

**WORLD 7**

HONG KONG DECLARES WUHAN VIRUS OUTBREAK AN 'EMERGENCY'

**MONEY 8**

BREXIT TO HELP GLOBAL GROWTH, SAYS LAGARDE

**SPORT 10**

PLISKOVA, SVITOLINA OUT OF AUS OPEN

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# sunday pioneer

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26 JANUARY  
HAPPY REPUBLIC DAY



**USUALSUSPECTS**  
SWAPAN DASGUPTA

## Constitution sacred, but Bharat Mata more sacred

The 70th anniversary of the Indian Republic is, to my mind, an occasion for satisfaction more than celebration. Yes, there are always the celebratory facet, as befits a traditional national holiday. But that is only to be expected. What is far more important is the quiet satisfaction that comes with the awareness that the path we chose after Independence has, the occasional hiccup notwithstanding, worked reasonably well.

This is not to say that other systems of public life would have been less rewarding. There was a strong case for the Constituent Assembly to adopt a presidential system with in-built federal features. Adopting such a system would not have compromised stability. Indeed, given the type of challenges India faced in the first decades after Independence, a presidential system would probably have made policy choices more purposeful. It may even have worked to the advantage of Jawaharlal Nehru who often complained that his world view and his priorities were insufficiently understood by the other stalwarts of the Congress.

Counter-factual history is always an interesting intellectual game. However, it is also purposeless. The fact is not merely that India opted for a Westminster model and a bicameral Parliament but that other alternatives weren't seriously considered. That is not surprising. In the aftermath of Independence and with the world just about recovering from a devastating World War, single point leadership was viewed with suspicion. Maybe rightly so. Many of the former colonies that won freedom after 1947 quickly shifted from a parliamentary to a presidential system, with consequences that were undesirable.

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## 5 die in coaching centre collapse

4-storey Bhajanpura building in N-E Delhi caves in, 10 injured

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

A four-storey building housing a coaching centre collapsed in Northeast Delhi's Bhajanpura on Saturday evening, killing five people, including four students, and injuring 10 others. Around 30 minor students were attending classes on the first two floors of the coaching institute, when the roofs of the upper two floors caved in, trapping the students under debris, officials said.

The deceased have been identified as Kirti (10), Deeshu (14), Krishna Bharti (9), Farhan (6), all students, and Umesh (30). They were declared brought dead at the Guru Teg Bahadur (GTB) Hospital. Deceased Umesh was the younger brother of Shankar, who owns the building and runs the coaching centre.

"The fourth floor of the building was under construction when suddenly the upper two floors of the building collapsed. Some of the students were rescued by locals, while 13



Rescue works underway after an under-construction coaching centre building collapsed in Bhajanpura on Saturday

PTI

others were rescued by the fire department and police," a senior DFS official said, adding a call regarding the tragedy was received at 4.30pm.

Laxmi, the mother of deceased Krishna and injured Nitin, said, "My children were studying there for the past six months. They should not have moved them to the third floor as we heard from locals that the construction material was stored there. I lost my son Krishna and Nitin is injured. He is admitted to the GTB hospital."

Arif Sultan, father of

deceased Farhan, said, "My daughter who is in Class VIII called me to inform about the incident. I rushed to the spot. I climb up the stair and I myself took out my child from the debris after around one and a half hours. He was not breathing. We took him to hospital where he was declared brought dead."

Taking note of the incident, Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal tweeted: "Receiving bad news from Bhajanpura. Praying to God for everyone's safety. I will reach the spot soon."

## 9 honoured with Shaurya Chakra Prez OK's 409 gallantry awards for armed forces on Republic Day

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Nine personnel, six from the Army and three from Central Paramilitary Forces (CAPF), were awarded Shaurya Chakra, the third highest peacetime gallantry medal, on the occasion of the Republic Day. In all, the President approved 409 Gallantry and other defence decorations for the armed forces personnel.

Also, President's Police Medal will be conferred on

over 1,000 police personnel for gallantry and distinguished service. These include four President's Police Medals for Gallantry; 286 Police Medals for Gallantry; 93 President's Police Medal for Distinguished Service, and 657 Police Medal for Meritorious Service. In the list of police personnel listed for the honour, the Jammu & Kashmir Police has the maximum names at 108, followed by the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) at 76.

Squadron Leaders Siddharth Vashisht and Ninad Mandavane, pilots of Indian Air Force (IAF) Mi-17 helicopter that was accidentally shot down in Budgam on February 27 last year, were posthumously awarded Vayu Sena Medal (Gallantry). Last October, IAF Chief Air Chief Marshal RKS Bhaduria acknowledged the helicopter crash was a case of friendly fire and was a "big mistake."

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## Coronavirus: 7 more under observation

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Seven more people who returned from China have been kept under observation following screening for possible exposure to novel coronavirus. The Prime Minister's Office on Saturday reviewed India's preparedness to deal with the deadly syndrome and mounting global concern over growing number of cases in the neighbouring countries.

At a meeting chaired by PK Mishra, Principal Secretary to the PM, Health Ministry officials presented and updated about response measures being undertaken.

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## Nirbhaya convict moves SC against 'no' to mercy plea

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Mukesh Kumar Singh (32), one of the four death-row convicts in the 2012 Nirbhaya murder and gang-rape case, on Saturday moved the Supreme Court seeking judicial review of the rejection of mercy petition.

"A petition has been filed under Article 32 for judicial review of the manner of rejection of the mercy petition in terms of the judgment of the SC in Shatrughan Chauhan case," said Vrinda Grover, who is representing Mukesh.

Earlier, a Delhi court rejected charge that Tihar jail didn't hand over documents to convicts to file mercy pleas.

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### CAPSULE

#### PADMA FOR JAITLEY, SUSHMA, FERNANDES

New Delhi: Former Union Ministers Arun Jaitley, Sushma Swaraj and George Fernandes, Olympian boxer Mary Kom and former Mauritius PM Anerood Jugnauth have been awarded the Padma Vibhushan, while former Defence Minister Manohar Parrikar have been awarded Padma Bhushan. P4

#### RAJ ASSEMBLY PASSES ANTI-CAA RESOLUTION

Jaipur: The Rajasthan Assembly passed a resolution urging the Centre to repeal the CAA. It became the third State after Kerala and Punjab to do so. P4

**MQ-9B**

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SHOW TIME

# Interesting ode to comeback women

**PANGA**  
\*ing: Kangana Ranaut, Jassie Gill, Richa Chadda, Neena Gupta, Yo Yo Honey Singh  
Rated: 8/10



Panga is an ode to comebacks after motherhood and to women who give up blossoming careers, celebrityhood and presence to nurse their children and families. Tat their is a disclaimer that it is a purely fictitious story, takes away the mirth attached to sporting movies. But having said that, Kangana kind of glides into the role of a yesteryear kabaddi captain now engrossed in raising her cute child and cuter husband, at the expense of the international kabaddi mat and a

career all her own. She makes the movie and her character entirely believable though you might want to credit director Ashwini Iyer for not even once playing to the gallery.

The movie and its music comes with a Dangal kind of rustic influence though this is Bhopal not Haryana that the action is centred around. The film holds on to the chords of sensitivity not just for the woman who gave it all up for her premature child but also for the gentle relationship she has with her husband and the scenario from where she is drawn out to dream again, to perform again, this time against all odds.

The pace of the movie is slow and steady and despite the fear of it getting hijacked by ennui, Iyer keeps

her calm and let's the proceedings fall out of the home and the stadium without much of a fuss. Richa Chadda as Kangana's friend and co-player now turned coach, is a breeze adding interesting moments to the film whenever it starts to flag. However, the role of this straight speaking Haryanvi girl, is slim in the film and that makes you yearn for some more flesh on her being than the footage permits.

Same is the story with Neena Gupta who could have been much more than a laddoo-making nani she is reduced to being in the film, a word about Jassie Gill. He is cool as the side spouse. It is Kangana all the way to yet another performance of the day.

# Crackling dance performance

**STREET DANCER 3D**  
\*ing: Prabhu Deva, Varun Dhawan, Shraddha Kapoor, Nora Fatehi  
Rated: 6/10

If one is looking for a story that is a little beyond dancing, love thy neighbour and how one think of others and their plight, then Street Dancer 3D is not the film that will hold one's attention for long. But this doesn't mean that the movie has nothing to offer.

There is some great dancing. Those who are far removed from this art form, it will amaze them no end to where dancing stands today — from flips to head spins that will spin your head to break dance steps that one would have thought would actually break bones.

Then there is the music and songs. It is a film of dance, so yes, there are some noteworthy music and songs

that will remain with you till the next chartbuster is released.

Then there is Varun Dhawan, Shraddha Kapoor and Nora Fatehi. It goes without saying Varun Dhawan is a great dancer. he is most certainly give Tiger Shroff a run for his moves. Nora Fatehi is fantastic. But the surprise here is Shraddha Kapoor. Her size zero and moves are truly great. Efforts of choreographer Rahul Shetty needs to be lauded.

The icing on the cake is the presence of Prabhu Deva all through. Usually his appearance is in bits and pieces and only a few dance moves. There is a treat waiting for all those who are his fans and love the way he dances.

Street Dancer 3D holds ground, even though have been better dance movies by Hollywood.

— Shalini Sakseena



PARAM VISHISHT SEVA MEDAL			
1.	LT GEN RANBIR SINGH, AVSM**, YSM, SM, INFANTRY	26. MAJ ANKIT PATHAK, MECHANISED INFANTRY, RASHTRIYA RIFLES	
2.	LT GEN SANJEEV KUMAR SHRIVASTAVA, AVSM, ENGINEERS	27. MAJ BHANU PRATAP SINGH, ELECTRONICS AND MECHANICAL ENGINEERS, RASHTRIYA RIFLES	
3.	LT GEN RAJEEV CHOPRA, AVSM, INFANTRY	28. MAJ NISHANT MEHTA, ENGINEERS	
4.	LT GEN PODALI SHANKAR RAJESHWAR, AVSM, VSM, ARTILLERY	29. CAPT AMARINDER SINGH, MECHANISED INFANTRY, RASHTRIYA RIFLES	
5.	LT GEN SATINDER KUMAR SAINI, AVSM, YSM, VSM, INFANTRY	30. CAPT DEEPAK BISHT, INFANTRY, RASHTRIYA RIFLES	
6.	LT GEN AMARJEET SINGH BEDI, UYSM, YSM, VSM, INFANTRY	31. CAPT ANKUR, ARMoured CORPS, RASHTRIYA RIFLES	
7.	LT GEN ANIL CHAUHAN, UYSM, AVSM, SM, VSM, INFANTRY	32. CAPT PIYUSH SHARMA, ENGINEERS, RASHTRIYA RIFLES	
8.	LT GEN JAIVEER SINGH NEGI, AVSM, YSM, VSM**, INFANTRY	33. CAPT A RANJITH KUMAR, INFANTRY	
9.	LT GEN SANTOSH KUMAR UPADHYA, AVSM, SM, VSM, INFANTRY	34. CAPT SIDDHARTHA DAS, INFANTRY	
10.	LT GEN SANJEEV KANAL, AVSM, ARTILLERY	35. CAPT RAMAN TIWADI, INFANTRY	
11.	LT GEN RAJNI KANT JAGGA, AVSM, VSM, ADC, ARMoured CORPS (RETD)	36. SUB MUKESH KUMAR SINGH, ARTILLERY, RASHTRIYA RIFLES	
12.	LT GEN ALOK SINGH KLER, VSM, ARMoured CORPS	37. SUB DILBAG SINGH, INFANTRY, RASHTRIYA RIFLES	
13.	LT GEN RAVENDRA PAL SINGH, AVSM, VSM, MECHANISED INFANTRY	38. HAV BHAL SINGH, INFANTRY	
14.	LT GEN ARVIND DUTTA, AVSM, VSM, INFANTRY	39. HAV PAWAN, INFANTRY	
15.	LT GEN HARPAL SINGH, AVSM, VSM, ENGINEERS	40. HAV BANTI, INFANTRY	
16.	LT GEN DALIP SINGH, VSM, ARMY ORDANCE CORPS	41. HAV SHAMSHER SINGH, INFANTRY	
17.	MAJ GEN SANDEEPAN HANDA, ARMY AVIATION (RETD)	42. HAV JASBIR SINGH, INFANTRY, RASHTRIYA RIFLES	
18.	MAJ GEN MUKESH KUMAR, SM, INFANTRY	43. HAV RAJIB SWARGIARY, MECHANISED INFANTRY, RASHTRIYA RIFLES	
19.	MAJ GEN ASHWANI KUMAR CHANNAN, SM, ARTILLERY	44. HAV BALJEET, MECHANISED INFANTRY, RASHTRIYA RIFLES (POSTHUMOUS)	
UTTAM YUDD SEVA MEDAL			
1.	LT GEN PARAMJIT SINGH SANGHA, AVSM, SM, INFANTRY	45. HAV KIRAN KUMAR BOMMALI, MECHANISED INFANTRY, RASHTRIYA RIFLES	
2.	LT GEN YOGESH KUMAR JOSHI, AVSM, Vrc, SM, INFANTRY	46. HAV ESHWAR SINGH BANAFAR, ARTILLERY, RASHTRIYA RIFLES	
3.	LT GEN RAJEEV SIROHI, AVSM, VSM, INFANTRY	47. HAV HARIBIR SINGH, INFANTRY	
4.	LT GEN KANWAL JEET SINGH DHILLON, YSM, VSM, INFANTRY	48. HAV RAJESH SINGH, INFANTRY	
ATIVISHISHT SEVA MEDAL			
1.	LT GEN SUNIL SRIVASTAVA, VSM**, ARTILLERY	49. HAV PARDEEP KUMAR, INFANTRY	
2.	LT GEN ANIL KAPOOR, VSM, ELECTRONICS AND MECHANICAL ENGINEERS	50. HAV PRITAM SINGH, INFANTRY, RASHTRIYA RIFLES	
3.	LT GEN PANDALA NAGESH RAO, YSM, SM, INFANTRY	51. HAV SUNIL SINGH, INFANTRY	
4.	LT GEN RAKESH KUMAR ANAND, SM, VSM, SIGNALS	52. HAV RAVINDRA SINGH, INFANTRY, RASHTRIYA RIFLES	
5.	LT GEN SUKHDEEP SANGWAN, SM**, INFANTRY	53. HAV LALLANZOVA, INFANTRY, RASHTRIYA RIFLES	
6.	MAJ GEN VIRINDER SINGH RANDHAWA, VSM, ELECTRONICS AND MECHANICAL ENGINEERS (RETD)	54. LDFR FAROOQ AHMED KHAN, ARMoured CORPS, RASHTRIYA RIFLES	
7.	MAJ GEN RAJESH CHOPRA, MECHANISED INFANTRY, (RETD)	55. NK SANDEEP, INFANTRY (POSTHUMOUS)	
8.	MAJ GEN AMIT KUMAR SANYAL, VSM, ARMoured CORPS (RETD)	56. NK BISHAN SINGH LIMBU, MECHANISED INFANTRY, RASHTRIYA RIFLES	
9.	MAJ GEN BASAVARAJ GURUSIDDAPPA GILGANCHI, SIGNALS (RETD)	57. NK DASARI RAMESH, ARTILLERY, RASHTRIYA RIFLES	
10.	MAJ GEN SANDEEP SHARMA, VSM, INFANTRY	58. NK BUTA SINGH, ARTILLERY (POSTHUMOUS)	
11.	MAJ GEN PAWAN ANAND, ENGINEERS	59. NK SAMAY LAL SINGH, ENGINEERS, RASHTRIYA RIFLES	
12.	MAJ GEN SANJAY SINGH, SM**, VSM, INFANTRY	60. NK DILEEP POL, ENGINEERS, RASHTRIYA RIFLES	
13.	MAJ GEN KC PANCHANATHAN, ENGINEERS	61. NK KOTA RAGHUNATH REDDY, ENGINEERS, RASHTRIYA RIFLES	
14.	MAJ GEN NS RAJA SUBRAMANI, SM, VSM, INFANTRY	62. NK RAJENDRA SINGH, INFANTRY, RASHTRIYA RIFLES	
15.	MAJ GEN DEVENDRA PRATAP PANDEY, VSM, INFANTRY	63. NK RAVINDER SINGH, INFANTRY, RASHTRIYA RIFLES	
16.	MAJ GEN RAVIN KHOSLA, SM, VSM, INFANTRY	64. NK SONVEER SINGH, INFANTRY, RASHTRIYA RIFLES	
17.	MAJ GEN VIJAY KUMAR MISHRA, INFANTRY	65. NK OUM SINGH, INFANTRY, RASHTRIYA RIFLES	
18.	MAJ GEN JASBIR SINGH SANDHU, INFANTRY	66. NK SURESH CHAND CHOUDHARY, INFANTRY, RASHTRIYA RIFLES	
19.	MAJ GEN JYOTINDER SINGH SANDHU, ARMoured CORPS	67. NK KULDEEP SINGH, INFANTRY (POSTHUMOUS)	
20.	MAJ GEN JOHNSON P MATHW, VSM, INFANTRY	68. NK SURENDER SINGH RAUTELA, INFANTRY, RASHTRIYA RIFLES	
21.	MAJ GEN P GOPALAKRISHNA MENON, INFANTRY	69. NK SURENDRA YADAV, INFANTRY, RASHTRIYA RIFLES	
22.	MAJ GEN PRADEEP CHANDRAN NAIR, YSM, INFANTRY	70. ALD VINOD KUMAR THAKUR, ARMoured CORPS, RASHTRIYA RIFLES	
23.	MAJ GEN SANJIV RAI, SM, VSM, INFANTRY	71. L/NK PAWAN KUMAR, GUARDS, RASHTRIYA RIFLES	
24.	MAJ GEN RAJINDER DEWAN, VSM, INFANTRY	72. L/NK ANIL KUMAR, INFANTRY, RASHTRIYA RIFLES	
25.	MAJ GEN ATUL RAWAT, MECHANISED INFANTRY	73. L/NK YOGENDRA SINGH, INFANTRY, RASHTRIYA RIFLES	
26.	MAJ GEN GURBIRPAL SINGH, VSM, INFANTRY	74. L/NK SUBZAR AHMAD WANI, INFANTRY, RASHTRIYA RIFLES	
27.	MAJ GEN RAJESH KUNDR, SM, GUARDS	75. SEP GURMEET, MECHANISED INFANTRY, RASHTRIYA RIFLES	
28.	MAJ GEN SHAMMI RAJ, SM, ARTILLERY (RETD)	76. SEP GURDEEV SINGH, MECHANISED INFANTRY, RASHTRIYA RIFLES	
29.	MAJ GEN KALIKA PRASAD SINGH, YSM, INFANTRY	77. SEP PUSHKAR, MECHANISED INFANTRY, RASHTRIYA RIFLES	
30.	MAJ GEN SANJAY DARSHAN BEHERA, ARMY MEDICAL CORPS	78. SEP VINOD KUMAR, ARTILLERY, RASHTRIYA RIFLES	
31.	MAJ GEN VIVEK SHARMA, ARMY MEDICAL CORPS (RETD)	79. SEP GURPREET SINGH, INFANTRY, RASHTRIYA RIFLES	
32.	BRIG PREET PAL SINGH, VSM, INFANTRY	80. SEP AMANDEEP SINGH, INFANTRY, RASHTRIYA RIFLES	
SHAURYA CHAKRA			
1.	LT COL JYOTI LAMA, INFANTRY, ASSAM RIFLES	81. SEP TARSEEM SINGH, INFANTRY, RASHTRIYA RIFLES	
2.	MAJ KONJENBAM BIJENDRA SINGH, ARMY AIR DEFENCE, ASSAM RIFLES	82. SEP ARUNESH SINGH, INFANTRY, RASHTRIYA RIFLES (POSTHUMOUS)	
3.	NB SUB NARENDER SINGH, INFANTRY	83. SEP SANDEEP, INFANTRY, RASHTRIYA RIFLES (POSTHUMOUS)	
4.	NB SUB SOMBR, INFANTRY, RASHTRIYA RIFLES (POSTHUMOUS)	84. SEP PRITHVIRAJ, INFANTRY, RASHTRIYA RIFLES	
5.	NK NARESH KUMAR, INFANTRY, RASHTRIYA RIFLES	85. SEP JAYPAL SINGH, INFANTRY, RASHTRIYA RIFLES	
6.	SEP KARMEEDO ORAON, INFANTRY	86. SEP UDAY BHAN, INFANTRY, RASHTRIYA RIFLES	
YUDD SEVA MEDAL			
1.	BRIG VIJAY KUMAR PUROHIT, SM, INFANTRY	87. SEP AMIR KHAN, INFANTRY, RASHTRIYA RIFLES	
2.	BRIG VIKAS CHOUDHARY, INFANTRY	88. SEP SAIYYAD SAJEED IBRAHIM, INFANTRY, RASHTRIYA RIFLES	
3.	BRIG SACHIN MALIK, INFANTRY, RASHTRIYA RIFLES	89. SEP ANUP SINGH, INFANTRY, RASHTRIYA RIFLES	
4.	BRIG PAWAN BHARDWAJ, INFANTRY	90. SEP YOGENDRA SINGH JODHA, INFANTRY, RASHTRIYA RIFLES	
5.	BRIG BALBIR SINGH, VSM, INFANTRY, RASHTRIYA RIFLES	91. SEP RAMVEER, INFANTRY, RASHTRIYA RIFLES	
6.	BRIG SURESH KUMAR SHEORAN, SM, INFANTRY, ASSAM RIFLES	92. SEP MEDOVO NAKI, INFANTRY, RASHTRIYA RIFLES	
7.	COL NARESH CHANDRA GAIROLA, SM, INFANTRY, RASHTRIYA RIFLES	93. SEP UYOKTA KUMAR MARING, INFANTRY, RASHTRIYA RIFLES	
8.	COL SHAITAN SINGH, INFANTRY	94. SEP NEHMIMLEN HAKOPI, INFANTRY, RASHTRIYA RIFLES	
BAR TO SENA MEDAL (GALLANTRY)			
1.	LT COL SANJEEV KUMAR SINGH, SM, INFANTRY, RASHTRIYA RIFLES	95. SEP GRATEFUL, INFANTRY, RASHTRIYA RIFLES	
2.	MAJ HARPRIT SINGH, SM, INFANTRY, RASHTRIYA RIFLES	96. SEP RATHOD RANJITSINH AMARSINH, INFANTRY, RASHTRIYA RIFLES	
3.	MAJ VIPUL NARAYAN, SM, INFANTRY, RASHTRIYA RIFLES	97. RFN ANIL KUMAR JASWAL, INFANTRY, RASHTRIYA RIFLES (POSTHUMOUS)	
4.	MAJ VARUN GAUR, SM, ARMoured CORPS, RASHTRIYA RIFLES	98. RFN AYUB MOHD, INFANTRY, RASHTRIYA RIFLES	
SENA MEDAL (GALLANTRY)			
1.	LT COL SUNDEEP SINGH WALIA, ARMY AVIATION	99. PTR HARI VIYAPAK, INFANTRY	
2.	LT COL RAHUL GUPTA, INFANTRY, RASHTRIYA RIFLES	100. PTRY ELONTUNG LOTH, INFANTRY	
3.	LT COL RAJKUMAR PALLAB GOHAIN, INFANTRY, RASHTRIYA RIFLES	101. SWR KULDIP SINGH BHADOURIA, ARMoured CORPS, RASHTRIYA RIFLES	
4.	MAJ SHISHIR KUMAR, INFANTRY, RASHTRIYA RIFLES	102. SWR RAMAN KUMAR, ARMoured CORPS, RASHTRIYA RIFLES	
5.	MAJ CHANDAN KUMAR THAKUR, INFANTRY, RASHTRIYA RIFLES	103. SPR VIPIN KUMAR UPADHYA, ENGINEERS, RASHTRIYA RIFLES	
6.	MAJ BALRAJ SINGH RANDHAWA, INFANTRY	104. SPR NAGENDRA UDYAGOL, ENGINEERS, RASHTRIYA RIFLES	
7.	MAJ GOOTY BALAJI NIRANJAN, ARMY AVIATION	105. SPR ELUMALAI R, ENGINEERS, RASHTRIYA RIFLES	
8.	MAJ RAHUL KUMAR RAI, INFANTRY, RASHTRIYA RIFLES	106. SPR ARJUN N, ENGINEERS, RASHTRIYA RIFLES	
9.	MAJ VINEET KUMAR, INFANTRY, RASHTRIYA RIFLES	107. GDRS HARI BHAKAR, INFANTRY (POSTHUMOUS)	
10.	MAJ PRANAV PRABHAT, INFANTRY, RASHTRIYA RIFLES	BAR TO SENA MEDAL (DISTINGUISHED)	
11.	MAJ SACHIN ANDOTRA, ARMY SERVICES CORPS, RASHTRIYA RIFLES	1.	BRIG AMIT KATHIYAL, SM, INFANTRY
12.	MAJ KULBHUSHAN SINGH, INFANTRY, RASHTRIYA RIFLES	2.	COL CS PARMAR, SM, INFANTRY
13.	MAJ VIKAS, ENGINEERS, RASHTRIYA RIFLES	3.	COL SANJAY SINGH KARKI, SM, INFANTRY
14.	MAJ KRUNAL THAKRE, INFANTRY, RASHTRIYA RIFLES	4.	SUB BALWANT SINGH, SM, SCOUTS
15.	MAJ C PRAVEEN KUMAR, ENGINEERS, ASSAM RIFLES	SENA MEDAL (DISTINGUISHED)	
16.	MAJ MOHIT KHARE, INFANTRY, RASHTRIYA RIFLES	1.	MAJ GEN MANDIP SINGH, VSM, ARTILLERY
17.	MAJ RAHUL BALAMOHAN, INFANTRY, RASHTRIYA RIFLES	2.	MAJ GEN RAJ VIJAYENDRA SINGH, VSM, ARMY SERVICES CORPS
18.	MAJ NILAUV SURENDRA, INFANTRY	3.	MAJ GEN REENA BHARADWAJ, VSM, ARMY MEDICAL CORPS
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21.	MAJ SOURABH SUSHANT, INFANTRY, RASHTRIYA RIFLES	6.	BRIG NEERAJ GOSAIN, ENGINEERS
22.	MAJ A SRINIVAS REDDY, INFANTRY, RASHTRIYA RIFLES	7.	BRIG RAJESH KUMAR SHARMA, SIGNALS
23.	MAJ ANKIT DAHIA, INFANTRY, RASHTRIYA RIFLES	8.	BRIG MAN RAJ SINGH MANI, INFANTRY
24.	MAJ MOHIT MALIK, ENGINEERS, RASHTRIYA RIFLES	9.	BRIG MOHIT SETH, VSM, INFANTRY
25.	MAJ AJAY KUMAR, GUARDS, RASHTRIYA RIFLES	10.	BRIG TRILOKYA MOHAN PATTANAIK, INFANTRY
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**Plan Your Sunday**

## Double Bill Dance Concert

Venue: CD Deshmukh Auditorium, India International Centre, Max Mueller Marg, New Delhi  
When: January 30, 2020  
Time: 7 pm

Vani Bhalla Pahwa is the senior-most disciple of Guru (Padmashree) Smt Bharati Shivaji, and was amongst the first students who began training under her since inception of her dancing years. She is presenting a repertoire of some soulfully beautiful and lyrical compositions choreographed by my Guru Padmashri (Smt) Bharati Shivaji, in a style she has grown and evolved with over several years, and which is so unique in its identity and grace.



characteristic body movements of Mohiniyattam, along with abhinaya. Double Bill Concert Series is a series where IIC presents two styles in an evening. There's Kathak before Vani Bhalla Pahwa.

