category is non-contact case of any individual without any symptom(s) or contact or who does not fit into either of the earlier two categories. He will also be clubbed along with the

86-year-old

man gets 3

molestation

years in jail for

Mumbai: A special POCSO Act court here on Friday sentenced

for stalking and molesting a 15-

year-old girl in September 2018.

Kulshreshta, the accused, was

convicted under IPC section

354, 354-D (stalking and

molestation) and also the

Protection of Children from

According to the prosecution,

complainant girl lived in the

PTI

an 86-year-old man to three vears' rigorous imprisonment

Omprakash Lalaram

Sexual Offences Act.

the accused and the

PUBLIC NOTICE Known to all that my client Dalbir Singh & Sh. Karandeep Singh are going to purchase property First floor, property no. WZ-31B/3A/2, Plot no 56, Khasra no. 35/7, Khyala, Navyug Block, Vishnu Garden, New Delhi from Inderpal Kaur and motrasenin the same with Satin Hueinen And mortgaging the same with Satin Housing Finance Ltd. And they derived title after death o Finance Ltd. And they derived title after death o Kesara Devi by virtue of relinquishment deed, without NOC of Krishan Lal i.e. co-sharer. It is informed that any deal with said property by any person except my client & said institution shall be deemed as null and void. If any person is having right in said property then he may contact and apprise his claim to undersigned within 8 days of this mublication.

and aparts in bublication. days of this publication. For AD REM LEGAL SOLUTION Ch. No. 760, Dwaka Court, Sec-10, Dath 75 Mr 9899013918



CHANGE OF NAME

I, Pooja Shivkumar Jha D/o Sh. Shivkumar Jha R/o H. No. W. A. 200 E, New Hanuman Mandir, Shakarpur Delhi-110092 hereby declare that I have changed my name from Pooja Jha to Pooja Shivkumar Jha for all future purposes.

PD(8785)C

I Anubhav Vinod Sharma S/o Vinod Kumar Sharma, R/O House No. 803, Tower B-3, RPS Savana, Sector 88, Faridabad-121002, state that both the names Anubhav Vinod and Anubhav Vinod Sharma are of the same person and I shall thereafter be known as Anubhav Vinod Sharma for all purposes PD(8786)A SOUTH CENTRAL RAILWAY Follow us on Y@SCRailwayindia Details of the Tender Notices of S.C Railway can be seen on our bosite : www.scr.indianrailways.go T.Notice No.40/2020 Dt.31.01.2020 Supply of Stores Items The following Tenders have been floated online. Tenderers are requested to visit the website www.ireps.gov.ir and submit their offers online. The Tender description, Qty, EMD, SD may be seen in website. Offers submittee manually will not be accepted. Offers by post will not be entertained. Tender Closing time is 14.30 hrs of the Due date of the Tender. "For all indigenous offers EMD will be accepted only via online system as available or ww.ireps.gov.in." 38.20.2062 Load sensing Device 45.20.5001 12V 100AH VRLA Battery 38.20.2348 Pressure Transformer 38.20.1480 Adjuster Spindle 38.20.2059 Swing Door Frame 10.19.5014 Kit main bearing lower 38.20.2284 Wedge 30 Degrees 38.20.2060 Flap Door Frame 38.20.2186 Inner Spring 18.19.5002 Contactor 3Pole250Amps 10.19.1173 Perforated Centre 10.19.5022 Diode Negative Base 38.20.2198 Constant Contract Polyurethene 38.20.2119 OH Kit for Constant Contract 88.20.2187 Outer Spring 38.20.2120 OH Kit 38.20.2078 Shoe 30 Degree H205036 Bogie frame arrangement 38.20.1004 Body side Arrangement Note: Due dates of tender opening: S.No.01 on 18.02.2020; S.Nos.02 24.02.2020; S.Nos.03 on 25.02.2020; S.Nos.04 to 05 on 26.02.2020 S.Nos.06 on 28.02.2020; S.No.07 to 09 on 02.03.2020; S.Nos.10 to 12 on 03.03.2020; S.Nos.13 on 04.03.2020; S.Nos. 14 to 17 on 05.03.2020 S.No.18 on 10.03.2020. S.No.19 on 16.03.2020;

Atta at ₹2/kg, potable water: **BJP's Sankalp**

From Page 1

The manifesto released in presence of Union Ministers Nitin Gadkari, Prakash Javadekar, Harsh Vardhan, party's Delhi unit president Manoj Tiwari said in line with the Central Government's Jal Jeevan Mission, the party will also provide clean drinking water to every household.

The party promised to implement Ayushman Bharat, Pradhanmantri Awaas Yojana and Kisan Samman Nidhi in the national Capital. The BJP said it would develop the river front of the Yamuna as an eco-tourism hub on the lines of the Sabarmati in Ahmedabad and the Ganga in Varanasi if voted to power in Delhi

Also, it promised a "Yamuna Museum" on the river's bank, besides constituting a "Delhi Yamuna Vikas Board" to ensure clean and uninterrupted flow of water in the river. Besides, the party has offered a slew of freebies to Delhiites, including free electric scooty for college-going girls from impoverished background, free cycle for Class IX girls from poor families, a wedding gift of Rs 51,000 for daughters of poor widows and depositing money in the name of girlchild born in poor families, with payout of Rs 2 lakh when the girl turns 21. The document highlighted the Modi Government's work like providing ownership rights to residents in unauthorised colonies

up of a Colony Development Board (CDB). "Delhi's future cannot be built by distributing a few freebies. It can be done only through a vision comprising concrete projects," Gadkari said referring to AAP Government's freebies schemes The party's manifesto focused on air, water pollution, land reforms, employment opportunities for youth, sports facilities under Khelo India, health schemes, new colleges, schools and implementation of solar and electric policies. In a response to questions existing subsidies on water and electricity by the AAP Government, Tiwari said none of the existing benefits will be discontinued if the BJP forms the Government. "The schemes on electricity and water are part of a continuous process and will continue. We will not stop any of the existing schemes,' Tiwari said.

In its bid to reach out to the traders, the party promised to address their concerns vis-à-vis "sealing" that has been going on the orders of the Supreme Court empowered committee headed by former bureaucrat Bhure Lal . "Ten lakh shops and offices will be converted from leasehold to freehold in one year and necessary legal changes will be brought to end sealing of commercial properties," the manifesto stated

alp Patra", the BJP said, "We In the

Tronica City at affordable prices. This will be a non-polluting mode of transport which wil also save time of travelers.

"An annual festival - Yamuna Mahotsav will be organised to highlight and celebrate the religious importance of the Yamuna. We will also deploy bio-remediation technology for cleaning up the river," the party said. The BJP also said it will implement biological treatment of industrial pollutants at source and expand the capacity of sewage treatment plants.

the Yamuna to ensure proper facilities during Chhath Puja," it said, adding that the party is committed to taking all steps to free the river of pollution in a time-bound manner

Also, it promised a green industry corridor for green energy technology companies, incentivize installation of solar panels in houses, colonies and factories, a new sports policy to promote and nature sporting talent will be established, keeping in line with the Prime Minister Narendra Modi's initiative of 'fit India and Khelo India New startup schemes to make Delhi as Startup city, upgradation of employment exchanges, rejuvenation of water bodies and develop them as major tourist spots are in BJP's plan of action if it is voted to power in the city. The party also promised to start a

"We will also build a network of ghats on

February 3 or till he is discharged from the hospital, whichever is earlier. During the hearing, Wadhawan's lawyer Amit Desai told the court that his client was being tested for suspected swine flu. Desai requested the court that Wadhawan should not be shifted from the ICU so as to avoid spread of the dis-

press for his further remand.

Kapil

a court here on Friday.

The court said it will hear his bail plea on Monday.

cial court for Prevention of Money

Laundering Act on Friday after the cus-

tody of the Enforcement Directorate

(ED) ended. The central agency didn't

Wadhawan in judicial custody till

Judge Prashant Rajvaidaya sent

In a related development, the Court refused t

Arrested DHFL CMD K'taka CM gets being tested for approval for swine flu, court told Cabinet expansion

PTI 📕 NEW DELHI

Karnataka Chief Minister BS Yediyurappa on Friday finally received the green signal from the BJP central lead ership for expansion of the sixmonth-old cabinet in the state and he is likely to induct 13 ministers.

Yediyurappa said the date of swearing-in will be decided in a day or two, although he indicated it is expected be held on February 3.

same locality in the city. On the There are 18 ministers, day of the incident, the girl ran including the chief minister, in into the accused in a park where the cabinet that has a sancshe had gone for a morning tioned strength of 34. Sixteen walk. He caught hold of her berths are vacant. And hand and kissed it. The girl ran away from the spot. Later, when Yediyurappa had been anxiously waiting for the party she went to the park in the high command's approval to evening with her mother, the accused again accosted her expand his ministry amid intense lobbying by cabinet and touched her PTI inappropriately. aspirants.

BABYCARE ROOM AT HUMAYUN TOMB



Mumbai:DewanHousingFinanceCorporation(DHFL)CMDKapilWadhawan, arrested in a money laundering case involving gangster Iqbal Mirchi, has been hospitalised and undergoing tests for suspected swine flu, his lawyer told

Wadhawan was admitted to the state-run J J Hospital here after he was diagnosed with lower respiratory tract infection and hypertension on Thursday. He was not produced before the spe-

permanent houses to those living in Jhuggi-Jhopri (JJ) clusters in the city and setting

OFFICE OF THE PROJECT MANAGER TEMPORARY CONSTRUCTION UNIT. U.P. JAL NIGAM , 14 M.L.D. SEWERAGE TREATMENT PLANT GHATAMPUR, RAMPUR Letter No.:93/LEKHA-5/06 Date : 25-01-2020 SHORT TERM E-TENDER NOTICE U.P. Jal Nigam Invites online percentage Rate E-tenders from contractors/firms having requisite experience for constructing drain in Vikas Bhawan Campus, Rampur Tender document shall be available at e-procurement website http://etender.up.nic.in 8 http://in.upsdc.gov.in. In latest by 28.01.2020 enlisted firms may view & download tende document and upload their tender, dully filled, online as per schedule given below - Date for-(i) Uploading bid document at website : 28.01.2020 at 17:00 hrs. (ii) Online submission of e-bids Up to 05.02.2020 at 17:00 hrs (iii) Opening of bid : 06.02.2020 at 15:30 hrs.

will set up a water taxi service between Wazirabad and Sonia Vihar, Jagatpur and

Assemble-in-India for \$5... From Page 1 Some economists believe the Survey's growth forecast is

too optimistic as the recovery is likely to be slow and shallow amid rising inflation and declining investment.

The Survey has been wide of the mark in forecasting growth in four out of past five years. "The deceleration in

GDP growth can be understood within the framework of a slowing cycle of growth with the financial sector acting as a drag on the real sector," it said. 'The Government must

use its strong mandate to deliver expeditiously on reforms, which will enable the economy to strongly rebound in 2020-21."

S u r v e y - a u t h o r a tax stimulus to spur invest-Krishnamurthy Subramanian, ments.

talent hunt for youth and to provide economic assistance to those selected in pursuing various creative arts

Chief Economic Adviser to

the Finance Ministry, rejected

his predecessor Arvind

Subramanian's analysis of

India's GDP growth rate being

overestimated by 2.7 per cent

post-2011, saying the allegation

was "unfounded" and "unsub-

er, the Government has to pri-

oritise growth, the Survey for

2019-20, which was tabled by

Sitharaman in Parliament, said.

fiscal deficit target could be

considered, said the Survey —

an annual report card on the

economy. Sitharaman had pro-

jected the fiscal deficit at 3.3 per

cent of the gross domestic

product in her budget for 2019-

20 but it is widely seen slipping

to 3.8 per cent as the slowdown

lowered revenue collections

and the Government provided

भोपाल, दिनांक : 31.01.2020

And for this, relaxing the

As has been argued earli-

stantiated by the data".

Survey said.

This will be the third

straight year when the govern-

ment will miss its fiscal deficit

target. Once the momentum

picks up, the government can

take action to consolidate its

expenses. Several economies

lakh crore food subsidy bill can

create the fiscal space, the

capital expenditure (and reduc-

ing revenue expenditure) that

growth, which primarily is dri-

ven by consumer spending,

has to now come from greater

investments. The Survey

emphasised on investment-led

growth by focusing on reviving

do business, it suggested

removing the red tape at ports

to promote exports as well as

To further make it easier to

leads to asset creation.

the MSME sector.

Cutting some of the Rs 1.84

It emphasized on raising

This means economic

have done this in the past.

relief to Wadhawan on his plea challenging his ED custody. PTI

> measures to make it easier to start a business, register property, pay taxes and enforcing contracts.

It also called for improving overnance in public sector banks and the need for more disclosure of information to build trust. It also talks about dwarfism in the banking sector.

Stating that only when wealth is created, it can be distributed, Subramanian said, "A feeling of suspicion and disrespect towards India's wealth creators is ill-advised."

In an attempt to boost demand, the Reserve Bank cut interest rate by 110 basis points in 2019 while the government speeded up the insolvency resolution process under Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (IBC) and easing of credit, particularly for the stressed real estate and Non-Banking

PNS 📕 NEW DELHI

Financial Company (NBFCs) sectors.

शिश देखभाल कक्ष BABY CARE ROOM

Union Culture Minister Prahlad Singh Patel inaugurates a baby care room at Humayun Tomb in the national Capital on Friday

Minister also visited monu-

ment of Abdul Rahim Khan

Khana which is located near-

by and inspected the devel-

Four other policemen

were injured when Batham

had fired earlier from the ter-

race and a villager shot in the

leg when he was sent to nego-

Minister Amit Shah congrat-

ulated the Uttar Pradesh Police

and Chief Minister Yogi

children held hostage in

Farrukhabad in Uttar Pradesh

safely rescued through the

efficient strategy and planning

called a meeting of the State's

crisis management committee

and monitored the situation

from capital Lucknow, about

The CM announced an

Earlier, Adityanath had

by the police, he said.

Adityanath.

In a tweet, Union Home

^tIt is laudable to get all the

tiate with the hostage taker.

opment works there.

said

attend to personal needs of infants, toddlers, and even Union Culture Minister Prahlad Singh Patel on younger children. It is a space allocated for nappies change, fluids and solids preparation, Friday inaugurated a Babycare & Feeding room at feeding, breastfeeding, also the premises of historical breast pumping for mothers. monument Humavun Tomb Patel said that soon nappies in the national Capital. vending machines will be Similar babycare centres installed in these centres. The

have already been set up at Taj Mahal in Agra, Uttar Pradesh and Qutub Minar in Delhi where moms or caretakers visiting the monuments can

> Beside above mentioned tenders here are other tenderers having value elow Rs.25 lakhs. For detail, please visit Railway website above.

Principal Chief Materials Manager,Secunderabad A0162

For further tender conditions / details and for downloading the tender documents, Please visit website at https://www.ireps.gov.in or www.scr.indianrailways.gov.in

मध्यप्रदेश मध्य क्षेत्र विद्युत वितरण कंपनी लिमिटेड कार्यालय महाप्रबंधक (सिविल), ए-1, चंबल कालोनी, गोविन्दपुरा, भोपाल (म.प्र.) फोन आफिस : 0755-2678206 ई-मेल : gmcivil.mkvvcl@gmail.com

क्रमांक 050⁄महाप्रबं⁄सि.⁄4570-71

निविदा सूचना

सिविल संभाग भोपाल के अन्तर्गत निम्नलिखित कार्यों हेतु कम्पनी∕म.प्र. शासन ∕केन्द्रीय शासन के विभिन्न विभागों में समक्ष श्रेणी में पंजीकृत, ई.पी.एफ. नं. एवं जी.एस.टी. रजिस्ट्रेशन नं. प्राप्त ठेकेदारों से प्रपत्र 'अ' में लोक निर्माण विभाग म.प्र. शासन के दिनांक 29.08.2017 से प्रभावशील (वर्तमान तक संशोधित) एस.ओ.आर. (रोड एण्ड ब्रिज) की दरों में 10 प्रतिशत की कमी कर एवं 18 प्रतिशत जी.एस.टी जोडकर भावपत्र e- निविदा के माध्यम से आमंत्रित किये जाते हैं :

| निविदा सूचना क्रमांक | कार्य का नाम | अनुमानित लागत रुपये में | | निविदा प्रपत्र डाउनलोड करने की अंतिम तिथि एवं समय | ऑनलाइन निविदा प्रपत्र जमा करने की अंतिम तिथि एवं समय | निविदा खुलने की दिनांक∕ समय |
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| मप्रसि⁄भो.⁄75⁄ 183(ई. निविदा क्र. (2020_MK VVC_77656_1) | बिजली नगर कॉलोनी गोविन्दपुरा भोपाल की आंतरिक सड़कों के रिनोवेशन का कार्य। | 20.78 लाख | 20,000/- | 14.02.2020 15.00 | 14.02.2020 15.00 | 15.02.2020 15.00 |

निविदा संबंधी विस्तृत जानकारी कंपनी की वेबसाइट portal.mpcz.in पर देखे एवं mptenders.gov.in पोर्टल से निविदा क्रय कर सकते हैं। म.प्र.माध्यम/96664/2020 महाप्रबंधक (सिविल)

Farrukhabad captor shot...

From Page 1

Police said Batham, who was a murder accused and appeared mentally unstable, initially released a six-monthold girl by handing her over to a neighbour from a balcony.

They said Batham, who was out on bail, had demanded the withdrawal of a murder case against him.

"The accused was killed and there were about 23 children who were rescued safely," Additional Chief Secretary (Home) Awanish Awasthi told reporters at a hurriedly called Press conference at 1.20 am on Friday.

Batham's wife died in hospital late on Thursday night. She had tried to escape from the spot, but was caught by angry parents who thrashed her and pelted stones at her,

Kanpur Inspector General Mohit Agarwal said.

She suffered a head injury in the attack, but the exact cause of death would be known after post-mortem, he said.

The children were confined to the basement of the house.

Agarwal said Batham wanted to talk to the local MLA, but refused to speak to him when he arrived, Agarwal said

Police recovered a country-made gun, a rifle, about two dozen cartridges and two dozen country-made bombs. The IG said this indicated that he could have kept the children hostage for days, and perhaps planned to blow up the house

When Batham demanded

the withdrawal of the murder case against him, police assured him that they would consider it. They also talked about offering a Government house to him.

While this conversation was going on, a police team entered the house by breaking open the back door. Batham fired two bullets to scare them

We thought he had fired at the children and stopped mid-

His wife then tried to escape from the front door but the children's parents who had collected there attacked her.

Agarwal said she was seriously injured before police could rescue her.

Sensing that he was sur-200 km away, an official said. rounded from all sides, Batham opened fire, injuring award of Rs 10 lakh for the four policemen. He was killed police team that carried out when police retaliated, the IG the rescue operation.

away way, Agarwal said.



President hails CAA, calls it 'historic' amid Opp protest

PNS NEW DELHI

midst shouts of shame-A shame from the black band sporting Opposition MPs, President Ram Nath Kovind on Friday hailed the new Citizenship Amendment Act (CAA) as "historic" and a fulfilment of Mahatma Gandhi's wish even as he denounced violence "in the name of protests" saying it weakened the society and the nation. The President, however, did not refer to the National Register of Citizens (NRC) in his address even as he hastened to stress the importance of "mutual discussion and debate" to consolidate democracy.

As the Citizenship (Amendment) Act (CAA) has set the ruling and opposition parties on the path of confrontation since its passing last December, the two sides again stood face to face in the central hall with the government again affirming that CAA was the urgent need of the time by highlighting suppression of minorities in Pakistan and also

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE

eaders of 14 Opposition par-

President Ram Nath Kovind's

address seeking the removal of

reference made to the passage of

the CAA from it.

NFW DFI H

ANTI-CAA PROTEST



Budget Session, at the Central Hall of Parliament in New Delhi on Friday

citing the 'Nanakana Sahib' Home Ministers Amit Shah, incident in the neibhouring country "While condemning the

atrocities on the minorities in Pakistan, I urge the world community to take cognizance of it and take necessary steps in this

regard," the President said. The reference to the CAA and abrogation of autonomy of Jammu and Kashmir under Article 370 drew loud and prolonged thumping of benches by the ruling MPs, including Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Union

Opp leaders wear black arm

Sangh', who wanted that all states and union territories should be having equal funda-mental rights and benefits . Congress president Sonia Gandhi and the party's leader in Rajya Sabha Ghulam Nabi Azad

sat in the back rows in the Central Hall of Parliament instead of the front seats allotted to them to mark their protest against the law.

president of the `Bharatiya Jana

Delivering his 70-minute address in Hindi which marks the start of the Parliament's Budget session, Kovind pointed out that mutual discussions and debates strengthen democracy.

PT

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh

and others, while the opposition members shouted "shame-

shame". The President looked up

for a few seconds but went on

The address devoted gen-

erous space to the nullifying of

article 370 and the new Kashmir.

The President whose address is

customarily the account of the

government policies, said the

historic measure led to the ful-

filling of wishes of Shyama

Prasad Mukherjee, the founder

reading the written address.

"At the same time, any kind of violence in the name of protests weakens the society and the nation." he said without directly referring to the anti-CAA protests in the country some of which have witnessed violence.

He said Mahatma Gandhi had said that Hindus and Sikhs

of Pakistan, who do not wish to live there, can come to India and it is the duty of the Indian government to ensure a normal life for them.

"It is our responsibility to honour this wish of the founding fathers of our nation. I am happy that both the Houses of Parliament have fulfilled this wish, by enacting the Citizenship Amendment Act. At a time when the country is celebrating the 150th birth anniversary of Gandhiji, all of you have given

sentiment," Kovind said. Referring to atrocities on minorities in Pakistan, the President said, "We have all seen what happened in Nankana Sahib recently. It is the responsibility of all of us to bring the atrocities being committed in Pakistan to the notice of the global community." The Nankana Sahib gurudwara in Pakistan was attacked by a mob earlier this month.

Against the backdrop of Ongoing anti-CAA stir across the country, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on paramount consideration to this Friday asked the National Democratic Alliance (NDA)

NEW DELHI

DEEPAK K UPRETI

members to aggressively defend the new citizenship law that grants Indian nation ality to the six persecuted minorities, barring Muslims, from Pakistan, Bangladesh and Afghanistan.

Modi sought MPs to take on the Opposition's charge that the amended citizenship law discriminated against Muslims and said that minorities are as much "ours as other citizens are".

A BJP ally said after the meeting that Modi asked the NDA leaders, who met to strategise as Parliament's Budget Session began here on Friday, to go on the front-foot to take on the Opposition's

JD(U) asks Govt to remove questions seeking details of parents in NPR form PNS NEW DELHI

The JD(U) on Friday urged the Government to remove questions seeking details of parents in the National Population Register (NPR) questionnaire

Janata Dal (United) leader Lalan Singh said he raised the issue at the NDA meeting and Union Home Minister Amit Shah assured that the matter will be discussed. Singh said the Shiromani Akali Dal (SAD), another BJP ally, also supported the JD(U) on the issue.

Union Minister Prakash Javadekar had earlier clarified that people are free not to

answer questions about their parents such as place and date of birth in the NPR exercise.

The JD(U), which is headed by Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar, has backed the government on the Citizenship (Amendment) Act, and the Bihar government had announced the roll-out of the NPR exercise in the state.

With criticism rising about the questions on parents' details in the NPR on the ground that many people may not be aware about the place and date of birth of their parents, the Government has already said that answering them is not compulsory.

effort to reach out to protest-The sporadic protests in Delhi and other cities have brought CAA at the centre-

of arrogance and making no

nation 05

stage of the current Budget Session with Congress and other Opposition parties set to corner the Government on the issue and the latter set to go aggressive on it and not back out.

The Delhi election in February has already charged both the sides and the issue has, seemingly, a polarising impact on the polls with the BJP trying to inject national issues like CAA in the campaign while AAP is seeking to focus on local developmental

issues.

ANTI-CAA PROTEST: Opposition leaders have said they will raise the issue of nationwide protests against the CAA in the Session, as they accused the Modi Government

SC seeks UP Govt's response on plea for quashing notices for recovering damages **New Delhi:** The Supreme Court Friday agreed to hear a

plea seeking quashing of notices sent to alleged protestors by district administration for recovering losses caused by damage to public properties during the anti-CAA agitations in Uttar Pradesh and asked the State to respond to it. A Bench comprising Justices D Y Chandrachud and K M Joseph issued notice to the Uttar PradeshGovernment on the plea and directed it to file its reply within four weeks.



NSHORT

HIGH COMMISSIONER TO CANADA APPOINTED New Delhi: Seasoned diplomation Aiav Bisaria was on Friday appointed High Commissioner to

The Economic Survey 2020, pointed out that the Canada, a posting considered Government interventions like portant in view of India's clos

bands during Prez address with those protesting against the National Population Register (NPR), National Register of Citizens (NRC) and Citizenship

Leaders of 14 Opposition par-ties, including the Congress, on Friday wore black arm bands Amendment Act (CAA). Leaders of these parties, during the President's address to including Leader of Opposition both the Houses of Parliament, in Rajya Sabha Ghulam Nabi saying it was "shameful" on the Azad and Congress president part of the Government to Sonia Gandhi did not sit on claim the CAA as an achievetheir designated seats in the ment. Opposition parties decidfront and second rows and sat together in one block in the ed to move amendments to

Central hall of Parliament during the president's address as a mark of their protest. Outside the Parliament Sonia was accompanied by

The Opposition leaders also staged a protest outside party leader Rahul Gandhi, Mahatma Gandhi's statue in Azad, senior party leaders Parliament complex and raised Motilal Vohra, Ahmed Patel, Adhir Ranjan Choudhury, A K Antony and all party MPs from slogans against the Government while standing in solidarity

PNS NEW DELHI

Rajya Sabha and Lok Sabha. They held placards that read 'Save the Constitution' and raised anti-government slogans while expressing solidarity with the protesters against the CAA, NPR and the NRC.

The black bands were worn as a mark of protest against the alleged attack on the Constitution of India with the passage of the amended Citizenship Act by the government, the leaders said.

Opposition members also protested after President Kovind hailed the CAA in his address. As soon as the president made these remarks, some opposition members shouted "shame, shame" and displayed banners in the Central Hall. Among the leaders of the

opposition parties who wore black bands were Nationalist Congress Party (NCP), Samajwadi Party (SP), Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam (DMK), Rashtriya Janata Dal (RJD), Communist Party of India (Marxist), Communist Party of India, Shiv Sena, Jharkhand Mukti Morcha Janata Dal



sources said.

