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USUALSUSPECTS
SWAPAN DASGUPTA

Disorientation of anti-CAA lobby is understandable

There is little doubt that in her zeal to be wilfully outrageous, the 19-year-old Amulya Leona Noronha seriously embarrassed most of the anti-Citizenship (Amendment) Act fraternity when she chanted 'Pakistan zindabad' from podium at a protest rally in Bengaluru. Certainly, the alacrity with which the stalwarts of the protest, including AIMIM leader Asaduddin Owaisi, snatched the mike from her indicated the panic.

The disorientation of the anti-CAA lobby is understandable. Since December 13 last year when the protests began, the Muslim community – which has been in the forefront of the anti-Narendra Modi stir – has been at pains to demonstrate that their opposition to the changes in the Citizenship Act is grounded in their status as patriotic Indians. The national flag, the Constitution and photographs of both Mahatma Gandhi and Babasaheb Ambedkar have been generously used in the rallies and extended dharnas. The national anthem too has been lustily sung on innumerable occasions. Under the circumstances, the teenager's invocation of Pakistan – whatever may have been its convoluted underlying logic – was clearly outside a set narrative.

Amulya's zindabad to Pakistan also came within a day of AIMIM national spokesperson Waris Pathan's boast that 15 crore of Muslims have the ability to make 100 crore others tremble – a threat that most people will undeniably view as both menacing and sinister. Add to this earlier utterances by different protesters espousing either a form of sectarian separatism or praising Mohammed Ali Jinnah and it is possible to understand why many people detect a hidden agenda behind the anti-CAA protests.

Arguably, such a conclusion may be unfair. The stalwarts of the anti-CAA have been at pains to link their protests to an exalted 'idea of India'. Someone like Owaisi has sought to reinvent himself and detach his organisation from the inheritance of the Razakars who fought against Hyderabad's integration into India in 1947-48. **Turn to Page 4**

Kejriwal not 'Happiness' tour guide for Melania

AAP blames Centre as US Embassy says CM, Sisodia not in invitee list

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

Names of Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal and his deputy Manish Sisodia are missing from the guest list for the February 25 event when US First Lady Melania Trump is scheduled to visit a Delhi Government school in the national Capital to watch "happiness classes" and interact with the students, sources said.

The Delhi Government sources said the US Embassy communicated to the city administration on Saturday morning that the names of Kejriwal and Sisodia do not figure in the list of invitees for the school event. When contacted, a US Embassy spokesperson referred the query to the Delhi Government on the matter.

AAP spokesperson Saurabh Bharadwaj alleged that the names of Kejriwal and Sisodia have been dropped from the list at the behest of the BJP-led Central Government. "The BJP is claiming that it (Centre) did not ask the US Embassy to drop the names of



Kejriwal and Sisodia from the list. The comments actually indicated that there is something fishy," Bhardwaj claimed. According to the original schedule, Kejriwal and Sisodia

were to welcome Melania at the school and brief her about rationale behind introduction of "happiness classes" as well as the Delhi Government's overall reform initiatives in the education sector, officials said.

"Names of Kejriwal and Sisodia have been dropped from the list of invitees. We do not know who will receive and brief the First Lady about happiness classes when she visits our school," said a Delhi Government official.

Uncertainty about Modi joining Trump's Taj trip

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Just a couple of days before US President Donald Trump's visit to India, confusion prevails over whether Prime Minister Narendra Modi will accompany the Trumps during their visit to the Taj Mahal in Agra on Monday.

Contrary versions emerged from the Indian and American sides on Saturday with sources in New Delhi saying Modi accompanying the Trump family to Agra is unlikely and reports attributing US officials



Security personnel patrol at Mehtab Bagh in Agra on Saturday PTI

stating otherwise.

The Government sources said Modi will not accompany the US President and First Lady Melania Trump to see the Taj Mahal in Agra.

CM for basic amenities to common man

PNS ■ RANCHI

Chief Minister Hemant Soren on Saturday said the Government will work with all commitment for streamlining and strengthening basic amenities to the people of the State including those in the field of health, education, drinking water, roads, electricity etc.

The CM while interacting with people from across the State at his residence on Saturday said that taking care of the interests of people of the State is the priority of Government. He said that on the issue of employment generation for the youth government has to work with commitment. The Government will work in a planned manner to remove unemployment in the State. "We will not let any lacuna creep in in the development of the State," he said.

Arjun Mahato, a divyang person of Yamunanagar, Harmu, Ranchi had reached the Chief Minister's residence with his complaint. He conveyed his pain to Chief Minister Hemant Soren. The family of the youth also met the Chief Minister. He told the Chief Minister that due to a mistake in the name of the ration card, the family is not getting ration. Taking cognizance of this, the Chief



Chief Minister Hemant Soren meets people from various parts of State as a part of 'Janta Darbar' at his official residence in Ranchi on Saturday Pioneer photo

The CM while interacting with people from across the State at his residence on Saturday said that taking care of the interests of people of the State is the priority of Government

Minister directed the officer concerned to start ration immediately. At the same time, the Chief Minister also assured the early resolution of his other problems.

On Saturday, Soren met the complainants from different

areas of the State one by one at his residence and also gave necessary directions to the concerned officials for solving their problems. Children, women, young people and all classes of people were present among the complainants.



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SHOW TIME

Delightfully cute love story

This is a sinking ship



SHUBH MANGAL ZYADA SAAVDHAN
*ing: Ayushmann Khurrana, Jitendra Kumar, Gajraj Rao, Neena Gupta
Rated: 7.5/10

A movie on gay relationships? Most people would balk at even thinking about going to a film that talks about LGBTQI community let alone watch two men kiss each other not once but twice. Even though the Government has decriminalised homosexuality by declaring Section 377 IPC as unconstitutional, the society has yet to come to terms with the love same sex. In their mind, it is not normal love.

But like Ayushmann Khurrana, who plays Kartik, in the movie rightly said: What is normal? We have grown up on a diet of love stories that talk about love between a man and a woman. We have grown up rote learning Jack and Jill poem. Why did the poem not talk about Jack and Johnny? This is the question that we should all be asking ourselves. Fifty years back, nobody would have thought that there would be a device

that allowed wireless communication. But here we are, totally dependent on our smartphones. This is our normal today. People love their cat/dog. They leave properties to them. We call them crazy but do we shun them? Why can't love between same sex people be normal and why can't families accept it?

Like Khurrana's character rightly says: *Roz hume ladaayi ladni padti hai zindagi mein par jo ladaayi parivaar ke saath hoti hai woh saari ladaayi sabse badi aur khatarnaak hoti hai.*

Shubh Mangal... touches a cord that plus a cord like no other because it is one of the best love stories that Bollywood has made in the recent past, the last being *Yeh Jawaani Hai Deewani* back in 2013. If only the director, Hitesh Kewalya, had released this film on Valentine's Day because the movie is less about homosexuality and homophobia and more about how two people who are in love should stay together rather be caught in a loveless marriage.

The banter and funny dialogues between Gajrao Rao (Shankar Tripathi) and

Neena Gupta, his onscreen wife - Sunaina, among the family members, between Rao and Kartik is what makes Shubh Mangal... such a delight. What is even cuter and sweeter are the detailing that has gone into Khurrana's character. It is absolutely impossible to miss the nose ring, the pink dupatta and the cape he wears while proclaiming from the roof top that Shankar Tripathi is a homophobic.

Then there are the brilliant performances by the actors. Khurrana has once again proved that is a great actor. His demeanor and expressions are bang on and such a delight to watch. He is the life and soul of this movie. Then there is Jitendra Kumar who plays Aman Tripathi, Kartik's partner who compliments Khurrana. A special mention here for Rao, Gupta, Manurishi Chaddha and even Maanvi Gargoo. While Khurrana helms the movie, the rest of the starcast do their best and make this such a delightfully cute love story.

However, if you are a homophobic, stay away!

— Shalini Saksena

BHOOT PART ONE: THE HAUNTED SHIP
*ing: Vicky Kaushal, Bhumi Pednekar, Ashutosh Rana
Rated: 3/10

There are a few genres on which Bollywood should never attempt to make movies. First, of course is comedy. Vir Das has rightly said: Indians have not learnt the art of laughing at themselves. Second, and *Bhoot: The Haunted Ship*, falls under this category is horror. There was a time when Bollywood had some incredible horror movies to its name like *Mahal* and *Bees Saal Baad*. Then came the era of Ramsay Brothers. While these movies had the bhoot, it lacked the scare factor. Not the spine-chilling expression of teenage Damien in *Omen*.

One has to understand that everything that goes bump at night and strange clanking noise doesn't constitute horror. That is what ails this latest ghost movie. Bhanu Pratap Singh

may have used a ghost ship to tell his story that already has a history of haunting and the entire crew mysteriously committing suicide, the creepy looking ghost or the victim it has possessed and kept with it for more than 10 years is more on the lines that the bhoot needs psychiatric treatment rather than be exorcised.

While Vicky Kaushal may be the only saving grace of this sinking ship, the fact remains why he chose to do this film in the first place given that the storyline and the script of this film is not a patch on the kind of movies Kaushal has picked up in the recent past like *Uri* and *Manmarziyaan*. Sad that Ashutosh Rana who has been in the industry for more than two decades would say yes to this project.

There are several lose ends at the climax. If the director was looking at a *Bahubali: The Beginning* kind of end, he failed miserably.

Only see this one if you are a horror film fan.

— Shalini Saksena



Plan Your Sunday

Colour Me Colour You
Venue: India Habitat Centre, New Delhi
When: February 23, 2020
Time: 10 am to 8 pm

We all look for meaning, we all search for our goals. Is there really a purpose? Are we all one and together or just wandering soul. In this journey of life, I found a little of myself, in water, in brushes, in paints, and in color, I see, a little of you and a little of me.

Expression of feelings and deep emotions through art is a medium for me to find balance in life. Life, which is uncertain and prone to change leaving us to struggle and process complex human behavior and circumstances.

Through a string of emotions that tie us together, I truly see a part of me in you and a part of you in me.

In this exhibit, the artist have used acrylic colors to evoke the innumerable and uncountable emotions, soulful expressions and the beauty, divinity, and rawness of a woman.

Hope that you see in her a little bit of you and a little bit of me.



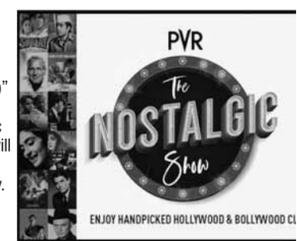
Around the world in 80 days

Venue: PVR outlets in Delhi-NCR, Mumbai, Bengaluru and Chennai
Date: February 23, 2020

Take a weekend trip down the memory lane with special screenings of the Hollywood Classic, "Around the world in 80 Days (1956)" under PVR's property "The Nostalgic Show".

The iconic adventure-comedy drama will be screened at eight locations in four cities today. The Nostalgic Show offers movie buffs an opportunity to enjoy their favourite, handpicked iconic classics on the big-screen. There is an exciting line up of films for this curated show including *Gone with the Wind*, *Bicycle Thieves* and *Stage Coach*.

Enjoy handpicked Hollywood classics in your nearest PVR cinema! You can book your seats via PVR mobile app & website.



'Need to have more real stories'

From playing Vishnu to Krishna to Akbar and now a chef, SOURABH RAJ JAIN has donned several hats. He speaks with MUSBA HASHMI about what made him take up the latest role and his favourite pastime, among other things

What made you say yes to the role?

The character, the storyline of course, the concept of the show, and the backstory that my character had intrigued me the most. It was also after my meeting with the producers of the show Rajita Sharma and Vivek Budakoti who are also writers of the show, that I was thoroughly convinced to take it up.

Any similarities that you share with your character?

The one similarity that I share with Neil Oberoi is being passionate about whatever I take up in my field. While Neil is a very passionate cook, I am in real life passionate about my acting and whatever I showcase on screen. So that way, my character and I are very similar when it comes to our careers.

What should the audience look forward to in the show?

I am showcasing myself in a different genre after very long, so that is something the audiences should definitely look forward to. Other than that the backstory that my character has been unveiling through the course of the show has been very interesting, and something that the audiences



too would like to know more about.

From Remix to Patiala Babes, how has your journey been?

The journey has been overwhelming, amazing and one that I am extremely proud about. Through the years I have got to experiment with so many different genres, roles and concepts, and as an actor there is nothing better that I could have asked for!

You have explored different genres and have done variety of roles. How did

the transition happen?

Experimentation of course! Because as an actor if you don't experiment with and try out new genres and mediums, you are never going to grow or learn. And for me being diverse with my skills in such a field is extremely important.

What was the most challenging role?

I have done so many roles in the years gone by and to be honest all of them have been challenging. Every role demands a different side of me,

so each of them has actually had me experience a different challenge altogether.

A change that you would like to see in the industry for actors or other working professionals?

I feel that our industry needs to open doors to more real concepts and storylines, specially with the youth of today who are always looking out for new things to watch. There has to be a certain section content

which caters to them, as they are our biggest critics and the bright future of tomorrow.

Apart from acting what else keeps you busy?

Spending quality time at home with my family is something I always look forward to post shoot.

Upcoming projects?

As of now I am very caught up with *Patiala Babes*, so that's the only thing I am working on at the moment.

