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OUTBREAK AN 'EMERGENCY'

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PLISKOVA, SVITOLINA
OUT OF AUS OPEN

LUCKNOW, SUNDAY JANUARY 26, 2020; PAGES 12+4 ₹3



sunday pioneer

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USUAL SUSPECTS 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. 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 overstated. 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.

Nirbhaya convict moves SC

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.

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

Be non-violent when fighting a cause: Prez

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

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.

His remarks come in the backdrop of protests against the new citizenship law although he made no reference to them.

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".

He said modern India comprises three organs — Legislature, Executive and Judiciary — which are necessarily interlinked and interdependent.

"Yet, on ground, the people comprise the State. 'We the People' are the prime movers of the Republic. With us, the people of India rests the real power to decide our collective future," he said.

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".



In his televised address, Kovind said Gandhi's ideals remain relevant in the nation-building efforts. "It should be part of our daily routine to introspect on Gandhi's message of truth and non-violence, which has become all the more necessary in our times," he said in his speech.

Recalling the importance of January 26, he said that even before 1947, this day was celebrated 'Purna Swaraj Day' (complete independence day) from 1930 to 1947.

Kovind said though the

Constitution gave rights to all the citizens of a free democratic nation, but also placed on responsibility to always adhere to the central tenets of the democracy - justice, liberty, equality and fraternity.

"It becomes easier for us to follow these constitutional ideals, if we keep in mind the life and values of the Father of our Nation. By doing so, we will be adding a meaningful dimension to our celebrations of 150th birth anniversary of Gandhiji," he added.

The president said the present third decade of the 21st century will be "the decade of the rise of New India and a new generation of Indians."

"More and more of those born in this century are participating in the national discourse. With the passage of time, we are gradually losing living links with our great freedom struggle, but there is no reason to worry about the continuity of the beliefs that guided it," he said.

Kovind said with advances in technology, the young minds of today are better informed and more confident. "The next generation remains strongly committed to the core values of our nation. For our youth, the nation always comes first. With

Padma Vibhushan for Fernandes, Jaitley, Sushma posthumously

New Delhi: Former Union Ministers Arun Jaitley, Sushma Swaraj and George Fernandes, Olympic 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 Vishveshateertha 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, industrial-



ists 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 Vishvesha Teertha Swami have been awarded posthumously, the officials said.

This year the President has approved conferment of 141 Padma awards including

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9 honoured with Shaurya Chakra Prez OK's 409 gallantry awards to 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 Mandavgane, 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 Bhadauria 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.

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 possible 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.

The Pioneer wishes its readers Happy Republic Day. As the offices of The Pioneer will remain closed on January 26, the next edition will be published on January 28.

Wishing you a
Happy 71st Republic Day

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Har Pal Aapke Saath

Ayodhya temple foundation likely to be laid on Ram Navami

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

The foundation stone ceremony of Ram temple in Ayodhya is likely to be held on the occasion of Ram Navami (April 2). Though a final decision on the issue will be taken at the meeting of the proposed Trust, religious leaders of Ayodhya are of the view that the foundation stone should be laid on Ram Navami.

Several prominent Hindu seers, including chairman of Ram Janmabhoomi Nyas Mahant Nritya Gopal Das, said that Ram Navami is an auspicious day for beginning of the temple's construction work.

The Vishwa Hindu Parishad (VHP) said that the construction could be started any day between March 25 (when Vikram Samvat starts) and April 8 (Hanuman Jayanti). The start of Vikram Samvat (Hindu new year) also marks the beginning of Navratri. The VHP plans to celebrate 'Shri Ram Mahotsav' during that peri-

od. As per the deadline, the process for setting up of the proposed Trust has to be done by February 9, as per the Supreme Court verdict of November 9 last year. Sources said the Centre may issue a notification for setting up of the Trust to take up Ram temple construction before the due date. The VHP had convened a meeting of Kendriya Margdarshak Mandal at Prayagraj on January 20 and it was attended by the Sant Samaj. The meeting deliberated on the various aspects related to temple construction in the wake of the Supreme Court verdict.

"Though we organise 'Shri Ram Mahotsav' every year, we are going to do it in a big way this time. We have called upon people to light lamps at their homes in the evening during this period," VHP spokesperson in Ayodhya Sharad Sharma said.

"During this period, we plan to reach out to 2.75 lakh villages across the country from where

consecrated 'Shri Ram Shilas' (bricks) were sent to Ayodhya in 1989. We also plan to identify 'Ram bhakts' who took part in the Ram temple movement, and honour them. We would like them to be associated with the construction work," he said.

As per plan, the VHP will ask the 'Ram bhakts' from each district to reach Ayodhya in groups and assist in the construction work. Besides, those living in different parts of the world will also be involved. The VHP has made it clear that it will not seek donations from anyone for the temple construction work.

"However, the proposed Trust may take donations for the purpose. We have made our stand clear that no government fund should be taken by the Trust. Also, there should not be any representation from political parties in it," Sharma said.

Sources said the proposed Trust may seek public donations starting from Rs 11 per family to fund the project.

Govt moots 'Sikh Circuit' to promote pilgrimage in UP

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

To promote pilgrimage in Uttar Pradesh, the Yogi Adityanath government has mooted development of 'Sikh Circuit' comprising all religious places associated with the religion and 'Gurus'. Sikh museums and research centres will also be set up in Lucknow and Agra. Earlier, the Chief Minister had directed the Tourism department to work on the concept.

Taking the agenda forward, Principal Secretary (Tourism) Jitendra Kumar met representatives of different UP-based Sikh organisations, including UP Punjab Academy, historians, Culture department officials and directors of state museums.

Lucknow Gurudwara Management Committee president RS Bagga suggested the state government to set up a Sikh museum and research centre in Agra as the city has several spots and

relics associated with the life and struggles of Guru Tegh Bahadur. Since Agra is close to the National Capital Region (NCR) and well connected with New Delhi, the proposed centre is expected to be developed as a major tourist destination and attract a large number of national and international visitors. The proposed Sikh museum in Lucknow will be dedicated to the preservation and enrichment of Sikh culture, heritage and history.

A survey of the Sikh places and personalities — who contributed to art, culture and history — will also be undertaken as a preliminary step towards the development of 'Sikh Circuit'. Last year, a four-point charter of demands was submitted to the CM and it included the proposal for setting up of a Sikh museum. Meanwhile, UP is already working on several other tourism-centric religious circuits like Ramayana Circuit, Mahabharata Circuit, Buddhist Circuit etc.

ISI agent nabbed from Chandauli

Lucknow (PNS): The Military Intelligence Unit with the help of Anti-Terrorists Squad of Uttar Pradesh nabbed an alleged ISI agent from Chandauli on Friday evening. The 23-year-old accused, said to be a member of a WhatsApp group called 'Zindagi Na Mileygi' operated from Pakistan, was sharing photographs of prohibited areas from eastern UP.

Reports said that Mohamed Rasheed, a resident of Chaurgat Padoo hamlet of Mughalsarai in Chandauli, was nabbed during a joint operation of Military Intelligence Unit and ATS. He was allegedly involved in collecting inputs about CRPF, Gyanvapi Mosque, Kashi Vishwanath Temple, Cantt Railway Station, Dashaswamedh Ghat, Malviya Bridge, Cantonment area etc and also sending footages to his ISI counterparts in Pakistan.

ADG, ATS, Dhruv Kant Thakur claimed that they received a SIM card and were collecting its details. Rasheed was given Rs 5,000 as commission by Pakistani handlers to send inputs from India.

Thakur claimed it was revealed that a total of 56 persons from India

were connected to the WhatsApp group. He said they provided those numbers to the state police heads.

He claimed that Rasheed was engaged in pasting posters and banners and some of his relatives were also connected to that WhatsApp group.

Sources said that Rasheed also visited Jodhpur to open a tailoring shop there and conducted a recce of Cantonment area. Further investigations were on to extract more details regarding Rasheed's operation, especially in UP.

Meanwhile, in Azamgarh, a minor girl was allegedly raped after being abducted from her house, police said on Saturday. The six-year-old girl was asleep in her house when she was allegedly abducted by an unidentified person who raped her, they said. The incident took place on Friday night under Jyjanpur Kotwali police station area. The girl was found lying in an unconscious state on the roadside on Saturday morning by villagers, who informed the police.

The victim has been admitted to a hospital and further investigations are on, DIG, Azamgarh Range, Subhash Chand Dubey said.

CAA IN LU SYLLABUS

SP, BSP slam BJP govt

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

Inclusion of the Citizenship (Amendment) Act in the syllabus of Lucknow University has triggered a controversy with Samajwadi Party and Bahujan Samaj Party slamming the BJP government. Taking a jibe at Yogi Adityanath, SP chief Akhilesh Yadav said people should not be surprised if the CM's biography makes it to the syllabus and the latter delivers religious sermons in classrooms.

"It's been said that Lucknow University plans to include CAA in its curriculum. If the condition remains, soon the biography of the chief minister will be taught and lectures will be replaced by his speeches and stories of his life will be part of children's academics," Yadav tweeted.

As per reports, the university administration has planned to hold a debate on the contentious CAA in February. Following a debate by the Political Science department, a proposal will be sent to the executive council of the university for inclusion of the positive aspects of CAA in the syllabus.

BSP supremo Mayawati also took to Twitter to express her displeasure. "The CAA debate is fine but despite the issue being sub judice, the inclusion of this controversial and divisive law by Lucknow University in its syllabus is completely wrong and inappropriate. The BSP strongly opposes this and will certainly take it back when it comes to power in UP," the former UP CM said in a Tweet in Hindi.

Head of LU's Political Science department Shashi Shukla said it was needed to clear doubts of people regarding the CAA. "There is a proposal for a paper under the subject 'Contemporary Issues in Indian Politics', and including CAA in it is under consideration. We will include it in the syllabus and put it on the board as a proposal. If passed, it will be sent to the Academic Council and once it is cleared, studies will start," he added.

CM releases book on completion of Kumbh

Lucknow (PNS): Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath on Saturday released a 'Coffee Table Book' to mark the successful completion of Maha Kumbh Mela in Prayagraj last year. The book divided in five categories — 'SMART' — has been prepared by UP Police. According to ADG (Dial 112) Aseem Arun, Prime Minister Narendra Modi, while addressing the police chiefs of all states in Guwahati, had stressed for introducing smart policing and thus while preparing the book, they divided it into five categories — SMART. "S stands for strict & sensitive, M for modern & mobile, A for alert & accountable, R for reliable & responsive, and T for tech-savvy & trained," Arun explained. He said that on the directions of the Prime Minister, they incorporated all the above aspects in day-to-day policing to make it more people-friendly. Arun said that during the book release on Saturday, Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath hailed the working of the UP Police, especially successful completion of Kumbh Mela and other law & order issues, including on the day the Supreme Court verdict on Ayodhya dispute came. He said the CM also lauded the efforts of UP Police for introducing smart policing and bringing out the book. Besides Adityanath and DGP OP Singh, others present on the occasion included Chief Secretary RK Tewari, and Additional Chief Secretary (Home) Awanish Kumar Awasthi.

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"Be it known to all concern, that the original sale deed dt.09.03.2009 executed by Mr. Ajai son of Late Prabhu resident of Ibrahimpur, Post-Neelmitha, Tahsil & Distt-Lucknow, bearing Document No. 2771, favouring Sri. Surya Bahadur Gurung son of Late Bheem Bahadur Gurung resident of Sharda Nagar, Neelmitha, Tahsil & Distt-Lucknow in respect of Plot of Land, forming part of Khasra No.359, 360 & 361 measuring 82.249 sq.mt, situated at Village-Ibrahimpur, Ward-Ibrahimpur, Tahsil & Distt-Lucknow, has been lost any where and not traceable.
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द्वारा

दिनांक: 27 जनवरी, 2020 | समय: प्रातः 9:00 बजे

दिनांक	प्रथम यात्रा (बिजनौर से कानपुर)	द्वितीय यात्रा (बलिया से कानपुर)
27 जनवरी	बिजनौर (बिजनौर बैराज)-मुजफ्फरनगर (रामराज)-मेरठ (हस्तिनापुर)	बलिया (दुबे छपरा घाट, बलिया शहर, भरौली तिराहा)-गाजीपुर
28 जनवरी	मेरठ (हस्तिनापुर)-हापड़ (गढ़मुक्तेश्वर, ब्रजघाट)-अमरोहा (तिगरी)-बुलन्दशहर (अनूपशहर-बसीघाट)	गाजीपुर (सैदपुर)-चंदौली (डोमरी शजाबाद)-वाराणसी
29 जनवरी	बुलन्दशहर (बसीघाट)-अलीगढ़ (सांकरा)-सम्भल (गुनौर)-बदायूँ (कछलाघाट)-शाहजहाँपुर (झाईघाट चौराहा)-कासगंज (लहराघाट)-फर्रुखाबाद (पांचालघाट)	वाराणसी (रामनगर)-मीरजापुर (चुनार)-भदोही (सीतामढ़ी)-प्रयागराज (मेजा-मांडा)
30 जनवरी	फर्रुखाबाद (पांचालघाट)-कनौज (के.के. बोर्डिंग ग्राउंड)-हरदोई (राजघाट)-कानपुर (बिल्हौर, बिदूर)	प्रयागराज-कौशांबी (कड़ाधाम)-प्रतापगढ़ (कालाकांकर)-रायबरेली (लालगंज)-फतेहपुर (ओमघाट भितौरा)-उन्नाव (बक्सर)
31 जनवरी	बिदूर-कानपुर बैराज	उन्नाव (बक्सर, शुक्लागंज)-कानपुर बैराज

गंगा यात्रा के मुख्य कार्यक्रम

- गंगा आरती • गंगा पूजन • जनसभा • अर्थ गंगा अभियान • गंगा नर्सरी की स्थापना • गंगा खेल मैदान एवं ओपन जिम की स्थापना • गंगा तालाब की स्थापना • गंगा वन एवं गंगा उद्यान की स्थापना • वृक्षारोपण • वॉटर स्पोर्ट्स • स्वास्थ्य मेला • ऑर्गेनिक खेती के लिए प्रशिक्षण • पशु आरोग्य मेला • चौपाल • स्वच्छता कार्यक्रम • पर्यावरण जागरूकता अभियान • पॉलीथीन मुक्ति का अभियान • निबन्ध, चित्रकला, भाषण व वाद-विवाद प्रतियोगिता • खेल व विविध प्रतियोगिताएं • सांस्कृतिक कार्यक्रम

अपने वाहन में रिफ्लेक्टर अवश्य लगवाएं।

सूचना एवं जनसम्पर्क विभाग, उत्तर प्रदेश

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SP activist held as anti-CAA stir continues



PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ LUCKNOW

Amidst the ongoing nationwide protests against the Citizenship Amendment Act, the all-women stir against CAA and NRC continued at the Hussainabad Clock Tower in Lucknow on Saturday even as Samajwadi Party activist Pooja Shukla was arrested and sent to jail. However, the district administration's attempts to end the dharna proved futile.