Socialist Party (RSP), Kerala Congress (M), Indian Union

National Conference (NC), besides the Congress, the

> Over ₹2 lakh crore projects under Smart City Mission underway: Survey

PNS NEW DELHI

(PMCs). Talking about achieve-

ments of 'Smart Cities Mission'

(SCM), the survey said that

Since the launch of the mission,

5,151 projects worth more than

₹2 lakh crore are at various

stages of implementation in the

have been completed and are

100 cities,"

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE

1.5 lakh Ayushman Bharat

Health & Wellness Centres



added.

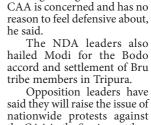




'Govt interventions hurt more, help less' geoning food subsidy bill needs fare schemes as on December

to be addressed," the Survey 2019. Under the NFSA, the government supplies 5 kg of sub-The NFSA has been imple- sidised foodgrains to each permented in all states and Union son per month to over 81 crore

by 2022: Economic Survey



charge that the amended citi-

zenship law discriminated

nothing wrong as far as the

The Government has done

against Muslims.

PM to NDA members: No need to

feel defensive, push CAA strongly

ties with the North American country. Bisaria was serving as India's High Commissioner to Pakistan but returned to India in August last vear after Islamabad expelled him following New Delhi's decision to reorganise Jammu and Kashmir and withdraw its special status.

PANEL FOR OVERHAUL OF **ALLIED HEALTHCARE BILL**

New Delhi: A parliamentary panel on Friday recommended restructuring of the Allied and Healthcare Professions Bill and renaming it as the National Commission for Allied and Healthcare Professions Bill. The standing committee on Health report said the status of the allied healthcare professions such as physiotherapy, occupational therapy, radiology, etc has to be raised and bring the profession out of the dominance of doctors by standardisation of its education and practice, an official statement said.

CONFERENCE ON LEPROSY ERADICATION HELD

New Delhi: Noting that 66 per cent of the global leprosy cases prevail in India, doctors under the umbrella of IADVL (Indian Association of Dermatologists Venereologists & Leprologists) at a four days conference DERMACON 2020 which kicked off on January 30 in Nagpur took a pledge to work towards the eradication of the crippling disease. Issues like lack of awareness and abuse of steroid based ointments, medicines being purchased over the counter will also be discussed, said Dr P Narasimha Rao, IADVL president

FEEDBACK SUBMITTED TO PMO ON J&K SCHEMES

New Delhi: All 37 Central Ministers who visited Jammu & Kashmir recently will submit feedback to the Prime Minister's Office (PMO) on the implementation of various development schemes there. officials said on Friday. So far. 14 Ministers have submitted their assessment on the implementation of the welfare schemes in a proforma so that action can be taken on the basis of the feedback

od subsid up creating distortions in the functioning of the free market. The Survey says that debt waiver schemes' disrupt credit culture and disrupt formal credit flow to the very farmers it aims to benefit. The share of agriculture and allied sector in the total gross value added (GVA) of the country has been continuously declin-

ing from 18.2 per cent in 2014-15 t0 16.5 per cent in 2019-20. The Economic Survey

picked four instances where archaic Government interventions have created more problems than they solve which include rationalisation of Essential Commodities Act, Drug Price Control Order (DPCO), food subsidies and debt waiver.

The food subsidy Bill has increased from ₹1,13,171.2 crore in 2014-15 to ₹1,71,127.5 crore in 2018-19, it said adding that the reasons for widening of the food subsidy have been many. While the economic cost has increased,

the central issue price (the rate at which grains are sold in ration shops) for NFSA beneficiaries has not been revised from ₹200 per quintal in case of wheat and ₹300 per quintal in the case of rice. Foodgrains via ration shops are supplied at highly subsidised rates of ₹3 per kg for rice, ₹2 per kg for wheat and Rs 1 per kg for coarse grains through Public Distribution System (PDS) as per the National Food Security Act (NFSA)

SURVEY

"While the interests of the vulnerable sections of the population need to be safeguarded, for sustainability of food security operations, the issue of bur-

ever, Chandigarh, Puducherry and urban areas of Dadra and Nagar Haveli, the NFSA is being implemented in cash transfer mode, under which food subsidy is being transferred into the bank accounts of beneficiaries who then have a choice to buy foodgrains from open market.

During the financial year 2019-20, the government allocated 603.88 lakh tonnes of foodgrains to states and UTs under the NFSA and other wel-

through 5 lakh ration shops in the country. The Economic Survey also

pitched for scrapping of the Essential Commodities Act (ECA), Drug Price Control Order (DPCO) and debt waiver saying the law is "anachronistic" that leads to harassment and is of no help in checking price volatility. The survey said that these acts should be let go of for more economic freedom (CLAFs) and appointed Project to the market and to spur wealth Management Consultants creation.

Cong cites disconnect in findings

PNS NEW DELHI

The Congress on Friday came down heavily on the projections of the Economic Survey, saving the findings are "totally disconnected with the reality".

The party said the prices of commodities are rising and the Government has not said how it will contain the food inflation. The "Make in India" has failed so "Assemble in India" has come up but this will not add value to the GDP as already the position is grim, the Congress said. "The Economic Survey

comes nowhere close to revealing what the actual situation is. India is facing a very difficult time due to the Narendra Modi Government's mismanagement vet if you look at the Economic Survey, you will find it is totally disconnected from this grim reality," Congress spokesperson Rajeev Gowda said.

Gowda said the Economic Survey is not about talking of the past but the current situation in

the country. "The current situation is - the economy is in the worst phase in 52 years with unemployment at an all-time high," said the Rajya Sabha

member. "In this Economic Survey, the Chief Economic Advisor pays scant attention to distribution and inequality. Even today, inequality is worsening. Recent Oxfam report says richest 1 per cent of India hold over 40 per cent of national wealth," party leader Gaurav Vallabh said. operational.

As many as 5,151 projects Worth more than ₹2 lakh **T**o promote preventive healthcare, 1.5 lakh crore are being implemented in Ayushman Bharat Health & Wellness Centres are proposed 100 cities under the Government's Smart City to be set up by 2022 under the Mission. According to the Ayushman Bharat health flag-Economic Survey of India 2019ship scheme, according to the Economic Survey 2019-20 20, all 100 cities under the mistabled by Finance Minister sion have incorporated Special Purpose Vehicles (SPVs), City Nirmala Sitharaman in Level Advisory Forums Parliament on Friday.

As on January 14, 2020, the Government has been able to set up just 28,000 health and wellness centres under its flagship scheme launched last year.

Citing the latest National Health Accounts (NHA) 2016-17 data, the economic survey on Fridav said that out of pocket expenditure as a percentage of total health expenditure has

As on November 14, 2019, 4,154 SCM projects worth declined from 64.2 per cent in 2013-14 to 58.7 per cent in ₹1.49 lakh crore (72 per cent 2016-17. Talking about perforof the total proposals) have been tendered, of which 3,359 mance of the Mission projects worth ₹1.05 lakh Indradhanush, the survey said crores (51 per cent of total 3.39 crore children and 87.18 proposals) have been issued lakh pregnant women in 680 work orders. As many as 1,290 districts across the country have projects worth ₹22,569 crores been vaccinated."

New vaccines such as Measles-Rubella (MR),

Pneumococcal Conjugate Vaccine, Rotavirus Vaccine and Inactivated Polio Vaccine have also been introduced, it added.

Primary healthcare accounts for 52.1 per cent of India's current public expenditure on health as per the National Health Estimates, 2016-17. The National Health Policy, 2017 recommended to spend at least two thirds of the government's health expenditure on primary healthcare, it added.

"Ayushman Bharat-Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (PM-JAY), the world's largest health insurance scheme, is a major step towards providing affordable healthcare to the identified poor," the Survey said.

The scheme has been rolled out based on the deprivation and occupational criteria of the Socio-Economic Caste Census for rural and urban areas,

respectively, it added.

In a first, habitat assessment in Ganga basin to go hi-tech

ARCHANA JYOTI - NEW DELHI

 $F^{\rm or}$ the first time, scientists will be using hi-tech sophisticated scientific tools and techniques such as laser, sonar, doppler, GPS and GIS technology to conduct river habitat assessment in the Ganga basin aiming to maintain its aviral dhara (continuous flow) and nirmal dhara(unpolluted flow).

The survey will be conducted by the National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG) in collaboration with the Delhi-based Wildlife Institute of India (WII) under the Namami Gange programme of the Union Ministry of Jal Shakti wherin ten rivers in the eight States in the Ganga basin will be covered.

The rivers include Ganga, Ramganga, Yamuna, Gomti, Ghagra, Gandak, Koshi, Son, Chambal and

Rupnarayan covering from source to its respective confluences.

Director General of NMCG, Rajiv Ranjan Mishra said that the survey team will use the state-of-theart scientific tools and techniques such as laser based distance measurement units for channel width determination, sonar-based channel depth estimator, Doppler-based river flow determination, GPS and GIS technology in combination with the local traditional knowledge of the riverside communities.

A large number of Ganga Praharis created for river conservation will support the assessment as the representatives of local communities.

Miishra said that in the First National Ganga Council meeting on December 14, 2019 at Kanpur, it was agreed that aquatic biodiversity conservation such as Gangetic dolphin

NAMAMI GANGE

Scientific tools and techniques such as laser, sonar, doppler, GPS and GIS technology to conduct river habitat assessment in the Ganga basin aiming to maintain its aviral dhara

The rivers include Ganga, Ramganga, Yamuna, Gomti, Ghagra, Gandak, Koshi, Son, Chambal and Rupnarayan covering from source to its respective confluences



and Dr Ruchi Badola said that the assessment will generate baseline data on river habitat conditions based on which a roadmap will be prepared for aquatic biodiversity conservation in Ganga basin for ensuring Nirmal Dhara and AviralDhara of not only Ganga river but also in its tributaries.

According to a survey by the WII, around 49 per cent of the Ganga River has high biodiversity value and species of conservation concern are reappearing as the river is getting much more cleaner.

Dr. Hussain said the initiative will successfully address the biodiversity and river conservation issues in the Ganga basin, which will be a model for science based river conservation in India.

Raiver Ganga, with over 2,525 km long mainstream, is one resource that sustains multiple functionspertaining to ecological, socio-cultural and livelihoods in India.



CITIZENSHIP AMENDMENT ACT Headmistress, parent held for 'Modi abuse' in drama

Bengaluru: Days after a sedi tion case was slapped against a school in Karnataka, its headmistress and a student's mother have been arrested for alleged involvement in staging of a drama portraying Prime Minister Narendra Modi in poor light over the CAA and NRC, police said on Friday. The police action came after they questioned the two women, a few staff members of the Shaheen School in the district headquarters town of Bidar and students on Thursday.

They were produced before a court which remanded them to judicial custody, police said adding further investigation was on

The drama was staged by students of fourth, fifth and sixth standard on January 21. A sedition case was booked

by police on January 26 against



the school, along with some other sections of the Indian Penal Code (IPC) on January 26, based on a complaint from social worker Neelesh Rakshyal.

The play uploaded on social media had gone viral

Officials said, the utterances against the Prime Minister were not part of the original script, but the mother of a Class six student allegedly incorporated them during the practice and the teacher allowed it to be part of the

According to media

"If sedition case can be reg-

the school in Matunga here ear-

istered against students for

staging drama against CAA, then a case of sedition should

be filed against a school man-

agement and organisers for

lier this month.



social media had gone viral drama

alleged the school authorities used' the students to perform a drama where they "abused" Modi in the context of the Citizenship Amendment Act

and the National Register of Citizens. The management tried to create 'fear' among the Muslims that they would have to leave the country if the CAA and NRC were implemented, Rakshyal charged

The drama was

staged by students

of fourth, fifth and

sixth standard on

January 21. The

play uploaded on



Panaji: The National Student's Union of India (NSUI) on Friday filed a complaint with the director general of police (DGP) against a school in Porvorim for allegedly brainwashing students and making them participate in a pro-CAA march

The action has come hours after the police registered a The complainant has criminal case against a wing of Goa Church and an NGO for allegedly making children take part in a rally against the Citizenship (Amendment) Act (CAA)

NSUI Goa chief Ahraz Mulla filed a complaint with the DGP alleging that Porvorim-based school Vidya Prabhodini had brainwashed students and made them parĥad ticipate in a pro-CAA rally at Porvorim on December 18 last PTI

In its complaint, the NSUI said the management of Vidya Prabhodini has been brainwashing young students and had reportedly asked them to participate in a rally support-ing CAA and National Register of Citizens. The management exposed

children to political ideology and aggressive language, and also exposed them to psychological abuse and an unsafe environment, the NSUI alleged.

There have been complaints that students from the institution are forced to be part of such rallies, failing which strict action is taken by the management against students who oppose NRC and CAA," the complain



Muslim women during a protest against CAA, NRC and NPR at Shahid Smarak in Jaipur on Friday

Maha Congress: Slap sedition case against school for pro-CAA event

Mumbai: The Congress on tered on January 26. The head-Friday demanded that a mistress of Shaheen School sedition case be registered and the mother of a student have been arrested by Bidar against the management of a school in Mumbai for allegedpolice in this case. ly forcing children to support the controversial Citizenship reports, a programme relating to the CAA was organised at

Amendment Act. The demand from the Maharashtra Congress comes against the backdrop of a move by police from neighbouring Karnataka to slap sedition charges against a school in Bidar there for staging a drama critical of CAA and Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

holding students to ransom to The drama was staged by support CAA at a Mumbai students of fourth, fifth and school," Maharashtra Congress sixth standard on January 21, spokesperson Sachin Sawant and a sedition case was regissaid in a statement

Goa: Cong condemns FIR against church wing over protest rally

PTI 📕 PANAJI

 $T^{\rm he\ Congress\ on\ Friday\ condemned\ the}_{\rm FIR\ filed\ against\ a\ Goa\ Church\ wing\ and}$ an NGO over the presence of children at anti-CAA protest, terming it an "assault on a religious institution".

The Goa police's women and child pro-tection unit on Thursday filed an FIR against Council for Social Justice and Peace (Goa Church's wing) and National Human Rights Organisation (Goa Chapter) for using children to protest against the Citizenship (Amendment) Act at a rally in Margao on January 24.

"The politically dictated FIR by the Goa Police is not only an attack on freedom of expression and speech, but also a direct assault on a religious institution," Goa Congress chief Girish Chodankar said

Talking to reporters here, Chodankar accused the BJP- led state government of cretated" by BJP leaders to suppress the voice of masses, he said.

"When the BJP realised that people are against its ulterior motive of passing CAA, they are resorting to such actions," the Congress leader alleged.

The police has kept several complaints against corruption in the state in cold storage, while it was quick to file an FIR in frivolous and mischievous complaint by an NGO against a Goa Church body, he alleged.

Speaking about the issue, BJP's Goa general secretary and former MP Narendra Sawaikar said, "There is no point in dragging children on the street for this issue. The person who has filed the complaint must have found something unconvincing in the rally," he said.

3 PFI activists held in connection with violence during protest in Lucknow Singh had told reporters here. Deputy Chief Minister Keshav Prasad Maurya had said

Lucknow: Three members of the Popular Front of India (PFI) were arrested on Friday for their involvement in the December 19 anti-CAA protests in Lucknow which had turned violent, police said.

Shakeel ur Rehman, Shabi Khan and Mohammed Arshad were among the conspirators behind the anti-Citizenship (Amendment) Act violence that had rocked the State Capital, a police spokesperson said in a statement issued here.

The trio were held from Hasanganj Police Station area of the city.

"They were arrested following a tip-off by their associates who were arrested earlier. Shakeel ur Rehman, Shabi Khan and

Mohammed Arshad are linked to PFI, and they used to instigate people," the police said.

that the PFI in a way was the "incarnation" of the Students On December 31, last year, the Uttar Pradesh Police had sought a ban on the PFI, days after Islamic Movement of India (SIMI) its complicity was suspected in the recent statewide violent protests — an organisation banned by the government in 2001 for allegedagainst the amended citizenship

The then Uttar Pradesh Director General of Police O P Singh had said that they had written to the Union Home Ministry, seeking a ban on the PFI after its Uttar Pradesh head, Wasim and 16 other activists were arrested for allegedly masterminding the violence in the state capital.

"We have written to the Union Home Ministry, recommending that the PFI should be banned.

ly being involved in a series of terror acts in the country. Stressing that PFI's role has been "established" in vandalism in the State, Maurya had told reporters: "The truth is emerging through the probe. If SIMI reappears in any form, it will be crushed." When asked if the PFI will be banned, Maurya said,

"The process is on. Such organisations will not be allowed to grow. If needed, they will be banned.

FIR against Ghosh for remark against protester

SAUGAR SENGUPTA KOLKATA

college girl has lodged a Acollege girl has lodged a police complaint against Bengal BJP president Dilip Ghosh for threatening murder and making uncouth remarks

lowering a woman's dignity. The complaint was lodged Ghosh told the

CAA, No NRC" apparently infuriated the BJP workers rally and I was luckily saved by who challenged the woman and pushed her around until the police came to her rescue.

Subsequently, Ghosh told the media that "why do these people come to protest? She should consider herself lucky that his

ing the population to garner the police men," Dutta Gupta said adding, "I have also brought charges of murderous intent... he is creating panic and trying to divide the people... He has also made sexual remarks. The women in our

"They (opposition) say that we are dividing the people. If I am doing so I am justified in doing that. I will again do that. What happened then when you (Congress) divided India and Bengal? What haptured and driven out of their own homeland?... I willgive divisive speeches. Do whatever you can," Ghosh had allegedly told in a recent rally." Meanwhile, the Left and Congress continued to protest at Jalangi in Murshidabad demanding the arrest of the main accused and a local TMC leader who allegedly shot dead two persons protesting against the CAA and NRC. "The twin murders only prove that Mamata Banerjee is actually backing the BJP's cause," Chakrabarty saiid.



ating "fear psychosis" among the anti-CAA protesters, who have been fighting to save the Constitution. The FIR was completely "politically dic-

Protesters raise slogans against the Citizenship Amendment Act (CAA) during a demonstration, in Mumbai on Friday

media that the woman — who was heckled by the BJP workers while protesting against the Citizenship Amendment Act— was lucky to have escaped with a torn poster "otherwise many more things could have happened to her." Sudeshna Dutta Gupta, a

Second Year student of Sanskrit University was allegedly heckled by BJP workers on Thursday while she was standing with an anti-CAA poster by the route of a Abhinandan Yatra (rally) led by Ghosh.

The poster that read "No

poster and did nothing else," adding, "she had come to the spot either to be humiliated or get martyred.... She should remain cautious for the next time. We warn her against such misadventures. We have tolerated enough and won't put up with any such nuisance again.

The woman who was protesting alone by holding aloft a placard only later lodged an FIR at the Patuli Police Station in south-east Kolkata. "I was not only heckled but

also abused by the people in the

India. I am not surprised by his comment. But he should remember that he is a people's representative and must use his words with caution."

country are not safe. Every 22

Elsewhere CPI(M)'s Sujan Chakrabarty slammed Ghosh for publicly acknowledging that his party was dividing the people to get votes. "What more is left to know the real face of these people and the party they represent?" Chakrabarty the Left legislature Party Leader said referring to a recent speech by Ghosh where he took pride in divid-

CORONAVIRUS OUTBREAK Kerala Govt: No need to Min: No coronavirus in TN, 242 Man admitted MEA informed in Goa hospital about students panic, patient stable from China under Govt gaze tests negative from Guj in China

novel coronavirus (nCoV) case was reported from Kerala, the State Government on Friday warned the people of the potential gravity of the threat but maintained that there was no need to panic.

Camping in this city, where the woman medical student who came from China tested positive for the coronavirus, Health Minister KK Shailaja activated the health department and said the patient is currently treated at an isolation ward of the Government Medical College hospital here.

The condition of the patient is stable, official sources said. Earlier in the day, health authorities shifted the student from the general hospital to the Government medical College.

The minister requested those who had travelled to China in recent days to voluntarily report themselves to the nearest hospitals. Some have reported to the health facilities in their neighbourhood in response to a directive given by the State Government, she said

Strengthening its resolve to check the spread of illness to others, the Minister directed those coming from China and other affected regions to strictly remain under home quarantine. The Minister also requested the fam-

Thrissur (Ker): A day after India's first ilies of those who returned from the coronavirus-hit regions to postpone marriages to prevent a possible outbreak of the disease in the state.

"Home quarantines are being done only as a precaution. No need to panic," the Minister told reporters here after meeting the private hospital authorities to prepare them for facing the challenge. She said the family members of the people coming from the affected-regions hould abide by the protocol.

"It is heard that in some such families, preparations are being made for marriages. There is no harm in temporarily postponing the date of the marriage. There will be some difficulties in ostponing the marriages fixed earlier. But this is a protocol. This must be obeyed," Shailaja said. Those who are home quarantined would be under observation for 28 days.

"Those who are going for job, they should take leave and be under observation. Health volunteers would be around to solve their problems," she said. After holding a meeting with representatives of private hospitals in Thrissur district, Shailaja said isolation wards are being set up in such facilities and training programmes are being conducted for health officials PTI there

Pudukottai/Chennai: Tamil Nadu Health Minister C Vijayabaskar on Friday asserted that there was no case of coronavirus in the State and said 242 people who returned from infection hit China were being monitored. A day

after he said 78 people who had arrived from the dragon nation were under 'house quarantine,' he told reporters at Pudukottai that the number of returnees has climbed to 242.

"As of today, 242 have arrived from China and the Public Health Department is in direct touch with all of them. They areall normal. There is no case of coronavirus in Tamil Nadu," he said. Such returnees were being monitored and were under home quarantine, he noted

As regards a techie who recently returned to his native place in Tiruvannamalai district from China, there was no manifestation of any cornavirus symptom in him, he said.

Hence, there was no need as of now to take the software engineer's blood sample to check if he had contracted the infection and similar was the status of a student who has come back to Krishnagiri district, he pointed out.

The Minister asked people not to panic and wanted them to take precautions like washing their hands and

ensuring personal hygiene since the pathogen may spread through airborne droplets.

Besides, a woman has tested positive for the virus in neighbouring Kerala, he noted.

The Dean, Madras Medical College and Rajiv Gandhi Government General Hospital, R Jayanthi, told reporters in Chennai that a 40-year-old woman who returned from China last night has been admitted in the isolation ward for

observation though she was found to be normal. The lady was referred to the RGGGH by a Government facility in

suburban Chennai after she had gone there with "very mild fever." Examination by a team of experts,

however, found that she was very normal and did not exhibit any symptom of the virus. The top hospital authoritv said that the woman has been admitted for "only observation."

To a question, she said the city would soon get a coronavirus testing facility. People were being sensitised through IEC (Information, Education and Communication) materials like flyers and brochures about the infection that originated from China and precautionary measures that were needed like hygiene,she said. PTI

PTI 📕 PANAJI

Aforeign national hospi-talised in Goa as a precautionary measure since January 28 for the novel coronavirus has tested negative and would be discharged soon, a senior State medical official said on Friday.

The man had arrived in Goa after visiting China and was kept in the isolation ward of Goa Medical College and Hospital (GMCH) with symptoms similar to novel coronavirus, officially called 2019-nCoV, infection.

"We have received the report from the Pune-based laboratory. His sample has tested negative. As per World Health Organisation guide-lines, he can now be discharged from the ward," GMCH Dean Dr Shivanand Bandekar told PTL

The Goa Government, on Thursday, said six people were under surveillance for suspected novel coronavirus infection.

PTI 📕 AHMEDABAD

 $T_{has}^{he Gujarat Government}$ with the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) and Indian Embassy in China the information about over 200 students from the State, who are currently in China and want to return after the outbreak of novel coronavirus in that country, officials

said on Friday. The State Emergency Operation Centre (SEOC) in Gujarat has collected and shared the information about such students and other people from the State living in China.

"The SEOC control room in Gandhinagar has shared the details of 215 persons, mostly students, with the Ministry of External Affairs and the Indian Embassy in China to help authorities in bringing them back," SOEC Deputy Collector Trupti Vyas said

"We had received phone calls from the parents and relatives of 215 persons, mostly students. The parents had inquired about various aspects of the steps being taken by the Government to bring the students back, about the airline booking, connecting flights and other things," Vyas said

All of the parents were iven contact numbers of the Indian embassy in China for any other inquiry about their children. According to officials, no case of coronavirus has been found in the state so

far Novel coronavirus belongs to the coronavirus family that causes llnesses ranging from the common cold to acute respiratory syndromes. It has emerged from a seafood and animal market in Wuhan city of China and is suspected to have spread as far as the United

nation 07



3 JEM fidayeen killed on Jammu-Srinagar NH all other vital security installa-tions were put on high alert to prevent any attack. Alert cop saves the day, raises alarm on time

MOHIT KANDHARI 📕 JAMMU

Three highly trained 'fidayeen' (members of a suicide squad) of Pakistan based Jaishe-Mohammad (JeM) terror outfit, tasked to target vital security installations, were killed by the joint teams of security forces near Ban Toll plaza on Jammu-Srinagar National Highway on

Friday. All three heavily armed terrorists were travelling in a Kashmir bound truck, bearing registration number JK03F-1478, when they were intercepted at Bann Toll plaza by police at a security check point around 5.30 a.m. According to police, terrorists hiding inside the truck opened fire on security forces when they insisted on carrying thorough checking of the truck.

During the encounter, three associates of JeM terrorists, including a Kashmir based local guide, along with a driver and conductor were also arrested by the police. The arrested driver is identified as Sameer Ahmed Dar. A year ago, Sameer Dar's cousin Adil Dar

had rammed his explosiveladen Maruti Eeco car into a CRPF bus, killing 40 personnel on board. Sameer has reportedly done Masters in geology from Kashmir university.

The incident comes days before the Pulwama attack anniversary on February 14.

Preliminary reports gathered by the police teams claimed the trio may have possibly infiltrated from across the International border with Pakistan via Hiranagar sector in Kathua district and were being escorted in a Kashmir bound truck to their destination.

The truck driver along with the conductor had created a special cavity to hide these terrorists by packing polyvinyl bags in a particular pattern.

