

OPINION 8 A NEVER-ENDING CRISIS

WORLD 12 SENATE OK'S IMPEACHMENT TRIAL RULES, PUTS OFF WITNESSES

SPORT 15 MANCHESTER CITY BEAT SHEFFIELD IN PL CLASH

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BRAD: NO COMPLAINTS IN LIFE 13 VIVACITY

Akhilesh, Maya take up Shah gauntlet

SP, BSP chiefs accept CAA debate challenge; Owaisi asks HM to invite 'daadhi wale' too

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

In a new twist to the ongoing fracas over the Citizenship (Amendment) Act or CAA, Samajwadi Party chief Akhilesh Yadav and BSP supreme Mayawati have accepted Home Minister Amit Shah's challenge for debate on the CAA.

While Akhilesh is prepared for such an engagement while keeping economic slowdown and development as part of the package, Mayawati said her party is ready for a debate on the CAA on any platform.

Meanwhile, AIMIM chief Asaduddin Owaisi chipped in, telling Shah, "Daadhi wale se karo na" (debate with a bearded man).

Addressing a rally in support of the CAA in Lucknow on Tuesday, Shah had dared Opposition leaders like Mayawati, Congress leader Rahul Gandhi, Trinamool Congress chief Mamata Banerjee and Samajwadi Party president Akhilesh Yadav to debate with him on the law on a "sarvanik manch" (public platform).

Picking up the challenge, Akhilesh said, "I'm ready for the debate on CAA. Ask them to fix a place or a forum, with their favorite channels and anchors, also for a debate on development. We Samajwadis are ready for it. But the BJP should also debate on the issues like economic slowdown, unemployment, poverty and death of people due to

Government harassment."

Accusing the BJP of discriminating on the basis of religion, Akhilesh said those who understand the soul of the country are opposed to the amended citizenship law. He also alleged the BJP is playing with the Constitution as it has majority in the Lok Sabha.

"I am glad that women have taken the lead and youth are protesting in large numbers," Akhilesh said after garlanding a statue of SP leader Janeshwar Mishra at a park here on his death anniversary.

BSP chief Mayawati, who along with Akhilesh, had skipped the Opposition meeting in Delhi to oppose the CAA, on Wednesday said her party is ready for a debate on the CAA on any platform.

"The BSP is ready to accept the challenge thrown by the Central Government, which is troubled by the organised struggle and agitation all over the country against the most controversial CAA/NRC/NPR, especially by the youth and women, for a debate on the issue on any platform and anywhere," Mayawati said in a tweet in Hindi.

Mayawati had obviously come under pressure to take an aggressive stance against the CAA after another Dalit leader Chandrasekhar Azad occupied centre stage in Delhi in mobilising protest against the CAA.

Meanwhile, asserting that Mahatma Gandhi and BR

Ambedkar were against discrimination, the SP chief accused the BJP of practising discrimination on the basis of religion. "Every Indian is against it. Will they (the BJP) kill the soul of the country and create fissures in society for votes," he said.

Accusing Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath of using words like "thok diya jayega" in his speeches, he said, "This cannot be the language of a politician. 'BJP used 'kabristan and shamshan' and 'Diwali and Ramzan' during poll rallies for the sake of votes."



Won't stay CAA without hearing Centre: SC

Govt gets four weeks to reply; 5-judge Bench to hear matter

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Wednesday issued notice to the Centre on pleas challenging the constitutional validity of the Citizenship (Amendment) Act saying it will not issue any order to stay the Act without hearing the Government's argument. The court gave the Government



four weeks to respond. A five-judge Constitution Bench will hear the matter.

A Bench headed by Chief Justice SA Bobde restrained all high courts from hearing pleas on the CAA till it decides in the matter. As many as 143 petitioners have approached the SC on CAA questioning its constitutional validity.

The Bench, also comprising Justices S Abdul Nazeer and

Sanjiv Khanna, said it will hear the petitions related to Assam and Tripura separately as the problem with the CAA in these two States is different from rest of the country.

Senior advocate Kapil Sibal, appearing for some petitioners, said the issue be referred to a Constitution Bench and the NPR exercise be postponed by a couple of months. He also urged the Bench to put on hold the operationalisation of the CAA.

Asserting that it will not pass any ex-parte order without hearing the Centre on staying the operation of the CAA and exercise of the National Population Register (NPR), the court said it will pass order on

granting any interim relief to petitioner opposing the CAA after four weeks.

The petitions concerning Tripura and Assam as well as the matters related to Uttar Pradesh, which is going ahead with the implementation of the CAA without framing any rules, can be dealt with separately, the Bench said. It said the earlier cutoff date for citizenship in Assam was March 24, 1971 and noted that it has been extended till December 31, 2014 under the CAA.

The SC said it will decide in-chamber the modalities of hearing the batch of petitions on the CAA and may fix them for day-to-day hearing after four weeks.

Govt wants 7 days deadline for execution

Centre moves SC to amend rules to do away with delaying tactics

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

In the wake of delaying tactics adopted by the death-row convicts in the Nirbhaya gangrape and murder case, Union Home Ministry on Wednesday approached the Supreme Court for amending the 2014 guidelines regarding the timeline for the execution, filing of review and curative petitions and mercy petitions.

Asserting that the need of the hour is to lay down guidelines in the interest of the victims rather than keeping the rights of the convicts in mind, the Centre wants the SC to fix a deadline of seven days for the execution of death penalty of condemned prisoners after issuance of the death warrant.

The affidavit filed by the Government also sought clarifications with regard to cases involving multiple convicts who time their petitions in such a way that the execution of the death warrant could be delayed indefinitely. The Nirbhaya case is perfect example of such delaying tactics.

The MHA's plea sought a



direction from the top court in fixing the deadline for filing of curative pleas after the rejection of review petitions.

It also sought a direction that "if the convict of death sentence wants to file mercy petition, it would be mandatory for a convict of death sentence to do so only within a period of seven days from the date of receipt of death warrant issued by the competent court".

The MHA submitted that the top court should "mandate all the competent courts, State Governments, prison authorities in the country to issue death warrant of a convict within seven days of the rejection of his mercy petition and to execute death sentence within seven days thereafter irrespective of the stage of review petition/curative petition/mercy petition of his convicts".

Rajini's house now fortress after threat

Dravidar Kazhagam attacks Thalaiva for comment on Naicker's anti-Hindu rallies

KUMAR CHELLAPPAN ■ CHENNAI

A heavy posse of police have been deployed at the residence of Tamil film's superstar Rajinikanth following threat of physical attacks on him by the Dravida Kazhagam and associated parties.

