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FEDERER, SERENA START WITH WIN 11 SPORT

Nadda takes up BJP reins

New chief first task is to galvanise party in Delhi polls next month

DEEPAK K UPRETI ■ NEW DELHI

BJP working president Jagat Prakash Nadda on Monday took over the reins of the party from Amit Shah and is faced with several tough electoral and organisational challenges in the days ahead.

Nadda's first task will be to galvanise the party to take on Kejriwal-led AAP Government in the next month's Delhi Assembly polls. The AAP is seen as a clear favourite and Nadda would require all his skills to make it an even contest. His other challenges are Assembly elections of Bihar, West Bengal, Assam, Kerala and Tamil Nadu, all scheduled within one year or so.

The reverses faced by the party in Jharkhand and loss of power in a big State, like Maharashtra, have made Nadda's task all the more difficult. Nadda would be required to revamp party organisation in several States and also step up the BJP's pro-CAA (Citizenship Amendment Act) campaign across the country.

Enjoying the confidence of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Shah, the new head of the BJP is largely expected to continue with the course it took under Shah with Modi laying out the broader agenda.

Considered an affable and accessible politician, Nadda strikes good rapport with all top party leaders and is seen as seasoned organisation man.



Union Home Minister Amit Shah with newly elected BJP national president JP Nadda at BJP headquarters in New Delhi on Monday. Veteran party leader LK Advani and Prime Minister Narendra Modi are also seen

Nadda, with parental roots in Bihar, was associated with the Akhil Bharatiya Vidyarthi Parishad (ABVP) from his college days before joining the youth wing of the BJP and rising through its ranks.

Nadda has also served as a Minister in the BJP Governments in Himachal

Pradesh, his home State, and at the Centre. He has also been in charge of his party's campaigns in a number of States, including in Uttar Pradesh, during the 2019 Lok Sabha elections.

Nadda was unanimously elected as BJP president in party headquarters here at a function in the presence of

Shah and all top Central leaders, Ministers and Chief Ministers of the BJP-ruled States. The PM, who later joined party leaders in felicitating Nadda, said he is sure that the party will scale new heights during his presidency. The PM also praised Shah for his contribution, describing

him as "an outstanding karyakarta (worker)"

"I do not think words can do justice to the rich contribution of Shah as the BJP president. During his presidency, the BJP got opportunities to serve in several parts of India," Modi said in a series of tweets.

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SAD won't contest polls in Delhi

Cites differences with BJP on CAA, NRC; offered less seats: Sources

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

Citing differences on Citizenship Amendment Act (CAA) and National Register of Citizen (NRC), BJP's old ally Shiromani Akali Dal (SAD) Badal, on Monday announced that the party will not contest Delhi Assembly polls. However, well placed sources in the BJP said that the SAD wanted to contest elections on six seats whereas they were offered three seats.

SAD was also not very keen to contest on BJP's 'lotus symbol' as it wanted to contest on its own party symbol of 'weighing scale'. BJP leaders tried to convince SAD leadership to let its candidate contest on its symbol as they have won while going with this symbol during past elections. SAD president was not very keen to forego his party's identity and decided not to field its candidates on the seats being offered by the BJP.

Importantly, the SAD will keep its alliance with the BJP



intact and remain in the National Democratic Alliance (NDA).

Incidentally, SAD leader Manjinder Singh Sirsa, the sitting MLA from Rajouri Garden Assembly constituency who had won on BJP symbol said, "SAD and BJP have an old relationship but SAD's stand has been quite clear on CAA and NRC. The SAD president has welcomed the CAA which was supposed to include people from all religions but we never demanded that any one religion should be excluded from the list."

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CAPSULE

IMF CUTS INDIA'S GROWTH FORECAST TO 4.8%

Davos: The IMF on Monday lowered India's economic growth estimate for the current fiscal to 4.8 per cent and listed the country's much lower-than-expected GDP numbers as the single biggest drag on its global growth forecast for 2 years. **P10**

PM: PARTIES REJECTED BY PEOPLE SPREADING LIES

New Delhi: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Monday hit out at Opposition parties, saying those rejected by people in elections have been left with few weapons and were spreading confusion and lies. Without naming his rivals, Modi also targeted the "echo system" backing them.

UPSC ASPIRANT ATTEMPTS SUICIDE AT METRO STN

New Delhi: A young civil services aspirant, who had failed UPSC preliminary examination last year, on Monday allegedly attempted suicide by jumping in front of a moving train at a Delhi Metro station, police said.

SARS-LIKE VIRUS SPREADS IN CHINA

Beijing: A mysterious SARS-like virus has spread around China authorities said, fuelling fears of a major outbreak as millions begin travelling for the Lunar New Year in humanity's biggest migration.

Judicial panel formed to probe Madanwada ambush

STAFF REPORTER ■ RAIPUR

Chhattisgarh Government has constituted a single-member judicial panel to probe the 2009 Naxal attack in Rajnandgaon district in which 29 police personnel including a superintendent of police, were martyred.

Notably, the then Rajnandgaon Superintendent of Police (SP) Vinod Kumar Choubey was among the martyred in three separate strikes by Naxals in Madanwada and nearby areas on July 12, 2019.

Official sources informed that the commission formed is to be chaired by Justice Shambhunath Shrivastava (Retired Judge of the Allahabad High Court) to probe into various significant points "which are of public importance and clear apprehensions pertaining over it despite after 10 years of the incident". The panel has to submit its report to the government within the timeframe of 6 months, sources informed.

The enquiry will be focused on 11 points, including the cir-

The then Rajnandgaon Superintendent of Police (SP) Vinod Kumar Choubey was among the martyred in three separate strikes by Naxals in Madanwada and nearby areas on July 12, 2019

cumstances leading to the incidents near Madanwada, Mahaka hillock, Karekatta and Korkatti villages under the Manpur police station area. It would also probe the circumstances because of which even Superintendent of Police was also forced to lead the front after the official and forces were trapped in the ambush.

The enquiry would also be done on the circumstances prior to the incidents, during the incidents and issues after the incidents which have close relation to the incident.

It will try to find out whether the incidents could have been averted and whether all Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) and security directives were followed.

Brajesh, 18 convicted in Bihar's shelter home case

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

A Delhi court Monday convicted key accused Brajesh Thakur and 18 others for sexually assaulting several girls in a shelter home run by him in Muzaffarpur, Bihar.

Additional Sessions Judge Saurabh Kulshreshtha convicted Thakur, who once unsuccessfully contested assembly polls on Bihar People's Party (BPP) ticket, for several offences including the aggravated penetrative sexual assault under section 6 of Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act, and offences of rape and gang rape under the Indian Penal code (IPC).

In its bulky judgement running into 1,546 pages, the court also convicted Thakur for the offences under sections 120-B (criminal conspiracy), 324 (causing hurt by dangerous weapons or means), 323 (voluntarily causing hurt) and abetment under IPC, section 21 (failure to report commission of an offence) of the POCSO Act section 75 (cruelty to child) of Juvenile Justice Act.

Continued on Page 4

Apex court junks Nirbhaya convict's juvenility excuse

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Monday dismissed the plea of Pawan Kumar Gupta, a death row convict in the Nirbhaya gang rape and murder case, to be declared a juvenile at the time of the commission of offence.

A bench comprising justices R Banumathi, Ashok Bushan and A S Bopanna said there was no ground to interfere with the Delhi High court order that rejected Pawan's plea. The trial court had also rejected Pawan's claim of being a juvenile.

Advocate A P Singh, appearing for Pawan, said as per his school leaving certificate he was a minor at the time of the offence and none of the courts, including trial court and High Court, ever considered his documents.

But, solicitor general Tushar Mehta, appearing for Delhi police, said that his claim of juvenility was considered at each and every judicial forum and it will be a travesty of justice if the convict is allowed to raise the claim of juvenility repeatedly and at this point of time.



He said the convict was 19 years old at the time of offence and there is a certified copy of his birth certificate as well as school leaving certificate which was taken on record by each and every judicial forum. Pawan had moved the apex court on Friday. He had also sought a direction restraining

the authorities from executing the death penalty, scheduled for February 1.

A Delhi court on Friday issued fresh death warrants for February 1 against the four — Vinay Sharma (26), Akshay Kumar Singh (31), Mukesh Kumar Singh (32) and Pawan (25) — in the case.



STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

AP national convener and Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal, who missed his nomination due to the delay in rally, will file it on Tuesday.

Kejriwal said he will file his nomination on Tuesday. "I was supposed to file my nomination today but the office closes at 3 pm. I was asked to go in between and file the nomination but I said how can I leave people at the road show and go? I will go to file nomination tomorrow with my family," he said.

Thousands of AAP supporters gathered in Central Delhi on Monday to take part in Kejriwal's mega roadshow called 'Walk With Kejriwal' which was to be followed by him filing his nomination but was postponed till Tuesday owing to the delay in the rally.

The rally started at Valmiki Mandir near RK Ashram Marg metro station to the Hanuman Mandir near Connaught Place traversing around 2.2 kilometres in over two hours and dancing to the tunes of the party's anthem - 'Acche Beete Paanch Saal, Lage Raho Kejriwal'.

Climate change to impact India's GDP, reveals report

RAJESH KUMAR ■ NEW DELHI

Climate change hazards could impact India's Gross Domestic Products (GDP) in a "non-linear" way by 2030, a McKinsey Global Institute report has maintained. Extreme heat wave and humid conditions could potentially cause a reduction in the GDP between 2.5 and 4.5 per cent, the report stated as it highlighted the unrecognised non-linear aspects of climate change.

The report attributed the GDP reduction to lethal heat wave that would drastically bring down working hours and lead to decline in labour productivity by as much as 15 per cent during days by 2030. The report further estimated by 2050, both the intensity and exposure to lethal

heat waves, as well as the impact on outdoor work could continue to increase in a non-linear way.

"The number of people living in areas with some likelihood of experiencing a lethal heat wave could rise from zero today to 250 million to 360 million by 2030, with a 9 per cent annual probability of occurring, and to 700 million to 1.2 billion by 2050 with a 14 per cent annual probability of occurring (under an RCP (Representative Concentration Pathway) 8.5 scenario and not factoring in air conditioner penetration). Knock-on impacts from climate hazards could affect employment, incomes, and connected sectors," the report stated.

The report warns that societies and systems most at risk



are close to physical and biological thresholds. "Once thresholds are breached, impacts could be non-linear," it stated.

The report estimates that addressing some of the risk of lethal heat waves by 2030, using air conditioning, could cost up to \$110 billion. "India

will need to adapt through capacity and knowledge building, investment in adaptive technology and infrastructure, and supporting the economy's

transition away from outdoor work," the report stated.

The report finds that all 105 countries examined could experience an increase in at least one type of risk to their stock of human, physical and natural capital by 2030. The share of annual outdoor working hours lost due to extreme heat and humidity in exposed regions would double from 10 per cent today to 15 to 20 per cent by 2050.

According to the India Meteorological Department (IMD), July 2019 was the hottest July ever in recorded Indian meteorological history and 65.12 per cent of India's population was exposed to temperatures of over 40 deg C between May and June, 2019, the most widespread over four years. In 2016, 59.32 per cent

of India's population faced a heat wave, the number rose to 61.4 per cent in 2017 and fell to 52.94 per cent in 2018. "Global temperature records were broken during the summer of 2019, with the July temperature 1.2 deg C above the pre-industrial era," it said.

A study by Indian Institute of Technology-Gandhinagar says India will see a four-fold rise in heat waves if global temperature rise is restricted to 1.5 degree Celsius by the turn of this century. "If the world fails to contain global temperature rise, India could see an eight-fold rise in heat waves," it said.

The Lancet report 2019 has stated 153 billion hours of labour were lost globally in 2017 due to heat, an increase of 62 billion hours relative to year 2000. Between 2000 and

2017, the report says, labour hours lost in agriculture rose from about 40,000 million hours in 2000 to about 60,000 million hours in 2017. "Similar trends, although of smaller magnitude, affect the industrial and service sectors, where the effect of climatic conditions is reduced due to less physically strenuous work condition," it states.

"Overall, India lost nearly 75,000 million hours of labour in 2017, relative to about 43,000 million hours in 2000, an increase of over 30,000 million hours over two decades. For a developing economy like India, this represents a substantial impact on individual, household and national budgets, necessitating urgent national and regional adaptation plans," the report said.

PM interacts with students at 'Pariksha Pe Charcha'

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

A technology-free room in the house and keeping oneself away from gadgets for some time everyday were the two big takeaways for the students from Prime Minister Narendra Modi's 'Pariksha Pe Charcha' on Monday.

Modi used examples from cricket to the Chandrayaan 2 mission besides experiences of his personal life to reach out to the students, teachers and parents on a range of issues, including exam stress and time management.

Through the third edition of the programme in the national Capital, while Modi asked the examinees not to get demotivated by temporary setbacks, he also urged over 10 crore audiences across 28 countries not to become slaves of technology.

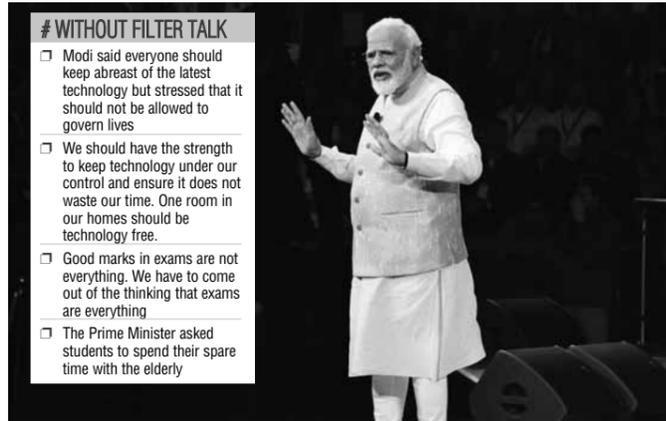
smart phones, computers and televisions daily for some time besides a technology-free room.

"Good marks in exams are not everything. We have to come out of the thinking that exams are everything," Modi said.

In the event organised by HRD Ministry for which preparations went on for a month, was telecast and streamed live, Modi said everyone should keep abreast of the latest technology but stressed that it should not be allowed to govern lives.

"Technological trends are changing quickly. It is essential to stay updated with these trends. Fear of technology is not good. Technology is a friend. Mere knowledge of technology isn't enough. Its application is as important," he said.

"We should have the strength to keep technology under our control and ensure it does not waste our time. One room in our homes should be technology free. Whoever enters will not carry any gad-



Prime Minister Narendra Modi speaks during an interactive session — 'Pariksha Par Charcha 2020' with school and college students at Talkatora Stadium in New Delhi

gets," he said. The Prime Minister asked students to spend their spare time with the elderly.

The Prime Minister appealed to students to not be

WITHOUT FILTER TALK

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- We should have the strength to keep technology under our control and ensure it does not waste our time. One room in our homes should be technology free.
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demotivated if they face temporary setbacks and take failures in their stride. "We can add enthusiasm to every aspect of life. A temporary setback doesn't mean success is not

waiting. In fact, a setback may mean the best is yet to come. Motivation, demotivation are very common. Everyone goes through these feelings," he said. "In this regard, I can never

forget my visit to ISRO during Chandrayaan and the time spent with our hardworking scientists. I was told I shouldn't attend Chandrayaan landing as there was no guarantee of success but I needed to be there," he added, recalling the failed landing of the Chandrayaan-2 mission's Vikram lander.

The PM sought to speak to the students in their own language and said his conversations with them will be "hashtag without filter".

During the freewheeling course, the PM also asked students to remember the India-Australia test series in 2001 to emphasise his message about positive thinking. "Our cricket team was facing setbacks. The mood was not very good. But in those moments can we ever forget what Rahul Dravid and V V S Laxman did? They turned the match around. Similarly, who can forget Anil Kumble bowling with an injury. This is the power of motivation and positive thinking," he said to the much inter-

est of the youngsters at the jam-packed Talkatora Stadium.

The Prime Minister also highlighted the importance of taking on extra-curricular activities and said there is a growing tendency among parents to push their children into activities considered "glamorous" which they can discuss in their conversations with their friends. "Parents should instead take time out to find out what their children want to do," he said.

Asserting that children should be "pursued not pressured into studies", he recommended that students read his book "Exam Warriors" to get over the stress of appearing for exams. He urged students to be confident about their own preparation.

Students who got to ask questions to the Prime Minister were short-listed on the basis of essays submitted on five subjects — Gratitude is Great, Your Future Depends on Your Aspirations, Examining Exams, Our Duties, Your Take, and Balance is Beneficial.

Centre rejigs senior officials, appoints 31 at joint secy level

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Centre on Monday approved a major bureaucratic reshuffle posting 31 officers as joint secretaries including Rajeev Singh Thakur and Shantanu in the newly-created department of military affairs.

Thakur, a 1995 batch IAS officer of Rajasthan cadre, will have a tenure till December 3, 2022. Shantanu, a 1997 batch Tripura cadre IAS officer, has been appointed to the post till March 27, 2024, an order issued by the personnel ministry said.

The Government had last month created the department of military affairs, which is headed by Chief of Defence Staff (CDS) Gen Bipin Rawat.

Odisha cadre IAS officer Vishal Gagan will be joint secretary, department of defence for a tenure of five years, it said.

Ashutosh Agnihotri has been appointed joint secretary in home ministry. Jammu and Kashmir cadre IAS officer Ashok Kumar Parmar will be advisor, inter-state council secretariat under the Home Ministry.

Bharat H Khara has been appointed joint secretary in Cabinet Secretariat. Vimalendra Anand Patwardhan, an officer of Indian Audit and Accounts Service, has been named as joint secretary and financial adviser in ministry of civil aviation, and IAS officer Nagaraju Maddirala will be joint secretary in the coal ministry.

S Suresh Kumar and Puneet Agarwal have been appointed as joint secretaries in department of commerce and department of defence production respectively.

Vineet Mathur, a 1994 batch officer of Indian Postal Service, will be JS, department of consumer affairs and Indian Forest Service (IFoS) officer Sanjukta Mudgal has been appointed as joint secretary in culture ministry.

IAS officer Tanmay Kumar has been appointed joint secretary in the power ministry. Madhya Pradesh cadre IAS officer Hari Ranjan Rao will be joint secretary, department of telecommunications for five years.

IN A FIRST AT R-DAY PARADE Women CRPF bikers to display daredevilry

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

Women daredevilry will be on full display on Rajpath this Republic Day, as an all-women bikers' contingent of the CRPF will make its debut and showcase its nail-biting stunts.

The 65-member team of women will display its acrobatic skills on 350 cc Royal Enfield Bullet motorcycles towards the end of the over 90-minute-long parade.

It will be the first time that the women bikers will perform in the Republic Day parade. This squad was raised in 2014 to involve women in the entire spectrum of roles performed by the Force.

The contingent will be led by Inspector Seema Nag, who is



deployed with the Rapid Action Force (RAF), a special anti-riots combat unit of the CRPF.

The Central Reserve Police Force is the world's largest paramilitary force with about 3.25 lakh personnel in its ranks.

The members of the squad have been specially chosen from various combat units of the Force and are in the age group of 25 to 30, officials said. This contingent had earlier

performed at the birth anniversary celebrations of country's first Home Minister Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel on October 31 last year at Kevadia in Gujarat, an event that saw Prime Minister Narendra Modi in attendance.

In 1986, the CRPF had raised the first armed women's battalion in the Asia region. Presently, the CRPF has six Mahila Battalions (6,000 personnel).

The all-women bikers contingent is slated to perform as many as nine acts of daring bike riding and conclude by forming a human pyramid on multiple motorcycles and is expected to fly the tricolor and the CRPF flag on the top.

At the 2018 Republic Day parade, a women bikers contingent of the Border Security Force (BSF) had debuted on the occasion that year.

In 2015, women marching contingents of Army, Navy and Air Force had debuted in the national parade. According to tradition, the BSF and the Army's bike-borne daredevils end the Republic Day parade every alternate year riding their roaring bikes. This year, the opportunity has been given to the CRPF women personnel, officials said.

Yechury slams Govt on economy slowdown

Says it not just 'mismanagement' but 'destruction of lives'

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Citing slowdown in economy, CPI(M) general secretary Sitaram Yechury on Monday slammed the Government saying this was not just "mismanagement" but "destruction of lives". Reacting to reports that the Government's tax collection is likely to fall short of its estimate by Rs 2.5 lakh crore or 1.2 per cent of GDP in 2019-20, Yechury said that the Centre will be made accountable.

"This is not mere mismanagement of the economy. It is the destruction of lives and livelihoods of millions of Indians, while Modi's rich cronies continue to benefit and fund the BJP. The people on the streets have taken note, accountability will be fixed," he tweeted.

Quoting an Oxfam study which said that India's richest one per cent hold more than four-times the wealth held by 953 million people who make up for the bottom 70 per cent of the country's population, while the total wealth of all Indian billionaires is more than the full-year budget, Yechury said that this is the reason

Prime Minister Narendra Modi doesn't want people to know who funds the BJP.

"The whole electoral bond scheme is opaque and points to a collusion between the BJP and those who have become richer as a majority of Indians become poorer," he claimed.

POLNET 2.0 armed with multi-media facility launched

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Union Minister of State for Home Nityanand Rai on Monday inaugurated revamped police communication services — POLNET 2.0. The new platform is armed with a robust multi-media facility and is a captive satellite-based network that provides video, audio and data connectivity across the country,

especially in times of disasters when regular communication either gets jammed or crashes. "The operationalisation of POLNET 2.0 is a big achievement for the country and the DCPW is to be complimented for rendering this task. This system will work in any weather," Rai said while launching the facility at Vigyan Bhawan here.

The Directorate of Coordination Police Wireless (DCPW) that operates POLNET or the police network services in the country has brought out an enhanced communication platform for police and security forces to communicate better during law and order problems and disasters, including linkup from remote border and coastal areas. The DCPW was set up in 1946 and it was placed under the

Ministry of Home Affairs in 1950 with the primary mandate of coordination between state and central police and security agencies for radio communication and frequency allocation. It has been operating POLNET since 2006.

The new platform is named POLNET 2.0 and for the first time it will provide video-conferencing facility to four entities

sitting at different locations in the country with Internet-enabled multimedia services,

a senior official said. From its control room in Delhi, it can host 40 people talking at one point of time, the official added. POLNET 2.0 will also have a phone calling facility for personnel of police and paramilitary forces deployed in remote areas to talk to their families.

Modi extracts wealth from poor, gives it to capitalist friend: Rahul

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Congress leader Rahul Gandhi on Monday alleged that Prime Minister Narendra Modi extracts wealth from India's poor and gives it to his "crony capitalist friends" and the big power brokers he is dependent on.

Rahul Gandhi's attack on the prime minister came over an Oxfam report which claimed that India's richest 1 per cent hold more than four-times the wealth held by 953 million people who make up for the bottom 70 per cent of the country's population.

"Modi extracts wealth from India's poor and gives it to his crony capitalist friends & the big power brokers he's dependent on. 1% of India's super rich, now own 4 times more wealth than 1 billion of India's

poor," the former Congress president said in a tweet.

The total wealth of all Indian billionaires is more than the full-year budget, said the study titled "Time to Care" which was tagged by Rahul Gandhi. Oxfam also said the world's 2,153 billionaires have more wealth than the 4.6 billion people who make up 60 per cent of the planet's population.

The Gandhi scion has often used the term 'crony capitalism' to attack Modi.

He first used the term post demonetization when he alleged that Prime Minister's demonetisation decision was a "huge scam" and its objective was to rob from the common people of India to benefit his crony capitalist friends. He again used the same terminology during the Rafale scam controversy.

Doctors want standardised pharma marketing

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

Amid the controversy over 'bribing' medical professionals, the Alliance of Doctors for Ethical Healthcare (ADEH), a network of doctors from across the country has demanded that the Uniform Code of Pharmaceutical Marketing Practices (UCPMP) framed five years ago be made mandatory.

"Presently, even after five years the code remains voluntary. This is despite the fact that several medical organisations have demanded this repeatedly from the Government. The global experience also shows that voluntary code does not work," said Dr GS Grewal, one of the ADEH members and former president- Punjab Medical



Council, Ludhiana.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi, as published in a section of the media has warned pharmaceutical companies not to indulge in unethical practices and stop giving freebies to the doctors with a purpose to procure business. However, that any such deliberations occurred in the meeting with the Prime Minister has been

denied by the pharmaceutical companies, said Dr Grewal.

He alleged that the companies spend crores of rupees through associations by sponsoring the medical conferences. "They spend huge amount on travel, accommodation and other expenditures on the doctors for lavish arrangements of the conferences."

As per the clause 7.2 of the UCPMP "companies or their associations/representatives shall not extend any hospitality like hotel accommodation to healthcare practitioners and their family members under any pretext."

The implied meaning of this is that even extending benefits to the doctors through associations is unethical. But this is being flouted with impunity, alleged Dr Arun Mitra, ENT specialist and former Chairperson, Ethics Committee of the PMC, Ludhiana.

It is also equally important that the any freebies from the pharmaceutical companies be made taxable. These were taxable earlier but the decision was reversed later by the Pune Bench of the Income Tax Appellate Tribunal, said the doctor.

Study reveals Sepsis linked to 1-in-5 deaths worldwide

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

Though preventable and treatable, sepsis — a life threatening complication of an infection — claimed about 11 million lives worldwide in 2017, almost twice as high as previously estimated.

According to a study published in the latest edition of The Lancet, among the victims are a disproportionately high number of children in poor areas. Sepsis is caused by the body's defense system (immune system) working overtime to fight infection. The large number of chemicals released into the blood during

this process triggers widespread inflammation.

Blood clotting during sepsis reduces blood flow to limbs and internal organs.

This deprives them of nutrients and oxygen. In severe cases, one or more organs may fail.