DGP Police, Dilbagh Singh, who visited the encounter site along with senior police and CRPF officers, told reporters, "according to preliminary reports all three terrorists, belonging to Pakistan based Jaish-e- Mohammad terror outfit, were eliminated by the security forces after inter-



Security forces carry the body of a terrorist killed in a gunbattle, after a group of terrorists travelling in a truck opened fire at a police team, at Nagrota toll plaza on the Jammu-Srinagar National Highway on Friday

cepting a truck in the early hours of Friday morning". Dilbagh Singh said, "the

three terrorists were armed with AK rifles including a sniper rifle and large quantities of ammunition, satellite phone, brand new mobile handsets, wire cutters, grenades, ration supplies and other essential items to last long during the operation".

According to preliminary

prevent any attack. Thousands of Kashmir bound passengers also remained stranded on the high-

way at different locations between Jammu and Bann Toll Plaza. After the encounter was called off and necessary called off and necessary sanitisation operation was completed the traffic was allowed to ply on the highway. Earlier on September 28, 2019, three pro-Pakistan Hizbul Mujahideen (HM) ter-

rorists were eliminated by the joint team of security forces during nine-hour-long operation in Ramban district. One civilian who was held

hostage by the terrorists inside his house in Batote town was safely rescued by the security forces while one Army jawan had sacrificed his life and two other policemen received injuries. In September 2018, a group of militants, travelling in a Srinagar bound truck, were neutralised near Kakriyal on Jammu-Srinagar National

highway by the security forces after they opened fire on a police patrol party.

MOHIT KANDHARI 📕 JAMMU 'lathi' wielding cop of

AJammu & Kashmir police on Friday saved the day for security forces by immediately raising an alarm after detecting presence of heavily armed terrorists hiding in a cavity of a Kashmir bound truck

Constable Bhomraj, deployed at Police station, Nagrota was the first security personnel on duty who grew suspicious and directed the driver of the truck to uncover the truck, covered with a plastic sheet, so that he can carry out thorough inspection.

Recuperating in an emergency ward of Government Medical college hospital, police constable Bhomraj told reporters, "when i first stopped the truck at Bann Toll plaza i directed the driver to throw open a rear window of the truck".

Bhomraj said, "first of all, he detected a blanket lying in the middle of the cavity inside

India's Pad Man to address Oxford Union



Police constable Bhomraj recuperating in GMC, Jammu

the truck. As he became suspicious, he also noticed a pair of boots lying there".

Bhomraj said, "as he grew suspicious he moved towards the driver and directed him to come down and take out the plastic cover". Bhomraj said, "as he climbed the truck and started searching, a group of terrorists hiding inside the cavity opened fire".

"I received bullet injuries on my right arm and was barely saved". He said, central security forces, who had taken positions in the vicinity retaliated the fire and the encounter started.

DGP police Dilbagh Singh, visited him in the hospital and patted his back for his act of bravery' and wished him speedy recovery.

Winston Churchill, President

Mumbai Traffic police launches 'Honk more, wait more' drive

TN RAGHUNATHA MUMBAI

In an effort to reduce noise pollution levels in the coun-try's commercial Capital, the Mumbai Traffic police on Friday rolled out a novel "Punishing Signal" campaign — centred around "Honk more, wait more" theme - to discipline Mumbaikars who love to honk needlessly even

when the traffic signal is red. A video clip released by the Mumbai police ahead of the introduction and activation of "punishing signals" at major traffic junctions in the metropolis like the Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Terminus (CSMT), Marine Drive, Pedder Road, Hindmata Cinema Dadar and Bandra, has gone viral on the social media.

As part of the "Punishing signal" campaign, the city police have connected decibel monitors to traffic signals at major traffic junctions in the metropolis. When the cacophony triggered by needless honking exceeds the dangerous sound level of 85-decibels, the signal timers get reset, entailing a double waiting time for all pumsning message 'Honk more, wait more, comes on the digital display board installed near the traffic junctions. "To change your tomorrow, we must change our habits today! We have taken the 1st step to end the menace of excessive honking in #Mumbai. Watch it and #HonkResponsibly," Mumbai Police Commissioner Sanjay Barve gently prods and exhorts the motorists through his twitter handle @CPMumbaiPolice to watch the video clip lasting for nearly two minutes. The video clip opens at a major traffic junction in Mumbai with a commentary: "Welcome! To the Honking Capital of the world ..! (Amid cacophony of blaring horns



from the vehicles waiting for on the twitter has come in for the signal to turn green)..Here, immense praise from the twitpeople honk even when the sigterati. nal is red! Savai ahe na ! (Isn't it their habit). Maybe they

think that by honking, they can make the signal turn green faster! Samjat nahi (They simply don't understand)".

Now the video clip introduces a professional actor in the garb of a traffic hawaldar, who takes the narrative forward. "Wait. We the Mumbai police eardrums, increases heart rate, are itching to do about this. .. creates traffic confusion and One day we connected decibel causes stress," Joint Police Commissioner (Traffic) meters to a few signal poles around the city. If the decibel Madhukar Pandey said. recognise unnec db, the would re-set and stay red for sary honking is a menace but longer". The next day, you get we do precious little to curb it. to see motorists honking longer The `Punishing Signal' is one and louder. As the traffic sigof the many attempts by the nal stays red for a very long Mumbai police to inculcate time, a digital display board discipline among the installed at the traffic junction Mumbaikars. We hope that comes up with a message: our campaign will encourage "Honk more, wait more". Mumbaikars to honk less, and The Mumbai Traffic Police create an atmosphere for a have, in collaboration with noise-free and stress-free com-FCB Interface, hit upon innomute," Pandey said. FCB Group Chairman and vative idea to curb noise pollution caused by honking at CEO Rohit Öhri said: "We traffic signals. "Horn not okay, have been partnering Mumbai Police for many years now. Noise pollution is a big probplease! Find out how the ^aMumbaiPolice hit the mute lem in our cities. This new inibutton on #Mumbai's reckless honkers. #HonkResponsibly," tiative is a fantastic creative solution for bringing about awareness and a behaviour reads a tweet put out by the Mumbai police. The "Punishing Signal" campaign change among the drivers in launched by the Mumbai police Mumbai.

KUMAR CHELLAPPAN

1823, will host India's Pad Man, Arunachalam Muruganantham as a keynote speaker to its global audience on February 11, 2020.

investigations carried out by

the intelligence agencies, these

three terrorists were tasked to

carry out attacks on vital secu-

started in the area, traffic on the

Jammu-Srinagar National

the neighboring Udhampur

district were closed down and

Soon after the encounter

Educational institutions in

was

rity installations.

Highway

suspended.

A school drop out from a village in Coimbatore district in Tamil Nadu, Muruganantham holds an important position in the hearts of rural as well town women in the lower strata of society. His pathbreaking innovation helped women all over the world with a fresh lease of life, in sanitation, hygiene and health. The machine he

SC seeks Centre's reply on Jairam Ramesh's plea challenging validity of amended RTI Act

New Delhi: The Supreme Court on Friday sought response from the Centre on a plea by Congress MP Jairam Ramesh who has chalstitutional validity of the to Information (Amendment) Act 2019 which gives power to the Government to prescribe tenure, allowances and salary of information commissioners. A Bench of Justices DY Chandrachud and KM Joseph issued notice to the Centre and directed it to file response on the plea within four weeks. Ramesh, a Rajya Sabha MP, has said in his plea that the RTI amendment Act, 2019 and the Right to Information (Term of Office, Salaries, Allowances and Other Terms and Conditions of Service) Rules, 2019 "collectively violate" the fundamental right to information of all citizens is guaranteed under the which Constitution. The plea, filed through advocate Sunil Fernandes, said that provision of the amended Act "alters the erstwhile fixed tenure" of five years of central information commissioners (CICs) and state information commissioners (SICs), to a "tenure to be prescribed by the Central Government". **PTI**

designed to manufacture lowcost sanitary napkins and the products have become part of national folklore while Muruganantham earned a cult status through the 'sanitary

revolution'. No, he is not going to speak in the Oxford Union about the hardship he had to endure to design and develop the low cost but hygienic napkins. Muruganantham is carrying with him a part of the ancient Indian ethos of 'Vasudaiva Kutumbakam" (the world itself is a family) and Maanava seva Madhava seva (serving the poor is same as serving the God). "Please don't be under the impression that I'll be speaking about charity. I'll never use that word. My



request to the Western world is to be responsible and alert to the society from day one. One should show his compassion and love to the society even as he/she starts building the enterprises from Day One. We should not accumulate wealth and postpone the responsibilRonal Regan, Albert Einstein and Dalai Lama. I don't have any qualifications to speak like them and would like to remain the same Kongunadu man (the south west region of Tamil Nadu is known as Kongunaadu). But my love for humanity made me accept the invitation," he said. "It would be a great

privilege to host you as a guest. We would be thrilled to host you for an address," Sara Dube, president, Oxford Union said in ĥer letter to Muruganantham. So, Oxford Union, please

stand by for an enthralling

speech in rustic Indian English

from a rural person in Tamil

Nadu who took the country by

Pioneer. He said though he was happy to address the Oxford Union, he has no political views. "It is the same podium from where the likes of Sir storm.

ity to a later day. That's not fair.

It should happen side by side,"

Muruganantham told The

Gadkari launches special edition of Khadi watches

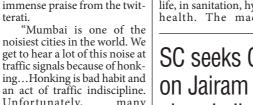
PNS NEW DELHI

The Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) and Titan have come together to launch a limited edition of Khadi wrist watches Thursday and pay tribute to Mahatma Gandhi on his 72 death anniversary. Union Minister for MSME Nitin Gadkari launched Khadi wrist watches, specially designed and manufactured by Titan, in the presence of Minister of State Pratap Chandra Sarangi, Chairman KVIĈ VK Saxena and CEO Titan Shri Ravi Kant The beautifully designed Khadi edition watch sport a silver dial displaying the iconic Charkha with the hand woven signature fabric in the background and on the straps. The grey-black texture of the watch exploring the uncharted waters and

depicts the timeless significance of the watch. Simplistic in its looks, the watch is a representation of the Scinit of Kheel? 'Spirit of Khadi'.

markets. '

Applauding the efforts of KVIC and Titan, Gadkari said, "Mahatma d ideas which could leverage



ing...Honking is bad habit and an act of traffic indiscipline. Unfortunately, many Mumbaikars indulge in reck-less honking. Honking causes noise pollution, hurts the

CHENNAL The Oxford Union, one of the oldest student debating Tsocieties in the world which commenced its functions in

SC agrees to hear madrasa's plea against verdict on teachers' appointment

New Delhi: The Supreme Court on Friday agreed to examine a West Bengal-based madrasa managing committee's plea against its recent verdict upholding a law on the appointment of teachers by a commission for minor ity institutions.

The Contai Rahamania High Madrasah has claimed that the January 6 verdict by a twojudge Bench of the Supreme Court was contrary to an 11-judge Bench's judgment that gave fundamental rights to minority institutions to appoint teachers.

A Bench of Chief Justice SA Bobde and justices BR Gavai and Surya Kant said it will examine the matter, and issued notice to the West Bengal Government and the Centre.

elieved that every revolu tion of Charkha spins peace, goodwill and love. Two things that were closest to Mahatma were Khadi and his watch.

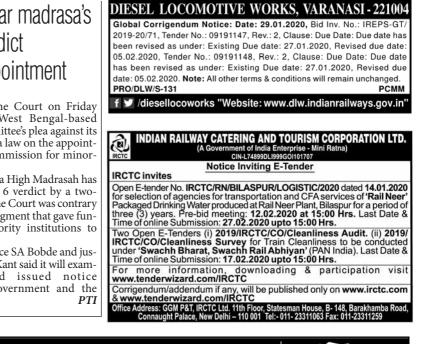
This initiative endeavors to create a product which is a combination of both the products closest to his heart.

Highlighting the efforts taken by KVIC to promote contemporary Khadi products in the market, Chairman KVIC said, "Khadi is not the age-old fabric anymore, it is the timeless fabric of transformation which is transforming the lives in rural areas every day. KVIC is Khadi fabric and help growth of Khadi and Village Industries, thus promoting the rural entrepreneurs and Khadi artisans.

" It is time to uphold our badge of honor - Khadi, and provide it the respect and dignity it deserves," he said.

Saxena said that one square meter of Khadi fabric will be used for manufacturing 10 Titan watches. 1000 such limited edition timeless timepieces are proposed to be sold for now."

The cost of this special edition watches for both men and women is ₹ 5,000.



| CORRIGENDUM NOTICE | | | | | | | |
|--------------------|-----------------------------|--|---|--|---|--|--|
| SR. No. | NAME OF BOARD CORP./AUTH | OLD REFERENCE/NIT NO. | NATURE OF CORRIGENDUM | WEBSITE OF THE BOARD CORP./AUTH | NODAL OFFICER/CONTACT DETAILS/EMAIL | | |
| 1 | HVPNL PANCHKULA | NIT NO.09/CWD-2/VOL-X/HVPN/2019- 20DATED: -06/12/2019 (ONLINE TENDER ID NO. 2019_HBC_111694_1) | Last date of online bid submission is extended upto 11/02/2020 (13:00 hrs)Due date for opening of E-tender (Technical Bid):- 12/02/2020 at 11:00 hrs. | https://www.hvpn.org.in. https://etenders.hry.nic.in https://haryanaeprocurment.gov.in | 0172-2583789 pro@hvpn.org.in | | |
| 2 | HVPNL, ROHTAK | MEMO NO. CH. 03/NIT NO. 24/2019- 20XEN/TS/RTK DATED.21.01.2020. | Making of trench cover for yard trench of 132KV S/Stn. Sec 03, Rohtak.The last date of online bid submission is extended upto 05.02.2020 (13.00 hrs) | https://www.hvpn.org.in. https://etenders.hry.nic.in https://haryanaeprocurment.gov.in | 0172-2583789 pro@hvpn.org.in | | |
| 3 | HVPNL PANCHKULA | ENIT NO. 21/TSYNR/2019-20 TENDER NO. 2020_HBC_114562_1 | Corrigendum-1/Extended of due date of submission upto 06.02.2020 upto 13:00 Hrs | https://www.hvpn.org.in. https://etenders.hry.nic.in https://haryanaeprocurment.gov.in | 0172-2583789 pro@hvpn.org.in | | |
| 4 | UHBVN PANCHKULA | NIT NO. 28/BMS/R-APDRP/2020 | Date extended | www.uhbvn.org.in | 9317554907 seprojects@uhbvn.org.in | | |
| 5 | DHBVN, BHIWANI | NIT NO-09/SE/OP /BWN / 2019-20 | Date extended up to 13.02.2020 | www.dhbvn.org.in | 01664-243491 sebhiwani@dhbvn.org.com | | |



EXAMINATION NOTICE : NATA-2020

Attention : Students, Parents, Architectural Institutions and all Concerned National Aptitude Test in Architecture (NATA) 2020 shall be conducted by the Council twice a year i.e. first test on 19th April, 2020 and second on 31st May, 2020 at the various designated centres all over India for admission into 1st year of 5 Year B.Arch. Degree Course for the academic session 2020-21 at various architectural Institutions approved by the Council. The candidates are advised to refer to the website of the Council www.coa.gov.in, for approval status of the institutions.

| Registration for | Commencement | |
|---|---|----------------------------|
| Examination | Date | End Date |
| First Test | 01.02.2020 | 16.03.2020 |
| Second Test | 01.02.2020 | 04.05.2020 |
| The detailed brochur available from 01.0 www.nata.in. | e, relevant informa 2.2020 onwards o | tion will be on website |
| New Delhi Dated: 31.01.2020 | | Registrar |

SC notice to PMO over plea seeking details of corruption complaints against Ministers

New Delhi: The Supreme Court on Friday agreed to hear a plea by whistleblower bureaucrat Sanjiv Chaturvedi seeking disclosure under the RTI Act about corruption complaints received by the PMO against Union Ministers between 2014-17.

A Bench comprising justices L Nageswara Rao and Hemant Gupta issued a notice to the central public information officer (CPIO) of the PMO and sought a response.

Chaturvedi moved the apex court challenging the Delhi High Court's September 6, 2019 order which had dismissed his plea and said that the chief information commissioner of the PMO had not committed any error in deciding his RTI application. PTI new delhi | SATURDAY | FEBRUARY 1, 2020

www.dailypioneer.com facebook.com/dailypioneer | @TheDailyPioneer | instagram.com/dailypioneer/

– PAPER WITH PASSION – **Global scare**

No nation can handle epidemics alone. So there is a need to mount a united campaign on surveillance and sharing R&D



he contagion of the coronavirus has been instantaneous and intense, enough for us to act pronto rather than waiting for the World Health Organisation (WHO) to declare it as a global health emergency. Although early studies indicate this strain is less fatal than the respiratory syndromes caused by earlier two variants - SARS and MERS - its spread despite containment protocols shows that the virus, which mutates during species jumps and probably originated in a market legally trading wild animals, has already infected a large num-

ber of people. As it incubates in its host for around 10 or more days before manifesting symptoms, the deaths are just the tip of the iceberg. Experts say that any flu virus can extend its reach by not killing its host too rapidly and/or making the host sick enough to pass it on. Therefore, the outbreak is hardly a measure of the carriers in circulation. No amount of blocking information, which China is known to resort to, will help. For just like climate change, the world is under greater threat from such epidemics than other major diseases. Coronavirus has sickened citizens from every nation in a globalised world that cannot do without engaging with each other. Which is why the fightback must also be a coordinated effort beyond borders with a common mechanism set up along the lines of world bodies that monitor climate threats and solutions. Every nation should be involved in sharing a disease control protocol and pool research for an antidote. As of now, the Chinese are working on one with Alibaba founder Jack Ma promising funds for a rollout. But this is still a post-onset initiative, what we need is a threat preparedness. This will particularly help countries like India where the challenges are many. These include a density of population, low awareness levels, a weak public health delivery mechanism and a compromised infrastructure that is not geared to emergency responses. In fact, even the Chinese public health system has crumbled in the face of such an attack, exposing the chinks in its "great power" armour. Besides, the current outbreak has had many infected people displaying no symptoms. If this is more common than an exception, then chances are that this virus, too, will become endemic with year on year reprisals and mutations. This is why the world needs to wage a united war on pestilence or face an evolutionary culling of human lives. What we must also guard ourselves against is using xenophobia to characterise diseases. Just like ebola and the AIDS virus before it was ascribed to Africa, there's a perception about the flu virus spreading out of lab leaks in China and the nation is being wrongfully proscribed as a giant germ factory. The fear and speculation about a new disease tend to get magnified if it originates in the Orient and strengthen prevalent biases. What we must understand is that whatever be the origin of viruses, in an open world, they become as much of an immediate threat for everybody. No matter how advanced the medical facilities, they always fall short in handling epidemics. We could do without the misinformation and mount a united campaign based on surveillance, sharing information and R&D.

It's early days yet but India is not immune to the coronavirus either as it is trying to contain returnees from China. Pharmaceutical companies are bracing up for a hit as India sources about 70 per cent of bulk drugs and ingredients from China, Wuhan being one of the many source suppliers. Antibiotics like penicillin G, tetracycline and supportive pills like vitamins C and D use ingredients made using the fermentation-based process, which is dominated by China in the pharma market. We are heavily dependent on our eastern neighbour for chemicals-based ingredients that are used for cardiovascular drugs, particularly statins. India also sources components for its own tech products, a secondary sector which might be hit with containment protocols. Besides, the fear psychosis is such that anything coming out of China is being feared to be smeared with the coronavirus from factory floor workers there. So there might be a temporary freeze on these supplies. If anything at all, the virus has been a lesson for India. It has taught us the need to be in continuous deployment mode, something that helped us combat the deadly Nipah virus in Kerala. It has also awakened us to the need of monitoring the health of farm animals and wildlife. But most importantly, it is also warning bells for us to focus on drug manufacturing, reduce dependence on China and keep prices in check. For the inter-connectedness of the South Asian region as a whole, thanks to China's Belt and Road Initiative in the neighbourhood, means that we have to learn to live with threats.

UTTAM GUPTA

➡he Economic Survey for 2019-20 has been prepared by the Chief Economic Advisor, Dr K Subramanian, keeping the ambitious target of achieving the \$ 5 trillion economy status by 2024-25, set by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, at its centre. The rigorous analysis (a lot of it involves running of "regression equations" — a euphemism in econometric analysis to bring out correlation between various economic parameters) done by the CEA has to be seen in the backdrop of deceleration in the GDP (gross domestic product) growth to its 11-year-low of five per cent during the current year (first advance estimate) and the dire need to resurrect it without losing much time. Indeed, he projects the growth for 2020-21 at 6.5 per cent (pertinently, this is significantly higher than the projection of the International Monetary Fund [IMF] at 5.5 per cent).

In sync with this pretty ambitious rebound and keeping the economy on a high growth trajectory for the next four years, the dominant focus of the survey is on "wealth creation" with better distribution, which in a way also reflects Modi's assertion time and again that "unless wealth is created, it won't get distributed." These prognostications though need to consider a piece of research released by rights group Oxfam ahead of the just concluded 50th Annual Meeting of the World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland. According to the study, India's richest one per cent holds more than fourtimes the wealth held by 953 million people who make up for the bottom 70 per cent of the country's population. Further, the combined total wealth of 63 Indian billionaires is higher than the total Union Budget of India for the fiscal year 2018-19 (₹24,42,200 crore). Between 2014-15 and 2018-19, the average growth in GDP was about 7.5 per cent, which demonstrates that wealth was generated at a fast pace but its distribution was highly inequitable. So, by restoring growth to a higher level 2020-21 onward won't assure better distribution.

The survey gives an indication of decline in growth having already bottomed out (during the second quarter, it was 4.5 per cent) and that during the second half, the pick-up is anticipated in view of increase in FDI, building demand pressure and increase in GST (Goods and Services Tax) collections. The reference here may be to GST collection during November/December, 2019 crossing ₹100,000 crore each (this is likely to touch Rs 115,000 crore). But this is more due to intensified efforts to rein in tax evasion, increasing compliance and checking fraud-



opinion

Can invisible hand work?

Seen from an economist's perspective, the Economic Survey looks eloquent. But

execution could run into a logiam as politicians are prone to controlling the consumer

2020-21, Dr Subramanian has alluded to the need for deviating from the fiscal deficit target of three per cent set by the Modi government for the year. This in itself is a substantial slippage from the three per cent glide path recommended by the Dr NK Singh committee on review of the Fiscal Responsibility and Budget Management (FRBM) Act to be achieved by 2018-19. Any reference to the three per cent benchmark is laughable when seen in the backdrop of the current year (2019-20), which is expected to end with a slippage to at least four per cent (against a target of 3.3 per cent), that too when off-budget liabilities and extra-budgetary resources (EBRs) are not included. If EBRs are included (there are some reports pointing to the Finance Minister's intent to making these transparent in this budget), then the year may end up with a deficit close to six per cent.

Therefore, for boosting demand and investment (these the two ove rarching cor

number of mini-budgets presented by the Finance Minister (a spate of policy announcements and support measures made during August/September 2019 subsequent to the main budget presented in July 2019), the Government had already injected a number of demand boosters

Indeed, a number of those measures had meant huge loss of revenue. For instance, the steep reduction in the corporate tax (from 30 per cent to 22 per cent for existing firms and from 25 per cent to 15 per cent for new companies to be set up after October 1, 2019) meant a loss of about ₹1,45,000 crore; even after considering many firms not availing of the lower rates, the actual is still high at about ₹1,00,000 crore. Taking into account other sops like tax refund to exporters, special dispensation for real estate sector, support to housing finance companies and so on, the total support would work out to well

above ₹2,50,000 crore. stated

growth. But one wonders whether the "bad loan" syndrome has really bottomed out or more skeletons are yet to come out. The NBFC crisis in particular raises serious concern, especially when one looks at two behemoths in this segment, the Infrastructure Leasing and Financial Services (IL&FS) and Dewan Housing and Finance Company (DFCL) going bust. Considering that a sizeable chunk of the funds has reportedly been siphoned off by dubious promoters/management, the concern only gets aggravated.

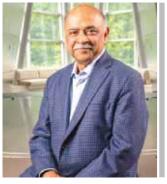
With the government now being forced to consider and special sanction dispensation/packages even for NBFC (as the stakeholders consider their revival as crucial to revival of credit flows, investment and demand), one wonders we may not be landing in a situation of the exchequer pouring water (read funds) in a bottomless pit. One can only hope that we don't see more cases of willful default or misappropriation of funds or else any revival attempt using tax payers money is bound to fail.

The survey rightly empha sises the need for expediting reforms particularly in the area of banking (the recommendation for reducing the government's shareholding below the majority mark is pending for long), land acquisition, enforcement of contracts, elimination of bureaucratic red-tape, removing bottlenecks in transportation and clearances at the ports (this is particularly relevant for boosting exports) and so on as these major bottlenecks come in the way of ease of doing business and attracting investment. It has also guarded the Government against too much of intervention and micro-management of activities (including implementation of welfare schemes) which, if left to the market forces, would deliver much better results. Dr Subramanian has aptly articulated the role of what he euphemistically describes as the role of "invisible hand" juxtaposed with "public trust" in stimulating wealth creation.

Both are crucial pillars in galvanising Indian economy on to a high growth trajectory, yielding better distribution effects. Seen from an economist's perspective, this looks eloquent. which has to be done by the political class, one gets into a logjam as it is prone to controlling most of the things; in fact, almost all of the essential items in the consumer's basket.

Indians at the fore

Another Indian leads a global tech company. We must not forget that he, too, had to leave India to achieve success



rvind Krishna, an alumnus of the Indian Institute of Technology, Kanpur, has been chosen to lead IBM Corporation, one of the oldest names in American technology. This is vet another feather in the cap of engineers from India who have taken over the reins at leading American corporations after Satya Nadella at Microsoft and Sundar Pichai at Google. It is a matter of immense pride to see India-educated engineers and managers take leading roles at global corporate behemoths. But there are a couple of points that must be

raised. First is the inability of India to create leading global companies and the opportunities that follow, which effectively forced thousands of young Indian men and now increasingly, women, to go to the US to make their fame and fortune. None of the three men mentioned above holds an Indian passport anymore, having sworn allegiance to the US.