Former Allahabad High Court judge Haider Abbas Raza also visited the protest site to extend moral support to the women. A woman, who has been at the protest site along with her four-year-old child for days now, said the law is against the tenets of the Constitution of India. "Citizens across the country are on the streets protesting against the CAA, which is against the very basic tenets of Indian Constitution. The country is in the hands of those trying to destroy India. We have to hit the streets to protect democracy," she said.

"God has given us the power to protect our country from fascist forces and we will keep fighting till the very end," another woman at the protest site said. The protesters have continued to hold fort despite repeated threats of eviction by police and district administration authorities.

"This law is patently against

Muslims. Those in power should understand that this law has been rejected by people and it has to be rolled back. However, the government is trying every possible trick to discredit the protesters by leveling baseless charges that the protest is funded, which is ridiculous," a protester said. The protesters were seen carrying posters with 'No to NRC', 'Will not show papers' etc written on them. The protesters said they believe they are thorn in the flesh for the government.

Ever since the all-women protest against CAA and NRC began in Lucknow, some NGOs are providing blankets, biscuits and water bottles to the protesters. The protesters also accused the police of having taken away these things from them. Despite many problems and warnings to call off the protest from the administrative authorities, the protesters continue to stand their ground.

Meanwhile, the Samajwadi party has condemned the arrest of Pooja Shukla. SP president Akhilesh Yadav alleged that she was humiliated and tortured by the police in custody. He said that the nationwide protests against CAA had unnerved the BJP government and the government was taking measures to crush dissent in a brutal manner. He added that there was no justification to police action against peaceful protesters.

Two arrested with illicit liquor

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ LUCKNOW

Police arrested two persons for allegedly being in possession of illicit liquor from different places in the state capital and also seized 30 litres of hooch. One of the accused was identified as Harish Joshi, who

was arrested near Tata Motors showroom in Indira Nagar (A-block). Another accused, identified as Pappu Kumar, was picked up for interrogation near railway crossing in Purana Qila area under Husainganj police station. As per reports, an informer

tipped off beat inspector Rajesh Rai (Indira Nagar police station) early Saturday morning about a suspicious-looking person moving on a motorcycle in A-block. Rai and his team rushed to the place and stopped a man disguised as an elderly, who became nervous and

tried to flee the scene. However, he was nabbed after a brief chase. He was taken to police station for interrogation during which he turned out to be a youth. He disclosed his name as Harish Joshi (25). Sixty pouches of illicit liquor were recovered from three bags which he was carrying. He told the police that he was going to deliver the consignment in Chinhat. Meanwhile, the police arrested

Pappu near the railway crossing in Purana Qila area and recovered 10 litres of illicit liquor from the loader which he was driving with no other occupants. Pappu was caught stopped during a routine police checking. The police grew suspicious when he could not respond to queries. Illicit liquor was recovered from gunny bags in the rear portion of the dumper.

समाज कल्याण विभाग, उ०प्र०

"छात्रवृत्ति स्वीकृति प्रमाण पत्र वितरण समारोह"

मुख्य अतिथि
योगी आदित्यनाथ
मा० मुख्यमंत्री, उत्तर प्रदेश

विशिष्ट अतिथिगण:

डा० जी०एस० धर्मेश मा० राज्यमंत्री, समाज कल्याण, अनुसूचित जाति/अनुसूचित जनजाति, उ०प्र०	नन्द गोपाल गुप्ता "नंदी" मा० मंत्री, अल्पसंख्यक कल्याण, उ०प्र०	रमापति शास्त्री मा० मंत्री, समाज कल्याण, अनुसूचित जाति/अनुसूचित जनजाति, उ०प्र०	अनिल राजभर मा० मंत्री, पिछड़ा वर्ग कल्याण, उ०प्र०	मोहसिन रज़ा मा० राज्यमंत्री, अल्पसंख्यक कल्याण, उ०प्र०
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कार्यक्रम

दिनांक: 26 जनवरी, 2020 समय: 2:00 बजे अपराह्न
स्थल: अवध शिल्प ग्राम, अमर शहीद पथ, लखनऊ

- मा० मुख्यमंत्री जी द्वारा अपने कर कमलों से आनलाइन बटन दबाकर छात्रवृत्ति वितरण का शुभारम्भ एवं छात्र/छात्राओं को छात्रवृत्ति स्वीकृति प्रमाण पत्र प्रदान किया जायेगा।
- प्रदेश के शेष अन्य जनपदों में प्रभारी मंत्री/ जनप्रतिनिधियों के द्वारा छात्र/छात्राओं को छात्रवृत्ति स्वीकृति प्रमाण पत्र प्रदान किया जायेगा।
- वर्ष 2018-19 में समस्त वर्गों के 4611749 छात्र/छात्राओं को छात्रवृत्ति की धनराशि ₹ 3316.60 करोड़ बैंक खातों में अन्तर्गत की गयी है, जबकि चालू वर्ष 2019-20 में समस्त वर्गों के 5666996 छात्र/छात्राओं को छात्रवृत्ति की धनराशि ₹ 3554.44 करोड़ बैंक खातों में अन्तर्गत की गयी है, जो गत वर्ष की तुलना में 1055247 छात्र/छात्राएं (23 प्रतिशत) अधिक है।

Ministry of Information & Broadcasting
Government of India

150 YEARS OF CELEBRATING THE MAHATMA

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

“Our Constitution is the greatest and the most sacred text for us. It encompasses our life, our society, our traditions, our beliefs, our behaviour, our ethos and has solutions to many challenges as well. We the people of India resolve to march together towards achieving the goals of our republic”
- Narendra Modi

Thieves decamp with cash, valuables from house in Chinhat

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ LUCKNOW
A house on Deva road under Chinhat police station area was burgled and thieves decamped with Rs 15,000 in cash, a TV, laptop and other

items worth lakhs of rupees. Police said the theft must have been committed between January 20 and 24. Complainant Anil Kaushal said there was no one in the house as he and his family members left for Barabanki to attend a wedding on January 20. He said when they came back on Friday night, they found the locks of the main gate broken and lights switched on. Valuables and cash were stolen from almirahs. Meanwhile, the Jankipuram police arrested a person, identified as Abhishek Yadav of Gudamba, and booked him under Gangster Act. He was said to be absconding and the police had been searching for him for over six months. The accused was nabbed near Alaganj crossing.

Lucknow decked up in patriotic hues

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ LUCKNOW

The state capital was decked up in patriotic hues on the eve of Republic Day. Prominent buildings and crossings were decorated in tricolour even as there was brisk sale of national flag across the city. Republic Day will witness a parade in front of Vidhan Bhawan and it will be attended by Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath and Governor Anandiben Patel.

The celebrations will coincide with the conclusion of UP Diwas at Awadh Shilp Gram. Those who have worked in the field of 'Swachhata Mission' will be felicitated on the occasion. UPMRC will be organising grand celebrations on Republic Day. Media spokesperson said Jaipuria Institute of Management will stage a 'nukkad natak' at Hazratganj metro station.

On Saturday, a donation campaign was organised by

Amity Law School at Nari Bandi Niketan. The event was organised by director of Amity Law School JP Yadav, who was present at the event along with jailor Nayan Tara Banerjee. The event was addressed by speakers, who lifted the morale of women prisoners by creating awareness about opportunities and responsibilities as a citizens. It was followed by a nukkad natak by Amity students on the importance of education and hygiene. The event concluded with the distribution of food and items of basic necessities.

Meanwhile, traffic curbs will be in place on the occasion of Republic Day. Traffic will remain diverted from 7 am till the celebrations conclude. Vehicles will not be allowed to move from Ravindralaya to KKC, and will be diverted at Charbagh tri-crossing towards Kaiserbagh, Mawaiyya and Alambagh. Vehicles will not be allowed to move from



Tiracolours sold like hot cakes on Republic Day eve in Lucknow

Pioneer

Charbagh to KKC, and will be diverted at Ravindralaya tri-crossing towards Natha, Mawaiyya and Alambagh. Traffic will not be allowed to move towards Guru Gobind Singh crossing, and will be diverted from Basmandi crossing towards Kaiserbagh.

Mawaiyya and Alambagh. Vehicles will not be allowed to move towards KKC and AP Sen Road, and will be diverted from Mohan road crossing towards Basmandi crossing, Mawaiyya and Alambagh.

Vehicles will not be allowed to move towards Charbagh, and will be diverted at Rana Pratap crossing towards Basmandi crossing. Traffic will not be allowed to move from Bandariyabagh crossing to Hazratganj, and will be diverted from Bandariyabagh crossing towards Golf Club, Lal Batti crossing and 1090 crossing. Vehicles will not be allowed to move from Babu Bhawan crossing towards Burlington and Vidhan Bhawan, and will be diverted from Babu Bhawan crossing towards Basmandi, Naka and Chiraiyya Jheel. Traffic will not be allowed to move from DSO crossing towards Sisandi crossing, and will be diverted towards Golf Club and Narhi.

U.P. POWER TRANSMISSION CORPORATION LTD.
E-TENDER NOTICE Following E-Tenders are invited from the experienced / reputed contractors / suppliers for the execution of following works: For more details login on website www.etender.up.nic.in. 1. Short Term Tender No. 125/AETC/2019-20: Work of re-grouping of 132 KV bays to air-insulated bays for 132 KV Bindwal Jaipurpur line near existing dead end tower at 220 KV S/S Azamgarh under ETD Azamgarh. Earnest Money : Rs. 2000.00 (Two Thousand) only. Tender Cost : Rs. 236.00 (Rs. Two Hundred Thirty Six) only. 2. Short Term Tender No. 126/AETC/2019-20: Replacement of outlived 33 KV triple feeder control and relay panel by new one at 132 KV S/S Phoolpur Azamgarh and Mahanagar under ETD Azamgarh Earnest Money : Rs. 1500.00 (One Thousand Five Hundred) only. Tender Cost : Rs. 236.00 (Rs. Two Hundred Thirty Six) only. 3. E-Tender No. 127/AETC/2019-20: Diversion of 220 KV Azamgarh-Jaunpur S/C line due to construction of NH-233 by NHA including construction of line and dismantling work of old line under ETD, Jaunpur. Earnest Money : Rs. 4000.00 (Rs. Forty Thousand) only. Tender Cost : Rs. 4720.00 (Rs. Four Thousand Seven Hundred Twenty) only. 4. E-Tender No. 128/AETC/2019-20: Diversion of 132 KV Koilsa-Atraulia line for construction of Gorakhpur link expressway by UPEIDA including construction of line and dismantling work of old line, under Electy. Trans. Division Azamgarh. Earnest Money : Rs. 27000.00 (Rs. Twenty Seven Thousand) only. Tender Cost : Rs. 3186.00 (Rs. Three Thousand One Hundred Eighty Six) only. Earnest money will be in shape of RTGS/NEFT duty pledged in favour of Superintending Engineer, Electy. Transmission Circle, UPPTCL, Azamgarh. Tender can upload their tender bids against Short Term E-Tender No. 125 and 126 upto 17.00 Hrs. of 10.02.2020; the same will be opened on dated 11.02.2020 at 14.00 hrs. and 15.00 hrs. and against E-Tender No. 127 and 128 upto 17.00 Hrs. of 28.02.2020; the same will be opened on dated 29.02.2020 at 14.00 hrs. and 15.00 hrs. Intimation regarding opening of Tender Bid Part-I i.e. Price Bid will be given on above e-website in due course of time. Please visit web site www.etender.up.nic.in for details / download and for any other corrections / amendments / modification / extension till the date of submission of tender. In case the tender opening date is holiday or undersigned remains out of headquarters the date of submission and opening of tender will stand extended to the next working day. Undersigned has the right to reject any tender without assigning any reason thereof. Conditional tenders shall not be accepted. **Superintending Engineer (Trans.) Hafizpur, UPPTCL, Azamgarh No. 104, Date - 25.01.2020. SAVE ELECTRICITY IN THE INTEREST OF NATION.**

CITY BRIEFS



Members of Akhil Bharatiya Samagra Vichar Manch taking out a rally in support of CAA in Lucknow on Saturday

SGPGI DIRECTOR
Prof Radha Krishna Dheeman, the head of Hepatology department of PGI (Chandigarh), has been appointed as the director of SGPGI by Governor Anandiben Patel. Principal Secretary (Governor) Hemant Rai said Prof Radha Krishna has been appointed for a period of five years.