India too is facing tremendous sepsis burden. At least, 34 per cent of sepsis patients died in the intensive care unit (ICU) in 2016, as per another study.

The Lancet study, which is led by researchers at the University of Pittsburgh and University of Washington schools of medicine, revealed 48.9 million global cases of

sepsis in 2017 and 11 million deaths, representing 1 in 5 deaths worldwide.

The large majority of sepsis cases - 85 per cent in 2017 - occurred in low- or middle-income countries, higher among females than males. By age, the incidence of sepsis peaks in early childhood, with more than 40 per cent of all cases occurring in children under 5.

"I've worked in rural Uganda, and sepsis is what we saw every single day. Watching a baby die of a disease that could have been prevented with basic public health measures really sticks with you," said lead author Kristina E



Rudd, assistant professor in Pitt's Department of Critical Care Medicine.

For their analysis, Rudd and colleagues leveraged the Global Burden of Disease Study, a comprehensive epidemiological analysis coordinated by the Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation (IHME) at the University of Washington School of Medicine.

The study findings are unprecedented as they represent mortality both in and out of the hospital.

"We are alarmed to find sepsis deaths are much higher than previously estimated, especially as the condition is

both preventable and treatable," said senior author Mohsen Naghavi, professor of health metrics sciences at IHME at the University of Washington School of Medicine. "We need renewed focus on sepsis prevention among newborns and on tackling antimicrobial resistance, an important driver of the condition."

The study authors analyzed annual sepsis incidence and mortality trends from 1990 through 2017 and found rates are improving.

In 1990, there were an estimated 60.2 million sepsis cases and 15.7 million deaths; by 2017, incidence had

INSHORT

ED ARRESTS NRI BUSINESSMAN C C THAMPI
New Delhi: The ED has arrested NRI businessman C C Thampi, being probed for alleged forex violations of over ₹1,000 crore and other charges, under the anti-money laundering law. The central agency has been probing Thampi in a case of purchase of property in Kerala in alleged contravention of the Foreign Exchange Management Act (FEMA). A show cause notice of over Rs 1,000 crore was slapped by the ED against him in 2017.

SONIA MOURNS DEMISE OF SHAMSHER SURJEWALA
New Delhi: Congress president Sonia Gandhi on Monday condoled the demise of veteran party leader from Haryana Shamsheer Singh Surjewala, father of party's chief spokesperson Randeep Singh Surjewala. In her condolence letter to Vidya, the wife of Surjewala, Sonia said the departed leader's legacy will continue to guide those dedicated to serving their communities. Surjewala passed away in Delhi on Monday following prolonged illness. He was 87.

PM, NEPAL PREMIER TO JOINTLY OPEN PROJECTS
New Delhi: Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his Nepalese counterpart K P Sharma Oli will on Tuesday jointly inaugurate the second integrated check post at Jogbani-Biratnagar, built with Indian assistance to facilitate trade and people's movement between the two nations. Both the prime ministers will also witness the remarkable progress in Indian-assisted post-earthquake housing reconstruction projects in Nepal, the Prime Minister's Office said in a tweet.

EC ADJOURNS KC (M) DISPUTE HEARING TO FEB 5
New Delhi: The Election Commission on Monday extended its order to temporarily freeze the 'two leaves' symbol of the Kerala Congress (Mani) to February 5 in the dispute between the two factions claiming ownership of the party.

AWARD GIVEN TO MARIAM SHEIKH
New Delhi: Dr. Mariam Sheikh, former Vice-President, Amity University Dubai was awarded, the "Life-Time Achievement Award for Women in Non-Profit" by Dr. DS Chauhan, Former President, Association of Indian Universities at the International Inspirational Women Awards (IIWA) 2020. She was amongst 81 other women achievers that were recognized for their contributions towards the society. Also present on the occasion was Asha Sharma, Mayor, Ghaziabad, Dr. Balvinder Shukla, Vice-Chancellor, Amity University.

ABP UNVEILS NEW SEASON OF 'PRADHANMANTRI'
New Delhi: ABP News has unveiled the second season of its highly acclaimed show, Pradhanmantri. Season II will be hosted by the internationally acclaimed director, producer, and actor, Shekhar Kapur, oblivious about.

JASPAL SONI, LOIS DRAKE'S BOOK RELEASED
New Delhi: Writers Jaspal Soni and Lois Drake's new book titled "You Are Kalki Avatar To The Rescue" released by BlueRose Publishers on Monday. This book is also available at Amazon bookstore. The book also describes about the powers of Kalki, Reality of the universe and the hands of Kalki in its divine existence. The captivating story is about how six ordinary people from different religious backgrounds find ways to make a difference through a common spiritual thread.

ASI E-GOVERNANCE AWARDED WITH CSI
New Delhi: Archaeological Survey of India's e-governance system has been awarded with Computer Society of India's (CSI) - Special Interest Group (SIG) 'Award of Excellence' under the category Projects- Central Government in recognition of #DigitalIndia initiative by the ASI at Computer Society of India's Annual Convention 2020 held at Bhubaneswar in Odisha.

Major reshuffle in top bureaucracy

22 IAS appointed in various govt departments

STAFF REPORTER ■ RAIPUR

Just before the Chhattisgarh budget session, the state government has reshuffled the departments of around 22 Indian Administrative Service on Monday.

As per order issued by General Administration Department, Dr Alok Shukla (IAS-1986), has been appointed as Principal Secretary, School Education department and given additional charge of Chairman, Chhattisgarh Board of Secondary Education, Raipur and Chairman, Chhattisgarh Professional Examination Board, Raipur.

Gaurav Dwivedi (IAS-1995) has been given post of Principal Secretary, Commercial Tax (Except Excise and Registration) and Principal Secretary Planning, economics and statistical, 20-point programme implementation department as additional charge. He will also remain as Principal Secretary to Chief Minister, Additional charge of Electronics, Information Technology, PS

commerce and industries department (Railway line projects), PS energy.

Subodh Kumar Singh (IAS-1997), has been posted as secretary Public Health Engineering additional charge while retaining the post of secretary, labour department.

Devi Dayal Singh (IAS-2000) has been posted as secretary, GAD and given additional charge of secretary tribal welfare, Scheduled Caste and OBC and minority department and secretary Public Relations department. Reeta Shandilya (IAS-2002) posted as secretary revenue and calamity management department, gets the post of ex-officio Relief Commissioner and Commissioner, Rehabilitation and Commissioner, Land Records as additional charges.

Pardeshi Siddharth (IAS-2003) has been posted as secretary, PWD with additional charge of secretary, sports and youth welfare department, secretary, women and child development department and managing director, Chhattisgarh State Road

Development Corporation, Raipur.

A Kulbhushan Toppo (IAS-2003) has been posted as member, Revenue Board, Bilaspur.

Sangeetha P (IAS-2004), secretary, housing and environment has been given additional charge of secretary, Commercial Tax (Registration) department.

Anbalagan P. (IAS-2004) secretary, mining resources and additional charge of secretary Tourism department has been given additional charge of secretary, culture department.

Prasanna R (IAS-2004) has been posted as secretary, cooperative department with additional charge of secretary, social welfare, secretary science and technology department and Commissioner, Differently Abled.

Dhananjay Dewangan (IAS-2004) has been posted as secretary agriculture department and given additional charge of Registrar, Cooperative Institutions.

Mukesh Kumar (IAS-2005) has been appointed as

Commissioner cum Director, Scheduled Tribe and Scheduled Caste development.

S. Prakash (IAS-2005), given charge of Special secretary, Panchayat and Rural Development with additional charge of Director, Panchayat.

Sameer Vishnoi (IAS-2009) has been appointed as CEO, Chhattisgarh Info-tech Promotion Society, Raipur and ex-officio joint secretary, electronics and IT department as additional charge.

Anurag Pandey (IAS-2009), has been posted as joint secretary commerce and industries, industries and public sector department as additional charge. He will retain the post of director, Local Fund and Audit.

Dharmesh Kumar Sahu (IAS-2010), Inspector General, Registration and Stamps along with present charge has been given additional charge of Mission Director, Clean India Mission (Rural), Raipur.

Ramesh Kumar Sharma (IAS-2010) joint secretary, CM office with additional charge of director land

records will have further additional charge as Commissioner, Commercial Tax.

Jitendra Kumar Shukla (IAS-2011) has been given charge as Director, Public Instructions and additional charge of Mission Director, State Literacy Mission.

Effat Ara (IAS-2012) Managing Director, Chhattisgarh Tourism Board has been given additional charge of Managing Director, Chhattisgarh State Text Book Corporation.

Ranbeer Sharma (IAS-2012), Registrar, Firms and Societies along with the present charge has been given additional charge of deputy secretary, women and child development department.

Divya Umesh Mishra (IAS-2012) will take over as deputy secretary PHE department and D. Rahul Venkat (IAS-2015) deputy secretary, planning, economics and statistical department, ex-officio deputy secretary, State Planning Commission along with it will have additional charge as deputy secretary, tourism and culture department.

CM holds pre-budget consultation with agriculture department



STAFF REPORTER ■ RAIPUR

Chhattisgarh Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel held pre-budget consultation for the financial year 2020-21 at his official residence in capital city Raipur on Monday.

Agriculture and water resources department

minister Ravindra Choubey was present during the consultation.

The discussions were held on the new budget proposals related to departments held by cabinet minister Choubey. He holds agriculture and biotechnology, animal husbandry, fisheries, parliamentary affairs and water resources

department.

Chief Secretary R P Mandal, ACS Finance Amitabh Jain, Principal Secretary to Chief Minister Gaurav Dwivedi, agriculture department secretary and agriculture production commissioner Maninder Kaur Dwivedi and others were present.

Woman Naxal killed in encounter

STAFF REPORTER ■ BIJAPUR

A woman Naxal was gunned down in an encounter with security forces in Bijapur district on Monday morning, police said.

The skirmish took place in a forest between Narsapur and Tekulgudem villages under Basaguda police station area around 7.30 am, when a joint team of security forces was out on a counter-insurgency operation, Inspector General of Police (Bastar range) Sundarraj said.

Personnel belonging to the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) 168th battal-

The skirmish took place in a forest between Narsapur and Tekulgudem villages under Basaguda police station area in Bijapur

ion, its elite unit-204th Commando Battalion for Resolute Action (CoBRA) and local police were involved in the operation, he said.

"On spotting a Maoist hideout in the forest, located about 450 km from the state capital Raipur, security forces raided the place following which an exchange of fire broke out between the two sides," he said.

After guns fell silent, body of a woman Naxal and three rifles were recovered from the spot, he said, adding that the killed rebel was yet to be identified.

Search operation was still underway in the area, he said.

Last year, 79 Naxals were killed in separate encounters with security forces in the state, according to official figures.

State BJP leaders greet Nadda on being elected as party president

STAFF REPORTER ■ RAIPUR

Chhattisgarh BJP leaders have extended greetings to their newly elected national president J P Nadda saying under his leadership the party will gain new heights and place the country on world map as a progressive, powerful and high in self-respect.

BJP national vice president and former CM Raman



Singh said under his leadership party will reach new heights. He said Nadda is considered as an able strate-

gist and better organisers. He termed Amit Shah's tenure as golden period of the party.

BJP state president Vikram Usendi termed Nadda as representative of live democracy where BJP is the only party which retains its democratic values. It is not concentrated with single family instead respects dedication, ideological commitment and respect competency. The 'party with difference' will be further strengthened under

his leadership. Union minister of state for tribal affairs Renuka Singh and BJP national general secretary Saroj Pandey said under his leadership party will create the future and achieve new avenues.

BJP Scheduled Tribe Cell national president and MP Ramvihar Netam hoped that every category in society will benefit and will be linked with the party.

Leader of Opposition

Dharmalal Kaushik said BJP will be established as a political power. He hoped that under Nadda's guidance party will exhibit better performance.

BJP Members of Parliament, Santosh Pandey, Sunil Soni, Vijay Baghel, Mohan Mandavi, Chunnill Sahu, Arun Sao, Gomati Sai, Guharam Ajgale and Ranvijay Singh Judeo and others have also extended greetings.



Sujeet Kumar, Editor (National Affairs) of India's largest independent news agency IANS, conducting interview of Chhattisgarh Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel after he formally inaugurated the IANS Interview building in Chhattisgarh's prime locality in Raipur on January 18. Pioneer Photo

17 children rescued from begging

STAFF REPORTER ■ RAIPUR

On directive of Mungeli collector Dr Sarveshwar Narendra Bhure, District level Task Force held a drive against child labour, solid waste collection, begging and intoxication.

District Child Protection Officer said that during the drive 17 children have been rescued. Four children were presented before the District Child Welfare Committee where the parents were called and counseling was done before handing over the children. Similarly, the family members of other 13 children were also called and counselled. The parents were told

that under The Child and Adolescent Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act 1986 and amended Act 2016, children less than 14 years of age are barred from such works.

Similarly, under Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015, forcing children to beg is also a crime.

The District Child Protection Officer said that the drive will continue in the district. The drive was conducted jointly by District Child Protection Unit of women and child welfare department, revenue department, police and labour department officers employees.

Republic Day celebration Governor to unfurl tricolor in capital, CM in Jagdalpur



STAFF REPORTER ■ RAIPUR

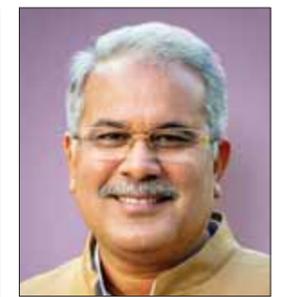
Republic Day will be celebrated with dignity and enthusiasm on January 26 across Chhattisgarh, including capital city Raipur.

On the occasion of Republic Day, tricolor will be unfurled in all the district headquarters of the state and Chief Minister's message will be read out.

Main Republic Day celebration event will be organized at Police Parade Ground from 9am to 11am. Chief Guest of the occasion will be Governor Anusuiya Uikhey.

Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel will unfurl tricolor in Bastar district headquarters Jagdalpur while Assembly Speaker Charandas Mahant in Korba and Deputy Speaker Manoj Mandavi in Kanker.

Similarly, as per list issued by general administration department, the chief guests of the Republic Day function at various districts are ministers T.S. Singhdeo - Ambikapur, Jaisingh Agrawal- Janjgir Champa, Prensai Singh - Surajpur, Amarjeet Bhagat Jashpur, Tamradhwaj Sahu-Bilaspur, Umesh Patel- Raigarh, Shiv Kumar Daharia - Balodabazaar-Bhatapara, Guru Rudra Kumar - Bemetara, Anila Bhedia - Balod, Mohammad Akbar Kawardha, Ravindra Choubey- Durg and Kawasi Lakhma- Sukma.



Official sources further claimed that this year Republic Day celebration will be even more magnificent, for preparation of which government departments have been given various responsibilities.

At the venue in Raipur, PWD, Collector and SP will look after stage, tent, seating arrangement, traffic, parking etc.

Parade will be organized under the guidance of Inspector General of Police. Final rehearsal of the parade will be held on January 24. Home Guard, BSF, District Police Force, STF, NCC and women battalion will participate in the parade. In the programme to be held at capital city Raipur, school students will stage colourful cultural programmes.

On the occasion of the Republic Day, tableaux of 15 departments highlighting development of the state will be exhibited at the programme to be held in Raipur. This includes Agriculture, Jail, Public Health and Family Welfare, Social Welfare, Urban Administration and Development, Energy, Tribal Caste and Scheduled Caste Development, Women and Child Development, Panchayat and Rural Development, PWD, Forest, Gramodyog, Culture and Tourism, Skill Development, Technical Education Department. Besides, three other tableaux of Central Public Undertakings will also be exhibited.



Chhattisgarh Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel at the editorial room of The Pioneer newspaper after he formally inaugurated the office building on January 18 at Gaytri Nagar in Raipur. Pioneer Photo

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Birth place rightful demand of Kashmiri Pandits, says Naidu

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Vice President M Venkaiah Naidu on Monday said it is quite natural for the Kashmiri Pandits to expect the governments and society to understand their sufferings and take steps for their rehabilitation.

He said it is the duty of the country as a whole and the Kashmiri people in particular to see that the "sons of the soil, who were driven out due to killings and terror instigated by India's neighbour, are provided safety and security upon their return."

In a series of tweets, Naidu said it is the rightful demand of the Kashmiri Pandits and other displaced persons that they should be facilitated to return to their place of birth.

"I feel that it is quite natural for the Kashmiri Pandits to expect the gov-



ernments and society to understand their sufferings and take steps for their rehabilitation," he said.

The displaced Kashmiri pandits across the world commemorated January 19 as "holocaust day" to mark the exodus of over 70,000 pandit families from the Valley due to killings and terror by Pakistan-sponsored terrorists in 1990.

Paswan defends CAA, NPR but feels protesters have a right to express themselves

Patna: Union Minister Ram Vilas Paswan on Monday sought to dispel misgivings about the Citizenship (Amendment) Act and the National Population Register but underscored that the Constitution guaranteed "right to freedom of expression" which ought to be respected while dealing with protests. Paswan also claimed that it was at his instance that the Union Home Ministry agreed to "amend" the NPR forms wherein columns like those pertaining to places of birth of parents had triggered fears that the exercise might be a precursor to the National Register of Citizens (NRC). "Even I do not know my date of birth. Do I cease to become a citizen on that account? I had told the Home Ministry that these things will cause confusion. Now the Ministry has amended the forms", he told reporters here.

Notably, the Union Home Ministry had recently stated that people could

"skip" the aforementioned columns after a request to the effect was made by many states, not ruled by the BJP, that these be "dropped". The Union Minister, who holds Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution System portfolio, however sought to allay fears that people not possessing required documents could lose their citizenship and Muslims whom the CAA allegedly discriminates against would suffer the most.

"No Government can dare to snatch away any persons citizenship. It will lead to an upheaval. Any regime which seeks to do so will be torn apart by the media. This is simply not possible", he said. However, he added "we owe our rise in politics to the 1974 students movement. Now, students, the youth have their own sentiments. We cannot do much about that. But it is true that the police often goes overboard in enforcing rule of law", said Paswan, who is the founder of Lok Janshakti Party an NDA constituent. **PTI**

Champion of Change Award for Naidu's daughter

New Delhi: Vice President shri M Venkaiah Naidu's daughter smt. Deepa Venkat today received Champion of Change Award from former President shri Pranab Mukherji for her work in the field of social welfare.

These awards were instituted by Interactive Forum for Indian Economy, a GoI recognised not for profit company. First edition of awards for 2018 were presented last year. Deepa Venkat has been leading Swarna Bharat Trust for the last 20 years.

The Trust conducts skill development programmes in various trades with over thousands benefiting from them. Free boarding and lodging is provided.

Other recipients of the second edition of awards for 2019 include.. Jharkhand CM Hemant Soren for his work in



aspirational districts, Delhi Dy CM Manish Sisodia for education, Anurag Thakur,

MoS(Finance) and Acharya Balakrishna of Patanjali for social welfare

New president is quintessential organisation...

From Page 1

However, his big test would be the next year's assembly polls in West Bengal, a state where the BJP has never tasted power but has emerged as a strong challenger to Mamata Banerjee-headed TMC.

Despite its overwhelming win in the 2019 Lok Sabha polls, the BJP has suffered several defeats in state polls since 2018 and its governments have been unable to come to power, except in Haryana where it had to join hands with JJP to form government.

The 59-year-old Nadda, who holds a degree in law, brings decades of experience during which he served at key party posts, headed its election campaign in a host of states -- from Bihar to Uttar Pradesh, Kerala, Maharashtra and Punjab among others -- and

also worked as a minister in BJP governments in his home state of Himachal Pradesh.

He was also a Cabinet minister in the first Modi government.

The Brahmin leader is considered within the party an epitome of political correctness with his manners unfailingly polite in public and his attacks on rivals never triggering any unseemly controversy.

However, party insiders say Nadda can be very firm in his handling of organisational affairs and electoral challenges but makes it a point to not make any public fuss about them. He is also a man of detail as party leaders recall that he spent months in Uttar Pradesh, a state he was made incharge of during the 2019 Lok Sabha polls, meeting every religious leader of consequence and

holding long meetings with party leaders and allies to take on the formidable challenge posed by the SP-BSP alliance.

Nadda hails from Himachal Pradesh but was born and raised in Bihar where his father was a professor in Patna University.

He joined the ABVP, the RSS' student wing, there and was active in the anti-Emergency stir headed, his colleagues say.

On his return to his home state, he was elected as student union president of the Himachal University.

He became president of Bharatiya Janata Yuva Morcha, the BJP's youth wing, in 1991. Incidentally, Shah was also a BJYM office bearer that time.

It was a sign of the trust he always had of the party leadership that he became the

leader of the opposition in Himachal in 1993 after being elected an MLA for the first time.

When the BJP stormed to power in 1998 in the state, he became a minister. He was a minister again in 2010 when he resigned to become the party's national general secretary when Nitin Gadkari was its president.

He enjoyed warm relations with Prime Minister Narendra Modi as the latter was for long incharge of the party's affairs in Himachal.

Nadda was elected to Rajya Sabha in 2012 and made a member of the party's parliamentary board in 2014 when Shah took over as its president. His steady rise through the organisation continued when Modi and Shah chose him to be its working president last year.

Indian-origin student killed in assault near pub in UK

London: An Indian-origin student has been killed following an assault near a pub in Nottingham, a city the Midlands region of England.

Nottinghamshire Police said a 20-year-old man has been arrested in connection with the murder investigation of Arjun Singh, also aged 20, who was attacked on Saturday evening and died in hospital on Sunday. "A team of detectives has been working tirelessly on the investigation and a man is now in custody being questioned on suspicion of murder", said Detective Inspector Richard Monk, of Nottinghamshire Police. **PTI**

Develop Hindu religious sites in Kartarpur for tourism, economy: Pak Hindus to Govt

Peshawar: The Hindus in Pakistan's northwest province have asked the Government to replicate the Kartarpur corridor example by developing their over 200 religious sites in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, asserting that it will promote tourism and help put the country's ailing economy on a sound footing.

In November, Pakistan and India separately inaugurated the historic Kartarpur corridor on their sides of the border to facilitate the visa-free entry of Indian Sikh pilgrims to celebrate the 550th birth anniversary of founder of Sikhism Guru Nanak Dev. The corridor provides the shortest route for Indian Sikh pilgrims to the revered Gurdwara Darbar Sahib in Kartarpur area of Pakistan's Narowal district, where Guru Nanak spent last 18 years of his life.

Leader of Hindu Community Peshawar Haroon Sarab Diyal said on Sunday that in view of the positive

impact of the Kartarpur corridor, the provincial and federal governments should also develop the religious sites of Hindus in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.

It will promote religious tourism and put Pakistan's economy on track, he said.

Diyal said if the government agreed to develop Hindus' religious sites, they would attract many pilgrims from the across the world.

There are over 65 religious sites in Swabi district, and 154 in Nowshera district of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KPK), he said.

The KPK has one of the world's largest Shivalingams and is home to the revered Gurdwara Darbar Sahib in Kartarpur area of Pakistan's Narowal district, where Guru Nanak spent last 18 years of his life.

Kali Bari Mandir in Dera Ismail Khan district too has a great importance in Hindu religion, Diyal said. **PTI**

Brajesh, 18 convicted in Bihar's shelter...

From Page 1

The court fixed January 28 for hearing arguments on quantum of sentence. The offences entail a maximum punishment of life imprisonment. It however acquitted one Vikki in the case for the want of evidence. One of the female accused Rosy Rani, former assistant director of child protection unit in Muzaffarpur, was convicted for the offences under section 21(1) (failure to report commission of an offence) of the POCSO Act.

Since the maximum punishment for the offence was six months, which she had already undergone, she was granted bail by the court.

Dillip Kumar Verma, former chairman of Child Welfare Committee (CWC) of Muzaffarpur, child protection officer of District Child Protection Unit Ravi Roshan, member of CWC Vikas Kumar and other accused Vijay Kumar Tiwari, Guddu Patel, Kishan Kumar and Ramanuj Thakur were convicted for the offences of aggravated penetra-

tive sexual assault under POCSO Act, criminal conspiracy, rape, gang rape, causing hurt, abetment to rape under IPC and POCSO Act, and section 75 of the JJ Act.

Two of the accused -- Rama Shankar Singh and Dr Ashwani -- were held guilty for the offences of criminal conspiracy and abetment to rape. Rama was also convicted under sections 323 of IPC, 75 of JJ Act and 21 of POCSO Act.

Female accused -- Shaista Praveen, Indu Kumari, Minu Devi, Manju Devi, Chanda Devi, Neha Kumari, Hema Masih, Kiran Kumari -- were held guilty for criminal conspiracy, abetment to rape, cruelty to child and failure to report commission of an offence.

After the pronouncement of the judgement, one of the convicts Ravi broke down in the courtroom.

"I have not done any of the crimes told by you. I have not committed such shameful acts on the girls. You are sending me to jail. I will commit suicide," he told the judge.

The judge asked his counsel to console him. Following this, some female convicts also started crying to which the judge sternly directed the investigating officer and the jail authorities to take them outside and

console them.

Advocates P K Dubey and Nishaank Mattoo, appearing for Thakur, told reporters that they will challenge the verdict in the higher court. Advocate Gyanendra Mishra, representing Dillip, too said there was no evidence against the accused and he will challenge the judgement in the higher court.

The court had recorded the statement of 69 witnesses lead by the CBI, represented by Public Prosecutor Amit Jindal.

It had recorded the statement of 44 girls who were physically and sexually assaulted at the shelter home, of which around 13 were mentally disabled.

It had examined 20 defence witnesses, said advocate Dheeraj Kumar, appearing for some of the accused.

The trial was held on a day-to-day basis and was completed within six months as per the Supreme Court's directions.

The court had on March 30, 2019, framed charges against the accused, including Thakur.