उपायुक्त-सह-जिला दण्डाधिकारी का कार्यालय, खूँटी।
(खेल शाखा)
विज्ञापन

विभागीय संकल्प सं० 1343 दिनांक 28.08.2014 योजना सह वित्त विभाग झारखण्ड, राँची का संकल्प सं० 1964/वि० दिनांक 02.06.2017 तथा विभागीय बैठक की कार्यवाही झापांक 376 दिनांक 13.07.2017 के आलोक में जिला खेल कार्यालय, खूँटी में आदेशपाल के पद पर अनुबध एवं संविदा/दैनिक पारिश्रमिक के आधार पर मैट्रीक पास युवक/युवतियों को आवेदन के लिए आमंत्रित किया जाता है। दिनांक 25.02.2020 तक जिला खेल कार्यालय, खूँटी में सभी प्रमाण पत्र स्व० अभिप्रमाणित के साथ जमा किया जा सकता है। विलम्ब से आवेदन प्राप्त होने पर विचार नहीं किया जाएगा।

जिला खेल पदाधिकारी खूँटी।
PR 225755 District(19-20)D

उपायुक्त-सह-जिला दण्डाधिकारी का कार्यालय, गिरिडीह।
(जिला अनुसूचित जन जाति, अनुसूचित जाति, अल्पसंख्यक एवं पिछड़ा वर्ग कल्याण शाखा गिरिडीह।)
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सर्व साधारण को सूचित किया जाता है कि सरकार के संयुक्त सचिव, कल्याण विभाग झारखण्ड राँची के पत्रांक 1660 दिनांक 07.06.2017 के आलोक में गिरिडीह जिले के कल्याण विभागीय आवासीय विद्यालय पीरटॉड में रसोइया सह सेवक के 03 पद अनुसेवक 02 पद एवं रात्रि प्रहरी 01 पद जमुआ में रसोइया सह सेवक के 04 पद, अनुसेवक 02 पद खरगडीहा में रसोइया सह सेवक के 02 पद अनुसेवक 01 पद कुल 15 पदों के लिए कल्याण विभाग द्वारा निर्धारित भोजन मिन् के अनुसार बनाने एवं अनुसेवक/ रात्रि प्रहरी के कार्यों का सम्पादन हेतु आउट सोर्सिंग (वाहय सेवा) के माध्यम से किये जाने का निर्णय लिया गया है। इच्छुक निविदा दाता मोहरबन्द लिफाफा में निविदा दिनांक 03.03.2020 को 12:00 बजे अपराहन तक जिला कल्याण शाखा, गिरिडीह में दे सकते हैं या निर्बंधित डाक द्वारा भी भेज सकते हैं। निर्धारित समय के बाद प्राप्त निविदा पर विचार नहीं किया जायेगा। निविदा उसी दिन कय समिति के सदस्यों के बीच उप-विकास आयुक्त कार्यालय प्रकोरठ में 3:00 बजे खोली जायेगी। इच्छुक निविदादाता www.giridih.nic.in से विस्तृत जानकारी प्राप्त कर निविदा जमा करेंगे।

जिला कल्याण पदाधिकारी, गिरिडीह।
PR 225781 Welfare(19-20)D

कार्यालय क्षेत्रीय प्रबन्धक, झालको लक्ष्मी निवास, कॉन्के रोड, राँची-834002
पत्रांक...../ राँची, दिनांक/...../2020
प्रेस विज्ञापित

ज्ञातव्य हो कि श्री दुबराज सिंह मुण्डा, पम्प चौकीदार, क्षेत्रीय कार्यालय, झालको, राँची प्रतिनियुक्त उपसचिव (प्र०) जल संसाधन विभाग, नेपाल हाऊस, डोरण्डा, राँची माह जुलाई 2017 से पत्र निर्गत की तिथि तक अपने कर्तव्य से अनुपस्थित हैं। पूर्व में भी इस संदर्भ में प्रेस विज्ञापित संख्या 222490 (2019-20) द्वारा प्रकाशित किया जा चुका है, जिसमें दिनांक 13.12.2019 तक आपको उपस्थित होने का निदेश था। परन्तु आपके द्वारा उपस्थिति दर्ज नहीं की गई।

अतः पुनः प्रेस विज्ञापित के माध्यम से आपको निदेश दिया जाता है कि दिनांक 29.02.2020 तक योगदान नहीं करने पर आपको सेवा समाप्त करने की दिशा में उच्चाधिकारियों को सूचित कर दी जायेगी। इसे द्वितीय एवं अन्तिम स्मार समझे।

क्षेत्रीय प्रबन्धक, झालको, राँची।
P.R.225778 Minor Irrigation(19-20):D

कार्यालय, जिला ग्रामीण विकास अधिकरण, लातेहार (मनरेगा कोषांग)

मनरेगा अन्तर्गत संविदा के आधार पर नियुक्ति से संबंधित सूचना।

लातेहार जिला अन्तर्गत मनरेगा की योजनाओं के क्रियान्वयन हेतु इस कार्यालय के पत्रांक-470 दिनांक-10.06.2017 के द्वारा से निर्गत विज्ञापन के आलोक में प्रखण्ड कार्यक्रम पदाधिकारी एवं तकनीकी सहायक (सहायक अभियंता के समकक्ष) के पद पर चयन हेतु आवेदन पत्र आमंत्रित किया गया था। प्राप्त आवेदन पत्र के आलोक में उक्त पद के लिये योग्य एवं अयोग्य अभ्यर्थियों की सूची लातेहार जिला के Website- <https://latehar.nic.in> तथा जिला ग्रामीण विकास अधिकरण, लातेहार के सूचना पट्ट पर प्रकाशित किया गया है।

प्रखण्ड कार्यक्रम पदाधिकारी एवं तकनीकी सहायक (सहायक अभियंता के समकक्ष) के पद के योग्य अभ्यर्थियों का दिनांक- 01 / 03 / 2020 (दिन रविवार) को पूर्वाहन 11:00 बजे से बालक उच्च विद्यालय, लातेहार में परीक्षा का आयोजन किया गया है।

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उप विकास आयुक्त-सह-जिला कार्यक्रम समन्वयक, लातेहार।
P.R.225784 Rural Development(19-20):D

हजारीबाग नगर निगम, हजारीबाग

बन्दोबस्ती हेतु आम सूचना

एतद द्वारा सर्व साधारण को सूचित किया जाता है कि हजारीबाग नगर निगम, हजारीबाग द्वारा निम्नांकित तालिका में क्रमांक 1 से 15 का वित्तीय वर्ष 2020-21 की वार्षिक बन्दोबस्ती 1 अप्रैल 2020 से 31 मार्च 2021 तक के लिए बन्दोबस्ती हेतु खुला डाक का आयोजन दिनांक 03.03.2020 को 3.00 बजे अपराहन में नगर निगम सभागार में आयोजित की जायेगी।

क्र.	सैरात का नाम	अवधी	बंदोबस्ती की राशि	जमानत की राशि
1	सबजी बाजार की निलामी	2020-21	16,10,000.00	1,61,000.00
2	गुरु गोविन्द सिंह रोड उर्दू स्कूल के सामने टेम्पु एवं दो पहिया वाहन की निलामी	2020-21	5,62,000.00	56,200.00
3	मालवीय मार्ग दक्षिण मुख्य नाता स्लैब पर वाहन पड़ाव की निलामी।	2020-21	96,000.00	9,600.00
4	इन्द्रपुरी चौक से पुलिस लाईन के बीच पश्चिम तरफ वाहन पार्किंग की निलामी।	2020-21	2,06,000.00	20,600.00
5	सदर थाना के निकट दो पहिया वाहन पड़ाव की निलामी	2020-21	3,75,500.00	37,600.00
6	बैक ऑफ इंडिया के समीप वाहन पड़ाव की निलामी।	2020-21	73,000.00	7,300.00
7	स्टेट बैंक ऑफ इंडिया मुख्य शाखा के सामने वाहन पड़ाव की निलामी।	2020-21	1,57,400.00	15,750.00
8	पोस्ट ऑफिस के समीप वाहन पड़ाव की निलामी।	2020-21	26,000.00	2,600.00
9	काली बाड़ी मौटा तालाब स्थित सबजी बाजार की निलामी।	2020-21	11,68,350.00	1,16,850.00
10	समारणलय गेट के पश्चिम बगोदर रोड एवं उत्तर झील रोड के B.Ed. Collage तक वाहन पड़ाव की निलामी।	2020-21	2,22,000.00	22,200.00
11	प्राइवेट टैक्सी स्टैण्ड वाहन पड़ाव की निलामी	2020-21	8,40,000.00	84,000.00
12	कचहरी रोड/वकालत खाना रोड वाहन पड़ाव की निलामी।	2020-21	5,51,000.00	55,100.00
13	आनंदा कॉलेज गेट से गिस्वारी साव के घर तक उत्तरी भाग 150 फीट तक वाहन पड़ाव	2020-21	27,000.00	2,700.00
14	गुरु गोविन्द सिंह पार्क के सामने दोनो तरफ 150 फीट तक वाहन पड़ाव	2020-21	35,500.00	3,550.00
15	खिरगांव डमिंग ग्राउण्ड में स्थित वाहन पड़ाव की निलामी।	2020-21	4,30,000.00	43,000.00

— डाक में भाग लेनेवाले इच्छुक डाक वक्ता के द्वारा जमानत की राशि बैंक ड्राफ्ट जो कार्यपालक पदाधिकारी नगर निगम, हजारीबाग के पदनाम से भारतीय स्टेट बैंक के मुख्य शाखा, हजारीबाग में भुगतये हो डाक की तिथि से एक दिन पूर्व जमा करना होगा।

— किसी भी डाक को अस्वीकृत या बिना कारण बताये रद्द करने का अधिकार नगर निगम को सुरक्षित रहेगा एवं किसी प्रकार का दावा मान्य नहीं होगा।

— डाक की शेष नियामें एवं शर्तों की विस्तृत जानकारी नगर निगम, हजारीबाग कार्यालय के सूचना पट्ट पर देखी जा सकती है।

नगर आयुक्त नगर निगम, हजारीबाग
PR225766 (Urban Development and Housing)19-20'D

Minister visits RIMS, TMH to meet patients



Health Minister Banna Gupta interacts with an injured person of bus accident at Rajendra Institute of Medical Science in Ranchi on Saturday. Pioneer photo.

PNS ■ RANCHI

Health Minister Banna Gupta on Saturday visited Rajendra Institute of Medical Sciences (RIMS) in Ranchi to inspect the arrangements in the premiere State-run hospital and interact with patients and doctors about the various requirements that are to be met. Gupta spoke to some patients undergoing treatment at the hospital and sought their opinion on whether the facilities provided were up to the mark or not. Later, he spoke to RIMS Director Dr. DK Singh and offered complete support of the Government in improving the facilities at the hospital. Answering queries about the need of new equipment in the hospital, Gupta assured doctors that he will soon ensure that equipment needed for different diagnosis are installed in the hospital so that patients do not have to get diagnosis done in private clinics and bear additional expenses. "We will provide all necessary support for better running of the hospital and ensure that the quality of health facilities provided here improves," Gupta said. Later in the day, Gupta travelled to Jamshedpur and met survivors of a road mishap at Tata Memorial Hospital (TMH). As many as seven Jawans who sustained critical injuries in a road mishap are undergoing treatment at the hospital. The Minister met the Jawans and assured the best

possible medical care to them. Gupta also happens to be the Minister for Disaster Management in the Hemant Soren Cabinet. The Minister left an event half way through on Saturday and rushed to Mahatma Gandhi Road in Ranchi after receiving information about a fire breakout in a building. He sought details about the fire breakout from fire tender operators and fire fighting officials present at the spot. He also asked them to seek the help of National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) if need be. Gupta has been on an inspection spree since he took charge as the Health Minister. He has also taken initiatives to bridge the gap between commoners and the ministry in order to serve people better. The Congress Minister has been among the most vocal members of the recently-expanded Cabinet. Earlier this week, he asked doctors, hospital authorities and medicine shop owners to not be afraid of officials and directly inform the Minister over WhatsApp if any official demands bribe. Last week, he also visited Ranchi Institute of Neuro Psychiatry and Allied Sciences (RINPAS) to review the state of affairs in the premier mental health facility. He pointed out that many inmates at the hospital were staying at RINPAS despite being treated completely as their family members were not willing to take them home.

More teeth to anti-insurgency operations this Summer

Interstate collaboration for neutralising rebels

PNS ■ RANCHI

Anti-insurgency operations in Jharkhand are likely to be intensified during the summer season in a bid to push the Left Wing Extremist (LWE) groups on the back foot before monsoon hits Jharkhand, senior cops in the thick of events said on Saturday.

The State police is also in talks with law enforcement agencies in neighbouring States, especially West Bengal, Chhattisgarh and Odisha for launching joint operations



DGP KN Choubey along with senior police officers visits a Naxal hit area at Tamar near Ranchi. Pioneer photo.

against the rebels in the bordering areas of Jharkhand, they added.

"Anti-insurgency operation is a continuous process, and we have intensified our combing

operations lately. However, it is ethically wrong to disclose our future course of action to the media," said Additional Director General (ADG) Operations, Murari Lal Meena.

Central police forces across the country usually de-escalate their operations in the Left Wing Extremism-hit areas of India during Monsoon due to difficulty in moving in the jungles and increased chances of soldiers contracting vector borne diseases and other infections. The rebel outfits, police say, often take advantage of the monsoon season and strengthen their base. "We will take them down before they take advantage of the Monsoon season," said an Inspector General rank official in the State police.

Police sources said that the State police will take help of Central security forces and police from neighbouring States during the operations. A high level meeting of top police

officials from West Bengal, Odisha, Jharkhand and Chhattisgarh is also likely to be held soon, they added. However, there was no official confirmation on the meeting.

According to figures with the State police, there are around 550 active insurgents in Jharkhand and more than 250 of them have bounty on their heads. Some of these rebels, police said, have been active for more than a decade and are also actively involved in recruiting young villagers in order to increase their strength and muscle power.

As per figures with the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA), 19 of 24 districts in Jharkhand are LWE-affected. Apart from the CPI (Maoist), there are at least 17 splinter

outfits active in the tribal State. Security forces, police said, will also target the rebels of splinter outfits during the operations. Two of the most active splinter outfits in Jharkhand are the People's Liberation Front of India (PLFI) and the Tritya Prastuti Committee (TPC).

Even during the Monsoon season, the operations will not be de-escalated, police said. The security forces will adopt alternative techniques to overcome the barriers caused by the challenging weather and continue the operations. "Monsoon has always been a barrier for combing operations. But with time, we have adopted new techniques to keep our operations running strong," said Meena.

Experts stress on reducing import of coking coal, loss to exchequer

PNS ■ RANCHI

Specialists and experts gathered on Saturday to think on reducing import of coking coal to save the Government's foreign exchequer during a discussion programme organized at Central Mine Planning and Design Institute (CMPDI) on Saturday in which the present experts were also opined that reducing ash content during coal yield is need of the hour.

Addressing the gathering of mine specialists as Chief Guest Director (Technical) Binay Dayal in his address brought forward the issue of coking coal reserves quality of the Country which is very poor in terms of ash percentage and has difficulty in beneficiation. He stated that majority of coking coal produced in India is of Washery Grade-V and beyond. "Due to higher ash content only small share of coking coal produced in India has been utilized in metallurgical sector; and remaining major share has been diverted to non-metallurgical sector. The situation is alarmingly critical as we are not only losing valuable coking coal reserves to non-metallurgical sectors, but also it is draining huge Indian foreign currency reserves," he added.

Speaking on the occasion as Distinguish Guest, Joint Secretary Ministry of Coal M Nagaraju, stated

that Government of India has brought out the National Steel Policy with an objective to create a self-sufficient steel industry. "It is envisaged that around 300 mtpa of steel will be produced by 2030-31 for which requirement of coking coal will be around 180 mtpa. It has also given guidelines to use at least 35 per cent of indigenous coking coal. We have considerable resource of medium coking coal around 27.9 Bt out of which around 8.5 per cent Bt were not being considered for beneficiation owing to their higher ash content 35 per cent. After addition of two new grades namely W-V and W-VI in re-classification of coking coal, these coals which were earlier being used for power sector will now be used for steel sector after suitable beneficiation," he added.

Chairman cum Managing Director, Central Coalfield Limited (CCL), Gopal Singh, also graced the occasion through his presence and had an interactive session with the representative of SAIL, MECON, TATA Steel and other delegates wherein the focus was that both coal and steel sector should sit together to discuss on utilization of the domestic coking coal in the interest of the country.

On the beginning of the programme Director Technical (P and T) KK Mishra welcomed the Chief Guest, Dayal, Guest of Honour



Nagaraju, other dignitaries and delegates. He pointed out the figure of the foreign exchange that is 1,90,000 crore was spent on the imported coal. He, therefore, said that utilizing domestic coking coal in metallurgical sector is the need of the hour.

This work shop on "Optimization of clean coal yield at lower ash

percentage" has brought learned and experienced persons together to think un directionally in reducing import of coking coal to save government's foreign exchequer. We look forward to more integrated association of washery operators and consumers with coal producers to work on optimization of available resources.

Director (T) CIL Binay Dayal lights the lamp during the inauguration of a workshop on 'Coal Beneficiation': Optimisation of clean Coal Yield at lower ash percentage at CMPDI in Ranchi on Saturday. Vinay Murmu | Pioneer

Increased coordination among academia-research institutions and coal industry would facilitate realistic solutions for critical problem in bridging demand and supply gap of coking coal and thus saving of foreign exchange.