NATIONAL VOTERS' DAY
National Voters Day was celebrated with enthusiasm on Saturday. District Magistrate and district election officer Abhishek Prakash administered a pledge to the

staff at Collectorate on the occasion. Legal Aid Clinic, Lucknow University, conducted a workshop on 'Constitution' at a local school with the theme 'Inclusive and qualitative participation' to spread awareness about basic rights of voters. The workshop was conducted for the students of classes 6, 7 and 8. Member of clinic Ritam Tripathi addressed the students, giving them an insight into the Constitution and fundamental rights. He explained to the students why rights are needed, what is the concept of fundamental rights and why these rights are inalienable.

INTERACTIVE SESSION

An interactive session was conducted in the Political Science department by the extra-curricular activities committee at BBAU. The event was organised to discuss various career options, internship opportunities and research possibilities for students at MA and PhD levels. The event was organised and conducted by the students of department of Political Science. Alumni, PhD scholars, teachers and all students participated in an informative, engaging and detailed semi-formal discussion. The students were informed about various scholarships and research field work opportunities available for which they may apply from time to time. The programme also focused on preparation for NET and JRF exams. Senior students and those who have already qualified NET-JRF helped aspirants to understand the scheme of exam by sharing personal experiences and sources of information that would be easily accessible for several students.

CM stresses on making commissionerate system a model of excellent policing

Lucknow (PNS): Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath on Saturday said that if we move ahead by making the commissioner system a model of excellent policing, we can establish UP Police as the best police force in the world. "We have to prevent crime incidents by mapping tenants and senior citizens in the state," Yogi said at a programme organised at Police Headquarters on Saturday. The

Chief Minister said that his government has started a new experiment and it has to be implemented on a war-footing. "If a woman is going alone in the evening or night, dropping her safely in the PRV for her house will increase the confidence of common man towards the police. This will also improve security. No matter what happens, the criminals have to reform," he said. "Direct com-

munication with people will also have to be carried forward," he added. The CM said that the government has increased the ex gratia given to families of the soldiers martyred in the line of duty. Along with this, arrangements have been made to give pension for life amounting to salary of the soldiers who are seriously injured or are in a coma while on duty, he added.

SCHOOLSCAN



City Montessori School tableau based on 'Vasudhaiva Kutumbkam' is all set for the Republic Day Parade.

OFFICE OF THE CANTONMENT BOARD
31, Nehru Road, Lucknow Cantt.
Phone No. 0522-2480037 Email - cblucknow@dgst.org

PUBLIC NOTICE
This is for information of the general public that land use plan in respect of Lucknow Cantonment has been prepared by the Chief Executive Officer Under Section 233 of the Cantonments Act, 2006 which has also been approved by the Board vide its CBR No. 21 dated 16.01.2020. The said land use plan may be seen on the official website i.e. www.cbLucknow.org.in as well as in Engineering Section of the office.
(Amit Kumar Mishra)
Chief Executive Officer
Lucknow Dated 25 Jan 2020

RAILWAY ELECTRIFICATION, LUCKNOW
No. RE-Ten-Civ-LKO-G-281-BFA-07 Dated: 24.01.2020

OPEN TENDER NOTICE
Dy. Chief Engineer, Railway Electrification, Lucknow acting for and on behalf of The President of India invites E-Tender for the works mentioned below.
Name of work: Provision of Sanitization services, upkeep and caretaker for Chief Project Director/RE, Lucknow office campus, and sub-ordinate rest house in office campus inclusive of new office building and RE officer Rest House at Bandariyabagh & Lucknow Junction Station for a period of Twenty Four months.

1. Tender No.	RE-Ten-Civ-LKO-G-281-BFA-07
2. Tender Type	Open
3. Period of Completion	24 Months
4. Advertised Value (₹)	₹ 1,10,87,506.24
5. Earnest Money (₹)	₹ 2,05,400.00
6. Tender Closing Date Time	10.02.2020 15.00 hrs
7. Validity of Offer (Days)	45 Days
8. Bidding System	Two Packet System
9. Date & Time for submission of E-tender and opening of tender	Tender may be uploaded upto 15.00 hrs. on 10.02.2020 on IREPS website www.ireps.gov.in . The bidder can participate in the E-tender, the tender will be opened after 15.00 hrs on 10.02.2020.
10. Detailed Tender Notice & Tender Document:	The detailed e-tender notice and tender document is available on www.ireps.gov.in w.e.f. 25.01.2020 till 10.02.2020 at 15.00 hrs. Above tender document will be available for submission of offer on IREPS website i.e. www.ireps.gov.in from 27.01.2020 to 10.02.2020. All other terms and conditions in respect of above tenders are given in tender document.

V.K. Gupta
Dy. Chief Engineer/Railway Electrification, Lucknow
For & on behalf of President of India

अधीक्षण अभियन्ता, मर्यादित विद्युत वितरण निगम लिमिटेड, ई-निविदा सूचना
अधोहस्ताक्षरी द्वारा निम्नलिखित कार्यों को संपादित कराने हेतु कार्यों में अनुभवी व दक्ष विद्युत ठेकेदारों से ई-निविदा आमंत्रित की जाती है। ई-निविदा का प्रथम भाग (1 - अधीक्षण अभियन्ता, विद्युत वितरण मण्डल, बाराबंकी के खाते में निष्पट/आरटीजीएस के माध्यम से जमा की गयी राशि के रसीद की प्रति। 2-स्वयं द्वारा प्रमाणित अद्यतन 'क' श्रेणी के लाइसेंस की प्रति। 3-फर्म की साख की पुष्टि संबंधी अल्लेखों यथा सीओए आडिट रिपोर्ट अथवा विगत तीन वित्तीय वर्ष के टर्नओवर की सत्यापित प्रति। 4-विगत तीन वर्षों में विद्युत कार्य संपादित करने हेतु फर्म के साथ संपादित अनुभवों की सूची अथवा अनुभव की स्कैन प्रतियाँ। 5. जीएसटी पंजीकरण की स्वयं सत्यापित प्रति। 6-फर्म के काली सूची में न होने का स्व-सत्यापित प्रमाण पत्र तथा जिला-धिकारी द्वारा निर्गत चरित्र प्रमाण पत्र जो निविदा खुलने की तिथि से तीन माह की अवधि का बना हो। 7-अधिकारी द्वारा निर्गत व शर्त व द्वितीय भाग (कार्य/सामग्री की दर) दिनांक 01.02.2020 को साय 5 बजे तक 0300 सरकारी की वेबसाइट <https://etender.up.nic.in> पर अपलोड किये जा सकते हैं। ई-निविदा का प्रथम भाग दिनांक 03.02.2020 को प्रातः 11.00 बजे पूर्वान्ह से खोला जायेगा। ई-निविदा का प्रथम भाग उपयुक्त पाये जाने की स्थिति में ई-निविदा के द्वितीय भाग खोला जायेगा और द्वितीय भाग के खोलने की सूचना ई-टेंडर की वेबसाइट पर स्वतः उपलब्ध हो जायेगी। निविदा प्रपत्र मर्यादित विद्युत वितरण निगम लिमिटेड की वेबसाइट www.mvnl.in पर भी देखे जा सकते हैं। एक अथवा समस्त निविदाओं को बिना कारण बताये निरस्त करने / विभक्त करने का अधिकार अधोहस्ताक्षरी के पास सुरक्षित रहेगा। निविदा प्रपत्र का मूल्य व धरोहर राशि निष्पट/आरटीजीएस के माध्यम से मण्डल के स्टेट बैंक आफ इंडिया, बाराबंकी के खाता संख्या 36734428367, आईएफएससी कोड 550001आईएन0015680 में हस्तान्तरित करनी होगी, जिसका विवरण निविदा प्रपत्र में विस्तृत रूप से उल्लिखित होगा। 1. संख्या

125 / विविम(बा0) / 2019-20: विद्युत वितरण खण्ड-द्वितीय अंतर्गत महादेवा मेला क्षेत्र में सुचारु रूप से विद्युत आपूर्ति 11 केवी गणेश पुर फीडर के अनुरक्षण व मरम्मत के कार्य। निविदा प्रपत्र रूपया 1180.00 (जीएसटी सहित), धरोहर राशि 2000/- 2. संख्या 126 / विविम(बा0) / 2019-20 : विद्युत वितरण खण्ड - द्वितीय अंतर्गत 33/11 केवी उपकेन्द्र रामनगर से पोषित ग्राम मलौली में अनुरक्षण व मरम्मत के कार्य। निविदा प्रपत्र रूपया 1180.00 (जीएसटी सहित), धरोहर राशि 2000/- 3. संख्या 127 / विविम(बा0) / 2019-20: विद्युत वितरण खण्ड-द्वितीय अंतर्गत 33/11 केवी उपकेन्द्र रामनगर से पोषित ग्राम बड़नपुर में अनुरक्षण व मरम्मत के कार्य। निविदा प्रपत्र रूपया 1180.00 (जीएसटी सहित), धरोहर राशि 2000/- 4. संख्या 128 / विविम(बा0) / 2019-20: विद्युत वितरण खण्ड-द्वितीय अंतर्गत 33/11 केवी उपकेन्द्र रामनगर से पोषित 11 केवी सुदियामऊ फीडर के अनुरक्षण व मरम्मत के कार्य। निविदा प्रपत्र रूपया 1180.00 (जीएसटी सहित), धरोहर राशि 2000/- 5. संख्या 129 / विविम(बा0) / 2019-20 : विद्युत वितरण खण्ड-द्वितीय अंतर्गत 33/11 केवी उपकेन्द्र फतेहपुर ओल्ड पर स्थापित पावर परिवर्तक संख्या 1 के आयल लिकेज को दूर करने का कार्य। निविदा प्रपत्र रूपया 1180.00 (जीएसटी सहित), धरोहर राशि 2000/- 6. संख्या 130 / विविम(बा0) / 2019-20 : विद्युत वितरण खण्ड-फतेहपुर अंतर्गत 33/11 केवी उपकेन्द्र फतेहपुर ओल्ड पर स्थापित पावर परिवर्तक संख्या 2 के आयल लिकेज को दूर करने का कार्य। निविदा प्रपत्र रूपया 1180.00 (जीएसटी सहित), धरोहर राशि 2000/- 7. संख्या 131 / विविम(बा0) / 2019-20 : विद्युत वितरण खण्ड - फतेहपुर अंतर्गत 33/11 केवी उपकेन्द्र फतेहपुर ओल्ड पर स्थापित पावर परिवर्तक संख्या 2 के आयल लिकेज को दूर करने का कार्य। निविदा प्रपत्र रूपया 1180.00 (जीएसटी सहित), धरोहर राशि 2000/- अधीक्षण अभियन्ता, विद्युत वितरण मण्डल, बडेल, फैजाबाद रोड, बाराबंकी। पत्रांक 323, दिनांक 25.01.2020, "राष्ट्रहित में ऊर्जा बचायें, बल की जगह एल.ई.डी. लगाएँ।"

Eight Union ministers to be part of UP gov't's Ganga Yatra

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ LUCKNOW

Eight Union ministers will take part in the Uttar Pradesh government's five-day Ganga Yatra, which will begin on January 27, an official spokesman said on Saturday. Besides the Central ministers, ministers in-charge of districts in Uttar Pradesh will also participate in the Yatra, which will conclude in Kanpur on January 31, he said.

There will be two routes of the Yatra. The first will be Bijnor to Kanpur and the second, Ballia to Kanpur, the spokesman said. Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath, his Uttarakhand counterpart Trivendra Singh Rawat and Union Minister Sanjeev Balyan will be present in Bijnor on January 27, he said. The spokesman said Uttar Pradesh Governor Anandiben Patel, Bihar Deputy Chief Minister Sushil Modi, State Jal Shakti Minister Mahendra Singh and Union Minister Mahendra Nath Pandey will attend the event on its first day in Ballia. On January 28, Uttar Pradesh deputy chief ministers Dinesh Sharma and Keshav Prasad Maurya, and Union ministers Sadhvi Niranjan Jyoti and Gajendra Singh Shekawat will take part in the event. On January 29, state Cabinet ministers Suresh Khanna and Brajesh Pathak, and Union Minister Prahlad Patel will be present, he said.

Maurya along with Union Minister Babul Supriyo will take part in the event also on January 30. The spokesman said Adityanath will join BJP state president Swatantra Dev Singh and Union Minister Narendra Tomar for the Yatra on January 29. On January 30, Dinesh Sharma and Union Minister Smriti Irani will be present, he said.

Six cops to get 'President's Police Medal' for distinguished services



Governor Anandiben Patel felicitating DGP OP Singh in Lucknow on Saturday

Pioneer

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ LUCKNOW

Once again, the UP Police personnel failed to find their names among winners of the prestigious 'President's Medal for Gallantry Services' announced on the eve of Republic Day on Saturday. However, six cops will be given away 'President's Police Medal' for distinguished services and 72 will be receiving police medals for meritorious services. According to an official, the six policemen to get the medals for distinguished services include ADG (Agra Zone) S Anand, ADG Sunil Kumar Gupta, DIG Anil Kumar Rai, DIG (Radio) Sunita Sharma, and sub-inspectors Ganesh Kumar Trivedi & Surendra Narain.