It had held trial for the offences of rape, sexual assault, sexual harassment, drugging of minors, criminal intimidation among other charges. Thakur and employees of his

shelter home, as well as Bihar department of social welfare officials were charged with criminal conspiracy, neglect of duty and failure to report assault on the girls. The charges also included offence of cruelty to child under their authority, punishable under the Juvenile Justice Act.

The court had reserved order on September 30, 2019 after final arguments by the CBI counsel and 20 accused in the case in which former Bihar Social Welfare Minister and the then JD(U) leader Manju Verma also faced flak as allegations surfaced that Thakur had links with her husband.

She had resigned from her post on August 8, 2018. The case was transferred on February 7, 2019 from a local court in Muzaffarpur in Bihar to a POCSO court at Saket district court complex in Delhi on the apex court's directions.

The matter had come to light on May 26, 2018 after Tata Institute of Social Sciences (TISS) submitted a report to the Bihar government highlighting the alleged sexual abuse of minor girls in the shelter home for the first time. The report had been submitted to the Bihar Social Welfare Department by TISS in February that year. **PTI**

Pro-CAA, NRC slogan on R'than wedding invitation

Sikar: To spread awareness about Prime Minister Narendra Modi-led government's "correct decisions", a bridegroom-to-be in Rajasthan's Sikar district has printed a slogan expressing his support for the contentious CAA and NRC on his wedding invitation. Amit Khandelwal (27), whose wedding will take place on February 9, said 700 invitation cards have been printed with the slogan "We support NRC & CAA" and the Swachh Bharat Abhiyan logo.

"The decision taken by the Modi government is correct and people should admire it. A lot of confusion is being created among our citizens on the issues of CAA and NRC. I decided to express my support for the government by printing the slogan on my wedding card," he said on Monday. **PTI**

SAD...

From Page 1

"BJP leadership wanted us to reconsider this stand, so we decided to not fight these polls instead of changing our stand," Sirsa added.

Sirsa who was accompanied by Harmeet Singh Kalka, president, Delhi unit of the SAD said that they have opted out as they refused to change their stand on including Muslims in the CAA.

"Our party's stand was questioned by the alliance partner - BJP," Sirsa said.

"We were questioned on SAD leadership's stand on CAA and told in meetings that this was not the BJP stand. Our stand is clear that country cannot be divided on the basis of religion, the party was asked to reconsider the stand on including our Muslim brothers in the CAA. The Akali Dal does not favour the NRC also," Sirsa said.

Pertinently, Delhi has over 10 lakh Sikh voters and SAD contested elections in Delhi from the four Sikh dominated Assembly seats which are - Hari Nagar, Rajouri Garden, Tilak Nagar and Kalkaji. Notably, SAD fought Assembly elections in 2015 while in 2017 Sirsa fought by-election from the Rajouri Garden seat which he lost to Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) leader Jarnail Singh.

Nadda...

From Page 1

Wishing Nadda very best for his tenure, the PM said, "Nadda is a dedicated and disciplined karyakarta who has worked for years to strengthen the party at the grassroots. His affable nature is also known to all."

"Be it as a young party karyakarta, MLA, Minister in Himachal Pradesh or organisational duties at the Centre, MP and Union Minister, Nadda has added value to any responsibility he has held," Modi added.

BJP leader Radha Mohan Singh, who was the in-charge of the organisational election process, made the announcement of Nadda's election as the party's 11th president after he emerged as the only nominee in the fray.

Modi later arrived at the party headquarters to felicitate the elected president at a ceremony that was attended by members of the BJP Parliamentary Board, its highest body, and veterans like LK Advani and Murli Manohar Joshi.

Earlier, Shah was joined by senior party leaders, including Union Ministers Rajnath Singh and Nitin Gadkari, besides several functionaries from State

units in filing nominations in support of Nadda.

BJP Chief Ministers, like Yogi Adityanath of Uttar Pradesh and Vijay Rupani of Gujarat, were also at the party headquarters. Nadda's elevation was on expected lines since his appointment as the BJP working president last June after Shah joined the Modi Government as the Home Minister. The BJP has traditionally abided by the norm of 'one party one post'.

BJP leaders hailed the appointment, expressing confidence that the party would achieve new successes under his leadership.

Shah congratulated Nadda and expressed confidence that under the new BJP president and the guidance of Modi, the party will scale new heights of success and grow from strength to strength. Wishing Nadda a successful tenure, Rajnath Singh said, "I am confident the party will achieve new glory and success under his leadership. Known for his organisational experience Naddaji has always been an asset to the party."

Gadkari said the elevation of Nadda, who started as a common party worker and rose through its ranks, shows that the BJP was an organisation of workers unlike parties run by dynasties. **com**

Edu must teach children to serve others: Justice Ghose

PNS ■ BHUBANESWAR

Education is not about earning degrees but about the values and life lessons a person imbibes in the process of learning, said Lokpal of India Justice Pinaki Chandra Ghose here on Monday.

"Education is a holistic process. We learn not to get a job but to illuminate our own self with what we have learned," he said while delivering the 2nd SOA Lecture at the Siksha 'O' Anusandhan University here.

Education, he said, is about hands on learning, about gaining practical knowledge and it should equip a person to use intelligence and capabilities to face real-life situations, he said. University Protem Vice-Chancellor presided over the programme. Stating that perfection or divinity in man is nothing but a result of education, Justice Ghose, quoting Swami Vivekananda, said, "Education is a manifestation of perfection in man." An educated person should be unselfish which is not the case in present world.

"It is actually the parents who infuse selfishness in the children who are directed not to share their study notes with fellow students as they thought the other children might secure better marks than their own. They don't understand that by sharing, the children would learn more," he said. He said education which does not help the common mass to equip themselves for the struggle for life, bring out the strength of character, imbibe a spirit of philanthropy and courage, would not help. Narrating an anecdote, Justice Ghose said a father brought two fruits for his two children at home giving one to each. The elder child straightaway headed towards his room with the fruit, relished it and then came out. The other one took the fruit, found it good and went straight to his friends in the courtyard and shared it with all of them. Though the first child was intelligent, his intelligence turned into mere cleverness as he was self-centered. But the second child had grown into a person and had spiritually expanded so as to think of others, care for others and had developed the spirit of service. Between the two children, who was the truly educated one, he asked.

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Branch Office: Office No.506 to 509, National Corporate Park, Fifth Floor, G.E. Road, Raipur - 492 001.

POSSESSION NOTICE Under Rule 8 (1)

WHEREAS the undersigned being the Authorised Officer of M/s. Cholamandalam Investment And Finance Company Limited, under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002, hereinafter called the Act and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13(12) read with Rules 9 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued demand notices calling upon the borrowers, whose names have been indicated in Column [B] below on dates specified in Column [C].

The borrowers having failed to repay the amount specified in Column [D] as per the order passed by Hon'ble Debts Recovery Appellate Tribunal, Chennai in R.A.[S.A.] No.5 of 2018, notice is hereby given to the borrowers in particular and the Public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the properties mortgaged with the Bank described in Column [E] herein below on the respective dates mentioned in Column [F] in exercise of the powers conferred on him under Section 13(4) of the Act read with Rule 9 of the Rules made there under.

The borrowers in particular and the Public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the properties mentioned in Column [E] below and any such dealings will be subject to the charge of M/s. Cholamandalam Investment And Finance Company Limited for an amount mentioned in Column [D] along with interest and other charges.

Under section 13 [8] of the Securitisation Act, the borrowers can redeem the secured asset by payment of the entire outstanding including all costs, charges and expenses before notification of sale.

SL NO.	NAME AND ADDRESS OF BORROWER & CO-BORROWER LOAN ACCOUNT NUMBER	DATE OF DEMAND NOTICE	OUTSTANDING AMOUNT	DETAILS OF PROPERTY POSSESSED	DATE OF POSSESSION
A	B	C	D	E	F
	(Loan No. XOHERRH00000795943, XOHERRH00002066641 & XOHERRH00002635546 1.MANDIP SINGH GILL, 2.GURMEET KAUR, 3.HOTEL BARKHA E-205, SECTOR-5 DEVENDRA NAGAR, RAIPUR- 492001. STATION ROAD NEAR STATION, RAIPUR- 492001.	08.11.2019	Rs -1,83,54,684.95/- as on 25.10.2019	Property 1: All that piece and property bearing Plot No. E-204/5, area admeasuring -1000 Sq.fts. situated at part of Kharsa No.4/36 and 4/75, Mahatma Gandhi Ward No.25 Devendra Nagar, Scheme No.32 of Rda Sector -5, Devendra Nagar, Pandri Tarai Ph.no.109 City, Raipur Property 2: All that piece and property bearing Plot No. E-205/5, area admeasuring -1030 Sq.fts. situated at part of Kharsa No.106/37, Mahatma Gandhi, Ward No.25 Devendra Nagar, Scheme No.32 of Rda Sector -5, Devendra Nagar, Pandri Tarai Ph.no.109 City, Raipur Property 3 : Lease hold commercial office/shop bearing part of office No.31 & 33, Municipal House No.105 & 117, on the First Floor, comprising area 788 Sq.fts. Plot No.04, Block No.93 situated at known as "Ramdev Market", Raipur Khas Ph.no.106A Sardar Bazar Ward No.39 R.i.c.Raipur.	16.01.2020

Date : 16.01.2020
Place: Raipur

AUTHORISED OFFICER
M/s. Cholamandalam Investment and Finance Company Limited

US PRESIDENT impeachment

AP ■ WASHINGTON

US President Donald Trump's defence team and the prosecutors of his impeachment are laying out their arguments over whether his conduct toward Ukraine warrants his removal from office.

Trump's lawyers on Sunday previewed their impeachment defence with the questionable assertion that the charges against him are invalid, adopting a position rejected by Democrats as "nonsense."

The trial resumes on Tuesday with what could be a fight over the ground rules. By

then, both sides will have submitted briefs and four Democratic presidential candidates will have been forced back to Washington from the early nominating states to join every other senator in silence, sans phones, on the Senate floor.

What they're likely to hear in this extraordinary setting is the House Democrats' impeachment articles that charge Trump with abuse of power and obstruction of Congress over his pressure on Ukraine for political help. From the White House, the senators are expected to hear that Trump committed no crime,

the impeachment articles are invalid and he's the victim of Democrats who want to overturn his election.

"Criminal-like conduct is required," said Alan Dershowitz, a constitutional lawyer on Trump's defence team. Dershowitz said he will be making the same argument to the Senate and if it prevails, there will be "no need" to pursue the witness testimony or documents that Democrats are demanding.

But the "no crime, no impeachment" approach has been roundly dismissed by scholars and Democrats, who were fresh off a trial brief that



called Trump's behaviour the "worst nightmare" of the country's founders. In their view, the standard of "high crimes and misdemeanors" is vague and meant to encompass abuses of power that aren't neces-

sarily illegal.

The White House is pushing an "absurdist position," said Rep. Adam Schiff, D-Calif., the lead Democratic prosecutor of the impeachment case. "That's the argument I suppose you have to make if the facts are so dead set against you," Rep. Jerrold Nadler, D-N.Y., another impeachment prosecutor, called it "arrant nonsense" and said evidence of Trump's misconduct is overwhelming.

The back-and-forth came as all concerned agitated for the Senate to get on with the third impeachment trial in the

nation's history. Behind the scenes, the seven House managers were shoring up which prosecutor will handle which parts of the case and doing a walk-through of the Senate.

No senators were more eager to get going than the four Democratic presidential candidates facing the prospect of being marooned in the Senate ahead of kickoff nominating votes in Iowa and New Hampshire.

"I'd rather be here," said Vermont Sen. Bernie Sanders on New Hampshire Public Radio while campaigning Sunday in Concord.

During the trial, Sanders and other senators are required to sit for perhaps six grueling hours of proceedings daily — except Sundays, per Senate rules — in pursuit of the "impartial justice" they pledged to pursue. But there was scant evidence that anyone's mind was really open about whether Trump earned vindication or ouster.

Mystery, however, abounded over the trial's ground rules. Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, R-Ky., shed no light on how the proceedings will follow — and differ from — the precedent of President Bill Clinton's impeachment

trial in 1999.

"The President deserves a fair trial. The American people deserve a fair trial. So let's have that fair trial," said Democratic Rep. Jason Crow of Colorado, one of the seven impeachment prosecutors.

Whatever happens in the Senate, House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif., has said, Trump will be "impeached forever." Members of Trump's team countered that if they win a vindication for Trump, it means "there will be an acquittal forever as well," Trump attorney Robert Ray said. "That is the task ahead."

5 former police officials sentenced to death over attack on Hasina's motorcade in 1988

PTI ■ DHAKA

Five former police officials were sentenced to death by a Bangladesh court on Monday for opening fire on a motorcade of then Opposition leader Sheikh Hasina in 1988 that killed her 24 supporters during an anti-government rally.

The court in Bangladesh's southeastern port city of Chattogram handed down the verdict on Monday after the completion of the defence's argument. As many as 53 witnesses testified in the court over the attack on the current Prime Minister Hasina's convoy.

"They will be hanged by neck until they are dead," pronounced Chattogram District and Sessions Judge Md Ismail Hossain, as four of the five convicts were present in the crowded courtroom while the fifth convict, a former police inspector, was tried in absentia as a fugitive. On January 24, 1988, police opened fire on a procession which was escorting the motorcade of Hasina while she was going to address a rally in the port city against regime of then military dictator HM Ershad.

Hasina narrowly escaped the attack in which her 24 supporters were killed. Attack was seen by Awami League leaders as an "attempt to assassinate" Hasina. Prosecution said Hasina was visibly the target but she escaped the shooting as her supporters formed a human shield to protect her. The shooting was dubbed as "Chattogram massacre" when police cremated the bodies at a Hindu crematorium regardless of the victims' religious identities, giving their families no chance to see them.

May pull out of N treaty over Europe dispute: Iran

AP ■ TEHRAN

Iran said on Monday it will consider withdrawing from the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT) if a dispute over its atomic programme goes before the UN Security Council.

Britain, France and Germany launched a process last week charging Iran with failing to observe the terms of the 2015 nuclear deal, a move that could eventually see the Security Council reimpose international sanctions on the country.

Iran has accused the three EU member states of inaction over sanctions the United States reimposed on it after unilaterally withdrawing from the

landmark accord in 2018.

The European move "has no legal basis" and if they take further measures "Iran's withdrawal from the NPT will be considered," Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif was quoted as saying by the Iranian parliament's website.

The landmark 2015 deal reached with Britain, China, France, Germany, Russia and the United States gave Iran relief from sanctions in return for curbs on its nuclear programme. Since the US pullout, Iran has progressively rolled back its commitments to the accord — the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action — in retaliation.

It has hit out at the three European nations that remain

party to the JCPOA for failing to live up to their promises to ease the impact of US sanctions on its oil-based economy.

"If the Europeans return to the commitments, Iran will also stop reducing its commitments, but if the Europeans continue as they have been... We have different options," said Zarif.

The foreign minister said Iran's President Hassan Rouhani had warned former EU foreign affairs chief Federica Mogherini about such consequences in three letters sent in 2018.

"It was stated in the president's letter that if this issue is referred to the Security Council, Iran's withdrawal from the NPT will be discussed but

before that we can consider other (options)," he said. European officials have made it clear that the decision to trigger the dispute resolution mechanism was made in a bid to bring Iran back into compliance and save the accord.

But Iran's foreign ministry on Monday warned more measures could be taken in retaliation for the European move.

FM cancels attendance at Davos summit

Tehran: Iran's top diplomat has cancelled his trip and will not be attending the Davos Forum, the Iranian Foreign Ministry said on Monday amid a crisis with Washington and disputes with Europe over Iran's nuclear steps.

The summit in the Swiss resort also comes after Iran earlier this month shot down a Ukrainian passenger plane, killing all 176 people on board. Tensions also remain high between Iran and the US after an America drone killed Revolutionary Guard Gen. Qassem Soleimani in Baghdad. Iran's top diplomat, Mohammad Javad Zarif, had been invited and plans had been made for him to attend the annual meeting of the World Economic Forum in Davos, Foreign Ministry spokesman Abbas Mousavi said.

Evacuation crackdown ordered as Philippine volcano 'recharges'

AFP

Tanauan (Philippines): Philippine authorities ordered a crackdown Monday on evacuees' daily visits to their homes in the danger zone around Taal volcano as scientists warned it could be "recharging" for a more powerful explosion.

More than 110,000 people have taken refuge in evacuation centres since Taal burst to life a week ago, but many hard-hit towns have let residents back for hours each day to fetch items, feed livestock and clean up their homes. "We are directing DRRMCs (civil defence officers)... Not to allow anyone to enter the danger zone," said Epimaco Densing, undersecretary for the Department of Interior.

Iraqi protesters ramp up pressure as deadline expires

AFP

Baghdad: Thousands of Iraqi anti-government protesters grappled with security forces in a bid to shut streets across the country on Monday, a deadline they had given authorities to implement long-awaited reforms. Rallies have rocked Iraq since October but fearing they would lose momentum amid spiralling regional tensions protesters last Monday told the government it had one week to meet their demands or they would escalate.

They have called for early elections under a new voting law, an independent prime minister to replace outgoing premier Adel Abdel Mahdi and for all corrupt officials to be held accountable. On Sunday, young protesters began sealing off highways and bridges across Baghdad and Iraq's south. They tried to do the same early Monday in the capital but security forces acted fast, with the military saying it had reopened a major Baghdad thoroughfare and arrested nine young men who had attempted to seal it off.

Xi orders resolute efforts to contain new virus as China reports 3rd death

PTI ■ BEIJING

China is experiencing huge mobility in the Chinese New Year which is also known as the Spring Festival. Xi asked the health officials to take effective measures to stop the spread of the virus, find out its origins and how it has been spreading, official media reported.

So far, a total of 224 cases of pneumonia caused by the novel coronavirus had been reported in China. Of them, 217 had been confirmed and seven remained suspected, state-run news agency Xinhua reported on Monday. Reports say two cases of the virus was identified in Beijing, eight in Shanghai and one in Shenzhen. The mysterious virus was first reported in Wuhan City in December 2019, where it originated at a seafood market.

Meanwhile, the virus has reached a third Asian country. One case has been confirmed in Japan, two in Thailand and one in South Korea, Xinhua said.

3 Sikhs stabbed to death in east London in clash within community

AFP

London: Three persons were stabbed to death after a clash between two groups within the Sikh community in east London, police said on Monday. The victims were believed to be in their 20s or 30s, they said. Police said they received a call about 19:40 GMT on Sunday to reports of a disturbance in Elmstead Road in Seven Kings, Ilford. "We believe the groups involved are members of the Sikh community," Chief Superintendent Stephen Clayman was quoted as saying by the Telegraph.

2 dead, 15 injured in Missouri shooting

AFP

Kansas City: Police in Kansas City, Missouri, say at least two people are dead and 15 people were reportedly injured in a shooting.

The shooting took place shortly before midnight Sunday, Kansas City police said at a press conference at the scene. A police spokesman said responding officers found "a chaotic scene" and had to call in help from around the city. Two people were found dead, including a woman in the parking lot.

Spain Walloped by Heavy Snow, Rain, Gales

AFP

Madrid: Heavy snow, rain and gale-force winds lashed many parts of Spain on Monday, killing at least two people and prompting five provinces to go on top emergency alert. The storm forced the closure of Alicante Airport and some 30 roads in the eastern region.

UK LOOKS TO AFRICA FOR TRADE TIES AFTER BREXIT

AFP

London: British Prime Minister Boris Johnson and Prince Harry toured the UK as an ideal business partner for Africa on Monday as their country prepares for post-Brexit dealings with the world. But Britain faces tough challenges as it seeks to assert itself on a continent with several of the world's fastest-growing economies, and one whose youthful 1.2 billion population is set to double by 2050.

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is for general information of public that M/s M2M Buildtech Pvt. Ltd. was earlier having their office at D-44, 3rd Floor, Sector-6, Noida-201301. The said premises was taken on rent by the aforesaid company and the aforesaid premises was vacated by them by June 2017 and hence is not carrying any business from the said premises. All concerned, please be informed accordingly. For Ascent Construction Pvt. Ltd. Authorized Signatory

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given by Mr. Haridwari Lal who is purchasing Shop No-558-557, both land area measuring 29 Sq. Yds., each & Shop No. 558, admeasuring 25 sq. yards., total Admeasuring 83 sq. yards, sited in Kh. No. 550/4/301/2/975/0-10, 5507/4302/2976/0-7, SITUATED AT Village Gurgaon, Colony Laxman Vihar, Gurgaon, in Haddoo Committee Gurgaon, District & District Gurgaon, Haryana from M/s Darshan Solutions Ltd. and further will be mortgaging the same against the financial assistance from Aditya Birla Housing Finance Ltd. That the Original Registered Sale Deed dated 24.11.1998 executed by Mrs. Divya Devi who Mr. Rajendra Prasad in favour of Mr. Ashok Banga s/o Mr. Nitish Banga in respect of plot admeasuring 29 sq. yds. & Original GPA executed by Executed by Mrs. Ved Kaur in favour of Mr. Raj Kumar has been lost/misplaced. Public is being warned not to deal with the said document. Any person dealing with the said document would do so at their own risk & responsibility. Owner shall not be liable in any manner whatsoever for any loss incurred by such person. If anybody found this document or notice any misuse of the above mentioned document, Concern person is required to communicate in writing to the undersigned at below address.

Lucem Legal LLP
269, Rama House, Ground Floor,
Masji Moh. Op. Uday Park, South Ex. II,
New Delhi - 49 Contact# 011-40046316

NOTICE

ICICI LIMITED
(Reg. Office: ICICI Bank Tower, Near Chakli Circle, Old Padra Road, Vadodra-390007, Gujarat)

This is to inform to general public that Original Share Certificate for 290 shares of ICICI Bank Limited held by Mr. R.P. Garg vide Folio No. 1035665. Certificate No. 32871 and Distinctive No. 13569126-13569415 has been lost/misplaced and an application for issue of duplicate share certificate have been made by the holder in respect of these. Any person who has applied to issue of duplicate Share Certificate shall, upon such objection with the Company at its Registered Office within 7 (Seven) days from the publication of this notice or else the Company will proceed to issue duplicate share Certificates in favour of the above mentioned holder.

Place: Delhi Date: 21.01.2020

GULSHAN POLYOLS LIMITED
CIN: L24231UP2000PLC034918
Regd. Off.: 9th K.M. Jansath Road, Muzaffarnagar - 251 001 (UP)
Website: www.gulshanindia.com, email: cs@gulshanindia.com
Tel: 011-49999200, Ext. 237, Fax: 011-49999202

NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the meeting of the Board of Directors of the Company is scheduled to be held on Monday, 27th January, 2020 at G-81, Preet Vihar, Delhi-110092, inter alia, to consider and approve the UN-audited Financial Results of the Company for the quarter ended 31st December, 2019, and any other matters. The information contained in this Notice is also available on Company's website www.gulshanindia.com and on the Stock Exchange website: www.nseindia.com and www.bseindia.com

For Gulshan Polyols Limited
Sd/-
Delhi (Vijay Garg)
20th January, 2020 Company Secretary

BEFORE DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL-II, DELHI
4th FLOOR, JEEVAN TARA BUILDING, PARLIAMENT STREET, NEW DELHI-110001.

OA NO. 1464/18 DATE: 06.12.2019

HDFC BANK LTD.APPLICANT
VERSUS
STATE BANK OF INDIA & ORS.RESPONDENT

To,

DEFENDANT

3. MR. NARESH KUMAR S/O H.S. KARTAR SINGH S-291/58, SONIYA GANDHI CAMP, PUR PRAHLADPUR, NEW DELHI-44.

4. MR. AJAY KUMAR S/O LT. SH. MAHAPAL SINGH HOUSE NO. 1/1, SUSHILA GARDEN, MANDOLIN EXTENSION, ASHOK VIHAR, NEW DELHI

5. MR. RAJEEV KAPOOR S/O RAMDAS HOUSE NO. 110A, RAJEEV NAGAR, SECTOR 18, FARIDABAD.

6. MR. PUNIT CHANDOK, S/O SH. KULDEEP CHANDOK C-4/137A, KESHAV PURAM, DELHI.

7. MR. RAMAN GULIA S/O SH. KISHAN SINGH 22/4, RANI RAGH, NEW DELHI

ALSO AT:
C-32, NAVIN PALACE, NAJFAGARH, NEW DELHI

Whereas the above named applicant (s) has/have instituted a case for recovery of Rs. 83,73,041/- (RUPEES EIGHTY THREE LAKH SEVENTY THREE THOUSAND AND FORTY ONE ONLY) against you and where as it has been shown to the satisfaction of the Tribunal that it is not possible to serve you in the ordinary way therefore, this notice is given by advertisement directing you to make appearance in the Tribunal on 30.01.2020 at 10.30 a.m.

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

BY ORDER OF THE TRIBUNAL
Sd/-
SECTION OFFICER,
DRT-II, DELHI.

RELIANCE
RELIANCE HOME FINANCE LIMITED

Branch Office: A-1311, 6TH floor, Block A, Synergy Tower, Sector 62, Noida 201301 Corporate & Registered Office: Reliance Centre, 6th Floor, South Wing, Near Prabhakar Colony, Santacruz (East), Mumbai - 400055

SALE CUM AUCTION NOTICE

The undersigned being the Authorized Officer (AO) of the Reliance Home Finance Ltd. (RHF), invites tenders/Quotations for the purchase of the properties specified below of the below mentioned Borrowers, under the provisions of the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002, read with the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002, for recovery of secured debts of Rs. ₹ 1783941/- (Rupees Seventeen Lakh Eighty Three Thousand Nine Hundred And Forty One Only) as on 20th January 2020 plus interest and costs etc. of RHF. The Properties are proposed to be sold on "As is Where is" and "As is Whatever there is basis" and on without recourse basis.