## Cup to a Cop

Venue: Coffee Culture outlets  
Date: January 26, 2020

There's nothing like a hot and steamy cup of coffee on a cold winter day! To celebrate the culture of coffee with the spirit of the nation on the 71st Republic Day, Coffee Culture has launched honouring the real heroes of the nation through the 'Cup to a Cop' Campaign. Serving cappuccinos to the police officers on the road, the campaign pays tribute to the police officers who work day in and out to protect our nation selflessly.

Coffee Culture is thanking the police officers of India across 20+ cities and treating them with cups of joy as a gesture of gratitude.

In India, every cop serves for more than 800 citizens. Their constant efforts, bravery, and undying spirits largely goes unacknowledged. This Republic Day,

Commemorating India's Constitutional republicanism, Coffee Culture is celebrating Republic Day serving encouraging the customers to be a part of the drive and contribute to serving a cup of creamy goodness to all the officers present on the road. The customers can contribute to Coffee Culture's nearest CC outlets or be a part of the 'Cup to a Cop' drive and celebrate their day with the community of coffee lovers. Creating elements of the local culture, Coffee Culture is known for great coffee, delicious food and creating spaces for connecting with the local culture.

## Oscars Film Festival

Venue: PVR Cinemas outlets  
Date: Till January 30, 2020

PVR brings a lineup of acclaimed & Oscar nominated English films, as we countdown to the most elite award ceremony of the year — the 92nd Academy Awards. Celebrate the best in cinema at your favorite entertainment destination with 'Oscars at PVR Film Festival'. During the month-long event, PVR will screen 18 Oscar nominated & winning films across 27 cinemas in 14 cities. Ford V Ferrari, 1917, Bombshell, A Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood, Frozen II- 2D, Knives Out and Star Wars: The Rise of the Skywalker are few of the films that will be screened as a part of the multi-city film festival.

## Food Festival

Venue: JP North Garden City, Mira Road, Mumbai  
Date: January 26, 2020  
Time: 4 pm to 10 pm  
Ticket: ₹100

As the winter chills are still on and cravings for a variety of scrumptious food items hit harder during this season, one of the biggest food festivals Mira Bhayandar Food Festival 2020 powered by IP Infra and curated by Things2do in Mumbai is scheduled to take place over this weekend. The event promises to offer around 50+ curated dishes, breweries, grooving music, DJ performances, engaging games, and much more! One gets an opportunity to dig into gamma garam chole bhature, momos, and pancakes or challenge it, with slurps of frozen popsicles and creamy ice creams.

# Shaheen Bagh poisoning young minds

Making a strong pitch against the ongoing protest at Shaheen Bagh against the Citizenship (Amendment) Act and National Register of Citizens, Union Minister Prakash Javadekar has termed the sit-in "politically motivated". In an interview with *The Pioneer's Sapna Singh*, Javadekar said the protest was deliberately being stretched and there was a vicious attempt to poison the young children who are calling out for the killing of PM Modi and Amit Shah. Javadekar, also the BJP's poll in-charge in Delhi, spoke at length on issues like selection of candidates, the party's strategies for the polls and the campaign to take on the ruling AAP Government. Excerpts from the interview:

◆ **How big the impact of CAA/NRC protest is going to have in Delhi polls. Will the ongoing protest in Shaheen Bagh backfire?**

Protest against CAA is politically motivated and agenda-based. This will have no impact on Delhi polls as it is not going to polarise Hindu or Muslim votes. Even those opposing the CAA are well aware that the law has nothing to do with people of India. The protest is troubling lakhs of people every day. What we see is five-year-old children calling out for killing of Modi and Shah.

People in India are well aware about original 1955 - CAA which gives citizenship to anyone who fulfils the criteria. The recent amendment in the Act will give citizenship to those who are persecuted on religious bases in Pakistan, Afghanistan and Bangladesh. BJP is ensuring that no one's citizenship is in danger.

CAA is in lime-light because a handful of people have been protesting in the



Capital for the last 40 days. There are various confusions among people which will be definitely cleared and may take three or six months.

◆ **BJP is relying heavily on young or lesser known faces. What is the strategy behind this. Do you think fielding newcomers against sitting Minister of AAP will work for BJP?**

This is the rule of our party (BJP) to give ticket to new faces. One third candidates will always remain new. Those who are relevant in today's time in his/her constituency, ticket will be given to him/her. In BJP, winnability is the only criteria. We ensure and promote equal participation of women candidate.

◆ **What is BJP's take on AAP's freebies?**

The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) is giving benefits to lakhs of Delhiites. With the regularisation of unauthorised colonies in Delhi, with few registration charges, BJP is giving them the benefit in Lakhs instead of few thousands by providing free water/electricity.

It is Arvind Kejriwal, who is keeping away Delhi people from the Central Government benefit. For instance; we give six thousand rupees to farmers across India. However, Kejriwal deprived Delhi farmers of this benefit by not submitting farmers' list to us. In Ayushman scheme, he has done the same by not implementing it in Delhi.

◆ **Is this election a**

**From January 27 onwards, there will be thousands of meetings for the next 10 days and thus, there will be a carpet bombing with 10,000 meetings. From Cabinet Ministers to party workers, everyone is involved with masses at booth level. We are announcing our vision document soon**

**fight between Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal?**

No. BJP is projecting PM Modi for his policies favouring every citizen of India. PM vs Kejriwal is an idea of good governance and bad governance. In previous Delhi elections, people came from outside to support AAP but this time, no one has come forward because people feel betrayed from Kejriwal's governance where most of the party candidates are facing charges of corruption. There is a wave of deception about AAP which we do not want. That's why PM Modi is an example of good governance.

◆ **If BJP wins election in Delhi, will you support the idea of full statehood status to Delhi?**

Well, full statehood status to the national Capital is a matter of debate across the globe. Our aim is to focus on development.

◆ **BJP is contesting elections in Delhi without a CM face for the first time. In 2008, VK Malhotra, in 2013 Dr Harshvardhan and in 2015, Kiran Bedi. Please comment.**

The rule of law in party is: People vote for the party not to a face! We did not project CM face in Haryana, Maharashtra. This will go for Delhi elections as well.

◆ **What is BJP's strategy for Delhi election campaigning?**

Yes, everyday, our Ministers are engaging with Delhi people in small gathering. The purpose of this engagement is to convey what BJP has done for people— be it abrogation of Article 370, triple talaq, Ram Mandir or CAA/NRC. From 27 January onwards, there will be thousands of meetings for the next 10 days and thus, there will be a carpet bombing with 10,000 meetings. From Cabinet Ministers to party workers, everyone is involved with masses at booth level. We are announcing our vision document soon.

◆ **Despite having old relationship with SAD, the party is not contesting elections. Is BJP anti-Sikh ?**

Every party has a ideology or a line, BJP respects it. SAD was not agreeing to CAA. Our alliance will remain intact but SAD has refused to contest elections in Delhi.



CM during the State-level Republic Day function at Chhatrasal Stadium in New Delhi on Saturday Ranjan Dimri | Pioneer

## Do not make education part of dirty politics: CM to Shah

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

Am Aadmi Party's (AAP's) National convener and Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal told Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Saturday not to make education a part of dirty politics or make fun of the hard work put in by students, teacher and parents of Delhi Government schools.

Kejriwal's remark came after Shah alleged the ruling AAP for not building new schools after coming to power. "The condi-

tion of existing schools deteriorated, Kejriwal promised to build 500 schools, "far from building new schools, the condition of existing schools is also in shambles. Seven-hundred schools do not have principals, more than 1,000 schools do not have science wing, there is shortage of 19,000 teachers. The Kejriwal Government could not spend 30 per cent of the education budget," Shah tweeted.

Reacting to the allegation, Kejriwal invited Shah to see for himself the condition of Government schools in Delhi. "Don't make education a part of your dirty politics. Please take out time and come with me to visit Government schools. You are surrounded by negativity the whole day, meet our students, you will get some positivity. Do positive politics over education," he said at a press conference.

Kejriwal also said, "Don't make fun of the hard work put in by students, teachers, and parents of Delhi Government schools."

## EC SLAPS 48-HR CAMPAIGN BAN ON KAPIL MISHRA

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

The Election Commission (EC) on Saturday imposed a 48-hour campaigning ban on BJP candidate from Delhi's Model Town constituency Kapil Mishra over his controversial tweets. The ban order, approved by the Chief Election Commissioner and two fellow Election Commissioners, came into force from 5 pm on Saturday, EC officials said.

The order, they said, referred to Mishra's tweets of January 22 and 23. "Delhi mein chote chote Pakistan bane (Number of mini Pakistan has been created in Delhi)", "Shaheen Bagh mein Pakistan ki entry", "India Vs Pakistan February 8 Delhi", and AAP and Congress have created Shaheen Bagh like Pakistan are some of the contents in the tweets the EC order referred to. While Twitter had taken down one of his controversial tweets on Friday following

directions of the EC, an FIR was lodged against him under section 125 of the Representation of the People Act dealing with creating enmity among classes. The order said the poll panel was not satisfied with Mishra's reply to the show cause notice issued to him. It charged Mishra with violating provisions of the model code of Conduct dealing with aggravating existing differences or creating mutual hatred.



Ministry of Information & Broadcasting  
Government of India



Republic Day is a festival of reiterating the ideals of freedom, equality, sovereignty and fraternity. This is an occasion to celebrate India and the spirit of being Indian.

Let us come together and fulfil our duties to make a new India which is clean and free from corruption, dirt, poverty, terrorism, casteism & communalism.

Heartiest Greetings on

# Republic Day



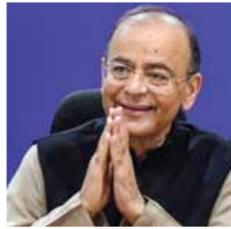
# Padma Vibhushan for Jaitley, Sushma, Fernandes; Bhushan for Parrikar

**New Delhi:** Former Union Ministers Arun Jaitley, Sushma Swaraj and George Fernandes, Olympian boxer Mary Kom and former Mauritius Prime Minister Anerood Jugnauth were among seven prominent personalities awarded the Padma Vibhushan on Saturday, the Home Ministry announced.



Famous classical bhajan singer from Varanasi Channulal Mishra and Vishvateertha Swamiji Sri Pejavara Adhokhaja Matha Udipi, who passed away recently, have also been given the highest Padma award — Padma Vibhushan.

Former Defence Minister Manohar Parrikar, industrialists Anand Mahindra and Venu Shrinivasan, Olympian badminton player PV Sindhu, former Nagaland Chief Minister SC Jamir and Jammu & Kashmir politician Muzaffar Hussain Baig have been awarded the Padma Bhushan, a Home Ministry statement said.



The awards are announced on the eve of Republic Day.

Jaitley, Swaraj, Fernandes, Parrikar and Vishweshwara Teertha Swami have been awarded posthumously, the officials said.



This year the President has approved conferment of 141 Padma awards including four duo cases (in a duo case, the award is counted as one), the statement said.

“Thirty four of the awardees are women and the list also includes 18 persons from the category of Foreigners/NRI/PIO/OCI and 12 posthumous awardees,” it said.

Padma Awards - one of the highest civilian Awards — are conferred in three categories— Padma Vibhushan, Padma Bhushan and Padma Shri.



Sixteen people have been given the Padma Bhushan and 118 the Padma Shri.

Padma Vibhushan is awarded for exceptional and distinguished service; Padma Bhushan for distinguished service of high order and Padma Shri for distinguished service in any field.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi congratulated the Padma awardees, saying they include extraordinary people.

“Congratulations to all those who have been conferred the Padma Awards,” he tweeted.

From Bollywood, filmmakers Karan Johar and Ekta Kapoor and actor Kangana Ranaut have been awarded Padma Shri.

Singers Suresh Wadkar and Adnan Sami, as well as veteran TV actor Sarita Joshi have been conferred with the fourth highest civilian award of the country. Six sports persons including cricketer Zaheer Khan, current Indian women's hockey captain Rani Rampal, former Indian men's hockey player M P Ganesh, shooter Jitu Rai, former Indian women's football team captain Oinam Bembem Devi and archer Tarundeep Rai have been given

Padma Shri. Naukri.Com founder Sanjeev Bikhchandani, industrialist Bharat Goenka, technocrat Nemmath Jain have been conferred the Padma Shri.

The award has also been given to Lucknow-based historian and journalist Yogesh Praveen and Assam-based historian Jogendra Nath Phukan have been awarded Padma Shri

There are 21 'unsung' heroes who were given Padma Shri this year including Jagdish Lal Ahuja, who serves free food to patients and attendants outside PGI hospital in Chandigarh; Mohammed Sharif from Faizabad, who has performed last rites of over 25,000 unclaimed bodies' and veterinarian from Assam Kushal Konwar Sarma who is known for treating elephants.

Seventy-two-year-old Tulasi Gowda from Karnataka, who earned the sobriquet 'encyclopedia of forests' because of her vast knowledge of diverse plants species in spite of lacking formal education, has also been given the award, it said.

Sathyanarayan Mundayoor, known as Uncle Moosa of Arunachal Pradesh, who has been promoting education and reading culture in remote areas of Northeastern states for last four decades; Abdul Jabbar aka 'voice of Bhopal' (posthumously), known for fighting for the cause of victims and survivor of 1984 Bhopal gas tragedy; and Usha Chaurma, a Dalit social worker working in the field of sanitation in Rajasthan, have also been given the award. **PTI**

## Raj becomes third State to pass resolution against CAA

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Congress-ruled Rajasthan on Saturday became the third State to pass a resolution urging the Centre to revoke the Citizenship (Amendment) Act (CAA) even as the party announced its plans to move a resolution in the Assembly in Kerala, where, interestingly, it is in Opposition, to seek Governor Arif Mohammad Khan's recall for "violating" all democratic principles and "publicly questioning" the pride of the legislature. The Government said the passing of the resolution is a conspiracy to divide the country and is not acceptable, the BJP accused the ruling Congress of pursuing appeasement politics.

Governor Khan welcomed the recall plans but said whatever he did is part of his duty as per the Constitution and as interpreted by the Supreme Court also. The Governor's statement came hours after Leader of Opposition Ramesh Chennithala said the party will move a resolution in the Assembly seeking his recall. Chennithala said that he has given a notice to Speaker P Sreeramakrishnan seeking his permission to move the resolution in the Assembly under the rule 130 of the legislative business.

Left-ruled Kerala and Congress-ruled Punjab were the first two States to pass such a resolution. The Rajasthan

Assembly passed by voice vote the resolution urging the Centre to repeal the CAA. The resolution also asked the Centre to withdraw the new fields of information that have been sought for update in National Population Register (NPR), 2020.

"It is evident that the CAA violates the provisions of the Constitution. Therefore, the House resolves to urge upon the government of India to repeal the CAA to avoid any discrimination on the basis of religion in granting citizenship and to ensure equality before law for all religious groups of India," Parliamentary Affairs Minister Shanti Dhariwal said while moving the resolution in the House.

## Anyone who opposes BJP's agenda of hate dubbed as Urban Naxal: Rahul Gandhi

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Congress leader Rahul Gandhi on Saturday hit out at the Centre alleging that anyone who opposes the ruling BJP's "agenda of hate" is dubbed as an "Urban Naxal".

A day after the Centre handed over the Bhima-Koregaon case to the NIA, Rahul attacked the central agency saying its "stooges" can never erase "the symbol of resistance". "Anyone who opposes the MOSH agenda of hate is an 'Urban Naxal'."

"Bhima-Koregaon is a symbol of resistance that the Government's NIA stooges can never erase," he said on Twitter.

The National Investigation Agency (NIA) took over the probe into the 2018 Koregaon-Bhima violence on Friday, a day after the Maharashtra Government held a review meeting with senior Pune police officers to take a call on pursuing the matter.

## Cong OK's 22 V-Ps, 31 gen secretaries for U'khand State unit

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Congress on Saturday nodded the formation of a jumbo Pradesh Congress Committee for Uttarakhand with 22 vice presidents, 31 general secretaries and 98 secretaries.

The new committee was approved by Congress president Sonia Gandhi after she accepted the recommendations made by senior party leaders in-charge for the state and in consultation with senior leaders from the state.

Sunil Gulati has been made



the new Treasurer of the Uttarakhand PCC.

Among the 90 special invitees to the committee are former chief minister Harish Rawat, Indira Hridesh, Kishore Upadhyay and others.

The Uttarakhand PCC is headed by MLA Pritam Singh.

## Nepal offers to mediate between India, Pakistan

**Kathmandu:** Nepal on Saturday became the first South Asian nation to offer to "mediate" between India and Pakistan over Kashmir and cross-border terrorism with a Nepal Government source underlining the importance of dialogue between the two arch-rivals to resolve their differences that could also lead to the revival of the SAARC.

Tensions between India and Pakistan have spiked since India abrogated Article 370 of the Constitution to revoke the special status of Jammu & Kashmir in August last year. India's decision evoked strong reactions from Pakistan, which downgraded diplomatic ties and expelled the Indian envoy.

"Peaceful talks and discussions are the best ways to resolve any problems. There may be contradictions and differences but it can be resolved through dialogue. If necessary, we can play the role of the mediator as Nepal is an independent, neutral and peace loving country," the source said here.

The source, however, said that better solution to resolve the issues would be to develop better dialogue between two countries. **PTI**

## Coronavirus...

From Page 1

The meeting was held on the instructions of Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

The Cabinet Secretary, Home Secretary, Foreign Secretary, Defence Secretary, Health Secretary, Civil Aviation Secretary and several other top officials attended the meeting. They said health Ministry officials briefed Mishra on the preparedness of hospitals laboratories as well as measures being taken for the capacity building of rapid response teams to deal with possible case of coronavirus.

Principal secretary to the PM also reviewed the various preventive measures taken by other Ministries like the Ministry of Civil Aviation.

The officials assured Mishra that the situation is being closely monitored by the Ministry of Health and Family Affairs in coordination with various other Union Ministries as well as State Governments and Union Territories. The sources said the National Institute of virology labs are fully equipped to test the virus and that all State and district health authorities have been alerted.

So far 20,000 people from 115 flights at seven international airports in the country have been screened.

Much to the relief to the authorities, in Mumbai, two persons, who were admitted to a civic hospital for possi-

ble exposure to coronavirus, have tested negative for the infection, while the blood sample of another person will be sent for testing to the National Institute of Virology (NIV) in Pune on Saturday, officials said.

To review the situation at the State level, Union Health Minister Harshvardhan has directed for multi-disciplinary Central teams to be sent to the seven States where thermal screening is being done at the seven designated airports --- New Delhi, Bengaluru, Hyderabad, Mumbai, Kolkata and Cochin.

Vardhan, who held a review meeting to analyse the preparedness for prevention and management of noble coronavirus in India also spoke to the Chief Minister of Uttarakhand on screening at the border with Nepal where one confirmed case has been reported.

The Punjab Government has asked all district hospitals to put in place necessary arrangements to tackle any emergent situation in view of the outbreak of coronavirus in China, and said a team of doctors will be stationed at the Amritsar international airport starting Monday for screening passengers.

Nine people --- 7 in Kerala and one each in Bengaluru and Hyderabad who are among hundreds of passengers who returned from China in the recent days --- are under observation in hospital to check for possible exposure to the deadly novel coronavirus.

## Nirbhaya convict...

From page 1

The court said no further directions were required on a plea by the lawyer of the death row convicts in the case alleging the prison authorities were not handing over certain documents required to file mercy and curative petitions, and disposed of the petition.

Additional Sessions Judge Ajay Kumar Jain said the convicts' lawyer can take pictures of the relevant documents, notebook and paintings or sketches from the Tihar jail authorities.

The court noted that the jail authorities had already complied with the request made by the convicts by supplying the documents whatever was lying with them.

The warrant for execution of death sentence for the four convicts has been fixed on February 1 at 6 am. Mukesh had moved the mercy petition after the Supreme Court had dismissed his curative petition against his conviction and death sentence.

Along with his, the apex court had also rejected the curative petition of another death row convict Akshay Kumar (31).

Other two convicts Pawan Gupta (25) and Vinay Kumar Sharma are yet to file curative petitions before the Supreme Court.

## India, Brazil ink 15 pacts, unveil action plan to broaden ties

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

With the objective to give a boost to ties between the two countries, India and Brazil on Saturday signed 15 agreements and unveiled an action plan to further broaden strategic ties after talks here between Prime Minister Narendra Modi and President Jair Messias Bolsonaro, who is the chief guest for the Republic Day parade on Sunday.

The action plan includes two countries firming up specific goals for deeper cooperation in areas of defence and security, trade and commerce, agriculture, civil aviation, energy, environment, health and innovation and vowed to work together to conclude an agreement to deal with international terrorism.

The major focus of the talks between Modi and Bolsonaro was on boosting bilateral trade and investment as both the large economies were hit by global economic slowdown.

In the this backdrop, the 15 agreements will provide for cooperation in a wide range of areas including oil and gas, mineral resources, traditional medicine, animal husbandry, bio-energy and trade and investment.

## Human chain in Kerala against CAA today

**Thiruvananthapuram:** While the country will celebrate its 71st Republic Day on Sunday, Kerala will witness a massive protest led by the CPI(M) led Left Democratic Front in the form of a State-wide human chain, demanding withdrawal of the controversial Citizenship Amendment Act.

The LDF has organised the 620 km long human chain from Kasaragod in north Kerala to Kalyakkavilai in the southernmost part of the state

and expect about 60 to 70 lakh people to participate in it.

The human chain will be formed at 4 PM following which the preamble of the Constitution will be read out.

"All the leaders of the ruling front will join the chain at various parts of the state.

Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan will join the protest in Thiruvananthapuram.

We will read out the preamble of the Constitution and then take an oath to protect the

Constitution," LDF convener A Vijayaraghavan had said.

Senior CPI(M) leader S Ramachandran Pillai will be the first link of the human chain at Kasaragod, while M A Baby will be the last link at Kalyakkavilai.

"We have invited all the prominent personalities in the state from all walks of life. We also expect UDF leaders to join us in the fight to protect the Constitution," Vijayaraghavan had said. **PTI**

## Constitution...

From Page 1

India didn't change course — although Indira Gandhi tried to in 1976 at the height of the Emergency — and it hasn't really suffered.

Maybe the policy choices under a presidential system would have been more emphatic and, consequently, economic progress would have been more marked. However, in hindsight, that had less to do with the parliamentary system than with the flawed policy options exercised. The alternative, less-statist options that were proffered by stalwarts, could well have been accommodated within a parliamentary system. More to the point, a parliamentary system encouraged the development and consolidation of a party system that has certainly added to the democratic spirit. A presidential system may have done quite the opposite.

In any event, the role of a Constitution should not be over-stated. A Constitution is a valuable and, indeed, indispensable document without which a country can be held hostage to individual flights of whimsy. However, a Constitution stipulates the rules governing public life. It is important to have these rules as they delineate a Lakshman Rekha and defines self-restraint.

A Constitution, in the case of India, however, has its limits. India isn't a treaty state as many European and African countries are. There was an India before the Queen's Proclamation of 1858 and there was an India even before the Moghul kings set up a mighty empire. The boundaries of the state may have been defined by conquest and treaties but India as a nation — and a civilisational entity — had an autonomous existence, independent of the multiple kingdoms that existed in the subcontinent. The term 'sacred geography' is just one version of an India that operated at the level of a cultural entity.

The importance of stressing this on the 70th anniversary of the Indian Republic is obvious. There is an intellectual and political current in the country that would have us believe that the Constitution is the first and final word defining our national life. Without undermining its colossal importance in any way, it is necessary to affirm that Indian nationhood existed well before a Constitution was even imagined. It is a nationhood that, unlike European nations, isn't based on the commonality of either language or a structured faith. It is based on cultural assumptions.

The term Hindu has often been used to define India. If used in a sense that proceeds on the belief that Hinduism is a codified religion with an established church and hierarchy, it would be wrong. India possesses a broadly shared culture that is loosely speaking described as Hindu. But it is a culture that cannot and should not be codified. Secularism was sought to be codified in 1976 by including the term in the Preamble. The results have been disastrous. There have been more disputes centred on secularism after 1976 than there were in the period 1950-1976, when secularism existed as an understanding.

The challenge India faces today is not one of a dysfunctional Constitution. The worry stems from an attempt to detach nationhood from citizenship and reduce India to a juridical tract, a plaything for clever lawyers and those who want to take culture away from our public life. The trend should and must be resisted.

Bharat Mata holds the Constitution in one hand. What she carries is important and even sacred. But no more important and sacred than Bharat Mata herself.



CHANGE OF NAME

I, M. Bandyopadhyay S/o Late Sh. D. D. Banerjee R/o A-203, Designer Park, Sector-62, Noida (U.P.) declare that D. D. Banerjee and D. D. Bandyopadhyay are the one and same person i.e. both are my father's name.

PD(8780)A I, Amit Kumar Rathi S/o Sh. Mange Ram R/o Alipur (180), Ghamroj, Sohna, Gurgaon Haryana-122102, declare that I have changed my name from Amit Kumar Rathi to Amit Rathi for all future purposes.

PD(8781)C I, Narender Kumar Rathi S/o Sh. Mange Ram R/o Alipur (180), Ghamroj, Sohna, Gurgaon Haryana-122102, declare that I have changed my name from Narender Kumar Rathi to Narender for all future purposes.

PD(8782)C

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER, FIRST CONSTRUCTION DIVISION, U.P. JAL NIGAM, R-1, RAJNAGAR, GHAZIABAD-201001  
Letter No. 102/Vividh-09/03  
Dated : 23.01.2020  
SHORT TERM E-TENDER NOTICE  
U.P. Jal Nigam, Short Term E-tenders are invited for "Installation of Rebore India Mark-II hand pump in Rural/Urban area of Block Loni and Bhojpur. Intending tenderers must be registered with U.P. Jal Nigam in Class-"D" or above Category Hand pump before date of opening of tender. Tender document shall be available at e-procurement website http://etender.up.nic.in latest by 28.01.2020. Interested contractors may view & download tender document and upload their tender, duly filled, online latest by 06.02.2020 up to 18:00 hrs. Uploaded tender document shall be opened on 07.02.2020 at 11:30 Hrs. onwards in the office of "Executive Engineer, First Construction Division, U.P. Jal Nigam, Ghaziabad".

## 9 honoured...

From Page 1

On the morning of February 27, as fighters jets of India and Pakistan were engaged in a dogfight over Naushera sector, a day after the Balakot air strike, the Mi-17 crashed in Budgam shortly after take-off from Srinagar killing all six personnel onboard and one civilian on the ground. The Court of Inquiry ordered to investigate the crash confirmed that it was shot by Israeli origin ground based Spyder surface to air missile system of the IAF.

The Air Chief Marshal had also said disciplinary action will be taken against two officers involved and those

who lost their lives will be declared battle casualties.

Meanwhile, the overall list of awardees include nine Shaurya Chakras, 28 Param Vishisht Seva Medals (PVSM), four Uttam Yudh Seva Medals, 53 Ati Vishisht Seva Medals (AVSM), 10 Yudh Seva Medals, 123 Vishisht Seva Medals, four Bar to Sena Medals (Gallantry), 107 Sena Medals (Gallantry), five Nao Sena Medals (Gallantry), four Vayu Sena Medals (Gallantry), four Bar to Sena Medals (Devotion to Duty), 36 Sena Medals (Devotion to Duty), eight Nao Sena Medals (Devotion to Duty), one Bar to Vayu Sena Medal (Devotion to Duty) and 13 Vayu Sena Medals (Devotion to Duty).