Among the 72 policemen to get the medals for meritorious services include Kannauj SP Amrendra Singh; Additional SPs Ramakant Prasad, Devesh Kumar Pandey, Ram Abhilash Tripathi, Nityanand Rai, Vijay Pal Singh, Uday Shankar Singh, Akhilesh Chandra Singh etc. The police awards are declared bi-annually on the eve of Republic Day and Independence Day. In Lucknow, DGP OP Singh, DG (Jails) Anand Kumar, IG (Law & Order) Vijay Bhushan and several other officers received awards from Governor Anandiben Patel on the occasion of National Voters' Day on Saturday. Meanwhile, 368 police personnel have been selected from across UP and they will be honoured on Republic Day for their exemplary services and awarded commendation discs by UP Police. The officials include those from civil police as well as the elite Anti-

Terrorist Squad (ATS) and Special Task Force (STF). They will be felicitated on January 26 by OP Singh. DSP (STF) Raj Kumar Mishra, sub-inspector (STF) Awadh Narayan Singh and sub-inspector Shavez Khan have been selected for platinum disc. DSP (STF) Vinod Sirohi, ATS sub-inspector Vinod Kumar, and police head constables Michael, Ashok Kumar and Mohammad Azam have been selected for the gold disc. Deputy Commissioner of Police Sankalp Sharma and Assistant Commissioner of Police Satish Kumar have been selected for silver disc. The silver disc will also be awarded to sub-inspector Gajendra Singh, and head constables Satendra Kumar Sharma, Krishna Kumar, Praveen Kumar Malik, constables Ankit Kumar, and Rakesh Sharma.

Deputy Commissioner of Police Sankalp Sharma and Assistant Commissioner of Police Satish Kumar have been selected for silver disc. The silver disc will also be awarded to sub-inspector Gajendra Singh, and head constables Satendra Kumar Sharma, Krishna Kumar, Praveen Kumar Malik, constables Ankit Kumar, and Rakesh Sharma.

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Sedition case against JNU student leader for speech in AMU campus

Aligarh (PTI): 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 Shafiq Kidwai said that the contents of the video include some comments which are "highly objectionable" and university authorities are taking this matter very seriously. He said the authorities will write a letter to the police to take strong action in this matter.

कार्यालय उपनिदेशक (वि०/या०)
राज्य कृषि उत्पादन मण्डी परिषद, उ०प्र०,
नवीन गल्ला मण्डी स्थल, महवा चुंगी, गोरखपुर- 273016
पत्रांक : वि०/या०-(निविदा)/2020-31 दिनांक 25.1.2020

ई-निविदा सूचना (अल्पकालीन)
निम्नलिखित कार्यों की ई-निविदायें वित्तीय रूप से सुदृढ़ एवं मण्डी परिषद में रजिस्टर्ड/अनुभवी फर्मों से दिनांक 12.02.2020 को अपराह्न 01:30 बजे ई-टेंडर के माध्यम से आनलाईन कार्यालय उपनिदेशक (वि०/या०) गोरखपुर में खोली जायेगी। उक्त निविदायें दिनांक 11.02.2020 को अपराह्न 5:00 बजे तक वेबसाइट www.etender.up.nic.in पर ऑन लाईन भरकर डाउनलोड की जा सकती है। निविदाता को दिनांक 12.02.2020 अपराह्न 1:00 बजे तक समस्त बिड डाक्यूमेंट एवं समस्त आवश्यक प्रपत्र सहित कार्यालय उपनिदेशक (वि०/या०) राज्य कृषि उत्पादन मण्डी परिषद, नवीन फल एवं सब्जी मण्डी स्थल महवा चुंगी गोरखपुर में जमा करना अनिवार्य होगा।

क्र० सं०	कार्य का नाम	कार्य की लागत (रु० लाख)	निविदा का मूल्य जीएसटी सहित (रु० लाख)	धरोहर (रु० लाख)	कार्य पूर्ण करने की अवधि	पंजीकृत ठेकेदारों की श्रेणी
1	नवीन मण्डी स्थल तुलसीपुर में नलकूप निर्माण (300x200mm), एवं 7.5 एचपीओ समसिंबल पम्प आपूर्ति/स्थापना कार्य।	18.78	1180.00	1.90	03 माह	कार्य अनुभवी
2	नवीन मण्डी स्थल लालगंज में पूर्ण से निर्मित नलकूप/पम्प की मरम्मत, स्टेडबाई पम्प, पैनल की आपूर्ति/स्थापना एवं विकसीकरण सहित का कार्य।	3.14	118.00	0.32	02 माह	कार्य अनुभवी

नोट -1. टेंडर डाक्यूमेंट वेबसाइट www.etender.up.nic.in पर दिनांक 11.02.2020 अपराह्न 5:00 बजे तक उपलब्ध रहेगा। निविदा शर्त वेब साइट पर देखी जा सकती है।

उपनिदेशक (वि०/या०) मण्डी परिषद, गोरखपुर

REPUBLIC DAY

Gallantry awards 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 Darmiyam 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.

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 updation 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. Congress-ruled Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh are likely to follow suit soon even though a section of party leaders like Kapil Sibal, Salman Khurshid have pointed to the futility of such exercises.

Leader of Opposition Gulab Chand Kataria questioned the right to challenge the Act in the State Assembly. "The Congress should stop doing appeasement and vote bank politics," he said.

Union Minister Gajendra S Shekhawat said the passing of resolution in Assembly amounts to murdering the democracy. "Assemblies are going beyond limited autonomy granted by Constitution by passing these resolutions. This is a conspiracy to divide the country and is not acceptable."

India, Brazil ink 15 pacts, unveil action plan to broadband 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 broadband 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 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. Terming Brazil a valuable partner in India's economic growth, Modi, while summing the outcome of his talks with Bolsonaro, said "Your visit to India has opened a new chapter in ties between India and Brazil."

"Despite geographical distance, both India and Brazil are together on various global issues as there is convergence in our views," Modi said in his media statement in the presence of Bolsonaro.

Bolsonaro said the two countries have further strengthened the already strong ties by signing 15 agreements which will provide for cooperation in a range of areas.

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 recommended 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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BJP president JP Nadda meets party veteran LK Advani at his residence in New Delhi on Saturday

PTI

Govt to sign accord with NDFB

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The Centre is all set to sign an accord with the banned Assam-based insurgent group National Democratic Front of Boroland (NDFB) on Monday providing political and economic bonanza to the tribals, sans the outfit's key demand of a separate Bodoland state or union territory.

The tripartite agreement will be signed in the presence of Union Home Minister Amit Shah and Assam Chief Minister Sarbananda Sonowal by top leadership of the four factions of the NDFB, Joint Secretary in the Home Ministry Satyendra Garg and Assam Chief Secretary Kumar Sanjay Krishna.

"The accord will provide for some political rights to the Bodo tribals living in Assam and some economic package for the community," a senior official privy to the development said.

However, the official made it clear that the territorial integrity of Assam will be maintained and the key demand of the NDFB, which is either a separate state or a UT, is not going to be entertained.

"The accord will be within the framework of the Constitution without splitting the state," another official said.

The Home minister is very keen to conclude the accord as early as possible to end the protected Bodo insurgency in Assam so that a lasting peace is returned to the Bodo-dominant

ed areas in the state, the official said.

The four factions of the NDFB, which will sign the pact, are led by Ranjan Daimari, Govinda Basumatary, Dhiren Boro and B Saoraigra.

Saoraigra took over the NDFB faction in 2015, removing its chief, I K Songbijiit, who had allegedly ordered the killing of nearly 70 adivasis in December 2014.

The NDFB-Saoraigra faction had returned from their base in Myanmar about a fortnight ago and signed an agreement with the government for the suspension of operations.

Daimari was released from a jail in Assam two days ago, facilitating his participation in signing of the accord.

The NDFB continues to be a banned outfit.

Some NDFB militants were part of the 644 militants who surrendered in Guwahati on Thursday before Chief Minister Sonowal. In the accord, the government is likely to ensure safeguard of Bodo language and culture and related matters.

A commission is also likely to be set up to take views of a cross section of the people in Assam in providing some specific political rights to the Bodos.

Promise to set up a sports university and job-oriented higher education institutions are also expected to be part of the pact. However, it is immediately not clear whether the status of the existing Bodoland

Territorial Council (BTC) will be enhanced.

It will be the third Bodo accord to be signed in last 27 years when the violent movement for a separate Bodoland state claimed hundreds of lives, destruction of public and private properties.

The first Bodo accord was signed with the All Bodo Students Union (ABSU) in 1993, leading to creation of a Bodoland Autonomous Council with limited political powers.

In 2003, the second Bodo accord was signed with the militant group Bodo Liberation Tigers (BLT), leading to formation of a Bodoland Territorial Council (BTC) with four districts of Assam — Kokrajhar, Chirang, Baska and Udalguri — called the Bodoland Territorial Area District (BTAD).

The BTC has control over 30 subjects like education, forests, horticulture but no jurisdiction on the police, revenue and general administration departments, which are controlled by the Assam government.

The BTC was formed under the 6th Schedule of the Constitution.

The demand for a separate state for the Bodos has been going on in Assam for about five decades and several Bodo underground and militant groups raising it leading to agitations, protests, violence and many deaths.

SSB stops allowances to troops for 2 months due to paucity of funds

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

New Delhi: Border guarding force SSB has put on hold payment of arrears and other allowances to its troops for January and February owing to "paucity" of funds, official sources said on Saturday.

All arrears will be released to the employees in March, they said.

They said the headquarters of the paramilitary force here has alerted all its formations in the country that the funds are "hardly sufficient" to pay the regular salary of the staff for the months of January and February, therefore no other bills for the about 90,000 personnel strength force will be entertained.

According to a latest order accessed by PTI, the Sashastra Seema Bal (SSB) has informed its field units that no arrears of pay or allowances like leave encashment claims will be given for January and February due to paucity of funds.

Owing to this condition, the order issued on January 23 under the 'most immediate' category said "no other claims except regular (salary) bills of January and February will be entertained".

When contacted, officials said while the salary of the force personnel will "absolutely" be not affected for the current and the next month, all arrears will be released to the employees in March.

"This is a routine and temporary exercise done to tide off fund crunch at times. It has happened in the past as well. All arrears and other payments will be cleared by March," a senior official said. Last year, a delay in government sanction of additional funds of Rs 800 crore for the CRPF had prompted the paramilitary force to order temporary stopping the ration money allowance (RMA) for its troops. PTI

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 new office-bearers of 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.

Human chain in Kerala against CAA today

PTI ■ THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

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 Kaliyakkavilai 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 Kaliyakkavilai.

"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.

The Left front has been in the forefront of anti-CAA protests in Kerala and had organised various protests across the State. PTI

India's military might, cultural heritage to be on display at Rajpath today

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

India's rising military might, rich cultural diversity and socio-economic progress will be on full display during the 71st Republic Day celebrations at the Rajpath — the city's centrepiece boulevard — on Sunday.

Brazilian President Jair Messias Bolsonaro will be the chief guest at the 90-minute celebrations marking the anniversary of the day when India was declared a republic in 1950.

Anti-satellite weapon Shakti, Army's battle tank Bhisma, infantry combat vehicles and newly inducted Chinook and Apache helicopters of the Indian Air

Force will be part of the grand military parade.

The national capital has been brought under a massive ground-to-air security cover, with thousands of police and paramilitary personnel keeping a hawk-eye vigil.

Twenty-two tableaux — 16 from States and Union Territories and six from various ministries and departments — depicting the nation's rich cultural heritage and economic progress will also roll down the Rajpath.

School children will convey age-old message of yoga and spiritual values through dance and music during the parade, the defence ministry said.

The Republic Day Parade

ceremony will commence with Prime Minister Narendra Modi visiting the National War Memorial near the India Gate. He will lead the nation in paying tributes to the martyrs by laying a wreath.

This is for the first time that the prime minister will pay homage to martyrs at the National War memorial instead of Amar Jawan Jyoti.

Thereafter, the prime minister and other dignitaries will head to the saluting dais at Rajpath to witness the parade.

As per tradition, the national flag will be unfurled followed by the National Anthem with a booming 21-gun salute.

The parade will commence with President Ram Nath Kovind taking the salute. The parade will be commanded by Parade Commander Lt General Asit Mistry, General Officer Commanding, Delhi Area. Major General Alok Kacker, Chief of Staff of Delhi Area, will be the second-in-command.

The first contingent in the uniform of the erstwhile Gwalior Lancers will be 61 Cavalry. The 61 Cavalry is the only active serving horse cavalry regiment in the world. It was raised on August 1, 1953 with the amalgamation of six state forces' cavalry units.

The Indian Army will be represented by a mounted column of 61 Cavalry, eight

mechanised columns, six marching contingents and fly-past by Rudra and Dhruv Advanced Light helicopters of the army aviation wing.

Indigenously-developed Main Battle Tank of the Indian Army, T-90 Bhisma tank, infantry combat vehicle Ballway Machine Pikate, K-9 Vajra and Dhanush guns, transportable satellite terminal and Akash weapon system will be the main attraction in the mechanised columns.

The other marching contingents of the Army will include the Parachute regiment, the Grenadiers regiment, the Sikh Light Infantry regiment, the Kumaon regiment and the Corps of Signals. The Naval contingent will

comprise of 144 young sailors led by Lieutenant Jitin Malkat. It will be followed by the Naval Tableau titled 'Indian Navy - Silent, Strong, and Swift'.

The Air Force contingent, comprising of 144 air warriors, will be led by Flight Lt Shrikant Sharma. The Air Force tableau showcases scaled down models of the Rafale aircraft, the Tejas aircraft, the Light Combat helicopter, the Akash missile system and the Astra missiles.