Name & Address of the Borrowers	Property/Security Interest Details	Earnest Money Deposit (EMD)	Last Date & Place of submitting sealed quotations/bids	Date & Venue of Auction/opening quotations/bids
(1) Anurag Bhaskar R/O 42, Maya Apartments, Vikas Pur, Delhi, Ashok Nagar, Delhi-110018 (2) Lavina Bhaskar R/O 42, Maya Apartments, Vikas Pur, Delhi, Ashok Nagar, Delhi-110018 Both Also at - Flat No.92, Second Floor, D.D.A. LIG Flats, Pocket - F, Group - 2, Sector-B 2, Narela Delhi - 110036	Mortgage over following property: "Flat No.92, Second Floor, D.D.A. LIG Flats, Pocket - F, Group - 2, Sector-B 2, Narela, Delhi - 110036"	Rs 112,500/- (i.e. Rupees Eleven Lakh Twenty Five Thousand Five Hundred Only)	04th February -2020, Time: 5:00PM. Bids to be addressed to: To the Authorized Officer: A-1311, 6 th floor, Block -A, Synergy Tower, Sector 62, Noida 201301 Contact Person: Somesh Sundriyal Tel: 9910563402	07th February -2020 at Reliance Home Finance Ltd A-1311, 6 th floor, Block -A, Synergy Tower, Sector 62, Noida 201301

Note: The AO may at his/her discretion permit inter-se bidding amongst the top three bidders.

Inspection of Properties: Bidders/ interested parties may inspect the properties/site between 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. From 29th January 2020- to 30th January 2020. The interested parties may contact the Chief Manager, Reliance Home Finance Ltd., Contact Person Somesh Sundriyal Tel: (9910563402).

Terms and Conditions:
The interested parties may send/submit their quotation/bid in sealed covers superscripting on the envelope as "Quotation for Purchase of Property: "Mortgage over following properties: "Flat No.92, Second Floor, D.D.A. LIG Flats, Pocket - F, Group - 2, Sector-B 2, Narela, Delhi -110036" along with Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) by way of Pay Order/DD, drawn in favor of "Reliance Home Finance Ltd.", payable at New Delhi.

- The EMD shall bear no interest, be adjusted in case of successful parties and shall be forfeited in case of default by such party.
- Tenders/bids incomplete in any respect or unsigned or not accompanied by DD/PPO for the requisite EMD are liable to be summarily rejected at the sole discretion of AO.
- The aforesaid Properties shall not be sold below the reserve price mentioned above.
- Successful party shall deposit 25% of the quoted amount, which amount shall include the EMD deposited, immediately on the same day by way of Pay Order / DD drawn in favour of "Reliance Home Finance Ltd.", payable at New Delhi, and remaining 75% shall be deposited within 15 days of the date of the confirmation of sale or within the extended period as allowed by the undersigned in writing. The AO may at his/her sole discretion extend in writing the time for making the payments. In case of failure to make the required payments by the stipulated dates, the EMD and all amounts paid till then, shall stand forfeited without any notice and the properties shall be resold.
- All such Payments to be made only in the form of Pay Order or Demand Draft drawn in favour of the Reliance Home Finance Ltd., payable at New Delhi.
- The Successful party would bear the charges/fees payable for sale/conveyance such as stamp duty, registration fees, taxes, levies, etc. as applicable as per law and also the miscellaneous expenses.
- The AO will not be responsible for any charge, lien, encumbrance, property tax or any other dues to the Govt. or anybody in respect of the properties/under sale.
- The AO reserves its right to negotiate with the highest bidder for improvement in the offer and has the absolute right to accept or reject any quotation or adjustment/pon/cancel the auction/sale without assigning any reason therefore.
- The sale is subject to confirmation by the RHF.
- If the Borrower pays the amount due to the RHF in full before the date of auction/confirmation of sale, the auction/sale is liable to be stopped.
- To the best of knowledge and information of the AO, no other encumbrance exists on the above mentioned properties.
- The bid is not transferable.
- This publication is also a notice of 30 days to the Borrower and Guarantor/s of the intention of holding of sale on above mentioned date if the dues are not repaid in full. If the borrower has any such proposal of selling of the properties to any person by private sale or by getting quotation, the same may be communicated to the undersigned within 7 days.

STATUTORY 15 DAYS FOR SECOND SALE NOTICE UNDER SARFAESI ACT, 2002

The Borrower/Guarantor are hereby notified to pay the total outstanding dues before the date of opening of bid failing which the secured assets will be auctioned and balance, if any, will be recovered with interest, cost and charges thereon from you.

Place: Noida
Date: 21st January, 2020
Authorized Officer, Name: Somesh Sundriyal
Reliance Home Finance Ltd.

WESTERN RAILWAY

E-PROCUREMENT TENDER NOTICE No. S/02/2020 Date 20.01.2020

S.N	Short Description of Item	Quantity	T.O.D.
13	Anchor link filament Bolt	6000 Sets	04.02.2020
14	Dual flush Valve (3/6 LTRS) Size	93 Nos	05.02.2020
15	Gear Case Assembly	274 Nos	10.02.2020
16	Various child parts of AC-AC traction control system	6 Items	11.02.2020
17	Dynamic Braking Grid Non Fan Tap Grid	12 Nos	11.02.2020
18	Insulating Hose (PTFE TUBE)	36 Nos	12.02.2020
19	Un-insulated Cadmium copper catenary wire 125 sq.mm	20 Kms	12.02.2020
20	Hot Rolled Round steel Bar 'ISRO 45'	1000 Kgs	12.02.2020
21	M.S. Flat Steel size 50 x 6mm	2300 Kgs	12.02.2020
22	Various child parts of AC-AC traction control system	8 Items	12.02.2020
23	Various child parts of AC-AC traction control system for HHP Locomotives	8 Items	12.02.2020
24	Child parts of AC-AC traction control system for HHP Locomotives	2 Items	12.02.2020
25	Various child parts of AC-AC traction control system	8 Items	13.02.2020
26	Child parts of AC-AC traction control system for HHP Locomotives	2 Items	13.02.2020
27	Child part of AC-AC traction control system	2 Items	13.02.2020
28	Child part of AC-AC traction control system	2 Items	13.02.2020
29	Clean silica sand free from	908.92 M/Ts	14.02.2020
30	Pressure Sensor CS 300	94 Nos.	14.02.2020
31	Wire Steel mild Galvanneal 1.60MM	397 Kgs	14.02.2020
32	Child parts of Microprocessor controlled Air Brake System	4 Items	14.02.2020
33	RAL-9018 Papyrus white metallic finish	27000 Ltrs	15.02.2020
34	Complete Brake gear arrangement	80 Sets	17.02.2020
35	Various child parts of AC-AC traction control system for HHP Locomotives	2 Items	17.02.2020
36	Duct Air Flexible	350 Nos	17.02.2020
37	Complete Brake gear arrangement	2 Items	19.02.2020

Regarding detailed notice, EMD, Purchase restrictions and detailed tender conditions, please visit website www.irps.gov.in and www.wr.indianrailways.gov.in

For Principal Chief Materials Manager
Like us on Facebook.com/WesternRly follows us on Twitter.com/WesternRly

NOTICE

GLAXOSMITHKLINE
PHARMACEUTICALS LIMITED
(Regd. Office Dr. Annie Besant Road, Worli, Mumbai-400030)

This is to inform to the general public that Original Share Certificate for 196 shares issued by Glaxosmithkline Pharmaceuticals Limited in the name of Rashi Gang vide Folio No.0298231 bearing Certificate No. 9193920 and Distinctive No. 9995581-99955876 has been lost/misplaced and an application has been made by the holder for the issue of duplicate Share Certificates in respect of these.

Any person who has a claim in respect of the said shares or objects to the issue of duplicate Share Certificate shall lodge such claim or objection with the Company at its Registered Office within 15 (fifteen) days from the publication of this notice or else the Company will proceed to issue duplicate share Certificates in favour of the holder without any further delay.

Place: Delhi Date: 21.01.2020

EASTERN RAILWAY

Tender Notice No.: F-Wagon-BOXNR-Rehab, dated: 19.11.2019.

Chief Workshop Manager, Eastern Railway, Jamalpur workshop invites open e-tender for the following work:

Name of the work: Upgradation and rehabilitation of 180 Nos. BOXN to BOXNR Wagons as per schedule of work at Locomotive Workshop, Jamalpur. Quantity: 180 Nos. (Wagons). Place of work : Jamalpur workshop, Eastern Railway, Jamalpur.

Tender value: ₹ 14,97,03,361.20.

Earnest Money: ₹ 8,98,500. Validity of offer: 90 days. Bidding start date: 07.02.2020 at 15.00 hrs. Details available at: www.reps.gov.in (MISC-305/2019-20)

Tender Notices are also available at website: www.ir.indianrailways.gov.in www.reps.gov.in

BJP's new chief

JP Nadda is being considered a proxy for Shah but has organisational strengths of his own. Will he be allowed to rise?



When LK Advani was the BJP president and clearly the more "seen" face of a resurgent Right, having steered the Rathayatra and the temple campaign in Ayodhya, he stepped back and proposed the name of the moderate and avuncular Atal Bihari Vajpayee as the party's prime ministerial candidate. That was in 1995 and Advani's wisdom lay in understanding why governance needed a softer, inclusive and acceptable face and a broader alliance with other parties. He had the foresight to set the foundation upon

which a winning formula could be built. In that sense, the BJP president's post became important in carving out a legitimate space for the Right within the coalition template of the times and ensuring that it emerged as a sound electoral alternative to the Left of Centre Congress-dominated narrative. That was a tough time of building and managing the party, positing all that the Congress was fast-losing — a credible organisational decorum, regular elections, fair processes and an inner-party democracy. To that extent, the party president's post was originally intended to be sacred. The arrival of Narendra Modi and Amit Shah clearly changed all that, the two building the BJP's base not so much by processes but the weight of their persona. While Modi concentrated on building a pan-India image as a trusted leader, deputy Shah took up backroom mathematics and personally weighed in on even the microscopic, unit-level decisions of the party. During his tenure of over five-and-a-half years, Shah's focussed aggression strengthened the BJP's matrix and ensured its political conversion as the party's best ever electoral performance. Barring a few setbacks in State polls, the party has managed to become the single-largest in the Lok Sabha. That gave him more than stature; the cadres held him in awe. And he revelled in the arrogance of that absolutism, pushing most contentious issues in the BJP manifesto as Home Minister in the Government, a man in a hurry to prove his heft in the party than in people's minds. And now that he is the Home Minister, he is duty-bound to honour the party's "one person, one post" formula and has handed over its reins to Jagat Prakash Nadda, a loyalist and a low-key worker of the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS), the BJP's ideological anchor that, at this point of time, has complete hold of policies and deliverance, and cares not much about realpolitik. In many ways, therefore, Nadda is being considered a proxy for Shah, who would like to be remembered as the usherer of Right wing legacies and a neo-cultural revolution, one that seeks to overturn liberalism as an imposition and Hindu theocracy as the natural evolution of history — the Ram temple, the abrogation of Article 370 and the review of citizenship based on ancestry. Shah wouldn't want to relinquish this helmsmanship of BJP's transitional moment. The ascension of Nadda, therefore, seems to be about ticking off the right boxes. Besides, it also allows Shah to escape the heat arising from the citizenship row at the moment. Seen as the architect of the otherisation politics in the country and linking the party's agenda to Government policy, the delegation of party responsibilities to Nadda is an attempt to seemingly dilute this autocracy.

Nadda may be following Shah's footsteps but in the end will have to be the media face and explain the BJP's most difficult phase — keeping the faith of the Lok Sabha verdict and presiding over the social unrest over citizenship. The extent of civil society protests proves that it is fast losing hope in the BJP as a "party with a difference." If the States the BJP lost after the general election are any indication, then the people now want it to account for its non-performance on the economy and jobs crisis and subversion of social equilibrium through religious polemics. Nadda, while continuing the existing party's agenda, can do so subtly and use his newness to soothe anxieties through sensible outreach programmes. There are parts to Nadda that the BJP can use smartly to change perceptions before the next round of general elections. A student leader, who has plodded his way up the ranks, he has a grasp on grassroots, having been in-charge of the BJP's Lok Sabha campaign in Uttar Pradesh and the Maharashtra polls. He has to deliver Delhi and Bihar, the former quite a difficult challenge. But going by the speeches of the Modi-Shah duo at his anointment, it seemed the election of the BJP president was another missile aimed at the Congress which is yet to hold the most basic of organisational elections. Nadda may appear to be gifting BJP a "lit" moment but that will have little value if he is a cipher.

Flying kites

The Government may be testing waters with silly proposals. But this points to a lack of creativity in policy-making



The bureaucrat, who thought about the preposterous suggestion to limit duty-free alcohol purchases to a single bottle, will one day head the entire department. And that frankly is more worrying than the proposal itself because such ideas can come only from the heads of narrow-minded individuals with a puritanical sense of morality. Of course, one is not encouraging alcoholism or smoking. It remains unlikely that the Government will ever go down the route of prohibition, although given some previous illogical decisions taken by it and the

fact that the ruling BJP is an ally of arch-prohibitionist Nitish Kumar, nothing can ever be ruled out. That said, drinkers and smokers are a rich source of funds for the Government and Bihar is still reeling from the after effects of Kumar's bizarre decision. In addition, the Commerce and Industry Ministry led by Piyush Goyal wants to restrict the volume of goods Indians can bring into the country while coming back. The derision that these decisions have been met by is completely justified. But what boggles one's mind is that the Government is looking at such minor issues when it should be thinking about ways and means of reviving the economy. If the thinking is that Indians will suddenly quit their Scotch whisky and start buying the *shudh desi* molasses-derived liquid that masquerades as "whisky", then one can safely assure the powers that be that it won't happen. Such thinking will only take us back to the command and control economy of Indira Gandhi when smuggling and bootlegging ruled. Ironic then that the BJP is trying to highlight Indira's links with Mumbai's most notorious smuggler of that era, Karim Lala.

The simple fact is that to get the economy going again, the Government needs a whole new thinking, the concept of wealth transfer from the very rich being impractical. The Modi Government, despite such schemes as Digital India and Start-up India, hasn't been able to spur entrepreneurial growth. Job creation is at its lowest and India risks turning its demographic dividend into a time bomb. The greatest advantage this country has is being squandered with a pliant Opposition, which has sought to focus on issues that do not have large-scale appeal. But the Government is more keen on looking at silly minutiae than the bigger picture. At the end of the day, a masterpiece not only has fabulous details but looks appealing overall. This Government is concentrating on trying hard to choose the colour for a dull, monochromatic image of modern India.

A new lurking danger

The three-day *Ijtima* organised by the Tablighi Jamaat last year points towards a larger trend of home-grown radicalism within the country. Radicalisation of the vulnerable must end



SANDHYA JAIN

Few would have missed the videos of children (under 10 years of age) chanting *azadi* and abusing the Prime Minister and Home Minister for alleged animosity and evil intent towards one community. Since one cannot expect children of such tender age to have knowledge or understanding of the Citizenship Amendment Act (CAA) and the National Population Register (NPR), it is safe to conclude that family elders tutored them to express such visceral anger towards the Government.

A dangerous radicalisation of the Muslim community is being fostered — with deliberate intent — the consequences of which are yet to unravel. Barring perhaps Saudi Arabia, it is doubtful if even Islamic countries make girls of such tender age wear full *abaya* (head and neck covering). Certainly, it has not been seen in India before. This points to deep indoctrination of every family within a targeted area and does not bode well for the future.

On the one hand, it will intensify the ghetto mentality within the community. On the other, it will make other citizens wary of dealing with those who wish to leave or avoid the ghetto. This is a double-edged sword that can only harm the Muslim community in the long and short run.

Doubtless, a powerful section of the community is behind the radicalisation agenda, for reasons unknown. The first indication of this phenomenon came during the three-day *Ijtima* (religious gathering) organised by Tablighi Jamaat (November 30 to December 2, 2018), when 15 lakh Muslims gathered at Bulandshahr, Uttar Pradesh, though permission was given for only two lakh people. Many guests came from abroad.

The proceedings of this gathering are not known. It attracted national attention when some cows were killed in a village on the road to Bulandshahr. Police inspector Subodh Kumar Singh died in the violence that followed but managed to contain the situation within the affected village. The *Ijtima* concluded peacefully but analysts said such a large gathering should not have been permitted in such a sensitive State and by such an orthodox body. Tablighi Jamaat exhorts Muslims to strictly follow practices adhered to during the lifetime of the Prophet, especially in matters of dress and ritual. All traces of non-Islamic (syncretic) behaviour are to be erased.

This converges with a larger trend of home-grown radicalism within the country. After the Students Islamic Movement of India (SIMI) and the Indian Mujahideen (IM) were banned, the Kerala-based Popular Front of India (PFI) emerged as the successor militant body and spread to Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Telangana, Maharashtra, Gujarat, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh and Bihar.



Experts expect the Islamic State (IS) to formally tie up with the PFI to entrench itself in India and reach Nepal, Bangladesh and Myanmar. Sri Lanka has already been radicalised by people who visited southern India before the Easter blasts in 2019. Several youth from Kerala have travelled to Syria, Iraq and Afghanistan to join the IS; others have been caught doing online propaganda for it. Intelligence agencies are aware that the IS is attracting youth in India and in May 2019, it announced a new "Wilayah of Hind" (Hind Province) without specifying its geographical limits.

The Counterterrorism Group (CTG) Analysis & Intelligence Report (November 2019) states that after being driven out of Syria and the Middle East, the IS asked its leaders to move to South-east Asia as almost every country in this region has deep ties to the Middle East. Its focus is on female domestic workers in Hong Kong and Singapore, who are vulnerable on various counts; Malaysia, Indonesia and the Philippines are next.

Female migrant workers are chosen because of their low (but stable) incomes, familiarity with English and wide network of international connections. Typically, they earn around \$1.00 to \$1.50 per hour and are often in need of financial help, for which they agree to join the Caliphate. English-speaking workers help

“MIGRANT WORKERS ARE EASY TO MANIPULATE AS THEY ARE POORLY EDUCATED, LIVE IN AN ALIEN ENVIRONMENT AND ARE LONELY. THE RECRUITER CONTACTS THE MOST VULNERABLE AND OFFERS A SECURE, ROMANTIC, AND LOVING RELATIONSHIP. SOON THE MIGRANT IS INVITED FOR TRAINING VIA ONLINE CHAT ROOMS”

the IS reach other demographics and regions. They help acquire resources and intelligence from areas its members normally don't frequent.

Migrant workers are easy to manipulate as they are poorly educated, live in an alien environment and are lonely. Radicalisation usually begins after a traumatic event such as divorce, financial hardship or culture shock. The recruiter contacts the most vulnerable and offers a secure, romantic, and loving relationship; soon the migrant is invited for training via online chat rooms. Often migrants are recruited by fellow workers at a prayer group or social gathering on their day off. Some workers have been known to reach out to militants; they are quickly inducted into radical groups and groomed to become militants.

In a survey of radicalised domestic workers, the Institute for Policy Analysis of Conflict (IPAC) found that at least 50 Indonesian women working overseas as maids, nannies and caretakers for the elderly were radicalised by the IS and its affiliates. A study between 2013 and 2018 found that around 800 domestic workers from South-east Asia tried to enter Syria or Iraq to join the IS after being radicalised abroad. This shows the efficacy of the IS' recruitment methods. IPAC has asked Governments to create mandatory training modules to educate migrant workers about the

signs of exploitation and to help exploited victims.

In September 2019, Singapore arrested three Indonesian women domestic workers who promoted the IS online in their spare time, donated money to militants overseas and became so committed that at least one was ready to die as a suicide bomber in Syria. One Indonesian maid revealed that she listened to Salafi podcasts while working and an Indonesian butcher she met online encouraged her to go to Syria to join the IS. However, the Singapore authorities discovered her plans and deported her back to Indonesia in 2017.

Zachary Abuza, expert on IS in South-east Asia at the National War College, Washington, says the real stuff happens in dedicated chat rooms on encrypted apps — from bomb designs to active coordination. The female recruits serve as financiers, recruiters and coordinators; they collect funds from radicalised maids and send them to domestic *jihadi* groups. India is sitting on a tinderbox. When elementary school children chant obnoxious slogans against the nation and its top leadership, the masterminds behind the scenes should ponder what poison harvest they will reap from these toxic seeds. *Azadi* cannot hide behind the *tiranga*; India will never submit to further loss of territory.

(The author is a senior journalist)

SOUNDBITE

This is not mere mismanagement of the economy. It is the destruction of lives and livelihoods of millions of Indians while Modi's rich cronies continue to benefit and fund BJP.



CPI(M) general secretary
—Sitarum Yechury

The world is respectful; there's a lot to do and give. And for the first time, I can think about myself. Let me be a little self-centered and enjoy what I have earned.



Actor
—Kangana Ranaut

We will not take retaliatory action against India over its boycott of palm oil purchases amid a political row between the two nations. We are too small to take action.



Malaysian Prime Minister
—Mahathir Mohamad

Our job is to explain to people that we are right and they are wrong. Just because we have numbers today we can't do terror politics. Let's go to people explaining benefits of CAA.



WB BJP vice president
—Chandra Kumar Bose

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Whose sentence?

Sir — One fails to understand why so many chances are being given to depraved humans indulging in heinous acts. Why do we need to empathise with an undeserving handful of the worst behaved citizens? It is time to change this thinking. There is a worldwide debate on whether the death penalty stands scrutiny. There have been strong arguments for and against. Suffice it to say that our legal system currently allows death penalty to be prescribed only for the rarest of rare cases.

Rather than discussing this aspect, I would like to draw attention to the "sentence" meted out by criminals to innocent citizens for no fault of theirs. The relatives of the accused, sometimes abetted by the local officials, put pressure on the victim to withdraw the case. The victim and her family thus live under fear and dread constantly. Now activists have joined the bandwagon. Instead of focussing on the human rights of the criminals, why do we not vociferously argue about the right to life and liberty of the victim as guaranteed by Article 21 of our

Nation at the cusp of political extremes

The nation is passing through trying times with the Modi Government at its nadir of popularity. Its reputation as the architect of "modern" India has taken a sound beating. The nation-wide protests over the Citizenship Amendment Act (CAA) has doused all intentions of the Modi-Shah duo to usher the country into a "golden" period. Branded as "dictatorial", the BJP's rule has only created a wedge between communities. Every decision of the Government that was flung at the people has been met with "distrust" and "apprehension." A slew of laws that have been passed in recent times have had a debilitating effect on the secular fabric of the country. The ruling dispensation's agenda, which is to alienate the masses, is not difficult to understand.

Nevertheless, one would certainly not want to believe in "hearsay" and rather expect the Government to come clean on its will and intention on issues that matter to the country. By allowing "misinformation" and "rumours" to dwell in the minds of the people, the saffron party is doing a disservice to its own image. The highly-hyped "*Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas, Sabka Vishwas*" slogan sounds all but hollow now. A massive public mandate does not give any Government the right to push through with its agenda at the cost of public sentiments.

Constitution? Or the human right against cruelty in the Universal Declaration?

It is ironic how those, who brutally violate the rights of another, clamour for their own rights to be protected and are listened to

with a great show of fairness. Those adults, who commit these heinous crimes, know it well that they are punishable with severe sentences.

Padmini Raghavendra
Secunderabad



Agreed, every Government is well within its right to frame legislations. But shouldn't they be implemented after proper deliberations? More importantly, after taking the people into confidence? What we see now is that a "popular" Government installed at the Centre is hell-bent to dislodge its predecessor but has earned the wrath of the countrymen for "authoritarianism" and "evasiveness" that has become its "virtue." Will the citizenship imbroglio make the people of the country seek a change of guard at the Centre? In any case, oscillating between the Congress and the BJP is the only answer right now.

Pachu Menon
Marga

Stop interfering

Sir — US President Donald Trump and Swedish climate activist Greta Thunberg are both attending the ongoing World

Economic Forum (WEF) meet. For sure, Trump will renew his running battle with the young climate campaigner when they join the A-list movers and shakers attending the 50th anniversary of the Davos conclave this week. Thunberg has already made her message clear: Put an end to the fossil fuel "madness." That her missile is aimed at Trump, among others, would be anybody's guess.

Thunberg hogged the limelight when she began a grassroots campaign at the age of 15 by skipping school every Friday to demonstrate outside the Swedish Parliament. The protests had inspired millions of young people to take action against climate change. Her meteoric rise from an ordinary school-going child to becoming a world-renowned climate campaigner must be appreciated. If Trump and other leaders cannot appreciate her efforts to fight climate change, then we can only pity them. If they can't help her cause, they must at least not throw a spanner in her efforts to fight climate change.

TK Nandanani
Chennai

Send your feedback to:
letterstopioneer@gmail.com

FIRST COLUMN

Centre must not lose the vision

Nobody would like solar and wind power generators also to turn into NPAs with the key parameters being compromised



AMIT KUMAR

The national vision of infrastructure services, which raises the quality of life and ease of living in India to global standards, sets the context of the recently-unveiled National Infrastructure Pipeline (NIP) for the next five years. Projects in energy, roads, railways, urban, rural and social infrastructure constitute the NIP. Of the ₹102 lakh crore outlay of the NIP, energy takes the lion's share at 24 per cent of the total investment. Within the energy sector, the share of conventional power, renewable and nuclear energy is 48 per cent, 38 per cent and six per cent respectively. About 42 per cent of the projects are already under implementation whereas 19 per cent are under development and 31 per cent are in the conceptual stage. In both the latter categories, key projects are in the renewable energy sector. According to Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman, the Central and State Governments would have an equal share of 39 per cent each in the NIP. The private sector, on the other hand, would have a 22 per cent share, which the Government expects to increase to 30 per cent by 2025.