Rajinikanth's residence at Chennai's Poes Garden has come under a security blanket with armed guards of Tamil Nadu Special Police and plainclothesmen from city police taking positions in vantage points along the approach road to Poes Garden.

The posting of policemen is a fallout of the statement made by the actor on the 50th anniversary of Tamil magazine Tuglaq on last Wednesday when he pointed out that the Dravidar Kazhagam, founded by EV Ramasamy Naicker, had taken out a procession in 1971 holding placards with nude



Dravidar Viduthala Kazhagam (DVK) activists stage a protest against actor Rajinikanth for his recent comments, in Chennai on Wednesday

pictures of Lord Rama and Maa Sita which were garlanded with footwear.

This was a rally against the superstition prevailing among the Hindus and Ramasamy Naicker was a known Hindu baiter. Leaders of the Dravida Kazhagam want a public apology from Rajinikanth for airing his views publicly.

But the film actor made it known on Tuesday that he stood by what he said during his speech and there was no

question of him tendering any apology. All political leaders, barring those from the BJP, have come together in condemning the superstar.

"Rajinikanth should not air his views publicly without learning and understanding the basics," said MK Stalin, president, DMK.

The AIADMK expressed displeasure over Rajinikanth's words for hurting the sentiments of the Dravida cadre.

CM gifts 400 KW solar plant to JSCA stadium

ROSHAN KUMAR ■ RANCHI

Chief Minister Hemant Soren on Wednesday gifted a 400KW solar power plant to Jharkhand State Cricket Association (JSCA) for its international cricket stadium in Dhurwa. The ₹10 crore solar power plant has been constructed in three years. On November 2017, the JSCA signed an MoU with Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ), a German federal enterprise for international ties, for a 400 KW solar power plant the deal being a first for the State.

At the inauguration of solar power project, apart from Chief Minister Soren, local hero and former team India captain MS Dhoni too was present. Inaugurating the solar power project, Chief Minister Soren heaped praise on Dhoni for bringing Jharkhand in the international map of cricket. He said, "It was a matter of immense pride for the State that under the captainship of our hero MS Dhoni India won two cricket world cups."

The country and state acknowledge Dhoni's contribution for bringing Jharkhand in international cricket map. Soren said, "Jharkhand is bestowed with natural beauties,

resources and human resources, but Jharkhand is yet to find place in the list of developed States. The State can attain progress and development only if the youth took a pledge to work for the development of State."

The Chief Minister also asked the people to change their mindset and work earnestly for the progress and development of State.

Team India former captain MS Dhoni on the occasion urged the Chief Minister to create best sports infrastructure facilities for youths so that they can excel in sports. MS Dhoni, who has been left out of the BCCI's central contacts list for players announced recently, reached the stadium at time but was inside gymnasium. He reached the stage only when the Chief Minister Hemant Soren arrived at the venue. The function was to start at 4 pm but was delayed by two hours as the CM was holding an important meeting.

Apart from Dhoni, JSCA former president and ICC Board member Amitabh Choudhary too was present on the occasion.

Sources said with the setting up of 400 KW solar plant the solar power generated at the plant will, be used during non-



Chief Minister Hemant Soren and former Team India captain Mahendra Singh Dhoni during inaugural ceremony of Solar Power Facility, C3 Fitness Hub and The Uptown Café at Jharkhand State Cricket Association (JSCA) International stadium in Ranchi on Wednesday

match days. During non-match days, the average power consumption at the stadium complex is 500-1,000KW per hour depending on events held. Once the solar plant is commissioned, we will be able to reduce power use by 30-35 per cent.

Also, the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) com-

pany has installed solar plants at 12 stadiums in Germany. In India, Karnataka State Cricket Association (KSCA) has already embraced renewable power at its Bangalore stadium. Mumbai Cricket Association, Cricket Association of Bengal and Madhya Pradesh Cricket Association are following suit.

JSCA stadium hosted its 1st ODI match on 19 Jan 2013

between India and England and since then it has hosted several ODI, T20 and Test matches. Ranchi is the only venue for international cricket in Jharkhand after Jamshepur's famous Keenan Stadium stopped hosting matches due to squabble between Tata Steel, the owner of Keenan Stadium and Jharkhand State Cricket Association (JSCA).

CM directs SIT formation to probe West Singhbhum killings

Chairs emergency meet with officials

PNS ■ RANCHI

Chief Minister Hemant Soren on Wednesday directed the police to constitute a Special Investigating Team (SIT) to probe into the brutal killings of seven villagers in West Singhbhum allegedly by Palthagadi supporters on Tuesday — the first ever incident of gruesome murders in a bid to suppress the voices that rise against the Palthagadi movement.

"Nobody has the right to take law in hand. We will ensure an impartial probe into the matter. And the strictest possible action will be taken against the perpetrators," Soren said, asking police officials to

Seven villagers, including a deputy village head, were abducted on Sunday for allegedly protesting the Palthagadi movement in Burugurikela village. Some Palthagadi supporters, police said, had asked the villagers to surrender their Government identity proofs and the abducted men had shown vocal resistance to the demand. Their bodies were found on Tuesday with their throats slit, police said.

Soren had called for an



Chief Minister Hemant Soren holds a high level meeting with senior officials at Project building secretariat in Ranchi on Wednesday

emergency meeting with top officials of various law enforcement agencies in the State on Wednesday in the wake of the murders. "I understand that police cannot be everywhere. But all the law enforcement agencies should try and prevent

the occurrence of any such incident in the State in future," Soren said.

He also extended his support to the kin of the diseased men and asked the district officials to provide all possible support to the families of the

men who were killed. "The purpose behind the killing is not clear yet. Following the directive of the CM, we will constitute an SIT under the concerned Deputy Superintendent of Police to probe into the case," said Additional Director

General (Operations) Murari Lal Meena.

The Palthagadi movement, which has its epicenter in Khunti, advocates the idea of having liberated lands in the interiors where the administration's interventions are prohib-

ited. In 2017, villagers in parts of Khunti district held Palthagadi — a practice of demarcating the borders of a village and declaring it as liberated land through writings on stone plaques — and allegedly prohibited entry of the administration in their villages. Some villagers had also reportedly held a few cops hostage during the process. The government had swung into action and launched a massive drive against the movement which resulted in arrest of several Gram Pradhans and Palthagadi supporters.

Cut to 2020, the Palthagadi supporters are running a campaign to make villagers reject facilities under various welfare schemes of the government, said officials from West Singhbhum, adding that the surrender of identity cards was a part of the campaign. The

West Singhbhum administration has identified at least six people involved in advocating the idea of Palthagadi through muscle power in the villages and will soon launch a manhunt to nab them.