The six Shaurya Chakra awardees include Lt Colonel Jyoti Lama, Major Konjengbam Bijendra Singh, Naib Subedar Narender Singh, Naib Subedar Sombir (posthumous), Naik Naresh Kumar and Sepoy Karmdeo Oraon. While two officers including Lama and Bam Bijendra Singh were given the medal for their actions against militants in Manipur, the remaining awards were given to personnel for gallantry in Jammu & Kashmir last year. Northern Command chief Lt General Ranbir Singh was awarded the Param Vishisht Seva Medal (PVSM).

Lieutenant Colonel Jyoti Lama created a vibrant intelligence network in Manipur and after meticulous planning relentlessly led his team in

apprehending fourteen hardcore terrorists. Naib Subedar Sombir was posthumously awarded the Shaurya Chakra. He was killed during an encounter with terrorists in Jammu & Kashmir in February last year. During the encounter, three hardcore terrorists were killed. One of them was a foreigner and an 'A++' category terrorist, and he was shot down by Sombir in a close quarter battle.

Major Bijendra Singh led a team through dense jungles and when pinned down by hostile fire from militants in Manipur dashed towards them and in the ensuing firefight killed two militants.

Naib Subedar Narender Singh, while deployed on the Line of Control (LOC), detected a team of infiltrators and

chased them. In the close quarter battle, he managed to kill two militants.

Naik Naresh Kumar, while deployed in a village in Jammu and Kashmir, came under heavy fire and sensing grave danger to his team led the assault killing one category A++ militant.

Sepoy Karmdeo Oraon's post on the LoC came under heavy fire from the enemy posts across the border. Some terrorists were also firing and in an effort to discourage them, the soldier took action and was hit in the chest and leg. Unmindful of this, he rushed out of his bunker and fired at the terrorists killing two of them. He returned to the post and kept firing his light machine gun thereby averting danger to his post.

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# R-Day honour for over 1K cops

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Over 1,000 police personnel will be conferred President's police medal for gallantry award and distinguished service on the eve of Republic Day. These include four President's Police Medals for Gallantry; 286 Police Medals for Gallantry; 93 President's Police Medal for Distinguished Service and 657 Police Medal for Meritorious Service. In the list of police personnel listed for the honour, the Jammu & Kashmir Police have the maximum names at 108 followed by the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) at 76.

The tally for the Union Territory police, involved in counter-terrorist operations in the Kashmir Valley, also includes three President's Police Medal for Gallantry (PPMG), out of the total four of these top category decorations announced this time.

According to the Ministry of Home Affairs, three from Jammu and Kashmir Police and one from CRPF will receive the highest honour. Both the forces are engaged in counter terror operations in newly-created union territory. Abdul Jabbar (IPS), Gh. Hassan Sheikh (Deputy

Superintendent of Police) and Asif Iqbal Qureshi (Constable) from Jammu & Kashmir and Late Constable Utpal Rabha (Posthumous) will receive the highest police gallantry award for their valour during counter terror operations.

Out of 286 police personnel who will receive second highest honour for valour - Police Medal for Gallantry, total 105 personnel from Jammu & Kashmir Police and 75 from CRPF will receive the medal. Jharkhand Police has been given 33, Odisha police 13, Delhi Police 12, Maharashtra Police 10, Chhattisgarh eight and Bihar Police get seven Police Medal for Gallantry.

CBI Joint Director DS Shukla, an ace investigator who headed a team that deported the first Indian national from the UAE besides cracking several cases, is among 28 officers of the agency who have been awarded the President's and police medals for meritorious service. Deputy SP Ramaswamy Parthasarathy, who famously climbed the walls of former Finance Minister P Chidambaram's bungalow in Jor Bagh to arrest him in the INX Media case, has also

been conferred with the medal. Superintendent of Police Binay Kumar of special crime unit, who has a knack of solving complex murder cases including infamous Kherlanji murders of 2006, Pawanraje Nimbhalkar murder, Rinehskhem Kharsohnoh murder case of Meghalaya, Kavita Rani murder case of Meerut has been awarded Police Medal for Meritorious Service.

According to the Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP), 15 officials were awarded the police service medal on the eve of Republic Day. Second-in-command-rank officer Ratan Singh Sonal, Section Officer C Durai Raj and deputy inspector generals AS Rawat and Nishith Chandra were among the officials decorated with the distinguished and meritorious medal. Inspector General DK Dimri, DIG SK Sharma and second-in-command-rank officer RK Joshi were also among the recipients of the medal.

According to the ministry, 29 CISF officials, including five from the fire wing, have been decorated with different police service medals on the eve of the Republic Day. The awardees include senior Commandant Vishnu

Swarup, Commandant HK Brahma and Assistant Commandant Abdus Salam. Officers awarded the distinguished service medal include Deputy Inspector General Sanjay Prakash, Assistant Commandant Harish Singh Karmyal, Assistant Sub Inspector Rajender Babu. Five officials have been decorated with the fire service medals including ASIs Rashpal Dass and Darmiyan Singh.

A total 93 police personnel will receive President's Police Medal (PPM) for Distinguished Service and maximum are from Intelligence Bureau with eight medals. Four SSB personnel have been awarded the PMG this Republic Day for killing a dreaded Naxal commander in Jharkhand who was wanted for fatally ambushing an SP-rank officer of the state in 2013.

Four officers & personnel of National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) have been awarded with the Police Medal for Meritorious Service.

A total 657 personnel receive Police Medal for Meritorious Service and maximum are from Uttar Pradesh police with 72 awards.

## STREAMING, SOCIAL MEDIA PLATFORMS

# RS panel suggests separate adults section

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Congress leader Jairam Ramesh-headed Adhoc Committee of the Rajya Sabha has recommended separate adult section on streaming platforms like Netflix and social media platforms like Twitter and Facebook where under-aged children could be disallowed. It said social media platforms should also have mechanism for age verification and restricting access to objectionable/obscene material.

The Committee recommended 40 changes including in the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act (POCSO Act), 2012 and the Information Technology Act, 2000, Indian Penal Code and making monitoring apps mandatory on all devices to prevent sexual abuse of children and to contain access to and transmission of child pornography content on the social media.

The Committee sought inclusions of a clause in the POCSO Act, 2012 under which

advocating or counseling sexual activities with a person under the age of 18 years through any written material, visual representation or audio recording or any characterisation is made an offence under the Act.

It also sought another clause to be inserted in the POCSO Act prescribing a Code of Conduct for intermediaries (online platforms) for maintaining child safety online, ensuring age appropriate content and curbing use of children for pornographic purposes. The Committee rec-

ommended a new section be included in the IT Act 2000, providing for punitive measures for those providing pornographic access to children and also those who access, produce or transmit Child Sexual Abuse Material (CSAM). The Committee also recommended that social media sites and apps are required to issue age restriction warnings at the point of account creation/sign up that advises parents not to assist minors in the creation of underage accounts.

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# Hong Kong declares Wuhan virus outbreak an 'emergency'

AFP ■ HONG KONG

Hong Kong on Saturday declared a new coronavirus outbreak as an "emergency" - the city's highest warning tier - as authorities ramped up measures to reduce the risk of further infections.

The announcement came as city leader Carrie Lam faced criticism in some quarters over her administration's response to the crisis.

Of the five people who have tested positive for the virus in Hong Kong so far, four arrived via a newly built high-speed train terminal which connects with the mainland.

That led to calls from some medical experts and politicians to limit, or even halt, arrivals from China, the epicentre of the outbreak with 41 people dead.

Lam held emergency meetings with health officials on Saturday morning after returning from Davos.

"Today I declare the lifting of the response level to emergency," she told reporters.

Schools and universities, which are currently on a Lunar New Year break, would remain closed until 17 February, Lam said.

All mainland arrivals to Hong Kong will now need to sign health declaration forms, she added, while public events including a new year gala and next month's marathon, would also be called off.

"We haven't seen serious and widespread infections (in Hong Kong), but we are taking this seriously and we hope to be ahead of the epidemic," Lam said.

Ho Pak Leung, a microbiologist at the University of Hong Kong, said closing the mainland border would be the "single most effective measure" in containing the virus.

Transport links with the mainland should be re-opened



Passengers wearing protective face masks enter the departure hall of a high speed train station in Hong Kong on Friday. China expanded its lockdown against the deadly new virus to an unprecedented 36 million people and rushed to build a prefabricated, 1,000-bed hospital for victims on Friday as the outbreak cast a pall over Lunar New Year, the country's biggest, most festive holiday

"when the epidemic is controlled, when HK officials are awake, when there are enough masks and hand rubs for all Hong Kong citizens," he wrote on his Facebook page.

Hong Kong has a recent experience of deadly viral outbreaks. Nearly 300 people were killed by SARS in 2003, a tragedy that left a profound psychological impact on one of the most densely populated places on earth.

The city's ability to combat the crisis was hampered by moves in mainland China to cover up and play down the outbreak, leaving a lasting legacy of distrust among many Hong Kongers.

Animosities towards the mainland has intensified in recent years as Beijing tightens political control over the semi-autonomous territory.

The outbreak also comes at a sensitive time for Lam, who has record low approval ratings after seven months of pro-democracy protests.

"We must stand united so

that we can prevent and control the disease," she said, in a nod to the political unrest.

The often violent protests have battered Hong Kong's reputation for stability and helped tip it into recession, with the recent virus outbreak compounding the city's economic woes. Hospitals are already struggling with the winter flu season, but officials are isolating anyone with a history of travel to central China and those exhibiting respiratory tract infections that look similar to the virus.

So far some 300 people have been tested and monitored for the virus.

Quarantine centres have been set up in remote holiday parks for anyone found to have come into close contact with people who tested positive.

On Saturday, officials announced a newly built but still-empty public housing block would be used for medical staff on the frontline who did not want to risk returning to their families.

## 'Nobody can leave': Trapped Wuhan residents stock up

AFP ■ WUHAN

Police at a roadblock on the outskirts of Wuhan turned away cars trying to leave the virus-stricken city on Saturday, as other anxious residents trapped inside spent the Lunar New Year stocking up on masks and medical supplies.

Authorities have prevented anyone from leaving Wuhan, the city of 11 million people at the heart of the viral outbreak which has so far infected nearly 1,300 people and killed 41 others.

AFP saw a steady trickle of cars approaching the roadblocks around 20 kilometres (12 miles) east of the city centre on Saturday morning, only for police in fluorescent jackets wearing masks to tell them to turn around.

The barricade, at one of the tolls for highways exiting the city, was blocked with red and yellow plastic barriers and cones.

"Nobody can leave," a policeman told AFP.

A stray dog ran across the empty road in front of the roadblocks, which were shrouded in grey fog and drizzle.

AFP journalists only saw two vehicles allowed to pass the roadblock, including a white van which an officer said was "buying medicines" and would later return to the city.

Authorities extended transport bans to 17 other cities around Wuhan in a gargantuan effort to control the SARS-like virus, restricting travel for around 56 million in Hubei province.

While there are restrictions on anyone leaving Wuhan, a few people were allowed to enter the city through the barricade: Desperately needed medical workers whose holidays were cut short to help overwhelmed hospital.

An empty bus was allowed to pass the roadblock into Wuhan after showing documentation to the police at the roadblock.

## China facing 'grave' situation, says Xi as coronavirus death toll rises to 41

PTI ■ BEIJING

President Xi Jinping on Saturday said that China is facing a "grave situation" but exuded confidence that the country will "win the battle" against the coronavirus epidemic that has claimed 41 lives and infected nearly 1,300 people so far.

Stepping up all round efforts to contain the fast spreading SARS-like virus, China on Saturday announced that it will build another 1,300-bed makeshift hospital in Wuhan in the next 15 days in addition to the 1,000-bed hospital being built in the city in 10 days to treat more cases of the deadly virus.

The feverish pace at which the hospitals are being built indicate that China apparently is preparing to treat far more patients considering the speed at which the virus is spreading.

The virus has spread to Hong Kong, Macau, Taiwan,

Nepal, Japan, Singapore, South Korea, Thailand, Vietnam and the US as of Thursday. Japan on Friday reported a second confirmed case.

The confirmed cases in China for the first time crossed the 1,000 mark and rose sharply to 1,287 as of Friday with 237 people in critical condition battling for their lives in China, the National Health Commission said on Saturday.

Almost all provinces, including Beijing, are reporting steady rise in the number of cases mostly of people who travelled from Wuhan, the epicentre of the coronavirus outbreak.

The pneumonia situation has claimed 41 lives, including 39 in central

China's Hubei province and one in north-eastern province Heilongjiang, the health commission said on Saturday.

Additionally, a total of 1,965 suspected cases have

also been reported, it said.

China's Communist Party has set up a leading group to manage the coronavirus epidemic, state media reported on Saturday.

The decision was made at a meeting of the Politburo Standing Committee - the party's top leadership tier - chaired by President Xi.

In the meeting, Xi said that people from different ethnic groups and sectors should work together to support efforts to contain the spread of the deadly virus. The country is facing a "grave situation," he was quoted as saying by the South China Morning Post.

"As long as the nation has strong confidence and makes joint efforts with scientific and targeted measures, the battle of the prevention and control of the contagion will be won," Xi said, chairing a meeting on the day of the Spring Festival or Lunar New Year.

## Chinese man suspected of coronavirus admitted in Pak hospital

PTI ■ ISLAMABAD

Pakistan health authorities on Saturday said a Chinese national suspected of coronavirus was admitted in isolation at a medical facility in Multan in Punjab province.

Feng Fen, 40, was living in a camp with Chinese workers near Multan after returning from China's Wuhan city 10 days ago. Feng was brought to



Nishtar Hospital on Friday night, National Institute of Health officials said.

"One suspected case is admitted in isolation in Multan right now. His clinical condition is stable and it does not seem to be a case of novel coronavirus. Relevant samples have been taken," the NIH said.

Earlier this week, Pakistan setup counters at the airports to screen passengers coming from China for coronavirus.

Thousands of Chinese nationals work in Pakistan on

various projects including under China-Pakistan Economic Corridor. Many Pakistan students study in China.

Foreign Office Spokesperson Aisha Farooqi said there were approximately 28,000 Pakistani students all over China. "In Wuhan alone, there are close to 500 Pakistani students," she said, adding that around 1,500 traders from Pakistan travel to China frequently.

The death toll due to the coronavirus rose to 41 in China with 1,287 confirmed cases, China's National Health Commission announced on Saturday. Of the confirmed cases, the condition of the 237 persons is critical.

The coronavirus has caused alarm as it is similar to SARS (Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome) which killed hundreds of people across mainland China and Hong Kong in 2002.

## SENATE IMPEACHMENT TRIAL

# Democrats conclude opening arguments

PTI ■ WASHINGTON

House impeachment managers on Friday night concluded their argument before the Senate to remove US President Donald Trump from office, saying he misused his position and indulged in obstruction to the Congress.

The house managers closed their marathon 24-hour argument spread over three days with an impassioned plea that the trial be fair.

The ruling Republican Party enjoys 53-47 majority in the 100-member Senate. Democrats, who have majority in the House, have alleged that the Republican leadership in the Senate will be partisan during the trial.

"I implore you - give America a fair trial. She's worth it," said Chairman of the House



Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence Adam Schiff.

Trump is only the third president in American history that to have been formally impeached by Congress.

From Saturday, Trump's attorneys would begin presenting their defense. Like the House managers they too have 24 hours over the next three days for their argument in

support of the president.

Trump has asked the Senate to dismiss both the charges against him. He argues that he has done no wrong.

In his concluding argument, Schiff outlined what he thinks Trump's attorneys will say.

"So what do all these defenses mean? What do they mean collectively when you add them all up? What they mean is under Article 2, the president can do whatever he wants. That's really it, stripped of all the detail and all the histrionics, what they want us to believe is the president can do whatever he wants under Article 2, and there is nothing you or

the House can do about it," Congressman Schiff asserted.

On Saturday, Trump's team would present their argument for three hours.

"I guess I would call it a trailer, kind of coming attractions would be the best way to say it. Obviously, we have three hours to put it out so we'll take whatever time is appropriate during those three hours, kind of layout with that case will look out like, but no, next week is where you'll see the full presentation, but there will be plenty to see," Trump's personal attorney Jay Sekulow told reporters. In an interaction with the media, he slammed Schiff.

"Adam Schiff just said that this idea of the solicitation of foreign interference is deplorable," he said. "I wonder if he thought that about the fact that the Clinton campaign had sought when it's completely corroborated, it's uncontested, that (the) Steele dossier who is utilising both supposedly assets that a former British spy had in Russia to get information on the president then candidate. Was that not foreign interference? Was that

not an attempt for foreign interference?" he asked.

The Steele dossier is a private intelligence document pertaining to alleged misconduct, and co-operation between Trump's presidential campaign and the Russian government during the 2016 election.

"So you can get on your horse and act haughty and proud about it,

but you know what? Let's look at what the evidence says. And here's what the evidence says. There was foreign involvement, but let's not forget where it originated from. Let's not forget, and we haven't even begun to put on our case yet. We still will not begin until, actually, tomorrow morning. But I want you to think about this. Where did that foreign intelligence come from? Foreign information come from?" Sekulow asserted. "It came from connections from the Federal Bureau of investigation, the number three, whose wife happened to work for Fusion GPS, who happened to be hired by the DNC to happen to do an investigation on Donald Trump," he argued.

AP ■ DUBAI

Iran is not ruling out negotiations with the United States even after an American drone strike that killed a top Iranian general, the country's foreign minister said in an interview released Saturday.

Mohammed Javad Zarif told Germany's Der Spiegel magazine that he would "never rule out the possibility that people will change their approach and recognize the realities," in an interview conducted Friday in Tehran.

There has been growing tension between Washington and Tehran since in 2018, when President Donald Trump pulled the United States out of the nuclear deal with Iran. The U.S. has since reimposed tough sanctions that have crippled Iran's economy.

But Zarif suggested Iran was still willing to talk, though reiterated his country's previous demand that first the U.S. would have to lift sanctions.

"For us, it doesn't matter who is sitting in the White House, what matters is how they behave," he

said, according to Der Spiegel.

"The Trump administration can correct its past, lift the sanctions and come back to the negotiating table. We're still at the negotiating table. They're the ones who left."

Trump has maintained that the 2015 nuclear deal needs to be renegotiated because it didn't address Iran's ballistic missile program or its involvement in regional conflicts.

## Iran condemns 'inhuman' US treatment of its nationals

AFP ■ TEHRAN

Iran condemned Saturday what it called the "illegal and inhuman" treatment of its nationals by US border security officers, after reports a student was deported despite having a valid visa.

"Such absolutely discriminatory measures that only happen over people's race, nationality or religion are against international human rights laws and principles," foreign ministry spokesman Abbas Mousavi said.

"These individuals were questioned by America's border security over their politi-

cal views and beliefs, and their social media accounts were forcefully entered," he said in a statement.

US media reported on Monday that an Iranian student headed to a Boston university had his visa cancelled at the airport and was deported by immigration officials.

Tensions have soared between Tehran and Washington since a US drone strike killed Iranian general Qasem Soleimani in Baghdad on January 3.

Iran retaliated five days later by launching a wave of missiles at US troops stationed in Iraq.

## Turkey quake kills 22

Rescuers scramble to find survivors

AFP ■ ELAZIG

Rescue workers raced against time Saturday to find survivors under the rubble after a powerful earthquake claimed 22 lives and left more than 1,000 injured in eastern Turkey.

The magnitude 6.8 quake struck on Friday evening, with its epicentre in the small lake-side town of Sivrice in Elazig province, and was felt in neighbouring countries.

Interior Minister Suleyman Soyulu said 39 people have been rescued alive from collapsed buildings in Elazig province, with a further 22 people estimated to be trapped under the rubble. He said the death toll had risen to 22.

Among those found alive was a pregnant woman who was rescued 12 hours after the quake hit, state news agency Anadolu said, while an AFP correspondent saw an individual saved 17 hours later.

Nearly 2,000 search and rescue personnel were sent to



Rescuers search for people buried under the rubble on a collapsed building, after an earthquake struck Elazig eastern Turkey on Saturday. Emergency workers and security forces distributed tents, beds and blankets as overnight temperatures dropped below freezing in the affected areas. Mosques, schools, sports halls and student dormitories were opened for hundreds who left their homes after the quake

the region while thousands of beds, blankets and tents have been provided, the Turkish presidency said. The rescue efforts have been taking place in freezing temperatures as wood and plastic were burned to keep crowds warm.

Hundreds of people were anxiously waiting on the other side of police barriers including a man who gave his name as Mustafa.

"I have three relatives in that building; one man, his wife and her mother. They are still under the rubble," the 40-year-old told AFP. "May God help us, we can do nothing but pray." I was home during the earthquake. It lasted for so long, it was like a nightmare. I froze in the living room when it happened, my wife and our two children were screaming and running around," he said.

## Global airline passenger fatalities decline sharply

IANS ■ NEW YORK

Around the globe has declined sharply over the past decade as new research has revealed that the fatalities rate is now one death per 7.9 million passenger boardings, compared to one death per 2.7 million boardings during the period 1998-2007, and one death per 1.3 million boardings during 1988-1997.

The commercial airline fatality risk was one death per 750,000 boardings during 1978-1987, and one death per 350,000 boardings during 1968-1977, said the study published in the journal Transportation Science.

"The worldwide risk of being killed had been dropping by a factor of two every decade," said study author Arnold Barnett, Professor at Massachusetts Institute of

Technology (MIT) Sloan School of Management.

"Not only has that continued in the last decade, the (latest) improvement is closer to a factor of three. The pace of improvement has not slackened at all even as flying has gotten ever safer and further gains become harder to achieve," Barnett said.

The new research also revealed that there is discernible regional variation in airline safety around the world. Nations housing the lowest-risk airlines are the U.S., the members of the European Union, China, Japan, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, and Israel, showed the results.

The aggregate fatality risk among those nations was one death per 33.1 million passenger boardings during 2008-2017.

For airlines in a second set of countries, which Barnett

## Libya says oil shutdown caused over \$255 million in losses

AP ■ CAIRO

The closure of Libya's major oil fields and production facilities has resulted in losses of more than USD 255 million in the six-day period ending January 23, the country's national oil company said Saturday.

The closures came when powerful tribal groups loyal to military commander Khalifa Hifter earlier this month seized several large export terminals along the eastern coast as well as southern oil fields.

Hifter controls the eastern and much of the southern part of the country. The moves were meant to challenge Hifter's adversaries in the west, the UN-backed, but weak rival Government that controls the capital, Tripoli.

OFFICE OF THE PROJECT MANAGER, CONSTRUCTION UNIT,  
**UTTARAKHAND PEYJAL NIGAM**  
COLLECTORATE COMPOUND, RUDRAPUR, DISTT. UDHAM SINGH NAGAR  
Ref no. 179/Nivida/54 Date: 25.01.2020

**E-TENDER NOTICE**

- Name of the work:- CONSTRUCTION OF EKLAHYA AAWASIYA VIDHYALAY AND APPURTENANT WORKSAT BAZPUR, DISTRICT-UDHAM SINGH NAGAR
- Estimated Cost:- Rs. 1089.93 Lakh
- Period of Completion:- 09 Month
- Date and Time of availability of Bid documents in the portal: 27.01.2020 (12.00 hrs)
- Last Date / Time of receipt of bids in the portal: 11.02.2020 (17.00 hrs)
- Date & Time of Technical bid Opening :- 13.02.2020 (12.00 hrs)
- Name and Address of the Officer Inviting bid: Er. Om Prakash, Collectorate Compound, Rudrapur (Udham Singh Nagar).
- Pre-bid meeting details (if required) Date & Place:- 01.02.2020 (11.00 to 13.00 hrs) Rudrapur.
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Ref no. 177/Nivida/52 Date: 25.01.2020

**E-TENDER NOTICE**

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Ref no. 178/Nivida/53 Date: 25.01.2020

**E-TENDER NOTICE**

- Name of the work:- CONSTRUCTION OF BUILDING FOR EKLAHYA AAWASIYA VIDHYALAY AT KHATIMA, DISTRICT- UDHAM SINGH NAGAR
- Estimated Cost:- Rs. 1012.24 Lakh
- Period of Completion:- 09 Month
- Date and Time of availability of Bid documents in the portal: 27.01.2020 (12.00 hrs)
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Project Manager

# Sedition case against Shaheen Bagh protest 'mastermind'

For his 'cut Assam from rest of India' remark

AGENCIES ■ NEW DELHI

The Sarbananda Sonowal-led BJP Government has filed a sedition case against Shaheen Bagh protests organiser Sarjeel Imam for his 'cut Assam from India' statement.

Speaking at the anti-CAA rally in Shaheen Bagh Imam instigated the mob saying if 5 lakh Muslims are organised then we can cut the North-east from rest of India.

Talking to the media, Assam Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma said that State government has taken cognizance of this seditious statement and has decided to register a case against him.

"Our responsibility is to cut the Assam from India as only then the Government will hear our voice. If we have to help the Assam then we will have to cut the Assam from rest of India," Imam had said claiming that people in the State were being sent to detention

centres. The Siliguri corridor which connects Northeast India to the rest of India is called the Chicken Neck and is strategically important.

The standoff between India and China in 2017 in Doklam was an attempt by the People's Liberation Army (PLA) to gain control over the corridor.

Imam has made many controversial statements over the CAA in the past.

In his Facebook post yesterday, he urged Muslims to organise nationwide chakka jam and told them to know the difference between chakka jam and sit-in protests. He further said that people should sit on the national highways in the country and protest against the CAA and nation-wide NRC.

Many videos of Imam giving provocative statements are now being circulated on social media.

Additional Director General of Assam Police G P Singh said the FIR was registered against Imam under

the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act at the crime branch police station in Guwahati.

"An FIR has been lodged against Sharjil Imam for his speech and inter alia commission of offence u/s 13 (1)/18 of the UA(P)ACT read with section 153 A, 153 B and 124 A IPC at Guwahati Crime Branch Police Station," Singh tweeted along with the purported video of Imam's speech. Imam was heard telling in the audio clip that Assam should be cut-off from the rest of India as Bengalis — both Hindus and Muslims — are being killed or put into detention centres. Earlier, Assam Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma said the Assam Government would register a case against Imam his "seditious" comment "aimed" at disrupting law and order in the state.

"Assam Government has taken cognizance of this very seditious statement and we will register a case against this individual," Sarma said.

## Booked for objectionable AMU speech

**Aligarh:** A case of sedition was lodged against a JNU student leader here on Saturday for a speech he delivered on the AMU campus on January 16 against the amended citizenship act and NRC, police said.

"A video clip of this speech was circulating on social media since Friday night and subsequent probe, including inputs from AMU authorities, confirmed that it pertained to a speech, containing subversive comments, that was delivered when Sharjeel Imam was addressing a protest rally at AMU," Senior Superintendent of Police Akash Kulhari said. Kulhari said that a police team has left for New Delhi to arrest the student leader. When contacted, AMU spokesman Professor Shafey Kidwai said that the contents of the video include some comments which are "highly objectionable" and university authorities are taking this matter very seriously. PTI

# Three JeM terrorists killed in Pulwama

Major terror attack averted: Lt General KJS Dhillon

MOHIT KANDHARI ■ JAMMU

Averting a major terror attack in Kashmir valley, a joint team of security forces gunned down three terrorists of proscribed Pakistani terror outfit Jaish-e-Mohammad (JeM) including its Kashmir commander Qari Yasir in Hariparigam village of Tral in South Kashmir's Pulwama district on Saturday.

Addressing a joint press conference with police, Chinar Corps Commander, Lt General KJS Dhillon said, "a major terror attack was planned by these terrorists which has been averted". He told reporters, on Saturday morning we got information of some Jaish-e-Mohammed terrorists who were planning to do some act of terrorism on January 26 in Tral. So, the operation was launched. He said JeM terrorist Qari Yasir, his close associate Musa and a local terrorist Burhan Sheikh were killed in the operation.