Elaborating on the energy sector vision 2025, the NIP Task Force envisages an increase in the total installed capacity from the present 356 GW to 619 GW. Furthermore, it expects the share of thermal power to come down from 66 per cent to 50 per cent while the share of renewables rises from 22 per cent to 39 per cent in 2025. Indeed, renewable energy's share in consumption is envisioned to reach 19 per cent from the present nine per cent. The continued thrust on energy transition is certainly encouraging. Interestingly, unlike the conventional power sector where only six per cent of the NIP is implemented by the private sector, in the renewable energy sector, 100 per cent of implementation would be by the private sector.

Without going into the merits of the projected capacity of 619 GW in a decelerating economy at a time when the existing capacity is either severely underutilised or stressed, the private sector's appetite to reach 241 GW in five years has to be viewed critically. Reasons for slippages in the 12th Five Year Plan outlined in India's National Electricity Plan, 2018 include problems in acquisition of land; issues in timely completion of power evacuation systems plus capacity of the transmission system and issues in availability of adequate finances from banks and financial institutions.

In fact, even now, the challenges pertaining to land availability, transmission infrastructure/connectivity, inordinate payment delays, and discoms' disinclination to sign Power Purchase Agreements (PPAs) for renewable energy continue to act as roadblocks to the sector's growth. On top of it is the tendency of some discoms to renegotiate the existing PPAs because of an excessive obsession with low tariffs elsewhere, without understanding the dynamics of renewable energy technologies. All these factors ultimately have put a dampener on the sentiments of private players. The spate of tender cancellations or multiple rounds of re-bidding is a testimony to this troubling trend.

This in turn has resulted in a perception of political peril among the renewable energy industry, something that would have been unimaginable earlier. Couple it with the risk-averse approach of financial institutions on one hand and a general lack of appetite for new investments by the private sector on the other, and we have a scenario not exactly conducive to implementation of renewable energy projects.

While several Government initiatives such as reverse auctions and ultra-mega solar parks successfully catapulted this sector to commendable heights, it is time for the Government to provide another push by working proactively to remove already well-recognised bottlenecks. A consistent policy regime with long-term visibility is a prerequisite to encourage private sector investments, whether domestic or foreign. Unfortunately, even at the Central level, lack of clarity on various aspects such as applicable GST and safeguard duty did actually disrupt the pace that the industry had gathered. As electricity is a concurrent subject between the Centre and States it adds another layer of complexity. A conducive policy environment at the Centre alone is not sufficient unless it is backed by an equally supportive State-level policy framework. Discoms being the primary buyers of renewable electricity, whether from large plants or from distributed solar energy, their financial health and willingness to purchase renewable electricity play a crucial role. Curtailment from renewable energy generators, overdue payments and reluctance in adopting solar energy are not only indicators of archaic mindsets but are roadblocks. This reinforces the urgent need for reforms in the power sector — much more fundamental and structural than the ones undertaken so far, backed by strong political will. It is equally important to recognise the risks associated with unviable tariffs. No one would like solar and wind power generators also to turn into NPAs with the key parameters being compromised for the sake of artificially created tariff caps. Against this background, it would be crucial for the Centre to seize the initiative to take along the States, bringing them on board for effective delivery through the infrastructure pipeline.

(The writer is Senior Fellow and Senior Director, TERII)

ALMOST 50 LAKH MUSLIM INFILTRATORS WILL BE IDENTIFIED AND CHASED OUT OF THE COUNTRY IF NEEDED.

—WEST BENGAL BJP CHIEF
DILIP GHOSH

POINT COUNTERPOINT



THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE ARE SAFE BECAUSE THEY HAVE MAMATA. WE ARE IN A POSITION TO FIGHT AGAINST NPR AND CAA TO RETAIN THEIR CITIZENSHIP

—WEST BENGAL EDUCATION MINISTER
PARTHA CHATTERJEE

Social experiment gone awry

Because of CAA, even the NRC exercise gets debunked. This gives a further jolt to ethnonationalist identities, who take CAA to be a bigger threat than illegal immigration



PRASENJIT BISWAS

Do those among the linguistic and religious minorities of Assam, who have failed the test of citizenship in the recently-concluded updation of the National Register of Citizens (NRC), become the soft target of the heightened cry for protection of indigenous identity in Assam and North-east India? With the passage of the Citizenship Amendment Act (CAA), one section of those left out of the NRC now gets an opportunity to be citizens, solely on the basis of religion, while another section remains ignored. Does such a contrived outcome make anyone happy in Assam?

Assam's Bengali-origin religious minorities, popularly called *Miyas* or *Bhatiyas* in Brahmaputra Valley and *Bangals* in Barak Valley face the biggest threat of proving their credentials after being left out of the NRC. Those excluded will now have to prepare for a complicated legal battle to prove their citizenship through the Foreigners' Tribunals. These tribunals are supposed to decide the fate of an estimated five lakh presumed illegals and how many would succeed in such a trial is anyone's guess. The tribunals, governed by the Foreigners' Act, 1946, place the "onus of proof" on the suspect and not on the prosecution, making it difficult for a "suspect" to get natural justice. As citizenship is considered the most basic right to have or not to have all other rights, the shifting of the "onus of proof" makes it extremely difficult for anyone to prove credentials. Worse is the case when the tribunals at random *ex parte* declare too many people foreigners. Many of those people have been put in inhumane detention camps in six places, numbering around a thousand, of which 23 have already died in custody.

The protest against the CAA remains silent on this humanitarian crisis and the ignominy of effacing these unfortunate excluded people from public discourse. With the coming of CAA, a section of these excluded people now wait for some redemption, while another section silently prepares for a long and uncertain legal battle that lies ahead. Both the sections, however, face another cultural test of proving their antecedents, which could be satisfied only by accepting the dominant language of the State.

Any democratic movement, such as one currently against the CAA, should have taken into account the plight of these people. But they are looked upon as "foreigners" and "illegal immigrants" whose very presence threatens indigenous language and culture. This is how, much of the protesters favour the NRC to weed them out while they reject the CAA. The CAA bears the signature of sheltering "persecuted religious minorities from three neighbouring countries" and thereby changes the rules of the game with which the NRC was carried out. Because of CAA, even the NRC exercise gets automatically debunked. This gives a further jolt to ethnonationalist identities, who take CAA to be a bigger threat than illegal immigration. The layered and nuanced ideas of citizenship as indigeneity stand in contrast to granting citizenship to a section of illegal immigrants on the basis of religion. In effect, old faultlines between indigenous ethnic identity and non-indigenous Indian citizens is reinvoked, turning both the CAA and NRC exercise as detrimental to the language, land and culture of ethnic groups. The question is no longer just saving the indigenous habitats of North-east from illegals but it is also a question of "protective discrimination" for the native and the indigenous from non-indigenous Indian citizens. The land policy of the Government of Assam



“ THE FEAR AND ANXIETY SURROUNDING THE NEW ENTRIES RELATING TO FATHER'S BIRTHPLACE AND DATE OF BIRTH IN THE NPR FORMAT AND DROPPING OF ALL MUSLIM FESTIVALS FROM THE LIST OF HOLIDAYS SUGGESTED IN THE NPR CREATE A BIGGER SENSE OF DISCRIMINATION. THE SENSE OF PROTECTION GENERATED OUT OF FEAR OF BEING OUTNUMBERED IN THE NORTH-EAST FEEDS THIS FEAR OF DISCRIMINATION AT THE NATIONAL LEVEL AND VICE-VERSA. ALTHOUGH FEAR TRANSMITS EASILY, YET THE CAUSE AND PURPOSE OF ANTI-CAA PROTESTS ALSO REMAIN DIFFERENT BETWEEN THE NORTH-EAST AND THE REST OF INDIA ”

dated clearly why non-indigenous citizens, being settlers cannot buy/own land.

CAA's exclusion of the Sixth Schedule tribal States from its ambit created a sense of heightened anxiety in Assam and Tripura for being forced to accept those non-indigenous settler immigrants who would be legalised by the CAA. The possible demographic impact and squeeze on language and culture has reinvoked the fear of getting outnumbered. To rein in such a majoritarian impact of the CAA, there are rising demands for introduction of an Inner Line Permit (ILP) system to physically restrict the movement of other citizens from outside the State.

In a sense, the CAA meets its toughest resistance from such demands of protective discrimination, as it would further alienate the North-east and its people from the mainstream while ensuring their specific rights. Certainly this would negatively impact economic transaction between the North-east and the rest of India and as a corollary break the idea of seamless economic connections with South and South-east Asian countries, as mooted in the Act East Policy of the Centre.

The governance structure of States in the North-east seemingly is not able to face the implosion of sentiments of ethnic and indigenous groups against the CAA and is also unable to contain the fight against the CAA from relapsing into a full fight against the State and the Government. In an Assam-specific way, a slew of measures like amendment to Article 345, 347 and Article 371B to ensure protection of Assam as the State language, culture and identity of the people of Assam has been announced by the State Government to neutralise the anti-CAA protests, but social organisations are not convinced of some measures. They argued that if protective measures had preceded CAA, probably it would not have become such a big

protest. The shift of focus in the protest from illegal immigrants to strict measures of protection in Assam and Tripura not only created an alternative political discourse of pre-colonial identity assertion and securing of homelands, but it also harmed those who are supposed to benefit from the CAA, notably the Hindu Bengalis. This change into community affirmation rigidly redraws several boundaries, creates a reverse discrimination towards the beneficiaries of the CAA by uniting everyone else.

The announcement of the National Population Register (NPR) at the national level and much of the resistance to the idea that the NPR and National Register of Indian Citizens (NRIC) are the same arose from transmission of Northeastern reactions to the mainland due to greater visibility of protests in the North-east. After the first wave of protests in the North-east, major Indian cities witnessed a stir against the NPR and NRC exercise that are supposed to supplement CAA by separating the infiltrators from persecuted religious minorities. This inherently differentiating tenor of CAA made a nationwide resurgence of demands for a caste census and rejection of any test of citizenship. The dystopic Assam experience occupied much of the national imagination in calling for a boycott of NPR cum NRIC, especially when CAA makes it clearer for whom the bell will toll.

The fear and anxiety surrounding the new entries relating to father's birthplace and date of birth in the NPR format and dropping of all Muslim festivals from the list of holidays, as suggested in the NPR, create a bigger sense of discrimination. The sense of protection generated out of fear of being outnumbered in the North-east feeds this fear of discrimination at the national level and vice-versa. Although fear transmits easily, yet the cause and pur-

pose of anti-CAA protests also remain different between North-east and the rest of India. The question of defending the Constitution, an essential part of the pan-Indian discourse of resistance to CAA finds very little speck in the North-east where the it is more about protection from the non-indigenous and the illegals. The convergences and the divergences are both ingenious as they promise to set up new equations and alliances between social identities. The beauty of such disjointed resistance to the CAA is that it gives rise to a new form of federal relations. How the Government manages it will decide the future course of politics in India.

It is also worth nothing the debates centering around some of the States opposing implementation of the CAA and their moves by filing cases against it in the Supreme Court. Interestingly enough, Arunachal Pradesh, being a State with ILP is exempted from CAA, yet it has decided to file a petition in the apex court opposing any procedure to grant citizenship to Chakma and Hajong refugees. It is also widely contended that the CAA might lead to exodus of tribal refugees from CAA-exempted tribal States of the North-east to Tripura and Assam, where they can apply for citizenship through CAA. The case of Bengali Hindu refugees in Bodoland Territorial Council of Assam is even more dismal, as they have to move out of areas falling under the council and resettle in a neighbouring district within Assam to become eligible to apply under CAA. While these anomalies continue, the lived reality of "illegal immigrants" continues to be difficult, as they try to survive through double-edged laws granting benefit and withholding them at the same time.

(The writer is Associate Professor at North Eastern Hill University, Shillong and a human rights activist)

Let religion lead to peace, prosperity

Religious leaders and theologians from across the country should come together to review the different faiths from the perspective of pluralism and social justice



EDUARDO FALEIRO

Religion has emerged as a major source of conflict across the globe. Ideological strife has now given place to the "clash of civilisations" and it is felt that in the foreseeable future, religion will be a major source of conflict within and among nations. The possibilities of conflict are greater in countries such as India where different cultures and religions meet. However, such clashes can be prevented if appropriate strategies are formulated and implemented at an early stage so as to ensure religious harmony.

The United Nations (UN) designates the first week of February every year as the World Interfaith Harmony Week. All religions lead to the same God and differences among them are not essential. Indeed, the goal of every religion is the same. The spir-

it of the founders of the different religions was the same though rituals differ. All religions proclaim similar principles.

Mahatma Gandhi, who devoted a large part of his life to the study of religion and discussions with religious leaders of all faiths, affirmed that every scripture should be treated equally, that there is no justification for the claim of supremacy of any one religion and that we are all children of the same God.

He said, "What is needed is a living friendly contact among the followers of the religions of the world and not a clash among them in the fruitless attempt on the part of each community to show the supremacy of its faith over the rest."

Swami Vivekananda asserted that all religions preach ethics, virtues and good character. Yet, all major religions, instead of uniting people often divide them due to the lack of understanding of the purpose of religion by their followers.

India has the largest number of religions and religious people in the world. In our country, we have millions of Hindus, Muslims, Christians, Sikhs, Jains and Buddhists. There are also Parsees and Jews. We have eight religions in India, the maximum number of religions and religious people anywhere in the world. Communal har-

mony is essential for peace and stability in the country.

Article 51A of the Constitution affirms that it is the fundamental duty of every citizen to promote harmony among the people of the nation transcending religious, linguistic and regional or sectional diversities. Respect for religious diversity and interfaith dialogue are an essential and urgent need.

Some years ago, I decided to study the issues that affect inter-religious peace and harmony in the country. In this connection, I visited several States and held meetings with leaders and organisations of different religions. I spent the whole of September 2004 in the villages of Odisha, in the districts of Kandhamal and Mayurbhanj, where Graham Staines and his two sons were killed some years earlier.

The purpose of my visit was to study and understand the open confrontation that has existed for long in that State between Christian and Hindu missionaries for conversion and re-conversion (*ghar vapsi*) respectively. I informed Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik of what I had observed in those areas and he promised to take necessary action. Mainline Christian theologians see both the Sangh Parivar's Hindutva ideology and Christian campaigns for evange-

lisation as having a fundamentalist attitude and an aggressive methodology to achieve their respective goals.

Proselytism is opposed on several grounds; it attacks other religious beliefs and practices and asserts that its own religion is the only way to *moksha* (salvation). It is often supported by financial resources and marketing techniques that make local religious activities seem shabby.

The Federation of Asian Bishops Conferences (FABC) articulates its theological vision thus, "Asia is the womb of the great world religions. All great scriptural religions were born on Asian soil. The Church has to be in constant dialogue with the religions of Asia and to embark on this with great seriousness... There may be more truth about God and life than is made known to us through the Church. As such, Christians who take Jesus Christ's injunction seriously must search for this truth in the various religions of the world."

On the question of proselytism, the FABC says, "A phenomenon which continues to awaken the most resentment among the peoples of Asia is that of proselytism and conversion. In the minds of Asians, the Church's primary objective seems to be to convert as many people as she can so as to

increase her little flock. The Church's expansion is also seen as a Western extension. The increase in the number of Church movements engaged in aggressive evangelisation (understood in the very narrow sense of the word) is certainly a cause for concern for our brothers and sisters of other faiths. Perhaps, it might be good to be reminded of the golden rule which nearly all religions speak of: Do not do to others what you do not want done to yourself."

The traditional way of teaching religion puts emphasis on theology and rituals ignoring the social dimension, namely the need for interaction and tolerance among the followers of different religions. Religious leaders and theologians from across the country should come together to review the different religions from the perspective of pluralism and social justice.

The following steps ought to be taken to ensure peace and harmony in India: Organised drives for conversion and reconversion should stop. They violate the Constitution. The Government should promote an agreement among the religious heads of all the major faiths in the country to stop proselytism. Given the positive mindset of theologians belonging to different religions, this is possible.

Combat all forms of expression which incite sectarian hatred and take action against dissemination of such material in the media.

Adequate training and awareness programmes about religion and religious harmony for young leaders at all levels and Government officials, particularly the police and other law enforcement agencies, judges, teachers and social workers must be held.

Introduce inter-religious education in schools as part of the curriculum so as to promote communal harmony.

Assure all victims of religious intolerance adequate support and speedy administrative and judicial remedies.

Provide effective access to all citizens, including religious minorities, to the decision-making process in society.

Counter social exclusion and marginalisation in particular by providing adequate access to all to education, health and employment. Pay specific attention to development of vulnerable groups such as tribals and other weaker sections and those who suffer discrimination on different grounds.

With this we will ensure peace that fosters inclusive development.

(The writer is a former Union Minister)

CITIZENSHIP AMENDMENT ACT

No explanation can satisfy me, says Ker Guv

PTI ■ THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

Kerala Governor Arif Mohammad Khan said on Monday that he was not satisfied with the explanation given by the Chief Secretary on the Left Government moving the Supreme Court against the Citizenship law without informing him.

"No explanation can satisfy me", the Governor told reporters here this evening. "My view is approval is

needed. They have gone to the Supreme Court without informing me. That is an unlawful act. Not legally correct. Hence it is neither a clash of egos or personal differences", he said.

Chief Secretary Tom Jose met the Governor on Monday, a day after the latter sought a report from the Left government over moving the apex court against the Citizenship Amendment Act without informing him.

Mamata to pass anti-CAA resolution in House

SAUGAR SENGUPTA ■ KOLKATA

After Kerala and Punjab it is Bengal's turn to pass resolution rejecting the Citizenship Amendment Act. Accusing the BJP of playing a "dangerous game" by forcibly imposing CAA and National Population Register Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee on Monday said the Trinamool Congress too will pass a resolution against the CAA soon. The move is a sharp departure from the stand taken by her Government a few days ago.

Moments before leaving for North Bengal where he subsequently told an audience that her Government would never allow either CAA or NPR to take place in Bengal, Banerjee said "the NPR is a very dangerous game... it is National Citizenship Register in dis-

guise and is being pushed through in the name of NPR. We condemn the Centre's move for NPR."

Accusing BJP for trying to squeeze out absurd information from the citizens in the name of NPR so as to use it against them in future Banerjee said CAA, NRC and NPR are multiple sides of the same act adding her Government would soon pass a resolution rejecting CAA.

"We passed a resolution against NRC and CAB—which was only a bill then—a few months ago. Now as it has become a law will pass a resolution against CAA and demand its withdrawal," Banerjee said adding the resolution will be passed within 4-5 days.

The Left and the Congress immediately lashed out at the



Chief Minister for "making volte-face too often," Opposition Leader Abdul Mannan and Left Legislature Party Leader Sujan Chakrabarty said: "only a few days we had brought the proposal in the State Assembly but the government stopped the Congress and the Left from bringing a resolution against the CAA like Kerala and Punjab... now finding that the

public opinion is going against her she has hurriedly decided to pass the resolution."

On NPR Banerjee said, "I have come to know from media reports that they are demanding absurd information about the parents of a person in the NPR format. There is a column seeking information about parents, their birth place and birth certificate. How can anyone provide such information..."

"They say that the column is optional. Have you seen any blank column in the mark sheet when you appear for an examination. This is a mischievous column. I want to know that if this column is not mandatory then why they have put it there? Again where is a

guarantee that if you do not provide the information your name will not be marked for future reference in NRC or things like that? We have passed a resolution against NPR and request all the States including the BJP-ruled states of the North East to follow suit."

State BJP leader JP Majumdar said such resolutions are of little value in the face of a parliamentary law.

In a public meeting at Darjeeling, she said, "Even I will not be able to provide these documents," adding how the other parties were acting hypocritically by making loud comments in the media against the CAA but joining the meeting in Delhi on NPR.

When asked as to whether she would like to call a meeting of opposition leaders in order to unite them Banerjee

said she might invite the Chief Ministers particularly of the north-eastern States to take a decision on the issue.

"I have no problem in hosting a meeting of the Chief Ministers in Kolkata if they are interested to join it," she said appealing to all the Chief Ministers and Governments of the North East like Tripura, Assam and elsewhere to oppose, CAA, NRC and NPR.

Meanwhile, BJP leader Chandra Bose on Monday wondered whether imposing any law on the people without their consent was the right way of doing things. The grand nephew of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose said, "you cannot impose a law. You cannot threaten the people to follow some law. This is not fare in democracy."



Protesters display placards and raise slogans during a rally against the Citizenship Amendment Act (CAA), National Register of Citizenship (NRC) and National Population Register (NPR), in Karad on Monday PTI

Missionary school principals, church priests rally against it

Kolkata: Principals of missionary schools and church priests on Monday took out a rally to register their protest against the Citizenship Amendment Act and the National Register of Citizens.

The participants walked a 1.5-km distance from St Paul's Cathedral to the Gandhi statue in the city, holding placards that read "No division among people", "We are all children of Jesus" and "No CAA". They also chanted hymns in English and Bengali.

"We only wanted to drive home the message that all are equal and we should not discriminate between religions and communities," said the principal of a renowned missionary school. The Kolkata diocese of the Church of North India (CNI) also urged other protestant churches to join the rally.

"This was the first time the CNI, Kolkata Diocese, convened such a large anti-CAA rally here. We chose two points for the march — St Paul's Cathedral, that is part of the heritage of the city, and the statue of Mahatma, an apostle of non-violence and harmony," a spokesman said. PTI



Muslim women stage a protest against CAA and NRC near Ghanlaghar in old city area of Lucknow on Monday PTI

Seers to 'clear confusion' over citizenship law: VHP

Allahabad: The Vishva Hindu Parishad on Monday said seers will travel to villages to dispel the "confusion" being created over the Citizenship Amendment Act.

The decision was taken at a meeting here of the VHP "margdarshak mandal". Mandal member Akhileshwaranand told reporters that the "sadhus" will go from village to village and tell people, especially Muslims, that the new law does not take away anyone's citizenship.

He said the seers also expressed happiness over the abrogation of the special status of Jammu & Kashmir

and thanked the Union Government for "removing hurdles" in the way of national unity.

On the construction of the Ram temple in Ayodhya, Akhileshwaranand said the VHP will declare a date after the Centre sets up the trust for that.

In a landmark judgment on November 9 last year, the Supreme Court had directed the Centre to set up a trust in three months to formulate a scheme for the construction of a Ram temple at the site where the Babri mosque was demolished.

was PTI

Akhilesh pitches for caste census; criticises NRC, NPR

Lucknow: Samajwadi Party president Akhilesh Yadav on Monday called the Centre's plans on NPR and NRC "anti-poor" and pitched for conducting a caste census. Yadav has made the suggestion in the past as well. His demand now comes days after the Odisha Cabinet adopted a resolution seeking revelation of caste details in the next Census.

Referring to an earlier Census, he said, "We all wanted a caste census but the Congress did not let that happen and the numbers did not come out."

He said the Census is going to take place again. "But again we are

not going to be counted."

"The reason is that the day the caste census takes place, the Hindu-Muslim conflict will come to an end," he said without elaborating. He added that once this happens "nobody will be upset with Yadav brothers". Yadav was addressing party workers at an event here to welcome new members to the SP. They included leaders at the block panchayat level and those who had fought elections in the past.

Criticising the National Register of Citizens (NRC) in Assam, he claimed it had created a rift in that state.

Lakhs of people in Assam had

found themselves excluded from the NRC at the end of the exercise to weed out illegal migrants. The SP chief claimed that the NRC and the recently enacted Citizenship Amendment Act (CAA) are "anti-poor". In an apparent reference to the recent criticism of the NRC and the National Population Register (NPR), he said the poor will find it difficult to get their date of birth certificates.

"Earlier there were no calendars and the birthdays of most people in villages were based on festivals," he said. He compared this to the inconvenience people went through when the Narendra Modi govern-

ment demonetised high-value currency notes.

"The BJP created a rift between the rich and poor through demonetisation. All of us stood in queues. Tell me how many farmers benefited. And the dream that corruption and terrorism will be eradicated, what happened to it?" he said.

Hitting out at the BJP Government in Uttar Pradesh, the former chief minister claimed that the state has now become "number one in cybercrime, crime against women and children, bad quality midday meals, fake encounters, unemployment and farmer suicides." PTI

NPR aims to get caste, ideology information: Ambedkar

Nagpur: Vanchit Bahujan Aghadi chief Prakash Ambedkar on Monday said the Centre's National Population Register exercise was an "evil design" aimed at ferreting out information about the caste and ideology of people in the country.

The Centre had, on December 24, approved ₹ 3,941.35 crore for updating the National Population Register. As per the Government, the NPR is a list of "usual residents" of the country, with "usual resident" being defined as a person who has resided in a local area for the past six months or more, or a person who intends to reside in that area for the next six months or more. The motive of the Government is to get caste and ideology information of every family. This is an evil design of the Narendra Modi government," Ambedkar told reporters here.

The National Population Register (NPR) was prepared in 2010 under the provisions of the Citizenship Act, 1955 and Citizenship Rules, 2003, and was subsequently updated in 2015 by seeding it with Aadhaar. PTI



Protesters hold placards during a rally against CAA and NRC, in Kolkata on Monday PTI

Assam's prominent personalities write to CJI

Guwahati: Ten prominent personalities of Assam, including Sahitya Akademi awardees Hiren Gohain and Homen Borgohain and eminent filmmaker Jahnua Barua, have written to Chief Justice of India Sharad Arvind Bobde urging him to deliberate on the prevailing "public outrage and anger in the country".

The letter, made available to the media on Monday, stated that the Government has characterised the ongoing protests across in the country as being organised by "mischievous elements" whereas the "reaction of thousands of people has earned the sympathy of all right thinking sections of the society".

"It is quite possible that there may have been certain excesses, as mentioned in some press reports, and these are to be deplored but the public discontent and unrest can hardly be dismissed as wilful violence, as is being currently done by the Government," the letter said.