This is the second incident of crime related to Palthagadi that has shaken the State. Earlier in June 2018, five women activists were gangraped by Palthagadi supporters in Khunti for protesting the movement. A local court sentenced all six accused in the case to life imprisonment in May 2019.

The incident has mounted pressure on the CM to take immediate actions as it comes close on the heels of his decision of withdrawing sedition charges leveled against Palthagadi supporters in Jharkhand during the former BJP regime here.

R-Day preparations in full swing

PNS ■ RANCHI
Preparations for the 70th Republic Day celebrations have begun in the city. Various battalions can be seen practicing for the grand parade to be held on 26 January early in the morning at Morhabadi ground. The preparations for the parade to be held in Morhabadi Ground were inspected by DC Rai Mahimapat Ray and SSP Anish Gupta on Tuesday. During this, he inspected the parade contingents including the parade venue.

"The preparations for Republic Day are in full swing. Guests' security and traffic management has been planned. Officials have been assigned to ensure emergency health facilities, and arrangement of fire brigade. RMC officials are directed to ensure cleanliness of all monuments and statues across the City. For the parade rehearsal, instructions were given for arrangement of drinking water," said Ray. He also emphasized on the coordination of parade band troops and congratulated everyone for the parade on January 26.

After the parade inspection,

the DC inspected the venue along with other officials. He inquired about the route plan for the movement of the guests and the public. He also instructed to keep the facility of fire brigade, ambulance, emergency medical kit etc. ready at the venue.

"This is a proud moment for all of us. This day of the national festival is to be made memorable by all of us," he said. He directed all the announcers to rehearse with the parade teams from 22 January itself in order to avoid any rush at last moment, he added

Ranchi Cycle day by Kanishk Poddar

Ranchi: The 'Cycle Mayor' of Ranchi, Kanishk Poddar also plans 'Ranchi cycle day' on January 26. This is a monthly event taking place on fourth Sunday in order to make people aware about the significance of cycling. "This is the third event since November. The past events saw a gathering of at least 50 people. And now we are expecting the same," said Kanishk Poddar.

Promoting cycling is done to reunite and connect local cycling community. He talks on organising such events to educate people to pick up cycling

and respect cyclists while reaching out to local authorities for providing parking spaces and facilitating cycling.

Cycling is a way of life that will gift people healthy lifestyle, he said. This event will start from 6:30 am at Morabadi ground, from where the cyclists will head towards Kanke block and return to Morhabadi after covering a distance of around 15km. Those people who don't have cycle, can use chartered bikes and participate in this event. This event is organised in association with Ranchi cycle club, he added.

XLRI features in top 30 global business schools

PNS ■ JAMSHEDPUR

XLRI — Xavier School of Management has featured in the first edition of Positive Impact Rating 2020, launched at the World Economic Forum in Davos on Wednesday.

The Positive Impact Rating (PIR) is a radically new student-based rating measuring the positive impact of business schools. It aims to change the thrust of existing rankings from leading schools to be the best in the world to be the best for the world. It addresses the ongoing critique of existing rankings to support mainly economic and selfish goals of already privileged actors, without reflecting the schools' role as an important social actor.

The Positive Impact Rating was initiated in 2017 by a large global group of academics and institutional leaders from the management education field (GRLI, PRME, HESI, GBSN) with the intention to support fundamental change in the business school sector with regards to the schools' societal

responsibility and impact.

It is the first time that students around the world assess their business schools on how they perceive their positive impact in the world. The positive impact of business schools goes beyond their contribution to business and the economy; it addresses the need for their positive impact for society.

The purpose of this PIR 2020 is to measure how business schools contribute to solving societal challenges by energizing the school and its culture, by educating current and future leaders, by providing relevant research results and offers for continuing education, by participating in the public debate and by being a role model institution. Fr. P. Christie, director, XLRI commented, "We are happy to see that XLRI has featured in the list of 30 leading Global Business Schools in the First Edition of Positive Impact Report 2020. This PIR rating would inspire us to work more diligently towards attaining our Vision and Mission. Millennial B-School students have clearly

expressed their views on the importance of Positive Impact on society at large. This benign realization marks a paradigm shift and would foster a collaborative ecosystem and make the process of management education more meaningful and purpose-oriented."

In fact, XLRI's tagline - For the Greater Good is a constant reminder to all our stakeholders of why we exist and how XLRI can be a force for greater common good in shaping the management education sector and the community at large.

"Encouraging whole-person growth across intellectual, social, emotional and spiritual levels are important aspects of XLRI's DNA. For over seven decades we have been consciously working upon these four aspects through our teaching, culture, curriculum, and interaction with each other to help realize our vision to be an institution of excellence, nurturing responsible global leaders for the greater common good and a sustainable future", he added.

DC, officials travel by passenger train for 'Sarkar Apke Dwar'

PNS ■ DALTONGANJ

Palamu Deputy Commissioner Shantanu Kumar Agrahari and team of officials including DDC Bindu Madhav Pd Singh, additional collector revenue P K Prasad, assistant director social security Satrunjay Kumar, Nazareth deputy collector Shailesh Kumar, district social welfare officer Aftab Alam and others travelled by a passenger train to Banaras to reach Mohammadganj railway station for their onward road from there for Bhajaniya where an impressive 'Sarkar Aapke Dwar' programme was held.

Chief Secretary D K Tiwari has asked all DCs to hold this programme every Wednesday while DDC to do it every Saturday.

The passenger train was a Mainline electrical multiple unit and it was a two-hour train journey where sitting in a passenger compartment Agrahari and his team interacted with other co

passengers.

Nazareth deputy collector Shailesh Kumar bought the ticket from Daltonganj to Mohammadganj railway station for a price of Rs. 20 per head for a contingent of 35 people including DC, DDC, Addl Collector, other officials, security personnel and host of journalists.

The Pioneer travelled in this contingent and the train journey covered 62 Kms from Daltonganj to Mohammadganj railway station. At Mohammadganj railway station the contingent moved in four wheelers to reach Bhajaniya panchayat bhavan for 'Sarkar Aapke Dwar'.