OUR SPEAKERS

 NITIN GADKARI Union Minister of Road Transport and Highways	 PIYUSH GOEL Union Minister of Railways and Commerce	 PRAHLAD S PATEL Union Minister of State for Tourism & Culture
 BHARAT BALA Filmmaker and Storyteller	 RITU BERI Indian heritage and luxury entrepreneur, fashion designer	 AMAN NATH Co-chairman, Neemrana group, architectural restorer
 ROCKY AND MAYUR Highway travellers, writers, TV show hosts	 ZORAWAR KALRA Restaurateur and progressive cuisine specialist	
 ASHWANI LOHANI Ex-CMD, Air India	 PRONAB SARKAR IATO President	 ANIL CHADHA COO, ITC Hotels
 MANDIP SINGH SOIN Founder, IbeX Expeditions and Founder President, Responsible Tourism Society of India	 SUMITRA SENAPATY Founder, Women on Wanderlust	 SUMANT BATRA Boutique museum hotelier
 SHILPA SHARMA Curated travel expert		
 SUBHASH GOYAL Tourism policy specialist	 ANUP KUTTY Co-founder, Zero Festival of Music	 ABU SUFYAN Founder, Purani Dilli Walo Ki Baatein
 RAVEE SINGH AHLUWALIA Chief Functionary, Patiala Foundation	 HARKIRAT AHLUWALIA Founder, Citrus County Farmstays	 SAMIL MALHOTRA Tirun Travel Marketing

February 26, 2020
Hotel Shangri-La, New Delhi

Forest Dept plans safe corridor for tuskers

PNS ■ JAMSHEDPUR

Taking firm steps on its ambitious project of tusker corridor, the state forest department has identified several points that are crucial for the easy movement and sustainable living of the elephants in the Dalma sanctuary and, the prominent among them are constructing newer water bodies, solar fencing of the forest area and protection of the green cover on the Jharkhand-Bengal stretch.



focus much on this subject at the moment," said a forest officer.

"We are working on the project and have identified several points. The water bodies are of prime importance for the sustainable survival of the elephants in the forest cover and we are concentrating our

He said perennial water sources in the Dalma forest range but several water sources got dried up which led the department to initiate the work again. "It is not just of reviving

the old ponds but we are also identifying sites for the construction of new water bodies on the Jharkhand-Bengal stretch to ensure availability of the water to the elephants round the calendar year," he said.

Though, he did not mention but sources in the

Dhalbhum and Seraikela forest department have informed that at a dozen odd sites have been identified for the construction of new water bodies in the forest stretch leading to the neighbouring Bengal.

"The purpose is to let the elephant (s) have easy access to the water bodies so that they are prevented from descending on the field in search of water," said the officer.

The new water bodies will have a better slop area to prevent potential accidents of the elephants and the second and important thing is that a dedicated team of forest personnel will keep regular watch on the water bodies.

For the adequate availability of water, the new water

bodies will not depend entirely on the monsoon as the forest department is planning to make alternative arrangements to ensure availability of water in the water bodies round the year.

The perennial water sources are basically ponds running 15 to 20 feet deep while the new artificial water sources would also have the same depth, more or less.

Dalma sprawls over an area of 193 square kilometres and houses 85 villages inside the enclave and 51 villages in its periphery. Dalma is frequently visited people of Odisha and Kolkata. In fact a large number of foreigners also visited Dalma last year 24 trampled to death in 2019

City gears up for its first TED Event- TEDx Kanke

PNS ■ RANCHI

The Capital city is all set to host the first TED Talk of TEDx Kanke. Based on the theme 'Breaking Barriers', the event will take place on February 23 at Chanakya BNR Hotel.

With more than 13 speakers, the event will feature guests from the fields of innovation, leadership and art and culture of national and international acclaim.

The thought behind TEDx Kanke is to bring together new ideas and innovations. It will allow one to connect with thought leaders, contribute to the vision of ideas worth spreading, collaborate with like minded people and impact the future.

The event is being organised and curated by Rajeev Kumar Gupta. "Numerous problems are being faced all across the world. People can either continue to discuss the issues or find a unique way to contribute to the society. The best way is to bring the best ideators from all over the world and connect with the local people. It is only with positive ideas and proper action, that anything can be transformed. The main purpose of TEDx Kanke is to make Ranchi an



Organiser and curator of TEDx Kanke Rajeev Gupta along with others during a press conference at a city based hotel in Ranchi on Saturday Vinay Murmu | Pioneer

idea hub so that all the great speakers in future would love to address and empower the people here," said Gupta.

Gupta has received license from the TED, USA to organise the event in Ranchi, Jharkhand. TEDx Kanke will bring local, national and global innovators, change makers and design thinkers together to inspire critical thinking by sharing powerful ideas.

As many as 13 speakers from national and international platforms will grace the event.

These include names like Caroline Chavier from Paris who will talk on artificial intelligence, Nandita Naganoudar the first woman from Karnataka to climb Mount Everest, IPS Siddharth Kaushal,

Professor Dr TV Rao- Founder and First President of the National HRD Network, Archana Sharma- senior scientist at the CERN Laboratory, Geneva and Hannah Kern-happiness activist and cyclist from London among others.

Mentors and people from the advisory board include GK Pillai, MJ Xavier, Raman Jha and Shreeranjjan (IAS) who will also be available to interact with the members.

The event is being co-organised by Kanishka Poddar, Kanika Malhotra, Priti Gupta, Rashmi Saha, Santosh Sharma and Bijendra Sharma.

The title sponsor of the event is Tata Steel and is also supported by CCL, TCSION, GS Associate Star Travels, Moti Mahal and Ranchi Mall.

Experts stress on curbing re-emergence of diseases

PNS ■ RANCHI

In an attempt to bring innovative technologies in treatment and diagnostic system in veterinary science and animal husbandry, a two day workshop began at Birsa Agriculture University (BAU) on Saturday on theme of 'Recent advances in diagnostic pathology for emerging and re-emerging diseases of livestock, poultry under farming condition and wildlife'.

Addressing the gathering of veterinary specialist, scientists and students as distinguish guest, Deputy Director General (Veterinary), ICAR, New Delhi, Dr BN Tripathi said that due to reduction in treatment of animal diseases, the country has to suffer Rs 1.5 lakh crores every year and about 30 per cent reduction in animal production has been observed. "The animal specialist needs to do advance research and diagnosis on emerging and re-emerging diseases instead of treating animals after the dis-

ease. Animal husbandry has contributed significantly to the Country's rural economy. In order to strengthen rural economy, special attention should be given to the states on animal health," he added.

Tripathi said that a lot of efforts have been made in the country to treat diseases of animals. "Despite this, the vaccine has not yet been developed for the treatment of poultry disease. Commercial poultry farming in the Country has registered an increase of about 2 per cent. Whereas bake yard poultry farming is becoming very popular and it has recorded an increase of about 45 per cent, which is the main source of rural nutrition and livelihood. Animal specialists will have to seek advance treatment for poultry disease and treatment," he added.

The Dy Director General said that the Indian Association of Veterinary Pathologists (IABP) is emphasizing on the construction and certification

of quality veterinary specialists every year. Every year by giving about 40 veterinary specialists, it is promoting animal health in the Country. In order to increase the income of farmers, there is a need to pay attention to animal health, he added.

On the occasion, Dr Tripathi presented the Life Time Achievement Award on behalf of the Society to Dr HBS Chauhan and Dr KK Singh for their special contribution in veterinary medicine.

On this occasion, a research technical book on animal diseases and treatment was also released. About 150 animal specialists and scientists and veterinary doctors from all 24 districts of the State are participating in the workshop. Dr RS Kuril, Dr Naresh Sood, Dr SK Mukhopadhyay, Dr DN Singh, Dr Anirudh Prasad, Dr Bipin Bihari, Dr MH Siddiqui, Dr Arun Prasad, Dr MP Sinha, Dr AK Srivastava and college students were also present on the occasion.

Bokaro Station gets first fully automated e-toilet

Bokaro: Bokaro Railway Station got two high-tech e-toilet on Saturday. This toilet does not need manual cleaning and is equipped with a mechanism that cleans the toilet automatically after every use was inaugurated at DRM Adra Division Navin Kumar. Installed at a cost of S 15 lakhs these two units of sensor-operated electronic toilets are made-up of cold-rolled steel; installed on Platform No. 1 of the station. "The sensors were tested and they are found to be working fine," said A K Haldar Station Master of Bokaro Railway Station. Equipped with the Rapid Cleaning Technology these e-toilets ensures that the commode, as well as the floor, is hygienically flushed using the minimum amount of water after every use.



Former MLA Shiv Sankar Oraon addresses the ABVP convention on fifth schedule and tribal society in Ranchi on Saturday Ratan Lal | Pioneer

ABVP holds lecture on Fifth Schedule, tribal society

PNS ■ RANCHI

Akhil Bharatiya Vidyarthi Parishad (ABVP) Ranchi organised a lecture on the burning issues related to Jharkhand including the fifth schedule and the tribal society in the State capital on Saturday.

The Chief Guest on the occasion was retired IPS Sheetal Oraon while the chief speaker was former MLA Gumla Shivshankar Oraon. The other dignitaries included Dr Pradeep Munda, PhD in Indian Capital Market, Management Department BIT Mesra, ABVP State president Nathu Gadi, State Tribal Student

Head Somnath Bhagat among others.

The chief speaker reiterated the history of Jharkhand and said that even when the British ruled over the country they did not have control over the tribal areas under their rule. "The reason for this was that the tribal society is extremely sensitive to its nature and the same was being destroyed by the British. As a result of living in one place, we are all tribals, but a tribe is the only one who has been given a place in the Constitution for their culture. The Fifth schedule has a special mention in our Constitution and it is a very important issue."

While addressing the gathering Pradeep Munda said, "The Tribal Study Centre is working for the interest of the tribal society and resolves problems arising by giving tribals their rights. We are on a path to change, but with this change we our losing our language and our culture. It is important to understand the right of the tribals and also the problems they are facing."

The chief guest said that it is matter of great pride that ABVP has organised a lecture. "The Constitution has 12 schedules of which the fifth schedule is for the tribes of the whole world.

Modi is versatile genius, says Justice Arun Mishra

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Supreme Court judge Justice Arun Mishra on Saturday all praise for Prime Minister Narendra Modi and termed him as an "internationally acclaimed visionary" and a "versatile genius, who thinks globally and acts locally".

Complimenting the PM and Union Law Minister Ravi Shankar Prasad for doing away with 1,500 obsolete laws, Justice Mishra said India is a responsible and most friendly member of the international community under the "stewardship" of Modi.

Delivering the vote of thanks at the inaugural function of the International Judicial Conference 2020 — 'Judiciary and the Changing World' at the Supreme Court, he said challenges faced by the judiciary at the national and international levels are common and judiciary has a "significant role" in the ever-changing world.

"Dignified human existence is our prime concern. We thank the versatile genius, who thinks globally and acts locally, Shri Narendra Modi, for his inspiring speech which would act as a catalyst in initiating the deliberations and setting the agenda for the conference," Justice Mishra, who is third in seniority in the apex court, said while expressing gratitude to the PM for inaugurating the conference.

He said India is the biggest democracy in the world and "people wonder how this democracy is functioning so successfully."

"India is a responsible and most friendly member of the international community under the stewardship of internationally acclaimed visionary Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi," he said.

"India is committed to constitutional obligations and dedicated to a peaceful and secure world, free from terrorism. In the process of development, preser-

vation of environment is considered supreme," he said.

Justice Mishra emphasised on the need to strengthen the judicial system saying, "Now we are in the 21st century. We are looking for modern infrastructure not only for the present but also for future."

"To strengthen judicial system is the call of the day as it is the backbone of democracy whereas legislature is the heart and executive is the brain. All these three organs of the state have to work independently but in tandem to make democracy successful..."

Referring to globalisation, he said, "but there is growing concern among masses of being left out and deprived of the gains of globalisation."

"The sense of injustice and inequality being created by the same looms large on us," he said, adding, "It has to be taken care of by all of us alike before it becomes lethal like coronavirus".

Disorientation...

From Page 1

The more political of the Muslim clerics who were earlier associated with the Ayodhya stir and the opposition to changes in Muslim personal laws have carefully kept away from the front benches of the anti-CAA protests. Indeed, there has been a conscious attempt to project the stir as something that goes well beyond the Muslim community. The Christian clergy in particular and liberal Indians, not to mention radical students, have quite deliberately been visible in the protests. Some of the attempts to make the movement appear broad-based and non-sectarian have worked and the foreign media has been impressed.

However, some doubts persist. These have less to do with what Muslim politicians may or may not have said and more to do with the universal negativism of India's self-professed liberals. Beginning with expressing imaginary and often contrived doubts over the motives behind questions that have been framed for the National Population Register and extending to criticism over the economic policy that assumes India is doomed to mediocrity, the liberals have lost all sense of national pride. Their attacks on the Modi Government have become so utterly visceral that they no longer believe that there is space for bipartisanship. The net consequence is that India appears far more polarised than it actually is.

The criticism of the CAA presents one example. As the Shaheen Bagh-type movements involving Muslim women have gathered momentum, mainstream political parties have calibrating their criticism. Today, parties such as the Congress are no longer in favour of a blanket denunciation of fast-tracking citizenship to minorities from three neighbouring Muslim countries. They implicitly acknowledge the need to tie up the loose ends of Partition. What the mainstream critics are now seeking is an

extension of the amnesty to cover Ahmediyas from Pakistan and including Rohingya Muslims from Myanmar in the list of persecuted minorities. While the case of the Ahmediyas — declared to be non-Muslims in Pakistan — is interesting, it is also notional. The fact is that no Ahmediya has actually applied for asylum in India. If Ahmediyas are to be included, the Government may as well extend the fast track scheme to Yezidis from Syria and Iraq. No Yezidis has, to my knowledge, applied for asylum in India. The case of the Rohingyas is more complicated. Some Rohingyas — estimated at anything near a lakh — have already sneaked into India. Their presence has aroused fierce antipathy in both Assam and the North-east but also in West Bengal. Unlike the Hindu and Buddhist refugees from Bangladesh who have merged in effortlessly into India's civic society, the Rohingyas stand out and create local tensions. This is recognised by the Congress and the Communist parties. Yet these parties are quite brazen in demanding their inclusion because it fits a narrative of Muslim exclusion.

The Kashmir issue is another case in point. That the fallout of the abrogation of Article 370 would present a challenge to the Government was never in doubt. Some tough action — which would be unwarranted in normal circumstances — was also inevitable. This was also the case in the mid-1990s when the Congress was in power. Yet, an attempt has been made to link the attempts to restore normalcy in the Kashmir Valley with some imaginary targeting of Muslims. The Opposition has tried and may have made Kashmir a Muslim issue.

Particularly irksome is the attempt by the Opposition to invite foreign criticism of India. This is not only deplorable but suggests an attempt to increase communal polarisation in India — in the hope that this will eventually backfire on Modi. It may but it could also harden nationalist resolve.

INBRIEF

FMPS CELEBRATES ANNUAL DAY

A rainbow of colourful marked the 12th Annual function of First Mark Public School named as 'YADON KI BAARAT' on Saturday. The occasion was graced by Joint secretary, School Education and Literacy department Aditya Kumar Anand as Chief guest along with the Director of school Kalpana Soren. The programme commenced with the lighting of the lamp by the chief guest, who alongwith other dignitaries were welcomed by presenting shawls and saplings. A colourful cultural programme was presented by the students. Anand appreciated the spirit and confidence of the students and praised the school for giving such a stage exposure to all the kids and encouraged staff with his precious words. Director Kalpana Soren highly appreciated the talent showcased by the students through various cultural shows depicting the multi dimensional cultures of today's youth.