There is, however, another problem right now, which is India's declining standards of higher education. While the Indian Institutes of Technology and the Indian Institutes of Management, at least the older ones, might still make some global rankings, the plain and simple fact is that most Indian institutes of higher education are not ranked in the top 1000 universities of the world. One of the surprising facts that has emerged from the coronavirus outbreak in Wuhan is that there are thousands of Indian students studying in China despite medical and engineering seats going abegging in India. Most likely that is because the education imparted in India has drastically declined, evident in the number of people who blindly believe WhatsApp posts. China has made it a point of pride to lift its colleges into the global rankings. This particularly hurts given that India has one of the youngest populations in the world. If we are to take advantage of our demographic dividend, we need to ensure we have top-notch centres of education. We must not forget that quality matters just as much as quantity. So while we must celebrate the success of these three men and the countless other Indians who have become successful in the US and elsewhere, we must ask what we are doing to ensure that Indians keep climbing to the top across the world and how we are going to create success inside our shores. Right now, things are plainly not going too well.

nput tax credit (ITC than being indicative of any significant revival in economic activity.

In any case, in view of the survey itself talking of five per cent growth for the whole year, it is abundantly clear that there is not going to be any dramatic turnaround during the second half.

To see resurrection of growth during

straints on growth), to expect the government to achieve this merely by deviating from the socalled prudential fiscal norms (read FRBM) is tantamount to "missing the wood for the trees." Here, it may be pertinent to recap that already, through a

Over the last four years,

Abidali helped build a strong

execution mindset, drove key

acquisitions and scaled our

digital business globally.

Wipro Chairman

ishad Premi

Minister ad infinitum, the survey, too, reiterates the dire need for a whopping investment of ₹100 lakh crore in infrastructure over the next five years. This is to be funded by 39 per cent contribution from the Union Government and States each and

UNDBITE

Thank you Indigo ... a six

very kind of you ... Modiji

might be suspending

Stand-up comedian

Kunal Kamra

Air India forever

month suspension is honestly

ement m the quality of lending and so on. He has visibly demonstrated as to how indiscriminate lending during 2008-2013 neg-

atively affected investment and

increase in the quality of lend-

ing from 2014 onward will pos-

itively impact investment and

22 per cent by the private sector.

This will translate to ₹ 8 lakh

crore annually by the Centre and

State each. For the Centre, this

amount is even higher than its

budget fiscal deficit [or total bor-

rowings] for the current year.

Likewise for the States, the

numbers look theoretical to say

the least. The official think tank

will really have to look for inno-

vative ways, including much

greater participation of private

sector (foreign investment

included) of financing the mam-

moth investment in infrastruc-

ture. It is not as if the task is not

doable. This requires a complete

overhauling of the Indian bank-

ing sector as also the non-bank

finance companies (NBFCs). In

this context, the CEA needs to

be commended for undertaking

a comprehensive analysis of the

reforms undertaken in the bank-

ing sector since 2015-16, viz cleaning up of the balance sheets

of public sector banks (PSBs),

the Insolvency and Bankruptcy

Code (IBC) and its use for

recovery of NPAs (non-per-

(The writer is a New Delhi*based policy analyst*)

Watched that super over from Bumrah. He is a fabulous bowler but could use the crease a little more to creat different delivery angles.

Former cricketer Saniav Manirekar



ETTERS Т 0 Т НE EDITOR

Double standards

Sir — Though stand-up comedian Kunal Kamra is absolutely right to feel aggrieved about Arnab Goswami's style of "journalism", he shouldn't have indulged in a forced debate with Goswami without direct provocation from the latter on a personal basis. Of course, the TV anchor threatens, insults and belittles his guest if he/she does not dance to "saffron" tunes and instigates his viewers against the "sickulars" who dare to question the series of unilateral intolerant divisive agenda of the Government. Yet eye for an eye is not the answer. Let Goswami play the role of a zealous bhakt in the guise of a journalist but why should Kamra allow himself to engage in such a heated one-way confrontation, thereby "honouring" that very bullying act of the anchor which he is opposing? So let Goswami do his job as he deems fit! And Kamra should vent his fully justified anger through his own civilised way, i.e. comedy shows, which provide him immense opportunity to protest against pseudo-nationalism, intolerance and muscle-flexing by riding on pun and satire. "Playing vic-

Is the virus a bioweapon?

he world has yet another reason to be wary of China After threatening the West with its economic aggression that re-laid market strategies, where it has tried to have domestic companies replace foreign companies as designers and manufacturers of key technology and products first at home, then abroad, it is being seen as a virus capital. Fears that the real source of the coronavirus is from a laboratory in Wuhan, which is linked to its covert biological weapon programme, give the Communist regime an intimidating aura around its intentions of global dominance. Of course, the Chinese Government is yet to admit the "accidental" pathogen leakage as a probable cause for the virus outburst. But if the news has even an iota of truth behind it, then China needs to be castigated and ostracised by the international community for its unethical ways to gain global supremacy.

But with disclosures that it had also developed an "antidote" for the SARS virus, which again originated from Wuhan city in China in 2002, it becomes evidently clear that China is involved in a mad scramble for recognition as a superpower. A typical arms race where the procurement and hoarding of not only traditional but also biological weapons gives a new meaning to modern warfare is nothing short of an alarming proposition for the whole world No one in their right sense would want to envisage visions

Sangh sympathisers, which they ruthlessly milk to their political advantage by playing with foolish religious, caste and ethnic sentiments. Why allow Goswami to act

tim" has been a long-time tactic of as a "victim" of tirades? Though the incident took place on Indigo airlines, the Civil Aviation Ministry has promptly suspended Kamra from flying until further notice. But what "exemplary action" had the



of another World War. When nations with intentions of securing borders pile up weapons of mass destruction to counter threats from enemy countries, we should not forget that we are inching closer to doomsday. The world can never be safe from the effects of these destructive weapons. Meanwhile, novel Coronavirus (nCoV) is gradually spreading across the globe. Many countries are taking precautionary measures and maintaining a strict vigilance at all levels to contain the deadly virus. But with China having become a hub of international business activities, the chances of restricting the spread of nCoV appear challenging at the moment.

> Pachu Menon Goa

Ministry taken when Shiv Sena in hate. MP Ravindra Gaikwad hit a crew member on an AI flight in 2017? The ban on flying was revoked after he offered a token "regret." Not to speak of awarding clean-chit

to Pragya Thakur when she also created a scene and refused to cooperate with Spice jet crew. These are just double standards and are reprehensible.

Kajal Chatterjee Kolkata

Stop the hate speeches

Sir - This refers to the editorial, "A ban too late" (January 31). Mahatma Gandhi was shot by an indoctrinated fanatic on January 30, 1948. On the same day after 72 years, another fanatic shot at students, who were peacefully protesting against the citizenship law near Jamia Milia, injuring one student in the presence of policemen. The country must realise what speeches of political leaders can do, as this incident followed election rallies in Delhi where BJP leaders Anurag Thakur and Parvesh Verma made vitriolic speeches. This irresponsible behaviour has to stop before it is too late and engulfs the nation

Sujit De Kolkata

Send your feedback to: letterstopioneer@gmail.com

BJP MLA —Sangeet Som

should be shot dead in public.

When people like Sharjeel

Imam, who talk of breaking

India, are concerned, they

NEW DELHI | SATURDAY | FEBRUARY 1, 2020



F I R S T C O L U M N

analysis

POINTCOUNTERPOINT



WE HEAR INSTANCES OF HINDU WOMEN PICKED UP BY **MUSLIM MEN. NO ACTION IS TAKEN AS TERRORISTS** LIKE KEJRIWAL ARE HIDDEN EVERYWHERE. —BJP LOK SABHA MEMBER **PARVESH VERMA**

THE PEOPLE OF DELHI WILL DECIDE WHETHER THEY CONSIDER ME THEIR SON, THEIR BROTHER, **OR A TERRORIST.** -DELHI CHIEF MINISTER **ARVIND KEJRIWAL**

Iran's loss, ISIS' gain

The terror group stands to gain much from the assassination of Iranian General Soleimani, who was the face of armed resistance against it in Iraq and Syria



ANIL GUPTA

ot very long ago, December 2017 to be N precise, the world was celebrating the defeat of the Islamic State (ISIS), the dead-ly face of terror that had compelled the world powers with differing strategic interests to come together to defeat it and along with it the idea of a medieval Islamic Caliphate. The ISIS had suc-ceeded in recreating it by capturing swathes of territory in Iraq and Syria, including oil fields, refineries and mine fields of strategic minerals. The aura of the ISIS was such that it not only attracted thousands of jihadists from different

attracted thousands of jinadists from different parts of the world, including Europe, but also dared to challenge the might of the United States (US) by executing and beheading American cit-izens. The menace of ISIS grew so fast and rapid-ly that the entire world was unanimous in coun-tering the threat posed by it. Qaseem Soleimani, on Iwnin Concerd, whether for a of armed rapid an Iranian General, was the face of armed resis-tance against the ISIS in Iraq and Syria along with the USA, Russia, Turkey and its European allies. Soleimani contributed in a big way in the defeat of the ISIS. The US and Iran, adversaries in the Middle East, identified a common enemy in the ISIS and effectively fought together against it to eliminate the terror group's de facto state in Iraq and Syria. However, realpolitik soon overtook the strategic convergence of interests with Iran and the US almost at the verge of a war with a renewed Middle East crisis.

The ongoing US-Iran crisis reached the peak last month with US President Trump authorising the killing of General Qaseem Soleimani, the head of Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guard's elite Quds Force and an American ally in the fight against ISIS while he was on a visit to Iraq. This raised the tensions between the US and Iran to a new level with the future of the US forces in Iraq in the doldrums.

It also let loose many Shia militias which Soleimani had carefully raised and groomed to counter and challenge the ISIS. Their focus all of a sudden shifted from combatting ISIS to their newly-emerged enemy, the US assets and troops in the Middle East. Under the threat of Iranian retaliation, even the focus of Americans and others has been diverted from the ISIS and other radical Islamist jihadi terror groups for the time being. If at all there was a clear winner of the ongoing US-Iran conflict, it was undoubtedly the rror organisation. It has provided the ISIS with the much-needed oxygen as well as time and space to reorganise and regroup. As a result, the US and its allies now face the dual threat of Shia militias and the Sunni radical Islamist jihadi terror groups led by the ISIS. The fall of Soleimani has provided them a new opening. The growing demand of ejecting US forces from Iraq has further complicated the security scenario in the region and in the process hurt the efforts to counter ISIS which have suffered a serious blow. My assessment when Iraq's Prime Minister declared a final victory over Islamic State in December 2017 was that the "ISIS may have been defeated but it was not destroyed. It may have been disseminated but was not dissolved." According to Goldenberg, an American diplomat who had served as Special Advisor in the Middle East between 2009-12, "The ISIS retains an underground presence and could take



advantage of the chaos of an American withdrawal or a US-Iranian conflict to improve its position in Iraq."

The assessments are seeming to be proving true with increased frequencies of terror attacks by the ISIS after the elimination of General Soleimani. The upheaval created by his killing has given rise to such conditions in Iraq that the

ISIS is ever-willing to exploit. The weakening of the Shia militias as a consequence to absence of Soleimani's charisma as well as sterling leadership qualities will definitely weak-en the Iraqi Government which would create a space for the ISIS and other Sunni terror groups to stage a comeback in the region in the region.

Moreover, the US focus shifting towards defending its bases in Iraq and the security of green zone, will allow the terror group to manoeuvre more freely. he ISIS fighter s, who had

ing from a unified command crisis and dispersion of its fighters). But the fact remains that with a divided focus it has become increasingly difficult for the US

to contain the terror group. The flare-up in the US-Iran crisis has certainly provided opportunity to Abu Ibrahim al Qurayshi - the newlyappointed successor of the assassinated long-time ISIS leader Abu Bakr al Baghdadi — to strengthen his grip and revitalise the terror outfit to intensify its attacks in the region.

Under Qurayshi's leadership, the group may also attempt to regain lost territories in Syria and Iraq depending on the resistance it faces, as this would give the new chief an opportunity to establish his hold more firmly over the

group and prove his mettle. The ISIS attacks on US-backed Kurdish-led Syrian Democratic Forces intensified during the last month. The group is also trying to restore and rejuvenate its social media wing, its main source of funding and recruitment. Disturbingly, the terrorist group's propaganda sites are on the rise on various social media platforms and The re-emergence of ISIS would have a definite impact on the Afghanistan-Pakistan region (Af-Pak region) with its consequential fallout for India and regional peace and stability in South Asia. Soleimani's successor, Brigadier General Ismail Qaani, is an old hand at fomenting trouble in Afghanistan and Pakistan. Solemani himself had played an active role in Afghanistan by cooperating with the Northern Alliance to fight the growing might of the Taliban.

In a later turn of events after the American invasion of Afghanistan, Iran courted Taliban to fight the Americans and other Western troops in Afghanistan. General Qaani, who till as late as 2018 was the Iranian deputy Ambassador to Afghanistan, was instrumental in managing Iran's Afghan policy

Pakistan has also been accused of cross-border terror in Sistan-Baluchistan by Iran. Tehran is opposed to the rise of any Sunni-fundamentalist regime on its eastern border and with Pakistan now assisting the US to forge a deal with the Taliban, Iran has further been angered.

Shia-Sunni violence in Pakistan and persecution of Shias remains a constant point of friction between Iran and Pakistan. Thus a US-Iran conflict may have an impact in the situation in Afghanistan with Iran turnii eye to the rise of ISIS in the Af-Pak region as a complimentary threat to the US. In the process, Iran will try its best to derail the Afghan peace process. While Iran may have its own axe to grind in Afghanistan and sort out Pakistan as well for promoting the American interest in the region, rise of ISIS will have adverse impact on India's security

Address farm sector woes

If the Government wishes to grow the economy, then it needs to make an all-out effort to turn agriculture into a profitable business



DHIRESH KULSHRESTHA

s India plans to become a \$5 trillion economy by 2024, it cannot ignore the importance of the farm sector in helping it achieve this target. This is because we are an agriculture-based economy and more than 50 per cent of the population depends on the agri sector for its livelihood. However, the poor state of the rural economy is an area of concern for everyone and is affecting the country's fiscal health too. The Government would do well to pay attention to some of the predominant problems hampering the growth of this key sector in its pursuit of the \$5 trillion dream.

Subsidise inputs: India is a consumption-driven market and not an export-driven one like China and Singapore. As per the report of the National Statistical Office (NSO), half of the country's population lives in rural India. Hence, it becomes a critical consumption market for the fertiliser industry, seed industry, tractor producing companies, other items essential for farm production and a host of consumer goods. The Government needs to provide farmers essential inputs on subsidised rates, especially for those growers who have holdings that are smaller than five acres.

Small and marginal farmers' issues: The Government must focus on the problems plaguing small and marginal farmers. According to a report by the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) small and marginal farm holdings generate meagre incomes and result in farmers accruing major debts and then committing suicide due to the inability to pay off those loans. If the Indian economy has to be resurgent, the agriculture sector needs more subsidy and easy agri-credit for small and marginal farmers.

Develop the dairy sector: Dairy farmers can earn as much as 75-85 per cent of the market price by selling the milk produced on their farms to cooperative societies like AMUL and other major milk marketing companies. India also has the largest bovine population in the world. However, the milk production per animal is significantly low as compared to the other major dairy producers of the world. Moreover, nearly all of the dairy produce in India is consumed domestically, with the majority of it being sold as milk. On account of this, the dairy industry holds tremendous potential for value-addition and overall development and the Government must focus on this to better the lot of farmers.

Need to develop vegetable and fruit markets: Indian farmers earn scarcely 10 per cent of the market price for their perishable produces like vegetables and fruits. Since a market is the primary medium for farmers to exchange their produce for money, lack of connectivity to ensure that their harvest reaches buyers in time, results in lowering the farmers' ability to monetise their produce. The Government needs to plug these gaps and provide farmers a way to get their produce to the markets at the earliest and provide cold storages and freezer trucks, better road and rail connectivity so that the 40 per cent of the produce that is lost now can be saved and this in turn improves the monetary gains of the growers

Reduce imports: As we all know, agricultural imports cause domestic prices to fall and this directly hurts the farmers. The Government needs to focus on increasing agricultural production in the country and review its policy on bumper production. The Minimum Support Price should be reconsidered for the development of the farm sector as farmers are producers and their interests must also be protected by policymakers, just like that of any citizen of the country.

Need for more agri-NBFCs: Adequate availability of finance is a prerequisite for the growth of any sector and the farm sector is no exception to this rule. However, the difficulties faced by growers in accessing loans when they need them the most have hampered the growth of the sector. Many farmers are either left un-served or underved due to the lack of timely access to institutional finance via agri-loans. Without access to credit, most farmers with small holdings are restricted to farming, trading, processing practices that result in low levels of productivity. Although various financial institutions have come up and have set shops in rural India, the majority of agri stakeholders still have limited or no access to them. For the inclusive development of agriculture sector, financing is an important element and the Government must focus on developing this on a war footing Irrigation facilities: Farmers suffer due to floods in one part of the nation and drought in another area. The Government needs to focus on water management through river linkages and also provide subsidy for water conservation in rural areas for agrarian purposes.

If the Government wishes to stem the crisis plaguing the farm sector and grow the economy, then it needs to make an all-out effort to turn agriculture into a profitable business and make major policy decisions to achieve that goal.

(The writer is Associate Professor of Economics, Faculty of Business Management at the Marwadi University, Rajkot)

and gone underground are now rebuilding and re-emerging fully recuperated as a potent threat in form of insurgency, Improvised Explosive Devices, bombings, targetted killings suicide attacks, sniper attacks and lone wolf attacks. It is too early to assess if they would continue with this tactics or attempt once again to establish an Islamic Caliphate.

The US is trying to put up a brave front by denying any surge in the activities of the terrorist organisation due to its own activities. It is also obstinately claiming that most of the recent attacks by the group may have been planned well before the killing of Soleimani (because of the time and resources required to plan and execute such operations, more so when the ISIS is suffer-

ISIS may well use Pakistan and Bangladesh as launch pads to renew its threat of Ghazwa-e-Hind. India will have to be cautious and watchful and at the same time strengthen its intelligence apparatus to counter the emerg-ing challenges.

(The author is a Jammu-based veteran, political commentator, security and strategic analyst)

It is possible to fix the economy

WELL USE

PAKISTAN

BANGLADESH

THREAT OF

INDIA WILL

HAVE TO BE

CAUTIOUS

AND AT THE

SAME TIME

STRENGTHEN

APPARATUS

TO COUNTER

THE EMERGING

CHALLENGES IN THE REGION

ITS INTELLIGENCE

AS LAUNCH PADS TO RENEW ITS

GHAZWA-E-HIND.

AND WATCHFUL

AND

When faced with a prolonged slowdown, a prescription of fiscal stimulus is normal. When the private sector is not forthcoming in terms of consumption and investment expenditure, the Government has to step up



MEENAL JAGTAP

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman will present her sec-ond Union Budget today at a time when the Indian economy is grappling with the lowest growth in six and a half years, with the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) dipping to 4.5 per cent in the July-September quarter. Economists are now more or less in agreement that the current slowdown has cyclical as well as structural features.

Also, most economists believe that it is more of a demand side problem that needs to be tackled by providing more disposable incomes in the hands of the people. The fiscal space available to the Government to leverage the fiscal policy is limited owing to lower than expected tax revenues and the corporate tax cut announced in September 2019 that have constrained

income. The Government has already committed an economic stimulus through the National Infrastructure Pipeline (NIP), the proposed expenditure for which in the Financial Year 2021 (FY) is ₹19.5 trillion. Providing such funds (the Centre and States are required to pitch in 39 per cent each) at a time when the resources of the Government have hit rock bottom is

a challenge. the jobs and incomes generated in the Taxes, which are a major source of Government revenue, have reached only 45.5 per cent of the FY 2020 Budget estimates as per the Controller General of Accounts.

Clearly, the tax collections have not matched the seven per cent rowth of the economy in the first half of this fiscal. It is highly unlikely that the Government will be able to reach its target tax collection of ₹24.61 trillion by the end of March 2020. Therefore, a larger fiscal hole is expected in this Budget. The higher

oil prices amid US-Iran tensions have not helped ease the Government's fiscal deficit worries.

When faced with a prolonged slowdown a prescription of fiscal stimulus is normal. When the private sector is not forthcoming in terms of consumption and investment expenditure, the Government has to step up. The Centre must stretch itself without worrying too much about missing the deficit target. When the fiscal stimulus shows its impact, the corporate earnings increase along with that of retail investors. Also, it directly impacts

process. The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has done its bit by changing its stance on the monetary policy from "neutral" to "accommodative" and reducing the repo rate by 135 basis points in 2019. Thereafter, it adopted a wait-and-watch approach and kept the repo rate unchanged to a nine-year low of 5.15 per cent. This was necessitated by rising inflationary pressures in the economy. The RBI has revised its estimate of retail inflation for the second half to 5.1-4.7 per cent from 3.5-3.7 per

etary policy looks dangerous and the Government finds its hands tied for fiscal stimulus, the question arises what approach should be adopted that can be successful in bringing the economy back on track?

Here are some ways through which the Finance Minister can steer the economy on the path to recovery.

Boost demand: Économists agree that a slowdown in consumption through a lack of demand has been a major contributor in the current deceleration as consumption is the "engine" of the economy. Hence, the Finance Minister should ensure an increase in disposable income in the hands of people who have the high marginal propensity to consume and low marginal propensity to save. Schemes like the Kisan Samman Nidhi, increasing allocations under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act, giving income tax relief to the lower middle class and even schemes having the character of the Universal Basic Income (UBI) like Universal Pension

can go a long way in boosting demand, especially rural demand.

Allow States to borrow more: States can help the Central Government in providing a fiscal stimulus and distribution of resources. The Centre should in fact raise the borrowing limits of States so that more money flows into all regions, thereby boosting demand.

Fill Government posts: If the Centre and State Governments decide to fill vacant posts in their offices on a priority basis, it will not only create purchasing power but also give a fillip to the youth who are living through the worst employment crisis the country has seen in decades.

Private investment revival: Private investment has not picked up till now due to stress in the banking sector, especially in the non-bank financial company sector, a weakening demand and falling business sentiment. The early December quarter earnings indicate that the stimulus through rate cuts and lower corporate taxes has not been able to boost business growth. Net sales of many BSElisted companies show a lower year on

year growth of 4.07 per cent from 4.81 per cent in the preceding September quarter.

Faster revenue generation: The Government's tax revenue for April-November 2019 was just ₹11.7 trillion, just 0.8 per cent more than collected last year. Through disinvestment also, the Government generated revenue of ₹18,099 crore, which is way below the target of ₹1.05 trillion that it set for itself. In order to meet its expenditure, the Government will have to step up revenue generated through the disinvestment route while not giving any further rebates in income tax rates. A major relief in personal income tax rates may also not help in boosting consumption. Given the present circumstances of low business sentiment, uncertainty in the global business environment and deceleration in private investment - any increases in disposable income will not convert into spending entirely — it is likely that most of it will be saved for emergencies. Instead the Government should bring more of high income earners

into the tax net. Control wasteful expenditure for fiscal consolidation: During hard times, no one, including the Government can afford wastages and leakages. The Government needs to seriously plug in leakages from the system and plan its expenditure in a better way.

A cautious monetary policy: At present the RBI has to worry about infusing capital into banks that need it, ensure smooth mergers and takeovers and prevent any further bank frauds that have proven detrimental to the health of the banking sector in the past. Some relief announcements for the non-banking sector for purchase of bad assets should be there. The transmission of rates must be ensured and at a quicker pace, while further reductions can only be done if inflation allows that. Since the fears of "stagflation" gripping the Indian economy are already there, the RBI can do nothing more than just wait and watch.

(The writer is Professor and Head of Department of Management and Commerce at Trinity Institute of Professional Studies, GGSIPU, in Dwarka)



Economic Survey sees pick up in growth

PTI NEW DELHI

The Economic Survey on Friday projected revival of economic growth to 6-6.5 per cent next fiscal and suggested that the Government should relax the Budget deficit target to boost growth from a decade low of 5 per cent this year.

The Survey, released a day before Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman presents the Union Budget for 2020-21. suggested a cut in food subsidy create fiscal space at a time when tax revenues were falling.

Facing the worst economic slowdown since the global financial crisis of 2008-09 that worsened job prospects, the Survey said businessmen should be respected as they create wealth and jobs.

For India to become a USD 5 trillion economy by

India needs \$1.4 trn infra spend in 2020-25 to become a \$5 trn economy: Survey PTI 🗖 NEW DELHI

To prevent 'lack of infra-structure' becoming a 'binding constraint' on the growth of Indian economy that aspires to become a USD 5 trillion by 2024-25, the country needs to spend about USD 1.4 trillion on infra-structure, the Economic Survey said on Friday.

Investment in infrastructure is necessary for the economy, as power shortages, inadequate transport and poor connectivity affect overall growth performance, the Economic Survey for 2019-20 tabled in Parliament by Union Finance and Corporate Affairs Minister Nirmala Sitharaman stated.

"To achieve the GDP of USD 5 trillion by 2024-25, India needs to spend about USD 1.4 trillion on infrastructure. The challenge is to step-up annual infrastructure investment so that lack of infrastructure does not become a binding constraint growth the on of the Indian economy," the

Survey said.

SR. No.

2025, it prescribed strengthening trust in the economy, enabling and empowering markets, promotion of pro-business policies, and measures to

enhance farmers' income. It also suggested reforms to make it easier to open new businesses, register property, pay taxes and enforce contracts.

The Survey called for boosting manufacturing with 'assemble in India for the world' concept and underlined the need to spend \$1.4 trillion in infrastructure to nearly double the size of the economy to \$5 trillion

It batted for aggressive disinvestment to bring higher profitability and efficiency, minimal government intervention in markets, encouraging entrepreneurship, and supporting wealth creation. For the current fiscal, it

PTI NEW DELHI

per cent, the lowest in 11 years. Commenting on the Survey, Prime Minister

Narendra Modi said the report focuses on wealth creation for Indians. "It outlines a multifaceted strategy to achieve a USD 5 trillion economy through enterprise, exports, ease of doing business and

more," he tweeted. Some economists believe the Survey's growth forecast is too optimistic as the recovery is likely to be slow and shallow amid rising inflation and declining investment.

The Survey has been wide of the mark in forecasting growth in four out of past five

states/Union Territories from

years 'The deceleration in GDP growth can be understood within the framework of a slowing cycle of growth with the financial sector acting as a projected a GDP growth of 5 drag on the real sector," it said.