FORM NO. INC-26
[Pursuant to rule 30 of the Companies (Incorporation) Rules, 2014].
PUBLIC NOTICE
BEFORE THE CENTRAL GOVERNMENT, EASTERN REGION
In the matter of sub-section (4) of Section 13 of the Companies Act, 2013, and clause (a) of sub-rule (5) of rule 30 of the Companies (Incorporation) Rules, 2014 AND
In the matter of: **SHAMBHAVI TRADECOM PRIVATE LIMITED** (CIN: U51102JH2009PT013488) having its registered office at 006E1 Party Built Stall Baridih Market, Jamshedpur, Ranchi, Jharkhand-831009

झारखण्ड सरकार
कारा निरीक्षणालय, मंडल कारा, गुमला
ई०-निविदा सूचना

(1) कारा का नाम :- मंडल कारा, गुमला।
(2) विषय :- कारा में आपूर्ति हेतु विविध सामग्रियों, खाद्यान्नों, आलू, हरी सब्जी, फल एवं अन्य सामग्रियों के निमित्त ई०-निविदा का आमंत्रण।
(बार्षिक निविदा दिनांक 01.04.2020 से 31.03.2021 तक)
(द्वितीय त्रैमासिक अवधि दिनांक 01.04.2020 से 30.06.2020)

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(ii) 10.00 लाख रुपये से ऊपर 50.00 लाख रुपये तक की सामग्रियों के आपूर्ति के निमित्त निविदा हेतु - 5,000.00 (पाँच हजार) रुपये मात्र।
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(4) Website पर निविदा प्रपत्र के उपलब्धता की तिथि - 07.02.2020 के पूर्वाह्न 10.00 बजे से दिनांक 14.02.2020 के अपराह्न 5.00 बजे तक।
(5) निविदा जमा करने की तिथि:- 07.02.2020 के पूर्वाह्न 10.00 बजे से दिनांक 14.02.2020 के अपराह्न 5.00 बजे तक सभी कार्य दिवस को।
(6) Tender Fee, EMD का Original Copy एवं उल्लेखित नमूना (Sample) दिनांक 15.02.2020 के पूर्वाह्न 10.00 बजे से 17.02.2020 के अपराह्न 5.00 बजे तक कार्यालय में जमा करना होगा।
(7) निविदा खुलने की तिथि/समय/स्थान :- 19.02.2020 के पूर्वाह्न 11.00 बजे अपर समाहर्ता, गुमला के कार्यालय वेध में अपर समाहर्ता, गुमला की उपस्थिति में।
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(9) अतिरिक्त सूचना प्रारित हेतु अधीक्षक, मंडल कारा, गुमला के कार्यालय अवधि में सम्पर्क स्थापित किया जा सकता है। e-Tender को online upload करने से संबंधित जानकारी के लिये NIC Helpline No. 9546188599 से सम्पर्क किया जा सकता है।

अधीक्षक, मंडल कारा, गुमला
P.R.224262 Police(19-20)-D

S. E. RAILWAY TENDER
Notice No.: DRMEMGRNC-05-2020.
Tender is invited by the DRM/Engg/RNC, for and on behalf of The President of India for the following work. **Name of Work :** Supply of 10 T and 4 T capacity truck under SSE (P.Way)/GBX for carrying of Railway materials for two years. **Tender Value: ₹ 16,17,012.39. E.M.D.: ₹ 32,400/-.**
Tender Closing Date & Time: 13.02.2020 at 15.00 hrs. Tenderers can visit the website www.ireps.gov.in for online Tendering. Contractors are allowed to make payments against these Tenders towards Tender document cost and Earnest Money only through online payment modes available on IREPS portal like Net Banking, Debit Card etc. e-Tender Notice is available on Notice Board in the Office of Divl. Rly. Manager (Engg.), S.E. Railway, DRM Building, Ranchi-834003. (PR-1275)

Salkhan writes to Guv over 'delay' in Cabinet expansion

Ranchi: Adivasi Sengel Abhiyan, national president Salkhan Murmu has written a letter to Governor Droupadi Murmu highlighting the constitutional provisions necessitated for constitution of council of ministry. Murmu, the former Member of Parliament said that as per Article 163 of Constitution, State Government is run in the name of Governor and Chief Minister who is head of the Council of Ministers. Murmu in his letter has highlighted the various provisions necessitated for constitution of

council of ministry after the election.

Murmu said it has been nearly a month since the election results were announced but is depressing that even after passing of more than one month that the Chief Minister is yet to form his cabinet. Murmu claimed that recently Jharkhand Mukti Morcha (JMM) chief Shibu Soren had talked about implementation of domicile policy based on 1932 Khatriyan and also reserving Class III and IV posts for local people having 1932 land documents.

जिला विधिक सेवा प्राधिकार, पलामू
सूचना
राष्ट्रीय लोक अदालत
शनिवार, 08 वीं फरवरी, 2020

व्यवहार न्यायालय, पलामू में निःशुल्क सुलभ एवं त्वरित न्याय के लिए
सर्व साधारण को सुचित किया जाता है कि नालसा के निर्देशानुसार, एवं झारखंड राज्य विधिक सेवा प्राधिकार, राँची के तत्वावधान में जिला विधिक सेवा प्राधिकार पलामू के द्वारा दिनांक-08वीं, फरवरी, 2020 को व्यवहार न्यायालय परिसर, पलामू, डालटनगंज में राष्ट्रीय लोक अदालत का आयोजन किया जा रहा है। इस राष्ट्रीय लोक अदालत में समझौता योग्य निम्नलिखित वाद जो किसी न्यायालय में लंबित हैं या नहीं का निपटारा किया जा सकता है:-

बैंक संबंधी मामले, धारा 138 परकाम्य लिखत अधिनियम 1881, वसूली संबंधित मामले, सुलहनीय आपराधिक मामले, मोटर यान दुर्घटना से संबंधी दावे, कुटुंब न्यायालय से संबंधित मामले, श्रम से संबंधित मामले, जमीन अधिग्रहण से संबंधित मुकदमें, बिजली एवं जल से संबंधी मामले, दीवानी मुकदमें। विचाराधीन तथा मुकदमें के पूर्व के मामले। लोक अदालत विवादों का त्वरित निपटारा तथा अंतिम निपटान, सर्वमान्य समाधान तथा अदालत में अदा की गई फीस के लौटाये जाने को सुनिश्चित करता है।

अगर आप का उपरोक्त कोई मामला व्यवहार न्यायालय, पलामू में विचाराधीन है और अगर आप उस मामले का निपटारा कराना चाहते हैं तो 08वीं, फरवरी, 2020 से पूर्व स्वयं या अपने वकील के जरिए व्यवहार न्यायालय, पलामू में उपस्थित होकर आवेदन दाखिल करें। इस हेतु समझौता पूर्व बैठक सभी बैंक एवं सभी संबंधित न्यायालयों में दिनांक-02.02.2020 से 07.02.2020 तक कार्यालय अवधि में कार्यरत रहेंगे।

राष्ट्रीय लोक अदालत दिनांक-08वीं, फरवरी, 2020 को 11:00 बजे पूर्वाह्न से प्रारंभ होगी। इस संदर्भ में किसी भी प्रकार की जानकारी हेतु किसी भी कार्य दिवस पर 11:00 पूर्वाह्न से 4:30 अपराह्न तक जिला विधिक सेवा प्राधिकार, पलामू में आ कर सचिव (दूरभाष सं०: 06562-222767, मोबाइल सं० 8757269596) से सम्पर्क किया जा सकता है।