SPORTS MEET AT TWS

The 11th Annual Sports Meet of Taurian World School was held on Saturday. The Chief Guest presiding over the event was Bhagwati Chenu, Gold Medalist in Archery. The programme began with the Principal Dr. Subhash Kumar welcoming the esteemed gathering by reading a brief report of the school's sports activities and emphasized on the importance of sports in a child's life. An impressive March Past coupled with some stirring marching music by the Bagpipe Band, the four House contingents and the display of the bloodstock by the Taurian Equestrian Centre was led by the Head Girl Anoushka Sarkar and Head Boy Sukrit Katriar. The Meet was declared open by the Chief Guest, marking the commencement of the ceremony, followed by the lighting of the flame by the school's Sports Captain Aditya Raj.

DAV ALUMNA GRABS STRONG WOMAN TITLE

A former student of DAV Public School, Hazaribag Shradha Sharma has got selected for Asian Power Lifting Championship. She grabbed the gold medal and the title of 'Strong Woman' at the National Power Lifting Championship organised by National Sports Federation in Delhi. Principal Ashok Kumar congratulated Sharma and her coach Rajkumar Thappa and said that it is a matter of great pride for the school and the State as a whole. Sharma has won three gold medals at the Jharkhand Power Lifting Championship organised by Jharkhand Power Lifting Association. She was also adjudged as the 'Best Lifter' of the tournament. She will be felicitated at the school annual day celebrations.

VEDANTA DISTRIBUTES STUDY MATERIAL

Under Vedanta Employees' Self-Service Program, study course material was distributed to around 150 students at Asas Vidyalaya Jaipal Nagar Biada, Sector-12 Bokaro on Saturday. Pen, copy, pencil and diary were distributed to the poor students of the school. Vedanta Steel CSR officer Praveen Kumar said that through this programme it is possible to change the education of schools and students. We all need to help the poor and needy children, so that they can build their better future and no child should stop their studies in the absence basic things. To ensure that children do not face any difficulties in studying, distributing textbooks among poor and needy children is a noble task.

GOVT AT YOUR DOOR PROGRAM

A Janata Darbar has been organized at Chargi Panchayat Headquarters of Petarwar Block under the "Government at Your Door Program". The benefit of various welfare schemes run by the government in the Janata Darbar were given to the on-the-spot eligible persons and their problems were also addressed. Various stalls for welfare schemes run by various departments including social security, ration card, health, social welfare, animal husbandry, MANREGA, PMAY, revenue, road construction processed & executed applications. At the same time, the health department is making health camps and providing necessary medicines including health check-ups to the villagers.

FOOD FEST AT RADISSON BLU

A food festival is being organised at The Great Kabab Factory from February 22 to March 1 at 7:30 pm onwards. The Desi-Videss menu will have lip smacking delicacies for both vegetarians and non-vegetarians. Guests can indulge in some rarely seen classics and tantalize their taste buds with dishes like peri peri tandoori tangdi, Turkish veg kofta kabab, rosemary lamb chop, soya ginger jhinga and much more. For adults the price is Rs 1149 plus taxes per person while for children between 6- 12 years it is Rs 699 plus taxes.



स्थायी लोक अदालत का कैम्प कोर्ट
दिनांक 25.02.2020 (मंगलवार)

संबंधित व्यक्तियों को सूचित किया जाता है कि दिनांक 25.02.2020 को 11:00 बजे दिन से स्थायी लोक अदालत का कैम्प कोर्ट बैंक ऑफ इंडिया के सिन्दरी शाखा के परिसर में आयोजित किया जाएगा। इस कैम्प कोर्ट में लोक उपयोगिता, बैंक, बीमा, डाक, टेलीफोन, अस्पताल, परिवहन, शिक्षण संस्थानों एवं नगर निगम से संबंधित शिकायतों का आवेदन प्राप्त कर उन्हें सुलह-समझौते के आधार पर निष्पादित किया जाएगा।

अतः सभी संबंधित व्यक्तियों से अनुरोध है कि उक्त तिथि पर अधिक से अधिक संख्या में उपस्थित होकर अपने शिकायतों को स्थायी लोक अदालत के समक्ष प्रस्तुत करें, जिससे उनका निष्पादन कैम्प कोर्ट में किया जा सके।

निवेदक
अध्यक्ष
स्थायी लोक अदालत
धनबाद।

PR 225775 Law(19-20)D

कार्यालय, उपायुक्त-सह-जिला दण्डाधिकारी, पलामू
(अनु0जनजाति, अनु0जाति, अल्पसंख्यक एवं पिछड़ा वर्ग कल्याण शाखा)
E-mail- dwopalama@gmail.com

छात्रवृत्ति हेतु आवश्यक सूचना

पोस्ट मैट्रिक छात्रवृत्ति के लिए सभी विद्यालयों/महाविद्यालय को इस विज्ञापित के माध्यम से सूचित किया जाता है, कि वित्तीय वर्ष 2019-20 में पोस्ट मैट्रिक छात्रवृत्ति के लिए कल्याण विभाग के Website- www.ekalyan.cg.gov.in पर शिक्षण संस्थाओं में अध्यक्षनरत छात्र/छात्राओं को ऑन लाईन किये गये आवेदन पत्र में आवश्यक कागजात नहीं रहने के कारण DA लेवल पर लंबित रखा गया था। कल्याण विभाग की ओर से पुनः राहत देते हुए दिनांक 20.02.2020 से 10.03.2020 तक आवश्यक कागजात अपलोड करने हेतु ऑन लाईन ई-कल्याण पोर्टल खोल दिया गया है। सभी शिक्षण संस्थान के प्राचार्य/छात्र-छात्राओं को इस विज्ञापित के माध्यम से सूचित किया जाता है कि पोस्ट मैट्रिक छात्रवृत्ति पाने हेतु किये गये आवेदन पत्र में आवश्यक कागजात अपलोड करें ताकि जिला कल्याण पदाधिकारी, पलामू के द्वारा ससमय छात्रवृत्ति की स्वीकृति प्रदान की जा सके।

जिला कल्याण पदाधिकारी
पलामू

PR 225771 Welfare (19-20)_D

Avoid non-essential travel to Singapore: Govt

PNS ■ NEW DELHI
As India and China indulged in blame game on an IAF plane not getting permission to evacuate Indians from the coronavirus-hit regions there, New Delhi on Saturday issued a fresh advisory asking flyers to avoid non-essential travel to Singapore. It also said screening at airports is now being planned for flight passengers coming to India from Kathmandu, Indonesia, Vietnam and Malaysia from Monday.

not been approved. An IAF transport plane C-17 is yet to fly to China to bring back Indians and carry relief material for people affected by coronavirus there. However, a Chinese embassy spokesperson said the current epidemic situation in Hubei province is complicated, and the prevention and control of Covid-19 has entered into a critical stage. "There is no such thing as China deliberately delaying granting flight permission," spokesperson Ji Rong said.

India was to send its military transport aircraft to Wuhan, the epicentre of the coronavirus outbreak, on February 20 but the plane could not take off as permission was not granted.

Sources said, Indian nationals stuck in Wuhan are

waiting to be brought back home and the uncertainty over evacuation is causing them mental stress and anxiety. The aircraft was to carry a large consignment of medical supplies to China and bring back more Indians from Wuhan.

Sources said, while the Chinese side continues to maintain that there was no delay in granting permission for the flight to go, the clearance has 'inexplicably' not been given.

In a letter to President Xi Jinping earlier this month, Prime Minister Narendra Modi conveyed India's solidarity to the people and Government of China in meeting the challenge of the coronavirus outbreak and offered to provide assistance to the country.

India then put together relief supplies in pursuance of



CORONAVIRUS OUTBREAK
Modi's commitment as a token of India's solidarity, particularly in the 70th year of the anniversary of diplomatic relations between the two countries. "These supplies have been offered even as India faces tremendous shortage itself, given our ethos of helping others in their hour of need," said a source aware of the issue. The relief items include gloves, surgical masks, feeding pumps and defibrillators based on the requirements as indicated by

the Chinese side. "The Chinese side always attaches great importance to the health and safety of Indian nationals in China, and provided assistance and convenience for the return of Indian citizens," Ji further said in reply to the query.

"We are carefully assessing the ground situation, as prevention work requires. Competent departments of the two countries are keeping communication and coordination in this regard," she said.

India's national carrier Air India has already evacuated around 640 Indians from Wuhan in two separate flights. According to estimates, over

100 Indians are still living in Wuhan.

Indian nationals in Wuhan continue their long wait for the flight. The delay is causing them and their family members in India tremendous mental anguish, said the sources.

They said relief and evacuation flights from other countries including by France are allowed to operate by China but the permission has not come through in India's case.

"Are they not interested in Indian aid provided as our token of support? Why are they creating roadblock in evacuating our nationals from Wuhan and putting them under hardship and mental agony?" said a person aware of the issue.

On February 17, India had announced that it will send C-17 Globemaster, with medical supplies to Wuhan, and bring

back its nationals as well as citizens from all neighbouring countries.

As regards the travel advisory, currently, passengers from China, Hong Kong, Thailand, South Korea, Singapore and Japan are screened at 21 designated airports in the country for a possible exposure to the novel coronavirus. Universal screening at airports is now being planned for flights from Kathmandu, Indonesia, Vietnam and Malaysia from Monday, the health ministry said. The decision was taken during a review meeting chaired by the Cabinet Secretary to take a stock of the status, actions taken and preparedness of states and Union Territories regarding management of novel coronavirus here on Saturday, the Ministry said.

Keep aside identities, think as one nation: BJP to Cong

PNS ■ NEW DELHI
The BJP on Saturday hit out at the Congress over its scepticism about US President Donald Trump's visit to India asking the Opposition party, why it is unhappy when the country's stature is being raised globally. The BJP said there are times when political parties should keep aside their identities and "think as one nation".

here, party spokesperson Sambit Patra said Trump's visit will be a landmark moment in the Indo-US relationship and advised the Congress to "start taking pride in the nation's achievements". "This is a meeting of the world's largest and oldest democracies and it should be celebrated," he said adding, "There are times when political parties should keep aside their identities and think as one nation."

Underlining that Trump himself has said multiple times that India is a hard bargainer, Patra said the Congress should not be worried about India's interests.

With Prime Minister Narendra Modi's hardwork, India's relations with other countries have further strengthened from Sochi to Mallapuram, he said. Taking a dig at the Congress, Patra asked if 10

Janpath (residence of party president Sonia Gandhi) had allowed former Prime Minister Manmohan Singh to develop Prime Minister Narendra Modi-like rapport with international leaders.

Trump's visit will be a landmark moment in Indo-US relations and the Congress should "start taking pride in the nation's achievements", he added.

Responding to the Congress' questions about what the country will gain from this visit, Patra said the latest defense equipment and the deals that the US was offering to India were never offered during the UPA regime.

Patra said close cooperation with the White House has ensured that India remains at the front and centre of Trump's strategic blueprint.

Priyanka raises question on funding of panel formed to oversee US Prez visit

PNS ■ NEW DELHI
Congress general secretary Priyanka Gandhi Vadra on Saturday raised questions over the funding of the committee formed to oversee various programmes during US President Donald Trump's Ahmedabad visit on February 24. She wondered what the Government is "hiding under the guise" of the committee.

"₹100 crore is being spent on the visit of President Trump. But this money is being spent through a committee. The members of the committee do not know that they are its members. Does the country not have the right to know which Ministry gave how much money to the committee? What is the Government hiding under the guise of the committee?" the Congress general secretary tweeted.

The Congress also took a swipe at the 'Donald Trump Nagrik Abhinandan Samiti' with a parody advertisement on its official Twitter handle. The poster read 'hiring now' for job of "waving at US President Donald

Trump". It also said that the vacancies were 69 lakh and remuneration would be "achche din".

The committee headed by Ahmedabad mayor Bijal Patel held its first meeting at the Circuit House in Ahmedabad on Saturday.

The formation of the committee, first announced as Donald Trump Nagarik Abhivadan Samiti by Ministry of External Affairs spokesperson Raveesh Kumar, had drawn flak from the Congress.

Congress spokesperson Randeep Surjewala had asked Prime Minister Narendra Modi to explain who all are in this Samiti.

"Why is Gujarat Government spending ₹120 Crore for a 3 hour event organised by an unknown Pvt entity? India values its visiting dignitaries but pl note- Diplomacy is serious Government business & not a series of photo-ops & event management tactics," Surjewala asked.

The Congress had said the Trump visit should not become an extension of the US presidential election campaign but yield concrete results for India.

Bharat Ratna demanded for freedom fighter Savarkar

PNS ■ NEW DELHI
The 'Savarkar Darshan Pratishthan' has demanded 'Bharat Ratna' for freedom fighter Veer Savarkar. The organisation announced a two-day All India Conference starting February 26 on Savarkar's life, thoughts, ideas and philosophy titled— 'Akhil Bharatiya Swatantrayvir Savarkar Sahitya Sammelan' where the demand for Bharat Ratna will be made in the presence of several Union Ministers including Home Minister Amit Shah.

The objective of the conference is to highlight the relevance of Savarkar's thoughts in present context. "His persona and deeds are incomparable in the history of modern India. His commitment to the cause of freedom struggle and ideological perspective has made him a great person. He was source of inspiration for millions of freedom fighters of India," said Ravindra Sathe, Secretary,

Savarkar Darshan Pratishthan in the presence of former governor of Gujarat and Madhya Pradesh and president organising committee, OP Kohli.

BJP President JP Nadra will be the Chief Guest at the Inaugural session on February 26 and the session will be presided over by Union Minister Nitin Gadhkari. Tourism Minister Prahlad Patel will be Guest of Honour in the programme and valedictory address will be given by Home Minister Amit Shah on the concluding day on February 27.

"Now, it is the time to understand and propagate ideas, thoughts and contribution of Veer Savarkar. This national convention will certainly help not only to understand him better but his philosophy as well," said Dr Sanjeev Tiwari, Joint Secretary, Organising Committee. He said the organization will demand for a Bharat Ratna for Savarkar.

Manmohan: 'Bharat Mata Ki Jai' misused to construct militant India

PNS ■ NEW DELHI
In an apparent attack on the ruling BJP at the Centre, former Prime Minister Manmohan Singh on Saturday said that nationalism and the slogan of 'Bharat Mata Ki Jai' are being misused to construct a "militant and purely emotional" idea of India that excludes millions of residents and citizens.

multi-linguist, Nehru laid the foundation of the universities, academies and cultural institutions of Modern India. But for Nehru's leadership, independent India would not have become what it is today," Singh said.

"But unfortunately, a section of people who either do not have the patience to read history or would like to be deliberately guided by their prejudices, try their best to picture Nehru in a false light. But I am sure, history has a capacity to reject fake and false insinuations and put everything in proper perspective," he said.

The book 'Who is Bharat Mata' contains selections from Nehru's classic books Autobiography, Glimpses of World History and the Discovery of India; his speeches, essays and letters from pre and post independence years; and some of his most revealing interviews. It was first brought out in English and now its Kannada translation has been released.

excludes millions of residents and citizens," he said.

Singh also extensively quoted Nehru, saying he had asked, "Who is this Bharat Mata?, whose victory you wish?"

"The mountains and rivers, forests and fields are of course dear to everyone, but what counted ultimately is the people of India... Spread out all over vast land," Singh quoted Nehru as saying.