Commenting on elimination of top commanders, Lt-Gen Dhillon said the Hizbul Mujahideen and Jaish-e-Mohammed's (JeM) top leadership, other than one terrorist, has been eliminated from Kashmir Valley. In another operation, 07 hardcore over ground workers of LeT/HM outfits were arrested in joint operations by the Bandipore police, Army & CRPF personnel. According to police, these OGWs were involved in

harbouring, providing logistics support to terrorists.

According to reports, JeM terrorist, Qari Yasir, was active in the area for quite some time and currently he was imparting training to a local recruit to carry out sensational strike targeting security forces. Qari's name had also figured in the killing of two nomads, hailing from Rajouri in August 2019.

According to police, the joint operations started in the area on the basis of tip off about the presence of JeM terrorists in the area. As the security forces tightened the cordon and zeroed in on a hideout the terrorists opened fire from inside. "In the exchange of fire, initially two terrorists were killed and the third one was neutralised late in the evening."

According to official sources, an army jawan received injuries in the fierce gunfight and was shifted to the command hospital. This is the third major encounter in Kashmir valley in the recent days.

On Thursday, the three-day-long searches for militants in nearby Khrew area of Awantipora in Pulwama had concluded. Special police officer (SPO) Shahbaz Ahmad and sepoy Rahul Rainwal of army's 50 Rashtriya Rifles were killed after the encounter started at Khrew's Zantrag on Tuesday. In less than 24 hours, the security forces avenged killing of soldiers by eliminating JeM terrorist Abu Saifullah.

# President: Remain non-violent when fighting for cause

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Against the backdrop of protests against the new citizenship law, though without directly referring it, President Ram Nath Kovind on Saturday urged people, particularly the youth, to remain non-violent when fighting for a cause and stressed on the need to "hold fast to constitutional methods" of achieving social and economic objectives.

In his customary address to the nation on the eve of 71st Republic Day, Kovind cited Mahatma Gandhi's gift of 'Ahimsa' (non-violence) to the humanity and said that his talisman for deciding whether an act is right or wrong "applies to the functioning of our democracy".

Stressing that both the Government and the Opposition have "important roles to play", the President said "while giving expression to their political ideas both must move forward in tandem to ensure that development of the country and welfare of its people are promoted consistently".

Earlier, on the occasion of the 10th National Voters Day, Kovind lamented that there are some voters who do not understand the importance of their right to exercise franchise and reminded them that in several countries people had to struggle to get it. Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Vice President M. Venkaiah Naidu and other leaders across the country extended their greetings to the people on the day with the theme being "Electoral Literacy for Stronger Democracy".

## BHIMA KOREGAON-ELGAAR PARISHAD

# NIA probe: Opp slams Modi Govt for case takeover

TN RAGHUNATHA ■ MUMBAI

With a major turf war having broken out between the Centre and the Maharashtra Government over the take-over of the 2018 Bhima Koregaon-Elgaar Parishad case by the NIA, NCP chief Sharad Pawar, Congress' former president Rahul Gandhi and State Home Minister Anil Deshmukh on Saturday slammed the Modi Government for having exceeded its brief for sheer political reasons.

A day after the Union Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) handed over the investigations in the Bhima Koregaon-Yelgaar Parishad case to the National Investigation Agency (NIA), a miffed Pawar charged that the ruling BJP - with an acute fear of being exposed in the Bhima Koregaon-Elgaar Parishad case - had hurriedly handed over the investigations to the NIA. He demanded that an independent panel to set up to hold comprehensive probe into the manner in which the Pune police had investigated the case. "Only an independent probe will bring out truth in the case," he said.

"The re-investigations are necessary in the case, because the Centre's move has aroused suspicions. The Centre's decision to hand over the case to the NIA within hours after the State's deputy chief minister and Home Minister reviewed the case with the state's police officials. Under the Constitution, powers of dealing with law and order have been vested with the States. The Centre might have apprehend-

ed that if a re-investigation is ordered into the case, the previous BJP government and its hand-picked officials might be exposed," Pawar said.

"Prima facie it appears that the Pune police misused their powers during the investigations. The Centre may have handed over the case to the NIA, but there is a need for the state government to investigate if the Pune police misused their powers to frame the activists in the case," Pawar said.

On his part, Gandhi alleged that the move to hand over the case to a central agency was part of the "MOSH (Modi-Shah) agenda of hate". "Anyone who opposes the MOSH agenda of hate is an 'Urban Naxal'. Bhima Koregaon is a symbol of resistance that the Government's NIA stooges can never erase," the Congress' former president tweeted.

State Home Minister Deshmukh alleged that the Centre had hurriedly handed over the case to the NIA, after apprehending that the BJP leaders from the previous saffron government might be nailed for botching up investigations in the Bhima Koregaon-Elgaar Parishad case in the re-inquiry planned by the MVA government. "Before setting up a team to re-investigate, the state government will seek legal opinion in the matter," Deshmukh said.

Meanwhile, former chief minister and senior BJP leader Devendra Fadnis welcomed the Centre's decision to hand over the Bhima Koregaon-Elgaar Parishad case to the NIA. "When the incident took

place, said the state police had unearthed a huge network of 'urban Naxals' and submitted all the evidence gathered to the court. The Supreme Court had also supported the police action. "The urban Naxal network is spread all across the country. The decision to hand over the probe to NIA is appropriate," Fadnis said, while talking to media persons.

The MHA's move to hand over the case to the NIA came a day after the MVA government reviewed the charge sheets filed by the Pune police in the case in the light of Pawar's charge that the previous BJP government had vengefully implicated several activists in the case. On its part, the Maharashtra government had indicated that it would hand over the case to a Special Investigation Team (SIT) to ascertain whether the Pune - acting allegedly at the behest of the then ruling BJP - had acted against several activists based on "trumped up" charges.

Pawar had shot off a letter to Chief Minister Uddhav Thackeray and State Home Minister early this week, seeking an SIT probe into the questionable manner in which the Bhima Koregaon-Elgaar Parishad case and to ascertain if the BJP, the principal ruling party in the previous BJP-led government, had conspired to frame the activists in the case. Following the letter, deputy chief minister Ajit Pawar chaired a meeting to review the charge sheets filed in the case.

That the MVA government was taken by the Centre's move to hand over the Bhima Koregaon-Elgaar Parishad case

could be evidenced from the fact that it was only late on Friday night that State Home Minister Anil Deshmukh reacted to the development, saying: "I strongly condemn the decision to transfer the investigation of 'Koregaon-Bhima' case to NIA, by the Central Government without any consent of Maharashtra State Government".

Addressing a news conference at his 'Silver Oak' residence here, Pawar said: "The BJP-led Centre has handed over the investigations in the case to the NIA. It is not the case that all those who speak against injustice and atrocities by the government are naxalites. To bring out truth in the case, it is essential for the state government to set up an independent team to investigate the case".

"Had the state government set up an SIT to re-probe the case, the skeletons of the previous BJP-led government and the officials who investigated the case would have come out. That's why the Centre hurriedly took away the case from the Pune police and handed it over to the NIA," the NCP chief said.

"It is essential to review the investigations carried so far by the Pune police. Retired Supreme Court Judge P B Sawant, retired Judge of the Bombay High Court B G Kolshe Patil and several other people have objected to the manner in which the investigations have been conducted in the case. In this case, several activists have been arrested and they have been declared urban naxals. The charge-sheets registered against the accused are not based on facts," Pawar said.



# CENTRAL RESERVE POLICE FORCE

## Celebrates 71<sup>st</sup> Republic Day with Nation's Bravehearts

### 76 CRPF bravehearts honoured with gallantry medals

#### PRESIDENT'S POLICE MEDAL FOR GALLANTRY




**SHAHEED CONSTABLE  
UTPAL RABHA**

#### POLICE MEDAL FOR GALLANTRY (75)



 <b>SHAHEED CONSTABLE MANDEEP KUMAR</b>	 <b>SHAHEED CONSTABLE NIRMAL GHOSH</b>	 <b>SHAHEED CONSTABLE RAKESH KUMAR RESNA</b>	 <b>SHRI ATUL KARWAL, IFS, (NOW ADDL)</b>	 <b>SHRI RAJENDER SINGH, ASSISTANT COMMANDANT</b>	 <b>HEAD CONSTABLE PRAVEEN KUMAR</b>
 <b>CONSTABLE SANJEEV RANJAN SINGH</b>	 <b>HEAD CONSTABLE (NOW ASI) SANJAY KUMAR SINGH</b>	 <b>CONSTABLE S. BALACHANDRAR REDDY</b>	 <b>HEAD CONSTABLE UMESH YADAV</b>	 <b>ASST. SUB INSPECTOR LALIT KUMAR</b>	 <b>SUB INSPECTOR ANUJ KUMAR TYAGI</b>
 <b>CONSTABLE (NOW HC) FRANSHU KUMAR DUREY</b>	 <b>CONSTABLE MANJU KUMAR</b>	 <b>SHRI DHANU NEMO, ASSISTANT COMMANDANT</b>	 <b>SHRI PRAKASH SINGH, ASSISTANT COMMANDANT</b>	 <b>CONSTABLE ANIL SHARMA</b>	 <b>CONSTABLE VIVEK KUMAR</b>
 <b>SHRI RAJENDRA HARJAIN, ASSISTANT COMMANDANT</b>	 <b>CONSTABLE AMARJESH KUMAR DAS</b>	 <b>CONSTABLE ANUP DEY</b>	 <b>CONSTABLE JAYANTA BORO</b>	 <b>CONSTABLE RANGJULU BORO</b>	 <b>CONSTABLE (NOW HC) RAHUL KUMAR PATHAK</b>
 <b>CONSTABLE DHIMAN BARUA</b>	 <b>SHRI VINAY KUMAR TIWARI, COMMANDANT</b>	 <b>SUB INSPECTOR NUKESH KUMAR</b>	 <b>ASST. SUB INSPECTOR MOHD YOUSUF ITOO</b>	 <b>CONSTABLE HEERAJ KUMAR</b>	 <b>CONSTABLE SHAID HUSSAIN</b>
 <b>SUB INSPECTOR K. D. ASHWINI ANAL</b>	 <b>CONSTABLE NILAMONI DEKA</b>	 <b>CONSTABLE BISWAJIT DAS</b>	 <b>CONSTABLE RAKESH BHAGAT</b>	 <b>CONSTABLE MOHD YUNUS BHAN</b>	 <b>CONSTABLE RAMU LONAR</b>
 <b>SHRI GOPAL RAM, ASSISTANT COMMANDANT</b>	 <b>CONSTABLE LATIF AHMAD BHAT</b>	 <b>CONSTABLE DHEERIVASULU R</b>	 <b>SHRI TILAK RAJ, ASSISTANT COMMANDANT</b>	 <b>HEAD CONSTABLE RATTAN SINGH</b>	 <b>CONSTABLE BIRENDER SINGH</b>
 <b>SHRI PRAVAT K. BEHERA, ASSISTANT COMMANDANT</b>	 <b>HEAD CONSTABLE G. VIJAYA KUMAR</b>	 <b>CONSTABLE SHOUKAT AHMAD RATHER</b>	 <b>CONSTABLE NAGESH AHIR</b>	 <b>CONSTABLE N. S. PRABHAKAR</b>	 <b>SHRI D. M. SHARMA, DEPUTY COMMANDANT</b>
 <b>SHRI MANISH KUMAR, ASSISTANT COMMANDANT</b>	 <b>HEAD CONSTABLE RAJINDER KUMAR</b>	 <b>CONSTABLE KAKADE NISHANT ARUN</b>	 <b>CONSTABLE AJAY KANDO</b>	 <b>SHRI KUMAR BAWAIK, SECOND IN COMMAND</b>	 <b>SHRI RAJARDHAN, ASSISTANT COMMANDANT</b>
 <b>ASST. SUB INSPECTOR JADAY CHANDRA BORAH</b>	 <b>CONSTABLE MOHD HUSSAIN</b>	 <b>CONSTABLE RAVINDRA SINGH TOMAR</b>	 <b>SHRI RAKESH RAO, COMMANDANT</b>	 <b>SHRI JITENDER SAHU, DEPUTY COMMANDANT (NOW 3-IC)</b>	 <b>CONSTABLE SHOFFIQUIL ISLAM</b>
 <b>SHRI SANJARI LAL, ASSISTANT COMMANDANT</b>	 <b>HEAD CONSTABLE AKHLESH PANDAY</b>	 <b>CONSTABLE KANLESH SINGH</b>	 <b>CONSTABLE DEEP CHAND SINGH</b>	 <b>CONSTABLE LEKH RAJ</b>	 <b>SHRI NARESH KUMAR, ASSISTANT COMMANDANT</b>
 <b>SHRI RAVI SHARMA, ASSISTANT COMMANDANT</b>	 <b>CONSTABLE VJAY PRAKASH YADAV</b>	 <b>CONSTABLE ANISH KUMAR SINGH</b>	 <b>CONSTABLE YUNIS AHMAD DAR</b>	 <b>CONSTABLE SEVENDRA KUMAR</b>	 <b>HEAD CONSTABLE MAHIPAL SINGH</b>
 <b>SHRI ASHOK KUMAR, SECOND IN COMMAND</b>	 <b>SHRI SANJAY MOHANTY, DEPUTY COMMANDANT</b>	 <b>CONSTABLE VIPIN KUMAR</b>			



## Warm Greetings to all from CRPF

### The Peacekeepers of the Nation

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## Trade Ministers discuss priorities for WTO's June ministerial meet

**Davos:** Trade Ministers from 35 member countries of the WTO, including Piyush Goyal from India, met here on the sidelines of the WEF 2020 to discuss priorities and preparations for the June ministerial meeting of the global trade body.

The informal gathering of the WTO members and the WTO General Director Roberto Azevedo was held on Friday at the invitation of Swiss Federal Councillor Guy Parmelin. The group met to discuss and define their priorities for the 12th WTO ministerial conference to be held from 8 to 11 June 2020, at Nursultan in Kazakhstan, a post-meeting statement said. It said the meeting on the fringes of WEF Davos summit was attended by 35 members of the WTO, who represent a wide spectrum of trade policy interests.

PTI

## Govt nominates Dabashish Panda on SBI board

**New Delhi:** The Government has nominated Debasish Panda, special secretary in the Finance Ministry, on the board of State Bank of India.

Panda has been appointed as director in the central board of the bank with immediate effect, SBI said in a regulatory filing on Saturday. He replaces Ravi Mittal, who has been elevated as secretary, Ministry of Information and Broadcasting.

A 1987-batch Uttar Pradesh cadre IAS officer, Panda served in various capacities in both State and Central Government.

PTI

# Brexit to help global growth, says Lagarde

PTI ■ DAVOS

European Central Bank President Christine Lagarde said global growth is likely to get a boost from abating uncertainties on trade issues in the wake of new pacts being signed.

Speaking here at a session on the global economic outlook on the last day of the WEF 2020 on Friday, the former IMF chief said uncertainties have abated on issues like trade and Brexit, and it is likely that income growth and low unemployment will eventually be reflected in prices.

"Trade has been dramatically low recently and didn't help growth much. So we are delighted to see trade agreements being negotiated and completed. I believe this will remove uncertainties the world over," she said.



"I think the distribution of benefits and costs as a result of trade diversion remains to be seen because it is not going to be win-all arrangements.

"There will be some down-side effect and we at ECB are measuring where the chips will fall and who will lose out of that re-diversion under the various agreements," she said.

In the same session, US Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin said trade negotiations have started with both the EU and the UK and we look forward to completing both of those deals this year.

The US also expects the second phase of negotiations for a trade deal with China to begin soon.

"The European Central Bank has launched a broad strategic review, the first since 2003, to revisit the bank's processes and policies and to recommend structural changes," Lagarde said, committing to delivering the outcomes of this review at the next annual meeting.

## ICICI Bank posts over two-fold rise in Q3 profit at ₹4,670 cr

PTI ■ MUMBAI

ICICI Bank on Saturday reported an over two-fold rise in its consolidated net profit at ₹4,670 crore for the December quarter, helped largely by the Essar Steel recovery and a jump in its core income.

The Mumbai-headquartered bank, the country's second biggest private sector lender, had posted a consolidated net profit of ₹1,874.33 crore in the corresponding three months of the previous fiscal. On standalone basis, its net profit jumped to ₹4,146 crore during the December 2019 quarter from ₹1,605 crore in the year-ago period.

Its core net interest income grew 24 per cent to ₹8,545 crore on a 16 per cent domestic advances growth and a 0.37 per cent expansion in net interest margin to 3.77 per cent.

Other income growth was 18.77 per cent to ₹4,043 crore, with the core fee income increasing 17 per cent, the bank said.

Gross slippages came at Rs 4,363 crore for the reporting quarter, highest during the fiscal year, but the recoveries from assets like Essar Steel and a ₹2,000 crore write-off ensured that the same was down on a net basis.

Its president Sandeep Batra said two well-rated accounts – a troubled broking company and a south-based industrial group – led to the spike in

slippages during the quarter, along with Kisan Credit Card loans which is a fallout of the farm loan waivers.

Without offering any numbers or an outlook on asset quality, he said the exposure to the broking company has been fully provided for, while the same for the industrial company has been done "prudently". Its standalone provisions came at ₹2,083 crore, down 51 per cent from the year-ago period. Gross non-performing assets ratio was at 5.95 per cent as against 7.75 per cent in the year-ago period.

Its overall recoveries, upgrades and deletions from the NPA book was at Rs 4,088 crore and the bank did not divulge the benefit on the Essar Steel recovery.

Just like its smaller peer Axis Bank, the bank has also classified an exposure to a telco as below investment grade, which led to the increase in the overall BB and below book to ₹17,403 crore after two consecutive quarters of a reduction.

Its overall exposure to the sector has been stable at 1.8 per cent and includes two top companies, he said, adding no extra provision has been taken on account of this.

Batra said the bank's core operating profit excluding the impact of the benefit was up 23 per cent at ₹7,017 crore, seeking to drive the point of a healthy overall growth for the bank.

## DCB Bank Q3 net profit up 12.3% at ₹96.70 crore

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Private sector lender DCB Bank on Saturday reported an increase of 12.31 per cent in its net profit at ₹96.70 crore for the third quarter ended December 2019.

Its net profit was ₹86.10 crore in the October-December period a year ago, DCB Bank said in a BSE filing.

DCB Bank's total income was up 13.66 per cent at ₹990.89 crore during the quarter under review as against ₹871.78 crore in the corresponding period a year ago.

Net interest income increased 9.86 per cent to ₹323 crore as against ₹294 crore for the same period last fiscal year.

While non-interest income marginally declined to ₹93 crore against ₹94 crore.

## CG Power seeks Govt's nod to remove joint auditor

IANs ■ MUMBAI

Fraud-hit CG Power and Industrial Solutions has sought the Centre's approval to remove KKK Mankeshwar & Co (KKM) as one of its joint auditors due to certain alleged "unexplained" payments made to the auditor from the company.

In a regulatory filing, CG Power on Friday evening said that its Board of Directors has determined that KKM cannot be considered to be independent.

## EU, 16 WTO members sign pact for interim appeal arrangement

**Davos:** The European Union and 16 WTO members including China and Australia have signed a pact to develop a multi-party interim appeal arrangement at the global trade body. The arrangement, signed on Friday on the sidelines of the World Economic Forum (WEF) annual meeting, will allow the participating WTO members to preserve a functioning and two-step dispute settlement system at the World Trade Organization (WTO).

This initiative was launched in mid-December 2019 by the EU and a number of other WTO members following the effective paralysis of the WTO Appellate Body due to the blockage of new appointments since 2017.

EU Commissioner for Trade Phil Hogan said: "This statement testifies to the high importance that the EU and the participating WTO members attach to retaining a two-step dispute settlement process in WTO trade matters. The multi-party appeal arbitration arrangement will guarantee that the participating WTO members continue to have access to a binding, dispute settlement system among them."

"Let me underline again that this remains a contingency measure needed because of the paralysis of the WTO Appellate Body. We will continue our efforts to seek a lasting solution to the Appellate Body impasse, including through necessary reforms and improvements," he added.

The multi-party interim arrangement will be based on Article 25 of the WTO Dispute Settlement Understanding. It will secure the participating WTO members (Australia, Brazil, Canada, China, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, the European Union, Guatemala, Republic of Korea, Mexico, New Zealand, Norway, Panama, Singapore, Switzerland, and Uruguay) an effective and binding dispute settlement process for potential trade disputes among them.

## WESTERN RAILWAY

**IMPROVEMENT OF FOB, ROB & RUB BRIDGES**

Divisional Railway Manager (WA), Western Railway, 8th floor, Engg. Deptt., Mumbai Central, Mumbai - 400008. Invites E-tender as per details given as follows: **Tender Notice No. & Date: BCT/19-20/358 dtd 22.01.2020.** **Work and location:** Virar-Surat section: Improvement of important, major, minor, FOB, ROB & RUB bridges. (Two Packet System). **Approx. cost of Work:** ₹ 14,22,20,97.60. **EMD:** ₹ 8,61,100/-. **Date & Time of submission:** on 25.02.2020 at 15.00 hrs. **Date & Time of opening:** on 25.02.2020 at 15.30 hrs. **Note:** Please visit our website [www.ireps.gov.in](http://www.ireps.gov.in). Manual offers will not be considered. **Like us on:** [facebook.com/WesternRly](https://www.facebook.com/WesternRly)

## BEFORE THE SOLE ARBITRATOR

**MS.C.DEEPA NANDHINI, ADVOCATE**  
**CLAIM PETITION NO. CDN/DFS/035/2019**  
**M/s. Daimler Financial Services India Pvt Ltd** ...Claimant  
Vs.  
**Mr. Jitender Singh & Another** ...Respondents

To  
1. Mr. Jitender Singh  
House No.99, Back Of Dayul Market Village Alipur, Delhi, New Delhi - 110036.  
2. Sudeesh,  
House No. 99, Back Of Dayul Market, Village Alipur, Delhi, New Delhi - 110036.

Please take notice that in the above Claim petition No. CDN/DFS/035/2019 which is pending on the file of the Learned Arbitrator MS.C.DEEPA NANDHINI, the Learned Arbitrator ordered on 30.12.2019 notice to both of you, for the hearing dated 12.02.2020. Therefore make it convenient to appear before the Learned Arbitrator on 12.02.2020 at 4.00 PM, at 'B7', Shaw Wallace Building, 1st Floor, No.336, Thambu Chetty Street, Chennai-600 001' either in person or through counsel, failing which the case will be heard in your absence.

**M.ARUNACHALAM, COUNSEL FOR CLAIMANT**

## PUBLIC NOTICE

All concerned are informed that I am owner Smt. Maya W/o Sh. Bijendra R/o H.No. 186, Kailash Nagar, Gausahala Falak, Ghaziabad, U.P. In addition to the said house, I am the only owner of Khasra No. 18 of Agricultural Land Khasra No. 154, Village Baholpur. The will of all the above mentioned properties was registered in my favor by Mr. Budh Prakash S/o Late Sh. Kherchand R/o H. No. 186, Kailash Nagar, Gausahala Falak, Ghaziabad U.P. in Sub Registrar Ghaziabad, Vide Registered Book No.1, Volume No. 35, Pages 359 to 362 and Document No. 244 and I am currently the sole owner of the above movable and immovable property. If anyone has any objection in this regard, then in 30 days, you should submit a written objection with the evidence to the concerned department. In case of no objection within 30 days from the date of this advertisement, action will be taken to grant transfer permission as per rules. Please crop to publish the above information in newspapers, the information is completely true.

Smt. Maya W/o Sh. Bijendra

## BEFORE THE SOLE ARBITRATOR

**MS.C.DEEPA NANDHINI, ADVOCATE**  
**Claim Petition No. CDN/DFS/053/2019**  
**M/s. Daimler Financial Services India Pvt Ltd** ...Claimant  
Vs.  
**M/s RV Sui Generis Consultant Private Ltd And Another** ...Respondents

To  
1. M/s. RV Sui Generis Consultant Private Ltd, Represented By Its Director : Mr. Ritesh Varma, No. 73, World Trade Centre, Barakhamba Road, Connaught Place, New Delhi - 110 001.  
2. Mr. Ritesh Varma, No. 73, World Trade Centre, Barakhamba Road, Connaught Place, New Delhi - 110 001.

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**M.ARUNACHALAM, COUNSEL FOR CLAIMANT**

## CHITTARANJAN LOCOMOTIVE WORKS

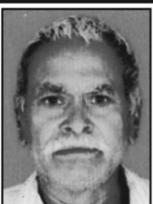
### E-TENDER NOTICE

E-tenders are invited for and on behalf of the President of India for the following work: **Sl.No.;** Tender No.; **Name of the work;** Tender value (₹); **Cost of tender document (₹); Earnest money (₹); Period of completion (in months); [01]; Engg/40/19-20;** Preparation of CLW Township Digital Drawing, Workshop Digital Drawing, digital form both in soft and hard type along with Auto CAD training programme to the Technical Staff at Engineering Drawing Office at CLW/CRJ; 3,25,062.86; **1,000.00;** 6,500.00; **30 months. [02]; Engg/51/2019-20;** Renovation of Dy.CMM building and RB inside workshop at CLW/CRJ; 30,35,272.43; **3,000.00;** 60,700.00; **10 months. [03]; Engg/52/2019-20;** Emergent renovation of K.G. Hospital, CLW/CRJ by providing false ceiling and ancillary works; 17,15,122.20; **2,000.00;** 34,400.00; **05 months. NOTE: (i) Date of closing-27.02.2020 at 13.00 hrs. (ii) Complete details can be seen in the Railways website [www.ireps.gov.in](http://www.ireps.gov.in) & [www.clw.indianrailways.gov.in](http://www.clw.indianrailways.gov.in) (iii) Contact Number : 9136640202**

**Divisional Engineer**  
Siddh-291 CLW/Chittaranjan  
**Like us on:** [www.facebook.com/clwrailways](http://www.facebook.com/clwrailways)

## UNIDENTIFIED DEAD BODY

General public is hereby informed that an male person was admitted due to illness in Dr. RML Hospital on 17.01.2020 and during the treatment he has been declared dead by Doctor Dated 23.01.2020. In this regard Case DD No. 02-A Dated 23.01.2020 has been lodged at P.S. Inderpuri, Delhi. The description of the dead body is given as under Name Jagdish Moriya S/o Chote Lal R/o F-378, Budh Nagar, Inderpuri, Delhi Age: 75 Years, Height: 5'2", Complexion: Sallow, Face- Oval, Built-Medium, Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out the dead person but no clue has come to light so far. If any one having any information about this dead person please inform undersigned.