निवेदक-
(अजय लिंडा) आरक्षी अधीक्षक -सह- सदस्य जिला विधिक सेवा प्राधिकार, पलामू।
(पंकज कुमार) प्रमारी प्रधान जिला एवं सत्र न्यायाधीश -सह- अध्यक्ष जिला विधिक सेवा प्राधिकार, पलामू।
(शं शांतनु कुमार अग्रहरी) उपाध्यक्ष जिला विधिक सेवा प्राधिकार, पलामू।

PR224272 (District)19-20*D

न्यायालय अनुमण्डल दण्डाधिकारी, सदर, हजारीबाग
-: आम इस्तेहार :-

क्र० सं०	वाद सं०	वादी	प्रतिवादी	सूचनाई की अगली तिथि/निर्गत आदेश का अनुपालन
01	मवन नियंत्रण वाद सं० 08 / 18	विश्वजीत कुमार बक्सी	विग कमाण्डर मनोज कुमार वगैरह	प्रतिवादी को दिनांक 25/01/2020 11.00 बजे पूर्वाह्न में अनुमण्डल दण्डाधिकारी, सदर, हजारीबाग के न्यायालय में उपस्थित होकर अपना पक्ष रखने हेतु अंतिम अवसर दिया जा रहा है। अनुपस्थित होने की स्थिति में Ex-parte (एकतरफा) कार्रवाई की जा सकती है।
02	मवन नियंत्रण वाद सं० 05 / 15	जितेन्द्र कुमार	डिवीजनल इंजीनियर, बीओएसएन० एल०	प्रतिवादी को दिनांक 2 8/01/2020 11.00 बजे पूर्वाह्न में अनुमण्डल दण्डाधिकारी, सदर, हजारीबाग के न्यायालय में बकाया की सूची के साथ उपस्थित होकर अपना पक्ष रखने हेतु अंतिम अवसर दिया जा रहा है। अनुपस्थित होने की स्थिति में Ex-parte (एकतरफा) कार्रवाई की जा सकती है।
03	Eviction Suit No.-03/2019	शशि शेखर प्रसाद	श्री अनिल ठाकुर वगैरह	प्रतिवादी को दिनांक 2 8/01/2020 11.00 बजे पूर्वाह्न में अनुमण्डल दण्डाधिकारी, सदर, हजारीबाग के न्यायालय में उपस्थित होकर अपना पक्ष रखने हेतु अंतिम अवसर दिया जा रहा है। अनुपस्थित होने की स्थिति में Ex-parte (एकतरफा) कार्रवाई की जा सकती है।
04	Eviction Suit No.-04/2019	सुदामा देवी	मसो० उगनी देवी वगैरह	प्रतिवादी को दिनांक 2 5/01/2020 11.00 बजे पूर्वाह्न में अनुमण्डल दण्डाधिकारी, सदर, हजारीबाग के न्यायालय में उपस्थित होकर अपना पक्ष रखने हेतु अंतिम अवसर दिया जा रहा है। अनुपस्थित होने की स्थिति में Ex-parte (एकतरफा) कार्रवाई की जा सकती है।
05	Eviction Suit No.-07/2019	ईश्वर दयाल महतो	गौतम गोप वगैरह	प्रतिवादी को दिनांक 2 5/01/2020 11.00 बजे पूर्वाह्न में अनुमण्डल दण्डाधिकारी, सदर, हजारीबाग के न्यायालय में बकाया की सूची के साथ उपस्थित होकर अपना पक्ष रखने हेतु अंतिम अवसर दिया जा रहा है। अनुपस्थित होने की स्थिति में Ex-parte (एकतरफा) कार्रवाई की जा सकती है।
06	Eviction Suit No.-01/2019	श्री प्रकाश विश्वकर्मा	शशि भूषण कुमार विमल	प्रतिवादी को दिनांक 2 5/01/2020 11.00 बजे पूर्वाह्न में अनुमण्डल दण्डाधिकारी, सदर, हजारीबाग के न्यायालय में उपस्थित होकर अपना पक्ष रखने हेतु अंतिम अवसर दिया जा रहा है। अनुपस्थित होने की स्थिति में Ex-parte (एकतरफा) कार्रवाई की जा सकती है।

अनुमण्डल दण्डाधिकारी, सदर, हजारीबाग।
PR 224250 District(19-20)D

GEOJIT opens branch office at Bokaro
PNS ■ BOKARO

Financial service provider GEOJIT launched its new branch office at Bokaro Steel City to strengthen its footprint and provide services to the investors. India's prominent stock market analyst and company head Gurang Shah inaugurated the branch office at City Center Sector 4.

Speaking on the occasion Shah said, our aim is to advice clients and provide services on every aspect of savings and all types of investments including Mutual funds, Equities, Commodities, Insurance and others.

BEFORE THE DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL, RANCHI
5TH FLOOR PRAGATI SADAN
(RRDA BUILDING KUTCHERY CHOWK RANCHI -834001
OA CASE NO. 500 of 2019
BETWEEN
PUNJAB NATIONAL BANK, ARMS BRANCH, RANCHIAPPLICANT BANK
vs
SHREE JANKI TRADERS AND OTHERSDEFENDANTS
SUMMONS ISSUED UNDER RULE 23 (VIII) OF THE DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL (PROCEDURE) RULES, 1993

SR. NO.	DEFENDANTS	ADDRESS
1	SHREE JANKI TRADERS. THROUGH ITS PROPRIETOR SRI KRISHNA SHAHI, S/O SRI S. SHAHI	HAVING OFFICE, AT D-19 VIKASH COLONY, NAMDA BASTI, GOLMURI P.O. AND P.S.-GOLMURI, TOWN-J AMSHPUR-831003. DISTT.-EAST SINGHBHUM STATE.-JHARKHAND.
2	SRI KRISHAN SHAHI, S/O SRI S. SHAHI. PROPRIETOR OF SHREE JANKI TRADERS.	R/O P.O.-KANTABONI, PS.-CHAKULIA, CHAKULIA-831012, DIST.-EAST SINGHBHUM STATE.-JHARKHAND.
3	SRI DULA RAM MAHTO, S/O LATE JAGARNATH MAHTO.	R/O P.O.-KANTABONI, PS.-CHAKULIA, CHAKULIA-831012, DIST.-EAST SINGHBHUM STATE.-JHARKHAND.

Whereas, the Applicant has instituted an application u/s 19 of the Recovery of Debts Due to Banks and Financial Institutions Act 1993 against the Defendants for recovery of sum of **Rs.4656104.18 (Rupees Forty Six Lakh Fifty Six Thousand One Hundred Four Paise Eighteen Only)** together with current and future interest, cost and for other reliefs.