One of the main highlights will be the marching contingent of DRDO that will showcase Anti-Satellite Weapons (ASAT) - Mission Shakti. Mission Shakti, India's

first Anti-Satellite mission, was a major breakthrough in demonstrating the nation's capability to bring down hostile satellites.

Sixteen tableaux from various states and union territories will depict the geographical and rich cultural diversity of the country. Various far-reaching reforms of the government including 'Start-up India' and 'Jal Jeevan Mission' will be showcased in six tableaux from different ministries and departments.

For the first time, a contingent of women bikers of CRPF will perform daredevil stunts. The contingent will be led by Inspector Seema Nag who will be seen saluting while standing atop a moving

motorcycle. The grand finale and the most keenly awaited segment of the parade, the Fly Past will comprise of the 'Trishul' formation by three advanced light helicopters. It is for the first time that a 'tri-service formation' is taking part in the Republic Day Parade.

It will be followed by the 'Vic' formation of Chinook helicopters, used for airlifting diverse loads to remote locations. Apache helicopters, Dornier aircraft, C-130J Super Hercules aircraft, an Airborne Early Warning and Control System aircraft and the 'Globe' formation comprising three C-17 Globemasters are also expected to enthrall the people.

Nepal offers to play role of mediator between India, Pakistan

PTI ■ 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 and 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.

"We can be instrumental, but it will be better (for the two sides) to develop direct contact," the source told a group of visiting Indian journalists.

Earlier this week, US President Donald Trump repeated his offer to "help" resolve the Kashmir issue between India

and Pakistan during his meeting with Prime Minister Imran Khan on the sidelines of the World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland.

New Delhi maintains that there is no scope for any third-party mediation between India and Pakistan over Kashmir.

"When we come together, sit together and share views then things will be resolved. In every situation, we have to sit together and try to resolve the problem otherwise things can be deteriorated," the Nepalese source said.

Expressing concern over the uncertainty prevailing over the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) summit, the source said the eight member grouping should be revitalised and misunderstandings should be

removed. "SAARC is not dead. It is alive. Only thing is that we have not met. Hope we can revive it," he said.

The last SAARC Summit in 2014 was held in Kathmandu, which was attended by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

The 2016 SAARC summit was to be held in Islamabad. But after the terrorist attack on an Indian Army camp in Uri in Jammu and Kashmir on September 18 that year, India expressed its inability to participate in the summit due to "prevailing circumstances".

The summit was called off after Bangladesh, Bhutan and Afghanistan also declined to participate in the Islamabad meet.

In the last three years, India has been distancing itself from the SAARC, citing security chal-

lenge facing the region from terrorist networks based in Pakistan, which is also a member of the grouping.

Nepal is still the Chairman of the SAARC because of the postponement of the 2016 summit in Islamabad.

On Friday, Nepal's Foreign Minister Pradeep Kumar Gyawali said his country is "ready and eager" to handover the position to Pakistan.

The source said that there was no link between SAARC and terrorism, a major issue between India and Pakistan that led to the cancellation of the 2016 summit.

"We are strongly against all forms and manifestations of terrorism. But there is no relationship between the two (SAARC and terrorism). We cannot connect the two issues,"

the source said. Nepal, India, Pakistan, the Maldives, Bhutan, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka and Afghanistan are the members of the SAARC.

Identifying terrorism as a common threat to peace loving countries, the source said, "We have to deal with the issue of terrorism".

"I think that misunderstandings should be narrowed down and SAARC should be revitalised. It would be better to revise SAARC. I have told India that SAARC should be revitalised. We can find out amicable solutions," the source said.

SAARC summits are usually held biennially and hosted by member states in alphabetical order. The member state hosting the summit assumes the Chair of the Association.

On the boundary

issue with India, the source said the two countries can discuss any issue based on "truth, evidences and facts".

India in November released fresh maps of the newly-created union territories of Jammu and Kashmir, and Ladakh. In the maps, Pakistan-occupied Kashmir is part of Jammu and Kashmir, while Gilgit-Baltistan is in Ladakh.

Nepal claimed that Limpiyadhura, Lipulek and Kalapani areas were shown under India's territory even though they lie within the Nepalese territory.

India has said the new map accurately depicts its sovereign territory and it has in no manner revised its boundary with Nepal.

"We can resolve any issue if we discuss. Sometimes some

issues are left unresolved. We should not keep something in mind and don't speak out. This is not the situation now," the source said.

"We can share and discuss openly, including on the border issue. We are developing our friendly ties in a new track and depth," he said, adding that the leaders of the two sides have developed very good relations and taken the bilateral ties to the next level.

On National Register of Citizens (NRC) and its possible impact on Nepali speaking people and Gorkhas, the source said Nepal has been reassured by the statement of Defence Minister Rajnath Singh that it would not have any impact on them.

"This is an issue of India and the people of India and they will resolve themselves," he added.

HK 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 micro-



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

biologist 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 "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.

Animosity 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.

'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.

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.

Coronavirus suspect 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.

लोक आयुक्त तथा उप लोक आयुक्त, उत्तर प्रदेश

प्रदेश को भ्रष्टाचार/कुप्रशासन मुक्त बनाने हेतु जनता से अपील

मंत्रियों, विधायकों व अन्य लोकसेवकों के विरुद्ध भ्रष्टाचार, पद के दुरुपयोग व कुप्रशासन के सम्बन्ध में प्राप्त होने वाले परिवादों (अभिकथन/शिकायत) को ग्रहण करके लोक आयुक्त तथा उप लोक आयुक्त, उत्तर प्रदेश के द्वारा उसका निराकरण कराते हुए उत्तरदायी मंत्रियों, विधायकों और लोकसेवकों के विरुद्ध कार्यवाही हेतु संसुतियाँ सभम प्राधिकारी (मुख्यमंत्री/ मुख्य सचिव) को प्रेषित की जाती है और वार्षिक प्रतिवेदन माननीय श्री राज्यपाल को प्रस्तुत किया जाता है।

अधिकारिता

उत्तर प्रदेश शासन के समस्त विभाग, सरकारी कम्पनियों, सहायक सरकारी कम्पनियों, निगम, सोसाइटीज व परिषदें (जो अधिसूचित की गई हों) से संबंधित परिवादों (अभिकथन/ शिकायत) के मामलों तथा सेवानिवृत्त देयकों के मुगतान, मुक्त आश्रित सेवायोजन, विकास प्राधिकरण एवं आवास विकास परिषद, निराश्रित एवं वृद्ध महिलाओं के पेशन, अनुसूचित जाति व जनजातियों के आक्षण (सेवा) संबंधी मामलों।

उत्तर प्रदेश राज्य के समस्त अधिकारीगण (धारा-22 में वर्णित न्यायाधीश/ न्यायिक अधिकारी, महालेखाकार आदि को छोड़कर) एवं कर्मचारियों के साथ-साथ मंत्रीगण (मुख्यमंत्री को छोड़कर), विधायक, विधान परिषद सदस्य, महापौर महापालिका, अध्यक्ष, नगर पालिका परिषद, नगर पंचायतों तथा अध्यक्ष, जिला पंचायत (ग्राम प्रधान को छोड़कर) भी सम्मिलित हैं के विरुद्ध परिवाद (अभिकथन/ शिकायत)। शासकीय लोक सेवकों के सेवानिवृत्त/ सेवाकाल में मृत्यु से संबंधित देयकों के प्रकार से संबंधित परिवाद जो कि शिकायत की श्रेणी में आते हैं प्रस्तुत किये जा सकते हैं।

अभिकथन/शिकायत की प्रक्रिया

प्रदेश के लोक आयुक्त तथा उप लोक आयुक्त को अभिकथन तथा शिकायत सम्बन्धी परिवाद निर्धारित प्रपत्र पर तीन प्रतियों में (स्थासंभव राजभाषा हिन्दी में) टिकित कराकर धारा-9(2) के अनुसार नोटीस शपथ पत्र एवं धारा-9(3) के अनुसार परिवाद, शपथ पत्र, संलग्नक/अनुलग्नक का सत्यापन परिवादी स्वयं के द्वारा निर्धारित प्रक्रिया के अनुसार करके एवं अभिकथन रूपी परिवादों में रु 2,000/- प्रतिमूति निर्धारित लेखा शीर्षक "8443 सिविल निक्षेप-00-103 प्रतिमूति निक्षेप-00-00" के अन्तर्गत भारतीय स्टेट बैंक अथवा कोषागार में चालान के माध्यम से जमा करके मूलप्रति सहित प्रस्तुत किया जा सकता है। साथ ही यह भी स्पष्ट किया जाता है कि यदि प्राप्त परिवाद भिथ्या/ फर्जी पाया जाता है तो ऐसे परिवादियों पर माननीय लोक आयुक्त द्वारा रु 50,000/- तक की धनराशि का हर्जाना लगाया जा सकता है एवं प्रतिमूति की धनराशि जप्त की जा सकती है।

नोट- राज्य सरकार द्वारा ई-पेमेंट से भुगतान किये जाने के कारण, परिवादी अपना राष्ट्रीयकृत बैंक का बचत खाता संख्या, बैंक व शाखा का नाम, जिला एवं आईएफएससी कोड के साथ-साथ पासबुक की स्वप्रमाणित छायाप्रति, परिवाद दाखिल करते समय प्रतिमूति की धनराशि के मूल चालान के साथ उपलब्ध करायेगी तभी उनको प्रतिमूति की धनराशि वापस किया जाना सम्भव होगा। परिवादी को अपना पूरा नाम, पता, मोबाइल नम्बर/ ई-मेल के साथ अंकित करना चाहिए।

वर्तमान पता-टी0सी0-46/वी-1 विमूति खण्ड, गोमती नगर, लखनऊ-226010 अथवा पोस्ट बाक्स नम्बर-172, जी0पी0ओ0, लखनऊ, फ़ैक्स नं0 - (0522) 2306647

फ़ोन नं0 - (0522) 2728660, 2306717, 2728865, 2306088, 2306160 (पी0बी0 एक्स), 2306412

Web site - www.lokayukta.up.nic.in, E-mail :- lokayukta@hotmail.com

सचिव, लोक आयुक्त, उत्तर प्रदेश, लखनऊ

Democrats conclude arguments in Senate

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 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.

Can Fin Homes Ltd.
Speed Building 1st Floor, 3, Shahhajaf Road, Hazratganj, Lucknow-226001

Tel: 0522-2230331, 4065123, Mob:- 7625079125
Email: lucknow@canfinhomes.com, CIN: L85110KA1987PLC008699

POSSESSION NOTICE [Rule-8(1)]

The undersigned being the Authorised Officer of Can Fin Homes Ltd. under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002 and in exercise of the powers under the said Act and Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002, issued a demand notice dated 07/09/2019 calling upon the borrowers Mrs. Ankita Rajpoot W/o Mr. Late Suraj Kumar Gupta (Self) & Legal Successor of Mr. Late Suraj Kumar Gupta R/o (1) LIG-4/523, Sector-H, Jankipuram, Sahara Estate, Lucknow- 226021 (2) 58/921, Kanshiram Awas Yojna, Sitapur-261001 to repay the amount mentioned in the notice being Rs. 2710160/- with further interest at contractual rates from 1st September, 2019 to till date of realization within 60 days from the date of the said notice.

The borrower having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrower and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 on this the 21st day of January of the year 2020. The borrower's attention is invited to provisions of sub-section (8) of section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.

The borrower in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of CFHL for an amount of Rs.2710160/- and interest thereon.

Description of immovable property
Property Address:- House built upon Plot No-A-10 & A-11 Part of khasra no.- 868 Situated at Madiyawa, Pargana- Mahona, Tehsil- Bakshi Ka Talab, Distt- Lucknow.
Boundaries:-
North by :- Road 22 Feet Wide.
South by :- Remaining Part of Land.
East by :- Remaining Part of Land.
West by :- Road 22 Feet Wide.

Sd/-
Authorised Officer
Can Fin Homes Ltd.

Date: 26.01.2020 Place: Lucknow

Quake kills 20 in eastern Turkey

AFP ■ ELAZIG (TURKEY)

A powerful earthquake has killed at least 20 people and injured more than 1,000 in eastern Turkey, as rescue teams searched through the rubble of collapsed buildings for survivors on Saturday.

At least 30 people were missing following the magnitude 6.8 quake on Friday night, which had its epicentre in the small lakeside town of Sivrice in the eastern province of Elazig. "It was very scary, furniture fell on top of us. We rushed outside," 47-year-old Melahat Can, who lives in the provincial capital of Elazig, told AFP.

President Recep Tayyip Erdogan said all steps were being taken to aid people affected by the quake, which caused widespread fear. "We stand by our people," Erdogan said on Twitter.

The Turkish government's disaster and emergency management agency (AFAD) said the quake hit Sivrice at around 8.55 pm (1755 GMT). Turkey lies on major fault-lines and is prone to frequent earthquakes. Turkish television showed images of people rushing outside in panic, as well as a fire on the roof of a building.

Interior, environment and health ministers, who were in the quake zone, said the casualties were in Elazig province and in the neighbouring province of Malatya, which lies to the southwest. At least 20 people died and 1,015 others were wounded, according to AFAD.

"There is nobody trapped under the rubble in Malatya but in Elazig search and rescue efforts are currently under way to find 30 citizens," Interior Minister Suleyman Soyulu said on Friday.

बैंक ऑफ़ बड़ोदा Bank of Baroda

POSSESSION NOTICE (FOR IMMOVABLE PROPERTY)

Whereas, the undersigned being the Authorized officer of Bank of Baroda under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (No. 54 of 2002) and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13 (12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002, issued a demand notice, to the following Borrower to repay the amount mentioned in the notice interest, within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.