**SHO**  
**P.S. Inderpuri, Delhi**  
**Ph.: 011-25832201**  
**DP/8602/WD/20**  
**8750871123**

## FORM G - INVITATION FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

[Under regulation 36A (1) of the Insolvency and Bankruptcy (Insolvency Resolution Process for Corporate Persons) Regulations, 2016]

RELEVANT PARTICULARS	
1 Name of the corporate debtor	V.A.M. Resorts And Hotels Private Limited
2 Date of incorporation of corporate debtor	18-12-1998
3 Authority under which corporate debtor is incorporated/ registered	Registrar of Companies, Kanpur, India, under the Companies Act, 1956
4 Corporate identity number/ limited liability identification number of corporate debtor	U55101UP1998PTC024082
5 Address of the registered office and principal office (if any) of corporate debtor	Opp. Apex College Ved Vyas Puri, Meerut- Dehradun By Pass Road Meerut 250103 (UP)
6 Insolvency commencement date of the corporate debtor	24-10-2019
7 Date of invitation of expression of interest	26-01-2020
8 Eligibility for resolution applicants under section 25(2)(n) of the Code is available at:	It will be provided on request to email: vamresorts.ip@gmail.com
9 Norms of ineligibility applicable under section 29A are available at:	Same as stated in (8) above
10 Last date for receipt of expression of interest	10-02-2020
11 Date of issue of provisional list of prospective resolution applicants	20-02-2020
12 Last date for submission of objections to provisional list	25-02-2020
13 Date of issue of final list of prospective resolution applicants	06-03-2020
14 Date of issue of information memorandum, evaluation matrix and request for resolution plans to prospective resolution applicants	25-02-2020
15 Manner of obtaining request for resolution plan, evaluation matrix, information memorandum and further information	All the eligible prospective resolution applicants will be sent the documents to their email id. For further information the applicants shall request the resolution professional to his email id.
16 Last date for submission of resolution plans	26-03-2020
17 Manner of submitting resolution plans to resolution professional	In Electronic form, supported by speed post or by hand delivery in sealed covers followed by an email confirmation
18 Estimated date for submission of resolution plan to the Adjudicating Authority for approval	07-04-2020
19 Name and registration number of the resolution professional	Ashish Singh BB/PA-002/IP-NO0416/2017-18/11230
20 Name, Address and e-mail of the resolution professional, as registered with the Board	Ashish Singh Reg Add: Flat No. 515, Baghban Apartment, Pocket Gh-2 Sector-28, Rohini, New Delhi, National Capital Territory Of Delhi, 110042 Email ID: ashishsinghcs@gmail.com
21 Address and email to be used for correspondence with the resolution professional	811, 8th Floor, Aggarwal Vallium Tower-1 Near BTW, Netaji Subash Place, Pitampura New Delhi-110034, Email id: vamresorts.ip@gmail.com
22 Further Details are available at or with	Ashish Singh ashishsinghcs@gmail.com
23 Date of publication of Form G	26-01-2020

Date: 25-01-2020  
Place: New Delhi

Sd/-  
Ashish Singh  
Resolution Professional  
Reg No- IBB/PA-002/IP-NO0416/2017-2018/11230

## INDO COTSPIN LIMITED

REGD. OFFICE : 78 K.M. DELHI MILE STONE, G.T. ROAD, N.H-1, VILLAGE JATTIPUR, POST BOX NO. 3, POST OFFICE SAMALKHA, PANIPAT -132103  
CIN - L111HR1995PLC032541 Website: [www.indocotspin.com](http://www.indocotspin.com)  
Email ID: rajpataggarwal12000@yahoo.com, info@indocotspin.com  
Statement of Standalone Un-audited Financial Results for the Quarter Ended December 31, 2019

PARTICULARS	(Amount Rs. in Lacs)	
	3 MONTHS ENDED	YEAR TO DATE
	31/12/2019	31/03/2019
	UN-AUDITED	AUDITED
Total Income from operations (net)	391.61	1077.08
Net Profit/(Loss) from Ordinary activities after Tax	3.34	14.05
Net Profit/(Loss) for the period after tax (after Extraordinary Items)	3.34	14.05
Paid Up Equity Share Capital	420.05	420.05
Reserves (excluding Revaluation Reserve as shown in the Balance Sheet of Previous Year)	3.34	14.05
Earnings Per Share (before Extraordinary Items) (of Rs. 10/-each) Basic and Diluted (in Rupees)	0.05	0.34
Earnings Per Share (after Extraordinary Items) (of Rs. 10/-each) Basic and Diluted (in Rupees)	0.05	0.34

**NOTE:** (i) There is no qualification on the Un-audited report for the quarter ended 31st December, 2019. (ii) The above is an extract of the detailed format of Quarterly Financial Results filed with the Stock Exchange under Regulation 33 of the SEBI (Listing and Other Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015. The Full format of the Quarterly Financial Results is available on the Stock Exchange websites: [www.bseindia.com](http://www.bseindia.com) and [www.nseindia.com](http://www.nseindia.com) Telephone: +91-9696 034879

For Indo Cotspin Limited  
Sd/-  
Bal Krishan Aggarwal  
Managing Director  
Place: Panipat  
Date: 25/01/2020

## POLICE HEADQUARTERS JAMMU & KASHMIR

Phone/Fax No.: 0194-2443031/2443032 (Sgr), 0191-2459029/2459255 (JMU)  
Website : [www.jkpolice.gov.in](http://www.jkpolice.gov.in), E-mail : [phqjkk@jkpolice.gov.in](mailto:phqjkk@jkpolice.gov.in)

### NIT No: 03 of 2020

**Dated: 22.01.2020**

E-tenders are hereby invited by Police Hqs, J&K, from Original Manufacturers or their authorized dealers having proper authorisation of the manufacturer to quote against the tender for the supply of **Weapon Safety and Tracking System** as indicated in the detailed SBD & BOQ. The download of NIT shall start on 22.01.2020 at 11:00 hours. Tenders shall be submitted online on J&K Government e-procurement Portal [www.jktenders.gov.in](http://www.jktenders.gov.in) before 03.02.2020 upto 1800 hours. The tenders (technical bids only) will be opened online on 05.02.2020 at 11:00 hours at Police Headquarters, Gulshan Garden Gandhi Nagar Jammu. Pre bid Meeting will be held at PHQ Gandhi Nagar Jammu, J&K on 28.01.2020 at 15:00 hrs. In case of unforeseen circumstances, the date of opening will be next working day or else as notified separately. Detailed tender documents with terms and conditions are available on J&K Government e-procurement Portal [www.jktenders.gov.in](http://www.jktenders.gov.in).  
No: D/JPJ-12806/19  
Sd/- (Mubassir Latif) JKPS, AIG (Provision & Transport)  
For Director General of Police, J&K JAMMU  
Date: 24.01.2020

## BEFORE THE SOLE ARBITRATOR

**MS.C.DEEPA NANDHINI, ADVOCATE**  
**CLAIM PETITION NO. CDN/DFS/048/2019**  
**M/s. Daimler Financial Services India Pvt Ltd** ...Claimant  
Vs.  
**M/s. Shree Jee Traders & Another** ...Respondents

To  
1. M/s. Shree Jee Traders Represented by Its Partner Mr. Animesh Kumar Gupta No. 2529, Chaman Wara Tikaz Bazar New Delhi - 110 006  
2. Mr. Animesh Kumar Gupta, C- 195, Nirman Vihar Shakarpur, New Delhi - 110 092, Delhi.

... 1st & 2nd Respondents  
Please take notice that in the above Claim petition No. CDN/DFS/048/2019 which is pending on the file of the Learned Arbitrator MS.C.DEEPA NANDHINI, the Learned Arbitrator ordered on 30.12.2019 notice to both of you, for the hearing dated 12.02.2020. Therefore make it convenient to appear before the Learned Arbitrator on 12.02.2020 at 4.00 PM, at 'B7', Shaw Wallace Building, 1st Floor, No.336, Thambu Chetty Street, Chennai-600 001' either in person or through counsel, failing which the case will be heard in your absence.

**M.ARUNACHALAM, COUNSEL FOR CLAIMANT**

## Non-life insurers can offer standard health policies before April 1

IANs ■ CHENNAI

Indian insurance regulator has permitted non-life insurers to sell the standardized health insurance policy prior to April 1, 2020. In a circular dated April January 24, 2020, the Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI) said insurers can offer the 'Arogya Sanjeevani Policy' - the standard health insurance policy before April 1, 2020.

The insurance regulator has said general insurers and stand-alone health insurers selling health insurance policies should offer 'Arogya Sanjeevani Policy' on or before April 1, 2020.

## After delay, Supertech delivers 200 units in Noida's Romano project

PTI ■ NOIDA

Real estate group Supertech has said it handed over possession of 200 units in its residential project Romano to buyers on Saturday.

The flats handed over are in B2 Tower of Romano located in sector 118 of Noida and ranging from 2BHK to 4BHK, costing ₹50 lakh to ₹1.50 crore, the group said.

"The coming year promises to be one where the real estate sector soars to new heights and all the investments made by the sector in terms of technology and initiatives to improve transparency come to

## Country's first Super Fab Lab inaugurated by Kerala CM

**Kochi:** The country's first Super Fab Lab, which will give a major push to the hardware industry in the country and the only such facility outside the U.S., was launched at the Integrated Startup Complex of the Kerala Startup Mission (KSUM) here on Saturday.

Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan inaugurated the facility through remote control from Palakkad, where he attended a function at the Government Polytechnic College.

PTI

## BEFORE THE SOLE ARBITRATOR

**MS.C.DEEPA NANDHINI, ADVOCATE**  
**CLAIM PETITION NO. CDN/DFS/051/2019**  
**M/s. Daimler Financial Services India Pvt Ltd** ...Claimant  
Vs.  
**M/s. Adwik Homes Private Limited & 2 Others.** ...Respondents

To  
1. M/s. Adwik Homes Private Limited, Represented by its Director Mr. Sharad Singhal, D-550, Gall No. 5, Ashok Nagar, New Delhi - 110093.  
2. M/s. Vinayak Steel, Shop No. 7, Plot No. 1, Hoti Lal & Sons MKT, Amrit Nagar, Ghaziabad - 200 001, Uttar Pradesh. ... Respondent 1 to 3  
Please take notice that in the above Claim petition No. CDN/DFS/051/2019 which is pending on the file of Learned Arbitrator MS.C.DEEPA NANDHINI, the Learned Arbitrator ordered on 30.12.2019 notice to 1st and 3rd Respondents for the hearing dated 12.02.2020. Therefore make it convenient to appear before the Learned Arbitrator on 12.02.2020 at 4.00 PM, at 'B7', Shaw Wallace Building, 1st Floor, No.336, Thambu Chetty Street, Chennai-600 001' either in person or through counsel, failing which the case will be heard in your absence.

**M.ARUNACHALAM, COUNSEL FOR CLAIMANT**

## PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given to the General Public that Mr. Parmeet Singh S/o Late Mr. Dharmender Singh & Mrs. Harinder Kaur W/o Mr. Jagjeet Singh is absolute owner of Property Bearing No. 4-42 (Old No. W2-33) Khasra No.1402 residential colony known as Sharda Puri Delhi where Mr. Parmeet Singh by virtue of registered relinquishment deed dated 08.01.2020, having registration no.195 & Mrs. Harinder kaur by virtue of registered sale deed dated 25.08.2011 having registration no. 21557. All persons are hereby informed that above mentioned owner want to take a loan from our client (Fusion India Credit Company Limited), if anybody has any objections on the said property, & its ownership/ title. Kindly inform the undersigned in writing on the below mentioned address within 07 days of the present notice.

## WESTERN RAILWAY

### CORRIGENDUM NO. 2

To Advertise Tender Through E Mode Notice No. WTR/17/2019/04 Dated 19.11.2019. Item No. of tender notice : 1. Tender No.: 196033. Description of Item : CMS Crossing RDSO drg. No. T-4220. Item to be modified : Closing Date. From : 2

# MIND BENDER

Simon Baker in the TV show *The Mentalist* wows the viewers with his cold reading and hypnosis to track down real criminals. Does this mean that there is science behind mind reading? **SHALINI SAKSENA** chats up self-styled mystifier and supernatural entertainer **LIOR SUCHARD** to tell you more

Could you give the notepad, he asks, and tells you to think of a number. You think, here comes the trick. In the meantime, he scribbles something on the paper. He then asks you to share the number you had thought of. Lo and behold! It is the number on that paper. What is new here?

After all, we all saw Patrick Jane, (Simon Baker) in *The Mentalist* using his special but fraudulent powers to solve crime. He studied the body language of the person to find out the true killer among suspects. Is there a science that allows a person to read minds and body language to predict things that common people can't pick up? Or it is just a fantastic trick by a magician to wow his audience?

Lior Suchard, renowned Israeli mentalist, mystifier and a supernatural entertainer, tells you that what he does is more than parlour tricks.

What exactly is a mentalist and how what he does different from a magician? Suchard mixes visual magic, mind reading, body language and keen sense of observation to influence people.

Mentalists usually don't mix normal magic tricks for the amazing feats they do to keep their audience captivated. A mentalist will always dissociate himself from theatrical tricks that a magician performs on stage — like the Water of Ganga — the famous trick of PC Sircar Senior. From a small cauldron, at the beginning of the show, he would pour water into a basin. All through his performance, he would pour water from that cauldron, till the end of the show. The water never ran out!

The 39-year-old is in India after a long gap and there is a reason. "It has been a few years. There was a time when I used to visit often. Then I stopped. This visit comes after a long wait. To begin with, I used to come here often, do tours — visit 20 cities. After doing many shows, I collaborated with Ace Production and created a big show. But then I went away on a break. I am back now. I was supposed to come earlier, but was busy with other performance the world over but I had a window of time for this trip and created three shows — one in Delhi and two in Mumbai. Everything this time is new — the acts and crazy interactive sessions. We also wanted to combine this show which would benefit children as well. We are helping Create Foundation, I will interact with children and have a fun-filled interactive session," says Suchard who was in the Capital and staying at the Ambassador, IHCL, SeleQtions. He tells you that there is no such thing as a normal mind reader.

He decided to stay away from India as he wanted the market to miss him and also to keep his imitators at bay. Back then, when he used to visit and perform across cities, many started copying him and calling themselves mentalists, performing across India. What they were doing, Suchard says, was copying his acts. But he takes it in his stride and as a compliment. "If someone is copying you, it means what you are doing is good," he says.

"I opened the floodgates. I was always a mind-reading master mentalist. A mentalist is not a magician, I don't do card tricks, I don't levitate people, I don't do bowling tricks. I work on the mind. I know how people think. I use underground psychology influencing hypnotics, body language reading, non-verbal communication, extra-sensory perception, strong memory and mathematical skills to read the mind. I combine all these skills with my love for the stage and share an experience with audience participation," Suchard says. He goes on to prove he is good at what he does.

Pointing to a person, he asks how well one knows him. He asks him to write a name on a strip of paper and destroy it. "To get rid of the evidence," he explains. He looks at the person for a few seconds and begins. "When I look at the body language, the name that was written is that of a woman. It was a name that came immediately to you. The name you have written is uncommon. I am not sure. It has three-four alphabets, like a nickname but in this case, it is her given name. It is not accurate science; sometimes I make mistakes. But right now, the name that comes up is Mini," he tells you, leaving a trail of amazement. For Suchard, it is simple. He just observed the person and used his skills to arrive at the name.

"What I do is not a trick. What people think is real or not real, it is all part of the show. For me, the most important thing is for people to be happy, enjoy and have an amazing experience. It is not about believing or not believing. People are welcome to be sceptical; they can have fun with the show. If people believe, that's good. Albert Einstein said: 'There are two ways to live life. One is as



though nothing is a miracle. The other is as though everything is a miracle'. If you are choosing that nothing is a miracle, you are many doors. I don't try to talk about power, it is about ability. I tell people in my show that everyone has the ability to do amazing things. One just has to believe in himself," Suchard explains.

Almost all mentalists say that they are not magicians and what they do is a different art form altogether. A mentalist on the other hand has a great knowledge about psychology of human nature and understand how people think. Instead of sawing women in half or making wild animals appear from big boxes, a mentalist tries to enter the most sacred and closely guarded place — our mind. Because of this, the audience experiences incredible things like bending of the spoon, like guessing the correct number that he wrote on the paper, like coming up with the correct answer every time the dice is rolled — all this and much more even when he is not looking at the person. One can say that it is crazy thought manipulations.

Magicians, on the other hand, don't hide the fact that they are doing is a trick in a manner that entertains. The audience too understands that what he is witnessing is an illusion and what he

Mentalism has allegedly been used outside the entertainment industry to influence people for personal gain

Erik Jan Hanussen is alleged to have influenced Adolf Hitler

Grigori Rasputin influenced Tsarina Alexandra

Wolf Messing Influenced Joseph Stalin

Count Alessandro di Cagliostro Accused of influencing the French aristocracy in the heist of a diamond necklace

is actually seeing can't really be done. A perfect example is the sawing of the woman into two and putting her back again. We all know that the magician really didn't cut her into two. But this doesn't mean that they don't mix a bit of trick with mind games thrown in for a good measure. Some of us have watched the TV shows of people like David Blaine, an American illusionist, endurance artist and extreme performer, who perform mind-blowing mind-reading stunts that leaves the audience in awe.

A special mention for The Amazing Kreskin — an American mentalist who became popular on TV in the 1970s. The story goes that Kreskin would ask someone from the audience hide the payment he was to receive from the show. If he couldn't find it by the end of his performance, he would not get paid! Such was his talent.

One is told that while there are many great magicians, there are very few — only a handful of people who are true mentalists. "If one had to think of a name, it will be difficult for people to come up with the name on the spot. Our world is very small. We are just a handful of people who are true mentalists.

His own journey began when he

was very young. He tells you that there is no school that teaches mind reading — the high academics of mind reading. He is self-taught and tells you on a lark that maybe he should open a school that teaches what he does.

"It was a combination of things that he developed and learnt when he was young. He read a lot of books, travelled the world, he invented things and ideas, met people from radical Math calculations to spirituality. What I do moves from accuracy, to Math to precisement to spirituality, meditation and Zen. It takes skills that I have into account and combines that with a lot of fun, humour and craziness that I love. I studied all this and mastered what I do today.

The mentalist has a cup of activities waiting for him once his India tour ends.

As of now, he has two TV series in the US with celebs. He is also in the process of developing a new show and going to part of a big talk show. For this he has to be on top of the game; he practices, constantly thinking of new ideas and inventing what I do today.

Interestingly, what he does can be taught and learnt. "It is similar to playing the piano. If I learnt the art from a tutor for 10 years, I would know how to and be pretty good with practice. But it

doesn't mean one will become Mozart. One can be taught. I have written a book — *Mind Reader: Unlocking the Power of Your Mind to Get What You Want*. It has been translated into eight languages. The book teaches a little about how one can influence others, to read people and mind techniques. I wrote it with the belief that people can be taught to do it. But there is a point up to which one can teach. Something has to come from within just like any other art form say like a sport. One can learn to play cricket but not everyone will be a Sachin Tendulkar. I take his name since he is a good friend of mine. You need to have that little extra to be right at the top," Suchard tells you.

Self-belief and hard work are important pillars for a mentalist. "Take risks is another aspect. All these ties together to be a professional and be very good at what one does. Taking risks doesn't mean putting oneself or others in danger but it means to do things that out of the extraordinary and think out-of-the-box. There a phrase — the difference between try and triumph is the little bit of 'umph'. One needs to really hard work to even put out the simplest of acts," he tells you.

He draws inspiration from travelling, meeting people and getting into a store. He tells you that the show that he is preparing for to be aired in the US, the act that it has been thought of three years back. I drew the ideas and then thought of combining it with a few things. Some of the acts that I showcase that takes years in process. For this tour, I have totally new ideas. The good part about this collaboration is that the production house and I have a good match, I am a high-end performer and I want everything to be perfect — from lighting to sound to stage. I prepared new acts that is going to blow the minds of the audience. Some of the acts are so big that it will involve the entire audience. In this instead of one person coming on the stage while the others watched, if the audience has thousand people, each will experience it and be part of the show. This is a rarity. It is tough to do as well. When one wants to be good at something — have showmanship, charisma, performance and the acts — if one has great ideas but doesn't know how to deliver it or if one is good but doesn't know how to put out the idea, in both circumstances, it is not good. One needs to have ideas and know how to deliver it. For this tour, I am going to dazzle, confuse and make those present happy at the same time," he says.

Dazzle he did. The act that involved the entire audience showed how optimism and the metaphor of finding love, everyone found it withing themselves through a crazy interactive experiment. There was mind-reading, mind influencing and predictions. Things moved with super high-end camera crew, lights, screens and sounds.

He tells you that what he does is 90 per cent real and 10 per cent trick. "I do tricks just to have fun with the audience. The 90 per cent is based on psychology and how the mind works. The human mind is the same. I don't know what one is thinking, I know how one is thinking. I can take advantage of it and influence the person. That is how I could predict the number and gave that name," Suchard says.

Even though he can predict what the other person is thinking, it doesn't bother him since what he does is used for the positive purpose.

"I never think of negativity. Like when I came up with the name, the person is going to call her and tell her what happened and the other person would be just as amazed. I am a perfectionist. I am constantly improvising. Sometimes, I look at the place and change my acts. Sometimes, I improvise on the spot. This means that I change my acts depending on the people gathered. I love to invent new acts," Suchard tells you. He is the best in his profession, he insists.

One can't call oneself mentalist on a whim. One has to be a purist. Mentalist is a sacred art. There are many magicians making millions of dollars from their art. But many call themselves a mentalist because it is more prestigious. Being mentalist is tough. Some people think that being in the presence of a mentalist is scary. Charlie Chaplin said: A day without laughter, is a waste day. I laugh everyday and do the same for others," Suchard says.

He tells you that people are scared because they think he can read their mind. "I am very sensitive to people. It is hard for a person to lie to me. I am not hearing thoughts of people and that could be why they are wary, what I do is a process that I have perfected over the years.

To end on a positive note: Always have happy thoughts; one never knows who might read them," Suchard says.

AFP ■ MELBOURNE

Home favourite Nick Kyrgios went five sets to ensure an Australian Open showdown with Rafael Nadal on Saturday as a series of shocks caused carnage in the women's draw.

Kyrgios survived the longest match of his career to beat Russia's Karen Khachanov 6-2, 7-6 (7/5), 6-7 (6/8), 6-7 (7/9), 7-6 (10/8), collapsing on his back after the fifth-set tie-breaker.

"That was insane — I've got no words to show I'm feeling right now," he said, after the 4hr 26min marathon marked by his trademark tweeners and exchanges with the umpire.

"This is just epic man, I don't even know what's going on. My legs feel about 40 kilos each."

The outspoken Aussie now heads into a last-16 clash with Nadal, with whom he has history after calling him "super salty" following criticism from the Spaniard last year.

"Whatever happens between us, he's an amazing player, he's arguably the greatest of all time," said Kyrgios.

Top seed Nadal had a comparatively easy ride against his Davis Cup teammate Pablo Carreno Busta, racing through 6-1, 6-2, 6-4 in what he called his "best match of the tournament so far".

While the men's Big Three of Nadal, Roger Federer and Novak Djokovic are all still alive, it's a different story in the women's competition where six of the top 10 seeds crashed out in the third round.

After Serena Williams and title-holder Naomi Osaka fell by the wayside on Friday, second seed Karolina Pliskova bombed on Saturday with a 7-6 (7/4), 7-6 (7/3) defeat to Anastasia Pavlyuchenkova.

"I was about 40 percent today of my game," lamented the Czech.



Anastasia Pavlyuchenkova, left, is congratulated by Karolina Pliskova after winning their third round singles match

# Against all odds

## Pliskova, Svitolina, Bencic join top 10 biggies on way back home as shocks continue to rattle Aus Open

stress fracture in her foot. However, Wimbledon champion Simona Halep stayed on course with a 6-1, 6-4 victory over Kazakhstan's Yulia Putintseva.

"I'm sure that for you guys (media) it's a little bit of shock when the top-10 players are losing," said Halep, shrugging off the exodus of top seeds.

"But it's life and we cannot be 100 percent every day."

The Romanian fourth seed will now play Belgium's Elise Mertens, who won in three sets against CiCi Bellis — ending the American's Grand Slam return from long-term injury.

Angelique Kerber, the 2016 champion, beat Camila Giorgi 6-2, 6-7 (4/7), 6-3 to set up a meeting with



Elina Svitolina makes a forehand return to Garbine Muguruza during their third round singles match

AO

RESURGENT MUGURUZA

Switzerland's Belinda Bencic, the sixth seed, won only one game against Estonia's Anett Kontaveit, the world number 31, as she went down 6-0, 6-1.

And a resurgent Garbine Muguruza, a two-time Major-winner, thrashed fifth seed Elina Svitolina 6-1, 6-2. Tenth seed Madison Keys lost to Maria Sakkari on Friday.

"I was very concentrated and focused on what I wanted to do, it all went fast my way," said Muguruza, who raced through the first set in just 23 minutes.

Croatian 19th seed Donna Vekic also crumbled to lower-ranked opposition when she lost 7-5, 6-3 to Poland's Iga Swiatek, who is returning from a

PTI ■ AUCKLAND

India are unlikely to change a winning combination but a few changes in the bowling department won't come as a surprise when the visitors take on New Zealand in the second T20 at the high-scoring Eden Park today.

Jasprit Bumrah was the only bowler on either side to concede less than eight runs per over at the peculiar shaped ground with short boundaries in the series opener.

Both Mohammad Shami (0/53 in 4 overs) and Shardul Thakur (1/44 in 3 overs) were taken to the cleaners with New Zealand batsmen using their pace to collect boundaries at will.

Since Shami is expected to retain his place in the playing eleven, Thakur might make way for Navdeep Saini. However, Saini, with his extra pace, too could go for big runs at the small ground.

It remains to be seen whether India stick to three specialist pacers and two spinners combination or bring in an extra twicker in Kuldeep Yadav to partner

Yuzvendra Chahal and Ravindra Jadeja. Washington Sundar is the other spin option India have.

If India do play an extra twicker, all-rounder Shivam

Dube will be third fast bowling option.

On the batting front, Virat Kohli was a pleased skipper as the much scrutinised middle-order delivered

for the team under pressure. Shreyas Iyer solidified at his position at number four with an unbeaten 58 off 29 balls.

As Manish Pandey and Dube alternate in finishing duties, aided by K L Rahul's wicket-keeping skills, India's T20 batting line-up finally seems set in the short term barring unforeseen changes.

New Zealand were left pondering about a shortage of 10-15 runs to their total as well as missed chances in the field that allowed the visiting batsmen to get away with a high scoring rate.

Partly, it also had to do with India's surprisingly quick adaptation to the awkward conditions on offer at Eden Park.

In turn, the Black Caps themselves now have to come to terms with India's adaptation if they are to prevent an early 2-0 lead within three days.

Irrespective of the result, the tide seemed to turn for the hosts in terms of their batting form. Senior batsmen Kane Williamson and Ross Taylor defied recent criticism to score attacking half-centuries. It complimented their top-order's runs, albeit they only finished with a par score.

India won key battles during their innings in that new batsmen at the crease were able to maintain the momentum previously generated. It is something New Zealand cannot simply fix with a change in personnel. As such they will be hoping the likes of Colin de Grandhomme and Tim Seifert to come good.

New Zealand expect to field the same eleven, avoiding any temptation to take a look at all-rounders Scott Kuggeleijn and Daryl Mitchell.

PTI ■ GONDOMAR

Ind women TT team out of Olympics contention

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Ranked 23rd just a place above France, the Indian team took the lead through Ayhika Mukherjee and Sutirtha Mukherjee in the opening match, beating Stephanie Loeuillette and Yuan Jian Nan 11-7, 6-11, 10-12, 11-4, 11-8.

Though Manika Batra, ranked 61st, lost her opening singles 7-11, 11-3, 9-11, 11-3, 7-11 to Marie Migot, ranked 195th, she was able to put India back in the reckoning when she won 11-7, 12-10, 11-4 against Stephanie Loeuillette in the second singles.

But the euphoria lasted just a couple of games as Ayhika, playing the last match of the tie against Marie, led 2-1 but her French opponent pulled level before winning the decider to sending India packing. Ayhika lost 11-6, 8-11, 11-5, 9-11, 9-11.

With just two singles entries allowed per country, the Indian women, especially Manika and Archana Kamath, can hope for the best when they participate in the April event in Thailand for singles qualification.

## Bopanna, Nadiia progress in mixed doubles

MELBOURNE: India's Rohan Bopanna and his Ukrainian partner Nadiia Kichenok moved into the mixed doubles second round on Saturday.

The Indo-Ukrainian pair beat Lyudmyla Kichenok of Ukraine and Austin Krajicek from USA 7-5, 4-6, 10-6 in one hour and 15 minutes.