The above mentioned Defendant(s) is/are therefore directed to **appear before the Registrar** in person or through an advocate or duly authorized agent, in support of his/their defence to show-cause on **23rd day of January, 2020 at 10.30 A.M.** as to why the reliefs prayed for should not be granted and to file show-cause in the matter.

Take notice that in case of default, the application will be heard and determined in your absence. Given under my hand and seal of this Tribunal on this the **03rd day of December, 2019.**

Sd./- (Kanhaiya Kumar)
REGISTRAR /IC

MINOR IRRIGATION DIVISION, DHANBAD

Tender Inviting e-Procurement Notice
Tender Reference No. WRD/MIDIV/DHANBAD/F2
- 19/2019-20, Date : 21-01-2020

Sr	Name of Work	Renovation of Lakhpuri Bandh, Under Block : Kaliyasol, Dist. : Dhanbad
1	Estimated Cost (Rs.)	Rs. 58,39,100.00
2	Time of Completion	335 Days
3	Last Date/Time for Receipt of Bids Online	12-02-2020 up to 5:00 PM
4	Date of Publication of Tender on Website	06-02-2020 Up to 12:30 PM
5	Date of Opening of Tender on Website	14-02-2020 Up to 12:30 PM
6	Name & Address of Office Inviting Tender	Executive Engineer, Minor Irrigation Division, Luby Circular Road, Dhanbad - 826001
7	Contact Details of e-Procurement Officer	7004613452, 7979762810 Dhanbad.eemi@gmail.com
8	Helpline Number of e-Procurement Cell	7004613452 / 0651 - 2491232

Note : (i) Only e-Tenders will be accepted. The tender amount may be changed at time of Publication on website.
(ii) Tender(s) shall upload scanned copy of updated details of GST in Form GSTR 3B with tender documents.
(iii) Seniority will be considered as per the Clause 4.5 of Notification No. 6/WRD-105-Misc-17/12-4590 dated 29-10-2018 of Jharkhand Water Resources Contractor Registration Circular 2018.

Further details can be seen on website : <http://jharkhandtenders.gov.in>
Executive Engineer,
Minor Irrigation Division,
Dhanbad
PR224298 (Minor Irrigation)19-20*D

कार्यालय नगर पंचायत कोडरमा
-:आम सूचना:-

एतद् द्वारा नगर पंचायत क्षेत्रांतर्गत सभी धृति (होलिडिंग) धारको को सूचित किया जाता है कि वित्तीय वर्ष 2019-20 का होलिडिंग टैक्स, वाटर टैक्स एवं म्युनिसिपल ट्रेड लाइसेंस कर का भुगतान माह मार्च 2020 तक निश्चित रूप से जमा करें अन्यथा इसके उपरान्त नियम संगत (12%) अतिरिक्त व्याज के साथ कर की वसूली की जायेगी।

ह० / -
कार्यपालक पदाधिकारी
नगर पंचायत कोडरमा
PR 224240 Urban Development(19-20)D

कार्यालय मैदिनीनगर नगर निगम आम सूचना

26.01.2020 को गणतंत्र दिवस के अवसर पर मैदिनीनगर नगर निगम के क्षेत्रान्तर्गत सभी मीट, मुर्गा एवं मछली की दुकाने बंद रहेगी। मैदिनीनगर नगर निगम क्षेत्रान्तर्गत मीट, मुर्गा एवं मछली विक्रेताओं को सूचित किया जाता है कि उक्त तिथि को अपने सभी मांस की दुकानों को बन्द रखेंगे। अन्यथा पकड़े जाने पर नगरपालिका अधिनियम 2011 के तहत कानूनी कार्रवाई की जायेगी।

नगर आयुक्त
मेदिनीनगर नगर निगम।
PR 224118 District (19-20)D

झारखण्ड सरकार
कार्मिक, प्रशासनिक सुधार तथा राजभाषा विभाग
प्रेस विज्ञापन
सं०सं०-15/सा०अव०-03-03/2019

नेताजी सुभाष चन्द्र बोस जयंती के अवसर पर कार्मिक, प्रशासनिक सुधार तथा राजभाषा विभाग, झारखण्ड, राँची की अधिसूचना संख्या-389 दिनांक-21.01.2020 के द्वारा दिनांक-23.01.2020 (गुरुवार) को कार्यपालक आदेश के तहत अवकाश घोषित किया गया है।

2. उक्त तिथि को झारखण्ड सरकार के अधीन सभी कार्यालय बन्द रहेंगे।

ह० / -
(एच० के० सुधाँशु)
सरकार के अवर सचिव।
P.R.224247 Personnel Administrative Reforms and Raj Bhasa(19-20):D

Hemant hints at Cabinet expansion soon

PNS ■ RANCHI

Jharkhand Chief Minister Hemant Soren on Tuesday hinted towards the expansion of his Cabinet in next couple of days. Soren, while talking to media person at Birsa Munda International Airport on his return from New Delhi said, "There is no confusion on cabinet expansion. The opposition is yet to recover from its shocking defeat in Assembly election."

"The Opposition is upset with its loss and is spreading rumour that there are differences between JMM and Congress over Cabinet expansion. I want to make it clear that Grand Alliance is united and there are no differences between us," added Soren.

Soren's remark on Cabinet expansion assumes importance as the Opposition has been targeting JMM and Congress for delay in cabinet expansion.

The BJP targeting Soren's government has claimed that both the parties are yet to finalise their cabinet as Congress is exerting pressure on JMM demanding plum portfolios.

State BJP spokesperson, Pratul Shahdeo had claimed that Soren is dancing on the tune of Congress as the party is demanding key portfolios in the cabinet. Shahdeo said that due to the blackmailing of the Congress, Chief Minister Hemant Soren spent almost half of his 25-day tenure visiting Delhi Darbar. Shahdeo claimed that the selection of ministers and allocation of portfolios is the prerogative of Chief Minister, but the way in which Congress is exerting pressure on Chief Minister for getting plum portfolios is condemnable.

Meanwhile, sources said that both the parties — JMM and Congress — have finalised



the shape of new Cabinet. Soren on his recent visit to Delhi for receiving 'Champion of Change' award from former President Pranab Mukherjee had discussion with senior Congress leaders on Cabinet expansion. Sources said the Cabinet expansion will be done on January 28.

The Hemant Soren Government in State comprises three Ministers who took oath along with him on December 29 along with two ministers from Congress quota (Alamgir Alam and Rameshwar Oroan) and one

minister Satyanand Bhokta from RJD camp.