Nehru makes a very significant and time relevant remark on the dangers of leadership falling into a trap and getting removed far away from the common people whom they are supposed to serve, Singh said. "Conceit, like fat on the human body, grows imperceptibly, layer upon layer and the person whom it affects is unconscious of the daily accretion.

Fortunately, the hard knocks of a mad world tone it down or even squash it completely, and there has been no lack of these hard knocks for us in India. The school of life has been difficult one, and suffering is a hard task master," he quoted Nehru as saying.

TRUMP'S VISIT

being spent on the visit of President Trump. But this money is being spent through a committee. The members of the committee do not know that they are its members. Does the country not have the right to know which Ministry gave how much money to the committee? What is the Government hiding under the guise of the committee?" the Congress general secretary tweeted.

Manipur varsity V-C dismissed over irregularities

PNS ■ NEW DELHI
The Centre has dismissed Manipur University Vice Chancellor Adya Prasad Pandey following complaints of financial and administrative irregularities.

The Human Resource Development (HRD) Ministry on Friday dismissed Pandey after in an inquiry report he was found indulging in "financial and administrative irregularities, including misconduct, dereliction of duties, abuse of power and lack of commitment, causing great harm to the academic environment and bringing the varsity into disrepute". Pandey was placed under suspension in 2018 after violent protests erupted on the varsity's campus which led to prolonged shutdown of the institute.

"The President of India, on consideration of facts and materials available on record and reply submitted by Adya Prasad Pandey... In exercise of the power conferred upon him in terms of sections 13 of Manipur University Act, 2005, has been pleased to dismiss him from his post with immediate effect," the HRD Ministry order stated.

Thackeray requires briefing on citizenship rules: Tewari

PNS ■ NEW DELHI
A day after Maharashtra Chief Minister Uddhav Thackeray met Prime Minister Narendra Modi and gave a thumbs up to the amended citizenship legislation, Congress leader and former Union Minister Manish Tewari on Saturday said Thackeray requires a briefing on Citizenship Amendment Rules — 2003. Thackeray had also called on Congress chief Sonia Gandhi where the controversial CAA was discussed.



(CAA) and National Population Register (NPR) has become a bone of contention among the allies in Maharashtra, as the Congress and the NCP are opposed to the measures.

Tewari's remarks came a day after Thackeray met Modi and said that nobody should feel threatened by the CAA or NPR as these measures are not meant to drive away anyone from the country.

Thackeray made the remarks at a Press conference held after his meeting with Prime Minister on Friday, the first after he took over as the Chief Minister. "We discussed CAA and NPR," Thackeray said, adding he has come to

understand the role of the Centre in the NRC.

Accompanied by his son and a Minister in his Cabinet, Uddhav met Sonia and held discussions on the current political situation and CAA-NPR-NRC. This was the first meeting of Thackeray with Sonia Gandhi after the formation of the coalition government in Maharashtra. AICC general secretary in-charge of Maharashtra Mallikarjun Kharge and Shiv Sena leaders Aadiya Thackeray and Sanjay Raut were also present during the meeting.

The meeting came soon after Thackeray asserted that one does not have to fear the CAA and no one will throw out of the country due to NPR, soon after meeting Modi. He said an atmosphere is also being created in the country that the National Register of Citizens (NRC) is dangerous people have to queue up to prove their citizenship.

Indians hailed critical verdicts despite apprehensions: PM

New Delhi: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Saturday said 1.3 billion Indians have disregarded apprehensions and "wholeheartedly" accepted recent critical judicial verdicts which were subjects of global discussion.



Prime Minister Narendra Modi with Union Minister for Law & Justice Ravi Shankar Prasad, Chief Justice of India Justice Sharad Arvind Bobde and other dignitaries at the International Judicial Conference 2020, in New Delhi on Saturday

would benefit the justice delivery system to a large extent.

He also referred to synchronisation of artificial intelligence with human wisdom and said it would bring "speed to delivery of justice".

"In addition, in the changing times, issues like data protection, cyber crimes pose new challenges for the judiciary," he said in his inaugural address.

Prime Minister said, "Gandhi's life was dedicated to the cause of truth and service, which are the foundational tenets for any system of justice and as you all know, he was himself a barrister and belonged to the fraternity of lawyers".

Hailing a vibrant judiciary, legislature and executive, the PM said, "Respecting each other's jurisdiction and dignity, these three pillars of the Constitution have resolved various challenges faced by the country on several occasions.

"We are proud of having developed such a rich tradition in India. In the last five years, various institutions of India have further strengthened this tradition".

He also referred to the Centre's endeavour in repealing 1,500 archaic laws and said, "Speed has been demonstrated not only in doing away with irrelevant laws but also in enacting new legislations aimed at strengthening the social fabric".

The Indian Constitution guarantees gender justice under the provisions of the right to equality, Modi said, adding that India is "among few nations which has ensured the right to vote for women since independence". **PTI**

Before these judgements were delivered, several apprehensions were being expressed about the consequences. But look what happened! 1.3 billion Indians wholeheartedly accepted the judicial verdicts," Modi said.

He said it is going to be a decade of remarkable changes across the world which will impact all frontiers, be it society, economy, or technology, and these changes need to be rational as well as just and fair. Talking about the contribution of Mahatma Gandhi, the

ASCI upheld complaints against 248 ads out of 408

RAJESH KUMAR ■ NEW DELHI
Several advertisements featuring celebrities like cricketer Mahendra Singh Dhoni, Bollywood star Ajay Devgn, actress Shilpa Shetty have been found to making misleading and false claims.

Bengali claimed the product can help get rid of dark underarms in five days was "inadequately substantiated and misleading", the ASCI statement said. Reckitt Benckiser Healthcare campaign for 'Moov Advance Diclofenac Gel' with claims of being '#1 Doctor recommended active for acute pain relief' was also considered misleading, it said.

Orient Electric's advertisement having legendary cricketer Mahendra Singh Dhoni was found to be "misleading by implication". "It was observed that while the advertisement claims to have 'flicker control technology', it visually depicts 'no flicker' or absence of any flicker," ASCI said on Orient ad. The advertisement's claim "Livfast Inverter and batteries have 25% faster charging and provides 25% extra backup" featuring cricketer Dhoni was also inadequately substantiated.

Taking a strong note of misleading advertisements on Television, Print, Youtube and other social media platforms, the ASCI has probed complaints against 408 and upheld complaints against 248 while 137 were promptly withdrawn by the advertisers.

man riding the Platina with a barber riding pillion and shaving the policeman. The entire act was put up to showcase the ride comfort of the vehicle with the narrative of a 'Makhkhan Jaisi Ride' concept. "It was observed that the protagonist - a policeman in uniform who himself should be abiding by traffic rules, shown performing such stunts was inappropriate. The TVC shows dangerous practices, stunts in normal traffic conditions which manifests a disregard for safety," it said.

A complaint against a drama serial promo indicating the protagonist doing self-harm by stifling her neck with a cloth (duppata) was also upheld. "The drama serial's promo contains a specific visual of the female protagonist stifling her neck with a cloth (duppata) and then turning her body in upside down position. Such visuals shows a dangerous act (indicative of self-harm) with a disregard for safety and it is likely to encourage minors to emulate such an act which could cause harm or injury," ASCI added. VLCC Health Care's print and television ad claim 'Add figure to your shape in just one session' was not substantiated with treatment efficacy data, it said.

137 ads promptly withdrawn by the advertisers

Efforts of banks under PCA frameworks are being monitored: Das

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Reserve Bank of India Governor Shaktikanta Das has said four banks under the Prompt Corrective Action (PCA) framework are taking efforts and they are being monitored.

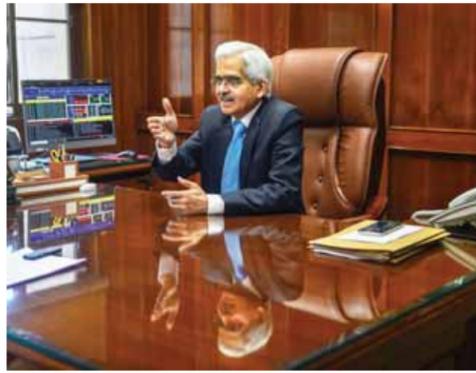
Currently, Indian Overseas Bank (IOB), Central Bank of India, UCO Bank and United Bank of India are under this framework, which puts several restrictions on them, including on lending, management compensation and directors' fees.

"We would like them to improve their performance and come out of PCA as quickly as possible. We are engaged with

the banks. We are monitoring it. They are taking efforts. Banks are required to take several actions to come out of the PCA, and that is being monitored," Das told PTI in an interview.

Recently, the Government announced capital infusion of ₹11,521 crore into these four banks, with IOB getting the highest amount of ₹4,360 crore. Central Bank of India got ₹3,353 crore, UCO Bank ₹2,142 crore and United Bank of India ₹1,666 crore.

Besides, LIC-controlled IDBI Bank too received additional capital of ₹4,557 crore through the first supplementary demands for grants approved by Parliament in



December. Last year, the RBI removed five banks — Bank of India, Bank of Maharashtra, Oriental Bank of Commerce, Allahabad Bank and Corporation Bank —

Currently, Indian Overseas Bank (IOB), Central Bank of India, UCO Bank and United Bank of India are under this framework, which puts several restrictions on them, including on lending, management compensation and directors' fees

from the PCA framework in two phases after capital support from the government that resulted in improvement in their financial parameters.

The capital infusion helped these lenders meet requisite capital thresholds and reduce their net NPA levels to below 6 per cent.

the government, the governor said, the RBI has advised the lenders to take special measures to ensure that the normal activities do not face any disruption.

"The normal activity in terms of loan sanction in terms of recoveries and other activities are affected because of the merger process. So, and we are monitoring that, we will monitor that," he said.

Last year in August, the government announced the consolidation of ten public sector banks (PSBs) into four mega state-owned lenders. As per the plan, United Bank of India and Oriental Bank of Commerce would merge with Punjab National Bank, making the proposed entity the second

largest public sector bank (PSB).

It was decided to merge Syndicate Bank with Canara Bank, while Allahabad Bank with Indian Bank. Similarly, Andhra Bank and Corporation Bank are to be consolidated with Union Bank of India.

In April 2019, Bank of Baroda in a first three-way merger exercise amalgamated Vijaya Bank and Dena Bank with itself. The SBI had merged five of its associate banks - State Bank of Patiala, State Bank of Bikaner and Jaipur, State Bank of Mysore, State Bank of Travancore and State Bank of Hyderabad and also Bharatiya Mahila Bank with itself effective April 2017.

Centre pays ₹50,850 cr to farmers under PM-KISAN scheme

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The Centre on Saturday said it has disbursed ₹50,850 crore to farmers so far under its landmark scheme PM-KISAN, enabling them to meet farm input cost and household expenses.

The agriculture ministry shared the progress made under the scheme, ahead of its first anniversary on February 24. The PM-KISAN was formally launched on February 24 last year by Prime Minister Narendra Modi at Gorakhpur, Uttar Pradesh.

Under the scheme, the Centre transfers an amount of ₹6,000 per year, in three equal instalments, directly into the bank accounts of the farmers, subject to certain exclusion criteria relating to higher income status.

"February 24, 2020 is the 1st anniversary of starting of a new Central Sector Scheme, namely, the Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi (PM-

KISAN)," an official statement said.

The scheme was launched to provide income support to all landholding farmers' families across the country and enable them to meet expenses related to agriculture as well as domestic needs, it added.

"The Central Government has already released more than ₹50,850 crores till now," the ministry said.

Total number of beneficiaries covered under the scheme is about 14 crore, based on estimates of the Agriculture Census 2015-16.

As on February 20 this year, 8.46 crores farmer families have been given the benefits. The scheme is effective from December 2018. The cut-off date for identification of beneficiaries with regard to their eligibility was February 1, 2019. The entire responsibility of identification of beneficiaries rests with the state /UT governments.

The scheme initially pro-

vided income support to all small and marginal farmers' families across the country, holding cultivable land up to 2 hectares. However, its ambit was later expanded to cover all farmer families in the country irrespective of the size of their land holdings.

Affluent farmers have been excluded from the scheme such as income tax payers in last assessment year, professionals like doctors, engineers, lawyers, chartered accountants etc and pensioners drawing at least ₹10,000 per month (excluding MTS/Class IV/Group D employees).

All installments falling due on or after December 1, 2019 are being paid only on the basis of Aadhaar authenticated bank data of beneficiaries to ensure genuine beneficiaries and avoid duplicity in payments, except in Assam and Meghalaya besides the UTs of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh, which are exempted from this requirement till March this year.

Need to enhance global risk monitoring: FM

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on Saturday emphasised the need to enhance global risk monitoring and explore the scope for policy co-ordination to deal with such risks.

Speaking at G-20 Finance Ministers and central bank governors meeting in Riyadh, she called upon all the member countries to enhance their efforts aimed at empowering women, youth and small and medium enterprises (SMEs).

"Finance Minister Smt @nsitharaman called upon the G20 to enhance global risk monitoring and explore the scope for policy co-ordination to deal with such global risks," a tweet by the Finance Ministry said. Sitharaman was the lead speaker during the session on "Enhancing Access to Opportunities for All" in the G20 Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors Meeting on Saturday.

"Finance Minister Smt

@nsitharaman emphasised that growing inequality has slowed down the pace of inter-generational mobility globally. She pointed out that identifying the causes and developing solutions require co-ordinated policy solutions," the ministry tweeted.

The Minister also highlighted the initiatives undertaken by the Indian government for empowering women such as 'Stand Up India' and STEP scheme.

She emphasised the risk and collateral free MUDRA scheme for SME segment in the meeting, the ministry said. Sitharaman held bilateral talks with her counterparts from other countries and Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development officials on the sidelines of the G20 event.

She expressed empathy with the people of China, suffering from the coronavirus epidemic and extended India's support in this hour of need, the ministry said in a tweet.

India needs pro-business, not pro-crony policies: CEA

PTI ■ MUMBAI

India has some distance to go in fully shifting from pro-crony to pro-business policies, Chief Economic Adviser Krishnamurthy Subramanian said on Saturday.

It will be the pro-business policies that will enable the "invisible hands of the market" and also take the country to the goal of USD 5 trillion GDP, he added.

"Pro-business policies are those that enable fair competition in the country. We have some distance to go in terms of enabling that fully. Pro-crony policies on the other hand just help incumbents and that is something that we have to stay away from in enabling the invisible hands of the market," he said at an alumni conference of his alma mater IIT-Kanpur here.

Indian policymaking has been criticised for favouring crony capitalists in the initial decades after Independence, till the country shifted gears by adopting liberalisation in 1991. Subramanian said after the CAG's report on telecom spectrum allocations came out in 2011, investor returns from "connected companies", a euphemism for crony firms, have been very low as compared to the broader indices.

The problem with cronyism is that it is not better business models and processes which drive the growth, he said, adding that we should always aim for "creative destruction" where the incumbents are challenged.

In a critique of the dominant policy choices in the initial decades after Independence, Subramanian said "the trust with socialism did not deliver the trust with destiny", referring to first prime minister Jawaharlal Nehru's famous speech when India attained freedom.

He also made a strong case for not depending only on recent work in economics to make policy choices and neglecting age-old texts like the Arthashastra.

"Scholarly work isn't

something that was written in the last 100 years but dates back millennia," he said.

The Arthashastra stresses on ethical ways of creating wealth, he said, adding that we need to focus on creating trust in the markets as well.