Signatories to the letter include Sahitya Akademi awardee Nagen Saikia, scientist Dinesh Chandra Goswami, former Gauhati University vice chancellor Gajendra Nath Talukdar and ex-principals of Cotton College and Gauhati Medical College, Udayaditya Bharali and N N Barman respectively.

"The younger generation as admitted by all impartial observers is particularly aggrieved and agitated by certain issues that have cast a dark shadow on their lives."

"In Assam, the threat of unchecked migration from neighbouring countries like Bangladesh had been compared by the Supreme Court to a silent invasion and the NRC for Assam was expeditiously prepared under the monitoring of the highest Court," it said. The letter said that at this juncture, granting citizenship to a large number of foreigners will put immense pressure on scant resources of the state and its native population. PTI

CDS Rawat says difficult to predict war scenario with Pak

PTI ■ THANJAVUR (TN)

Chief of Defence Staff Gen Bipin Rawat on Monday said it was very difficult to predict if a scenario of a war with Pakistan would emerge or not but all the defence services were prepared to take on any challenge.

The top general, who inducted the Sukhoi-30 MKI squadron here, was responding to a question about any possibility of a war emerging between India and Pakistan.

"All the defence services are tasked to be prepared for any option that may emerge. It is very difficult to predict a scenario. But, we are always prepared for any task that may

be assigned to us," Gen Rawat said.

The Chief of Defence Staff (CDS) said his new role was aimed at integrating defence systems and the three services (the Army, the Navy and the Indian Air Force).

It was for this reason the post of CDS was created, he said.

"We will keep moving towards better integration and jointness," Rawat, who was appointed the country's first Chief of Defence Staff on December 30 last year, added.

On strengthening the Air base here, Air Chief Marshal Rakesh Kumar Singh Bhaduria said it will undertake the role of the southern penin-

sula's air defence.

The Indian Air Force commissioned a squadron of Sukhoi-30 MKI at the Air Force Station here, the first such base in south India for the high profile fighter jets, seen as a gamechanger in guarding the strategically important Indian Ocean Region (IOR).

The "Tigersharks" squadron of Sukhoi 30 MKI jets integrated with the BrahMos cruise missiles was inducted in the presence of the Air Chief and top officials.

The Su-30 MKI is a state-of-the-art all weather multi-role fighter aircraft capable of undertaking varied air defence, ground attack and maritime missions. A defence release said with

First Su-30 MKI squadron inducted in south India

PTI ■ THANJAVUR

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Sukhoi-30MK1 fighter aircraft squadron take off from the Thanjavur airbase during its induction ceremony into the Indian Air Force on Monday PTI

the operationalisation of the 222 Squadron, the air defence capabilities of the IAF, particularly in the Southern Air Command area will be strengthened.

"This would also provide protection to our island territories and sea lines of communication in the Indian Ocean Region. The IOR is increasingly gaining importance and the presence of a fighter squadron will provide security cover to all our strategic and vital assets in the region."

The squadron that was inducted was raised at Ambala in 1969. During the IAF exercise Gagan Shakti-2018, the capabilities of this aircraft were amply demonstrated. Also, it showcased an extended air operational range with the help of air to air refuelling by the IL-78 flight refuelling aircraft.

3 Hizbul terrorists killed in Shopian encounter

MOHIT KANDHARI ■ JAMMU

In yet another successful joint operation by the security forces, a group of three terrorists headed by a dreaded Hizbul Mujahideen commander Waseem Ahmad Wani along with Adil Bashir, former Special Police Officer of J&K police, who decamped with seven AK-47 rifles and a pistol belonging to security guards of a former PDP MLA, Aijaz Ahmad Mir, were killed in Wachi area of Shopian on Monday.

Since January 1, eight terrorists have been killed in four successful operations in Kashmir valley.

Addressing a press conference in Srinagar, DGP Dilbagh Singh said, "three terrorists

were gunned down by the security forces in a successful operation in Shopian district on Monday". DGP said, the killed terrorists have been identified as Waseem Ahmad Wani resident of Wurchora Nagbal Shopian, Adil Bashir Sheikh resident of Zainapora Shopian and Hidayatullah Malik resident of Sharadpora Shopian.

DGP said, the killed terrorists as per police records were affiliated with proscribed terror outfit Hizbul Mujahideen and were wanted by law for their complicity in terror crimes including attack on security establishments and civilian atrocities.

Briefing media persons Dilbagh Singh said, "HM Commander Waseem and Adil

Bashir were both involved in killing of four police personnel and four civilians in the area". He said, a total number of 19 FIRs were registered against Waseem Ahmad Wani.

As per police records, Wani had a history of terror crime records since 2017.

Similarly Adil Bashir as per police records had a history of terror crime records since 2018. He was involved in many terror attacks and civilian atrocities.

He was involved in case FIR No 57/2018 pertaining to the decamping of weapons from Jawahar Nagar area. He was part of groups involved in killing of civilian Nadeem Manzoor at Safnagri, killing of four policemen at guard post in



Army soldiers during an encounter in which top three militant commanders were killed, at Wani in Shopian district of south Kashmir on Monday

Zainapora, killing of 02 civilians Ilyas Khan & Zahid Khan at Chitragram Shopian and

killing of civilian Irfan Hamid Lone of Zainapora for which case FIR No 25/2019 stands

registered. Several other terror crime cases were also registered against him including case FIR numbers 12/2019, 23/2019, 25/2019, 27/2019, 39/2019, 49/2019, 56/2019, 61/2019, 62/2019, 01/2020 of PS Zainapora.

Before joining police ranks in 2017, Adil was a stone-pelter and was having links with terrorists, official sources said.

The third terrorist, Hidayatullah Malik, as per police records was also involved in terror attacks and other crimes in the area.

Meanwhile, Inspector General of Police Jammu Zone, Mukesh Singh- IPS, Monday chaired a meeting to review security arrangements to ensure incident free Republic

day celebrations.

During the meeting IGP directed the officers to carry out intensive foot patrolling and surveillance of the areas in and around the M.A. Stadium Jammu to prevent any terror strike.

On the border management front, IGP stressed upon the DIG JSK Range and district SSP Jammu, to lay joint security check points on all the infiltration routes and also on the roads originating from border and touching national highway. He also stressed on checking of hotels and other lodgements on regular basis, setting up of joint nakas in border areas so that ANE/ASE trying to sneak in the city are intercepted in border area.

Union Ministers to visit Kashmir as part of Centre's J&K outreach programme

Aim is to make people aware of the 'positive impact' of abrogation of Article 370

Srinagar: Only five out of 36 Union Ministers will be visiting Kashmir as part of the Centre's outreach programme in the newly-created Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir.

According to officials, the ministers visiting the Valley over the next four days are Telecommunications Minister Ravi Shankar Prasad, HRD minister Ramesh Pokhriyal, Minority Affairs Minister Mukhtar Abbas Naqvi, Minister of State for Defence Shripad Naik and minister of state for Home Affairs G Kishan Reddy.

Naqvi will kick-start the valley leg of the outreach programme on Tuesday where he will lay the foundation stone for a high school in the Dara area on the outskirts of Srinagar.

He will also lay the foundation stone for the water conservation project at Sarband in the Harwan area of the city.

Reddy will begin his two-day programme of interactions in Ganderbal district on Wednesday, while Prasad will be stationed in Baramulla district for two days starting Thursday.

Naik will be in Srinagar on Thursday, while Pokhriyal will be in the summer capital of the union territory on Friday.

According to the officials, only eight meetings are scheduled to be held in Kashmir over the next four days, while over 50 such meetings and programmes are scheduled in the Jammu division.

The aim of the visits by Ministers is to make people aware of the "positive impact" of abrogation of Article 370, which granted erstwhile state of Jammu and Kashmir the special status, and share "development initiatives taken by the Government" with them, the officials said.

AP introduces Bill to give shape to 3 capitals plan

Amaravati: The YS Jagan Mohan Reddy Government on Monday introduced a Bill in the Andhra Pradesh Legislative Assembly to give shape to its plan of having three capitals for the state, with the executive capital in Visakhapatnam, Legislative capital in Amaravati and judicial capital in Kurnool.

The AP Decentralisation and Inclusive Development of All Regions Bill, 2020, also provides for dividing the State into various zones and establishing zonal planning and development boards. The village and (municipal) ward secretariats system that the Government brought in in October last year now gets statutory backing as it has been made part of the new Bill.

Moving the Bill in the

Assembly on the first day of the extended winter session, Finance and Legislative Affairs Minister Buggana Rajendranath said the government decided to enact a new legislation for decentralisation and inclusive development of all regions in the state for ensuring "balanced and inclusive growth" of AP.

"Regional imbalances, absence of equitable growth have caused an acute sense of deprivation among various sections of the state population, leading to disturbances.

"The logical solution would be to lay emphasis on distributed development and decentralised administration to ensure fruits of socio-economic progress are enjoyed



Police stop farmers arriving from various villages to lay siege to the Assembly in protest against the three-capital proposal for State of Andhra Pradesh, at Velagapudi in Guntur district on Monday

equally by people of various regions," the Minister said, quoting the recommendations

of the High-Power Committee of ministers and bureaucrats, which formed the basis of the

new legislation.

The TDP members raised objection to the introduction of the Bill and stormed the Speakers podium. Amid the din, the Government also moved another Bill to repeal the AP Capital Region Development Authority Act, 2014. The Government said it intended to constitute a new Amaravati Metropolitan Region Development Area under the provisions of AP Metropolitan Region and Urban Development Authorities Act, 2016.

The CRDA Act was enacted on December 22, 2014 for the development of the state capital post-bifurcation with a specific area demarcated as the Capital region.

Jammu IGP reviews security arrangements for R-DAY

Jammu: A senior police officer on Monday reviewed security arrangements for the Republic Day celebrations here, stressing for a proper briefing to the security personnel deployed in view of the threat of terror attacks and frequent ceasefire violations by Pakistan.

Jammu zone Inspector General of Police Mukesh Singh also called for effective and coordinated efforts at the grassroots level for a smooth conduct of the main function to be held at M A Stadium, a police spokesman said.

J&K DGP: No bar on probing past crimes of Davinder Singh

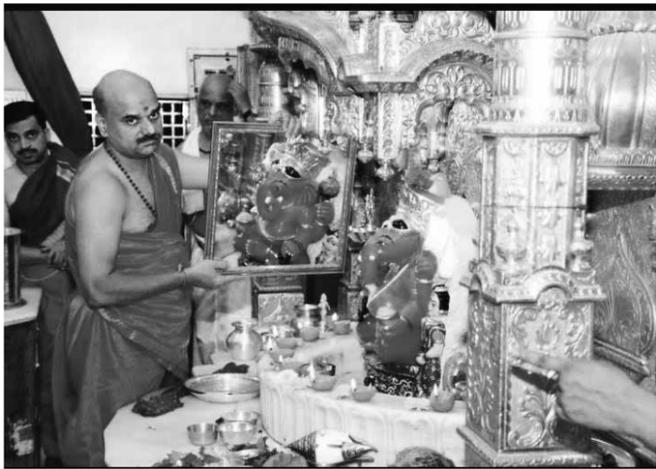
Srinagar: Jammu & Kashmir DGP Dilbagh Singh on Monday said there was no bar on investigating past crimes committed by sacked police officer Davinder Singh.

"There is no bar on investigating any complaints against him (Davinder Singh) if we receive a formal complaint," the DGP told reporters.

He was responding to a question about reports that the sacked police officer had committed several illegal acts in early years of his career but those acts were overlooked.

A senior police officer posted with the strategic anti-hijacking team at the Srinagar airport, Davinder Singh was arrested along with two terrorists whom he was allegedly ferrying in a car in Kashmir Valley. "You are talking about incidents of long ago. The officers concerned at that time must have looked into it. But there is no bar on investigating if something comes to the fore formally," he said.

Mumbai's Siddhi Vinayak temple gets new look



Mumbai's famed Siddhi Vinayak temple at Prabhadevi in north-central Mumbai wears gilded look now. Using 35 kilograms of gold worth ₹14 crore donated by an anonymous devotee from New Delhi, the temple authorities have covered the wooden doors with golden leaves and lined up the pillars, dome and interior walls surrounding the presiding deity with pure gold. "The work of refurbishment of temple with gold that lasted for six months has been completed. For the first time in its 220-year history, the temple wears a golden look," says Shree Siddhivinayak Ganapati Temple Trust (SSGT) chairman and Marathi film actor Aadesh Bandekar



SAIBABA BIRTHPLACE ROW

Satisfied with CM's assurance, villagers call off stir

TR RAGHUNATHA ■ MUMBAI

A fierce controversy over Pathri village in Parbhani district being declared as birthplace of Saibaba blew over on Monday, after Maharashtra Chief Minister Uddhav Thackeray withdrew his earlier statement and said that Pathri would be developed as a pilgrim centre and not as the birthplace of the 19th century saint.

The people of Shirdi and 30 neighbouring villages — who had on an agitation for the past few days in protest against the chief minister's recent statement that Pathri would be developed as Saibaba's birthplace — called off their indefinite agitation after a delegation of their leaders, Shri Saibaba Sansthan Trust (SSST) CEO, local elected representatives met Uddhav, his Cabinet colleagues Ajit Pawar, Congress Balasaheb Thorat and Aditya Thackeray.

At the meeting, Uddhav told the aggrieved villagers that he was withdrawing his earlier statement describing Pathri as the birthplace of Saibaba. He said that Pathri village in Parbhani district of Marathwada region would be developed as pilgrim centre at a cost of ₹100 crore and not as the birthplace of Saibaba.

The people of Shirdi and neighbouring had opposed the chief minister's reference to Pathri as the birthplace of Saibaba so much so that they had observed a total bandh in the temple town on Sunday,



causing considerable inconvenience to thousands of devotees visiting the place for a darshan of the presiding deity at the temple there.

During his meeting with the delegation from Shirdi, the chief minister said: "I do not know if Pathri is the birthplace of Saibaba or not. I am not a researcher. Based on the information that I had received, I had made a mention of Pathri being the birthplace of Saibaba."

"You should have taken me into confidence before resorting to a bandh in Shirdi... Let's not have a controversy over Saibaba's birthplace. The state government will allocate funds to Pathri village as a pilgrim centre. As the Chief Minister, all the people are equal to me. Let's all of us pray before Saikaba," Uddhav told the delegation of villagers that met him. In all, there were 40 representatives in the delegation.

The delegates from Shirdi and neighbouring villages told the chief minister that they had no objection whatsoever in Pathri village being developed as a pilgrim centre and not as the birthplace of Saibaba.

Shiv Sena MP from Shirdi S a d a s h i v Lokhande, local BJP MLA R a d h a k r i s h n a V i k h e - P a t i l and SSST's CEO Deepak Muglikar were prominent among others who were present at the meeting.

The controversy over the birthplace of Saibaba had arisen after a delegation of people from Pathri village met the chief minister, during the latter's recent tour of Marathwada. They had claimed that Pathri was the birthplace of the 19th century saint and urged the chief minister to make financial allocation for developing the place into a pilgrim centre.

On his part, the chief minister had announced that Pathri would be developed as a birthplace of Saibaba, that the state government had prepared a development plan for the purpose and that it would soon perform a bhoomi puja for developing a pilgrim centre there.

Following the announcement, the people of Shirdi and neighbouring villages were up in arms against the State Government's Pathri development move. What has surprised many is to how the claim of Pathri being the birthplace of Saibaba has come up all of a sudden.

There is no concrete evidence as to the date or place of birth of Saibaba. However there

is evidence to suggest that Saibaba came to Shirdi when he was about 16 years' old in 1858 and he remained there till his death in 1918.

Three months ahead of his death on October 15, 1918, Saibaba told his devotees he would soon be "leaving his mortal body" (dying). By the end of September 1918, he had high fever and stopped eating. As his condition deteriorated, he asked his disciples to recite holy texts to him and continued to meet visitors. On October 15, 1918 which happened to Vijaydashami, he breathed his last.

His mortal remains were interred at "Buti Wada" in Shirdi, after which it has now become place of worship known today as Shree Samadhi Mandir or Shirdi Sai Baba Temple.

The claim that Saibaba was born in Pathri village in Parbhani district of Marathwada region is based on a reference made in the eighth edition of "Sai Charitra" (history of Saibaba), a Hindi publication brought by the Sai Sansthan between 1972 and 76. So far, the Sai Sansthan has brought out 36 editions of "Sai Charitra".

Incidentally, the eighth edition of "Sai Charitra" in which a mention of Saibaba's birthplace has been made has gone missing. The Shirdi temple authorities have ordered an inquiry into the missing publication which can no way be considered as an authenticated document.

The Executive Engineer, Jirania Division, PWD(R&B), Jirania, Tripura(W) invites e-tender against press NIT No. 17/EE-JRN/PWD/2019-20 Dated 17/01/2020

For "Improvement of road from NH-44(now NH-08) (Champaknagar) to TTAADC H/Q via Balaram Thakur Para and Bikram Molsom (L= 14.00 Km) under Belbari RD Block/ SH: Widening by GSB, Metalling, Carpeting, Sand seal coating & construction of retaining wall, toe wall & CD etc." Job No.TP/COM/11/2019-20.

- With
- Estimated cost: Rs. 9,96,30,825/-
 - Earnest Money: Rs. 9,96,308/-
 - Time of Completion: 24(Twenty four) months.
 - Last Date of bidding for bids-17/02/2020* upto 15.00 Hrs.

For more details kindly visit: <https://tripuratenders.gov.in>

Sd/- Executive Engineer, Jirania Division, PWD(R&B), Jirania, Tripura(W)

ICA/C-2268/2019-20

New Okhla Industrial Development Authority

Administrative Building, Sector - 6, Noida - 201301 (U.P.) Website: www.noidaauthorityonline.com

E-TENDER NOTICE

E-Tenders are invited from firms/contractors registered with UPLC Lucknow for the following jobs against which bids can be uploaded and same shall be opened / downloaded as per schedule mentioned. The details and conditions of all tenders are available on Noida Authority's official website: www.noidaauthorityonline.com & <https://tender.up.nic.in>. Please ensure to see these websites for any changes/amendments & corrigendum etc.

S. no	Job no / Work name	Amount
1	100/D(H)/DD(H)-I/2019-20, M/o Park (Playing Equipment) in Sector-14A, 14, 15, 17, 20, 26, 27, 21 AND 25 etc..	Cost Rs. 27.83 Lacs

Which can be uploaded by date 03.02.2020 upto 5:00 PM. Pre-qualification shall opened/downloaded on date 04.02.2020 at 11:00 AM.

Office :- Sector- 39, Noida Director (Hort.) Noida.

CLEAN, GREEN, SAFE & SECURE NOIDA

Short Notice Inviting e-Tender

No. SSA/Spl-Trg/Dress/461/2019/279 Date : 20.01.2020 Mission Director, Axom Sarba Siksha Abhijan Mission, Kahilipara, Guwahati-19, Assam invites Short tender through e-Tendering process from manufacturing of uniform for supply of Dress for learner of RSTC and NRSTC Centre.

To participate in this tender process through e-procurement document, bidder should have valid Digital Signature Certificate (DSC) of class-II (minimum) and have to register in the portal <https://assamtenders.gov.in> by themselves.

The Bidder who have downloaded the tender schedules containing the tender details, terms and conditions, from the website shall submit their tender on-line on the website <https://assamtenders.gov.in>, with proof of payment of non refundable tender fee of Rs. 5000/- (Rupees five thousand) only in the form of demand draft/Bankers Cheque drawn in favour of Mission Director, Axom Sarba Siksha Abhijan Mission, Kahilipara, Guwahati-19, Assam and payable at Guwahati. The tender should be submitted on-line as per date and time of submission as per prescribed schedule.

Sd/- Mission Director, SSA, Assam, Kahilipara, Guwahati-19

AXIS BANK Retail Asset Centre, Delhi: Axis Bank, Ground Floor, Shop No.03.03(A)04 & 05 Mega City Mall MG Road Gurgaon-122001. Also at: Axis Bank Limited, III Floor, Red Fort Capital Parasvathi Tower, Bhai Veer Singh Marg, Near Gole Market, New Delhi-110001. Retail Asset Centre, Ghaziabad: BF-1A,2,3, 1st Floor, Aditya City Centre, Nili Khand-1, Indrapuram, Ghaziabad-201012. Retail Asset Centre Faridabad: Axis Bank Ltd. SCO-8, Huda Shopping Centre, Sec. 16, Faridabad, Haryana-121002. Retail Asset Centre Gurgaon: Axis Bank Ltd. ASC Gurgaon, SG-107, DLF Galleria Complex, Near Post Office, DLF City Phase 4, Gurgaon-122009. Corporate Office: 'Axis House', Block-B, Bombay Dyeing Mills Compound, Pandurang Budhkar Marg, Worli, Mumbai-400025. Registered Office: 'Trishul', 3rd floor, opposite Samartheswar Temple, Law garden, Ellisbridge, Ahmedabad-380006

POSSESSION NOTICE UNDER SARFAESI ACT 2002

Whereas The undersigned being the Authorized Officer of Axis Bank Ltd. under the Securitisation, Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of the powers conferred under section 13 (2) read with Rule 9 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) rules 2002, issued demand notice upon the Borrower(s)/ Co-Borrower(s)/ Guarantor(s)/ Mortgagor(s) mentioned below, to repay the amount mentioned in the notice within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.

The Borrower(s)/ Co-Borrower(s)/ Guarantor(s)/ Mortgagor(s) having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the Borrower(s)/ Co-Borrower(s)/ Guarantor(s)/ Mortgagor(s) and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him/her here under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the said rules on the below-mentioned dates.

The Borrower(s)/ Co-Borrower(s)/ Guarantor(s)/ Mortgagor(s) in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of Axis Bank Ltd.

The Borrower(s)/ Co-Borrower(s)/ Guarantor(s)/ Mortgagor(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.

Name of Borrower / Co-borrower	Description of Property	1. Date of Demand Notice	2. Date of Possession	3. Amount in Demand Notice (Rs.)
1. M/s Auto Needs (Proprietorship Firm) At - 97/11, Safe Express Building, (Opp. Fun and Food Village) Kapashera Delhi - 110037. Also At: M/s Auto Needs (Proprietorship) Firm) 5012, Mehrauli Road, Gurgaon Haryana -122001	Primary Security - Hypothecation Charge over entire current assets and movable fixed assets of the company both present and future.	1. 5-Oct-19	2. 17-Jan-2020	Rs. 2,89,28,779/-
2. Mr. Viveck Goel (Proprietor of M/s Auto Needs) S/o - Sh.Mool Chand Goel, R/o - H. No-76, Sector -15, Part -I, Gurgaon Haryana -122001	All that part and parcel of Free Hold Commercial Property bearing No - 5012/Mehrauli Road, Gurgaon measuring 204 Sq.Yrd. Bounded as under:-	Rupees Two Lakh Eighty Nine Lakh Twenty Nine Hundred Seven Hundred Seventy Nine Only (₹ 2,89,28,779/-)	17-Jan-2020	Rs. 2,89,28,779/-
3. Mr. Sharad Goel, S/o - Sh.Mool Chand Goel, R/o - H. No - 76-77, Sector -15, Part -I, Gurgaon Haryana -122001	North-As per the Sale Deed East- As per the Sale Deed South-As per the Sale Deed West-As per the Sale Deed	17-Jan-2020	17-Jan-2020	Rs. 2,89,28,779/-

The above-mentioned Borrower(s)/ Co-Borrower(s)/ Guarantor(s)/ Mortgagor(s) are hereby given a 30 days' Notice to repay the amount, else the mortgaged properties will be sold on the expiry of 30 days' from the date of publication of this Notice, as per the provisions under the Rules 8 and 9 of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002.

Date : 21-01-2020, Place : Delhi Authorized Officer, Axis Bank Ltd.

IMF cuts India's growth forecast to 4.8%

PTI ■ DAVOS

The IMF on Monday lowered India's economic growth estimate for the current fiscal to 4.8 per cent and listed, the country's much lower-than-expected GDP numbers as the single biggest drag on its global growth forecast for two years.

In October, the International Monetary Fund (IMF) had pegged India economic growth at 6.1 per cent for 2019.

Listing decline in rural demand growth and an overall credit sluggishness for lowering of India forecasts, IMF Chief Economist Gita Gopinath however said the growth momentum should improve next year

due to factors like positive impact of corporate tax rate reduction.

"Global growth, estimated at 2.9 per cent in 2019, is projected to increase to 3.3 per cent in 2020 and inch up further to 3.4 per cent in 2021," the IMF said while releasing an update to its World Economic Outlook (WEO).

Compared to the October WEO forecast, the estimate for 2019 and the projection for 2020 represent 0.1 percentage point reductions for each year while that for 2021 is 0.2 percentage point lower.

"A more subdued growth forecast for India... Accounts for the lion's share of the downward revisions," the IMF said ahead of the start of the World



Economic Forum (WEF) annual summit here.

India-born IMF Chief Economist Gita Gopinath said growth in India slowed sharply owing to stress in the non-bank financial sector and weak rural

income growth. The country's growth is estimated at 4.8 per cent in 2019, projected to improve to 5.8 per cent in 2020 and 6.9 per cent in 2021 (1.2 and 0.9 percentage point lower than in

the October WEO), supported by monetary and fiscal stimulus as well as subdued oil prices, it added.

2019 refers to fiscal year 2019-20.

India's economy grew just 4.5 per cent in July-September 2019 period -- the weakest pace in nearly six years. The Indian government has been taking various measures to bolster growth.

For the emerging market and developing economy group, the IMF said growth is expected to increase to 4.4 per cent in 2020 and 4.6 per cent in 2021 (0.2 percentage point lower for both years than in the October WEO) from an estimated 3.7 per cent in 2019.