Sources said the delay in Cabinet expansion is mainly due to both parties failing to reach consensus on number of ministerial berths and key departments. While the Congress wants five ministries, the JMM is willing to give only four. The Congress also wants important ministries, like health, education and rural development.

Also, Hemant Soren has to deal with the Congress demands, meet the aspirations of his own party legislators as well as balance the caste factor. Also, there are over half a dozen JMM legislators who have won the Assembly polls four-five times and are aspiring to be in the ministry.

The JMM, the Congress and the RJD won 30, 16 and 1 seat, respectively, in the recently concluded Assembly polls.

Pathalgadi killings: BJP demands arrest of murders



PNS ■ RANCHI

National vice-president BJP ST Morcha Arun Oraon along with other during a Press conference at BJP office in Ranchi on Wednesday Vinay Murmu | Pioneer

The State Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) on Wednesday sharply criticised the killing of seven persons of tribal community in West Singhbhum and said some anti-social elements are trying to create atmosphere of unrest in the entire State. At the same time the State BJP also demanded immediate arrest of the culprits.

Addressing a press meet, BJP Scheduled Tribe Morcha National Vice president, Arun Oraon said that an attempt is being made to create atmosphere of unrest in the entire State by brutally killing seven innocent tribals at Burugulikera Village under Guddi Block of West Singhbhum District.

The coalition Government in the State, which describes itself as pro-tribal and indigenous friendly, has not spoken yet. On the 25th day after the formation of this Government, massacre of seven tribals took place, which

shocked the entire State. BJP strongly condemns this massacre and demands that the State Government should immediately arrest the culprits," said Oraon.

He added soon a Central team will be formed by the BJP, which will reach the spot to examine the facts of the incident.

Speaking on the occasion, National Secretary of BJP Scheduled Tribe Front and Torpa MLA, Koche Munda said that the Government is engaged in only participating in meetings in Delhi, which has completely disrupted the legal system of the State. "This incident of West Singhbhum District shows the real situation of law and order of the State. It shows how anti-social elements are getting stronger," he added.

Munda added only constituting a committee will not bring back the innocent men who were killed.

State BJP Scheduled Tribe Morcha president, Ram Kumar

Pahan said that the entire Jharkhand is hurt by this brutal massacre in the State. He said that the BJP demands that the State Government should immediately arrest the people involved in the massacre without any delay and work to curb such anarchic elements and organizations across the State. Expressing condolences to the family of the deceased, Pahan said that at least Rs 10 lakh compensation should be given to the deceased by the State Government.

Seven villagers, including a deputy village head, were abducted on Sunday for allegedly protesting the Pathalgadi movement in Burugulikera village. Some Pathalgadi supporters, police said, had asked the villagers to surrender their Government identity proofs and the abducted men had shown vocal resistance to the demand. Their bodies were found on Tuesday with their throats slit, police said.

INBRIEF

WEALTH OF INDIAN BILLIONAIRES HIGHER
As per a report released by Oxfam on January 20 ahead of the World Economic Forum (WEF) in Davos Switzerland, the combined wealth of 63 Indian billionaires is higher than the total Union Budget of India for the fiscal year 2018-19. "Our broken economy is filling the pockets of billionaires and big businesses at the expense of ordinary men and women. The gap between rich and poor can't be resolved without deliberate inequality busting policies and too few governments are committed to this," said Oxfam India, CEO Amitabh Behar.

AALAAP THE MUSICAL EVE FOR BITOTSAV'20 HELD
AALAAP, the musical eve for BITOTSAV'20 was held on Wednesday. The Dean Students' Welfare, Anand Kumar Sinha, the faculty coordinator of BITOTSAV'20, Kirti Avishkek, and Gautam Shandilya the co-coordinator of BITOTSAV'20 were the guests for the evening.

Women's anti-NRC, CAA protest enters day 3

PNS ■ RANCHI

A large number of women have gathered at Haj House near Kadru Over Bridge in the State Capital since Monday to protest against the Central Government's National Population Register (NPR), National Register of Citizens (NRC) and Citizenship Amendment Act (CAA).

The women are protesting under the open sky even on cold nights. The protest started on Monday and continued on Wednesday also. Even at 9pm, women were sitting on the spot. They women have threatened to continue the protest until the law is withdrawn. On Wednesday, there were a large number of homemakers, school and college girls and youths were present on the spot.

The protesting women here are also taking responsibility of arranging for edibles and water for the protesters. On Wednesday, the women



were seen raising slogans of patriotism. The whole campus was buzzing with patriotic songs.

Salma, one of the agitators, said that the Government's move has united women and brought them on the streets. A

few women sat on agitation on Monday afternoon with placards in their hands. On seeing this, women from various areas started joining the protest. Sixty-year-old Mehruunnisha said, "We only know that this threatens our Constitution, our

Country and our children."

On Wednesday, another tent was built next to the main tent due to excessive crowd in the agitation spot. That tent was also full of women during the day. Women volunteers have been deployed to look after the protesting women. Men who were present on the spot said that they are giving moral support to the agitating women. Tanvir Ahmad resident of Hindpiri area of the State Capital said that the women are doing brave work so they need support and their male counterparts are extending their full support to the agitating women.

For the safety of women, the youths of Kadru area and nearby area are keeping their eye as guard throughout the nights. Keeping cold in mind in nights there is also arrangements of warm clothes and bonfire. Tea is also being given to women from time to time. The protest starts with a national song every day and also concludes with it.

IIM Ranchi ranks among top 20 B-schools in India

PNS ■ RANCHI

With rising competition, students aspiring to pursue a Management in Business Administration (MBA) are in for some good news. The ninth institute of Indian Institute of Management (IIM) Ranchi established in the year 2010 has made it to the top 20 business schools according to InsideIIM MBA Rankings 2020.

IIM - Ranchi is the first second generation IIM to be featured in the list beating its counterparts like IIM Rohtak which till two years was amongst the top 25 business schools in the country.

"The institute - IIM Ranchi is very serious with whatever it is doing and our main concern is that wherever our students go, they should be known as the products of IIM Ranchi.



Institutes are known by their own faculty members and products. The faculty here also strives to mould the students not just academically but also prepare them for the society. It is our endeavour that our products should be appreciated wherever they go," said Professor Shailendra Singh, Director IIM Ranchi.

The institute has also made it to T.I.M.E's list of top B-schools in India. Making it to the fourth spot, IIM Ranchi is

in the AAA+ category of institutes which offer high quality of education, faculty, infrastructure and also have a 100 per cent placement record. It has beaten institutes like Management Development Institute (MDI) Gurugram and Narsee Monjee Institute of Management Studies (NMIMS) Mumbai which are in the fifth and sixth place respectively.