The Borrower/Guarantor having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the below mentioned Borrower/Guarantor and the public in general, that the undersigned has taken the possession of the property described here in below in exercise of powers conferred on him/her under section 13 (4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the said Rules on the dates mentioned below. The Borrower/Guarantor in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of the Bank of Baroda for the amount/ liability and interest and other expenses thereon due from the Borrower/Guarantor as mentioned here in below:

The borrower's attention is invited to provisions of sub-section (8) of section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available to redeem the secured assets.

Sl. No.	Name & Address of the Borrower Date of Demand/ Possession Notice	Description of the Immovable Property	Outstanding Amount
1.	Borrower:- M/s Asia Trendz Advertising Through its proprietor Mr. Anand Mishra Shop no 9, Lower Ground Floor, Shyama Complex, Adil Nagar, Sector-14 Vikas Nagar Lucknow 226024 Proprietor :- Mr. Anand Mishra s/o Mr. R.B.D Mishra House no-4/232, Sector-4, Vikas Nagar Lucknow 226024 Guarantor :- Mr. Sanjay Mishra s/o Mr. R.B.D Mishra House no-4/232, Sector-4, Vikas Nagar Lucknow 226024	Equitable mortgage of shop at 9, Lower Ground floor, Shyama Complex, Adil Nagar, Vikas Nagar, Khasra no. 187 Minjumla, Distt Lucknow admeasuring area 15.79 sq. mtr. (170.00 sq. ft.), owned by Mr. Sanjay Mishra (s/o Mr. Anand Mishra.. Boundaries:- East: Street, West: Plot seller, North: Shop no 10, South: Shop no 08	Rs. 5,98,429/- as on 14.12.2017 & Interest thereon
2.	Borrower:- M/s Guljar Poultry Feed Industries Through its partners Mr. Sanjay Goenka & Mrs. Archana Goenka, Add.1- House no-8/44, Sector-8, Indira Nagar Lucknow 226022 Add.2- Village- Shukla, Tehsil Nawabganj Distt Barabanki 225001 Guarantor :- 1. Mr. Sanjay Goenka S/o Mr. Krishna Kumar Goenka House no-8/44, Sector-8, Indira Nagar Lucknow 226022 2. Mrs. Archana Goenka w/o Mr. Sanjay Goenka House no-8/44, Sector-8, Indira Nagar Lucknow 226022 Date of Demand Notice:- 31.10.2019 Date of Possession:- 23.01.2020	1. Extension Equitable mortgage of land and building on 2 two plot each measuring area 1686.00 sq. mtr.in total of 3372.00 sq. mtr. (0.3372Hect). Of Khasra no 577 of Khatauni no 00207 of village Shukla Tehsil Nawabganj, Distt. Barabanki owned by M/s Guljar Farms.(Originally mortgaged in M/s Guljar Farms), Boundaries (As per site):- East: Agriculture land others, West: Agriculture land others, North: Kaccha Road(Chakmarg), South: Land of Rajendra Prasad 2. Extension of Equitable mortgage of Plot no 9 admeasuring area 278.706 Sq. mtr.(3000.00 sq. ft.) Of Khasra no 36 Village-Khargapur, Tehsil & Distt- Lucknow owned by Mr. Sanjay Goenka. (Originally mortgaged in M/s Guljar Farms), Boundaries (As per site deed):- East: Road 25 wide feet wide, West: Plot no 01, North: Plot no 11, South: Road 25 feet wide 3. Extension of Equitable mortgage of Plot no 9 admeasuring area 306.691 Sq. mtr.(3300.00 sq. ft.) of Minjumla Khasra no 36 of Khatauni no 00017 village-Khargapur, Tehsil & Distt- Lucknow owned by Mrs. Archana Goenka. (Originally mortgaged in M/s Guljar Farms), Boundaries (As per sale deed):- East: House of Harishanker, West: Plot no 8, North: 20 feet wide road, South: Aaraj Deegar	Rs. 51,70,928/- as on 31.10.2019 & Interest thereon

Date: 26.01.2020 Place: Lucknow Authorised Officer, Bank of Baroda



'I believe in giving 200%'

Talktime

JASSIE GILL
Known for giving hit songs like *Bapu Zimidar*, *Nakhre*, *Dill Tutda* and many others, Gill is now seen opposite Kangana Ranaut in *Panga*. He tells Musba Hashmi how he came on

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 dream. 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

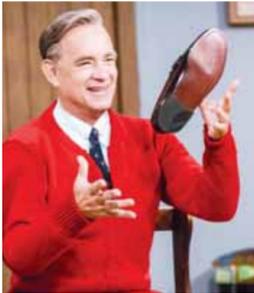
'LOVE FOR OSCARS NEVER GETS OLD'

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 Punjabi 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 *Muqabala* 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.



ACTORSPEAK

HAPPY REPUBLIC DAY

Being an actor it's our responsibility to be aware what is happening in our society and spread awareness in society whenever possible. I keep on writing inspiring poems which will evoke patriotism in people towards the country. I believe in cleanliness and I always carry a small dustbin in my car. Whenever I am traveling, I put collect all the waste in it. I am celebrating Republic Day and Independence Day both since school days. I still remember every republic day in the morning we used to go for *prabhat feri* — all of us used to walk in the school area with our flag.

— Paritosh Tripathi

Being an actor I feel we are much responsible to spread awareness in our society. Because people follow us and it becomes easy to send a message through us. In our show *Taarak Mehta ka Oolta Chashmah* we always try to bring in important issues like save water, cleanliness, girl education and others. I believe in speaking up about anything that you feel is wrong.

— Neha Mehta

January 26 always brings back various memories of a time, when as children we used to dress up to be a part of the flag hoisting ceremony and actually realised the value that this day holds in India's history. Being a proud Indian, I have always had deep respect for our Indian culture and the values that have been inculcated in us over the years. However, I feel that we are still miles away from being the kind of nation that can make every Indian proud to be a citizen of India. As an Indian, I pledge to extend a hand towards the development of women and several orphaned children of our country in the smallest ways that I can. Via small measures, I pledge to bring about a change in the perception and mentality of today's society towards its women and how they can help our nation progress.

— Shubhangi Atre

Being patriotic is synonymous with celebrating the important milestones of the country and Republic Day is one such day, but let's not limit our patriotism to just this day. Today I pledge that as a responsible citizen I will stand up against any injustice that happens before me, be it the most trivial of matters. We need to aim at making India

the most amazing and beautiful nation that we all dream of. My fondest memories of this day were that of when we used to celebrate in school. We would dress in tricolour uniforms and put up performances filled with skits and dances.

— Sarika Bahrolia

Republic Day holds a special place in not only my heart but in the heart of every Indian. This is the historic day when our Indian constitution came into effect. As a kid, I got to know what the day is about, but as an adult is when I realized the true importance of this special day. Just like my show, I also want to spread the message of education and equality across the country.

— Meera Deosthale

For me, Republic Day is a reminder of equality. As a kid, we would participate in patriotic song competitions in school. I remember this one time when our class won. Although I am not a good singer, I remember singing with all my heart. Even today whenever I listen to a patriotic song, it fills my heart with pride. I wish to see a day when there is complete gender equality across the country.

— Akshith Sukhija

TELLYTALE



VEENA LESSONS FOR MANISHA

The recently launched mytho show *Jag Jaanani Maa Vaishno Devi - Kahani Mata Rani Ki* on Star Bharat is being well liked by the audience. In this show many secrets of Maa Vaishno Devi are revealed. How was the mother born? What is the purpose of her birth on earth? Why is she called Papanashini? Viewers are getting answers to all these questions with the help of this show. In the upcoming track, the answer to the most important question is going to be given to the audience, as why is Mata Vaishno Devi called Jyotnawali?

Vaishnavi meets the three *devis* and learns their knowledge. Meanwhile, Manisha Rawat, who is essaying the role of Maa Saraswati is learning *veena* for an upcoming track. The actress has shared her interest for the love of music and is really excited to play this role.

When spoken to her she said: "I feel privileged to play the role of Maa Saraswati who is known for so many things. And now that I got this opportunity to play *veena*, I am able to learn something new. In the upcoming track I will be teaching Vaishnavi to play *veena*. I thought to learn it by myself, at least the basics."

STORY OF KARTIK & PURNIMA

Star Bharat which always brings alive some of the most endearing stories is all set to bring back romance with their new fiction show *Kartik Purnima*. The show narrates the sweet love story of Kartik and Purnima. The show will explore the intertwined lives and worlds of two vivacious, fresh and diverse personalities — Kartik and Purnima. Actor Harsh Nagar is playing the protagonist and actress Kavita Ghai is playing his mother. Harsh is playing the role of a doctor for the first time. Recently, Harsh said he is emotionally connected to his both real and reel life mother.



Harsh shares: "My real mom and reel mom both are from South Delhi. So on the sets both Kavita and I connected really well and became each other's favorite. Both of her daughters are almost of my age as well as our Hindi accent is exactly the same. Kavita and I help each other during the preparation of the scene. Like every other mom she keeps on telling me to eat proper food and stop dieting."

Harsh further shares "We always spend quality time with each other because we are shooting most of the time together. She takes great care of me on the set, so I never feel that my mom is not here in Mumbai with me."

TUNE IN TO THE LION KINGDOM

Animal Planet has been dedicated to bringing to the fore incredible stories from the animal kingdom. Taking yet another step in this direction, starting January 27, at 9 pm, the channel is all set to premiere an incredible 10-part series *The Lion Kingdom*



which will take viewers at the forefront of India's battle with the deadly Canine Distemper Virus (CDV) which threatened to wipe out the last of the surviving asiatic lions in the world living in the wilds of the Gir National Park. Produced by film-maker Upma Bhatnagar, Executive Producer and Director, Optimum Television, The Lion Kingdom features renowned veterinary surgeon Steve Leonard as the series host.

This incredible series is the story of the asiatic lions' fight with destiny and their triumph over a disease that had wiped out over 1000 lions in one deadly sweep in the Serengeti National Park in Tanzania in the 1990s. These lions with their valiant fight for survival truly live up to their name — being referred to as India's pride. However, along with the indomitable spirits of glorious beasts, the relentless efforts of those working in the background — the forest department and the veterinarians is what truly helped turn this almost disaster into a story of hope.

PRATIBHA RANTA TO PLAY CHAHAT

Zee TV's next primetime offering *Qurban Hua* is an intense drama about two young, passionate individuals, caught in a crossfire of destiny and on a mission driven by the love and pride of their family. Despite being two completely different people hailing from starkly different backgrounds and cultures, Neel and Chahat are about to



sacrifice the single-most important and intimate relationship of life and tie the knot with each other, without a trace of love that forms the foundation of any marriage. While he is burning with the fire of revenge for his sister's death, she is single-mindedly determined to clear her *abbu's* name as she's convinced he's had no role to play in the death of Neel's sister. The question, then, is - What lengths will they go to for the love and pride of their family?

Zee TV has roped in debutant Pratibha Ranta, who is currently pursuing a graduation degree in film making, to play the role of Chahat. Chahat is an open-minded, compassionate girl, who wants to work for the benefit of the poor people. An ambitious person, Chahat wants to be a top doctor, just like her *abbu* and treat the underprivileged. In fact, she has more faith in humanity than in any religion. The 24-year-old also believes in action over discussion and though she is extremely beautiful, it is her intelligence that will grab everyone's attention. However, her world turns upside down when her father has to pack his bags and escape from the city after the blame for the death of Neel's sister begins to pose a threat to his life.

ROHIT SHETTY IS BACK WITH KKK 10

Disciplinarian Rohit Shetty is gearing up to experiment with the contestants fear in *Colors' Khatron Ke Khiladi Season 10* (KKK) this time in Bulgaria.

The theme is Daar Ki University, it's going to be the biggest institution where the contestants going to be students and Rohit Shetty will be their teacher. The contestants will be given different types of task to experiment with. The show will air in February end. The contestants who will be a part of the show are Karan Patel, Dharmesh, Shivin Narang, Balraj, Karishma Tanna, Ada Khan, Amruta Khanvilkar, Rani Chatterjee, RJ Malishka and Tejaswini Prakash.



World TV premiere of Saaho

All set to up the *josh* today is the biggest action blockbuster of the year *Saaho*. Directed by Sujeeth, *Saaho* showcases a power struggle amongst the crime lords to rule over the underworld. This action entertainer gives the audience an opportunity to see the *Bahubali* superstar Prabhas step away from his royal prince *avatar* to don the role of a swanky undercover agent. With a gripping storyline and hair-raising action sequences, this movie marks the debut of Prabhas in Bollywood opposite the stunning Shraddha Kapoor.

The movie also features Chunky Pandey, Neil Nitin Mukesh and Jackie Shroff in crucial roles. So, this Sunday, get ready to witness the ultimate battle between the underworld and police with the biggest action thriller of the year *Saaho* at 8 pm only on Zee Cinema.

The film ropes in some of the best names in the industry like Shankar-Ehsaan-Loy, Guru Randhawa, Tanishk



Bagchi and Badshah to create a fabulous jukebox for the movie. With songs such as *Psycho Saiyaan*, *Enni Soni*, *Bad Boy* and *Baby Won't You Tell Me*, the music album of *Saaho* went on to be a chartbuster.

Comprising of a catchy dance number like *Psycho Saiyaan*, to including *Enni Soni* which was labelled 'the love anthem of the year', to the beautiful diva Jacqueline Fernandez grooving to *Bad Boy*; the music album made sure listeners had the songs on loop.