If governance standards have to be increased in the country, there has to be a greater focus on disclosing related-party transactions, the CEA said. The comments come in the wake of frauds like the one at non-bank lender DHFL.

Ireland an alternative to UK for Indian firms eyeing EU base post Brexit: Irish envoy

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Post Brexit, Ireland can be a suitable alternative to the United Kingdom for Indian businesses looking at having a base in the European Union (EU), the Irish envoy here said on Saturday.

Ambassador Brendan Ward also said that there has been a surge in interest by companies from India for setting up a base in Ireland, where, as of now, 100 Indian firms have a presence, even as the bilateral trade between the two countries stood around Euro 4 billion annually.

"Ireland is a committed member of the EU and we work through the partnership which exists between the EU and India, while at the same time we have our own strate-

gic approach. Sometimes India is a little overshadowed by China and Japan and part of my work here and my team here in India is to raise awareness of India in Ireland and particularly among Irish business people and investors. At the same time, Ireland is rather little known in India and an important role for us is raising that awareness," Ward told PTI.

"One major factor that we have to deal with is that the United Kingdom has exited EU and for many Indian businesses thinking of a location for presence in Europe, the UK would have been the first choice. Now, a lot of them are looking at Ireland," he said, on sidelines of an education fair where Ireland promoted itself as a destination for higher studies for Indian students.

'Vivad se Vishwas' scheme: Cases in arbitration abroad eligible: I-T dept

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Income tax cases being arbitrated abroad will be eligible to be taken up under the proposed 'Vivad se Vishwas' scheme to settle disputes between the taxpayer and the tax authority, the department said on Saturday.

The I-T department issued advertisements in leading dailies saying the scheme was a "golden opportunity... To settle income tax disputes", bridge the trust deficit in cases of disputes and minimise tax-related litigation.

The public message spells out the main features of the scheme proposed by Union finance minister Nirmala Sitharaman in her Budget speech on February 1, like the eligibility, disputes covered and payment terms. Under the eligibility head, the department said appeals and writs filed on

or before January 31 this year will be allowed to be taken up under the scheme.

Other eligibilities are: Orders for which time for filing appeal has not expired on January 31; cases pending before dispute resolution panel (DRP) or where the DRP issued direction on or before January 31, 2020 but no order has been passed; cases where assessee filed revision and in raid cases where disputed tax is less than Rs 5 crore in a year.

It added that disputes where the payment has already been made shall also be eligible; appeals or writs filed by taxpayers or the department and cases in arbitration in India or abroad.

The scheme, it said in the advertisement, will cover all disputes related to tax, penalty, interest, fee, tax deducted at source (TDS) or tax collected at source (TCS). Talking about

the payment of taxes under the scheme, it said for remittances made on or before March 31, 100 per cent of the disputed tax is to be paid (125 per cent in search cases) and if appeal relates only to disputed penalty or interest or fee then 25 per cent of the disputed penalty or interest or fee is to be paid.

If the payment is made beyond March 31 but by the end date of the scheme on June 30, then 110 per cent of disputed tax is to be paid (135 per cent in search cases) such that it does not increase total demand.

If the case relates to appeal only on disputed penalty or interest or fee then 25 per cent of the disputed penalty or interest or fee is to be paid under the scheme by March 31.

This amount will be 30 per cent if payment is made beyond after March, 31 but before June, 30.

FDI to be retail's next growth driver in India: Deloitte

IANAS ■ NEW DELHI

Pitching for increased foreign direct investment in multi brand retail sector, global management consulting firm Deloitte has said that the move would expand the share of organised retail in the country, thus contributing towards consumption-led growth of the economy.

In its latest thought leadership publication titled, Retail FDI in India, Deloitte has highlighted the growing relevance of foreign direct investment (FDI) and the government's openness on FDI in retail trade in the country.

According to the publication, the FDI-led

expansion of retail would not only boost consumption but would also provide the country's mom-and-pop stores access to latest technologies that would form key to further growth of the sector. About 70 per cent of Kirana stores in big cities and 37 per cent of Kirana stores in tier II cities want to enable themselves with new technology. Availability of latest tools brought by global entities would thus help local businesses as well.

Retail trading witnessed a year-on-year increase of 98 per cent in FDI inflows in FY19. The foreign investments increased from \$224 million in FY18 to \$443 million in FY19.

WESTERN RAILWAY
Tender Notice No. C78-1-117-VPU-12925-01-2020 dated 20/02/2020
 The Sr. Divisional Commercial Manager, Mumbai Division, DRM office building, Ground Floor, Mumbai Central, Mumbai-400 008 for and on behalf of the President of India invites open e-tender for leasing of parcel space in additional Parcel Van (VP) of 23 tonnes capacity in train no. 12925/12926 on round trip basis on payment of lumpsum rates for a period of 05 years.
 Details of VPU are as under:-

Sr. No.	Train No.	Name of Train	From To and back	Frequency	Reserve Price per round trip (in ₹)	EMD (in ₹)	Guarantee Amount for commencing the contract in time (in ₹)
1	12925/12926	Paschim Express	BOTS-ASR -BOTS	Daily	2,28,535/-	4,00,000/-	10,00,000/-

 Note:- Reserve price is exclusive of development charges and applicable Goods & Service Tax presently @ 2% and 5% respectively. The percentage of charges is subject to revision as advised by Railway Board from time to time.
 Date & Time of submission of Tender: up to 15:00 Hrs on 20.03.2020 (through online www.treps.gov.in. only). Date & Time of opening of Tender: at 15:30 Hrs. on 20.03.2020.
 Like us on [facebook.com/WesternRly](https://www.facebook.com/WesternRly) Follow us on twitter.com/WesternRly 17-22

SEARCH FOR MISSING

General Public is hereby informed that one boy namely **Dinesh Kumar, S/o: Ram Khilavan, R/o Jhuggi D-293, Brar Square, Naraina, New Delhi, Age: 15 years, Height: 5', Complexion: Fair, Face: Round, Built: Thin, wearing Yellow colour Jacket, Blue colour Jeans, Red colour Cap on head with Black colour School Bag and White colour Shoes in feet,** has been missing from his house since 29.01.2020 at 10:00 AM. In this regard a **FIR No. 98/2020 U/s 363 IPC, dated 01.02.2020 has been lodged at P.S. Naraina, New Delhi.** Sincere efforts have been made by the local police to trace out the boy but no clue has come to light so far. If any one having any information about him please inform undersigned.

Website : <http://cbi.nic.in>
 E-mail : cic@cbi.gov.in
 Fax : 011-24368639
 Ph. No. : 011-24368638, 24368641
SHO P.S. Naraina, New Delhi
Ph: 011-25891181, 25892010, 8750871122
DP/05/WD/2020

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE INDIAN AIR FORCE AIR HEADQUARTERS

E-TENDER NOTICE

On behalf of the President of India, **ONLINE BIDS** on prescribed tender form **UNDER TWO BID SYSTEM** are invited from firms who are registered with **ANY CENTRAL GOVERNMENT ORGANISATION** on Defence procurement portal using their personal digital signature and developed sources for supply of the following item.

Details are as under:-

Description and specification	PROCUREMENT OF IAF PUBLICITY ITEMS (SKAT) Specification as per RFP
Tender ID	2020_IAF_327368_1
Tender Reference No.	Air HQ/5208/1/PO-3 (Pub) dated 21 Feb. 2020
Period and terms of delivery	As per RFP terms and conditions
Online Bid submission start date and time	27 Feb 2020 at 1000 Hrs.
Online Bid submission end date and time	05 Mar 2020 at 1030 Hrs.
Address of the website for bidding	www.defproc.aov.in
Time and date for opening of Online bids	06 Mar 2020 at 1100 Hrs.

davp 10802/11/0065/1920

APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION

General public is hereby informed that an **unidentified body of a male namely Munna Lal, S/o: Bhola Thakur, R/o: Unknown, was found on 19.02.2020 at about 11:15 AM at Old Delhi Railway Station, Delhi but was later referred by Private Ambulance to R.B.T.B Hospital, Delhi.** In this regard **DD No. 14A, dated 19.02.2020** has been lodged at Police Station, Old Delhi Railway Station, Delhi. Dead Body has been preserved in Subzi Mandi mortuary for 72 hrs for identification. Identification of unidentified dead body of male is as under:

Name: Munna Lal, Age: 58 Years, Height: 5'4", Complexion: Wheatish, Face: Round, Built: Medium, Wearing: White kurta, black jacket and white dhoti.

If anyone have any information or clue about this male deceased may kindly be inform undersigned.

SHO Police Station, Old Delhi Railway Station, Delhi DP/4334/RLY/2020 Ph.: 011-23961522, 8750871303, 9968056370

नालको NALCO
 National Aluminium Company Limited
 (A Government of India Enterprise)
 Naico Bhawan, Nayapalli
 Bhubaneswar-751013, Odisha, India
 CIN : L27203OR1981G000920
 A NAVRATNA COMPANY

GLOBAL TENDER NOTICE
 No.NBC/MM/100049270/Brand Coupon/2020/1 Dt.15/02/2020
 Online bids are invited for the supply of the Brand Coupon for purchasing Cycle or Exercise Cycle, from the indigenous manufacturers of Cycle and Exercise Cycles. Item Description: **Brand Coupon, Approx. Qty.reqd. : 6200 Nos, EMD:Rs.2,50,000/-**, Last date of tender Submission: **29/02/2020 up to 1:00 PM.** Tender documents and online submission procedure can be downloaded from **NALCO's website i.e www.nalcoindia.com** and **www.eprocure.gov.in**. Please refer to the above website for any future updation and modification in NIT.

DGM (MATERIALS)

Public Notice
N. B. I. INDUSTRIAL FINANCE CO. LTD.
 21 Strand Road, Kolkata - 700 011
 Notice is hereby given that the share certificate No. 3583 with Distinctive no(s) 275061-275260 in respect of Folio No R00667 Registered in the name of MR. RADHEY MOHAN SHARMA is/are reported to be lost and the company has received application for issue of duplicate share certificate (s). If no objection for any interested person is received by the company's registers Maheshwari Dataatics Pvt. Ltd., 23, R.N. Mukherjee Road, Kolkata 700001, within 15 days from the publication hereof the company will proceed to issue duplicate share Certificate(s) to the applicant(s).
 Dated: 23-02-2020

WESTERN RAILWAY
CONSTRUCTION OF 2 LANE ROB
 Deputy Chief Engineer (Construction), Western Railway, Ratlam (MP), invites offer through E-tender portal www.ireps.gov.in under single packet system for the following tender:- **Tender No: RTM/DY.CE(C)ROB/7 (LC 102)**, Name of work: Construction of 2 lane Road Over Bridge (1x36.00m) + (1 x 18.00m) effective span (c o m p o s i t e girders) at km: 692/23-25 in lieu of X-line no.102, between Ratlam-Nagda section of Ratlam Division, Western Railway NIT **Cost: ₹ 6,25,83,443.56. EMD: ₹4,63,000/-**. Bid submission closing date: 16.03.2020 at 15:00 Hrs. Bid opening date: 16.03.2020 at 15:30 Hrs.
 Like us on [facebook.com/WesternRly](https://www.facebook.com/WesternRly)

Virus spreads in S Korean city as thousands are screened

Seoul: South Korea on Saturday reported an eight-fold jump in viral infections in four days to 433, most of them linked to a church and a hospital in and around the country's fourth-largest city, where health workers scrambled to screen more than 9,000 worshippers.

There's concern that the death toll, currently at two, could grow. Virus patients with signs of pneumonia or other serious conditions at the Cheongdo hospital were transferred to other facilities, 17 of them in critical condition, Vice Health Minister Kim Gang-lip told reporters.

He said that the outbreak had entered a serious new phase, but still expressed cautious optimism that it can be contained to the region surrounding Daegu, where the first case was reported on Tuesday.

In some positive news, China said Saturday the daily count of new virus cases there fell significantly to 397, though another 109 people died of COVID-19, the disease caused by the new virus. Most of the new cases and all but three of the deaths were in Hubei province, where the outbreak started.

The new figures, along with an upward revision of Hubei's earlier count, brought the total number of cases in mainland China to 76,288 with 2,345 deaths. China has severely restricted travel and imposed strict quarantine measures to stop the virus from spreading.

Of the 229 new cases in South Korea, 200 are from Daegu and nearby regions, which have emerged as the latest front in the widening glob-



Medical workers wearing protective gears carry a patient infecting with a new coronavirus to a hospital in Chuncheon, South Korea on Saturday

DEATH TOLL: 2,345 TOTAL CASES: 76,288

al fight against the virus. By Saturday morning, the city of 2.5 million and nearby areas counted 352 cases, including the two fatalities in the Cheongdo hospital.

The central government has declared the area as a "special management zone" and is channeling support to ease a shortage in hospital beds, medical personnel and equipment.

"Although we are beginning to see some more cases nationwide, infections are still sporadic outside of the special management zone of Daegu and North Gyeongsang Province," Kim said during a briefing. He called for maintaining strong border controls to prevent infections from China and elsewhere from entering South Korea. **AP**

WHO sounds alarm over Africa virus preparedness

Addis Ababa: The World Health Organisation warned on Saturday that African health systems would be ill-equipped to respond to the deadly coronavirus outbreak should cases start to proliferate on the continent.

WHO chief Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus called on African Union member states "to come together to be more aggressive in attacking" the virus, known as COVID-19. "Our biggest concern continues to be the potential for COVID-19 to spread in countries with weaker health systems," Tedros said during a meeting of African health ministers at AU headquarters in Addis Ababa. **AFP**

G20 Ministers weigh virus risks at Saudi meeting

Riyadh: Finance ministers and central bank governors from G20 nations weighed the potential impact of the coronavirus epidemic on the world economy as they met in Riyadh Saturday for a two-day gathering.

At the meeting in Saudi Arabia, the first Arab nation to hold the G20 presidency, financial leaders from the world's top 20 economies are also seeking consensus on ways to achieve a global taxation system for the digital era.

The gathering comes amid growing alarm over the new coronavirus as Chinese authorities lock down millions of people to prevent the spread of the disease, with major knock-

on effects for the global economy.

The virus has now claimed 2,345 lives in China, cutting off transportation and forcing businesses to close their doors.

The impact of the epidemic could see a "V-shaped" trajectory, with a sharp decline in China's GDP followed by a sharp recovery, but the situation could have more dire consequences for other countries as the impacts spill over, said IMF chief Kristalina Georgieva.

At the core of discussions at the gathering is an action plan to shield the world economy — already facing a slowdown — from the impact of the outbreak, said French Finance Minister Bruno Le Maire. **AFP**

2nd death sparks fears, lockdown in Italian towns

Codogno (Italy): Streets were deserted and residents warned to keep out of an emergency room on Saturday in an Italian town placed under lockdown as a second death from coronavirus sparked fears throughout the region.

"No entry" read the sign on the emergency room in the small town of Codogno with a population of 15,000 where three people have already tested positive for the virus, including one 38-year old man now on life support.

On Saturday, Italian news agency ANSA reported a second death from the virus in the Lombardy region, where Codogno is located.

It came one day after the death of a 78-year-old retired bricklayer from the Padua area in the nearby Veneto region, who was the first local person in Europe to die from the coronavirus.

ANSA reported that the new victim was a woman. No further information was immediately available.

Italy's Health Minister said that the man who died on Friday, Adriano Trevisan, had been admitted to hospital 10 days earlier for an unrelated health issue.