The group reflects a combination of projected recovery from deep downturns for stressed and underperforming emerging market economies and an ongoing structural slowdown in China," it noted.

Gopinath also said the pickup in global growth for 2020 remains highly uncertain as it relies on improved growth outcomes for stressed economies like Argentina, Iran and Turkey, and for underperforming emerging and developing economies such as Brazil, India and Mexico.

Further, the IMF said the balance of risks to the global outlook remains on the downside, but less skewed toward adverse outcomes than in the October WEO.

Taking earnest attempt to decriminalise Companies Law: FM

PTI ■ CHENNAI

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman said the government's earnest attempt was to decriminalise everything that has to do with Companies Law or related acts as part of initiatives towards a \$5 trillion economy.

She said the Government does not want a law that could treat every business house with suspicion.

Delivering the Nani Palkhiwala Memorial lecture on Sunday evening here, Sitharaman said she was impressed with the comments made by TATA Sons Ltd Chairman N Chandrabhaskaran who remarked that the government should trust people and its own citizens.

"My first attempt and also an earnest attempt which continues today is to decriminalise everything to do with Companies law or related laws. The very point Prime Minister

(Narendra Modi) keeps talking," she said.

Sitharaman said in Companies Law, there are a number of sections leading to a criminal approach and penalties of even jail terms.

"I had gone through this with a tooth comb. Decriminalising Companies Law ensuring no other act of Government whether it is Income Tax or your PMLA (Prevention of Money Laundering Act) will have such an impact.

We are making sure that aspect will be addressed," she said. Elaborating, she said "we do not want a law which is going to treat every business house with suspicion. That is not the intent of this government at all."

She said it was one of the initiatives the government had planned as part of steps towards taking the country to a USD 5 trillion economy, ensuring trust between the government and businesses.

Govt begins probe into deposits of unaccounted cash by jewellers during DeMo: Sources

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Armed with information emanating from data analytics, the finance ministry has initiated enquiry into huge amount of cash deposited by jewellers, disproportionate to their known sources of income, during the demonetisation period.

These jewellers under scrutiny have also not reflected such transactions in their return of income for the Assessment Year 2017-18, sources said.

It has been found that huge amount of unaccounted cash was deposited by a number of jewellers during the demonetisation period which they could not explain or justify as sale proceeds and which in one of the case was almost 93,648 per cent of the cash deposited by him vis-a-vis the corresponding period of earlier year, sources said.

India among top 10 FDI recipients, attracts \$49 bn inflows in 2019, says UN report

PTI ■ UNITED NATIONS

India was among the top 10 recipients of Foreign Direct Investment in 2019, attracting \$49 billion in inflows, a 16 per cent increase from the previous year, driving the FDI growth in South Asia, according to a UN report released on Monday.

The Global Investment Trend Monitor report compiled by United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) states that the global foreign direct investment remained flat in 2019 at \$1.39 trillion, a 1 per cent decline from a revised \$1.41 trillion in 2018.

This is against the backdrop of weaker macroeconomic performance and policy uncertainty for investors, including trade tensions, it said.

Developing economies continue to absorb more than half of global FDI flows. South Asia recorded a 10 per cent increase in FDI to \$60 billion and "this growth was driven by India, with a 16 per cent

increase in inflows to an estimated \$49 billion. The majority went into services industries, including information technology," the report said.

India attracted an estimated 49 billion dollars of FDI in 2019, a 16 per cent increase from the 42 billion dollars recorded in 2018, it said.

The FDI flows to developed countries remained at a historically low level, decreasing by a further 6 per cent to an estimated \$643 billion.

The FDI to the European Union (EU) fell by 15 per cent to \$305 billion, while there was zero-growth of flows to United States, which received \$251 billion FDI in 2019, as compared to \$254 billion in 2018, the report said.

Despite this, the United States remained the largest recipient of FDI, followed by China with flows of \$140 billion and Singapore with USD 110 billion. China also saw zero-growth in FDI inflows. Its FDI inflows in 2018 were \$139 billion and stood at \$140 billion in 2019. The FDI in the UK was

down 6 per cent as Brexit unfolded.

The report added that cross-border M&As decreased by 40 per cent in 2019 to USD 490 billion — the lowest level since 2014.

Slowed down by sluggish Eurozone growth and Brexit, European M&A sales halved to \$190 billion. Deals targeting United States companies remained significant — accounting for 31 per cent of total M&As.

The fall in global cross-border M&As sales was deepest in the services sector (a 56 per cent decline to \$207 billion), followed by manufacturing (a 19 per cent decline to \$249 billion) and primary sector (14 per cent decline to \$34 billion), the report said.

In particular, sales of assets related to financial and insurance activities and chemicals fell sharply. The decline in M&A values was driven also by a lower number of megadeals. In 2019, there were 30 megadeals above \$5 billion compared to 39 in 2018, it said.

RATHI BARS LIMITED
 CIN: L74999DL1993PLC054781
 Registered Office: A-24/7, Mohan Co-operative Industrial Estate, Mathura Road, New Delhi-110044
 Web: www.rathibars.com, E-mail: rathibars@hotmail.com
 Ph: +91-11-43165400, Fax: +91-11-40597117

NOTICE OF POSTAL BALLOT AND E-VOTING

Members are hereby informed that pursuant to Section 110 of the Companies Act, 2013 read with Companies (Management and Administration) Rules, 2014, the Company has on January 20, 2020, completed the dispatch of Postal Ballot Notice along with the Postal Ballot Form through:

a) Email to members (as on 10th January, 2020, being the cutoff date) whose email addresses are registered in the records of the depository participants viz. National Securities Depository Limited (NSDL) and Central Depository Services (India) Limited (CDSL); and

b) Physical mode, along with the postage prepaid self-addressed Business Reply Envelope to other members who have not registered their email IDs.

To seek the approval of members by passing the following resolution by way of Postal Ballot/E-Voting:

- Special Resolution u/s 180(1)(a) of the Companies Act, 2013 authorizing Board to create charge on assets/undertakings of the Company to secure borrowing.

The Company has engaged services of NSDL for providing remote e-voting facility to its members. Further, the Board of Directors of the Company has appointed Ms. Sonali Arora, Practising Company Secretary as the scrutineer for conducting the postal ballot and e-voting process in a fair and transparent manner. All the members are informed that:

- Date of completion of dispatch of Notice of Postal Ballot is Monday, January 20, 2020.
- The voting through postal ballot and remote e-voting shall commence from Tuesday, 21st January, 2020 at 09.00 a.m. and end on Wednesday, 19th February, 2020 at 5.00 p.m.
- Members are requested to note that duly completed Postal Ballot Forms should reach the scrutineer not later than 11.00 a.m. on Wednesday, 20th January, 2020 at 5.00 p.m. Any response received after this date will be treated as if the same has not been received. Members can opt for only one mode of voting i.e., either by physical ballot or remote e-voting. In case Shareholders cast their votes through both the modes, voting done by remote e-voting shall prevail and votes cast through physical Postal Ballot Form will be treated as invalid.
- The voting rights of the members shall be reckoned on the equity shares held by them as on the close of business hours on Friday, 10th January, 2020 being the cutoff date for this purpose.
- In case a member is desirous of obtaining a printed Postal Ballot Form or a duplicate thereof, he/she may send an email to the Company Secretary at rathibars@hotmail.com.
- For details related to e-voting, please refer to the postal ballot notice. In case you have any queries or issues regarding e-voting, you may refer to the Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) for Members and remote e-voting user manual for Members available at the downloads section of www.evoting.nsdl.com or call on toll free no. 1800-222-990.
- The Postal Ballot Notice and the Postal Ballot Form are available on the company's website www.rathibars.com

The results of the Postal Ballot (including remote e-voting) along with the Scrutineer report shall be declared on Friday, 21st February, 2020 at the Registered Office of the Company i.e. A-24/7, Mohan Co-operative Industrial Estate, Mathura Road, New Delhi-110044 and will be hosted on the website of the Company www.rathibars.com besides being sent to the Stock Exchange on the said date and also on the website of NSDL. The results will also be displayed at the Registered Office after the declaration of results by the Chairman or any Director of the Company.

By order of the Board
RATHI BARS LIMITED

Place : New Delhi Sd/-
 Date : 21-01-2020 Amit Kumar Mangia
 Company Secretary & Compliance Officer

Sensex slumps 416 pts on profit-booking

PTI ■ MUMBAI

Mumbai: Market benchmarks tumbled from record highs to close deep in the red on Monday as investors booked profits in index heavyweights Reliance Industries, Kotak Bank, HDFC Bank and TCS following their quarterly results.

After hitting a record intraday high of 42,273.87, the 30-share BSE Sensex gave up all gains to settle 416.46 points, or 0.99 per cent, lower at 41,528.91.

Likewise, the broader NSE Nifty sank 127.80 points, or 1.03 per cent, to 12,224.55. It hit a record intraday high of 12,430.50 in early session. PTI

₹ settles 3 paise down at 71.11 against \$

PTI ■ MUMBAI

The rupee slipped 3 paise to close at 71.11 against the US dollar on Monday, tracking a steady rise in crude oil prices and weakness in domestic equities. Forex traders said the drop in the rupee was largely due to a spurt in crude oil prices following rising tensions in the Middle East and North Africa.

At the interbank foreign exchange market, the local currency opened on a weak note at 71.07 and fell further to a low of 71.15. It finally settled at 71.11, lower by 3 paise against its previous close.

ITI to raise ₹1,600 crore for part-debt repayment, working capital needs

PTI ■ MUMBAI

State-run electronics and telecom gear manufacturer Indian Telephone Industries (ITI) plans to raise ₹1,600 crore through a follow-on public offer which will be utilised for partial debt repayment as well as to meet working capital requirements.

The issue will open on January 24 and close on January 28. The price band for the offer will be announced on January 22, a top official of the company said.

"A significant part of this issue, around ₹607 crore, will

be utilised for partial repayment of loans while over ₹640 crore would be used to fund our working capital requirements," company's chairman and managing director RM Agarwal told reporters here.

ITI's total outstanding debt as on December 31, 2019, stood at ₹978.38 crore.

The follow-on offer (FPO) comprises a fresh issue of up to 18 crore equity shares and additional issue of up to 18 lakh shares, constituting 1 per cent of the net issue, which would be reserved for employees on a proportionate bases.

World's 22 richest men have more than all women in Africa: Oxfam

Davos: The number of billionaires has doubled in the past decade and the world's 22 richest men now have more wealth than all the women in Africa, Oxfam said Monday in an appeal to the Davos elite to get serious about inequality.

"Our broken economies are lining the pockets of billionaires and big business at the expense of ordinary men and women. No wonder people are starting to question whether billionaires should even exist," Oxfam's India head Amitabh Behar said.

"Women and girls are among those who benefit least from today's economic system," Behar said ahead of the annual World Economic Forum in Davos, where he will represent Oxfam.

"The very top of the economic pyramid sees trillions of dollars of wealth in the hands of a very small group of people, predominantly men," the Oxfam report said. AFP

BATTLE FOR MIAL Arbitration tribunal restrains Adanis from buying Bidvest stake

Mumbai: In a major setback to the Adani Group's bid to get a hold on Mumbai airport, an arbitration tribunal has restrained it from going ahead with buying out the 13.5 per cent stake of South African partner Bidvest Services in the country's second largest airport.

The tribunal has also asked Bidvest to maintain status quo on its stake but asked GVK, which owns 50.5 per cent in the airport, to compensate it for the

delay by way of paying interest on the agreed share purchase agreement (₹1,248 crore) till the pendency of the case.

"It is directed that pending the final disposal of the arbitration proceedings, Bid Services or anyone acting for and on behalf of it is restrained from alienating in any manner its 16.20 crore (13.5 per cent) equity shares in Mumbai international airport" the tribunal said. PTI

BUSINESS CORNER

FUEL CONSERVATION DRIVE OF PCRA SAKSHAM

New Delhi: 'Saksham', an annual one-month long fuel conservation mega campaign of Petroleum Conservation Research Association (PCRA) under the aegis of Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas was launched on 16th January by MM Kutty, Secretary, Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas in a function held in Delhi.



MM Kutty during his address emphasized the importance of petroleum products for our country and the dire need for actions leading towards fuel conservation. He stressed upon the importance of programs like Saksham wherein general public is involved in various activities. He gave away the prizes to the winners of Essay, quiz and painting competitions for the National Level Competition-2019 which has seen a phenomenal record participation of more than 1.48 crore students from schools of all education boards of the country.

PHOTOGRAPHY EXHIBITION ON 70 GLORIOUS YR OF CLW

Chittaranjan: The PR department has organised a Photography Exhibition from 20th to 26th January 2020 at Technical Training centre on 70 Glorious years of CLW. Shri Praveen Kumar Mishra, General Manager visited the photography exhibition & also an Exhibition on CLW along with senior officers of CLW. The photographs shot by CLW employees and their wards are put on display in the photography exhibition. General Manager took keen interest in the photographs taken by the CLW employees and their wards. Later, Praveen Kumar Mishra visited the Exhibition on CLW besides the photography exhibition which was organised from 13th Jan 2020. General Manager appreciated the efforts of Public Relations deptt for organising these exhibitions.



General Manager visited the photography exhibition & also an Exhibition on CLW along with senior officers of CLW. The photographs shot by CLW employees and their wards are put on display in the photography exhibition. General Manager took keen interest in the photographs taken by the CLW employees and their wards. Later, Praveen Kumar Mishra visited the Exhibition on CLW besides the photography exhibition which was organised from 13th Jan 2020. General Manager appreciated the efforts of Public Relations deptt for organising these exhibitions.

DG, SCOPE BAGS MOST ADMIRER LEADER AWARD

New Delhi: Director General, SCOPE, Atul Sobti has been conferred with the coveted "Most Admired Leader Award 2020" for his outstanding contribution as a leader in developing people and organisational capability. The award has been instituted jointly by the Indian Institute of Public Administration and Forum for Emotional Intelligence Learning.



I-T searches premises of Lalit hotels promoter Jyotsna Suri

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The Income Tax Department has launched searches at multiple locations of the Bharat Hotels group, its associates and a leading automobile dealer firm in connection with a tax evasion probe, officials said on Monday.

They said about 8 premises linked to Bharat Hotels CMD Jyotsna Suri and some of her associates as well as Jayant Nanda, promoter of Cargo Motors, one of the largest dealers of Tata motors in the country, are being searched in and around the national Capital.

The searches, they said, were launched late on Sunday and are related to a tax evasion probe being conducted by the department.

Transactions of these groups, under the scanner of the department, are related, officials sources said.

The Bharat Hotels group owns the chain of Lalit hotels in the country. It runs over a dozen such luxury facilities at present.

Jyotsna Suri has been associated with the Bharat Hotels group since 1989 and took over as the Chairperson and Managing Director (CMD) in 2006, after the death of her husband and hotelier Lalit Suri.

The businesswoman has also been the chairman of industry body FICCI in the past.

ASCI announces new code for brands to claim awards, rankings in ads

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Advertisement Standards Council of India (ASCI) on Monday announced to introduce guidelines for usage of claims of awards and rankings by the companies in their respective advertisements.

Now, brands and services need to ensure that the accredited bodies involved in disseminating or presenting awards or rankings are authentic and credible, while validating their claims in advertisements.

The new guidelines, which would be effective from February 1, 2020, aim to curb the "superiority claims" in advertising for the products and services based on awards and rankings received, which "sometimes misled into believing" by the consumers, the ASCI said in a statement.

It has become increasingly common for advertisers to make superiority claims in advertising for their products and services based on awards and rankings received. Consumers are sometimes misled into believing that an award or ranking which is given to a brand, product, institute or service makes it superior and/or more authentic.

"Awards, Rankings should not be used as an alternative for consumer or scientific research or testing which is required to substantiate a superiority claim about the effective use or performance of products or services," the new guidelines said.

PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF ACCUSED PERSON
See Section 82 Cr.P.C.

Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused **Pradeep S/O Om Prakash R/O H.No. 311 Block, Gali No. 16, Kailash Vihar, Pansali, Delhi** has committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence FIR No. 874/14 u/s 354/457 IPC P.S Shahbad Dairy, Delhi and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest thereupon issued that the said **Pradeep** cannot be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said **Pradeep** absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant). Proclamation is hereby made that the said **Pradeep** accused of FIR No. 874/14 u/s 354/457 IPC is required to appear before this Court to answer the said complaint on or before **06.03.2020**.

By Order: Ms. Swati Sharma
 Metropolitan Magistrate-02 (Mahila Court),
 Room No. 104, 1st Floor (North Distt.),
 Rohini Courts, Delhi

DP/933/ON/20

SEARCH FOR MISSING/KIDNAPPED

General public is hereby informed that a girl (depicted in the photo), **Namely: Pooja D/o Amer R/o Gali No. 08, Swaroop Vihar, New Colony Delhi** has been missing/kidnapped since 02.01.2020 from the area of P.S. Swaroop Nagar, Delhi. In this regard a case vide DD No. 16-A, dated 03.01.2020 has been lodged at Police Station Swaroop Nagar, Delhi. Her physical description is as under:-

Age : 20 Years, Height: 4'5", Complexion : Shallow, Built : Medium, Face: Round, Wearing : Blue colour Kurta Red Colour Leggy.

Any person having any information/Clue about this missing/kidnapped girl, may inform SHO, Swaroop Nagar, Delhi at E-mail id - cic@cbi.gov.in or Website: <http://cbi.nic.in>

Phone: SHO
 011-24368638, 24368641
 P.S. Swaroop Nagar, Delhi
 Outer North Distt., Delhi
 Fax No. 011-24368639
 Ph. No. 011-27811415, 27811738

DP/939/ON/2020

SEARCH FOR MISSING/KIDNAPPED

General public is hereby informed that one boy **nately Rohit S/o Sh. Sachin R/o Jhuggi No. 55/155, U&V block, Shalimar Bagh, Delhi** has been missing/kidnapped from the area of P.S. Shalimar Bagh, Delhi since 29.12.2019. In this regard, a case FIR No. 03/2020 U/s 363 IPC dated 03.01.2020 has been registered at P.S. Shalimar Bagh. The description of the missing boy is as under.

Age: 15 Years Complexion: Fair, Height: 4'9", Face: Round, Built: Thin, Wearing: White Colour Sweater and black Pajama shoes in feet. Sincere efforts have been made by the local police to trace out him but no clue has come to light so far. If anyone has any information about the missing boy then please inform P.S. Shalimar Bagh, Delhi at following Tel No. / e-mail: cic@cbi.gov.in and Website: <http://cbi.nic.in>

Ph: 011-24368638, 24368641
 Fax No. 011-24368639
 Sd/- S.H.O.
 P.S. Shalimar Bagh, Delhi
 Ph: 011- 27495198

DP/9674/NW/2020

PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF ACCUSED PERSON
See Section 82 Cr. PC

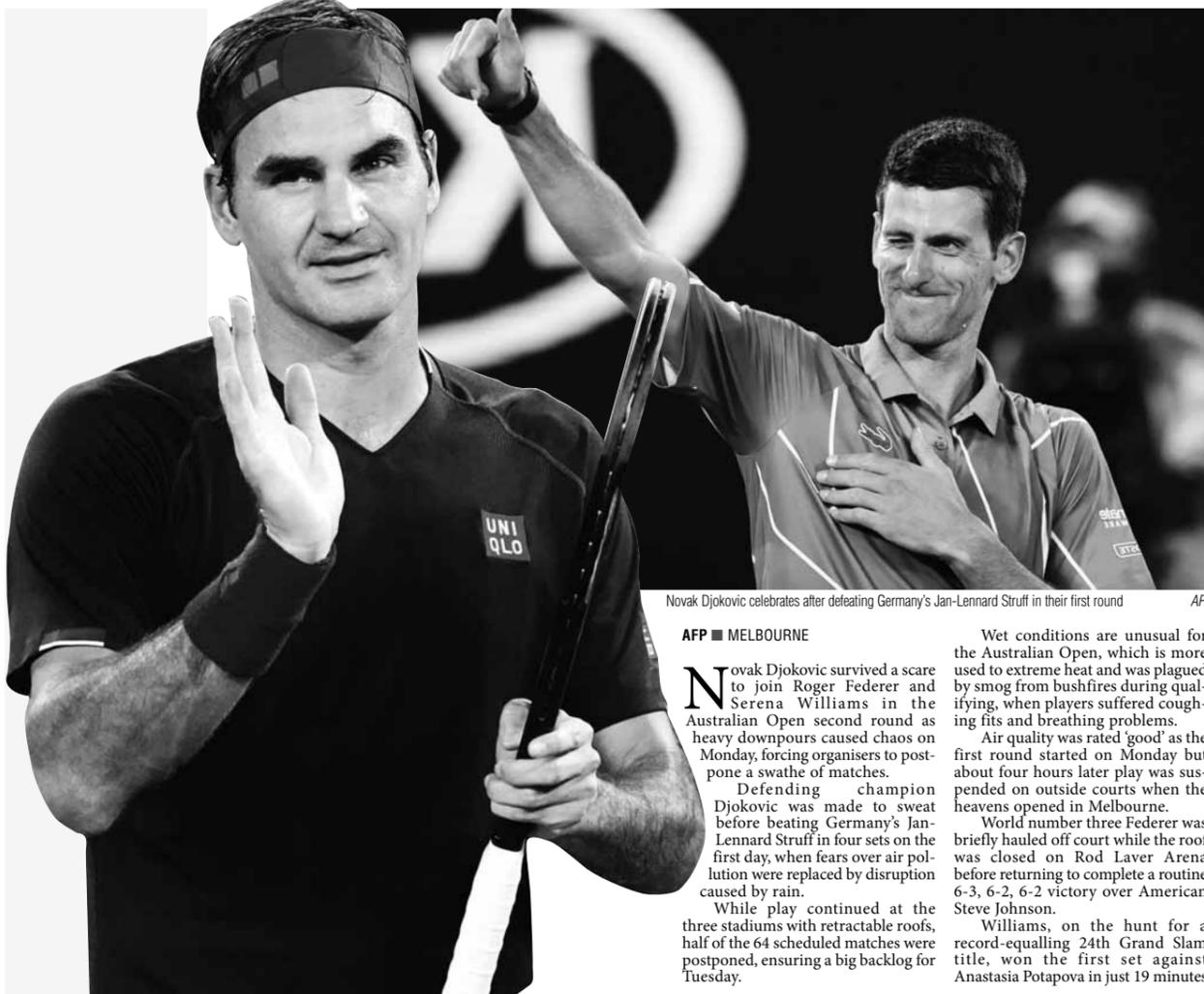
Whereas complaint has been made before me that **Pal Singh @ Pali S/o Sh. Sh. Sobha Singh R/o: H. No.22 Gali No.-8, F Block, Gurudwara Road, Mansarovar park, New Delhi** has committed (or are suspected to have committed) case FIR No. 0080/18, Dt. 27.01.18U/s 379/411 IPC has been registered at P.S. Safdarjung Enclave, New Delhi punishable and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest there upon issued that the said accused person **Pal Singh @ Pali** cannot be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said accused person **Pal Singh @ Pali** absconded (or are concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant).

Proclamation is hereby made that the said accused **Pal Singh @ Pali** of case FIR No. 0080/18, Dt. 27.01.18U/s 379/411 IPC, at P.S. Safdarjung are required to appear before the court to answer the said complaint on or before 23.02.2020.

By Order
 Mr. Anuj Kumar Singh,
 Court No. 212, Saket
 Metropolitan Magistrate,
 Saket Court Complex, New Delhi

DP/7203/SWD/2020

NOVAK SURVIVES TOUGH STRUFF



Novak Djokovic celebrates after defeating Germany's Jan-Lennard Struff in their first round

AFP ■ MELBOURNE

Novak Djokovic survived a scare to join Roger Federer and Serena Williams in the Australian Open second round as heavy downpours caused chaos on Monday, forcing organisers to postpone a swathe of matches.

Defending champion Djokovic was made to sweat before beating Germany's Jan-Lennard Struff in four sets on the first day, when fears over air pollution were replaced by disruption caused by rain.

While play continued at the three stadiums with retractable roofs, half of the 64 scheduled matches were postponed, ensuring a big backlog for Tuesday.

Wet conditions are unusual for the Australian Open, which is more used to extreme heat and was plagued by smog from bushfires during qualifying, when players suffered coughing fits and breathing problems.

Air quality was rated 'good' as the first round started on Monday but about four hours later play was suspended on outside courts when the heavens opened in Melbourne.

World number three Federer was briefly hauled off court while the roof was closed on Rod Laver Arena before returning to complete a routine 6-3, 6-2, 6-2 victory over American Steve Johnson.

Williams, on the hunt for a record-equaling 24th Grand Slam title, won the first set against Anastasia Potapova in just 19 minutes

Defending champion Djokovic was made to sweat before beating Germany's Jan-Lennard Struff in four sets on the first day, when fears over air pollution were replaced by disruption caused by rain

tory. Former US Open champion Sloane Stephens was the biggest women's casualty on day one when she crashed out in three sets to Zhang Shuai of China — her fourth first-round exit in Melbourne.

SHAPOVALOV RACQUET ROW

Defending champion Naomi Osaka was done well before the downpour as she dismissed Marie Bouzkova of the Czech Republic 6-2, 6-4 in 80 minutes, smashing one powerful serve that broke a net fastening.

"It was really tough for me trying to control my nerves," said Osaka. "It's tough to play someone you've never played before in the first round of a Grand Slam."

Later on the covered centre court, Australian world number one Ashleigh Barty recovered strongly from a set down to beat Lesia Tsurenko 5-7, 6-1, 6-1.

In the men's draw, Greek sixth seed Stefanos Tsitsipas, who beat Federer en route to last year's semis, crushed Salvatore Caruso 6-0, 6-2, 6-3.

Player anger over smog dominated the final days before the tournament, which is taking place after bushfires ravaged large parts of Australia, destroying thousands of homes and killing 29 people.