Juliana Harkavy gets nostalgic

With the finale episode of *Arrow* airing on January 29, 2020, on Colors Infinity, the show that spawned the *Arrow* verse, gave us some of the most interesting twists in the last few episodes. However, one of the most surprising changes was for Dinah Drake aka Juliana Harkavy. In the recent episode, we learnt that she woke up in the future following Oliver's funeral in 2020 and that she discovered that Dinah Drake didn't exist in this new reality. The cliffhanger has kept us counting the days till the final episode.

Juliana Harkavy opened her heart out on how she felt on the first day of shoot for the final season. She reminisces: "I am always terrified on my first day of work, no matter how long I've been working on a show. That was the primary feeling I felt. And then, there was almost a sense of nostalgia. You want to make it special and you want to make it count because you know the show won't be there forever."

Juliana further expressed about the evolution of her character through the series when asked about her character Dinah's relationship with Zoe Ramirez, "I love their relationship, although I haven't seen how it progresses into season eight at this point. It's such a lovely relationship for Dinah, though."

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 is it 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 preciseness 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 all the time.

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 titleholder 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 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

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**

Rebic's sole goal helps AC Milan beat Brescia

AFP ■ Milan

Zlatan Ibrahimovic set up Ante Rebic to score the only goal as AC Milan beat Brescia 1-0 to claim a third consecutive Serie A win for the first time this season.

Ibrahimovic missed a chance in front of goal before the break but provided the cross after 71 minutes that allowed substitute Rebic to finish off his third goal in two games.

Milan have taken ten points in four games since Ibrahimovic's return to the club this month.

Stefano Pioli's side move up to sixth position into the Europa League berths and seven points adrift of the Champions League places.

"It wasn't a beautiful Milan, but a winner," said Pioli. "We can play better, but we had a great attitude, now we know how to suffer. We must continue like this."

Milan are on a run of four consecutive wins including the Italian Cup, and next play Torino on Tuesday for a place in the semi-finals.

"We're recovering," continued Pioli. "We're a completely different team now both on the pitch and in attitude."

"Ibra is an added value, both on and off the field. But the whole team has been good at turning things around after the violent fall in Bergamo (5-0 defeat to Atalanta)."

Italy forward Mario Balotelli was suspended for hosts Brescia against his former club.

Brescia had their chances with Sandro Tonali and Ernesto Torregrossa threatening Gianluigi Donnarumma in the Milan goal.

Ibrahimovic missed a chance five minutes before the break sending a Theo Hernandez cross wide on front of goal.

But the 38-year-old controlled a Hakan Calhanoglu pass sending through at an angle with Rebic, who came on 13 minutes earlier, pouncing to finish off amid confusion in front of goal.

The Croatian forward had already scored his first two goals for Milan last weekend against Udinese.

Samu Castillejo had a goal ruled out with seven minutes to go because of Ibrahimovic's offside position in the build-up with Hernandez clipping the crossbar.

Donnarumma dived to deny Emanuele Ndoj an equaliser as Brescia piled forward in search of the equaliser but they remain second from bottom of the league.

On Sunday, Juventus coach Maurizio Sarri returns to former club Napoli for the first time since being sacked in 2018, as Lazio and Roma prepare for a fiery derby clash.

Champions Juventus are four-points ahead of Inter Milan who host Cagliari. Last season's runner-up Napoli are in 11th position, 27 points behind the leaders.



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.

Pak thump B'desh for series win

AFP ■ LAHORE

Skipper Babar Azam and opener 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 unbeaten 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.



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

Anand beats Firouzja, jumps to joint sixth

PTI ■ 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. Anand started with the Nimzo Indian and faced the Samisch setup by the Iranian.

The middle game was double edged but Anand made most of it. Converting to a rook and opposite coloured Bishops endgame, Anand capitalised on his better pieces to tie down white's forces and in the end forcibly won a pawn.

For Firouzja, this was the third straight loss in the tournament after a brilliant start that saw him on the leaderboard around the half way mark.

"I was not very optimistic before the round," Anand said after the game, adding, "I felt that after the rest day he will get back in some sort of control, but he is very dangerous and aggressive."

With two rounds to go, Fabiano Caruana of the United States made a decisive stride forward for his maiden title here, crushing Vladislav Kovalev of Belarus to reach a very impressive eight points. The American now enjoys a full point lead over world champion Magnus Carlsen of Norway. Wesley So of the United States is



in sole third spot on 6.5 points, a half point clear of fourth-placed Jan-Krzysztof Duda of Poland and Jordan Van Foreest of Holland.

In the Challenger's section, Grandmaster David Anton Gujaro of Spain also moved ahead of the field, defeating Anton Smirnov of Australia.

India's Surya Shekhar Ganguly is in joint fourth spot on 6.5 points while Nihal Sarin is joint seventh on 5.5.

PRAGGU, GUKESH SHINE

GIBRALTAR: India's young guns R Praggnanandhaa and D Gukesh posted impressive wins in the fourth round of the Masters category in the 18th Gibraltar Chess festival here as Georgia's Ivan Cheperinov jumped into sole lead with an all-win record.

Praggnanandhaa, who suffered a shock loss to compatriot P V

Nandhidhaa in the opening round, has bounced back in style and on Friday won his fourth-round match against Russian Voldar Murzin, like him a teen prodigy, to take his tally to three points.

Gukesh put it across Dutch player Peter Lombaers in 36 moves to join Praggnanandhaa on three points.

Another Indian to shine was young GM Vaibhav Suri (ELO rating 2593), who held world No.7 Maxime Vachier-Lagrave (France, ELO rating 2770) to a creditable draw.

The top-seed Shakriar Mammedyarov (Azerbaijan) dropped half a point in his game against Leondro Krysa of Argentina.

The top-rated Indians in the event, B Adhiban and K Sasikiran had mixed luck. The former was forced to share the point with compatriot M R Lalith Babu while Sasikiran defeated Azerbaijan's Woman Grand Master Gunay Mammadzade in 41 moves.

There were also wins for Indians players SL Narayanan, S Ravi Teja and Sharul Gugare over Soumya Swaminathan.

Narayanan is among a bunch of 12 players in joint second with 3.5 points.

Cheperinov continued his superb start as he pushed his pawn to attack on the kingside and was rewarded when broke through on the 'h' file in his fourth round match against Maksim Chigaev of Russia in 30 moves.

He said it was the best start he could have hoped for and "the thing was that he was playing well with both colours."

Promising Indian junior Divya Deshmukh went down to defending champion in the women's event-Tan Zhongyi.



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

Haaland does iT 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**

Tottenham's Eriksen set for Inter Milan move

MILAN: Danish international Christian Eriksen is poised to complete a move from Premier League club Tottenham to Serie A side Inter Milan, according to reports in Italy.

Eriksen will have a medical in Milan early next week before signing a contract until 2024 worth 20 million euros (\$22 million) including bonuses, Sky Sports Italia and Gazzetta Dello Sport reported.

The final details have to be ironed out with the 27-year-old midfielder expected to be available to Jose Mourinho for Tottenham's FA Cup fourth round match Saturday at Southampton.

Eriksen joined the Premier League club in 2013 from Dutch side Ajax and has six months left on his contract.

Chinese-owned Inter Milan are pushing to return to the top of European football, having not won the league since Mourinho led them to an historic treble in 2010.

Eriksen helped Tottenham reach the Champions League final last year, scoring against Luciano Spalletti's Inter Milan in both group stage matches, as the Italians exited the tournament.

The Dane becomes Antonio Conte's third signing in January after defender Ashley Young from Manchester United, with midfielder Victor Moses arriving on loan from Chelsea. Last summer Inter signed Romelu Lukaku and Alexis Sanchez, the latter on loan, from Manchester United.

Ind women TT team out of Olympics contention

GONDOMAR: Indian women table tennis team's quest for a Tokyo Olympics berth ended on Saturday after losing to France 2-3 in a play-off match of the qualification tournament.

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.



A kabaddi match is being played during an event organised by ITC at Paarath Republic in Lucknow on Saturday

Mary Kom 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 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 medallist 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 Ganesh, 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 ■ AUCKLAND

Indian women begin NZ tour with 4-0 win

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.

India played with an intent to win after arriving here on Thursday for the



tour where they will play the hosts in four matches and Great Britain in one match. The visitors took the first half to shake off the starting blues with Rani fetching the opening goal in the third quarter.

India continued to build on their 1-0 lead by creating back-to-back PCs in the following minutes but could not convert.

Youngster Sharmila then doubled the lead in the third quarter and Rani stretched it to 3-0 when she scored her

second goal of the match in the fourth quarter. Namita Toppo then earned India's fourth goal.

"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 the match. "The last two quarters New Zealand created a lot of pressure and they pressed hard but we continued to remain positive with our attack."

Marijne said he will try out a few

things during the tour, including changing the players in the squad.

"Today we played with 16 players just like the Olympic Games and every match we will change the players. Whether they make the squad depends on these matches and how they cope under pressure," said the Dutchman. "We tried a few new things in the match today but we still need improvement and that's why we are here, to improve our game in every match."



पत्रांक सं०-337/एनटीपीसी/बघाई संदेश/2020

दिनांक-25.01.2020



मा. आशुतोष ठण्डन जी
नगर विकास मंत्री जी
उपप्रभु शासन लखनऊ

कार्यालय नगर पंचायत रुरा जनपद-कानपुर देहात

26 जनवरी 2020 (गणतंत्र दिवस) के राष्ट्रीय पर्व पर अपने नगरवासियों का हार्दिक अभिनंदन एवं 'हमारा प्रयास आपका सहयोग-नगर का सम्पूर्ण विकास' के लिए



राकेश कुमार सिंह
जिलाधिकारी
कानपुर देहात

अपील

1. स्वच्छ सर्वेक्षण 2020 के अंतर्गत अपने नगर को साफ सुथरा रखें।
2. भवन कर, जलमूल्य को समय से कार्यालय नगर पंचायत रुरा में जमा करें।
3. भवन निर्माण निकाय से नक्शा स्वीकृत कराने के उपरान्त ही प्रारम्भ करायें।
4. घरों से निकलने वाले कूड़े को इधर-उधर न फेंकें बल्कि निर्धारित स्थान पर रखे कूड़ेदानों में ही डालें।
5. स्वच्छ भारत मिशन के अंतर्गत शौच क्रिया हेतु व्यक्तिगत / सार्वजनिक / सामुदायिक शौचालय का नियमित प्रयोग करें। खुले में शौच कदापि न जायें। अन्यथा नियमानुसार दण्ड वसूले जाने की कार्यवाही की जायेगी।
6. प्रतिबंधित प्लास्टिक का उपयोग एवं जल का उपव्यय न करें।
7. जन्म-मृत्यु का पंजीकरण कार्यालय में समयान्तर्गत करायें।
8. मार्ग प्रकाश हेतु लगी लाईटों को किसी भी प्रकार से क्षति न पहुँचायें।
9. नगर में समुचित वृक्षारोपण कर सहयोग प्रदान करें।
10. निकाय की रोड़ों पर किसी भी प्रकार की भैंस, बकरी, भेड़ न बाँधें और न ही किसी प्रकार का अवैध अतिक्रमण करें।



स्वच्छ सर्वेक्षण 2020



वी० एन० सिंह
वरिष्ठ लिपिक
नगर पंचायत रुरा



पवन किशोर मौर्य
अधिसासी अधिकारी
नगर पंचायत रुरा



श्रीमती रुमा देवी
अध्यक्ष
नगर पंचायत रुरा

समस्त सभासदगण नगर पंचायत रुरा

India look to extend advantage at Eden Park

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 here on Sunday.

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 on Friday.

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.



Considering the conditions, Jadeja and Chahal had done a decent job on Friday, conceding 50 runs off 36 balls and taking a wicket each.

Additionally, Chahal and Kuldeep are yet to play together since the ODI World Cup ended. With the batting bearing a settled look, the team management

might be keen to take a punt on their reunion.

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.

It was a near perfect start of

the tour for the away team which chased down 204 with relative ease to go 1-0 up in the five-match series.

Ahead of the Indian team's departure, there was concern about constant shuffling, much like the ODI experimentation ahead of the 2019 World Cup. Iyer's form has put paid to all

that chatter. The batsman has figured in all of India's 12 T20s since September last year, averaging 34.14 in 11 innings with two half-centuries and strike-rate 154.19. With his match-winning temperament at Eden Park, Iyer has stitched down a spot in the batting line-up for good.

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. India had also won here in February 2019, albeit it was a three-match T20 series they had eventually lost 1-2.

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.

There is a school of thought in the hosts' camp that Williamson should open the batting in T20 cricket, thus taking advantage of the powerplay overs. Given the lightning start provided by openers Martin Guptill and Colin Munro, this seems infeasible for the next game, at least.

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

Both teams enjoyed a day off on Saturday in lieu of the tight schedule and sterner battles ahead.

Eden Park was only an estimated 60 per cent full on Friday despite New Zealand Cricket anticipating more gate collections owing to the Indian team's popularity.

It remains to be seen if the scheduled late-starts (7.50-8 pm local time) continues to have an impact on match attendances during this T20 series.

Khaleel Ahmed out of A tour



CHRISTCHURCH, Jan 25 (PTI) Left-arm pacer Khaleel Ahmed was on Saturday ruled out of India A's ongoing tour of New Zealand with a wrist injury.

"Khaleel Ahmed fractured the scaphoid bone in his left wrist during India A'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 A'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.

India A are on a tour of New Zealand for a three-match unofficial ODIs series and two four-day games. The unofficial ODI series is currently locked at 1-1 after India won the first match by five wickets before losing the next one by 29 runs. The series decider will be played here on Sunday.