They will next take on American Nicole Melichar and Brazilian Bruno Soares.

Bopanna was supposed to pair up with compatriot Sania Mirza but the latter pulled out due to a calf injury.

Veteran Leander Paes is also competing in the mixed doubles with Jelena Ostapenko. PTI



Rafael Nadal celebrates after defeating compatriot Pablo Carreno Busta

Pavlyuchenkova, the Russian 30th seed.

Elsewhere, Germany's Alexander Zverev dismissed Fernando Verdasco 6-2, 6-2, 6-4 to set up a last-16 clash with Russia's Andrey Rublev, who remained unbeaten this year with his 2-6, 7-6 (7/3), 6-4, 7-6 (7/4) win over David Goffin.

Austrian fifth seed Dominic Thiem came through 6-2, 6-4, 6-7 (5/7), 6-4 against Taylor Fritz, Gael Monfils beat Ernests Gulbis 7-6 (7/2), 6-4, 6-3 and Stanislas Wawrinka, the 2014 champion, progressed when John Isner retired in the second set.

## SINGLES

PRANJESH SECURES DIRECT ENTRY

PUNE: India's top singles player Pranjesh Gunneswaran will lead the home challenge at the Tata open Maharashtra after securing a direct entry into the men's singles main draw following the withdrawal of Poland's Kamil Majchrzak. Ranked 123, Pranjesh was initially placed second behind Go Soeda in the alternatives list but since the Japanese also withdrew from the tournament, it cleared Pranjesh's passage into the ATP 250 event, starting February 3.

GHOSAL ENTERS PITTSBURG OPEN S/F

PITTSBURGH: India's Saurav Ghosal has progressed to the semi-final of the Pittsburgh Open with an easy win over Cesar Salazar of Mexico here. The Indian, seeded second, defeated his sixth seeded Mexican rival 11-8, 11-6, 11-8 in the quarter-final of the PSA World tour event. Another Indian who was in fray, Ramit Tandon crashed out in the first round.

ANAND BEATS FIROUZJA, JUMPS TO SIXTH

WIJK AAN ZEE: Five-time world champion Viswanathan Anand gave a fine endgame lesson to young Alireza Firouzja, jumping to joint sixth position at the end of 11th round of Tata Steel Masters here. With his second victory, Anand clawed his way back to a fifty percent score and will now hope to end the tournament on a high. At just 16 years, Firouzja is less than one third of Anand's age, and the Indian ace showed that the Iranian still has a lot to learn.

JORDAN TO HOST OLYMPIC BOXING QUALIFIER

LAUSANNE: An Olympic boxing qualifier, which was cancelled in China following the outbreak of a deadly virus that has claimed 26 lives, will be held instead in Jordan. The International Olympic Committee's Boxing Task Force (BTF) announced that the Asian/Oceania qualifying event for this summer's Tokyo Olympics will be held in Amman from March 3-11. "The event, originally planned to take place in Wuhan, China, from February 3-14, was rescheduled after the joint decision by the BTF and the Chinese Olympic Committee to cancel the competition due to the developments regarding the coronavirus outbreak reported in the Chinese city," said an IOC statement.

HI NAMES 32 PLAYERS FOR CAMP

NEW DELHI: Dragflicker Varun Kumar returned to action after recovering from a nerve injury as Hockey India on Saturday named 32 players for the men's National Coaching Camp ahead of next month's FIH Pro League tie against World Champions Belgium. After making a good start to their maiden campaign with impressive wins over the Netherlands, the Indian men's team will regroup for the Camp in Bhubaneswar ahead of their tie against Belgium to be held February 8 and 9. The Core Group remains a mix of experienced and young players.

INDIAN WOMEN'S BEGIN NZ TOUR WITH 4-0 WIN

AUCKLAND: Skipper Rani Rampal struck twice as the Indian women's hockey team started its first tour of the Olympic year with a confident 4-0 victory over New Zealand Development squad here on Saturday. Besides Rani's double, Sharmila and Namita Toppo also sounded the board, while the hosts drew a blank. "In the beginning we struggled a bit with the jet lag but after that we played a very controlled game and created a lot of opportunities," said Chief coach Sjoerd Marijne after match. AGENCIES

# India look to extend advantage

## Khaleel out of A tour

CHRISTCHURCH: Left-arm pacer Khaleel Ahmed was on Saturday ruled out of India's ongoing tour of New Zealand with a wrist injury.

"Khaleel Ahmed fractured the scaphoid bone in his left wrist during India's first one-day match against New Zealand A at Lincoln on January 22," the BCCI said in a statement.

"His hand has been placed in a plaster cast and the left-arm fast bowler has been ruled out of the remainder of India's tour. NCA will manage his rehabilitation," it added.

The BCCI, however, did not name any replacement for the fast bowler.

Khaleel, who has played 11 ODIs and 14 T20 Internationals for India, returned with figures of 2 for 46 from his 8 overs in the second one-day match in New Zealand. In the series opener, he had taken four wickets for 43 runs in 9.1 overs. PTI



Erling Braut Haaland celebrates with teammate Jadon Sancho after scoring Dortmund's fifth goal

## Haaland does in again

Dortmund's new signing hits two more goals in Cologne 5-1 rout

DORTMUND: Teenager Erling Braut Haaland scored twice more off the bench on Friday as Borussia Dortmund moved up to third in the Bundesliga with a 5-1 thumping of Cologne.

Having claimed a hat-trick as a replacement on his Dortmund debut last Saturday to inspire a 5-3 win away at Augsburg, Haaland, 19, again showed clinical finishing.

"For Erling, it's simply wonderful — five goals, two games, there are worse starts," said Dortmund captain Marco Reus.

"Especially here at home — that's why we signed him.

"That was a good step forward from us — also from me personally," added Reus who was criticised for missing clear chances against Augsburg.

With his team 3-1 up, Haaland came on for his first home appearance with an hour gone and 11 minutes later was on the score-sheet, slamming home the rebound of a saved Julian Brandt shot.

He then showed his speed to beat Cologne goalkeeper Timo Horn, tucking the ball into an empty net on 87 minutes.

Dortmund coach Lucien Favre explained why Haaland was again only a second-half replacement.

"He didn't train in December due to injury, therefore we have to be careful with him," said the Swiss.

"He's not ready to play from the start, we have a plan for him."

The result leaves Dortmund level on 36 points with defending champions Bayern Munich and four behind leaders RB Leipzig.

Goals by Raphael Guerreiro and Marco Reus gave Dortmund a 2-0 half-time lead.

England winger Jadon Sancho grabbed a third after the break and Cologne striker Mark Uth claimed his first goal for the visitors before Haaland's entrance. AFP

## India can play Asia Cup matches at neutral venue: PCB

NEW DELHI: Pakistan Cricket Board CEO Wasim Khan on Saturday hinted that India's league matches in the Asia Cup, which it will be hosting, could be held at a neutral venue if the sport's continental body gives the nod.

Pakistan is scheduled to host the Asia Cup T20 tournament in September this year but there remains doubts over India's participation considering the prevailing political climate.

Saying that the call will rest on the Asian Cricket Council (ACC), the PCB chief executive also clarified that he has never said Pakistan would not play the 2021 World T20, to be hosted by India, if India skips the Asia Cup, as it is an ICC tournament.

"The question is what if India doesn't tour Pakistan? My response is the ACC then needs to make a decision but since we have been awarded hosting rights, we fully expect the Asia Cup to happen in Pakistan. The ACC will then need to make a decision as to where they will play the India games," Khan said.

Asked if India could play their matches at a neutral venue, Khan sounded positive.

"Possibly. If there's an India versus Pakistan final, it depends upon the ACC to decide where the final is played. Discussions haven't taken place yet on formats and scheduling but then that's ACC's call." PTI

## Pak thump B'desh for series win



Babar Azam plays a shot during his innings fifty run innings in 2nd T20

AFP ■ LAHORE

Skipper Babar Azam and senior batsman Mohammad Hafeez stroked masterful half-centuries to steer Pakistan to a convincing nine-wicket win over a hapless Bangladesh in the second Twenty20 at

Gaddafi stadium on Saturday. Babar scored a 44-ball 66 not out for his 13th half-century and Hafeez made an undefeated 49-ball 67 to guide Pakistan to a modest 137-run target in 16.4 overs, taking an unbeatable 2-0 lead in the three-match series.

Bangladesh again failed to put up a challenging total despite opener Tamim Iqbal's 53-ball 65, managing 136-6 in their 20 overs after winning the toss and batting for a second consecutive match.

Pakistan were never in trouble despite losing opener Ahsan Ali in the second over, caught by Mahmudullah Riyad off paceman Shafiqul Islam in the second over.

World number one Twenty20 batsman Babar, who was out without scoring on Friday, was in a punishing mood right from the outset, hitting seven boundaries and a six in his knock.

Hafeez, recalled after 14 months in the Twenty20 side, stroked nine boundaries and a six in his 11th T20 fifty as the two added 131 for the unbroken second wickets stand.

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PTI ■ GONDOMAR

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But the euphoria lasted just a couple of games as Ayhika, playing the last match of the tie against Marie, led 2-1 but her French opponent pulled level before winning the decider to sending India packing. Ayhika lost 11-6, 8-11, 11-5, 9-11, 9-11.

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## Bacra honeymoon over for Setien

AFP ■ MESTALLA

Quique Setien's honeymoon period lasted less than a fortnight as he tasted his first Barcelona defeat on Saturday in his second La Liga game in charge after a 2-0 loss to Valencia.

Maxi Gomez's strike and a Jordi Alba own goal at Mestalla handed Barca their fourth league defeat of the campaign, giving Real Madrid the chance to move three points clear of the champions at the top of the table when they visit Real Valladolid today.

Barcelona had most of the ball but their opponents had the best chances as Gomez missed a penalty and also hit the crossbar in the first half. Gabriel Paulista saw a third goal ruled out late on.

While performances under previous coach Ernesto Valverde were stodgy, he left a team that sat top of the table.

Setien promised a new



Maxi Gomez celebrates in front of Frenkie De Jong after scoring Valencia's second goal

AFP

style but despite dominating possession, Barcelona went nowhere with it and as Valencia grew in confidence, they ceded control.

Valencia climb to fifth and continue to improve under Albert Celades. This success came without their captain Dani Parejo and, largely, without star striker Rodrigo Moreno, who has been linked with a January move to Barcelona.

# Mary to get Padma Vibhushan

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Celebrated boxer M C Mary Kom will be conferred with the Padma Vibhushan, the country's second highest civilian award, while world champion shuttler P V Sindhu will get the Padma Bhushan among eight sportspersons named for the prestigious honours on Saturday.

The names of the awardees were announced by the government on the eve of the country's

71st Republic Day.

The 36-year-old Mary Kom, also a Rajya Sabha Member of Parliament, won a Bronze medal at the 2012 London Olympics while also being crowned as world champion six times in an illustrious career.

She is one of seven eminent personalities to be awarded the Padma Vibhushan this year.

The Manipuri boxer, who was conferred with the Padma Bhushan in 2013 and Padma



Mary Kom celebrates after beating Nikhat Zareen in Olympic qualifiers trial PTI

Shri in 2006, is only the fourth sportsperson in the country to be given the Padma Vibhushan after chess wizard Viswanathan Anand, mountaineer Edmund Hillary and cricket icon Sachin Tendulkar who all got the coveted award in 2008.

The 24-year-old Sindhu is among 16 persons named for the Padma Bhushan, the country's third highest civilian award. She is a Silver medalist at the 2016 Rio Olympics and is the only Indian world champion in badminton.

Sindhu has also won four other World Championships medals — 2 Silver and 2 Bronze — besides the Gold she won last year. She won the Padma Shri in 2015.

Cricketer Zaheer Khan, current Indian women's hockey team captain Rani Rampal, former men's hockey skipper M P Ganes, ace shooter Jitu Rai, former Indian women's football team captain Oinam Bembem Devi and archer Tarundeep Rai were among the six other sportspersons who figured in the list of the 118 Padma Shri awardees. PTI



**Greetings on 71<sup>st</sup> Republic Day**

Ensuring Gujarat's holistic development is highest form of Patriotism



## Exemplary Achievements Of Gujarat Government

### Statue of Unity- Tourist Top Spot

Accorded as one of the

### top 100 tourist destinations of the world

by TIME magazine. Statue of Unity has attracted more than 37 lakh footfalls till date.



### 16 Check Posts Abolished

To bring in more transparency and boost Ease of doing business, Gujarat government has abolished 16 check-posts in the state.

This step has also decreased vehicle transit time; thereby increasing logistics efficiency.



### Double-digit Agricultural Growth Rate

Due to comprehensive Irrigation policy, Gujarat's agricultural growth is in impressive double digits.

Gujarat is largest producer of groundnut, cotton, castor seed, potato, and Isabgol.



### Employment rates at all time high

As per Employment exchange, Gujarat tops the chart among all states with 81% employment generation.

The State is also a best performer in the start-up rankings as per Government of India; which is a crucial indicator of employment.

### First production, then permission- MSMEs

"First production, then permission" policy has been widely accepted and appreciated. Gujarat is leading in MSME sector with establishment of 483363 units in last 3 years.

## Best water managed state of India

Gujarat is best water managed state for third consecutive year according to NITI Aayog.

State not only conserved additional 23000 lakh cubic feet water through Sujalam Sufalam Jal Abhiyan, but also provided safe, affordable and assured Narmada water to 160 cities and more than 10000 villages across Gujarat.

Five mega desalination plants will soon be a reality in the state, which shall convert 35 crore litres of sea water in to potable drinking water.



## Gujarat leads in Healthcare to all

Over five lakh people have received healthcare benefits under Ayushman Bharat Yojna (PMJAY).

Around 4 crore people have got registered and over 8.5 lakh beneficiaries have received over 1400 crore rupees for treatment of heart, Kidney, Cancer and other serious ailments.



## Most preferred Investment Destination

Gujarat is most preferred investment destination with over 26000 crore FDI in first six months of current financial year. Out of total industrial investment in India, Gujarat bags 51% of total IEMs (Industrial Entrepreneur Memorandum).



## Gujarat leads in

Cargo handling Exports

Online Governance Solar energy generation

Green Energy Initiatives Drip Irrigation

### CM DASHBOARD

A new benchmark of efficiency. Efficiency in functioning of 26 departments and district offices closely monitored by the Hon'ble Chief Minister using 3400 indicators.

Gujarat Government has been successful in providing conducive environment for investment, industry and all round development of the state.

**- Shri Nitinbhai Patel, Deputy Chief Minister of Gujarat**

### BEFORE DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL-II, DELHI. 4<sup>TH</sup> FLOOR JEEVAN TARA BUILDING PARLIAMENT STREET NEW DELHI-110001.

OANO. 128/19 DATE: 20.11.2019 State Bank Of India Applicant

M/S CMYK Labels & Cartons Pvt Ltd. & Ors. Respondent

Defendant

1. M/S CMYK Labels & Cartons Pvt Ltd. D-17, Shopping Centre-2 Mansarovar Garden, New Delhi - 15

2. Sh. Rakesh Kumar Gaur S/o Sh. Jai Prakash Gaur

3. Sh. Ishank Gaur S/o Sh. Rakesh Kumar Gaur

4. Sh. Mayank Gaur S/o Sh. Rakesh Kumar Gaur

Address of D2 to D4: R/O A-3, Naraina Industrial Area, Phase-II Delhi-28

Also At: D-17, Shopping Centre-2 Mansarovar Garden New Delhi-15

Also At: 65, Village Meethapur Old Agra Canar Near Water Plant Delhi-44

Also At: 70/32, Near Aggarwal Dhaba Matiala Delhi-59

Also At: 680, SECT.-31, Faridabad

Also At: D-38, DSIDC Kirti Nagar New Delhi

Also At: 17/32 B, Industrial Area Rama Road Delhi - 15

Also At: B-24, DSIDC Packaging Complex Kirti Nagar, New Delhi-15

Whereas The above named applicant(s) has / have instituted a case for recovery of Rs. 52,96,565/- (Rupees Fifty Two Lakh Ninety Six Thousand Five Hundred And Sixty Five Only) against you and where as it has been shown to the satisfaction of the Tribunal that it is not possible to serve you in the ordinary way therefore, this notice is given by advertisement directing you to make appearance in the Tribunal on 31.01.2020 At 10.30 A.M.

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

BY ORDER OF THE TRIBUNAL ASSISTANT REGISTRAR DRT-II, DELHI.

### OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER, LIFT IRRIGATION CIRCLE, VARUNAPURAM, IRRIGATION COLONY, SIGRA, VARANASI-221010, UP.

#### SHORT TERM e-TENDER NOTICE NO. 03/ LIC. VNS/APFC/BPC/19-20 (Second Call)

Online e-bids on prescribed bid forms in two parts namely (i) Technical bid and (ii) Financial bid are invited simultaneously by the undersigned on behalf of the Governor of Uttar Pradesh only from ISO:9001 & ISO:14001 certified Original Manufacturer or their Authorized Dealer/Distributor/Channel Partner, of HT Capacitors/APFC Panels, registered with Director of Industries of the State/N.S.I.C./D.G.S. & D/ Ministry of Industries, Government of India as original manufacturer of Automatic Power Factor Corrector (APFC) Panel on firm & fixed price up to 16,000 Hours on 10.02.2020 and shall be opened at 16.00 Hours on 11.02.2020 as stated below. The details for submission of bids are available in the bid document uploaded on the e-procurement website <http://etender.up.nic.in>.

The bidders are required to be registered with U.P. Electronic Corporation, Ashok Marg, Lucknow or with any other agency nominated by the Government for participation in the e-Tendering. Bidders who are not registered with Director of Industries of the State / N.S.I.C. for bidding item are required to submit Bid Security (EMD) in amount as stated below, pledged in favour of the Executive Engineer, Lift Irrigation Construction Division, Varanasi. But bidders who are intending to seek exemption from submitting bid security (EMD) should submit relevant Industries Registration Certificate issued by competent authority with request letter for exemption as well as the bid document fee through Demand Draft / Bankers Cheque payable in favour of the Executive Engineer, Lift Irrigation Construction Division, Varanasi as stated below, prior to the schedule date & time of opening of Technical Part of the bid, failing which bid shall not be considered / opened.

No deviation / alteration in the technical specifications / conditions stipulated in the tender documents shall be allowed. The undersigned reserves the right to cancel any or all the e-bids / annul the bidding process without assigning any reason.

(a) Providing, Erection, Commissioning and Testing on load of 11KV, outdoor, Automatic Power Factor Corrector (APFC) Panel, 3750 KVAR, with 10% over voltage and communication provisions for electrical parameters, to improve Power Factor upto 0.99 of the system installed at Bhupauli Pump Canal, Chandauli, UP.	02 Jobs
(b) Date & time for Availability of the bid document on website.	27.01.2020 from 15.00 Hours onwards
(c) Period for Bid submission along with Bid Document Fee, Bid Security Industries Registration Certificate for exemption from EMD and other supporting documents in PDF/XLS format.	From 04.02.2020, 10.00 Hours Upto 10.02.2020 up to 16.00 Hours
(d) Hard copy of original Bid Document fee, Bid Security & Industries Registration Certificate for exemption from EMD and other supporting documents to be deposited in the office concerned.	11.02.2020 upto 14.00 Hours noon
(e) Online opening date & time of Technical Bid.	11.02.2020 at 16.00 Hours
(f) Online opening date & time of Financial Bid.	13.02.2020 at 16.00 Hours
(g) Venue of opening of bid.	Office of The Superintending Engineer, Lift Irrigation Circle, Varunapuram, Irrigation Colony, Sigra, VARANASI-221010, UP. Ph.No. 0542-2224337
(h) Bid document fee.	Rs. 14,160.00 (Rs Fourteen Thousand One Hundred Sixty) only (Including GST).
(i) Bid Security (Earnest Money Deposit).	Rs 80,000.00 (Rupees Eighty Thousand) only
(j) Completion Schedule	04 Months

Note:- (i) The Tender Notice is also available on Information Department website (<http://www.upgov.up.nic.in>) and Irrigation Department website (<http://www.idup.gov.in>). Tender Documents can be downloaded from e-procurement website (<http://etender.up.nic.in>), but the cost of Tender documents Rs 14,160.00 only shall be compulsorily deposited along with Technical Part in shape of crossed Indian Postal Order / DD in favour of Executive Engineer, Lift Irrigation Construction Division, Irrigation Department, U.P., Varanasi. In case the tender fees is not enclosed with the Technical Part, their bid will not be considered.

(ii) In case of any variation in English and Hindi version of this Tender Notice, English version shall be applicable.

(iii) In case the date of opening of bids is declared a holiday then the e-bids shall be opened on the next working day at the same time.

(iv) Above items are for Government irrigation purpose only.

UP 148078 Date 24.1.2020 Superintending Engineer Lift Irrigation Circle, Irrigation & Water Resources Department, Varanasi.

**KEY CORP LIMITED**  
CIN No.: L65921UP1985PLC007547  
Regd. Office: 16/16-A, Civil Lines, Kanpur - 208001  
Email: [keycorp ltd@gmail.com](mailto:keycorp ltd@gmail.com) ; Phone: 0512-3013416, 3010422, 2305416

### STATEMENT OF UNAUDITED FINANCIAL RESULT FOR THE QUARTER ENDED 31<sup>st</sup> DECEMBER 2019

Sl. No.	Particulars	Current Quarter ended	Corresponding Quarter ended	Nine Months ended	Previous year ended
		31.12.2019 (Unaudited)	31.12.2018 (Unaudited)	31.12.2019 (Unaudited)	31.03.2019 (Audited)
1.	Total income from operations(net)	26.87	36.52	92.03	187.07
2.	Net Profit / (Loss) from ordinary activities after tax	9.68	20.67	38.32	120.59
3.	Net Profit / (Loss) for the period after tax (after Extraordinary items)	9.68	20.67	38.32	120.59
4.	Equity Share Capital	600.00	600.00	600.00	600.00
5.	Reserves (excluding Revaluation Reserve as shown in the Balance Sheet of previous year)	0.00	0.00	0.00	2097.26
6.	Earnings Per Share (before extraordinary items) (of ₹ 10/- each)				
	Basic :	0.16	0.34	0.64	2.01
	Diluted:	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
7.	Earnings Per Share (after extraordinary items) (of ₹ 10/- each)				
	Basic :	0.16	0.34	0.64	2.01
	Diluted:	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Notes: 1. Notes: The above is an extract of the detailed format of Quarterly/Annual Financial Results filed with the Stock Exchanges under Regulation 33 of the SEBI (Listing and Other Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015. The full format of the Quarterly/Annual Financial Results are available on the Stock Exchange websites, of BSE and also on company's website at [www.keycorp ltd.com](http://www.keycorp ltd.com). 2. Above results have been approved by the board of directors of the company at its meeting held on 25.01.2020.

By Order of the Board (G.D. Maheshwari) Director  
Place: Kanpur Date: 25.01.2020



# 'I believe in giving 200%'

**Talktime**  
JASSIE GILL  
Known for giving hit songs like Bapu Zimidar, Nakkre, Dill Tutda and many others, Gill is now seen opposite Kangana Ranaut in Panga. He tells Musba Hashmi how he came on board for the role, stories of the tough times and upcoming projects.

**■ What is your role in Panga?**  
I play Prashant Shrivastava, a railway engineer. He is a supportive husband who wants to fulfill his wife's dreams. The concept of the film is how a woman who had to sacrifice her dreams because of her marriage gets another chance to chase her them. The character is inspiring and the audience is loving it.

**■ What made you take up the role?**  
When I got the call for audition for this role, I didn't know much about the film. However, I made a video and send it to the team. Fortunately, I was finalised for the role. It was only during the narration that I got to know about the story. The one thing that I loved about the film was that it is a real-life inspired story which many people can relate to. I

took it as an opportunity of giving my best and playing a part in bringing real life stories to the audience.

**■ How was the experience working with Kangana Ranaut?**  
It was a wonderful experience. We had to shoot at a lot of different locations but the vibes and the atmosphere at the set remained the same. For Kangana, she is such a professional to work with. I always say that whenever you work with good actors there's always a learning experience with them. One can learn so many things just by observing them. It was the same with Kangana too. Also she is very sincere with her job and always gives her best during the shoot.

**■ You made your Bollywood debut with Happy Phir Bhaag Jayegi alongside Sonakshi Sinha. How did that happen?**  
The Colour Yellow Productions team called me for a meeting after seeing one of my song's video. I thought that they were calling me to sing a song in the movie. When I went for the meeting, I was asked if I was ready to play

**KANGANA IS VERY PROFESSIONAL. SHE IS SINCERE WITH HER JOB AND GIVES HER BEST DURING THE SHOOT. THERE IS SO MUCH ONE CAN LEARN FROM HER**

Khushwant Singh Gill in the film since I best suit the character. I said yes and we went for a look test. I was selected. That's how I got that project.

**■ A singer turned actor. What is your approach towards acting?**  
I always try to give my 200 per cent in whatever I do. When I am singing, I feel a bit relaxed because I have written the song and I can experiment with it. But when you are acting, you are doing a job for someone. The director relies upon you. There's a sense of responsibility. The only thing I keep in mind is to give the best I can.

**■ You were born as Jasdeep Singh Gill. How did you get the name Jassi Gill?**  
It's a very Punjabi thing. In Punjab, people have the habit of giving nicknames to their children and so did my family. Jassi comes close to Jasdeep, that's how I got the name. When I entered the industry, there was no page with this name on the Internet. It sounded unique back then so I decided to go by this name.

**■ You struggled before entering the**

**industry...**  
Yes. I was in college and used to perform in fests. My friends liked my performance and encouraged me to take it up as a profession. That's when I realised I could make it big in singing and acting. But had to put the idea on hold due to financial constraints. Amidst this period my visa for Australia got approved. I decided to earn some money. I washed cars for three months and returned to India with the money. Then I joined the Punjabi film industry.

**■ What kind of roles attract you?**  
I like to play roles that most people can relate to and that are inspired by real life.

**■ Any actor or director you want to work with?**  
It will be unfair to name any one person since our industry is full of talented people. I will grab any good opportunity that comes to me.

**■ Upcoming projects?**  
I have completed shooting for a Bollywood project and we shall make the announcement for it soon.

## WEEKLY NATTER

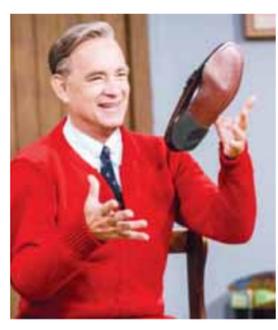
### 'LOVE FOR OSCARS NEVER GETS OLD'

Tom Hanks, who won two consecutive Oscars for *Philadelphia* and *Forrest Gump* in the '90s. Tom is nominated for Best Performance by an Actor in a Supporting Role for Oscar 2020. On January 13, 2020 Tom Hanks received his first Academy Award nomination after 19 years for his portrayal of children's television creator Fred Rogers in the drama *A Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood*.

On his nomination he said: 'I'm honoured to be included with the calibre of actors such as Anthony Hopkins, Joe Pesci, Al Pacino, and Brad Pitt. It will be a grand night.'

On the movie, Tom Hanks estimated that he watched about eight million hours of Mister Rogers programming. "I saw every one that I could possibly see." He explains: "this challenge was different...When you are not delivering a punch line and you're just trying to re-create who the man was, and the way the man thought, well, you end up starting over from whole cloth."

The actor has won twice, but has not been nominated since 2001. The 92nd Annual Academy Awards is set for Sunday, February 9, 2020.



### AASTHA GILL'S NEW SONG

Giving India the biggest pop song, *Naagin* last season, the gorgeous Aastha Gill is all set to release her new peppy dance number *Hermosa*, collaborating with D Soldierz for the first time.