"The government must use its strong mandate to deliver expeditiously on reforms, which will enable the economy to strongly rebound in 2020-21."

Survey-author Krishnamurthy Subramanian, Chief Economic Adviser to the Finance Ministry, rejected his predecessor Arvind Subramanian's analysis of India's GDP growth rate being overestimated by 2.7 per cent post-2011, saying the allegation was "unfounded" and "unsubstantiated by the data".

As has been argued earlier, the government has to priori-

Corporate tax cut to mostly benefit less than 1% of companies: Survey

PTI 📕 NEW DELHI

The steep cut in corporate tax rate will benefit large companies the most as smaller ones were already paying lower rates, the Economic Survey 2019-20 said on Friday. Finance Minister Nirmala

Sitharaman had in September last year announced the lowering of the base corporate tax

'Insolvency law reduces resolution time for stressed assets to 340 days'

New Delhi: The average time taken for resolution of stressed assets has come down to 340 days since the insolvency law came into force three years ago compared to around 4.3 years taken earlier, according to the Economic Survey. The Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (IBC), which came into force in 2016, provides for market-linked and time-bound resolution of stressed assets.

The survey, tabled in the Parliament on Friday, also said resolution under the Code has been much higher.

Citing data provided in the report on Trend and Progress of Banking in India 2018-19, the survey said the amount recovered as a percentage of amount involved in 2017-18 and 2018-19 has been much higher as compared to Lok Adalat and Debt Recovery Tribunals (DRTs), among others. PTI

tise growth, the Survey for 2019-20, which was tabled by Sitharaman in Parliament, said And for this, relaxing the fiscal deficit target could be

considered, said the Survey -an annual report card on the economy.

Sitharaman had projected the fiscal deficit at 3.3 per cent of the gross domestic product in her budget for 2019-20 but it is widely seen slipping to 3.8 per cent as the slowdown lowered revenue collections and the government provided a tax stimulus to spur investments

rate to 22 per cent from 30 per cent for companies that do not seek exemptions and reduced

the rate for some new manufacturing companies to 15 per cent from 25 per cent. Including surcharges and cesses (levies to raise funds for specific purposes), the effective corporate tax rate will drop by nearly 10 percentage points to

Economic slowdown bottomed out, uptick from here onwards: CEA

of 2018-19.

PTI 📕 NEW DELHI

Chief Economic Adviser KV Subramanian on Friday said India's GDP is expected to grow at 6-6.5 per cent next fiscal as the economic slowdown has bottomed out.

As per the first advance estimates released by the National Statistical Organisation (NSO), the country's economic growth is likely to hit an 11-year low of 5 per cent in the current fiscal ending March 2020.

The Economic Survey 2019-20, prepared by a team lead by Subramanian, has projected the GDP to expand in the range of 6-6.5 per cent during 2020-21.

"If you look at the business cycle phenomena in India, typically if you look at the peaks and troughs and co-relate it with what has happened, it seems like we have hit the trough therefore there should be uptick in growth. That is what we are Budgeting," he said in a media briefing post the Economic Survey.

Amid a weak environment

for global manufacturing, trade my knowledge, there is no and demand, the Indian econchange in deadline." omy slowed down with GDP Ŏп growth moderating to 4.8 per cent in the first half of 2019-20,

Coronavirus outbreak on the economy, he said, "I am not a doctor, (but) it may be very lower than 6.2 per cent in H2 marginal." Šubramanian said by

Based on NSO's first advance estimates of GDP growth for 2019-20 at 5 per cent, an uptick in GDP growth is expected in the second half of the fiscal, it said.

According to it, the uptick in second half of 2019-20 would be mainly due to ten tional to the size of the econopositive factors like picking up of Nifty India Consumption Index for the first time this year, an upbeat secondary mar-ket, higher FDI flows, build-up of demand pressure, positive outlook for rural consumption, rebound of industrial activity, steady improvement in manufacturing, growth in merchandise exports, higher build-up of foreign exchange reserves and positive growth rate of GST

revenue collection. When asked if there is any change in meeting USD 5 trillion target by 2024-25, Subramanian said," To best of

focusing on labour intensive sector, India can create 4 crore jobs by 2025 and 8 crore jobs by 2030. The CEA said that the Indian banking sector needs to scale up and become propor-

> He said exponential rise in India's GDP and GDP per capita post liberalisation coincides with wealth generation in the stock market.

the

impact

Subramanian said India should strengthen the invisible hand of markets together with the hand of trust that can support markets, in line with the economic model advocated in our traditional thinking.

He said a 10 per cent increase in registration of new firms in a district yields a 1.8 per cent increase in district Îevel GDP

year, said the survey prepared

by a team led by Chief

Economic Adviser K V

outlook for global growth per-

sists to be weak, with escalat-

ed trade tensions adding to the

risk; on the other hand, the

pace of recovery of growth will

have implications for revenue

the Economic Survey for 2019-

20 was tabled in Parliament,

Subramanian said, "We have

actually acknowledged that if

you look at overall fiscal deficit

over the nine-month period

then it is similar to what it was

in last year. But given the rev-

enue situation there may be

possibly some slippage in the

fiscal deficit."

In a press conference after

collections," it said.

'While, on one hand the

Subramanian.

GDP growth rate for 2018-19 revised

PTI NEW DELHI

telecom sector'

 $S_{\rm low\ tariff\ rates\ by\ telecom}$ operators since 2016 have led to a financial stress in the sector, the Economic Survey said on Friday.

The data price in the country came down by over 99 per cent during 2016-2019, making it among the lowest tariff in the world, according to the survey.

"Since 2016, the sector has witnessed substantial competition and price cutting by the telecom service providers (TSPs), creating financial stress in the sector. As a result, the sector is experiencing consolidation. While some operators have filed for bankruptcy, others have merged, in their quest to improve viability," the survey report

said.

downwards to 6.1% PTI NEW DELHI The Government on Friday revised downwards the eco-

nomic growth rate for 2018-19 to 6.1 per cent from 6.8 per cent estimated earlier, mainly due to deceleration in mining, manufacturing and farm sectors. "Real GDP or GDP at con-

stant (2011-12) prices for the years 2018-19 and 2017-18 stand at ₹139.81 lakh crore and ₹131.75 lakh crore, respectively, showing growth of 6.1 per cent during 2018-19 and 7.0 per cent during 2017-18," the National Statistical Office said in revised national account data released on Friday.

Under the first revision released in January 2019, real GDP or GDP at constant (2011-12) prices for 2017-18 was pegged at ₹131.80 lakh crore, showing a growth of 7.2 per cent.

PNS NEW DELHI

basis.

Fiscal deficit target may be relaxed to arrest declining growth: Economic Survey PTI NEW DELHI erating growth rate experi-enced in the first half of the

The Economic Survey on The Economic ourse, Friday made a case for relaxing the fiscal deficit target of 3.3 per cent of GDP in view of the need to arrest declining growth, estimated to touch an 11-year low of 5 per cent in the current fiscal.

The Medium Term Fiscal Policy (MTFP) statement presented with the Budget 2019-20, pegged the fiscal deficit target for 2019-20 at 3.3 per cent of gross domestic product (GDP), which was further expected to follow a gradual path of reduction and attain the targeted level of 3 per cent of GĎP 2020-21, in and continue at the same level in 2021-22.

The year 2019-20 has been challenging for the Indian economy owing to the decel-

> **'Feel good' Budget** may see cut in tax rate, sops for social sectors PTI NEW DELHI

हरियाणा संस्कास TENDER NOTICE AMOUNT OPENING DATE CLOSING DATE (TIME) NAME OF BOARD/CORP./AUTH EMD (APPROX.) IN WEBSITE OF THE BOARD CORP./AUTH NODAL OFFICER/CONTACT DETAILS/EMAIL NAME OF WORK NOTICE TENDER RUPEES CONST OF REVENUE RASTA WITH PAVER BLOCK FROM KAHRI 01.02.2020 secretarymcpundri01@gmail.com MC PUNDRI SIKANDER TO KULVINDER CHATTA IN WARD NO 04 + 45 565.15 LACS etenders.hry.nic.in

07.02.2020

April 2006 to October 2019.



Thalinomics in times of rising

more affordable, says survey

prices: Veg, non-veg thalis

crunching to drive home the point that affordability of a and west - we find that the plate of meal has improved. Calling it 'Thalinomics', absolute prices of a vegetarian thali have decreased since

Krishnamurthy Subramanian compared price of standard veg and non-veg meal plates across the country to say that affordability as a factor of daily wage has improved overtime, indicating improved welfare of the common person.

The affordability of vegetarian 'thalis' improved by 29 per cent while that of non-vegetarian by 18 per cent between 2006-07 and 2019-20, the Economic Survey said in its chapter 'Thalinomics -- The Economics of a Plate of Food

in India". The conclusion has been drawn after analysing the data from the Consumer Price Index for industrial workers for around 80 centres in 25

2015-16 though it increased during 2019. This is owing to significant moderation in the prices of vegetables and dal from 2015-16 when compared to the previous trend of increasing prices," the survey said. In fact, the increase in

prices of pulses and vegetables contributed to the increase in the thali price during 2019-20 (April-October).

"If the prices of a vegetar-ian thali had followed the trend obtained till 2015-16, an average household comprising of five individuals would have had to spend Rs 10,887 more on average per year for eating minimum two healthy thalis a day.

25.17 per cent. 'Intense competition, low tariffs led to financial stress in

| | | OTHER WORK | 07.02.2020 | | | |
|----|--|--|----------------------------|--|---|--|
| 2 | MC SONIPAT | CONST. OF C.C STREET FROM H/O KHARTI NIWAS TO H/O JAGAT SINGH & SIDE CONNECTING STREETS IN MALIK COLONY WARD NO. 6 M.C SONIPAT. | CLOSING DATE 05.02.2020 | 12.94 LACS | https://etenders.hry.nic.in | semcsonepat@gmail.com |
| 3 | MUNICIPAL CORPORATION YAMUNANAGAR- JAGADHRI. | PROCUREMENT OF DGPS COMPLETE SET FOR MUNICIPAL CORPORATION YAMUNANAGAR-JAGADHRI. | 29.01.2020 10.02.2020 | 8.02 LACS | https://etenders.hry.nic.in/nic | 9818656867 xen.mcynr@gmail.com |
| 4 | MUNICIPAL COMMITTEE MEHAM | NIGH SWEEPING IN MUNICIPAL COMMITTEE FOR TWO YEARS | 30.01.2020 08.02.2020 | As per DNIT | https://etenders.hry.nic.in | Municipal Engineer |
| 5 | MUNICIPAL COUNCIL, KAITHAL | PURCHASING OF JCB MACHINE FOR SANITATION WORKS AND OTHER WORKS IN MUNICIPAL COUNCIL KAITHAL + 4 OTHER WORK | 25.01.2020 04.02.2020 | 109.37 LACS | https://etenders.hry.nic.in TENDER NO - 2020_HRY_116334_1 + 4 OTHER | 94161-88848 mckaithal@gmail.com |
| 6 | MUNICIPAL COUNCIL MANDI DABWALI | REPLACEMENT OF STREET LIGHT (SODIUM LIGHT/TUBELIGHT/CFL/ETC.) WITH LED LIGHT IN M.C. DABWALI | 31.01.2020 10.02.2020 | 4.10 CRORE | http://etenders.hry.nic.in TENDER NO - 2020_HRY_116601_1 | xen.ulbhry@gmail.com |
| 7 | MUNICIPAL COUNCIL, GOHANA | CONST. OF RAVIDAS BHAWAN AND CHHATARAVAS IN SECTOR- 7, M.C. GOHANA. | CLOSING DATE 13.02.2020 | 20 LACS | http://etenders.hry.nic.in | 01263-252013 Secymc.gohana@hry.nic.in |
| 8 | MC HISAR | CONST. OF VARIUOS IPB STREET NO. 1, 2, 3 & 4, 12 QTR. ROAD IN BHAGAT SINGH NAGAR WARD NO. 8 HISAR. + 12 OTHER WORK | CLOSING DATE 13.02.2020 | 3.73 CRORE | eteders.hry.nic.in | xenmchissar@gmail.com |
| 9 | HVPNL AMBALA | CREATION OF 2 NO 66 KV LINE BAYS TO PROVIDE LILO OF 66 KV D/C TEPLA-12 CROSS ROAD LINE AT 66 KV S/STATION IOC AMBALA CANTT | 28.01.2020 13.02.2020 | 7500 for firms and 3750for Co- Op Societies | https://www.hvpn.org.in. | 0172-2583789 PRO@HVPN.ORG.IN |
| 10 | HVPNL, KARNAL | REPLACEMENT OF OLD & OBSOLETE/DEFECTIVE 132 KV BREAKER ALSTOM MAKE OF 132/11 KV, 10/16 MVA T-1 T/F AT 132 KV S/STN., HVPNL, JUNDLA | CLOSING DATE 06.02.2020 | 1.08 LACS | https://www.hvpn.org.in. | PRO@HVPN.ORG.IN |
| 11 | HVPNL, KARNAL | FOR PROVIDING 1 NO 33 KV LINE BAY AT BAY D-6 TO 33 KV S/STN MALIKPUR ALONG WITH ALLIED EQUIPMENTS AT 132 KV S/STN. MALIKPUR CIVIL WORKS | CLOSING DATE 10.02.2020 | Rs 3700.00 for General, Rs. 1850.00 for Registered Society | https://www.hvpn.org.in. | 0172-2583789 Pro@hvpn.org.in |
| 12 | HVPNL, KARNAL | FOR CONSTRUCTION OF 1 NO. 20/25 MVA T/F PLINTH WITH BUS COUPLER BAY AND 1 NO. 33 KV BAY FOR THENNEWAL WITH ALLIED EQUIPMENT AT 220 KV S/STN. CHEEKA.CIVIL WORKS | CLOSING DATE 10.02.2020 | Rs 30000.00 for General, Rs. 15000.00 for Registered Society | https://www.hvpn.org.in. | 0172-2583789 Pro@hvpn.org.in |
| 13 | DHBVN, FARIDABAD | EMPANELMENT OF WELL REPUTED TRANSPORT AGENCIES / INDIVIDUAL TRANSPORTERS FOR HIRING OF 22 NOS. JEEP/BOLERO (LIGHT VEHICLE) & 6 NO. CARS ON OUTSOURCE UNDER THE JURISDICTION OF (OP) CIRCLE DHBVN FARIDABAD NIT NO.06/SE/OP/FBJ/2019-20 | 03.02.2020 25.02.2020 | NIL | www.dhbvn.org.in | 0129-2233277 se.faridabad1@gmail.com |
| 14 | DHBVN, JIND. | SUPPLY OF MATERIAL, ERECTION, TESTING & COMMISSIONING FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF MGJG SCHEME ON 10 NOS. 11 KV RDS FEEDERS UNDER OP CIRCLE, JIND ON TRUNKEY/PARTIALLY TURNKEY BASIS AGAINST OPEN TENDER, NIT NO-3/OCJ/2019-20 | 18.01.2020 07.02.2020 | 6.49 CRORE | www.dhbvn.org.in | 01681-245001 seopdhbvnjind@gmail.com |
| 15 | THE AMBALA DISTT. COOP. MILK PRODUCERS UNION LTD | CONSTRUCTION WORK OF BUILDING OF MILK CHILLING CENTRE AT PAPLOHA (KALKA) | 01.02.2020 10.02.2020 | 2 LACS | http:vitaindia.etenders.hry.nic.in www.vitaindia.org.in | 0171-2540614, 9996648121 milkplant@vitaambala.com |
| 16 | HLRDC LTD | E-TENDER IS INVITED FOR AUCTION/DISPOSAL OF OBSOLETE/UNSERVICEABLE AGRICULTURE IMPLEMENTS/SCRAP AND OTHER ITEMS ETC. ON "AS IT WHERE IS BASIS". | 01.02.2020 12.02.2020 | 50000/- | https://etenders.hry.nic.in | Caohlrdc@gmail.com ctohlrdc@gmail.com |
| 17 | HSAMB KARNAL | CONSTRUCTION OF LINK ROAD FROM KAIRWALI TO TARPUR (H-9687)- HON'BLE CM ANNOUNCEMENT CODE NO. 22902 | 04.02.2020 18.02.2020 | 121.00 LACS | https://etenders.hry.nic.in | 01842220964 |
| 18 | HSAMB BHIWANI | CONSTRUCTION OF LINK ROAD FROM VILLAGE DHANI SILAWALI TO SIWANI MANDI VIA DEVSAR IN LOHARU CONSTITUENCY DISTT. BHIWANI (ID-6155). +_1 OTHER WORK | CLOSING DATE 17.02.2020 | 3.99 CRORE | https://etenders.hry.nic.in | xenbhiwani2.hsamb@gmail.com |
| 19 | HSAMB SIRSA | CONSTRUCTION OF FARMER'S HOSTEL AT CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE FOR FRUITS, AT MANGIANA, DISTT. SIRSA | 28.01.2020 24.02.2020 | 1.05 CRORE | https://etenders.hry.nic.in | 01666-240743 xenhsamb.sirsa17@gmail.com |
| 20 | UHBVN PANCHKULA | HIRING ONE NO. JEEP FOR INSPECTOR VIGILANCE HPUS, AMBALA | CLOSING DATE 10.02.2020 | 4.98 LACS | www.uhbvn.org.in | xenvigilambala@uhbvn.org.in |
| 21 | DHBVN, FARIDABAD | PROVIDING LIGHT VEHICLES/JEEPS SUCH AS MAHINDRA BOLERO (OPEN FROM BACK SIDE) ON HIRE CHARGES BASIS UNDER SE (OP) CIRCLE DHBVN FARIDABAD NIT NO.02/SE/FBD/2019-20 | 14.11.2019 07.02.2020 | 69.12 LACS | www.dhbvn.org.in | 0129-2233277 sefbd@dhbvn.org.in |
| 22 | DHBVN, FARIDABAD | EMPANELMENT OF TRANSPORT AGENCIES/ TRANSPORTERS FOR PROVIDING VEHICLES ALONG WITH DRIVER FOR TRANSPORTATION OF MATERIAL FROM FIELD OFFICES TO NIGAM STORES OR NIGAM STORES TO SITES UNDER (OP) CIRCLE, FARIDABAD,NIT NO.04/EMP/FBD/2019-20 | 14.11.2019 07.02.2020 | NIL | www.dhbvn.org.in | 0129-2233277 sefbd@dhbvn.org.in |
| | | CINCLE, TARDADAD, III NO.07 ENTT DD/2013-20 | | | | 0129-2233277 |

Power Grid Corporation of India Limited (POWER-GRID), a "Maharatna" company under Ministry of Power, GoI and the "Central Transmission Utility" (CTU) of the country on Friday posted a profit after tax of ₹2,673 crore and total income of ₹9,497 crore for the third quarter (Oct-Dec, 2019) on standalone On a consolidated basis,

PowerGrid Q3 net

up 14% at ₹2,672 cr

the company has posted profit after tax and total income of ₹2,672 crore and ₹9,541 crore respectively for the third quarter (Oct-Dec, 2019), registering an increase of about 14 per cent & 7 per cent respectively with respect to corresponding period of FY19.

For nine-month period (Apr-Dec, 2019), the profit after tax and total income on standalone basis are ₹7,629 crore and ₹27,908 crore respectively, which are about 11 per cent and 7% higher with respect to corresponding period of FY19, while on consolidated basis, the profit after tax and Total Income are ₹7,746 crore and ₹28,163 crore are respectively, registering a

On a consolidated basis, the company has posted profit after tax and total income of ₹2,672 crore and ₹9,541 crore respectively for the third quarter (Oct-Dec, 2019), registering an increase of about 14 per cent & 7 per cent respectively with respect to corresponding period of FY19

growth of 11% and 8% respectively. Capital expenditure and capitalisation during the quarter was about ₹3,953 crore and ₹5,557 crore respectively (on consolidated basis) and the same for nine month period (Apr-Dec, 2019) were about ₹10,485 crore and ₹11,623

respectively.

POWERGRID's Gross Fixed

Assets on a consolidated basis

stood at about ₹2,18,838 crore

ed a capital expenditure of

₹15,000 crore for FY2019-20.

The Company has target-

as on Dec 31, 2019.

cuts and other stimulus meato consolidate state-owned banks and monetary easing.

After corporate tax cuts in September last year, speculation is rife about possible reduction in personal income taxes. A combination of an increase in the basic exemption limit and/or the introduction of a differentiated tax rate structure for higher incomes may be on the cards. To cushion the impact on collections, these tweaks might be accompanied

by rationalisation in tax rebates. government "The announced a slew of stimulus measures in the last four months but consumer confidence is missing. Not many are eager to take loans to buy homes or cars fearing the worst. The feel good factor in the economy is missing," a senior

government source said. "I think the Budget will be a feel-good Budget that will try to restore faith in the economy and spur spending and investments," the source said.

With disbursements under the PM-Kisan scheme to farmers being less than the Budgeted amount.

Appeal For Identification

General public is hereby informed that this person Name : Unknown S/o : Unknown, R/o : Unknown, Age: 45 Years, Sex: Male, Height: 5 Ft. 4 Inch, Complexion : Wheatish, Wearing : Blue Colour Jacket and Grey Colour Pant, has been found dead on 31.12.2019 at 09:06 am at B-Block, Kanwar Singh Park,

crore

Mangolpuri, Delhi. In this regard a DD No. 03-A dated 31.12.2019 has been lodged at PS. Raj Park, Delhi. Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out information about this person but no clue has come to light so far.

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

PS. Raj Park, Delhi DP/3102/OD/2020. Ph.: 011-27910071, 27910070

Acut in personal income tax, sops for rural and agriculture sectors as well as an aggressive push on infrastructure spending are likely to be part of Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman's "feelgood" second Budget. Facing the worst econom-

ic slowdown in more than a decade, Sitharaman is expected to pull out all stops to spur consumer demand and investment, government sources and economists said.

Sitharaman's second Budget, to be presented on February 1, is expected to announce measures to restore economic growth and to set out a clear road map for achieving the ambitious target of USD 5

trillion economy by 2025. Investments have failed to pick up despite corporate tax sures, higher FDI inflows, plans

growth targets and attaining

national aspirations call for not

just renewed focus and invest-

ment in key sectors like infra-

structure and rural empower-

ment, but also on establishing

and enabling a climate of trust,

said Elias George, partner and

national head (infrastructure)

Government and Healthcare,

ties in proposing and imple-

menting the budget 2020 at this

juncture budgetary policy has

to create more trusting and

rewarding environment for

investors, keeping revenues

stable and boosting demand

through public investment and spending," said Raktim Chattopadhyay, founder &

CEO, Esperer Bioresearch.

"Considering the difficul-

KPMG in India.



Markets recoil as Eco Survey stokes fiscal slippage fears

PTI MUMBAI

The Sensex skidded 190 **I** points while the Nifty closed below the 12,000-mark on Friday after the Economic Survey suggested relaxing fiscal deficit target to boost growth from a decade low.

Markets had opened on a firm footing, but came under selling pressure in the afternoon trade, coinciding with the opening of the Budget session of Parliament and tabling of the Economic Survey.

The 30-share BSE Sensex closed 190.33 points, or 0.47 per cent, lower at 40,723.49. Likewise, the broader NSE Nifty shed 73.70 points, or 0.61 per cent, to finish at 11,962.10.

The Economic Survey projected revival of economic growth to 6-6.5 per cent in the next fiscal from 5 per cent estimated in 2019-20. However, it recommended relaxing the budget deficit target to boost growth Traders said the prospects

of increased government borrowing and crowding out of private sector investment spooked market participants, triggering unwinding of positions

ONGC was the top laggard in the Sensex pack, dropping 5.80 per cent, followed by

PowerGrid, HCL Tech, TCS, Tata Steel and Reliance Industries.

Kotak Mahindra Bank was the top gainer, spurting 3.87 per cent, after the lender settled its dispute with RBI regarding promoter Uday Kotak's stake. SBI rose 2.53 per cent after

the country's largest lender reported a 41 per cent jump in net profit to ₹6,797.25 crore for the December quarter. Other winners included

IndusInd Bank, Bharti Airtel, Bajaj Auto and Hero MotoCorp.

Attention now shifts to the Union Budget, to be presented by Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on Saturday. Markets will remain open on Budget Day.

Investors stayed away from taking fresh positions ahead of the big event. Focus will turn to Union Budget as all eyes will be on how Centre is going to bring growth as any increase in spending would result in widening of fiscal deficit," said Vinod Nair, head of research at Geojit Financial Services.

Global economy is also on the edge with slow growth fears significantly high after the outbreak of the virus," he added.

Sectorally, BSE oil and gas, energy, metal, utilities, power, basic materials, IT and auto



Telecom, realty, consumer durables, bankex and finance rose up to 1.23 per cent. Broader BSE midcap and smallcap indices ended in the red.

On the global front, sentiment remained weak as investors assessed the impact of the China coronavirus outbreak The death toll in China's

coronavirus epidemic spiked to 213 and total infections reached 9,692, the Chinese government said on Friday as the World Health Organisation declared the outbreak that has spread to more than a dozen countries, including India, as a global health emergency.

Bourses in Hong Kong and South Korea ended in the red, while Japan rose 1 per cent. Markets in China remained closed.

Stock exchanges in Europe opened on a negative note. Brent crude oil futures rose

0.38 per cent to USD 57.55 per barrel.

Crude prices have seen some moderation in the past few sessions over demand slump amid rising coronavirus cases in China and other regions.

RUPEE RISES 25 PAISE

Meanwhile, the Indian rupee appreciated by 25 paise to end at 71.33 against the US dollar on Friday after the Economic Survey 2019-20 predicted bullish growth figures for the next financial year.

At the interbank foreign exchange market, the local currency opened at 71.46. During the day, the local unit saw a high of 71.28 and a low of 71.52. The domestic unit finally settled at 71.33, up 25 paise from its previous close. The rupee had settled at

71.58 against the American currency on Thursday. Forex traders further said

easing crude oil prices supported the local unit.

"Brent crude continued to remain under pressure and trades around five month low. Lower crude is supporting Indian rupee to cap its losses against the dollar," said VK Sharma, head, PCG and capital markets strategy, HDFC Securities.

Govt must unleash bold reforms to achieve 6-6.5% growth in FY21, say experts, industry pegged by the Economic Survey from history of impacts from 'Realising economic

the SARS outbreak," he noted.