Sodhi: We've to be more aggressive with the ball

AUCKLAND: Leg-spinner Ish Sodhi believes New Zealand need to be more aggressive with the ball against India's world class batting unit during the second T20 to make an immediate comeback in the five-match series.

India claimed a six-wicket win in the first T20 after chasing down 204 with relative ease to go 1-0 up in the five-match series. Sodhi feels the hosts didn't bowl many attacking spells to put enough pressure on the visitors.

"We put 200 on the board again. If we can look to be more aggressive with the ball that attitude will be a great learning from the first game. If we are going to go for runs or miss out on a couple opportunities for wickets, you only learn after you try it out," said Sodhi on Saturday.

"You have to see how the game is going on. But it differs from batsman to batsman and bowler to bowler. You have to discuss with the captain and the bowling group as well. Mitchell Santner and myself do that a lot. Last night he was in the outfield so I spoke a lot with Kane (Williamson). I bowled 2-3 overs' spell, and one of them was a defensive spell; the other was an attacking spell. So we have to bowl with the same attacking attitude throughout," he added. The spinner said it is difficult to create pressure on India, which boasts of some world class batsmen but New Zealand must find a way to make an immediate comeback in the second T20.

"They have five or six world class batsmen in their side and it will always be difficult to contain them at the best of times. Eden Park with its boundary size is a challenge as well," said Sodhi, who took 2 for 36 on Friday.

"Kane was good with the bowlers at end of the game and the thinking as a bowling group was that we have to take wickets. 45 from 4 overs would be decent here but it won't be on many other grounds. So we have to make the aggressive shift for the next game but we did really good with 200 runs on the board. We just need to defend it better."

Sodhi, who will be a crucial part of the New Zealand attack again, also spoke about the possibility of the Eden Park pitch slowing down for the game on Sunday.

"You have to look at whether wicket gets better. We found it was holding on Friday night, cross-seamers were holding a bit and the ball was spinning a bit too," he said.

"We will have to see if it gets slower and if there is dew factor like there was under the lights (on Friday). It's just one of those grounds where good and bad balls go for sixes, and it can be quite hard to contain at times."

Talking about the challenge of playing at Eden Park, Sodhi said: "We don't play a lot of cricket there but it's unique. Boundaries are not favouring any one side, same for both sides, and we have been successful in the past there."

We will not travel to India for T20 WC if they won't come for Asia Cup: PCB

KARACHI: PCB Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Wasim Khan on Saturday said they will not send their team to India for the 2021 T20 World Cup if the BCCI won't send its team to Pakistan for the Asia Cup T20 in September this year.

"If India doesn't come to Pakistan for the Asia Cup, we would also refuse participation in the 2021 T20 World Cup there," Khan told reporters in Lahore.

The senior Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) official dismissed reports that PCB had given up Asia Cup hosting rights to BCB in exchange for Bangladesh sending its team to Pakistan.

"The hosting rights have been given to us by the Asian Cricket Council (ACC) and we can't just hand them over to anyone. We don't have that authority," he said.

Khan, however, conceded that due to issues with India currently two venues are being considered for hosting the Asia Cup. India has not toured Pakistan since 2008 while it has also not played a full Test bilateral series with Pakistan since 2007 due to strained political and diplomatic relations. Pakistan did visit India in 2012 to play a short limited-overs series. Cricket experts say the main hurdle to Pakistan hosting the Asia Cup will be whether India agrees to play in the country due to security issues.

Khan also confirmed that a security delegation from Cricket South Africa would be visiting Pakistan in February to take stock of the security situation as Pakistan has invited the Proteas for a three-match T20 series in Pakistan in March-April after the Pakistan Super League.

Referring to the visit of ICC Chief Executive to Islamabad and Lahore earlier this week, Khan said PCB would try to get hosting rights of at least three ICC events between 2023 and 2031.

He also said that Marylebone Cricket Club would be sending its team to Lahore to play four matches and the team would include prominent players such as Moeen Ali, Kumar Sangakara and Ravi Bopara.

सबका साथ-सबका विकास-सबका विश्वास

71^{वें} गणतंत्र दिवस

की हार्दिक शुभकामनाएं

“हमारा संविधान देश के सभी नागरिकों को बिना किसी भेद-भाव के समान अवसर प्रदान करता है। संविधान की इसी मूल भावना के अनुरूप यशस्वी प्रधानमंत्री श्री नरेन्द्र मोदी 'सबका साथ-सबका विकास-सबका विश्वास' को केन्द्र में रखकर 130 करोड़ देशवासियों के कल्याण के लिए कार्य कर रहे हैं।”

—योगी आदित्यनाथ
मुख्यमंत्री, उत्तर प्रदेश

गंगा यात्रा से जुड़ें, निर्मल और अविदल गंगा बनाने में भागीदार बनें

गंगा यात्रा 27-31 जनवरी, 2020

मुख्यमंत्री जन आरोग्य स्वास्थ्य मेला सभी प्राथमिक स्वास्थ्य केन्द्रों पर प्रत्येक रविवार 2 फरवरी, 2020 से

defexpo India The Emerging Defence Manufacturing Hub DEFEXPO 20 INDIA 5-8 फरवरी, 2020

लखनऊ में पहली बार भारत के रक्षा शौर्य का अनुभव करें

सूचना एवं जनसम्पर्क विभाग, उत्तर प्रदेश

उच्च गुणवत्ता वाले हेलमेट का ही उपयोग करें।

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...

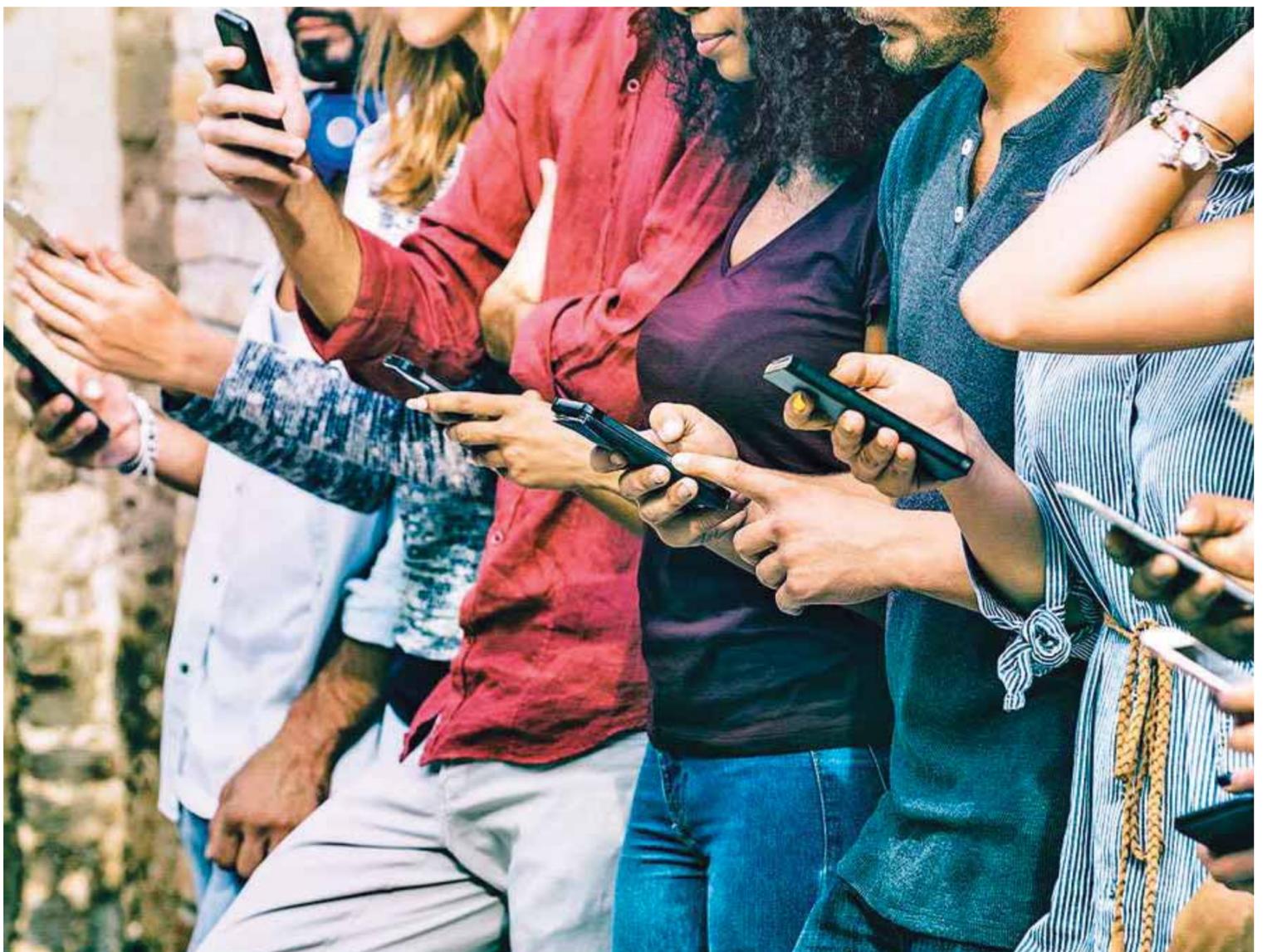
When I tell this childhood story of mine to my son, after listening to me with rapt attention, he tells me that there are technical flaws in my story. What? Technical flaws! I find his expression amusing, he finds it even more. He asks me: 'Why were you listening to the radio and not streaming live cricket 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.

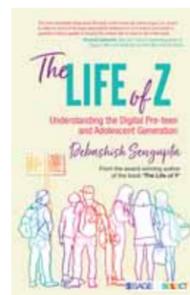
While writing the book 'The Life of Z: Understanding Digital Pre-Teen and Adolescent Generation' I had the opportunity of talking to countless zeners, their parents, teachers, tutors, child counsellors, child psychologists, pediatricians and I came across such contrasting stories. There are a group of 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.

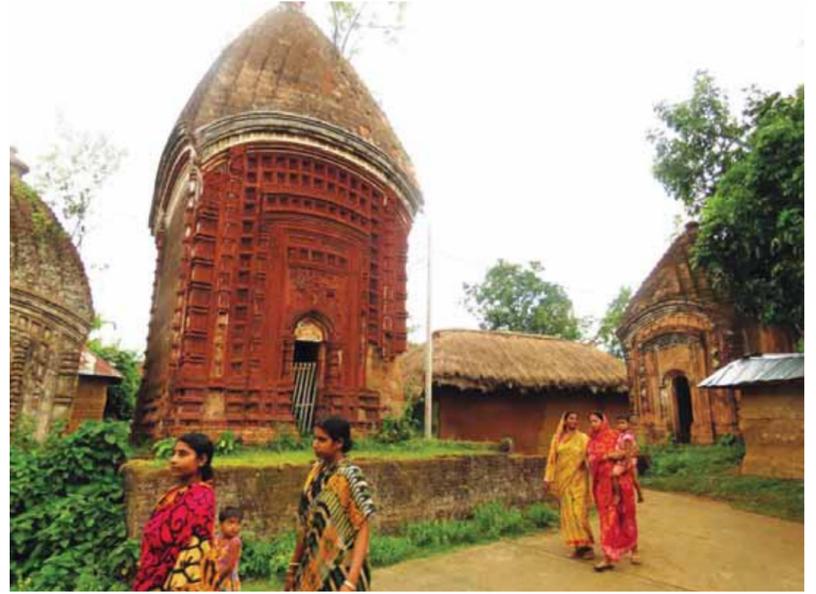
During his recent visit to the pediatric ophthalmologist, the doctor told him to reduce exposure to digital devices as it is not good for his eyes. He hardly knows what it is to write with a pencil or a pen as he uses stylus instead. He remembers a physician who visited his school for medical check-up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



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 room 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 thing 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 fire-brand 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 IBOe) 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 IBOe 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.

Whatsoever 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 SAIKIA

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

Madhu Kotiya is a tarot card reader, spiritual healer, and Founder, MShezaim Institute of Tarot and Divination. Contact details: madhu@indiatarot.com, www.indiatarot.com, M: 9873283331

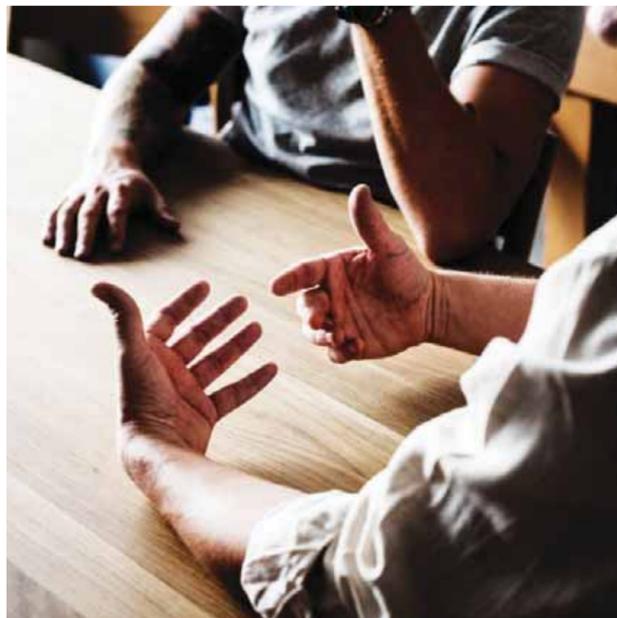


ASTROTURF
BHARAT BHUSHAN PADMADEO

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 posited 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