The video of the song will also feature actor and model Aashim Gulati of Hotstar's *Hostages* fame along with Aastha Gill and D Soldierz, originally known as Punjab hip-hop artistes Lion and Xash. Directed by Sneya Shetty and written and composed by D Soldierz, this song was shot in Mumbai over two days.

"Hermosa means beautiful in Spanish. The song is about a mysterious beautiful girl who represents multi culture and cities. I am so thrilled on finally collaborating with my buddies Lion and Xash (D Soldierz) and my label Sony Music. And it doesn't end here, I also have Aashim Gulati, and together we promise to keep you grooving," Aastha said.



### SHIRLEY SETIA SET FOR BOLLYWOOD DEBUT

Shirley Setia who will make her Bollywood debut with movie *Nikamma* opposite Abhimanyu Dassani has proved to be excellent in everything she tries her hand at.

The YouTube sensation recently took over the internet with her dance video on the trending song *Mugaaba* with ace choreographer Vivek Dadhich. We love her stellar moves and cute looks, it's surely a treat to watch out for. Shirley is versatile and never misses a chance to showcase her skills on social media. The singer has been making waves on various social media platforms with her melodious voice which garnered her with a lot of appreciation and love from the audience.

We are eagerly looking forward to the release of her debut movie which is slated to release on June 5, 2020.



### RAVEENA TO PRODUCE WEB SERIES

Actor Raveena Tandon never fails to amaze fans with her diverse choices of roles, and while she still continues to rule the film space, she is also effortlessly dabbling into the TV and web space. Now the actor is all set to explore the web space, not only as a producer, but also a writer.

Raveena is writing and producing a web series under her home banner AA Films. The web-show will be in the psychological space and is based on the concept of split-personality. Talking about this new venture, Raveena says: "I am excited for the world to see a story that I have worked very hard for. This web-series is a gripping story that I have written and it will surely keep the viewers on the edge of their seat. Concept wise this web series is something very different I have tried, so I hope people love it."

Well, no further details have been revealed about the show, but official announcements shall be made soon. And fans would surely be excited to see this storyteller side of Raveena. The multi-talented actress has had many interesting films to her credit, and now, it looks like she will also own the writing space with this web series.



## REPUBLIC DAY SPECIAL

# MQ-9B: PIONEERING LEGACY IN ISR AND INTEROPERABILITY

The General Atomics Aeronautical Systems, Inc. (GA-ASI) is proud to be associated with the Indian Armed Forces towards meeting their growing Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance (ISR) and multi-mission requirements with its next-generation Remotely Piloted Aircraft System (RPAS), the MQ-9B SkyGuardian and SeaGuardian.

At the forefront of the unmanned revolution, GA-ASI continues to grow and develop new 'game-changing' capabilities. It is the world's pre-eminent manufacturer developing and integrating innovative RPAS that will provide single platform network-centric solution to the Indian Armed Forces need for ISR over land, sea, space and cyber domains.

MQ-9B is designed for the Indian Armed Forces with civil airspace integration in mind, not to mention its multi-mission capabilities built upon GA-ASI's legacy of RPAS with over six million flight hours.

**INTERNATIONAL DEMAND**  
The demand for MQ-9B throughout the world is growing, with the first variant, Protector RG Mk1, being delivered to the UK Royal Air Force in the early 2020s. The Government of Belgium has approved Belgian Defense to negotiate the acquisition of MQ-9B SkyGuardian to meet the nation's RPA requirements while the Australian Defence Force selected the MQ-9B RPA System for their Project Air 7003.

As the scope of the HALE RPAS Project under the Indian Ministry of Defence (MoD) has been expanded to include the Indian Army and Indian Air Force along with the Indian Navy, this will ensure maximum inter-operability and seamless mission networking capability across the three domains of land, air and water. This acquisition will allow the already low cost of the unmanned platform to be maximized by economies of scale.

For the Indian Air Force specifically, the procurement of the MQ-9B aircraft will accelerate the sale of the GA-ASI jet-powered Avenger, bringing yet another 'game-changing' capability to India. The MoD's decision will also allow for the Services to customise the aircraft to suit their particular requirements.



MQ-9B is a highly modular aircraft and is rapidly configurable with a variety of payloads and weapons. With the signing of COMCASA in 2018, the aircraft will also include US communication systems that will allow the Indian Armed Services to be truly interoperable.

MQ-9B with its persistent 'on-station' performance and its proven long endurance capability provides unmatched ISR mission solutions to India for true multi-mission support for the forces of today and tomorrow.

Here is how MQ-9B's new capabilities would position the Indian Armed Forces for mission success:

**Worldwide SATCOM Launch and Recovery.** MQ-9B demonstrates it is now possible to deploy a multi-sensor intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance (ISR) capability thousands of miles from its home base. With the only requirement being a small team of technicians on the deployment field, there's no longer a need to dismantle the aircraft and ship the entire system. This facilitates the availability and initial ISR capability in emergency missions at

multi-mode radars to a wide range of guided weapons and multi-intelligence sensors (COMINT, ELINT, WAMI, hyperspectral, EW, sonobuoys, anti-submarine warfare, etc.). The challenge is to provide the operator with the opportunity to be able to quickly obtain integration of his own weapons and sensor suites.

**Certification.** The MQ-9B's ground-up redesign to meet NATO STANAG-4671 airworthiness standards will allow for the RPAS to safely operate in non-segregated airspace just like manned aircraft. GA-ASI expects MQ-9B to achieve certification in the early 2020s and subsequently will meet commercial airworthiness certification standards in cooperation with the US Federal Aviation Administration (FAA).

**Detect and Avoid.** The GA-ASI developed Detect and Avoid (DAA) system plays the most significant role when it comes to MQ-9B's certification. DAA includes an air-to-air radar and a traffic collision and avoidance system that offers an alternative to the traditional rule of see and avoid. This improvement to MQ-9B coupled with protections against icing and lightning, has a major operational benefit: it enables standard flight rules and procedures to be applied throughout the airspace without having to separate the manned aircraft with those piloted remotely.

MQ-9B provides persistent situational awareness across vast land based, open ocean and littoral domains without putting aircrew at risk and more cost effectively than manned aircraft alternatives. Interoperable with NATO, coalition and US Forces, the MQ-9B's multi-mission capability makes it a valued asset in all scenarios — from environmental protection, disaster relief, armed overland and maritime domain awareness and search and rescue to armed military surveillance and targeting.

GA-ASI has delivered over 900 aircraft, more than 400 GCS, and its aircraft operate worldwide. Every second of every day, close to 70 of GA-ASI RPA are airborne worldwide. To date, GA-ASI aircraft have accumulated over six million flight hours, with 90 percent of these flight hours achieved during deployed operations.



## YEOMAN SERVICE BY INDIAN ARMY IN NE STATES

The India Army has always been a leading example in extending a helping hand during natural calamity or deterioration of law and order. Monsoon 2019 brought large scale destruction in states of North east India, especially affecting the areas on the bank of Brahmaputra river. The Army in the Morigaon district of Assam carried out relief operations day and night to rescue local villagers, including women, children and senior citizens. Relief in terms of food, medicines, clothes were also provided to these flood affected people. The Army also established shelters and conducted eight medical camps in the far flung areas where civil administration could not reach assisting almost 3,245 people during this tumultuous time. This selfless service by the Army earned its goodwill amongst the local population and was an inspiration for everyone who had witnessed these flood affected areas.

Protests against the Citizenship law created a tense environment all over Assam and witnessed number of agitations which affected the daily life of people including education and medical facilities. The Army in Morigaon district, alongwith civil administration played a pivotal role in maintenance of law and order, which ensured zero casualty, no violent incidents and brought a state of normalcy to the area. Tremendous hard work by the officers and jawans of Indian Army, meticulous planning, and extensive patrolling and area domination including talks with village heads restored the situation. Civil authorities complimented the Army for this diligent efforts during the hard time. People, especially students and the women, showed their gratitude and thanked the men in uniform.



FROM THE INSIDE

**The terracotta land**  
Temples of Maluti in Jharkhand  
bear testimony to India's rich  
yet hidden heritage

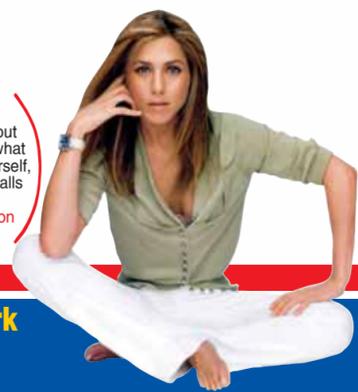
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**Habit tendencies and work**  
Old habits die hard, unless the  
thought-seeds to which they are  
rooted, are properly resolved

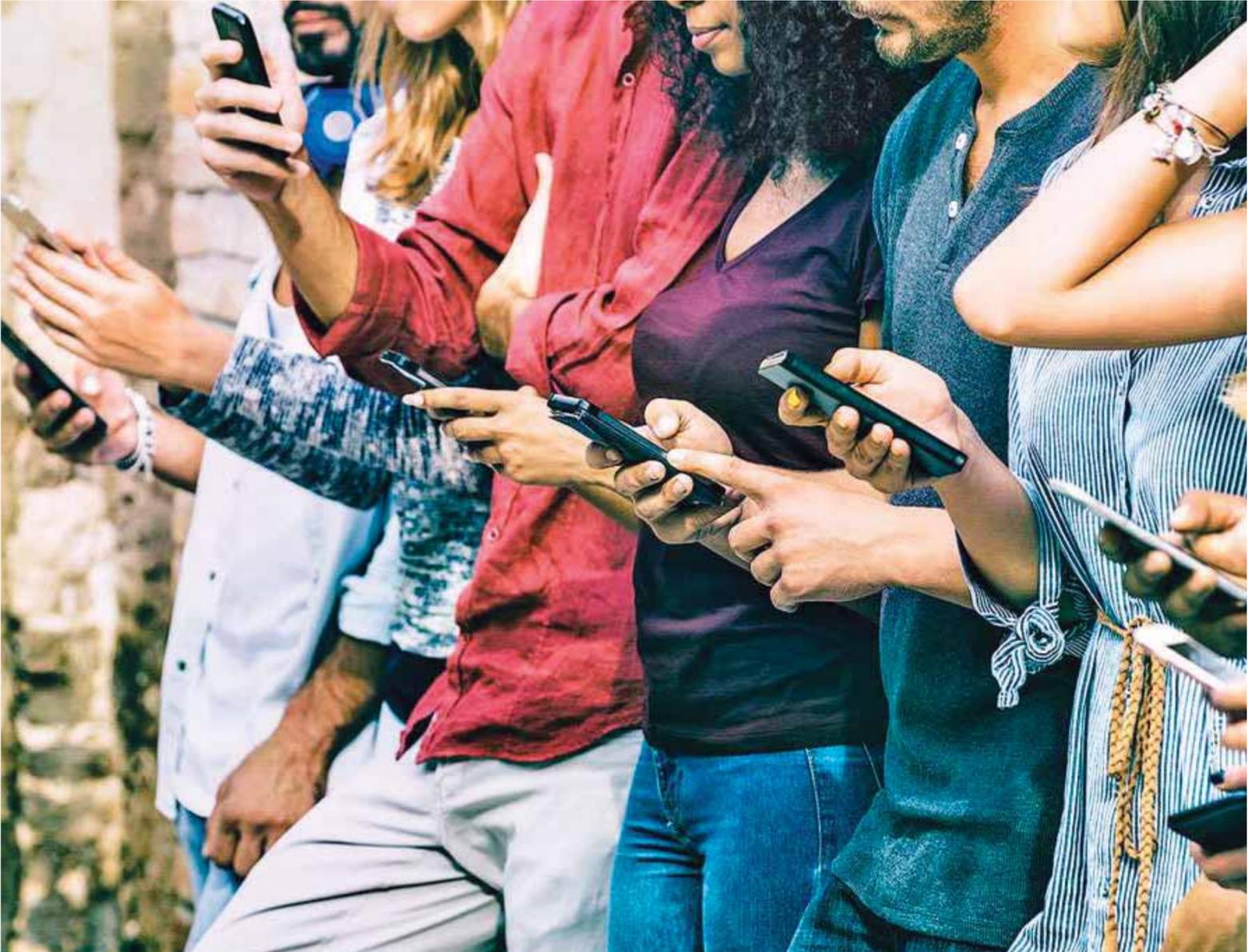
Once you figure out  
who you are and what  
you love about yourself,  
I think it all kinda falls  
into place  
— Jennifer Aniston



Zillion dreams, a billion schemes, a million memes, but caught in slipstreams.  
This is how DR DEBASHISH SENGUPTA sums up the:

# LIFE OF A ZENNER

A radio buzzing in a corner, the transmission is unclear, the signal seems to be wavering. I adjust the antennae that we have fixed near the roof of the room. The voice on the side becomes better. By this time, I had repeated this ritual several times. However, the crackling commentary of the cricket match on the other side made up for all the hard work and irritation. Both my younger brother and myself are stuck with the radio for the whole day. Our parents are not at home. My mother wanted to call our grandma and therefore she went to the post office to book a trunk call. It would take few hours of waiting before her turn comes and she can speak over the government run public land phone, before returning home. We had the whole day to ourselves. It took longer than expected for our parents to come back home. They could not find a taxi near the post office and had to walk for nearly a kilometre before they found a transport. Poor mom, she had to cook the dinner after a long day. Meanwhile, India had lost the match. We spent the whole evening helping our mom in the kitchen. Another uneventful day had come to an end. But we had some excitement coming-up. Sunday was just a day away when we will catch another episode of 'Star Trek' and by that time we should also be getting a letter from my cousin brother who was sharing our secret encryption code, as he had promised in his last letter. This was to prevent elders from finding out the contents of our letter. And yes, he was also sending some photos from his recent vacation...



When I tell this childhood story of mine to my son, after listening to me with rapt attention, he tells me that there are technical flaws in my story. What? Technical flaws! I find his expression amusing, he finds it even more. He asks me: 'Why were you listening to the radio and not streaming live cricket over the Internet?; Why did your parents go to the post office to make a call and not use their mobile to make a video call?; Why did your parents not call an Uber instead of walking a long distance?; Why didn't you order food over an app instead of letting your tired mom cook the dinner?; Why did you wait for Sunday to watch your favourite show and not stream it over Netflix?; And why were you waiting for days for a letter instead of using WhatsApp or Instagram?'

Not his fault, how will his generation that has been born in the cradle of technology and rocked by social media handles understand the times when we were children. They were born in a transformed world where on one hand rapid advancements in technology have opened the realm of possibilities, including space tourism, whereas on other hand the same technology threatens our very existence.

On one hand, the world has been brought closer than ever before with networks that defy limits of distance, and on the other hand, it has been fragmented by economic, political and religious conflicts. Everyone has more friends than before, yet there is dearth of human connection. Today, they take more photos than Kodak films would ever allow, share them over Instagram, yet they will never know the nostalgia of opening an old dusted photo album.

Zeners or Generation Z, born year 2000 and after are a unique generation, shaped by transformed times. Their formative years are shaped by a world that offers them tremendous opportunities and tools on the plate, yet the uncertainty and volatility of the same makes them highly vulnerable. How do you otherwise explain the contrasts, when a 17-year-old boy discovers a planet on the third day of his NASA internship but on the other hand a 12-year-old girl kills herself after being severely cyberbullied.

Ronit has so much information on

his tablet that he can crack the most challenging quizzes, yet all that matters at the end of the day are his grades in school where he finds no use of his knowledge of the world.

The high potential, high intelligence and high ability of this generation is true on one hand, but in the world that they live in, they find their homes changing, pressures mounting and the world becoming more predatory. They find themselves prey to anxiety, depression and vulnerable to poor mental health. Their susceptibility is often disproved by many terming it as jitters of growing-up, but such people fail to count the transformed environment that actually magnifies their challenges.

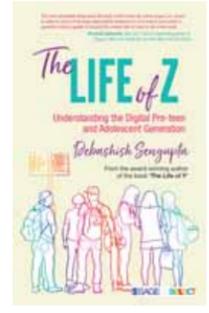
While writing the book 'The Life of Z: Understanding Digital Pre-Teen and Adolescent Generation' I had the opportunity of talking to countless zeners, their parents, teachers, tutors, child counsellors, child psychologists, pediatricians and I came across such contrasting stories. There are a group of school children who have turned their school project into an entrepreneurial journey while there are many others struggling to realise their dreams because they find low acceptance of their ideas with their elders.

There are also parents like Subalaxmi who after understanding the aptitude and personality of her child has dared to homeschool him, and her son, Akash, has excelled in many ways including being invited by a well-known scientist to work in his lab. There are parents like Mukta and Sudhanshu, who have supported their

five-year-old daughter in her pursuit of art and their five year old daughter Kamakshi's name has entered the India book of records for being the youngest Mandala artist. Interviewing Bollywood celebrity kids like Jannat Zubair (of TV series *Phulwa* fame), Ricky Patel (*Tubelight* with Salman Khan), Jineet Rath (*Talash* with Aamir Khan) their life stories are interesting and filled with insights on parenting this modern generation. But, I also came across parents torn apart by trauma whose only twelve-year-old son killed himself in Bangalore, depressed by bullying and his inability to share his anxiety; another parent who lost their child who killed himself unable to cope with a relationship stress.

Being a parent of a teenage zener myself, and in the profession of teaching and dabbling with social psychology, I can understand that parenting, teaching or counselling the zeners is not at all an easy task. This generation is nothing like we were as kids or even what millennials were when they were growing-up. They live in a different time, grow in a different environment and mature early in many ways, yet are susceptible to falling prey to online and offline predators.

There is a need to understand them and their life issues that are often complex. Without doing the same, the path is that of ignorance. Recently I came across a message shared in zest on a WhatsApp group. It read: "Today's 13-year olds have relationship stress. When I was that age, I used to close the fridge door slowly to see how the light goes off." This was shared by a



ZENERS MAKE CLOSE TO 32% OF THE WORLD POPULATION AND TOGETHER WITH MILLENNIALS HOLD THE KEY TO OUR FUTURE. ANY SHORT-SIGHTEDNESS IN UNDERSTANDING THEM WILL BE CATASTROPHICAL, TO SAY THE LEAST

40-something person, parent of a zener. Some thought this was funny, but frankly I do not find it funny at all. This is just an evidence of how less we understand this generation.

I would not blame the zeners, or their parents, teachers or whoever manages them. Often, we are ourselves confused or our thoughts are not integrated and zeners get confused by the varying voices. Take little Ishaan's example. He studies in an alternate school. Ishaan loves reading story books. But of late his mother has told him that she will not buy him story books as they need to care for the environment and save paper. Ishaan does not quite like reading story books on a digital reader. Anyways, he studies everything academic on the tablet and even writes his notes on that, plays games on mobile, but when it comes to story books, he like them printed. He has read in his books that environmental sustainability means not adding non-biodegradable wastes, keeping the surroundings clean and recycling wherever possible. Ishaan did not quite fathom how buying story books is not caring for the environment and is quite vocal about his disagreement.

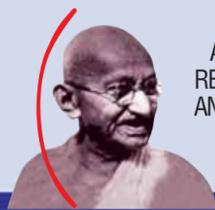
During his recent visit to the pediatric ophthalmologist, the doctor told him to reduce exposure to digital devices as it is not good for his eyes. He hardly knows what it is to write with a pencil or a pen as he uses stylus instead. He remembers a physician who visited his school for medical check-up of kids told his class that writing is not only important to have a

good handwriting, but it is also like an exercise that strengthens finger muscles and improves general health condition. Ishaan does not know whether to believe his mother or his teacher or his doctors.

Who do you really blame here? Hard to tell. But one thing is absolutely clear that the older generation has to assume responsibility. The contrasting stories also make it clear that right understanding and right guidance of the older generation can do wonders, but failure is seldom an option. The parents/teachers have to stop projecting their childhood or their issues on the present generation pre-teens and adolescents; make a concerted effort to understand the times that they live, empathize with them and their life issues; and then manage them. Only then the efforts will be synchronised at home, at school and in the society at large, and we will be able to connect with this generation and raise them to be functional happy adults.

Zeners make close to 32% of the world population and together with millennials hold the key to our future and the future of this planet and human civilization. Any short-sightedness in understanding them will be catastrophic, to say the least.

The writer is an award-winning author of the book, 'The Life of Y: Understanding Millennials as Employees and Consumers'. His latest book 'The Life of Z: Understanding Digital Pre-teen and Adolescent Generation' (SAGE India) released recently on Amazon



A NATION'S CULTURE  
RESIDES IN THE HEARTS  
AND IN THE SOUL OF ITS  
PEOPLE  
— MAHATMA GANDHI



Spectators gathered along Rajpath to witness the Republic Day parade on January 26, 2015 were surprised to see the tableau of Jharkhand. Ever since the state was formed, it was perceived to be the land of jungles and a rich tribal culture. Beyond that were its industrial cities like Jamshedpur and Bokaro, but largely, it remained unexplored.

The 2015 tableau of Jharkhand was a re-creation of a few terracotta temples and the face of an unknown Goddess enshrined in one of those temples. It created a huge wave of interest among the audience present, as well as those who watched the televised version. For many, it was their introduction to the terracotta temples of Maluti, a small village in Dumka district of Jharkhand. Up till now people were only familiar with the Bengal terracotta temples. This small village Maluti has 72 terracotta temples, most of which are embellished with exotic panels of baked clay.

Few months later, Maluti attracted attention once again, when in newly built Ranchi airport, tourism department of Jharkhand placed a huge poster of Maluti with an objective of encouraging tourism in this almost unknown heritage village. Today, Maluti is counted among the unique heritage spots of India.

No where else can one find an instance where within a radius of 1,150 ft, a few generations of zamindars have built more than 100 terracotta temples instead of palaces and pleasure chambers. Even in Bengal, a state that houses several world class terracotta temples, there is no such distinctive a village. Incidentally, Maluti is just a few kilometres from Bengal border and its dwellers speak Bengali and not Hindi. The village cult and customs are more Bengali than Jharkhand.

Though not much information or knowledge is available on these temples, the local folklore/legend has it that this place was known as Mallahati, a zone owned by Malla dynasty that ruled Bishnupur of Bengal. It is the same place that houses many world famous terracotta temples.

The place, it is believed, derives its name from a local Goddess named Moulakshi, who has no reference in Hindu mythology. It is assumed that this Goddess came from Tantrik cult of Buddhism in which she is described as elder sister of Tara. Later, she may have been adopted by the Hindus as their Goddess and started attracting devotees. Based on this information, many believe that this place was once influenced by Vajrayana Buddhism, in which shadow of Tantrik cult is said to be profound.

A website claims Adi Shankara visited this place when he was touring India in his mission of re-emerging Hinduism over Buddhism. The conversion of a Buddhist Goddess into a Hindu Goddess may be a testimony of that forgotten past.

Legend has it that in the 15th century, a new rule was established by an orphan named Baj Basanta, who got a huge tax free land/property as gift, courtesy the then Sultan of Bengal, Alauddin Hussain Shah (1495-1525).

It is said that once during his hunting expedition, Sultan lost his pet falcon and was deeply depressed. Basanta, the village

# MALUTI: JHARKHAND'S OWN TERRACOTTA LAND

Dating back to the 15th century, temples of Maluti in Jharkhand bear a testimony to India's rich yet hidden heritage, writes SOMEN SENGUPTA

boy, salvaged the falcon and got the bird back to the Sultan. Happy to have his falcon back, Sultan rewarded Basanta with a sizable land. The boy thus got famous as Baj Basanta.

Baj Basanta founded his capital at a place named Dumra. His several generations ruled the area as prominent tax collecting landowners.

In 1680, Baj Basanta's great grandson, named Rajchandra, was killed in a battle with another king of Rajnagar in Birbhum. Following the incident, his four sons shifted their capital to Mallahati. They found the place to be very peaceful. Once settled, the family branched into four and started expanding by building a plethora of temples. It is believed that all four branches started founding temples instead of building palaces and pleasure houses.

Gradually, in the next 200 years, a time came when it was found that the village had 108 temples dedicated to various Hindu Goddess and almost all decorated with exceptionally beautiful terracotta panels. Today, only 72 temples can be found in Maluti. Rest are either grounded or in a dilapidated condition.

These 72 temples are situated in 4 clusters in the village and one needs to take narrow lanes and beaten tracks to visit all. It is a different matter that the village is very small and thinly populated, and so it does not take much time to visit all clusters. Poor maintenance and lack of public awareness has marred the charm of the place to a great extent.

The first cluster is known as *Madhyam bari*. The second and third clusters are located very close to each other and appear as one. They are known as temples of *Rajbari* and *Sikhir bari*. The last group of temples which are in equally bad condition is known as *Chayer taraf*. Apart from these temples, there is a hexagonal *rasmancha*.

While all temples were originally embellished with terracotta, due to weathering and random defacing of walls, many of these temples lay painfully bare now. In many temples, panels are continuously crumbling. The temples have developed cracks and wild vegetation grows uncontrolled. In a few temples, walls are defaced



**LEGEND HAS IT THAT IN THE 15TH CENTURY, A NEW RULE WAS ESTABLISHED BY AN ORPHAN NAMED BAJ BASANTA, WHO WAS GIFTED A HUGE TAX FREE LAND/PROPERTY BY THE THEN SULTAN OF BENGAL, ALAUDDIN HUSSAIN SHAH (1495-1525)**

with writings and cattle roam inside. Some temples are still in use and hundreds of people continue to cause damage to its rich art works. During Diwali, on occasion of *Kalipuja*, fairs are organised at temples clusters, attracting large crowds. These fairs are yet another cause of continuous damage to the temples.

The beauty of the terracotta panels found on the walls of Maluti temples is distinct from the panels found on the walls of the various temples of Bengal. In Bengal, apart from mythology and epic references, various social aspects also feature in terracotta panels, whereas in Maluti stories of Ramayana appears to be the main theme.

The central arch and its surrounding areas are all decorated with the battle sequence of Lord Ram and ten-headed Ravana. In some panels, Ram is shown on the shoulder of Hanuman, whereas, in some temples the same warrior is shown fighting on his feet. In some panels, Ram sports a manly moustache. In a similar manner, Ravana is also visualised in different forms and shapes. He has his usual ten heads and ten hands but his postures are distinctive different and vary from temple to temple.

While Ram is accompanied by Laxman and Hanuman, Ravana is followed by demon warriors elegantly dressed up and spirited. The panoply and shoes of Ravana in every temple are beautiful and distinctive. In some panels, Ravana can also be seen fighting alone on foot.

Some of the divine figures are very unique and not commonly found in other terracotta temples. Musicians, flying demons, foot soldiers with naked swords etc are in plenty on each front wall of temples. Social sequences like a royal man on palanquin, worshipping, goat sacrifice and so on are also found aplenty.

The numbers of panels on the side walls and back wall, however, are unusually few and appear to have been removed. A row of small chariots is carved under every figure of Ram and Ravana. These rows of chariots are placed just on the apex of main entrance and again, those are very richly decorated with warriors fighting with deadly weapons, either on horses or elephants. Beautiful floral designs with various hindu motifs are etched all over the wall.

*Mahishasurmardini* Durga is another common feature to be found on these terracotta decorated temples. Here, she mounts an animal which neither looks like a lion nor a horse. However, some panels depict excellent horse statues. In some panels, she appears with Laxmi and Saraswati on her either sides and in some, she is depicted by herself.

Even though these temples are largely believed to be made of terracotta, there is a contention that these panels may actually be carvings on a very soft type of sandstone, locally known as *phool pathar*. Which is a possibility because in Birbhum district of Bengal, some temples are actually decorated with *phool pathar* and are commonly confused for terracotta.