India, Rumki Majumdar, said

the Survey projects growth revival in FY 2021 but suggests

that the government may have

to incur expansionary policy to

er, the government has to pri-

oritise growth. Once the

momentum picks up, the gov-

ernment can take action to

consolidate its expenses,"

Niranjan Hiranandani said it

strongly advocates that the

Central government needs to

announce bolder policy and fis-

cal measures to recover from

"sharp economic downturn and

somnolent market scenario".

Assocham President

Majumdar observed.

"As has been argued earli-

support growth.

Economist at Deloitte

for 2020-21, is a target that is

achievable with the right dose

of reforms and public invest-

ments," CII Director General

Economic Survey is a precur-

sor to the Union Budget, it

expects some of the bold

reforms highlighting trust,

entrepreneurship and primacy

of the market to be reflected in

services at PwC India, Ranen

Banerjee, said attaining the

projected growth rate of 6-6.5

pick up in India. Global growth

including India is likely to be

significantly impacted by the

per cent will be challenging.

Leader economic advisory

'The demand cycle is yet to

the Budget announcements.

The chamber said as the

Chandrajit Banerjee said.

PTI 📕 NEW DELHI

ttaining a GDP growth Attaining a GDr growth rate of 6 to 6.5 per cent in 2020-21 as projected by the Economic Survey will be "challenging" and the government needs to prioritise growth while unleashing bolder policy measures to achieve it, experts and

industry bodies said on Friday. India's economic growth is expected to "strongly rebound"

to 6-6.5 per cent in 2020-21 from 5 per cent estimated in the current fiscal, said the Economic Survey 2019-20 tabled in Parliament on Friday by Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman, adding that the government with a strong mandate has the capacity to expedite reforms.

"The 6-6.5 per cent growth coronavirus factor taking cues

'Fiscal deficit target may be relaxed to arrest declining growth

New Delhi (PTI): The Economic Survey on Friday made a case for relaxing the fiscal deficit target of 3.3 per cent of GDP in view of the need to arrest declining growth, estimated to touch a 11-year low of 5 per cent in the current fiscal.

The Medium Term Fiscal Policy (MTFP) statement presented with the Budget 2019-20, pegged the fiscal deficit target for 2019-20 at 3.3 per cent of gross domestic product (GDP), which was further expected to follow a gradual path of reduction and attain the targeted level of 3 per cent

of GDP in 2020-21, and continue at the same level in 2021-22. "While, on one hand the outlook for global growth persists to be weak, with escalated trade tensions adding to the risk; on the other hand, the pace of recovery of growth will have implications for revenue collections," it said.

In order to boost the sluggish demand and consumer sentiments, counter-cyclical fiscal policy may have to be adopted to create additional fiscal headroom, it said.

During the first eight months of 2019-20, the indirect tax collections have been muted. Therefore, revenue buoyancy of goods and services tax would be key to the resource position of both central and state governments. On the expenditure side, rationalisation of subsidies especially food subsidy could be an important tool for expand-

ing the headroom for fiscal manoeuvre. The survey further notes that the geopolitical situation unfolding in West Asia is likely to have implications for oil prices, and thereby on the petroleum subsidy, apart from having implications for current account balance.

| No. No. No. No. No. No. | NIFTY 50 | BSE 500 | |
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NIFTY 50

world 12

Mongolia suspended all arrivals from China

until 2 March. It also banned its citizens from

In the US, Chicago health officials reported the

Japan raised its infectious disease advisory

Some 250 French nationals were evacuated

Israel barred all flight connections with China

North Korea suspended all flights and trains

SUPERIOR FINLEASE LIMITED CIN: L74899DL1994PLC061995 Regd. Off: NS-92, Khasra No-33/21,

tanaji Enclave, Najafgarh, Near Arjur Park Bus Stand New Delhi -110043

Email id: superiorfinlease@gmail.com Website: http://www.superiorfinlease.com Phone No.: +91-9953798335

NOTICE

Notice is hereby given pursuant to Regulation 47 read with Regulation 29 & Regulation 33 of the Securities and Exchange Board of India

Regulations, 2015, that a meeting of the Board

of Directors of Superior Finlease Limited ("the Company") will be held on Friday, February 07,

2020 at the Registered Office of the Company at 1:00 P.M., inter-alia, to consider and approve

Un-audited Standalone Financial Results of the

Company for the Quarter and nine mont ended December 31, 2019.

Further details are also available on the websit

and also on the website of BSE Limited i.e. http://www.bseindia.com and Metropolitan Stock

Exchange of India Limited at https://www.msei.in/

Sd/-Date: January 31, 2020 (VAIBHAV VASHIST) Place: New Delhi CFO & Compliance Officer

ndustrial Plot No. 32, area measuring

83.65 Sq. Mtrs., Block No. 6, Sector No. IX,

For Superior Finlease Limite

ere the shares of the company are listed

PUBLIC NOTICE

(Listing Obligations & Disclosure Require

to and from China, said the British

ambassador to North Korea

travelling to the country

transmissior

level for China

from Wuhan

first US case of human-to-human



WHO declares global emergency over coronavirus DEATH TOLL SPIKES TO 213, MORE HOW THE WORLD IS RESPONDING

THAN 9,800 INFECTED GLOBALLY



PTI BEIJING

The death toll in China's coro-navirus epidemic spiked to 213 and more than 9,800 have been infected, the Government said on Friday as the World Health Organisation (WHO) declared the outbreak that has spread to more than a dozen countries, including India, as a global health emergency.

The death toll rose to 213, mostly of elderly people, after 43 new deaths all but one in Hubei, the epicentre of the outbreak, China's national health authorities said, adding 1,982 new cases had been confirmed, bringing the total to 9,692.

About 20 countries, including India, the UK, US, South Korea, Japan and France, have reported confirmed cases of the virus in travellers coming from China. The WHO, which held an emergency meeting in Geneva on Thursday, on declared the outbreak a global health emergency, a rarely used designation that could lead to improved international co-ordination in tackling the disease.

"Our greatest concern is the potential for the virus to spread to countries with weaker health systems," WHO chief Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus

said as he announced the virus as a Public Health Emergency of International Concern (PHEIC)

Reacting to the WHO announcement, Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesperson Hua Chunying in a press state-ment said, "Since the outbreak of the novel coronavirus epi-Chinese demic. the Government has been taking the most comprehensive and rigorous prevention and control measures with a high sense of responsibility for people's health." Many of these mea-sures go well beyond the requirements

Regulations, she said. 'We have full confidence and capability to win this fight against the epidemic," said the spokesperson.

She said at the same time, the Chinese side informed relevant sides and shared the genome sequence of the coronavirus in a timely manner with openness, transparency and a responsible attitude. Hua said China has been in

close communication and cooperation with WHO. "WHO experts recently conducted a field trip to Wuhan. Director-General Tedros

of the Health International

AFP BEIJING

Adhanom Ghebrevesus also visited China and discussed containment and mitigation of the 2019-nCoV with the Chinese side," she said. Noting that Tedros com-mended China's efforts and

spoke highly of China's great contribution to the world by fighting against the novel coronavirus, Hua said the country will continue working with WHO and other countries to safeguard regional and global public health security, Xinhua news agency quoted her statement.

hina's delayed response to

Cthe discovery of a deadly

new coronavirus infection

worsened the epidemic, the

most senior official from the

city at the centre of the out-

Voluntary evacuations of hundreds of foreign nationals from Wuhan are under way. The UK, Australia, South Korea, Singapore and New Zealand are expected to guarantine all evacuees for two weeks to monitor them for symptoms and avoid contagion

Australia plans to quarantine its evacuees on Christmas Island, 2,000km from the mainland in a detention centre that has been used to house asylum seekers

Russia said two Chinese citizens had been placed in isolation after they tested positive for the virus. Russia decided to close its 4,300km far-eastern border with China

Singapore closed its borders to all travellers from China

Italy declared a six-month state of emergency after two Chinese tourists in Rome were diagnosed with the coronavirus

Thailand confirmed its first case of human-to-human transmission

FB working to provide helpful information

San Francisco: Facebook says it's working to help limit the spread of misinformation and harmful content about the coronavirus and will focus on providing helpful information to people. Kang-Xing Jin, Facebook's head of health, said in a post that the social media platform's third-party factcheckers are reviewing content and debunking false claims related to the coronavirus. Facebook is also removing content with false claims or conspiracy theories that have been flagged by global health organisations and local health authorities, particularly focusing on claims designed to discourage treatment or taking appropriate precautions.

Closing borders could allow China virus to spread faster: WHO

AFP GENEVA

World The worru Organisation cautioned on ¬he Friday that closing borders was probably ineffective in halting the transmission of the deadly novel coronavirus from China and could even acceler-

ate its spread. If you close official border crossings, you can "lose track of people and cannot monitor (their movement) anymore", World Health Organisation spokesman Christian Lindmeier told reporters in Geneva.



been found abroad, with more than 20 countries now affected by the disease.

Public anger has simmered on Chinese social media over the handling of the health emergency by local authorities in Wuhan, where the virus was first detected.

break said Friday. More than 210 people have died and near-Wuhan officials have been ly 10,000 others have been criticised online for withholding information about the infected in China by the SARSinfection until the end of last like virus and new cases have

year, despite knowing about the new illness weeks earlier.

"Right now I'm in a state of guilt, remorse and selfreproach," said Ma Guoqiang, the municipal Communist Party secretary for Wuhan.

'If strict control measures had been taken earlier, the result would have been better than now," he told an interview with state broadcaster CCTV.



China locked down 50 mn people, has to keep them fed

Beijing: Carrying permits demanding "fast passage," truck drivers rushed a 560-ton shipment of disinfectant from eastern China to Wuhan, the locked-down city of 11 million people at the centre of a vast effort to contain a new viral disease. Outside the metropolis in central China, the cargo was shifted to local trucks with drivers in masks and protective suits, part of a tightly controlled flow of food and other supplies

through checkpoints that have blocked most access to Wuhan since January 23.

As global anxiety about the new virus rises, authorities Notice is hereby given by GAURAV have blocked 50 million people KATURIA who is the owner of Leasehold from leaving Wuhan and nearby cities at the centre of the outbreak. That in turn requires a massive effort to keep them supplied with food and other necessities. "Wuhan is not an isolated island," declared a state newspaper, the Yangtze Daily.

Few Governments could attempt such drastic restrictions on a population bigger than South Korea's or Australia's. They are made possible by the ruling Communist Party's extensive controls on society and experience com-bating the 2002-03 SARS epidemic. AP

Situated in the layout plan of New Okhla ndustrial Development Area, District-Ghaziabad, U.P after the death of his Father Mr. Ved Prakash and got the property mutated on his own name in Authority vide mutation letter dated 22.07.2010 and further will be mortgaging the same against the financial Assistance from IDFC First Bank Ltd. Also the Death Certificate & Legal Heir Certificate of Late Mr. Ved Prakash is not available. To comply the requirements of bank/NBFC, we give this public notice that if any person(s) having any objection regarding ownership and/ or creating mortgage of the said property is/are hereby requested to in writing to the undersigned intimate within 15 days from the date of this notice at below address

Lucem Legal LLP

269, Rama House, Ground Floor, Masjid Moth ,Opp. Uday Park, South Ext. II, New Delhi-49 Contact # 011-40046316

IST LIMITED CIN: L33301HR1976PLC008316 Regd. Office : Dharuhera Industrial Complex

Delhi- Jaipur Highway No. 8, Kapriwas Dharuhera, Rewari (Haryana)-123106

Head Office: A - 23, New Office Complete

Boris Johnson hails UK's new

Delta. American Airlines suspend flights Health between US. China AP NEW YORK

> Delta Air Lines and American Airlines are suspending all flights between the U.S. and China as the coronavirus outbreak spreads. American Airlines says it is suspending flights beginning Friday through March 27.

Delta says its suspension will not take effect until February 6 to ensure that customers looking to exit China can do so. Delta's suspension will last until April 30. Other US carriers have curtailed service to China, while several European airlines have suspended it altogether.

In Bangladesh's biggest air port, workers held up digital thermometers to passengers' heads. A beeping alarm sound ed as a passenger walking through a thermal scanner registered a fever.

On a plane ride from Shanghai to New York, nobody spoke for fear of spreading germs as flight attendants donning face masks served drinks to similarly-clad passengers.

e-Tender Time extension Notice this Office for the work "Demolishing & reconstruction Suman Grammar rehv extended as given below School at Joshivara" h

| "Avoid wasteful use of Electricity" | | | | | | |
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| पत्रांकः 49 दिनांकः 30.01.2020 E.E (C&M), MB-II, Joshiya | | | | | | |
| All other terms & condition will same as pre Uploaded Tender. For any other detail, kindly visit e-procurement portal "http://uktenders.gov.ii | | | | | | |
| Date & time of opening of bids on website 13.02.2020 at 11:00 Hrs | | | | | | |
| Last date & time of submission of hard copies of bids 11.02.2020 upto 15:00 Hrs | | | | | | |
| Last date & time of submission of bids on website 10.02.2020 upto 17:00 Hrs | | | | | | |
| echeciate desingara hereby extended as given below. | | | | | | |

Himalaya Food International Ltd (Formerly, Himalava International Limited) CIN: L70102DL1992PLC047399 Regd. Office: 118, 1st Floor, 12 Gagandeep Building, Rajendra Place New Delhi-110008 Tel. +91 11 45108609, Fax: +91 1704 225178 E-mail id: cs@himalyainternational.com | website: www.himalyainternational.com NOTICE

NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to Regulation 29 read with Regulation 47 of the Securities and Exchange Board of India (Listing Obligations andDisclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015 that the Meeting of the Board ofDirectors of the Company is scheduled to be held on Friday, February 7,2020 at 1.00 p.m. at W1, B-112, Wellington Estate DLF V, Gurgaon, Haryana- 122003, inter-alia, to takeon record the un-audited financial results for the guarter and nine months ended December 31 2019.

In terms of the Code of Conduct for Prevention of Insider Trading in Securities of Himalaya Food International Limited, the Trading window is closed from January1, 2020 to February 9, 2020.

The said notice may be accessed on the Company's website a www.himalyainternational.com and also on the stock exchanges websites at www.bseindia.com

For Himalaya Food International Ltd.

Date: January31, 2020 Place: Delhi

SurabhiMaheshwari **Company Secretary**

Metro Railway, Kolkata Kolkata's Pride 0

RELEASE OF OLD UN-USED CABLES AND TRANSPORTATION TO STORE

Dy. CSTE/Tele, Metro Railway, Kolkata for and on behalf of the President of India invites e-Tenders against Open Tender due to open on 04.03.2020 at 15.30 hrs. Manual offers are not allowed against this tender and any such manual offer received shall be ignored. Name of Work : Release of Old un-used cables from station and inside tunnel and transportation to SSE/T/Store/KKHG of Metro Railway, Kolkata. Tender Value : ₹ 13,80,000. Earnest Money : ₹ 27,600. Cost of Tender Document : ₹ 2,000. Completion Period : 6 months. The tender can be viewed at Website : https://www.ireps.gov.in The tenderer/bidders must have Class-III Digital Signature Certificate & must be registered on IREPS Portal. Only registered tenderer/bidders can participate on e-Tendering. All relevant paper must be uploaded at the time of participating in e-Tender.

Open Tender Notice No. : S&T/Work-35-2019-Retender, dtd. 28.01.2020 FASTER • SAFER • SMOOTHER • CLEANER

beginning as Brexit day arrives

AP LONDON

that it had joined in 1973.

Sd/-

 $B_{\mathrm{member}}^{\mathrm{ritain}}$ begins the day as a member of the European group of 27, rather than 28. Union. Its status at the end of the day — as a proud nation that has reclaimed its soverthe pro-Brexit town of eignty, or a diminished pres-

Sunderland, in northeast England. He is scheduled to ence in Europe and the world will still be up for debate. deliver a televised address to Britain officially departs the the country an hour before EU at 11 pm local time Friday, departure, calling Brexit "not midnight in Brussels (2300 an end but a beginning." GMT, 6 pm EST). The departure According to his office, he will comes $3^{1/2}$ years after the coundescribe it as "a moment of real try voted by a margin of 52%national renewal and change."

48% to walk away from the club The government hopes the moment will be marked in a It's the first time a country dignified, nontriumphalist fashion, with red, white and has left the EU, and many in the blue lights illuminating govbloc regard it as a sad day. In ernment buildings and a count-Brussels, European Council President Charles Michel and down clock projected onto the EU Commission leader Ursula prime minister's 10 Downing

von der Leyen are due to sketch St. Residence. out the EU's first steps as a

Some Brexit supporters will be holding more raucous **ÛK** Prime Minister Boris celebrations. Arch-Brexiteer Johnson is to meet in the Nigel Farage and his band of morning with his Cabinet in devotees will gather for patriotic songs and speeches in London's Parliament Square to mark a moment that even Farage sometimes doubted would ever come.

Britain was never a wholehearted EU member, but actually leaving the bloc was long considered a fringe idea.

It gradually gained strength within the Conservative Party, which has a wing of fierce "euroskeptics" — opponents of EU membership. Former Prime Minister David Cameron eventually agreed to hold a referendum, saying he wanted to settle the issue once and for all.

| Sr. No. | Tender Notice No. & Date | Work and Location | Aprox. cost of Work ₹ | EMD ₹ | Date & Time of submission | Date & Time of opening | | |
|------------|----------------------------------|--|---------------------------------|-------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|--|--|
| 1 | BCT /19-20/367 dt. 30.01.2020 | Ukai Songhad-Jalgaon Section: | 79,71,600/- | 1,59,400/- | On 26.02.2020 at 15:00 hrs. | On 26.02.2020 at 15:30 hrs. | | |
| | ul. 30.01.2020 | Outsourcing by engaging Engine railway welder for day to day wel SSE(P.way) in charge of DEN/E | Iding of rail joint to | prepare we | Iding team under | | | |
| 2 | BCT /19-20/368 | Ukai Songhad-Jalgaon Section: | 1,19,57,400/- | 2,09,800/- | On 26.02.2020 | On 26.02.2020 | | |
| | dt. 30.01.2020 | Outsourcing by engaging Engine | ering unskilled la | bour to | at 15:00 hrs. | at 15:30 hrs. | | |
| | | railway welder for day to day we SSE(P.way) in charge of DEN/E | | | | | | |
| 3 | BCT /19-20/369 | Udhna-Jalgaon section: | 25,16,849.38 | 50,300/- | On 26.02.2020 | On 26.02.2020 | | |
| | dt. 30.01.2020 | Fabrication, supplying & fixing H | beam sleeper in | place of | at 15:00 hrs. | at 15:30 hrs. | | |
| | | damaged/corroded channel slee with TBTR 97Nos. | per on bridge No. | 105 & 163 ເ | under DEN/East in | n connection | | |
| 4 | BCT /19-20/370 | Ukai Songhad-Jalgaon Section: | 2,29,59,234.29 | 2,64,800/- | On 02.03.2020 | On 02.03.2020 | | |
| | dt. 30.01.2020 | Maintenance of P.way for UP/DN Sindhkheda for one year (Total 4 | | P.way) | at 15:00 hrs. | at 15:30 hrs. | | |
| 5 | BCT /19-20/371 | Ukai Songhad-Jalgaon Section: | 2,29,59,234.29 | 2,64,800/- | On 02.03.2020 | On 02.03.2020 | | |
| | dt. 30.01.2020 | Maintenance of P.way for UP/DN Navapur for one year (Total 42.3 | | P.way) | at 15:00 hrs. | at 15:30 hrs. | | |
| 6 | BCT /19-20/372 | Ukai Songhad-Jalgaon Section: | 2,29,59,234.29 | 2,64,800/- | On 02.03.2020 | On 02.03.2020 | | |
| | dt. 30.01.2020 | Maintenance of P.way for UP/DN Dharangaon for one year (Total | and the second second second | P.way) | at 15:00 hrs. | at 15:30 hrs. | | |
| 7 | BCT /19-20/373 | Ukai Songhad-Jalgaon Section: | 2,29,59,234.29 | 2,64,800/- | On 02.03.2020 | On 02.03.2020 | | |
| | dt. 30.01.2020 | Maintenance of P.way for UP/DN Nandurbar for one year (Total 47 | 그는 다음 한 것은 것은 것은 것을 가장을 가지 않는다. | P.way) | at 15:00 hrs. | at 15:30 hrs. | | |
| 8 | BCT /19-20/374 | Ukai Songhad-Jalgaon Section: | 2,29,59,234.29 | 2,64,800/- | On 02.03.2020 | On 02.03.2020 | | |
| | dt. 30.01.2020 | Maintenance of P.way for UP/DN Amalner for one year (Total 48.1 | | P.way) | at 15:00 hrs. | at 15:30 hrs. | | |

Regarding detailed nature containing cost of tender document (non refundable), EMD, eligibility criteria, similar nature of work, detailed tender conditions, please visit www.ireps.gov.in. Manual offers will not be considered

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end soon; Alexander

says no to witnesses

Trump trial could

AP WASHINGTON

 $R^{epublican \ Senator \ Lamar}_{Alexander \ of \ Tennessee}$ will oppose calling more witnesses in President Donald Trump's impeachment trial, all but dashing Democratic efforts to hear more testimony and boosting odds the Senate will vote to acquit Trump as early as Friday.

A vote on witnesses, expected Friday, could lead to an abrupt end and assured acquittal in only the third presidential impeachment trial in American history.

Trump was pressing for action in time for his State of the Union address, and that now seems likely.

As the Senate adjourned late Thursday, it set the date for Tuesday night's speech. Despite the Democrats' singular, sometimes-passionate focus on witnesses after revelations from John Bolton, the former national security adviser, the numbers are now falling short.

It would take four Republicans to break with the 53-seat majority and join with all Democrats to demand more testimony. Chief Justice John

Floor, Defence Colony, New Delhi - 110024 Phone No.: 011-24694291-92; Fax: 011-24625694; Roberts, in the rare role pre-Email: istgroup.ho@gmail.com; siding over the impeachment website: www.istindia.com trial, could break a fie, but that NOTICE Notice is hereby given that pursuant to Regulation 29, 33 and 47 of the SEBI (Listing) seems unlikely.

Alexander said in a state-Obligation and Disclosure Requirements) ment there was "no need for egulations, 2015, the meeting of the Board of more evidence," giving the Trump team the likelihood of Directors of the Company is scheduled to be held on Thursday, 13th February, 2020, inter alia a Senate vote in its direction. to consider, approve and take on record the Unaudited Financial Results of the Company for Trump was impeached by the quarter ended 31st December, 2019. House last month on charges otice for the Board Meeting is also available on that he abused his power like no other president, jeopardis-

the website of the Company www.istindia.com and also on the website of BSE limited ing Ukraine and US-Ukraine ww.bseindia.com For IST Limited

Date : 31.01.2020

Place: New Delhi

Bhupinder Kumar **Company Secretary**

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is publically notified that the Flat No 1097, Sector-29, Noida, has been allotted in the ame of Lt. Col. H.K. Sethi S/o Shri R.P. Sethi Anita Sethi W/o Lt. Col. H.K. Sethi Both R/o 1097, Sector-29, Noida, had sold the said property, on the basis of GPA to the following

persons: A GPA was executed in favour of Smt. Sangeeta Kapoor W/o Shri Avinash Kapoor R/o 451, Sector-29, Noida registered at Sub Registrar Noida Vide Book No. IV Volume No 291 on pages 479/484 at Document No. 266 dated 04.02.2000 and Agreement to Sell was not registered, So with the help of the notice it is not registered, So with the help of the notice it is informed the transfer of the above property goes in favour of Kasha Singhal D/o Shri Kumar Shivam Singhal R/o A-205, ATS-I, Sector-50, Noida-201303, if any one has /have any objection helshe may submit his/her, objection in the Group Housing Department of Noid A uthorith alongwith sufficient proofe Noida Authority along-with sufficient proofs within 30 days of the publication this notice. Sangeeta Kapoo

Iran calls US sanctions on nuke organisation chief 'unwise'

AP TEHRAN

I ran's nuclear energy organisation called recent sanctions on the head of the agency by the US. An "unwise move" that won't interrupt Iran's peaceful nuclear policies.

The US announced new sanctions Thursday against the Atomic Energy Organization of Iran and its director, Ali Akbar Salehi. The sanctions freeze any assets that Salehi has within US jurisdiction. The organisation said in a tweet Friday: "The unwise move by @realDonaldTrump to impose sanctions on Dr. Salehi and AEOI will not in any way interrupt (Iran's) peaceful nuclear activities and policies." "Such cruel sanctions will further enhance the nuclear scientist's motives in neutralising hostile US policies," the organisation continued.

MANUFACTURING AND SUPPLYING OF BALLAST

E-Tender Notice No. KIR/Engg/04 of 2020 Date: 27-01-2020. E-Tenders are invited by the undersigned for the following works: Tender No.1. Brief Description of Work: Manufacturing and supplying of 50 mm size machine crushed Pakur varity ballast in Katihar Division. **Tender Value**: ₹10,02,91,889.40, **Earnest Money**: ₹6,51,500/-, Cost of Tender document ₹10,000/-, Date & time of closing of E-tender: 15.00 hrs. of 28-02-2020 and opened at 15.30 hrs. of 28-02-2020. he complete information with tende document of above e-tender will be available upto 15.00 hrs. on 28-02-2020 in website www.ireps.gov.in DRM (W), Katiha

NORTHEAST FRONTIER RAILWAY Serving Customers With A Smile

would vote to allow witnesses in the impeachment trial, briefly raising Democrats' hopes for a breakthrough.

relations.