He was one of two people in the Veneto region with the virus, where another confirmed case overnight in a 53-year old man brought that number to three, president of the Veneto region, Luca Zaia told Rai24 news. **AFP**

US says Russia behind huge virus disinformation drive

Washington: Thousands of Russian-linked social media accounts have launched a coordinated effort to spread alarm about the new coronavirus, disrupting global efforts to combat the epidemic, US officials told AFP.

The disinformation campaign promotes unfounded conspiracy theories that the United States is behind the COVID-19 outbreak, in an apparent bid to damage the US image by seizing on international health concerns, they said.

False personas are being used on Twitter, Facebook and Instagram to advance Russian

talking points and conspiracies, including suggesting that the CIA is behind the virus that has claimed more than 2,300 lives, mostly in China.

"Russia's intent is to sow discord and undermine US institutions and alliances from within, including through covert and coercive malign influence campaigns," said Philip Reeker, the acting Assistant Secretary of State for Europe and Eurasia. "By spreading disinformation about coronavirus, Russian malign actors are once again choosing to threaten public safety by distracting from the global health response," he said. **AFP**

Iran now says 5 dead out of 28 infected

Tehran (Iran): Iranian health authorities on Saturday reported a fifth death from the new virus that emerged in China, and said the fatality was from among 10 new confirmed cases of the virus in Iran.

So far, 28 cases have been confirmed in Iran, including the five who died.

People are being treated for the virus in at least four different cities, including the capital, Tehran, where some pharmacies had already run out of masks and hand sanitizer. Other cities are Qom, Arak and Rasht.

The virus loomed over a nationwide parliamentary election in Iran on Friday. Many voters went to the polls wearing

face masks. Health ministry spokesman Kianoush Jahanpour made Saturday's announcement for the latest figures on state TV, but did not specify when the fifth death occurred.

Two people had died earlier Friday from COVID-19, the illness caused by virus. Authorities reported two deaths previously this week.

Jahanpour said that of the 10 newly detected cases, two were in the capital of Tehran and eight were in the city of Qom. That's where the first two elderly patients died on Wednesday. He said the two patients in the capital had visited Qom or had links with the

city. Minoo Mohraz, an Iranian health ministry official, had said Friday that the virus "possibly came from Chinese workers who work in Qom and travelled to China." She did not elaborate.

A Chinese company has been building a solar power plant in Qom. World Health Organisation officials have said that China's crackdown on parts of the country bought time for the rest of the world to prepare for the new virus. But as hot spots emerge around the globe, including in South Korea and Iran, there has been trouble finding the first patient who sparked each new cluster. **AP**

If peace comes: Afghans dream of life after war

Kabul: With a partial truce under way Saturday and a deal between the US and the Taliban likely on the horizon, Afghans are daring to dream of the war ending and their country finally opening up.

"The 'reduction in violence' agreed by the Taliban, the US and the Afghan security forces comes ahead of a possible deal between the insurgents and Washington which would see the US pull thousands of troops out of Afghanistan.

While the move is fraught with uncertainty, it marks a potentially historic step in the country's more than 18-year-old war.

Afghans have been sharing their hopes for peace on social media, tagging posts with hashtags in Dari and Pashto — Afghanistan's two main languages — that translate to #IfPeaceComes and #WhenThereIsCeasefire.

"In the past 15 years, people have not been able to travel on highways safely. The Taliban stop them, kill them or kidnap them," Ramin Mazhar, a popular poet who helped spread the hashtags, told AFP.

If the reduction in violence holds, Mazhar said he would go to Nuristan, an inac-



A man reads a local newspaper about peace talks in Kabul on Saturday

cessible province in the northeast of the country.

"I want to go to Nuristan, run, laugh, sing, dance, whistle and eat yogurt," he said.

"I want to touch its green hills, crazy rivers and blue sky. I want to climb its trees, and know its pigeons."

Afghanistan was once a popular destination on the "hippie trail" that saw foreigners from across Europe travel to the country by bus en route to India in the 1960s and 1970s.

Tourism was all but destroyed following the Soviet invasion in 1979 that led to over 40 years of continuous fighting

and instability. Few Afghans have been able to visit areas outside of their immediate home ever since, while millions have relocated to urban areas or moved abroad.

The desire to see more of the country is strong. Afghanistan is home to stunning mountain ranges like the snow-capped Hindu Kush along with verdant, remote valleys and swathes of pristine desert.

However with the Taliban controlling or contesting approximately half of Afghanistan, only small pockets of the country are accessible. **AFP**

Partial truce mostly holds across Afghan on first day

Kabul: A partial truce marking a potential turning point in Afghanistan's gruelling war appeared to be holding Saturday, with only isolated attacks threatening to mar a process that drew jubilant civilians across the shattered country onto streets to celebrate.

The Taliban, US and Afghan forces have all agreed to a so-called "reduction in violence", marking only the second lull in fighting since the US-led invasion of 2001.

"It is the first morning that I go out without the fear of being killed by a bomb or suicide bomber. I hope it continues forever," Kabul taxi driver Habib Ullah said, while in other parts of the country people danced in the streets after the truce kicked in at midnight. However, in Balkh province in the north, Taliban fighters attacked a district headquarters near the provincial capital of Mazar-i-Sharif, killing two Afghan soldiers, a local official told AFP.

There were also reports of a separate incident in central Uruzgan province. General Scott Miller, who leads US and NATO forces in Afghanistan, did not directly address those incidents, but stressed that Western forces would continually monitor the situation. "We've stopped our offensive operations as part of our obligations," Miller told reporters. In the event of any breaches of the truce, Miller said the US would communicate with the Taliban through various channels set up in Doha, where the insurgents have a political office. "As more days go on we will have a better understanding of what trends are," Miller said. "Very clearly this is a conditional effort, this is a trial period." The partial truce is expected to set the conditions for Washington and the insurgents to sign a deal in Doha on February 29 that could, ultimately, pull US troops out after more than 18 years and launch war-weary Afghanistan into an uncertain future. **AFP**

Iran's hard-liners take early lead in Tehran after vote

Tehran: Iranian state TV on Saturday announced the first partial results from the country's parliamentary elections, indicating a strong showing by hard-liners in the capital Tehran, although authorities have not released full results or the all-important turnout figure.

Voters had limited options on Friday's ballot, as more than 7,000 potential candidates had been disqualified, most of them reformists and moderates. Among those disqualified were 90 sitting members of Iran's 290-seat parliament who had wanted to run for re-election.

Although the final tally was still not released, a lower-than-usual turnout would signal widespread dissatisfaction with the state of the economy and the ways in which the government has handled a range of crises.

State TV, without providing the number of votes, announced the names of the leading candidates in Tehran's 30 parliamentary seats. All were hard-liners led by Mohammad Bagher Qalibaf, who is expected to be the next

parliament speaker. Looming over the election was the threat of the new coronavirus. Many voters headed to the polls with face masks on, and some pharmacies ran out of masks and hand sanitizer amid the election-day rush.

So far, there have been five coronavirus deaths from among the 28 confirmed cases in Iran, including two deaths on election day. Another fatality was reported on Saturday, although the exact time was not specified.

By comparison, the 196 parliamentary election saw 62% turnout. On Friday, election officials kept the polls open an extra five hours in an effort to boost turnout. Iran's leadership and state media had urged people to show up and vote, with some framing it as a religious duty.

A parliament stacked with hard-liners could tilt public policy debates away from engagement with the United States.

Tensions between Washington and Tehran have been high since 2018, when President Donald Trump with-

drew the US from Iran's nuclear agreement with world powers, and imposed sanctions that have forced Iran's economy into recession. Iranians have seen the price of basic goods skyrocket, inflation and unemployment rise and the local currency plummet.

The economic woes faced by ordinary Iranians fueled anti-government protests in November. International human rights groups say at least 300 people were killed in those protests.

A more hard-line parliament could also favor expanding the budget of the Revolutionary Guard Corps. The Guard's elite Quds Force, responsible for the Islamic Republic's campaigns abroad, was formerly led by Iran's top general, Qassem Soleimani. He was killed by the U.S. airstrike in January.

That strike led to a tense confrontation in which Iranian forces accidentally shot down a Ukrainian passenger plane after it took off from Tehran, killing all 176 people on board. Most of those killed were Iranian. **AP**

Prince Harry, Meghan agree to drop 'royal' from their new branding

London: Britain's Prince Harry and Meghan Markle have agreed to drop the use of the word "royal" from their future branding as a financially independent couple.

The Duke and Duchess of Sussex were in talks with the Buckingham Palace team handling their transition away from frontline royal duties, with some complications around the use of Sussex Royal as the phrase to be associated with their charitable work and other causes going forward.

"While the Duke and Duchess are focused on plans to establish a new non-profit organisation, given the specific UK Government rules surrounding use of the word 'royal', it has been therefore agreed that their non-profit organisation, when it is announced this spring, will not be named Sussex Royal Foundation," a spokesperson for the couple said in a statement, issued to address the ongoing media speculation over the issue. "The Duke and Duchess of Sussex do not intend to use

'Sussex Royal' in any territory post spring 2020. Therefore, the trademark applications that were filed as protective measures, acting on advice from and following the same model for The Royal Foundation of the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge (Prince William and Kate Middleton), have been removed," the spokesperson said.

The spring 2020 deadline refers to March 31, unveiled earlier this week as the formal date from when the couple will cease to formally represent Queen Elizabeth II and make their move to Canada, where they are expected to be based and travel to the UK "regularly". Harry, 35, and Markle, 38, are currently living in a mansion on Vancouver Island in Canada with their nine-month-old son Archie. Harry remains sixth in line to British throne and will retain his military ranks of Major, Lieutenant Commander and Squadron Leader but will not use his honorary military positions or perform any official duties associated with these roles. **PTI**

South Sudan's rival leaders form coalition Government

Juba: South Sudan opened a new chapter in its fragile emergence from civil war Saturday as rival leaders formed a coalition Government that many observers prayed would last this time around.

A day after President Salva Kiir dissolved the previous Government, Opposition leader Riek Machar was sworn in as his deputy, an arrangement that twice collapsed in fighting during the conflict that killed nearly 400,000 people.

Kiir declared "the official end of the war, and we can now proclaim a new dawn." Peace is "never to be shaken ever again," the president said, adding that he had forgiven Machar and asking for Machar's forgiveness, to applause. He called on their respective Dinka and Nuer ethnic groups to do the same.

The world's youngest nation slid into civil war in 2013, two years after winning a long-fought independence from Sudan, as supporters of Kiir and Machar clashed. Numerous attempts at peace failed, including a deal that saw

Machar return as vice president in 2016 — only to flee the country on foot months later amid fresh gunfire.

Intense international pressure followed the most recent peace deal in 2018. Pope Francis in a dramatic gesture kissed the feet of Kiir and Machar last year to coax them into putting differences aside. Saturday's ceremony began with a presentation to them of that photo as a reminder.

Exasperation by the United States, South Sudan's largest aid donor, and others grew as Kiir and Machar in the past year pushed back two deadlines to take the crucial step of forming the coalition government. But with less than a week before the latest deadline Saturday, each made a key concession.

Kiir announced a "painful" decision on the politically sensitive issue of the number of states, and Machar agreed to have Kiir take responsibility for his security. On Thursday, they announced they had agreed to form a government meant to lead to elections in three years' time — the first vote since

independence.

"Finally, peace is at our doorstep," a reporter with the U.N.-backed Radio Miraya declared from Bor in long-suffering Jonglei state. In Yambio, youth with flags were reported in the streets. "I rejoice with the South Sudanese, especially the displaced, hungry and grieving who waited so long," the archbishop of Canterbury, Justin Welby, tweeted.

Hugs and applause followed Machar's swearing-in. He thanked the pope and others and vowed to South Sudanese to work together "to end your suffering." Even as citizens breathed a careful sigh of relief, aid groups, analysts and diplomats warned of major challenges ahead. In a likely sign of caution, no heads of state aside from Sudan's leader, Gen. Abdel-Fattah Burhan, attended the swearing-in.

"While much work remains to be done, this is an important milestone in the path to peace," the US Embassy said in a message of congratulations. **AFP**

Twitter suspends 70 pro-Bloomberg accounts for breaking rules

San Francisco: Twitter said on Friday it suspended 70 accounts for spam-like posts supporting Democratic presidential hopeful Michael Bloomberg, whose campaign has hired hundreds of people to promote him on social media.

"We have taken enforcement action on a group of accounts for violating our rules against platform manipulation and spam," a spokesperson for the platform said. Some of the accounts are now banned while others can be re-authorized once the users behind them verify they are in control, Twitter said.

The Wall Street Journal revealed Wednesday that the billionaire former New York mayor has hired around 500 people in California at \$2,500 a month to regularly post messages supporting him on social media and to send text messages to their friends. The technique blurs the lines between political advertisement and promotion by ordinary activists on social media networks, which are grappling with how to handle political content and prevent abuse. **AFP**

France begins shutting down oldest nuke plant

Fessenheim (France): French state-owned energy giant EDF on Saturday began shutting down the country's oldest nuclear power plant after 43 years in operation.

EDF said it had disconnected one of two reactors at Fessenheim, along the Rhine near France's eastern border with Germany and Switzerland, at 2:00 am (0100 GMT) in the first stage of the complete closure of the plant.

The second reactor is to be taken off line on June 30 but it will be several months before the two have cooled enough and the used fuel can start to be removed.

The removal of the fuel is expected to be completed by the summer of 2023 but the plant will only be fully decommissioned by 2040 at the earliest. Shutting down Fessenheim became a key goal of anti-nuclear campaigners after the catastrophic meltdown at Fukushima in Japan in 2011.

Experts have noted that construction and safety standards at Fessenheim, brought online in 1977, fall far short of those at Fukushima, with some

warning that seismic and flooding risks in the Alsace region had been underestimated.

Despite a pledge by ex-president Francois Hollande just months Fukushima to close the plant, it was not until 2018 that President Emmanuel Macron's government gave the final green light.

"This marks a first step in France's energy strategy to gradually re-balance nuclear and renewable electricity sources, while cutting carbon emissions by closing coal-fired plants by 2022," Prime Minister Edouard Philippe said earlier this week.

France will still be left with 56 pressurised water reactors at 18 nuclear power plants — only the United States has more reactors, at 98 — generating an unmatched 70 per cent of its electricity needs.

The Government confirmed in January that it aims to shut down 12 more reactors nearing or exceeding their original 40-year age limit by 2035, when nuclear power should represent just 50 per cent of France's energy mix. **AFP**

PTI ■ WELLINGTON

Kane keeps Kiwis ahead

Williamson's leads charge with gutsy 89 after Ishant's triple strike

Ishant Sharma's lion-hearted bowling effort met its match in Kane Williamson's elegance as New Zealand ended an attritional second day of the opening Test against India with a slight upper-hand, here at Basin Reserve on Saturday.

After another lower-order collapse that saw get India bundled out for 165, Ishant, coming straight back from an ankle injury, took three for 31 in 15 overs despite Williamson's effortless 89 in New Zealand's day-end score of 216 for 5.

New Zealand now lead by 51 runs.

Mohammed Shami (1/61 in 17 overs), during his final spell of the day, removed Williamson, who couldn't check an uppish drive. Henry Nicholls' (17 off 62 balls) struggle seemed to have hampered Williamson's rhythm.

During the final hour, Ravichandran Ashwin (1/60 in 21 overs), who also bowled beautifully throughout the day, relieved Nicholls of his agony with a delivery that had drift and a hint of turn as India skipper Virat Kohli snapped the low catch at second slip.