The locals have also been using the hexagonal roof less *rasmancha* (platform) to celebrate Holi and *Raas Utsav* of Radha-Krishna, which is causing considerable harm to the structure.

Temples of Maluti follow the Bengal school of temple architecture but sadly not much variation found in that. Most of the temples are made in *charchala* style, that has

single pinnacle with four sides slopes. Only a few temples are made of *atchala* and *deul* style. So a monotony grips while taking a tour. However, the thrill of photography sees no bound of satisfaction when one gets to capture a plethora of similar looking temples in a single frame.

As for now, the temple village of Maluti is a victim of sheer negligence from the government side. The village remained lost to world and even to the people of its own state, the undivided Bihar, as well as Bengal even before 1979 when ASI official named AK Sinha first undertook a project on this village and submitted a detailed report of his work.

Despite this report, no basic minimum amenities were built in Maluti and the place did not find mention in any of the tourism promotional literature. In 2009, Global Heritage Fund surveyed this village and marked it as one of the fastest vanishing heritage of the world. Even after that, no major Government fund was sanctioned to protect these temples.

It is heartening to see that the present government is atleast making that effort to promote it as a unique heritage site of the state. At an individual level, a local resident named Gopaldas Banerjee who has been observing the gradual decline of the heritage has done excellent work to record and protect these temples. As someone born and bred in the village, Banerjee had heard various legends and stories from his early childhood and has penned several authentic books on the subject. He was recently felicitated by Jharkhand Government for his work of recording history.

The temples of Maluti are a burning testimonial to India's rich yet hidden heritage and if proper protection and exposure is not given these beautiful structures, all will be lost. Their dilapidated condition is only worsened by overgrown vegetation and massive water leakage from the roof and the walls. A few of the temples have already crumbled owing to neglect and many are awaiting the same fate. Though some restoration work has started recently, but no amenities can still be found for the tourists. It would be a pity if these temples are lost — a sin beyond pardoning.

# Planning to travel overseas? Be well-insured

Not many are aware that there exist a variety of customised travel insurance plans that offer region or risk-specific cover, writes ROHAN KUMAR

When travelling abroad, travel insurance is no longer considered optional. Escalating costs of healthcare, theft and loss combined with availability of affordable insurance makes it a no-brainer.

Take an example of a couple honeymooning in Thailand with plans for sightseeing and adventure sports. While a regular insurance would cost a few hundred rupees, any health emergency and evacuation could end up costing tens of thousands of dollars. Hospitals, even in Asia, can easily cost US\$ 500 a day. Stolen papers, wallets, baggage — stories all too common for most travellers — are also covered in most plans. In the case of such travels, care should be taken to ensure that accidents during adventure sports are covered in the policy they purchase. A variety of customised travel plans are region or risk-specific, like

it is mandatory for an individual to have a Schengen travel insurance policy or a health insurance plan along with the Schengen Visa. Schengen travel insurance policies generally include benefits like emergency medical expenses, repatriation, accidental bodily injury, death or permanent disability, extended protection for the family, etc in Schengen countries. Meanwhile, to provide an effortless globe-trotting experience to senior citizens there is comprehensive travel insurance that has additional benefits like cashless medical services, medical concierge services, state-of-the-art health care facilities, distress allowance, etc. Many travellers are unaware that their travel insurance can be extended if their stay is prolonged. Different insurers offer specific extension periods depending on the travel destination and the type of traveller. There are niche products in the



market as well, depending on the kind of travel you are planning: coverage for races and adventure sports like bungee jumping, mountaineering and parasailing, plans that cover medical costs pertaining to pre-existing conditions by offering a waiver to the exclusion, kidnapping etc are some of the value add-ons available for policies. We're hearing of policies that will cover "cold feet cancellation" for guests heading to a destination wedding, or inconveniences related to being hijacked — a daily benefit if you are delayed in reaching your destination due to this.

A good idea when choosing insurance policies is to first take a look at what is covered in your existing plans — sometimes your homeowners or renters' policies will cover valuables, or your health insurance will cover emergencies abroad. Next, look at any risks you are taking on the trip(s) you are covering (scuba

diving, hiking, cruises may require a niche policy), and then choose a policy that covers them all.

Another thing to consider while buying a travel plan is to keep an eye out for the deductible. The deductible is the amount that the policyholder agrees to pay if they need to make a claim. The insurance company then reimburses the costs over and above that amount. With most travel insurance policies, the deductible is applied to emergency medical care costs. It may also extend to baggage or trip cancellation/interruption coverage. Insurers usually offer a range of deductible amounts. Generally, higher the amount, the greater the discount on the premium. So, adding a deductible is especially beneficial for people paying high premiums — e.g., those staying abroad for months at a time. The growing trend is for policies that have a zero deductible, meaning there will be no out-of-

pocket expenses if a claim is filed with the insurance company. In countries with extremely high medical costs, like the United States, finding an insurance plan with a zero deductible is always wise and almost imperative.

In the event of buying insurance online (obviously the most convenient option), the customers should consider checking the travel insurance coverage, quote for the travel duration, claim settlement ratio and ease of contacting customer care. Fine print matters — accidents under the influence of intoxicants are not covered, acts of war or terrorism are often not covered — but for all purposes, if you don't have time to go through the various checklists, remember that the important things is to be covered.

The writer is an insurance expert; CEO & co-founder, Toffee Insurance

# Right-green coalition in Austria unviable

Sebastian Kurz, the youngest Chancellor of Austria at the age of 33, has just taken over as the Chancellor of the country for the second time. The People's Party, known as Österreichische Volkspartei (ÖVP), he represents, is primarily a centre-right political party. However, it regards itself as a progressive centre party which is the successor of the Christian Social Party, established way back in the 1890s. In fact, the ÖVP came into being immediately after the reestablishment of the Republic of Austria in 1945.

Kurz became active in the politics of the ÖVP since the age of 16. As a law student in Vienna, he was elected to the post of the chairman of the youth wing of the party. By 2011, he left his studies to join as a junior Interior Minister and rose up to the rank of Foreign Minister in 2013, only at the age of 27. In 2015, when the whole Europe was plagued by massive immigration from war-torn nations of West Asia, he proposed a plan for immediate integration of these immigrant communities into the mainstream. But then he was all in praise for Hungary's firebrand populist leader and Prime Minister Victor Orban. That was the time he was all against absorbing more immigrants from the troubled regions of West Asia and North Africa, such as Syria, Iraq, Libya, etc.

Also, Kurz credited Orban for closing the Balkan immigration route in 2016. It must be noted here that though the opposition in Hungary accuses him of backsliding when it comes to democratic freedoms, but he has remained undeterred in his shaping of a new polity what he likes to call as "illiberal democracy". However the critics simply brand it as a semi-authoritarian state. With this kind of a liking, Kurz has fully endorsed a strong right turn in Austrian politics and of course change of tactics in coming elections.

Afterwards, he was elected chairman of the ÖVP in May 2017. Surprisingly he led the party to victory by garnering more than 31 per cent of the votes and became the Chancellor with the support



Vice Chancellor Werner Kogler, left, from the Austrian Green party, and Chancellor Sebastian Kurz, right, from the Austrian People's Party, ÖVP, attend a cabinet meeting at the federal chancellery, in Vienna AP

from the far right FPÖ party from December 2017 to May 2019. His coalition government fell only when his coalition partner and its leader Heinz-Christian Strache were rocked by the historic Ibiza scandal. Therefore, the party this time has dropped its former coalition partner, the FPÖ. The ÖVP was forced to stay away from this tie-up as the leader of the FPÖ, Strache, was caught offering bribe to a woman who posed as the niece of a Russian oligarch. And all these took place in Ibiza, one of the Balearic Islands of Spain located in the Mediterranean Sea. The Ibiza scandal trimmed

down the voting share of the party to only 16 per cent, a sharp fall from 26 per cent in the last elections. The ÖVP has won 37 per cent of the votes, up from 31 per cent from the last election.

It is interesting to know the policies and programmes of the party as they are simply going to shape the future of Austria. The party is insisting on an immediate ban on the Identitarian Movement (also called as IBO) once launched by the far-right. In fact, it came into light even before the general election in September. Further the ÖVP leader August Wöginger repeatedly remind-

ed his party colleagues and the Austrian public that the ban on the Identitarian Movement would be a condition for making the next coalition Government of the country. The IBO is famous for its anti-immigration agenda. But it has faced crisis as its leader Martin Sellner is accused of receiving money and exchanging e-mails with the suspected perpetrators of gun attacks on mosques in New Zealand, in which 51 people died.

Thus finally, the ÖVP has stitched an unlikely coalition with the Green Party, headed by Werner Kogler. Interestingly, the Greens achieved a historic

win in this election by getting more than 13.9 per cent of the votes. But ironically, Kurz has been stressing for a proper centre-right coalition deal since the beginning of the snap poll that was held in September 2019. In that case, the FPÖ could have been the logical partner to deal with and form a government of their mutual interests. On the other hand, the FPÖ was seriously disturbed by internal differences. And the party also indicated in the recent past that it could very well go back and take the position of an opposition party.

Further, the old coalition i.e. ÖVP-SPO (Social

Democratic Party) that survived the most parts of the post-World War II period seemed to be completely unviable today. This coalition is deeply unpopular among the Austrian electorate today, particularly among the youngsters. At the same time, Kurz, the new chairman of the party, has been criticising the new power-sharing system developed by both these parties as Proporz. Hence, there was no option left for Kurz, except aligning with the Greens.

For the first time in Austria, a female majority Government has come to power this month. And in the

Cabinet of 17 Ministers in this Conservative-Green Government, 9 are women ministers. Kurz calls this coalition as the "best of both worlds". But some say that it would be difficult for him to survive such an unusual tie-up. The reason behind is that how such a coalition of centre right and centre left would survive? It would be difficult for both the parties to further their own interests. There are high chances that their supporters and sympathisers would soon be disillusioned in the days to come. The ideological gap between the Greens and the ÖVP is too big. The ÖVP has a set agenda to cut taxes, deregulate, and reduce public expenditure whereas the Greens would like to go for new taxes on inheritance, carbon emissions and capital gains, want to engage in huge public infrastructure projects for building public transportation networks across the country. Again the Greens will find it really difficult to support Kurz on issues like tough stance on illegal immigration, slashing public funds for refugees and deporting asylum applicants upon receiving a negative notice even if they have jobs and successfully integrated with the Austrian society. Both the parties have strong differences over education and welfare reforms. His going with the Greens is a critical misreading of his long-term strategies. The ideological flexibility that he is displaying at the moment is simply overstated. He will simply pay for it in the near future. Many thought he is raising an illiberal democracy of Orban type in Hungary. But instead, it seems he is trying to cling to power even with the help of the Greens. His brand of politics may soon lose steam. And if cracks appear in the partnership, this will once again push Austria into a new uncertainty only.

Whatever it may be, people in Austria are just thinking 'schau ma mal' i.e. Let's see. It is very apparent that it is a coalition that Kurz never wanted and many say that it is unlikely to last.

(The writer is an expert on international affairs)

Chancellor Sebastian Kurz has picked up where he left off, but this time with the Austrian Green Party. But how long the strange bedfellows can work together to stay in the Government is anybody's guess as stakes are high for both, the People's Party and the Green party



MAKHAN SAINIA

# New coronavirus as dangerous as SARS? No clarity yet

Novel (new) coronavirus (termed "2019-nCoV") — a new strain of virus from China — has the world on edge because it's a close cousin to viruses that killed hundreds in separate outbreaks. While it's too early to tell if this latest threat will prove as deadly, health authorities are drawing on lessons from that grim past.

## WHAT'S THE LINK

The new virus comes from a large family of coronaviruses, some causing nothing worse than a cold. But in late 2002, a coronavirus named SARS erupted in southern China, causing a severe pneumonia that rapidly spread to other countries. It infected more than 8,000 people and killed 774 — and then it disappeared, thanks to public health measures.

In 2012, another coronavirus dubbed MERS began sickening people in Saudi Arabia. It's still hanging around, causing small numbers of infections each year. The World Health Organization has counted nearly 2,500 cases of MERS in the West Asia and beyond, and more than 850 deaths.

So far, deaths from the new virus have been a small fraction of the roughly 1,300 confirmed infections, most of those cases in China.

## WHERE DO THESE VIRUSES COME FROM?

SARS and MERS came from animals, and this newest virus almost certainly did, too. The first people infected visited or worked at a seafood market in the Chinese city of Wuhan.

SARS initially was traced to civet cats sold in a live animal market, but later scientists decided it probably originated in bats that infected the civets. People can catch MERS from infected camels, although again, bats likely first spread that coronavirus to camels.

That animal-to-human jump is a huge concern for all kinds of viruses. Every so often, new strains of bird flu make the



Shoppers wearing face masks exit a supermarket in Wuhan in central China's Hubei province on Saturday AP

jump from Asian live poultry markets to people, for example.

"These wildlife markets are a risk," said Dr Ian Lipkin of Columbia University, who assisted the WHO and China during the SARS outbreak and advises Saudi Arabia about MERS.

## HOW SIMILAR ARE THEY?

Experts can't yet tell whether the new virus called 2019-nCoV — it stands for

"novel coronavirus" — is more like SARS or MERS. Genetically, they're all closely related but "they really are different viruses," said Dr Anthony Fauci, infectious diseases chief at the US National Institutes of Health.

One indication of a virus' danger is how easily it spreads from person to person. Unlike SARS, "it looks like it doesn't transmit through the air very easily and probably transmits through close contact,"

said Dr David Heymann, who headed WHO's global response to SARS.

And while it's too soon to be sure, Heymann said the new virus appears most dangerous to older adults who have other health problems.

Complicating matters, if this new virus is fairly mild, it may be harder to stem the spread. That's because people who aren't sick enough to see a doctor and thus don't learn they should be isolated could

keep spreading it, noted Neil Ferguson of Imperial College London, who has consulted for WHO. Nor is there any way to know yet how often people become infected but show no obvious symptoms.

"We may see more mild cases as the surveillance intensifies," WHO spokesman Tarik Jasarevic said Friday in Geneva. "So the issue is not so much really numbers that we know will go up."

## HOW WILL PEOPLE KNOW THE DIFFERENCE?

Since symptoms are similar — fever, cough and in more severe cases shortness of breath or pneumonia — it'll take a medical test to tell. There is one, but health authorities in China, the US and elsewhere are working to make it more widely available. Given that it is flu season in China, too, it's "all the more impressive that they were able to recognize this outbreak quickly," Dr Brian Garibaldi of Johns Hopkins University said.

Precautions that hospitals often use for flu season and for other infectious diseases should help for this, too, Garibaldi added. For example, in many US hospitals people are given masks if they arrive with a fever and cough during flu season. And a legacy of the 2014 West Africa Ebola outbreak — which also resulted in infected travelers — is that doctors and hospitals are supposed to ask about recent foreign trips.

## HUNTING VACCINES

While there is no vaccine — or specific treatment — for SARS or MERS, Fauci said it is technically possible to create a vaccine against this new virus. NIH did develop a potential vaccine candidate for SARS. It proved safe in a small first-step study in people but never was tested further because by then, the outbreak was ending.

This time around, scientists have more of a head start. Just weeks after the first unusual pneumonias were reported, Chinese scientists mapped the genes of the viral suspect and shared them with world health authorities.

Now, NIH is among several groups working to create a vaccine for the new virus, using newer and faster technology than was available during SARS. Fauci hopes to begin first-step safety tests in about three months, but something ready for real-world use would take far longer. AP



EACH YEAR ONE VICIOUS HABIT  
DISCARDED, IN TIME MIGHT  
MAKE THE WORST OF US GOOD  
— BENJAMIN FRANKLIN



**YOUR  
WEEK  
AHEAD**



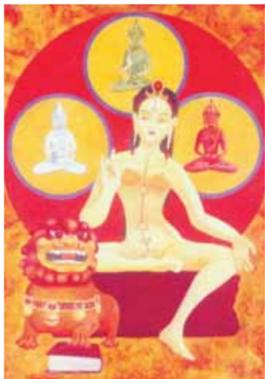
MADHU KOTIYA



**ARIES** March 21-April 19

Your health remains good. Your theory of prevention is better than cure will work well. You are inspired, motivated and have strong will power to turn a situation in your favour. With a tremendous amount of energy and stamina, you can work non-stop and finish the pending tasks. Your workaholic approach will attain favour of your seniors. Your potential is being recognised which will work as motivation for you. Those seeking love, this week your search for the right partner will come to an end. There will be a true bonding between you and your partner. This is the right time to talk to each other and sort out the problems for a smooth relationship. Married couples will enjoy the time and cherish some memorable moments.

**Lucky number 7**  
**Lucky colour** Sky Blue  
**Lucky day** Friday



**LEO** July 23-Aug 22

Be positive is the mantra for this week. Those facing physical problems, be careful about your diet. Make sure to exercise/do yoga, eat healthy and take proper rest. Even if you are feeling demotivated and disengaged, do not cut yourself off from the world. Seek help from a trusted person in your family or friend circle to come out of your current state of mind. Things will go well in your career. You may experience a sense of calm and emotional connect with other colleagues at work. This is a make or break period in your relationship. Evaluate everything and be very clear about what you want from life and your relationship and make a decision accordingly. Those seeking a new relationship need to decide about how they are going to approach it.

**Lucky number 11**  
**Lucky colour** Golden  
**Lucky day** Sunday



**SAGITTARIUS** Nov 22-Dec 21

Healthwise this is not a great time for you. This week is full of anxiety, stress and worry. Make sure you have a balanced diet, exercise and fluid intake. Meditation and breathing exercises are particularly useful to you. Take time out to practice some. Work-wise, you will have a pleasant time. You may bond with colleagues and enjoy a social get-together with them. The work environment is positive and you may expect a promotion. Those seeking a new job will be successful. Love life should go well. Those facing challenges in their relations need to maintain a balanced and welcoming attitude. Those looking for a new relationship, be confident, go out and mingle with others. Things are sure to work in your favour.

**Lucky number 17**  
**Lucky colour** Black  
**Lucky day** Saturday



**TAURUS** April 20-May 20

This week you have to be alert as there are chances of health issues popping up. Maintain a positive attitude at all times. Manage your stress level and get enough rest to heal both physically and emotionally. You may face some difficulties on the career front. Your feelings or ego may get hurt at your work. Be optimistic and face the challenges with an approach that the consequences will make you learn something new about life. Those looking for employment should probably look in a different direction or a different field. Those in a relationship, may have to face some issues. Do not stress over things and give yourself and your partner some time and space to deal with the problem. Those who are single, you have to wait for the right time to meet a suitable partner.

**Lucky number 10**  
**Lucky colour** Red  
**Lucky day** Monday



**VIRGO** Aug 23-Sep 22

Health is satisfactory this week. You are advised to practice meditation and positive thinking. Doing so would work wonders for you. Those who are down with health problems or some illness should not lose heart. Take care of yourself and allow yourself to get in touch with your inner strength to heal faster. This week, work front seems to be disturbed as it is full of worries and anxiety in relation to some project work. Keep reminding yourself to not worry, stay positive. Leave aside the anxiety and focus on what you can control. Those seeking employment should do what they can to get their desired job. Be strong in your relationship with others. Some issues may pop up. You need to give space to yourself and your partner to sort out the differences.

**Lucky number 15**  
**Lucky colour** Purple  
**Lucky day** Wednesday



**CAPRICORN** Dec 22-Jan 19

You will have plenty of opportunities to entertain yourself and spend quality time. This will be reflected on your health. Others will feel positive vibes in your company. On the career front, something good is likely to happen. The issues you were facing in the last few days will get over now. You may find support in your colleague or a friend. This is an apt time to discuss service matters with your boss, and your ideas will be valued and executed for the benefit of the organisation. If you are in the line for promotion, it may come to you soon. Family plays a major role in your success. Romance is in the air. Those seeking love will meet someone of their liking. Existing relations demand your attention and time. Plan a vacation to make your partner feel important.

**Lucky number 28**  
**Lucky colour** Grey  
**Lucky day** Saturday



**GEMINI** May 21-June 20

Your health will be good. Keep up with your meditation and yoga routine as it will keep you connected to your soul. Those dealing with health issues, need to take things seriously and take proper medication. Some of you may work yourself to exhaustion and stress may take a serious toll on your body. Give yourself a break. Your work front looks good and you may experience happiness and satisfaction at work. Those awaiting interview results will get good news. You seem to be on the right track but don't get carried away. Those who have commitment phobia, need to introspect. It is very important to have a healthy conversation when faced with problems. Don't avoid any issues in your relations and because it will only make things worse.

**Lucky number 22**  
**Lucky colour** Yellow  
**Lucky day** Saturday



**LIBRA** Sep 23-Oct 22

This week take a break from health worries and stress. Practice meditation in calm surroundings and do some spiritual thinking. This will help you develop mental strength. Don't push yourself in any task as it might have an adverse effect on you. This is the time to count your blessings. At work, things are good. Those who are not happy, stay calm, as new opportunities are waiting to open doors. A personal transformation will help you have a deeper understanding of yourself and others. Your relationship seems to be in an uncomfortable zone. Either you or your partner is going through a tough time. Examine your relationship and give your support to your partner to make the relationship work. Don't lose hope. Your time will come, just take rest and relax.

**Lucky number 5**  
**Lucky colour** Peach  
**Lucky day** Thursday



**AQUARIUS** Jan 20-Feb 18

This week you will feel physically, emotionally and spiritually charged. Things are in their right place. Those suffering from heart and BP related issues would recover fast with the help of proper medical attention and their own will power. Monetary gains are on the cards. Those thinking of venturing out into a business or an expansion, go ahead. You will be successful. You may meet an influential person who could prove highly beneficial in your career. Those in services may gain higher status/position. Love demands your attention, which probably you won't be able to pay much. Your partner may get annoyed, so balance between work and love. Married life is blissful and enjoyable.

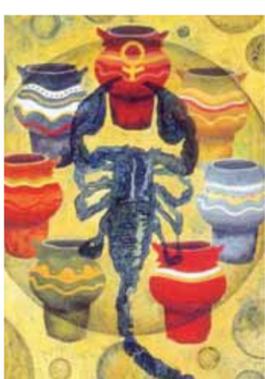
**Lucky number 23**  
**Lucky colour** Pastel Blue  
**Lucky day** Thursday



**CANCER** June 21-July 22

Maintain balance to have good health. Make sure you eat well, get adequate sleep and exercise the right amount. This week you seem to be enthusiastic about your work. You will show the right amount of confidence and take on new projects. A word of caution though. Be careful to not rush into things. You have the tendency to be impulsive. Think before you make any decisions. Travel on account of your work is indicated. Good news for those who are awaiting results of an interview. You will rejoice in friendship and harmonious relationships. Some of you will be celebrating an occasion with your partner. In case of stress, spend some quality time with your friends and family.

**Lucky number 13**  
**Lucky colour** Orange  
**Lucky day** Tuesday



**SCORPIO** Oct 23-Nov 21

You will witness a high level of energy and vitality this week. This will keep you active. Just make sure to take out time for adequate rest as well. Women who are planning to start a family, good news is in the offing. Enjoy this time of good health. On the work front, you may get involved in a conflict or disagreement with others. This might be due to your own behaviour. If you are trying to complete a task with disregard to its impact on others, you might end up being a loser. Make sure your behaviour is impeccable. Either you or your partner is working very hard in your jobs, this might be interfering with your relationship. For a smooth relationship, spend some quality time with each other. Single seeking love, should also prioritise their life.

**Lucky number 5**  
**Lucky colour** White  
**Lucky day** Friday



**PISCES** Feb 19-March 20

Your health is not the best this week. Watch out for seasonal ailments. Drink plenty of water and avoid tea, coffee, or any kind of addiction. Focus on meditation and yoga for rejuvenation and healing. Career-wise you will feel a sense of accomplishment. Those seeking jobs will get a call from the company they have been aspiring for. Your family and friends' support will boost your morale. Property matters will be solved as per your wish. In a relationship, avoid conflicts and confrontations which are likely to occur during this week. Love may face objection as your family members may not favour your love or don't like your relationship. A rift in the family might make you upset. You may have a confrontation with the elders/mother to defend your relationship.

**Lucky number 20**  
**Lucky colour** Green  
**Lucky day** Sunday

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**ASTROTURF**

BHARAT BHUSHAN PADMADEO

# Habit tendencies can derail venture

Picking up threads from the previous issue, let us now look at the prognosis of the young man's endeavour since his session with me. He was advised to reflect upon his inner frame of mind in a meditative mode, identify the inherent fault lines, acknowledge them, and make necessary amends from the root level through fresh educative inputs. He did reflect for a while, but not in a meditative mode. In fact, he used to seek guidance on how to modify his conduct. As also, on how to relate to his parents so as to keep them in good humour. The saner side of him was then driving his thought process, as would Jupiter beneficially aligned to mind signifying Moon may mean. He, thereafter, began consciously evading getting into unnecessary argument with his parents, unlike earlier when he would react to everything. That helped improve his relationship with parents over a period of time, but not without intermittent bouts of aggression. His habit tendencies would then temporarily overtake his thought process. But after offending them, he would regret, seek clarification on where and why he went wrong, and as

advised, say sorry to mend fences. Remember, habits die hard, and would not spare you unless the thought-seeds to which they are rooted in the inner realms of mind, are resolved from the base level. That is only possible through self-reflection in meditative mode. Otherwise, when caught unguarded, the inherent tendencies will come into immediate play, and evidently to one's detriment. On work front, he was not contented with just his family business, which being considerably big demanded full-time engagement. His sense of insecurity played heavy on his mind, coming as it may with the Sun placed adverse to Saturn. The trigger was, not being named a director in the company, whereas his first cousins were inducted into the board of his uncle's company. He felt that he was being denied his due. He was afraid that because of temperamental differences with parents, he would be deprived of his legacy. It could not register in his mind that they were in fact grooming him in a way that before he was handed charge, he gets time and space to get over his attitudinal limitations, so that he could lead



with prudence and patience. The man in hurry wished to hurriedly create something of his own. True to his nature, he was toying with many entrepreneurial ventures. For, mind signifying Moon is positioned in a Mercury owned sign, a planet identified with multiplicity. He was advised to take up one project at a time, take it to its logical end, stabilise it, before getting into another venture. But given his habit, he kept arguing to prove his point and won't listen. He tried to enter into partnership with one start-up company that was assisting him in one of his projects. But the promoters refused. That raked up his ego, as would the Sun placed adverse to Jupiter imply. He could not digest refusal and thus got trapped in his own bind. In reaction, he rushed through partnership with another start-up company that was also assisting him in his project, just with the intent to outsmart the other company. Made disproportionate investment despite stiff resistance from his associates. Later, he realised that the return he expected may take some time. He forgot that any maiden venture has to go through mean down time before giving returns. He then lost his nerves. Following which,

he on the strength of money power began playing all tricks in his hand to take over the company, which met with stiff resistance from the original promoters. Eventually the partnership broke off and he lost heavily. If all that would not be enough, he spent heavily in branding himself. His illusionary perceptions made him ignore all advice to wait till his venture took off well, as would the Sun opposite mischievous Neptune imply. Being young, he had enough time in hand for image building. But he was in a hurry to rough shoulders with the bigwigs in the Business world. In the process he went out of proportion to pay a hefty sum to become a member of an International organisation. Now, because of economic downturn, on completion of his project, his product line is not moving on expected lines. Consequently, he is now under severe financial pressure, making it difficult to push through his product in the market. The writer is an astrologer, vastu consultant and spiritual counsellor. Write to him at G-102, Bharat Nagar, New Friends Colony, New Delhi-110 025. Tel: 91-11-49848475/9818037273. Email: bharatbhushanpadmadeo@gmail.com