Democrats sav Trump

asked the vulnerable ally to

investigate Joe Biden and

debunked theories of 2016

election interference, tem-

porarily halting American

security aid to the country as it

impeachment says Trump then

obstructed the House probe in

a way that threatened the

nation's three-branch system of

checks and balances. Before

Alexander's statement,

Republican Sen. Susan Collins

of Maine said late Thursday she

The second article of

battled Russia at its border.



vivacity {48 hours} 13

RICHA CHADHA

I had not had an experience with respect to pay parity in Bollywood because I feel the industry rewards your boxoffice prowess. It's really the number of bums you put on the seats. I think the day people start commanding a higher box-office (they will get higher pay). The day people bring more business the day it will all be fine



SHORT **CIRCUITS** — —

WALKTHROUGH 45 MINUTES

AYUSHMANN KHURRANA I am really surprised that I was in Roadies 15 years ago and it's the 17th season now. I am glad that the show has garnered TRP. I am really proud of Rannvijay (Singha) that he is taking it forward so well. I am a huge fan of Raftaar. Neha Dhupia, Nikhil Chinappa and Prince — all are my old friends. I always wish the best of luck to them



I had a zero make-up look for the Mirzapur 2. I would walk into shoot with some sunscreen and that's it. Mirzapur was a long commitment of a few months. So initially we discussed going for a short hair look but then I thought of the hair-do and how it doesn't fit into my other work

SHWETA TRIPATHI

ARBAAZ KHAN

I feel the only thing that needs to be taken care of is the safety and security that will come with late-night places. We have to ask ourselves that 'are we equipped for that?' Otherwise, it's a good thing because we always say that Mumbai is a city that never sleeps. Now, malls and certain places will be open and it will not be in residential areas.

MARGOT ROBBIE

I love stunt work, I really, really love it. It's just cool to work with an amazing stunt team like 87 Eleven. They're truly amazing, like, backflips, that's Renae Moneymaker. She's an incredible stunt performer. But yes, they got me doing everything else really, other than critical acrobats, so it was fun.



LIFE IS ART

The 12th edition of the India Art Fair speaks of the changing socio-political landscape of India and reveals how creativity is flourishing unbound. By Chahak MITTAL



Ghiora Aharoni's Thank God For Making Me A Woman

ho said that art is for the afi-cionado? A walkthrough at the India Art Fair clearly inspired us with its new ideas and a very humane approach to life as it is lived everyday. This wasn't an escapade of imagination, it was of owning reality and an attempt to transcend it with human will. It was of a new India that is being scripted in the subterranean folds of the mind, no matter what is being dictated externally. It was a fresh breath that brought us alive.

Voices from India

Curator Sudarshan Shetty's Look Outside This House stayed with us long after we had left the display area. Earlier showcased at the Serendipity Arts Festival 2019, the first part of the exhibition featured six videos of different people, singing in their native languages from different cities of India. The videos depicted how there are people outside our houses who act as objects, which may be dreaming of another world, one without frames and obligations and constraints. From a tribal woman from Jharkhand ing a song in philosophy, a Maharashtrian woman singing Powada and initiating a conversation around how plastic is affecting our collective future, to a Mumbai-based Dalit bard standing beside the road, narrating poignant tales of daily battles against injustice and subjugation of the Dalit community... these objects look for meanings in society's changing ways. There was also the Bombay Lokal, the first hiphop band from the suburbs of Mumbai, spreading socio-political awareness, with a vision to unite the country's youth, and recalling the leaders of the freedom movement as they sing, 'Follower hain hum Bhagat Singh aur Azad ke.' Then there were two Miyah poets, the last of their kind who chronicle their sorrow of being called so, the term is a derogatory slur used for Bengali-origin Muslims. They sing about violence, discrimination, apathy and threat of statelessness due to the changing socio-political climate in India.







Suntae Hwang's The Sunny Room series

work installations was that by New

York-based artist Ghiora Aharoni,

who has made some opposites meet

Aurat Banaya,' both in Devanagri and

Persian scripts. He said, "I had been

working on combining Hebrew and

Arabic. The motive behind combin-

ing Hindi and Urdu was to unite two

FINDING THE UNKNOWN

Inspired by the golden period of Hindi cinema, global artworks at the fair delve deep into India's history and culture. By TEAM VIVA

As one enters the India Art Fair, time becomes an illu-sion as you are surrounded by a plethora of creativity and art from across the world. It's enthralling to see how the contemporary art scene has evolved overtime in the country and today has an immense global presence.

There are around 80 galleries from across Indian and international cities, many of them first-timers. Taking a walk through the fair, one could see many live installations, events, bookshops and workshops.

Inspired by the imagery of the golden period of Hindi cinema — 1960s, the paintings of Canada-based artist Marcel Dzama gives an insight into the Indian culture, details about Bollywood and regional wildlife. Presented by the David Zwirner gallery, Dzama's works are a visual exploration of the Indian ethos with hints of divine iconog-raphy. His works presented a blurred relationship between the real and the subconscious through a understandable visual language. "I have always admired Bollywood. I loved how each character had a specific charm and tone which is somewhere still intact in the hearts of the people. So I have always been drawn to dance, costumes and masks. I

remember, during my childhood, I used to dress up in a costume and pretend that I was a film's character all day long," Dzama said, pointing towards his work that seamlessly merge Indian mythology, pop culture and memories.



While I wondered the depth each painting talked about, the appealing tent facade designed by popular Indian artist Sameer Kulavoor, grabbed my attention instantly. It focussed on the routine Indian life, I

couldn't help appreciating him for depicting the everyday ordinariness so beautifully.

Another artist, Chitra Ganesh has explored the the lines between past and future. She has also portrayed a dynamic connection between mythology and science fiction. "There are always untold stories trying to rise to the sur-

Making space for more

Next up was the inclusivity portal or Inclusion @ IAF, which hosted a number of workshops at the fair by those who have played small but essential roles in keeping different arts alive and have yet stayed unrecognised. Moving further, Sandeep TK's series of photographs, Declaration of Empathy, gave an eye-opening and evocative message. The photographs represented the aftermath of what happened when Sandeep asked a few of his friends from Kerala who belong to the trans-community to imagine an alternative life. While in one photograph, a transwoman is dressed as a dancer holding her head high in front of her teachers and classmates, who ridiculed her for her feminine behaviour, in another, a transwoman is a dressed as a lawyer, which would have been her answer to all the discrimination she has ever faced. There were also transpersons dressed as a nurse looking after a patient, a police officer riding a bike, a classical dancer, a film actress and a leader of the Communist Party in Kerala.

Art gone live

Carried out in a ceremonial style, Nigerian artist Jelili Atiku's performance-installation, Nobody is Born Wise, invited the audience to re-enact





Jelili Atiku's Nobody is Born Wise

the traditional ritual of colouring sacred idols in turmeric, which is con sidered crucial during various "cultural, religious as well as culinary practices" in India. Dressed in an allwhite garment, Atiku's clean attire soon turned yellow as he painted a 100 Ganesha idols with the colour, as we watched on.

Another one was by Maya Krishna Rao, who presented a solo performance, Loose Woman, giving short and sharp glimpses of a woman who finds herself in situations that push, pull and stretch her skin, as it were. Known for her feminist and protest theatre, she acted as a person driving through the streets, looking at her mother gardening, playing at at her mother gardening, playing a a highway and dancing with abandon. Naksha, an Untold Odyssey, by

artist Piyali Ghosh, which will be showcased tomorrow, is a live drawing performance inspired by the mathematical design and symmetry the Chakravyuh, the military formation mentioned in the Hindu epic Mahabharata.

> Meeting of the two worlds One of the most eye-catching art

elements which are conflicted yet overlapping."

What struck the most

with such ease that it looked like they weren't different from each other at While Korea's Gallery Tableau's all - vintage and technology, science The Sunny Room, Celadon Bowl, and and religion, Hindi and Urdu, and See The World, caught eyeballs, the Jeruselam and Varanasi. Talking exhibition *Be Reborn* at Simyo Gallery about the idea behind combining from Seoul, South Korea, made waves by showcasing old masterpieces by some completely different worlds, he great artists which were digitally said that the works were characterised by an interest in exploring dualities such as that of religion and augmented and given a new life. From an old Asian masterpiece of a landscience, which might seem distant, but in a way "go hand in hand." scape to the famous Mona Lisa's painting, the artworks come alive Looking around the gallery, one through more dynamic, vivid and found traditional objects and symcolourful elements being added to them. Lee Leenam has presented poetic images and transitions of bols, cultural artifacts and sacred texts, which had been recontextuspace with new perspectives and alised with a new meaning, challenging the conventions. He also created interpretation through the theme, a separate space where he combined 'reborn'. Hindu and Urdu as the wall reads, Tapasya Gupta's sculpture series, 'Shukr Hai Bhagwaan Ne Mujhe

Sweet Days of Summer, by Gallery Veda presented the concept of destiny through a wry sense of humour and laughter, which, as per the artist, represent the inner beauty of a person. Photo: Pankaj Kumar

They are inspiring,"

B Prabha, a female modernist, brought one of her prized pieces to the fair. She began painting at a time when very few women were in this profession. Inspired by artist Amrita Sher Gil, Prabha represented real female subjects, liberated from the gaze of the male artist. She painted the trauma and tragedy of women and depicted the melancholy rural women in natural colour palettes.

Moving ahead was the miniature artist, Sahil Naik, who described his meticulous models in a fine manner. For Naik, close examination of structures offers the possibility of understanding what took place and under what circumstances. He is interested in knowing the incidents that led to a particular situation. One of his project called Monuments, Mausoleums, Memorials and Modernism explored the zeal of new nations. Models of structures were inspired by a proposed dam in his native Goa, whose building process would have displaced local residents from there. There is a human cost, Naik implies, to such large-scale ambition.

Apart from a diverse selection of contemporary and modern art galleries from across different cities, the fair also features international galleries from New York, Berlin, Seoul, Colombo, London, Hong Kong, and Dubai.

There were sections showcasing solo presentations curated by various galleries — Ratheesh T by Galerie Mirchandani and Steinruecke, Girjesh Kumar Singh by Rukshaan Art, Anjan Modhak by Emami Art, Avijit Dutta by Kalakriti Art Gallery, D Dhasan by Apparao Galleries, KS Radhakrishnan by Galleri Nvya and Subodh Kerkar by Gallery Art Positive.

Next in line were outdoor art projects, ranging from largescale interactive installations to sculptures. It also had giant wooden rain drops by Chennai-based printmaker Vijay Pichumani with Art Houz Gallery. It touched upon the ongoing conversation around water scarcity.

Yet another interesting part of the fair, that extends beyond the venue, are collateral events programmed by galleries, museums and arts spaces around the city. The open-ing of the newly refurbished Jaipur House, Kiran Nadar Museum of Art, Gujral Foundation, Khoj International Artists Association, Bikaner House and walkthroughs in Okhla, among others remained a centre of attraction.

Various artists were glad about the fact that they not only do a fair amount of business through the fair but have also been able to build long-term relationships.





Sandeep TK's Declaration of Empathy

Tapasya Gupta's Sweet Days of Summer



VERVE 45 MINUTES

YOUNG AT HEART

Over the course of 40 years, actor ANIL KAPOOR had straddled the domain of arthouse and commercial cinema with equal ease. By Ayushi Sharma

he recent trailer of Malang has been making waves as people hazard wild guesses about what the film's storyline is about. There are conjectures all around as to who is playing what and actor Anil Kapoor fuels the curiosity further when you ask him about his character. He laughs and says that's the "intent" because it's a thriller. "Yes, it does look a bit confusing and that's the idea - to keep people's curiosity alive. The trailer should be such that people want to watch the film when it releases. Don't you want to?," he asks.

Anil has played a range of characters during the 40 years that he has been a part of the industry. But he is not flagging as he continues to reinvent himself with each film. His first reaction to the trailer was similar to that of most of the audience. So what made him go for such a character? "When I heard the script, I felt what the audience is feeling after watching the trailer. It makes you think about what and how will the film unfold. It confuses you. But then you are eager to find out the layers. The narrative is not simple but it is definitely interesting," says he. The film revolves around

WHEN

START

EVERYBODY

YOU DO, THEY

EXPECTING A

DELIVER. AND

THAT, SO WHY

AFTER ALL,

THERE ARE NO

FREE LUNCHES

PAID FOR

a couple, Advait (Aditya Roy Kapoor) and Sara (Disha Patani), whose seemingly perfect life comes crashing down when they get linked to a corrupt cop (Anil) and his righteous counterpart (Kunal Khemu). To further complicate matters, all four are on a killing spree. Anil plays a police officer from Goa, who is disappointed with the ways of the world and the hostile environment around him. He feels that the process is slow and taxing. "He just wants jus-tice. While his department is a little unhappy with the way he works, he is also dissatisfied with the manner in which his department handles operations. There's also a simmering anger within him about the decline of Goa. Earlier he was fine with the place becoming a tourist attraction but now he finds that it has become too

KNOWS THE KIND OF WORK LITTLE MORE AND YOU STAND IN A POSITION WHERE YOU HAVE TO YOU ARE ALSO WON'T YOU **DELIVER?** IN LIFE

Moreover, the idea of thrillers has also changed with *Sacred Games* and *Mirzapur*. They are no longer infused with fiction or fantasy. It's reality all the way. Anil thinks it's chang-ing because of the kind of exposure to content we have now. "It's so important that even fantasy has a bit of reality now. People want the characters and stories to be real. A little larger than life. Nobody starts investing in something the customer doesn't require. It's always according to what people want. There are so many stakeholders, distributors and producers. They always invest in stories which the audience wants to consume. Sometimes they succeed and at times they don't. It's just a part of the business. Also, the choices vary from filmmaker to filmmaker, actor to actor. You just need to do your best You just need to do your ocse and eventually, it is the audi-ence which decides what's right, what's wrong," he says.

The actor is known to have blended in with the younger generation really well. So does he feel the pressure of putting the right content forward as many people, especial-ly youngsters look up to him? He feels that it's not just him but almost everybody has the pressure of putting the right content forward, no matter the age or the profession. "When everybody knows the kind of work you do, they start expecting a little more and you stand in a position where you have to deliver. That's partially the price you pay for being in the show business. And you are also paid for that, so why won't you deliver? There are no free lunches in life," he laughs and says.

As an actor, Anil has straddled arthouse and big commercials effortlessly. How difficult is it to keep a balance while switching genres? It depends on the actor, he says. For him, the more challenging it is, the more exciting it becomes. "I love challenges. I want to dive into something which I have never done before. So I never step back from trying new things because when you keep on doing same things over and cy to stagnate and people get bored. So that's not the right move for an actor who really loves his work. And when you start doing great work, people expect you to do the same thing and even that becomes more challenging. Both ways, it is difficult," says Anil. Photo: Pankaj Kumar



Helmet will decide if I should play lead: Aparshakti

A ctor Aparshakti Khurana says he had a great time shooting for his quirky next release, *Helmet*. The film, co-starring Pranutan Bahl, is his first outing as a solo load actor first outing as a solo lead actor. He added that the audience response to the film will determine whether he should do

lead roles in the future. "I think these all are wishes of my family, colleagues and the audience that all these things are happening to me. If Helmet connects with the audience then people might think about whether I should play lead roles or not. If it does not connect, then people will say that it was too early for me to do a leadhero film and I should have done two to three films in supporting roles. So, it's all very sit-uational. Having said that, I had a great time shooting for the film. Whatever I have seen and heard about it, it's all going great," said the actor, while interacting with the media at dancer choreographer Shakti Mohan's Break A Leg Season 2 shoot along with actor Nushrat

Bharucha. Aparshakti has car niche as a fine actor and comedian with some interesting character roles and was recently seen in the dance hit, Street Dancer 3D. "This is the first time I played an emotional character. I have always played comic characters in films. When I used to do theatre, I used to do a lot of dark and intense roles but when I started working in films, I continuously have been doing comic characters and that was a bit weird. I had fun while playing an emotional character in this film and I feel glad that it connected with the audience," he said.

Helmet, his first outing as a leading man, is directed by Satram Ramani. Nushrat Bharucha, who was also present at the location, talked about her forthcoming film Chhalaang, co-starring Rajkummar Rao. "We have recently launched the poster of the film. Everybody is excited to see what is going to happen in the film and why Raj (Rajkummar Rao) is sleeping in the poster. We are going to release the trailer very soon, so I don't want to talk about it any more. The film will release on more. The film will release on March 13," she said about Chhalaang, a black comedy directed by Hansal Mehta and backed by Ajay Devgn, Luv Ranjan and Ankur Garg. This film will be Aparshakti's first as a lead actor. Directed by Satram Bamani

Directed by Satram Ramani, Helmet is a funny script which ches upon an that is considered embarrassing for most people in India. It is yet to be disclosed. Rohan Shankar, who previously wrote Luka Chuppi has been roped in as the writer. Aparshakti will play oppo-site Pranutan Bahl in the film. It has been shot in Varanasi and Mumbai.

feels that such films push one to use their mind and youngsters today enjoy doing that. "They don't want to be spoonfed," he says.

Amid this flood of good content and realistic cinema, what do thrillers have to offer? Do they still appeal to the audience as they did before?

hen David Alan Grier was offered a chance to revisit one of his favourite plays on Broadway, he quickly agreed. He just forgot about all the beatings. In A Soldier's *Play,* Grier plays a stern Army sergeant who during each show is pummeled twice and later shot dead, again twice. While the violence is fake, the actor does have to repeatedly drop and roll around on the American Airlines Theatre stage

While this is Grier's third time performing A Soldier's Play, the fact that the role he's playing was so physical slipped his mind. He only remembered the physicality when a fight coordinator appeared. "I forgot about all that. I was

like, 'Oh, he has lots of lines. Yeah, I'll do it.' I thought there were little scuffles. I thought, well, he gets pushed a couple times. A lot of monologues. I'll take it," says Grier.

To be sure, Grier is the last person you'd expect to be caught unaware. One of his earliest roles was in a small part in the off-Broadway debut of A Soldier's Play when he was in his 20s. He revisited the work when it was turned into a 1984 film. This is his third bite of the apple. "I was the youngest actor. Now I'm the oldest," he says. The play by Charles Fuller is

set on an Army base in Louisiana during World War II. A Black investigator has been called to find out who murdered the Black sergeant of an all-black company. What he finds is racism — but not from white bigots or the KKK. He finds intolerance within the black

'Live in the moment'

STUDIO CHAT 30 MINUTES

Actor DAVID ALAN GRIER says that the best part of his day is to feel a sense of belonging while walking into a theatre





The play by **Charles Fuller is** set on an Army base in Louisiana during World War II. A Black investigator has been called to find out who murdered the Black sergeant of an all-black company

ranks.

The play won the Pulitzer Prize for drama and over the years has attracted some of the most accomplished actors in the black community: Denzel Washington, Adolph Caesar, Samuel L. Jackson, Wood Harris, Taye Diggs, Anthony Mackie, James McDaniel and Blair Underwood.

Jerry O'Connell, who plays a captain worrying about the direction of the case, said it's a kick having Grier — who has now played three different roles — around for the Broadway version. "It is pretty funny asking Grier for advice, like 'Hey, what happened in the original production?' He's like, 'It was 38 years ago! I don't remem-ber any of it!"

Grier recalls making the film in Arkansas and one day then Gov Bill Clinton stopped by the set. He also vividly recalled the food: Patti LaBelle, who played a nightclub singer, made rice and red beans daily and one day the caterer served something a little odd: catfish sushi. "I abstained. Wisely, wisely, I was told later," Grier says. One reason was that he'd never heard of such a dish. "And I'm going to go out on a limb. I speak for all Japan: Neither have

they." When you speak to the actor, food often comes up. He's an avid chef and shares his creations on social media and in a food blog. He recently detailed cooking a massive pork shoulder for eight hours. He managed to pull out the bone and simmer it with root vegetables to make bone broth. Someone mentioned in the comment section they'd also been boiling bones but

they were doing it for three days and the broth tasted terrible. "Yeah, you dummy. Three days? That's what you do to get rid of a body," ioked Grier.

Food — well, dessert, really – had an important role in how he became an actor. Growing up in Detroit, he knew he was funny but he moved to New York in the mid-1970s to be a musician. And like all struggling musicians, he had a side hustle.

Grier worked at a Häagen-Dazs ice cream store in the Upper East Side of Manhattan and often after his sticky shift would go across the street to a disco. One night he was messing around when an actor spotted him and said he had talent and was wasting his life. "He was really responsible for saying you are on the wrong path. Whatever he saw in that moment was 'You need to go over here," says Grier. "And I listened."

Grier, who after that conversation applied to acting schools and chose Yale, would go on to a career on the stage (Dreamgirls and Porgy and Bess), on TV (In Living Color and DAG) and film (Jumanji and Native Son).

Being on Broadway again these days isn't old hat to the 63-year-old performer. He even likes to get to the theatre early, long before the

place is buzzing. "To walk into a theater and belong — this is my doorway into my life — is the best. It's the best part of the day," he says. "You walk in this environment before the audience is there and the crew is kind of just vacuuming, setting up, testing everything. I love it."



FINAL THAT NOBODY SAW COMING

In a first, Kenin, Muguruza face-off for first Australian title

AFP MELBOURNE

Serena Williams dominated talk before the Australian Open but today's women's final is between unseeded Garbine Muguruza and unheralded Sofia Kenin — a 750-1longshot of a championship match that nobody predicted.

After a tournament of surprises, the 21-year-old Kenin can even supplant Williams as the top-ranked American if she manages another plot twist by beating Spain's Muguruza in Melbourne. The 38-year-old American legend

Williams was attempting to equal the record 24 Grand Slam titles of Australian Margaret Court, but she lost in the third round to China's Wang Qiang.

Reigning champion Naomi Osaka went out at the same stage to 15-year-old sensation Coco Gauff, who was promptly turfed out herself by fellow American Kenin.

Six of the top 10 seeds exited in the third round, seemingly blowing the tournament open for Australia's world number one Ashleigh Barty

But step forward Moscow-born 14th seed Kenin once more, who showed remarkably few nerves in her first Grand Slam semi-final as she broke home hearts in straight sets.

Even if she loses the final, Kenin will reach a career-high nine in the world, rising from her current position of 15th.

If she beats Muguruza and she did so in their only previous meeting, at the China Open in the autumn — she will



Kenin vs Muguruza Live from 1:30pm IST **SONY SIX & TEN 3 NETWORK**

Thiem outlasts Zverev

AFP MELBOURNE

Dominic **√**ireless Thiem came from a set down to outlast German Alexander Zverev and make his first Australian Open final on Friday, booking a showdown with seven-time champion Novak Djokovic. The 26-year-old fifth

seed, the first player from Austria ever to reach the Melbourne decider, battled past seventh-ranked Zverev 3-6, 6-4, 7-6 (7/3), 7-6 (7/4) on a sweltering evening. Defending champion Djokovic awaits him after

the second seed ended Roger Federer's dreams in straight sets on Thursday to make his eighth Melbourne Park final. Thiem has his

work cut out against the Serb who is on 12-match unbeaten streak this season and has won all seven

leapfrog Williams into sev-

enth in the rankings. "After this week, she is a top-10 player, she deserves that respect and she deserves the recognition," said the beaten Barty, the latest to succumb to the fiery Kenin.

"She's played an exceptional tournament, she's had an exceptional last 12 months.'

Kenin won her first WTA title only 12 months ago in Hobart and added two more during the season with the determination and aggression that has become her trademark in the past fortnight. "I've always



Dominic Thiem, right, is congratulated by Alexander Zverev after win AF

> where I'm playing, I'm going to fight for it," said Kenin, who moved to the United States from Russia as a baby with her family.

26-year-old The Muguruza will be the next to try to tame Kenin. British bookmakers William Hill said the odds of a Kenin-Muguruza final were 750-1 before the Australian Open began.

They make Muguruza the favourite because she has experience of

the biggest occasions, having won the French Open in 2016 and Wimbledon in 2017.

But this is her first final in Melbourne and she is ranked 32 in the world after her form tailed off alarmingly in the past 18 months.

three top-10 seeds in reaching the final. She fought back in both sets in her semi-final against fourth-ranked Simona Halep to defeat her fellow former world number one 7-6 (10/8), 7-5. Muguruza is not one for

Grand Slam.

exuberant celebrations and she gives as little away in her post-match comments. So it was left to Halep to say that the Spaniard has the quality to be the australian open world's top-ranked player once more - but with

of the Australian Open

extra motivation, winning

tomorrow will see him

reclaim the world number

one ranking after Rafael Nadal crashed to Thiem in

two tie-breakers, so tough and so close. It was almost

impossible to break him,"

Open final is unreal. What

a start to the season for me?

although always on the

slower red clay at Roland

Garros, where he reached

the past two finals only to be

dividends as he coolly

closed out the match after

3hrs 42 mins to give himself

another chance to break

the stranglehold of the *Big Three* and win his first

That experience paid

beaten by Nadal.

the last eight.

said Thiem.

And if Djokovic needs

"It was an unreal match,

"Being in the Australian

Thiem had dealt with semi-final pressure before,

deciders he has contested.

one caveat. "If she can play every day like this,

she can be number one for sure," said the 28-year-old Romanian, also a French Open and Wimbledon champion, following their hard-fought semifinal.

"But it's tough to do that. The con-Unseeded for the first time at a Grand Slam since 2014, Muguruza beat sistency on tour — it's the most impor-tant thing and the toughest one."



Sports Minister Kiren Riiiiu along with the official mascot of the 36th National Games of India, Rubigula, Flame-Throated Bulbul during its launch in Panaji on Friday

NGIDI, SHAMSI PASS FITNESS TESTS

DUBAI: South Africa pacer Lungi Ngidi, spinner Tabraiz Shamsi and all-rounder Jon-Jon Smuts are back in contention for the ODI series against England, which begins on February 4. All three players have passed their fitness tests at the CSA's strength and conditioning camp. Sisanda Magala, who was also at the camp and named in the ODI squad, has not yet met the fitness requirements and will continue to work with fitness trainer Tumi Masekela, targeting the three-match T20I series that takes place after the ODIs.

LARA TO PLAY IN BUSHFIRE RELIEF MATCH SYDNEY: West Indies legend Brian Lara joined the star-

studded list of players who have confirmed their participation in the charity match organised to raise funds for Australia's bushfire victims. The legendary lefthander joined the likes of Yuvraj Singh & Wasim Akram on playing rosters, cricket.Com.Au reported.

DORTMUND CONFIRMS ALCACER EXIT DORTMUND: Paco Alcacer became the victim of Erling

Braut Haaland's spectacular start at Borussia Dortmund as the Spain striker left to join Villarreal. The 26-year-old Alcacer reportedly cost the Spanish league side 30 million euros (\$33 million), including bonus payments, after signing a deal until 2025 to return to Spain after only 18 months in Germany. "We would like to thank Paco Alcacer for his performance in the Dortmund jersey and wish him good health and maximum sporting success in the future," said Dortmund's sports director Michael Zorc.