Williamson looked good as he hit some delightful strokes square off the wicket. The square drive on the rise off Jasprit Bumrah (0/62 in 18.1 overs), followed by a cover drive, showed his class.

In all, the New Zealand skipper hit 11 boundaries off 153 balls.

Bumrah, in particular, was punished by Williamson. Either Bumrah bowled too full and drivable length deliveries or too short that even Rishabh Pant failed to gather the ball over his head.

This was where Ishant came into the picture. While he was lucky to get opener Tom Latham out with



Kane Williamson returns to pavilion after he was caught out by Ravindra Jadeja off Mohammad Shami on second day of 1st Test at Basin Reserve

ICC/Twitter

NZ vs Ind (1st Test, Day 3)
Live from 4:00am IST
STAR SPORTS 1 NETWORK

a delivery drifting on leg-stump, the other opener Tom Blundell (30) had a typical Ishant dismissal written all over it.

The ball was full on the off-

stump channel and jagged back enough to find the gap between his bat and pad.

"Actually, the wicket became slow. It had tennis ball bounce at

the start but when we bowled, there was no seam movement available," Ishant said after the end of the day's play.

Williamson and Taylor then

had a partnership of 93 runs during which New Zealand also got the lead before Ishant, coming back for his third spell, bowled one that reared up from good length and

"We have confidence that we can make a comeback. That has been the speciality of this team."
— ISHANT SHARMA

"If we can carry on tomorrow (Sunday) morning, get a couple of partnerships together and try and build that lead, then going into the second innings it will be nice."
— TIM SOUTHEE



Poonam Yadav celebrates after wicket ICC/Twitter

Aus win will give India huge confidence: Mithali

PTI ■ SYDNEY

India's demolition of a formidable Australia in the Women's T20 World Cup opener will give them a huge boost going forward, said star batswoman Mithali Raj, who also lauded leggie Poonam Yadav for her magical performance.

Poonam took four for 19 to help India complete a 17-run victory against defending champions Australia on Friday.

"Everyone has been talking about how much batting depth Australia have, yet they couldn't chase 132," Raj, a former India Test and ODI captain, said.

"India will take so much confidence from that victory, but this World Cup is still very open. The match between Australia and India proved how competitive the tournament will be. It proves it does not matter where you stand in the ICC rankings.

"We will be seeing more of the same drama yet. This victory proves every team has a chance," said Raj, who has retired from T20 cricket.

The 37-year-old veteran batswoman said "the opening match definitely lived up to the hype of the tournament."

"It was a whirlwind. There were so many ups and downs. It was a great start to the tournament not only because India beat the defending champions on home soil, but also because of how the game progressed altogether.

"At no point could you say it was going in one side's favour. First we saw our early wickets fall, then we recovered and Australia had to chase 132 before their middle-order collapsed. India and Australia both took the game their own way at different points which made it fascinating for spectators to watch."

Raj said Poonam's spell was the turning point.

"She's been one of the main spinners for India for quite some time now, and her style worked again. Getting their (Australia's) middle-order out really tilted the match towards India, she was brilliant.

"Although we recovered our innings through Deepti Sharma and her partnership with Jemimah Rodrigues, it was Poonam's flurry of wickets against Australia's megastars, which completely changed the game," Raj said.

Raj also praised 16-year-old Shafali Verma for scoring 29 off 15 on her World Cup debut.

"Shafali Verma impressed me too on her debut. She gave India's middle order the cushioning they needed to regain momentum. Verma has stuck with stroke play that she demonstrated in the tri-series," she said.

"I think she should be given that free range in the first six overs because when you're playing a top team, the runs in the first six overs are so important. It was great to be 40 up after just a few overs thanks to her contribution — Australia couldn't replicate that."



Ishant comes to Bumrah's defence: 'Funny how perceptions change quickly'

PTI ■ WELLINGTON

India's seniormost player Ishant Sharma finds it "funny" that people are questioning Jasprit Bumrah's "ability" just after a few matches, ignoring his performances over the past two years. "It's funny that perceptions changed after one innings.

For two years, we have always taken 20 wickets, myself, Boom (Bumrah's nickname in Indian dressing room) and Shami along with Ash or Jaddu (at home). How can people question on the basis of one innings (Test)?" Ishant asked while defending his colleague. "I don't think anyone doubts Boom's ability. Since his debut, what

he has achieved for India, I don't think anyone should raise any questions," said Ishant. Bumrah also had support from New Zealand pacer Tim Southee, who called him a "world class bowler" and found nothing wrong in his execution.

"I don't think there's anything wrong. He is a world-class bowler. He is obviously coming back from injury, but he is a quality player, and we know a great performance is never far away when you're a quality player," Southee said.

Agar takes hat-trick in Proteas rout

AFP ■ JO'BURG

Left-arm spinner Ashton Agar took a hat-trick as Australia crushed South Africa by 107 runs in the first T20I at the Wanderers Stadium on Friday.

Steve Smith, back in South Africa for the first time since the 2018 ball-tampering scandal, hit a top score of 45 for Australia, who made 196 for six after being sent in.

South Africa made a bad start against the pace of Mitchell Starc and Pat Cummins before Agar's triple strike sent them hurtling to their all-time lowest T20 total of 89.

It was also the host country's biggest defeat in the format.

Man of the match Agar finished with career-best figures of five for 24.

"It was really exciting, a highlight of my cricketing life," he said.

But he gave praise to the fast bowling attack of Mitchell Starc, Kane Richardson and Pat Cummins who started South Africa's collapse.

South Africa were reeling at 40 for four when Agar came on to bowl.

He had Faf du Plessis caught at deep cover with his fourth delivery, trapped Andile Phehlukwayo leg before next ball and Dale Steyn superbly caught at slip by captain Aaron Finch to complete the hat-trick.

Earlier, Smith and Fin (42) set up Australia's big total with an aggressive second wicket stand of 80 off 52 balls, benefitting from some loose South African bowling.

The win extended Australia's unbeaten run in the format to nine matches, with eight wins and one no-result. Their last defeat was in November 2018.

The second match of the series is at Port Elizabeth today with the third and final game in Cape Town on Wednesday.



Pant's run-out was turning point: Southee

WELLINGTON: New Zealand pacer Tim Southee believes that Rishabh Pant's freak run-out went a long way in changing the course of the Indian innings that eventually folded up for 165.

Pant, who started the day with a six in the first over suffered because of Ajinkya Rahane's poor call and India lost five wickets for 33 runs from that point. Rahane himself fell to Southee as he inside edged to the keeper trying to shoulder arms and late inward movement became his undoing.

Asked if there was any strategy to dismiss Rahane, Southee replied: "No, the run-out of Pant was a big this morn-



Rishabh Pant hits six on day 2 AP

ing. With him (Pant) being such a dangerous player and leading into that second new-ball, he could have scored quickly along with Jinks (Rahane's nickname)."

Southee knew that Rahane had no option but to attack once Pant was dismissed.

"We knew though if we could open one end up with the bowlers, then Jinks was looking to play a little bit more aggressively, which brings us into play a little more.

"The way we bowled this morning was pretty good. To come off and finish the Indian batting line-up like that with two dangerous players in this morning," said Southee, who picked four wickets. PTI

SINGLES

SHARAN-SITAK LOSE IN DELRAY BEACH Q/F
FLORIDA: India's number two doubles player Divij Sharan and his partner Kiwi partner Artem Sitak lost to top-seeded defending champions Mike and Bob Bryan in the quarterfinals of the Delray Beach Open. The Indo-Kiwi duo lost 2-6, 6-4, (3-10) to the Bryan brothers who are playing their last Delray Beach open as they are set to retire post the US Open this year.

SAMMY TO GET HONORARY PAK CITIZENSHIP
KARACHI: The Pakistan government would confer honorary citizenship on former Windies captain Darren Sammy for his role in bringing international cricket back to the country. Sammy, who is presently leading Peshawar Zalmi in the fifth PSL season, will be given the honorary citizenship and Pakistan's highest civilian award, Nishan-e-Haider, on March 23 by President Arif Alvi. Sammy, who has appeared in the PSL since its inception, played an important role in helping the PCB bring back int'l cricket to the country when in 2017 he agreed to come to Lahore and play in the PSL final.

ROJAS SETS NEW INDOOR TRIPLE JUMP WR
MADRID: Venezuela's Yulimar Rojas set a new indoor women's triple jump world record of 15.43m at a meeting in Madrid. The 24-year-old world champion bettered the previous world record of 15.36m set by Russia's Tatyana Lebedeva in Budapest in March 2004. Rojas's new mark also left her just seven centimetres short of the outdoor world record of 15.50m set by Ukraine's Inessa Kravets at Gothenburg back in 1995.

BAYERN EDGE PAST PADERBORN 3-2
MUNICH: Bundesliga leaders Bayern Munich squeaked past bottom side Paderborn 3-2 on Friday as Robert Lewandowski netted twice to spare goalkeeper Manuel Neuer's blushes in their final game before facing Chelsea in the Champions League. Lewandowski now has a league-leading tally of 25 goals in the top flight, illustrating his importance to the team ahead of Tuesday's last 16, first-leg tie in London. Bayern twice surrendered the lead in Munich before securing the win which leaves them four points clear.

ROONEY SCORES IN SOOTH LEAGUE GAME
LONDON: Wayne Rooney celebrated his 500th appearance in English league football with a goal before Aleksandar Mitrovic saw second-tier high-flyers Fulham to a 1-1 draw away to Derby. Former Manchester United star and England national side's all-time leading goalscorer, Rooney struck from the penalty spot after Tim Ream handled early in the second half at Pride Park when he cheekily chipped the ball over Fulham goalkeeper Marek Rodak.

SIMON STUNS TOP SEED MEDVEDEV
MARSEILLE: Two-time champion Gilles Simon stunned top seed and world number five Daniil Medvedev 6-4, 6-0 in just 67 minutes to reach the semis in Marseille. The 35-year-old Frenchman, who was champion at the tournament in 2007 and 2015, will face Canadian seventh seed Felix Auger-Aliassime for a place in the final after securing a third win in three meetings with Russia's Medvedev. Auger-Aliassime defeated Egor Gerasimov of Belarus 7-5, 6-2 to move to within one win of a fifth career final.

LYON CLINCH KEY WIN AHEAD OF JUVE TEST
LYON: Five days out from facing Juventus in the Champions League last 16, Lyon clinched a morale-boosting 2-0 win at Metz in Ligue 1. A penalty from Moussa Dembele in the eighth minute of injury time at the end of the first half and a goal from Houssein Aouar after three minutes of stoppage time in the second half gave Lyon the three points on Friday. It was a first win for Lyon after two draws and two losses. AGENCIES



Wanindu Hasaranga celebrates scoring the winning run AP

Hasaranga's cameo takes SL home

AFP ■ COLOMBO

A late cameo by Wanindu Hasaranga helped Sri Lanka pull off a thrilling chase to edge out West Indies by one wicket in the first ODI on Saturday.

Hasaranga, known for his leg-spin bowling, hit an unbeaten 42 after coming in to bat at number eight as Sri Lanka chased down their target of 290 with five balls to spare and lead the three-match series 1-0.

Hasaranga held his nerve after Sri Lanka slipped to 253 for seven following the departure of Thisara Perera for 32 to register his highest ODI score.

He built crucial partnerships including a 38-run stand with Perera and then put on 27 runs with Lakshan Sandakan for the ninth wicket.

With one to get off the last six ball Sandakan was run out but Keemo Paul bowled a no ball.

"Of course, winning is the ultimate thing but we made couple of mistakes that we have to learn from," skipper Dimuth Karunaratne, who top-scored with 52, said after the victory.

For the West Indies, Alzarri Joseph claimed three wickets after Shai Hope made 115 in his team's 289 for seven.

Ervine keeps Zim on track

DHAKA: Skipper Craig Ervine scored a dogged century as Zimbabwe shared the honours with Bangladesh on the opening day of the one-off Test here on Saturday.

Ervine hit 107 off 227 balls — his third century in Tests — as the visitors reached 228-6 at stumps after opting to bat first in what is the 100th international match between two teams.

Off-spinner Nayeem Hasan bowled Ervine, who struck 13 fours, shortly before the stumps before finishing with 4-68, the best return for the home side on the opening day.

PTI ■ VALSAD

Medium-pacer Chintan Gaja grabbed a five-wicket haul before Gujarat stretched their overall lead to a mammoth 587 runs against Goa in their Ranji Trophy quarter-final here on Saturday.

On the third day, led by the 25-year-old Gaja (5-19), Gujarat came up with a clinical performance to bowl out Goa for a meagre 173 in 57.5 overs.

With two days to go, Goa would need nothing short of a miracle to escape a humiliation.

In the second innings, Gujarat openers Samit Gohel (70 not out) and Priyank Panchal (37) added 72 for the first wicket as their lead swelled beyond 500. Gohel and

Wicketkeeper-batsman Regis Chakabva was batting on nine alongside Donald Tiripano, not out zero, when stumps were drawn at the Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium.

Mushfiqur Rahim returned to the Bangladesh lineup after missing out on their previous Test against Pakistan. AFP



Wicketkeeper-batsman Regis Chakabva

Bhargav Merai (49 not out) kept attacking the Goa bowlers and at stumps, the hosts were comfortably placed at 158/1, a staggering overall lead of 587 runs.

BENGAL TAKE LEAD

TANGI: Bengal rode on a disciplined pace attack to secure a first innings lead against Odisha.

The pace trio of Ishan Porel (3/72), Nilkantha Das (3/43) and Mukesh Kumar (3/51) shared nine wickets

Taylor too good for Thai

PTI ■ PERTH

Stafanie Taylor's all-round class helped West Indies survive a scare against debutants Thailand in their Women's T20 World Cup 2020 opener here on Friday.

Thailand chose to bat first but struggled to score heavily at the WACA, leaving teenage keeper-batter Nannapat Khoncharoenkai to step up and anchor the innings with 33 from 48 balls.

Captain Taylor held their Group B opponents to 78 for nine with her three wickets, but Thailand's fielding strength



Stafanie Taylor celebrates after Windies win ICC

came to the fore with Lee-Ann Kirby, Hayley Matthews and Deandra Dottin all departing before the seventh over to spark thoughts of an upset.

But Taylor and Shemaine Campbelle stayed firm and their unbeaten fourth-wicket partnership of 53 sealed the win. Taylor (26 not out) brought West Indies up to 50 with three boundaries and Campbelle (25 not out) swept three of her own to steer her country to their first WT20I victory in nine games.

By stumps on the third day, the visiting team extended the advantage by reaching 93 for 2 in their second innings.

J&K POISED FOR LEAD

JAMMU: Jammu and Kashmir were in a good a position to take the crucial first-innings lead after bowling out Karnataka for 206 on day three.

Resuming the day on 14 for two, Karnataka somehow managed to get past the 200-run mark with K Siddharth scoring 76 off 189 balls.

In response, J&K were 88 for two at stumps, needing another 119 runs to take the first-innings lead. With two days left in the game, the lead could prove decisive in JK's bid to make their first-ever semifinals.



Bengal players celebrate the wicket of Odisha's batsman Biplab Samantray PTI

among them to bundle out Odisha for 250 to secure an 82-run first innings lead and put one foot in the semifinals.

At close on day three, Bengal were 79 for two, extend-

ing their overall lead to 161.

In another game at Ongole, Saurashtra took control against Andhra by dismissing the hosts for 136 for a massive 283-run first-innings lead.