Tournament officials are closely monitoring pollution and will halt play and close the three main stadiums' roofs if particulate matter suspended in the air hits PM2.5 200.

In other results, Canadian 13th seed Denis Shapovalov argued furiously with the umpire over a code violation for throwing his racquet as he lost in four sets to Marton Fucsovics.

Croatian 25th seed Borna Coric was another first-round loser as he went down to experienced American Sam Querrey, while Australia's Sam Stosur bombed out against Cay McNally.

But former champion Caroline Wozniacki, playing her last tournament before retiring, safely reached the second round as she beat Kristie Ahn 6-1, 6-3.

PSG see off plucky Lorient to reach French Cup last 16



Pablo Sarabia celebrates after scoring for PSG

AFP ■ LORRIENT (FRANCE)

Pablo Sarabia put Paris Saint-Germain into the last 16 of the French Cup on Sunday with the late winner in a tight 1-0 win over spirited Lorient.

Spaniard Sarabia headed home the only goal with 10 minutes remaining to put Thomas Tuchel's much-changed side into the next round after struggling to break Ligue 2 leaders Lorient down in an underwhelming contest.

They have been rewarded with a tie at third-tier Pau, who knocked out Ligue 1 side Bordeaux on Thursday.

PSG came into the match missing a host of injured stars including Edinson Cavani, Marco Verratti, Juan Bernat and Marquinhos, and with both Neymar and Kylian

Mbappe on the bench the away side lacked creative spark despite the presence of in-form striker Mauro Icardi.

The French champions were lucky to go into the break level after Yoane Wissa somehow managed to head Jimmy Cabot's pinpoint cross wide from just a couple of yards out.

The second half continued to lack clear chances for either side, with Paul Nardi doing well to charge down Icardi's close range header in the 68th minute before pushing Pablo Sarabia's shot wide 11 minutes later.

However the 25-year-old could do nothing about Sarabia's header seconds later, the Spaniard beautifully guiding home Thiago Silva's cross to squeeze the top flight outfit into the next round.

AFP ■ MILAN

Cristiano Ronaldo struck twice as Juventus beat Parma 2-1 to pull four points clear of Inter Milan at the top of the Serie A table.

Inter's title push hit another stumbling block after a 1-1 draw at lowly Lecce on Sunday while Ante Rebic fired city rivals AC Milan to a last gasp 3-2 win over Udinese.

Ronaldo broke through just before the break, to score in a seventh consecutive league game, and almost set up a second just after Aaron Ramsey, but the Welsh international rattled the post.

Andreas Cornelius scored with a towering header to get seventh-placed Parma back level ten minutes after the break.

But the visitors hardly had time to celebrate when Ronaldo broke through again after latching onto a Paulo Dybala cross for his 11th goal in seven games to bring his league tally this season to 16.

The eight-time reigning champions have a four-point cushion on Inter, who have won only two of their last six league games, and are now also under threat from Lazio, who are just two points behind with a game in hand after hammering Sampdoria 5-1 on Saturday.

Antonio Conte's side

CR 7 in a row

Ronaldo nets in seventh consecutive Serie A game as Juve go 4 points clear at top



Cristiano Ronaldo celebrates after scoring against Parma

AFP ■ MILAN

had looked set to take maximum points from his hometown team, where he started his footballing career in the 1980s, when Alessandro Bastoni headed the away side in front with 18 minutes remaining.

But Marco Mancosu grabbed a precious point for the southerners five minutes after going behind.

IBRA BOOST

Croatian forward Rebic hit a brace, including the stoppage time winner, against Udinese that gave troubled AC Milan back-to-back league victories and moved them up to eighth, two points from the Europa League spots.

Star striker Zlatan Ibrahimovic got his first

THE EIGHT-TIME REIGNING CHAMPIONS HAVE A FOUR-POINT CUSHION ON INTER, WHO HAVE WON ONLY TWO OF THEIR LAST SIX LEAGUE GAMES, AND ARE NOW ALSO UNDER THREAT FROM LAZIO, WHO ARE JUST TWO POINTS BEHIND WITH A GAME IN HAND AFTER HAMMERING SAMPDORIA 5-1

start at the San Siro after scoring last weekend at Cagliari.

The 38-year-old Swede did not get to celebrate in front of the home crowd but he has provided a confidence-boost for the seven-time European champions, who have taken seven points in three matches since his return.

"The arrival of Ibrahimovic has given us even more depth and conviction, which has helped us," said coach Stefano Pioli.



Lionel Messi, left, celebrates with Ansu Fati after scoring the opening goal

Get Setien Go

Messi's strike ensure Quique starts Barca campaign with win

AFP ■ MADRID

Quique Setien may want a different Barcelona but he needed the same old Lionel Messi on Sunday as the Argentinian gave his new coach a winning start by scoring in a 1-0 victory over Granada.

Messi's strike in the 76th minute decided a cagey contest at the Camp Nou and prevented the much-anticipated launch of Setien's new era becoming something of a damp squib.

Victory also sends Barca back to the top of La Liga on goal difference, after Madrid had briefly

claimed first place following their win over Sevilla on Saturday.

I already saw some of them against Atletico (last weekend) because Barca has been doing great things for many years." It would have been different if Granada's Yan Eteki hadn't struck the post with just over 20 minutes left or their central defender German Sanchez not been sent off for a needless second yellow card soon after.

The extra man was the boost Barca needed and Messi duly poked home his 17th goal in 21 games this season following good work by Arturo Vidal,

Antoine Griezmann and the 20-year-old Riqui Puig.

All three had reasons to impress, particularly Puig, whose inclusion on the bench was an early indication of Setien's belief in youth. Puig's contribution after coming on should mean more opportunities are to come.

Setien said last week that if he could make one guarantee, it was that Barca would play good football while he is in charge and although few could argue this was a transformative display following the sacking of Ernesto Valverde, there were certainly some encouraging signs.

Need to improve one-on-one tackling: Reid

PTI ■ BHUBANESWAR

Indian men's hockey team chief coach Graham Reid feels his wards need to improve their "one-on-one" tackling and 3D skills ahead of the FIH Pro League ties against Belgium and Australia.

The Indian team made a dream debut at the FIH Pro League, beating world number three Netherlands 5-2 in the first tie of the double header on Saturday. The hosts then came from two goals down to beat the Dutch 3-1 in shoot-out after the second game ended 3-3 in regulation time.

India garnered five points (3 from the outright win and 2 from the second game) from their opening



Indian Hockey team celebrates after beating Netherlands

Hockey India/Twitter

ties against Australia on February 22 and 23. "The good thing was we struggled to win this (second) match and some-

times, it's good to struggle for a win because you learn a lot and also it is a proof that if we apply ourselves and use some aggressiveness, we can bounce back," Reid said.

"I still feel our one-on-one tackling can improve and we have also been working on 3D (three dimensional) skills to beat players in short space.

"This can help create penalty corners and when you have a world-class dragflicker, we can definitely make use of this."

It was at the 2015 FIH Hockey World League Final in Raipur when India had managed to overcome a 0-2 goal deficit in the first half to draw against the Netherlands 5-5 in regulation time before

prevailing in a penalty shootout to secure the bronze medal.

And dragflicker Rupiner Pal Singh, who scored a goal on Sunday, said the team has matured a lot in the last two years.

"If this probably happened to us two years ago (conceding early goals), we may not have been able to make a comeback. But I think we have now matured, players are taking responsibility and adhering to coach's instruction of 'tackle and play forward'," he said.

"There is definitely a change in attitude on how we approach a game even when we are down," added the dragflicker, who was adjudged man-of-the-match on Sunday.

Tai leads Raptors defence against NEW

PTI ■ CHENNAI

All eyes will be on world No. 2 Tai Tzu Ying when Bengaluru Raptors begin their title defence against North Eastern Warriors in the fifth season of the Premier Badminton League (PBL) here on Tuesday.

The clash between Tzu Ying, the former World No. 1, and 2014 Commonwealth Games champion Michelle Li of North Eastern Warriors will be the highlight of the best of five match to be played at the Nehru Indoor Stadium.

The North Eastern Warriors team also includes the legendary



Tai Tzu Ying hits a return shot against Pusarla V. Sindhu

Lee Yong Dae and Guwahati's rising star Ashmita Chaliha.

Li has two career wins over the Chinese Taipei ace with her last victory coming at the 2019 Japan Open and the North Eastern Warriors shuttler would aim for an encore

against PBL's joint-costliest player, Tai.

Sai Praneeth, who has been retained by the Bengaluru franchise, will be coming to the league fresh from his historic Bronze medal win at the World Badminton Championships. With former World

No. 19 Brice Leverdez in the squad as well as promising talent Ansal Yadav, the Raptors boasts of a strong men's singles line-up.

The North Eastern Warriors, on the other hand, will be boosted by the presence of World No. 23 Lee Cheuk Yiu, who made it to the semi-finals of the Indonesia Masters last week.

Tanongsak Saensomboonsuk will be continuing his association with the Guwahati-based franchise for the second year in a row with PBL debutant Kaushal Dharmam being in the team.

Virat confident of good show in NZ

Citing recent result Indian skipper says his team will try to put Black Caps under pressure from start

PTI ■ BENGALURU

A series win against a strong Australia and the performance in New Zealand last year gives India a lot of confidence ahead of a fresh tour beginning on January 24, said skipper Virat Kohli whose team will be aiming to put the Black Caps under pressure from the word go.

India will be playing five T20s, three ODIs and two Tests in New Zealand. They had beaten the hosts 4-1 in ODIs before losing the T20 series 1-2.

"We are taking a lot of confidence from our performance (in NZ) last year. We were very positive in how we played, very sure of what we wanted to do. The thing about playing away is if you're able to put the home team under pressure, you can enjoy your cricket," Kohli said.

"You have to win at home, there's that sort of feeling (for hosts). So if you bring out your A game, you can really put them under pressure. That's what we did last year, squeezed them in the middle overs, picked up wickets, spinners were outstanding. Looking forward to take that same intensity into the series."

Ahead of the New Zealand tour, Kohli said it became even more important to win the home series against Australia here on Sunday. The team leaves for New Zealand on Monday night.

"We spoke of that at the huddle, that this is the last game we're playing in the series and if we win, you go on a tour on a happy note. If you lose, it can go under the radar, you can brush it aside as 'oh it's just one loss'."

"But when you win and win under pressure, the last two games were tough wins, it boosts your confidence which we're carrying forward," he said.

On the limited overs leg of the New Zealand tour, Kohli picked out the areas of improvement.

"Again, we want to bat well when



Virat Kohli bats during the third one-day international cricket match between India and Australia

we bat first and in case we're defending a low total, we should be able to do that as well. We can't afford to ease into the series after two games, because then it keeps getting tougher and tougher, so we'll look to make a mark in the first game that we play," he said.

The skipper loves playing against Australia as it brings the best out of him. He explained why he relishes the Australian challenge.

"Last year (at home) after 2-0 up, we thought we're definitely going to win one of the three at home, but they showed us that they understand these conditions very well now (to win 3-2), having played here a lot in the IPL and so many tours over the years," Kohli said.

"So, although they had a stronger side (with Steve Smith and David Warner back) than last time, we thought if we play good enough, we can beat this team. The only thing we needed to be wary of was our body language and intent because that's Australia's strongest point.

"All the teams in the world are skilled but these guys play with the intent of making things happen every over you play against them. So you can't take your foot off the pedal at all, that's what we've done in the last two games. The partnerships that I mentioned today, even the singles were taken with intent," said Kohli.

India raced to victory in the series-deciding third ODI against Australia, courtesy fine knocks from Kohli himself and Rohit Sharma. They both could not stay till the end but the finishing touches were provided by Shreyas Iyer, who remained unbeaten on 44. And the skipper was all praise for Iyer.

"I don't think he's (Iyer) going to have any issues anymore because he really went after his best bowlers and got the results. It took pressure off of me as well not having to take risks and the other guy striking at 140-145. I think it was really smart how we went about it" Kohli added.

Kohli, Rohit consolidate top batting positions

PTI ■ DUBAI

India captain Virat Kohli and his deputy Rohit Sharma consolidated their top two positions in the batting chart, while pace ace Jasprit Bumrah continued to lead among bowlers in the ICC ODI Rankings issued on Monday.

Following their stellar performances against Australia in the just-concluded series, which India won 2-1, Kohli (No.1) and Rohit (No.2) have strengthened their positions.

With 183 runs under his belt against Australia, Kohli was the player-of-the-series while Rohit was a close second, garnering 171 runs in the rubber, including a match-winning 119 in the deciding ODI in Bengaluru on Sunday.

Kohli (886 points) and Rohit (868 points) have gained two and three ratings points, respectively to occupy the top two positions in the batting rankings.

Left-handed opener Shikhar Dhawan has also gained seven slots to reach 15th position with 170 runs in two innings, missing a chance to bat in Bengaluru after injuring his shoulder while field-

ing. K L Rahul, who opened in his place in the final ODI, has gained 21 slots to reach 50th position with an aggregate of 146 runs.

Bumrah, who returned from injury in the Australia series, is atop the bowlers chart with 764 points, ahead of New Zealand left-arm pacer Trent Boult and Afghanistan's Mujeeb Ur Rahman. South Africa's Kagiso Rabada and Australian Pat Cummins complete the top five.

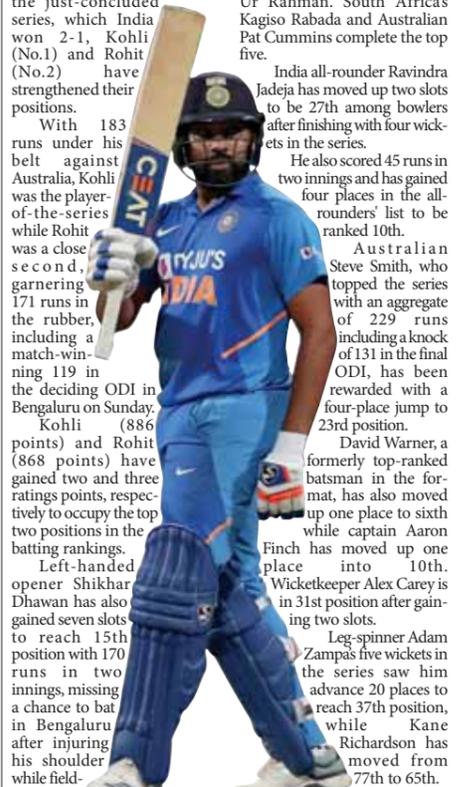
India all-rounder Ravindra Jadeja has moved up two slots to be 27th among bowlers after finishing with four wickets in the series.

He also scored 45 runs in two innings and has gained four places in the all-rounders list to be ranked 10th.

Australian Steve Smith, who topped the series with an aggregate of 229 runs including a knock of 131 in the final ODI, has been rewarded with a four-place jump to 23rd position.

David Warner, a formerly top-ranked batsman in the format, has also moved up one place to sixth while captain Aaron Finch has moved up one place into 10th. Wicketkeeper Alex Carey is in 31st position after gaining two slots.

Leg-spinner Adam Zampa's five wickets in the series saw him advance 20 places to reach 37th position, while Kane Richardson has moved from 77th to 65th.



Kohli greatest ODI player of all-time: Finch

PTI ■ BENGALURU

Australian captain Aaron Finch has rated his Indian counterpart Virat Kohli as "probably" the greatest ODI player of all-time, while picking Rohit Sharma in the top-five.

Rohit (119) scored his 29th ODI hundred and Kohli made 89 off 91 balls as they shared a match-winning stand of 137 in the decisive third game against Australia here on Sunday.

For Finch, what stood out was that India overhauled the 287-run target with ease despite opener Shikhar Dhawan not coming out to bat due to a shoulder injury.

"They've got Virat who is probably the greatest ODI player of all-time, and Rohit who'd probably be in the top five batters of all-time. They're exceptional, and the thing with the Indian side at the moment is their experienced players are getting the job done in the big games," Finch said.

"Rohit's 100, especially without Shikhar there tonight, for them to shuffle and their two most dominant players to still get majority of the runs is a sign of a really settled and

really quality top-order," said Finch.

Australia could not get the final flourish they were looking for, mustering only 63 runs in the last 10 overs at the loss of five wickets, far too many in Finch's view.

"In the last two games we have had the bowlers batting for the majority of the last few overs. Which we saw in Rajkot the damage that KL (Rahul) could do in the back end because he was a settled batter. I think that's an area we just missed a couple of tricks. "Just not having an in batter being in and having faced 20 or 30 balls to get us deeper and get us to the back end," Finch said.

He also praised India's death over bowling at the same time. "But credit to India, their death bowling in the last few games was exceptional. (Mohammed) Shami was nailing his yorkers, (Navdeep) Saini in the last two games and (Jasprit) Bumrah. In both games they were exceptional. You can look at where we could have improved but also you've got some credit to India," said Finch.



Eng celebrate innings win over SA

MOST RUNS IN A SINGLE OVER IN TESTS				
Runs	Batsman	Bowler	Venue	Season
28	Brian Lara (West India)	Robin Peterson	Johannesburg	2003-04
28	George Bailey (Australia)	James Anderson	Perth	2013-14
28	Keshav Maharaj (S.Africa)	Joe Root	Port Elizabeth	2019-20
27	Shahid Afridi (Pakistan)	Harbhajan Singh	Lahore	2005-06

FAISEL FEATURES



England team celebrate taking the wicket of Rassie van der Dussen

AFP ■ PORT ELIZABETH

England completed a comprehensive win by an innings and 53 runs on the fifth day of the third Test against South Africa at St George's Park on Monday, taking an unbeatable 2-1 lead in the four-match series.

England were held up by a last wicket stand of 99 between Keshav Maharaj (71) and Dane Paterson (39 not out) and it needed a direct-hit run-out by Sam Curran from mid-on to clinch the result shortly before lunch. South Africa were bowled out for 237. The partnership

between Maharaj and Paterson was easily South Africa's best of the match and showed up an otherwise poor batting performance by the hosts.

South Africa added 135 runs in losing their last four wickets, which seemed unlikely when Vernon Philander chipped a catch to midwicket off Stuart Broad three balls into the day.

Mark Wood and Dom Bess also took wickets but England captain Joe Root could not add to his four wickets taken on Sunday, conceding 56 runs in 10 overs on Monday to finish with four for 87.

TRIUMPH

Maharaj hit Root for three fours and two sixes in an over which ended with four byes, costing 28 in total.

Despite the late face-saving flourish for the hosts, it was a result which was a triumph for England's youth policy, while the way South Africa were outplayed was a devastating blow for captain Faf du Plessis and new coach Mark Boucher.

Even before Monday's last rites there was speculation about Du Plessis' future. He has expressed his desire to lead South Africa in the T20 World Cup in Australia in October and November, by which time he will be 36.

It seems possible that the fourth Test in Johannesburg from Friday could be his last home series in charge.

It was South Africa's seventh defeat in their last eight Tests, the only exception being their win in the first Test against England when it seemed that radical changes in the team management might have heralded a new dawn.

Tiripano strikes early to give Zimbabwe edge

AFP ■ HARARE



Zimbabwe players celebrate after taking the wicket of Virat Kohli

Donald Tiripano struck early to remove Oshada Fernando and complete an excellent second day of the first Test for Zimbabwe against Sri Lanka in Harare.

The 31-year-old seamer had earlier made a handy 44 not out batting at number eight as Zimbabwe advanced from their overnight 189 for two to 358 all out.

Left-arm spinner Lasith Embuldeniya, playing in his sixth Test, was the stand-out bowler with five for 114.

When bad light stopped play for the day, Sri Lanka had reached 42 for the loss of Fernando who had his off stump flattened by Tiripano's very first delivery.

The day began with Zimbabwe Craig Ervine well set on 55 and looking for his third Test century.

The 34-year-old progressed comfortably to 85 until pace

bowler Suranga Lakmal nipped one through his defence shortly before lunch.

It was the third wicket to fall during the morning as Lakmal also produced a full inswinger to have Brendan Taylor leg before for 21 and Zimbabwe captain Sean Williams edged left-arm spinner Embuldeniya to Niroshan Dickwella behind the stumps.

The left-arm spinner removed Regis Chakabva shortly after lunch but Sikandar Raza and Tiripano then both settled in.

Raza fell for a flighty 41, stumped by Dickwella as he charged at Embuldeniya, who also bowled Jarvis.

Ndlovu was brilliantly snapped up at short-leg by Kusal Mendis off Lahiru Kumara. Lakmal dismissed last man Victor Nyauchi just after the delayed break to finish with three for 53, leaving Tiripano undefeated on 44.

Simmons blasts 10 sixes as WI rout Ireland

AFP ■ BASSETTERRE (SAINT KITTS AND NEVIS)

Opening batsman Lendl Simmons blasted 10 sixes in an undefeated 91 as West Indies routed Ireland by nine wickets in the third and final Twenty20 International at Warner Park here on Sunday.

Simmons, the nephew of West Indies coach Phil Simmons, also hit five boundaries in his 40-ball blitz. It was his highest score in the format and came just five days before his 35th birthday.

Chasing a modest 139 to win, Simmons won the match in style with a six over midwicket off spinner Simi Singh whose three overs cost 41 runs.

Follow opener Evin Lewis made 46 with four boundaries and three sixes as West Indies raced to victory with 54 balls remaining.

The three-match series ended 1-1 after Ireland edged a first-game thriller by four runs in Grenada before Saturday's match at Warner Park was abandoned due to rain. Earlier, veteran all-rounders Kieron Pollard and Dwayne Bravo shared six wickets as West Indies restricted Ireland to 138 all out. Captain Pollard, who produced the best bowling spell by a West Indian in T20 internationals (4-25) in Saturday's abandoned game, claimed 3-17.

Bravo finished with 3-19 to become the West Indies' leading all-time wicket-taker in the format with 57 victims in his 69th game. That beat the previous best of 54 by leg-spinner Samuel Badree.

Put into bat, Ireland raced to 50-0 off just 3.3 overs with openers Kevin O'Brien (top scoring with 36) and Paul Stirling again getting their team off to a storming start. However, Pollard dismissed O'Brien after the Irishman hit his runs off only 18 balls with Bravo then accounting for Stirling (11).

Ishant's injury adds to Delhi woes as Vidarbha take complete control

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Delhi's miserable season just got worse as premier speedster Ishant Sharma twisted his ankle after another woeful outing with the bat against defending champions Vidarbha in a Ranji Trophy group A encounter on Monday.

On a helpful track, former India U-19 seamer Aditya Thakare's career-best 7 for 55 restricted Delhi to 163 in reply to visitors' first innings score of 179.

By the time, play was called off due to bad light, Vidarbha were 35 for no loss as the track got easier for batting.

Vidarbha now have an overall lead of 51 but more importantly, the pitch has eased out. With a bowler short and the wily artist Wasim Jaffer longing for an easy second innings pitch, Delhi at the moment is looking down the barrel. And it didn't help Delhi's cause



On a helpful track, former India U-19 seamer Aditya Thakare's career-best 7 for 55 restricted Delhi to 163 in reply to visitors' first innings score of 179

bowling was exposed again. IPL specialist Nitish Rana became Thakare's fifth victim of the innings giving a catch to skipper Fazal.

Only keeper Anuj Rawat (37 off 101 balls) showed some stomach for fight adding 36 for the ninth wicket

with Simarjeet Singh (23) even as Umesh Yadav (2/45) removed all-rounder Lalit Yadav (7) and Kumar Bidhuri (19).

YADAV'S DOUBLE TON FLOORS MUMBAI

Mumbai : Batsman-wicketkeeper Upendra Yadav's maiden double ton propelled Uttar Pradesh to a mammoth 625/8 declared on the second day of their Elite Group B Ranji Trophy game against Mumbai on Monday.

Twenty-three-year-old Yadav was the cynosure of all eyes at Wankhede Stadium as he took a listless Mumbai attack to the cleaners first in the company of Saurabh Kumar (44 off 47 balls; 8x4) and then with skipper Ankit Rajpoot (32 off 63 balls; 5x4) and Yash Dayal (41 not out).

Yadav (203 not out off 239 balls) conjured 72 runs for the seventh wicket with Saurabh to take the game away from Mumbai, and then

forged a 119-run eight-wicket stand with Rajpoot, as Uttar Pradesh took complete control.

Adding to Mumbai's woes, Yadav and Dayal put up an unbroken 131-run stand for the ninth wicket.

Yadav, who registered the highest score by a number 7 batsman against Mumbai, smashed 27 fours and one six in his 239 balls unbeaten knock.

TIWARY TRIPLE TON TO PUT BENGAL ON TOP

Kalyani (WB) : Senior batsman Manoj Tiwary cracked his maiden first class triple century to put Bengal in the driver's seat against Hyderabad in their Ranji Trophy Group A clash here on Monday.

The 34-year-old, who has played 12 ODIs and 3 T20 Internationals, was at his sublime best, smashing 30 fours and five sixes, en route to his unbeaten 303 from 414 balls at a strike rate of 73.19. His marathon

knock lasted 10 hours and 30 minutes.

His final 50 came off just 37 balls as he got to the landmark in the fourth ball of the final session of the second day, gliding part-timer Buddhi Rahul through covers boundary. Bengal immediately declared their first innings at 635 for seven.

Tiwary, who last played for India in 2015, also became the only second batsman from Bengal to hit a triple ton — after Devang Gandhi's 323 versus Assam at Guwahati in 1998-99 season. His previous best was 267 as Bengal skipper against Madhya Pradesh in a drawn encounter in Kolkata in 2011-12 season.

After Tiwary's sensational innings, it was time for Bengal pace duo of Akash Deep (3/46) and Mukesh Kumar (2/29) to wreak havoc as they reduced Hyderabad to 83 for five in the final session. Hyderabad still trail Bengal by 552 runs with two days left.