ASHU WILL LEAD DELHI U-17 SIDE

NEW DELHI: Ashu will lead the Delhi Under-17 (boys) team in the Dr BC Roy National Championship to be held in Shillong. Goalkeeper Shubham Biswas has been named his. DSA president Shaji Prabhakaran wished the boys good luck for the upcoming tournament. While handing over the team kits to young team members Shaji said "You are lucky 20 to qualify from the 400 boys who participated in the trials and now the onus is on you to come with flying colours and bring good name for Delhi.

LYON SET SHOWDOWN WITH MARSEILLE

NICE: Lyon will face in-form Marseille in the French Cup quarter-finals after a last gasp penalty snatched a 2-1 win for them at Nice on Thursday. Moussa Dembele opened the scoring for the away side. Little else happened until the final minutes, when first Kasper Dolberg backheeled straight to Lyon goalkeeper Anton Tatarusanu from a few yards out. Adam Ounas then flashed home a leveller for the hosts in the 89th minute, but just seconds later Lyon were given a penalty for Dante's reckless tackle on substitute Karl Toko Ekambi, with Houssem Aouar tucking home the winning spot-kick.

ARSENAL SIGN SAINTS DEFENDER SOARES

LONDON: Arsenal announced the signing of Portugal defender Cedric Soares on Ioan from Southampton until the end of the season. Arsenal technical director Edu said on the club website: "Cedric is a defender with good experience of the Premier League, and of course at international level. He is another strong addition to our defensive unit who will provide our squad with quality. In other movements Magpies signed England left-back Danny Rose from Tottenham while Utd's Marcos Roio has rejoined his home town club Estudiantes on loan.

SAI GIVES RANI OUT-OF-TURN PROMOTION

Messi boost for Seiten

minutes.

Messi made it three after springing in behind just before the hour and then Arthur Melo, on for Griezmann, added another, banging in after both Ansu Fati and Messi had been denied.

Leganes were finished but him as he latched onto Ivan Rakitic's pass and rounded Pichu Cuellar, before finishing for his 19th of the season and third under a relieved Setien. They will now face Athletic Bilbao in away quarter-final game after Friday's draw, while Real Madrid will host Real Sociedad at Santiago AĔP Bernabeu.

had that, no matter who I'm playing,



No exit for Bale

Real vs Atletico

FACEBOOK

AFP MADRID

7inedine Zidane

Lhas said he is

"not contemplating" Gareth Bale leaving Real Madrid on Friday before the end of the January transfer window.

Bale came close to joining Chinese Super League side Jiangsu Suning last summer and English newspaper the Times LaLiga reported on Friday the Welshman was in talks to rejoin his former club Tottenham.

But a source at Spurs said they are not in negotiations to sign Bale this month. Another source close to the player insisted earlier this week that "nothing has changed" and he would not be leaving Real Madrid in January.

Asked about the possibility of Bale being sold on Friday, Zidane said in a press conference: "Gareth is with us, I'm counting on him. I do not contemplate this possibility."

Bale was left out of the Copa del Rey squad on Wednesday, having completed only one full training session following an ankle injury.

Zidane would not say if he would return for the city derby against Atletico Madrid at the Santiago Bernabeu today.

"I'm not going to tell you who is going to play," Zidane said. "The players all have to be prepared."

There was also a positive update regarding the fitness of Eden Hazard, who has recovered from his foot injury and could feature against Atletico.

"We'll see but he has been training with us all week," Zidane said. "He could be included tomorrow but we will never take any risks?

Hazard has not played since fracturing his foot against Paris Saint-Germain on November 26.

CARRASCO BACK TO ATM

Atletico Madrid have signed Yannick Carrasco from Chinese side Dalian Yifang on loan until the end of season. Carrasco returns to Atletico, where he spent three years before moving out in 2018.

Our club has reached an agreement with Dalian Yifang for the loan of Yannick Carrasco until the end of the current season," an Atletico statement read.

"The player returns to Atletico, where he spent three seasons and played a total of 124 games, scoring 23 goals." Atletico described Carrasco as "a player who knows our team and has a lot of talent and provides penetration from both sides".

ment Lenglet and Arthur Melo rounded off an emphatic win at Camp Nou, where Barca successfully bounced back from Saturday's surprise La Liga loss away at Valencia.

BARCELONA: Lionel Messi

scored twice as Barcelona ham-

mered Leganes 5-0 to advance to the quarter-finals of the

Copa del Rey and deliver a

much-needed boost for new

goals from Antoine Griezmann,

Messi's double, as well as

coach Quique Setien.

Griezmann made his case by opening the scoring after four minutes as Nelson Semedo cut back for the Frenchman to control and poke home his 13th goal of the season.



Another Griezmann strike was ruled out shortly after, only for Lenglet to head in Messi's corner at the near post to put Barcelona two up after 27 Kadhe. Sharan, who will partner alongside Artem Sitak, made into the main dra

Bopanna gets Tata Open wild card

NEW DELHI: Ace India tennis player Rohan Bopanna and his partner Arjun Kadhe has been awarded with the wild

card entry in the doubles at the third edition of Tata

Open Maharashtra which is scheduled from February

bles title in the last edition playing alongside Divij Sharan, will lead Indian challenge in South Asia's only

ATP Tour tournament alongside local boy Arjun

The World No 38 Bopanna, who clinched the dou-

3-9 at Mhalunge Balewadi Stadium in Pune.

Kadhe also received wild card entry into the singles main draw while the third wild card has been awarded to young promising Indian player Sasikumar Mukund.

"It's amazing to have Bopanna back in the tournament. He clinched the title in the last edition and we hope he will dish out impressive show with Kadhe this year too," said Prashant Sutar, Tournament Director.

With Kadhe and Mukund's inclusion, five Indian players will now feature in the 28-size singles main draw.

New Delhi: Indian women hockey team captain Rani Rampal, who has been named the World Games Athlete of the Year, handed an out-of-turn promotion by the Sports Authority of India to honour her achievement. Rani, who joined SAI as an assistant coach in 2015, has been promoted to the post of coach (Level-10), with immediate effect. Speaking about the initiative of SAI to reward Rani on her achievement, Sports Minister Kiren Rijiju said. "Ensuring that our athletes have a sound financial standing is of immense importance. This is our way of appreciating Rani for all that she has contributed to the country," Rijiju said. AGENCIES

Bruno hails Cristiano's influence in United move

AFP MANCHESTER

 $P_{\text{Fernandes completed his move}}^{\text{ortugal midfielder Bruno}}$ from Sporting Lisbon to Manchester United on Thursday, claiming he was inspired to switch to Old Trafford by compatriot Cristiano Ronaldo.

The 25-year-old has signed a five-and-a-half year contract with an option to extend for a further year.

"My love of Manchester United really started when I used to watch Cristiano Ronaldo play and ever since then I have been a big fan of this great club," Fernandes explained of his Portuguese teammate who played for United from 2003-2009.

'For me, to now play for Manchester United feels incredible.



Bruno Fernandes poses after penning Utd deal

"I have worked hard to get to this moment and I can promise the fans that I will give everything for the badge to help bring us more success and trophies?

'Couple of good shows can put Saina back on track'

PTI NEW DELHI

ce shuttler Saina Nehwal is cur-Arently in a tight spot in her bid for a Tokyo Olympics singles berth but a couple of good performances in the coming weeks can put her back in contention, her mentor Parupalli Kashyap said on Friday. Saina is racing against time to

make the cut for her fourth successive Olympics. According to the BWF

Olympics qualification rules, only two players from each singles category can qualify from a country if their rankings lie within the top-16 by April 28.

"It is getting tight now. There are two more weeks before the Spain Masters (February 18-23). It is a crucial time. She has to get her



Explaining further, Kashyap, himself a former confidence back. I think she will be okay. A couple world No 6 singles player, of good weeks and she will be back on track. But her body has to support her," Kashyap said about his wife.

The 2012 London Olympic Bronze medallist, has not won a title since the 2019 Indonesia Masters in January and she was able to cross the first-round only six times in the last 14 tournaments

The gradual dip in her performance saw her slip to the 18th spot in BWF rankings and a lowly

said: "Saina is currently world No 18 and she has to be inside top 16 by April 28. She has 49000 points and she has to get to around 53000 points by that time, so basically she has to make 4000-5000 points in the next eight

tournaments. "She has to defend points at All England and Asian championship. So she has to basically make four quarters or semifi-

nals. She has to play bet-

ter in next few tourna-22nd in the Ölympic qualments and she can still ification rankings. make it." Sai, Srikanth spearhead Indian challenge

rations

PNS NEW DELHI

 $T^{hough \ the \ Indian \ men's}_{and \ women's \ table \ ten-}$ nis teams missed out on an opportunity to secure qualification for the Tokyo Olympics in the 2020 ITTF World Team Qualification tournament, earlier this month, but top Indian TT players still have a chance to book a berth in the singles competition. India's TT star G Sathiyan



for the Olympics.

"We have a very big chance for qualifying for expressed that the top the singles and I will defi-Indian singles players have nitely try to make amends a great chance of qualifying there and see how I can improve my best and how medals. Sathiyan said that increased exposure for ath-letes has helped the sport can maintain my top form. The preparations are going great. We have a lot grow in India.

The Indian table tennis

Commonwealth Games in

2018 with the women's

team clinching Gold at

CWG and the men's team

winning Bronze at the

Asian Games, among other

Games and

"Table tennis has improved by leaps and bounds in India. The very fact that we were the favourites in such a big tournament like the Olympic qualification talks about how we have grown in the last four years. We have started proving our mettle in the world arena. It's not an easy job for teams to take on India now," said the 27-year-old.

Ashmita, Malvika will lead women's squad in Saina, Sindhu's absence

NEW DELHI: Kidambi Srikanth will lead India's full-strength men's team while the upcoming group of shuttlers have been given a chance to showcase their prowess in the women's section of the Asia Team Championships to be played in Manila from February 11-16.

The Indian men's team, which won the Bronze medal in Hvderabad in 2016, will also have B Sai Praneeth along with HS Prannoy, Subhankar Dey and Lakshya Sen in the squad.

With Olympic qualification being the top priority, the event will give India's elite men's players a chance to garner crucial points ahead of the mega quadrennial Games.

Ashmita Chaliha, the promising Malvika Bansod, Aakarshi In the doubles events, the fast improving pair of Dhruv Kapila and MR Arjun would be will make the singles unit. looking to impress everyone in the tournament and also com-Ashwini Bhat and Shikha pliment Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty in the team championships.

In the women's team event,

Gautam along with the experi-enced K Maneesha and Rutaparna Panda make up the doubles combinations. **PNS**

Kashyap and Gayatri Gopichand

rising youngsters will be fielded

as the senior players are concentrating on their Olympic prepa-

SAG Gold medallist

Senior national champions



Saina Nehwal celebrates after win AP/File Picture

that she has played.



sport 16

India always find a way

Mitchel Santer celebrates taking a catch to dismiss Sanju Samsor

PTI WELLINGTON

back.

Batsman

Colin Munro (NZ)

Aaron Finch (AUS)

New Zealand threw it away from a winning position in

the last two T20s but opener

Colin Munro instead gave credit to the visitors, saying they

"always" find a way to bounce

put ourselves in positions to win

both of those games I thought. But India, with the roll they're

on at the moment and the

cricket that they're playing,

they always just find a way. And then Super Over is a bit of luck

"That's cricket isn't it? We

'STAY CALM TILL THE END'

Kohli says two Super Over finishes taught him to stay calm and bounce back when chance comes

We will go for 5-0 whitewash: Manish

PTI WELLINGTON

Crediting India's second successive Super Over win to the team's never-say-die attitude, middle order batsman Manish Pandey said they will push for an unprecedented 5-0 series whitewash in the fifth T20I.

The two sides meet for the final match at Mt Maunganui tomorrow.

"It has been our motto, not only for these two matches, that till the time the last ball is bowled, we won't give up any match. If you play with that intent you will get matches like these where you might get a Super Over, and you win from there," Pandey said at the postmatch conference.

And now we have an opportunity to make it 5-0 and it will be real

ly amazing to do that. Come the fifth match, we will look to go 5-0 up, that is our plan. Nobody has done it before and especially India has not done it before. So, I think it will be a great start to do that."

Asked if the players believed they could pull off a Super Over win yet again as they did on Friday, Pandey said, "In the middle, it looked like we were a little easy on our-selves. But since it had happened the last game, we thought we had to bowl good balls and it is possible we push it to a Super Over. And then, as the balls went by and we reached the last two balls, we were certain that this would go to Super Over.

'We were ready for it in the back of our mind. We have very good bowlers and Shardul (Thakur) bowled a very good last over. For his effort, he deserved it that the game went into a Super Over," said Pandey who made 50 not out off 36 balls.

| Venue | Date | Winner | | | | |
|------------------------------------|--|---|--|--|--|--|
| Auckland | 16-02-2006 | New Zealand** | | | | |
| Auckland | 26-12-2008 | West Indies | | | | |
| Christchurch | 28-02-2010 | New Zealand | | | | |
| Pallekele | 27-09-2012 | Sri Lanka | | | | |
| Pallekele | 01-10-2012 | West Indies | | | | |
| Auckland | 10-11-2019 | England | | | | |
| Hamilton | 29-01-2020 | India | | | | |
| India Wellington 31-01- 2020 India | | | | | | |
| | Auckland Auckland Christchurch Pallekele Pallekele Auckland Hamilton | Auckland 16-02-2006 Auckland 26-12-2008 Christchurch 28-02-2010 Pallekele 27-09-2012 Pallekele 01-10-2012 Auckland 10-11-2019 Hamilton 29-01-2020 | | | | |

PTI WELLINGTON

ndia captain Virat Kohli on Friday said he has learnt an important lesson in the backto-back Super Over finishes against New Zealand: To "stay calm till the end" and bounce back when the opportunity arises.

A nervous New Zealand threw it away yet again as a perseverant India prevailed in the Super Over for the second successive time to take a 4-0 lead in the five-match T20I series.

"There's something new I've learnt in the last couple of games: when the opposition is playing well, you stay calm till the end and try to come back," Kohli said at the post-match presentation ceremo-

Needing just 11 runs off the last two overs with seven wickets in hand, New Zealand dug a hole for themselves yet again, taking the game to a Super Over two nights after doing the same in Hamilton. New Zealand managed 13

runs in six balls and India got there effortlessly. The India skipper said having

come out victorious in two consecutive Super Overs for the first time proves the character of the team. "We couldn't have asked for

more exciting games, we've never played Super Overs before and

India captain Virat Kohli takes a catch to dismiss Martin Guptil now we've won two. It shows the character of the team," Kohli said. Although Sanju Samson did-

n't make any significant contribution in the match, Kohli said he initially thought of sending the Kerala batsman in the Super Over along side K L Rahul but eventually changed his mind.

"Initially we thought of opening with Samson and KL in the Super Over, but then KL told me I should bat because of the experience and the options I'll bring, he said.

"His (Rahul's) two strikes

were crucial and then you knock the ball into the gap and take your team over the line. Sanju was fearless at the top of the order. He tried to take the momentum away, he should back himself."

Kohli also lavished praise on young pacer Navdeep Saini, who went wicketless on Friday.

"Saini was impressive with his pace again. We were very proud with the way we went about it," he

New Zealand skipper Tim Southee, who stood in for injured regular captain Kane Williamson, said they presented India oppor-tunities and the visitors grabbed them with both hands.

"It's very tough especially in the positions we put ourselves into. We gave them (India) a chance hands," he said.

attack and, it is tough, when you haven't won and you play against a quality opposition in India, give them a sniff and make it tough for yourselves."

Man-of-the-match Shardul Thakur, who finished with figures

of 2 for 33 and also bowled the crucial last over in which New Zealand needed just seven runs, said such nail-bitting finishes augurs well for India ahead of this

11

13

13

11

9

year's ICC T20 World Cup. "I'm feeling good, we play for such nail-biting finishes, we couldn't have asked for anything more in these two games," he said

each way. It can go either way

sheds now and talking about it

and hurting that we have let two

games like that slip. And, I put my hand up too. We talk about

running quickly between the wickets and then I was

dawdling with that second one, and Kohli picks up and does

some magical work and that's it.

are hurting. But we are tight in

our group and we will bounce

back, come Sunday hopefully,"

HS

89

95

113'

125*

109*

he added.

41.10

31.15

35.30

29.54

46.00

MOST RUNS AGAINST INDIA IN T201

411

405

353

325

322

Runs AVG

"There are a few guys that

S/R

146.78

137.28

145.86

135.98

173.11 2/-

FAISEL FEATURES

100/50

1/3

-/2

1/1

-/2

"We're all sitting in the

I reckon," he said

Cleaver, Chapman put NZ A in driver's seat

wicket.

PTI CHRISTCHURCH

Dane Cleaver smashed an unbeaten century as New Zealand A put India Á in a tight spot by amassing 385 for five in their first innings on the second day of the first unofficial Test.

After Will Young (54) completed his half-century, the hosts suffered a mini-collapse, losing

Cleaver sent the ball across the fence 16 times, while Chapman smashed eight boundaries in his innings. At stumps, the duo was at the

crease with New Zealand taking an overall lead of 169 runs.

On day one, India A were all out for 216 in their first innings. For India A, Sandeep

Mohammed Shami in a file photo



Shami is



Harmanpreet Kaur in action

in a statement.

Ind-Pak clash in U-19

Initially, Gautam Former India cricketers Rudra Pratap Singh, Madan Lal and Sulkashana eventually considered as he is serving Member of а Parliament, making way for Singh.

The 34-year-old from from Uttar Pradesh is the youngest CAC member. Lal is ments for outgoing selectors 68 and Naik is 41.

"Responsibility is a

responsibility. Name of the game is to take the responsibility and do the job honestly," Lal said, adding that he has no information yet on whether BCCI is doing away with the zonal policy for picking selectors or not.

"I have no idea if the zonal system will be followed or you could pick the selections from

and they took them with both

BYJU

Glenn Maxwell (AUS) Kane Williamson (NZ) Evin Lewis (WI) "We have a young bowling

Harman's six win 1st T20

PTI CANBERRA

Skipper Harmanpreet Kaur struck an unbeaten 42 following a fine bowling perfor-mance to set up India's thrilling five-wicket win over England in the first match of the women's triangular T20 series on Friday.

Indian spinners Rajeshwari Gayakwad (2/19), Deepti Sharma (2/30) and left armer Radha Yaday (1/33) restricted England to 147 for seven in stipulated 20 overs, while right-arm medi-um pacer Shikha Pandey (2/33) accounted for two at Oval. Manuka the Harmanpreet took the run chase deep after the Indian top order, including the 15year-old Shafali Verma (30), Smriti Mandhana(15) and Jemimah Rodrigues (26) squandered good starts.

Veda Krishnamurthy (7) and Taniya Bhatia (11) also failed to stay on the crease as England bowlers struck at

regular intervals. With six needed off the last over, Harmanpreet, whose innings was studded with five boundaries until then, hit a towering six to take India to 150 for five and end the match in style with three balls to spare.

Earlier, put in to bat, England suffered a top order A half-century from opener Muhammad Huraira on debut and a fine bowling perbatting collapse as openers Amy Jones (1) and Danni Wyatt (4) were dismissed formance powered Pakistan to a six-wicket win over Afghanistan in the ICC U-19 cheaply World Cup on Friday, setting up

Natalie Sciver (20) and Fran Wilson (7) soon fol-lowed, leaving England reeling at 59 for four in 10 overs. Skipper Heather Knight then took charge, hitting a brisk 44-ball 67. Her innings

was laced with eight boundaries and two sixes. Wicketkeeper Tammy Beaumont supported her captain with a 27-ball 37. The duo helped England post a

fighting total.

MSK Prasad and Gagan Khoda "The term of appoint-

ment will be for one year," BCCI Secretary Jay Shah said

an exciting semifinal against arch-rivals India.

Afghanistan fought hard after posting 189 but just did

not have enough runs on the

board. Huraira, playing his first

game of the tournament, struck

a match-winning knock in the

off 41 balls)and Mohammad

Haris (29 not out off 43) saw the

team through in just 41.1 overs.

Qasim Akram (25 not out

PTI BENONI

body but its job is limited. However, its seniormost member Lal is looking forward to the challenge

official communication on the appointment and in the coming days, we will get to know more," he added.

(111 off 194 balls) and Mark Chapman (85 off 187 balls) resurrected the innings, adding an unbeaten 209 runs for the sixth

Tahir Hussain (1/28 in 10

overs), Fahad Munir (2/29 in 7)

and Mohammad Amir Khan

(3/58 in 10) were the pick of the

Defending champions India and Pakistan play their

semifinal in Potchefstroom on

February 4. India had beaten

Australia in their quarterfinal

Talking about the team's performance, Pakistan captain Rohail Nazir said: "We dropped

2-3 early catches and had we

held on, we could have restrict-

ed them to a lesser total. The

spinners bowled really well in

the middle overs and bowled

them out for 190. The wicket

was turning a bit and our plan

was to rotate strike. The open-

Pakistan bowlers.

match.

claimed while Mohammed Siraj (1/104), Ishan Porel (1/61), Shahbaz Nadeem (1/67) accounted for one wicket each.

semis

dle overs?

us.

Zakhil.

ing partnership was good and

we played sensibly in the mid-

On the India game, he added: "It is another game.

India is a good side and we need

to play good cricket. The crowd

really motivated us, appreciat-

ed us and I hope they turn up

for the semifinal and cheer for

Afghanistan captain Farhan Zakhil said 189 was defendable.

our batsmen did not take

responsibility. They bowled well

and created the chances. 190

was a par score for our bowlers.

We expected our fast bowlers to

provide early wickets and they

were not able to do that," said

The wicket was good and

world's best pacer: Akhtar IANS NEW DELHI

Tasprit Bumrah might be considered one of the best in the business at present, but former Pakistan pacer Shoaib Akhtar believes that it is Mohammed Shami who is best fast bowler in the world at present. Akhtar not only praised the Indian pacer for his brilliant show in the third T20I against New Zealand, but also said that Shami uses his experience really well in tough situations.

"Shami is a very clever bowler. He is the find of India and he is the best fast bowler in the world. Whatever situation you put him in, he always excels, whether it's a world cup or a T20 in New Zealand, he's a very very smart fast bowler. When he got to know that yorkers won't work, he immediately switched to length balls and bouncers," Akhtar said on his Youtube channel.

"When Taylor hit Shami for a six in the first ball, I thought the match was over but that's where the experience of Shami came into play. He realized there was little bit of dew which will help the ball skid if he hits the length?

New Zealand needed 9 runs off the last six balls when Kohli handed the ball to Shami and even though Taylor started the over with a six, the pacer kept cool and came back to dismiss him off the last ball to tie the game.

"Taylor hit me a lot through the midwicket region in my last match but unfortunately he dragged the same shot onto his stumps on the last ball. But credit to Shami," Akhtar pointed.

Earlier Rohit Sharma also cred-ited Shami for bringing the team back into the game after a masterclass from Kane Williamson had almost seen the Kiwis stroll home.

"I think Shami's last over was crucial, and actually that got us the victory. Not my two sixes. It was Shami's over where we defended nine runs. It's not easy with the dew," Rohit had said.

Tai beats Sindhu, open Raptors account

fourth quarterfinal.

NEW DELHI: World No 2 Tai Tzu Ying edged world champion PV Sindhu in the most-awaited clash to take Bengaluru Raptors to victory over Hyderabad Hunters in the showdown between the last two years' champions at the PBL match held at the GMC Balayogi Sats Indoor Stadium in Hyderabad on Friday. This was the first triumph of the season for the defending champions Raptors after suffering three losses on the trot.

Tai came out as the stronger of the two, making a fast start to go up to 3-0. It, however, did not take the Rio Olympic Silver medallist long to level matters. Finding her trademark



. Tai Tzu Ying returns shot against PV Sindhu during PBL clash in Hyderabad

smashes, she made it 3-3 skilful deception at the net. before moving ahead to 8-That was all she could manage to do against a deter-5 as the Chinese Taipei ace seemed to be struggling to mined Sindhu who never

figure out Sindhu. faltered. Running Tai around Sindhu looked to be in control to inch her way the court by rotating the ahead to 10-7. The Raptors direction of the shuttle, the ace then tried accelerating Indian raced ahead to 12her game and used her 9 and soon bagged the opening game 15-11. A highly competitive

second game ensued which witnessed the stamina and hunger of both. Tai kept answering Sindhu's power smashes with her own attacking game, keeping the game on par till 8-8. Infusing a little more speed in the exchanges, Tai got the better of Sindhu to move ahead to 12-9. With the World No 2 having reached game points, the Indian banked on her aggression to close the gap between the two to just two points before extending the rallies in an attempt to draw an error from Tai's racquet. It did not help her much as Tai took the second game 15-13.

With the momentum having swung her way, Tai

Pakistan's players celebrate after the dismissal of Afghnistan's batsman

did not make any mistake in the decider to open up a big lead of 6-2, riding on her finesse. Under pressure, Sindhu made unforced errors which did not help her cause further. Having put Sindhu on the backfoot, Tai kept going for her smashes to lead 13-9. With Sindhu's smash landing wide, the highly anticipated match ended in an 11-15, 15-13, 15-9 victory for Tai, sealing the tie for the Raptors.

Elsewhere in the trump match for home team Verma beats Brice Leverdez 15-12, 10-15, 15-6 for his first win of the fifth season. PNS

Mendis spoils Zimbabwe party

AFP 📕 HARARE

Twitter

Astubborn 80 not out from Sri Lankan opener Kusal Mendis frustrated Zimbabwe's hopes of squaring the two-Test series on Friday's fifth and final day of the second Test in

Set a challenging 361 to win, Sri Lanka dropped anchor, scoring just 51 runs in the afternoon session, to reach 156 for three at tea.

Sri Lanka lost captain Dimuth Karunaratne in the morning and Oshada Fernando for 47 just after lunch but Mendis batted though to tea, striking 10 fours in his 170-ball vigil.

Zimbabwe gained some renewed hope shortly before the interval when Angelo Mathews slapped a delivery from Victor Nyauchi straight to Craig Ervine at mid-on.

Sri Lanka require another 205 in the last session although with rain



Instead they batted on briefly to ration came with Williams, who made a century in the first innings, picking up the three runs he needed

not out.

forecast, any result other than a draw would now be a surprise. reach 247 for seven before the decla-

for another half-century to finish 53

bowling with spinner Raza who took

seven wickets in the first innings.

Williams then chose to open the

Harare.