"The institute has immense potential and students get admission after facing difficult competition. They work extremely hard while our teachers are like potters who shape them with inspiration and motivation. Ultimately the products come out as good professionals who have a demand and stand out in the industry. It's very encouraging to see our efforts being appreciated," added the Director.

Rare migratory guests give bird watchers reason to cheer

PNS ■ JAMSHEDPUR

Migratory birds, which arrive in thousands every year in the city, have registered a pleasant beginning this New Year. The flight of migratory birds to the city from Russia, Baluchistan, Myanmar and the foothills of Himalaya got delayed this season. However with the spotting of some of the rare birds, the bird lovers are cheering.

According to bird watchers, due to recent cold wave in European and Asian countries rare species of birds have been forced to migrate to warmer areas. A number of aquatic birds — Common Teal and Shoveller from Myanmar and Cotton Teal and Brahminy Duck (commonly known as Lalsar) from the foothills of Himalaya have been spotted at Dimna and Jubilee lake.

KK Sharma, incharge of Jharkhand and Bihar chapter of Ornithology Society of India, birds have been staying away from the city due to increased human activities. However, he

has spotted several migratory birds at Sitarampur Dam at Gambharia.

"During my visit I have witnessed several rare species of at Sitarampur Dam. Several non-aquatic birds, including Wage Tail from Russia and Red-headed Bunting from Baluchistan, have arrived," conceded Sharma. He said that availability of food and sense of security are the two main reasons that attract the birds in and across the city.

Meanwhile, Bird Watchers Club at XLRI that also keeps a track on the birds informed that they have spotted some of the migratory birds near their campuses.

"Every year we have spotted numbers of birds at our campus area. This year too we have tracked some of the rare birds that migrate from colder regions. Though due to noise pollution the numbers have diminished over the years but this year the numbers are good," said a member.

Avik Prasad, a city-based avid bird watcher said that



extreme cold conditions force these birds out of their habitations during the winter season.

"Migratory birds generally come from South-East Asia and the Siberian region which,

at this time of year, reels under severely cold conditions. To protect themselves, these birds migrate thousands mile to warm regions. They stay for four months of winter and then return to their original homeland," he added.

Among the popular varieties that are sighted include Ruddy Shelducks, Great Crested Grebes, Coots, Tufted Pochards and Bar-headed Pheasants.

Though egrets and ducks can be seen in plenty but their counter parts, which migrate from nearby areas, are appearing in thin strength, complained few bird watchers and members of Nature's Trail, who regularly come to the zoo for morning walks. These migratory birds generally arrive at the lake around October and stay still February.

Members of the Nature's Trail are confident that with further chill in the air migratory birds would be tempted to fly into the city for safer destination, which would give the bird watchers a visual treat.

City boy designs country's first indigenous Menstrual Cup

DIVYA MODI ■ RANCHI

Ranchi based 22-year old Pramod Priya Ranjan has designed an innovative menstrual cup, which also happens to be the first such product to be designed in India. His start-up - Care Form Labs is a registered company with the government of Jharkhand.

Ranjan's startup was selected among the top 14 finalists at the National Innovation Challenge in New Delhi on January 19 for Youth Co:Lab supported by United UNDP and NITI Aayog. The young entrepreneur has also got a grant of ₹50,000 and fellowship with a monthly stipend of ₹25,000 from NITI Aayog-AIM.

myself, we came across two problems faced by the users which were mainly insertion and removal and later cleaning the cup post use. Identifying this as opportunities, the product has been designed accordingly," said Ranjan.

The product will soon be available with a case, which will also work as a cleaning kit for the cup. The case made of silicone will have indicators marking the water level and will be manufactured soon. The product is made of 100 per cent medical grade silicone.

"A provisional patent has been filed for the menstrual cup. The prototype is being made in Bangalore so it is a 'Made in India' product," added



the designer. The prototype has been tested by users and has received about 10 expert reviews so far.

"While working for an NGO in Pune, I was making a sanitary napkin incinerator - a

machine which is primarily installed in colleges and hostels and is used to burn the pads. The machine though useful emits harmful smoke and is also difficult to maintain. That was the first time I heard of

menstrual cups and was quite shocked to discover that it is not a very popular product among menstruating girls and women," added Ranjan.

The pilot project will be launched in March after which

the product will be available on leading E-Commerce platforms by the end of 2020.

"In the coming years, I hope to be among the top three companies on leading E-commerce websites selling this product. I want to reach the rural women, so hopefully in five years time after creating awareness on menstrual hygiene and with active participation from the government, NGO's and self help groups, I hope to reach my target audience. Other health care products like pregnancy test kits are also in the pipeline," said the young designer.

Born and brought up in Ranchi, Ranjan has done his schooling from Delhi Public School and is a graduate in Bachelors of Design from MIT Institute of Design, Pune. A resident of New Pundag, his father Vinod Kumar Ranjan is a fine arts teacher at Delhi Public School while his mother Tapasi Ranjan teaches Hindi and political science at Vivekanand Vidya Mandir, Ranchi.

BEFORE THE DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL, RANCHI 5TH FLOOR PRAGATI SADAN (RRDA BUILDING KUTCHERY CHOWK RANCHI -834001)
OA CASE NO. 506 of 2019
BETWEEN
BANK OF INDIA, GHATOTAND BRANCH, GAHATOTAND, RAMGARHAPPLICANT BANK
Vs
MAZHRL HODA AND OTHERSDEFENDANTS

SUMMONS ISSUED UNDER RULE 23 (VIII) OF THE DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL (PROCEDURE) RULES, 1993

SR. NO.	DEFENDANTS	ADDRESS
1	MAZHRL HODA, S/o NEYAZ AHMAD	DRIVER HUT, GHATOTAND, POGHATOTAND, PS-MANDU, DISTT-RAMGARH- 825314 ALSO AT-MILLAT COLONY MANDAI KALAN, PO-MANDAL, PS-SADAR, DISTRICT-HAZARIBAG-825319.
2	MD. NEYAZ AHMAD, S/O MD. SEKH IZHAR	DRIVER HUT, GHATOTAND, PO- GHANOTAND, PS-MANDU DISTRICT-RAMGARH-825314.

Whereas, the Applicant has instituted an application u/s 19 of the Recovery of Debts Due to Banks and Financial Institutions Act 1993 against the Defendants for recovery of sum of **Rs. 1623552.00 (Rupees Sixteen Lakh Twenty Three Thousand Five Hundred Fifty Two Only)** together with current and future interest, cost and for other reliefs.

The above mentioned Defendant(s) is/are therefore directed to appear before the Registrar in person or through an advocate or duly authorized agent, in support of his/her defence to show-
cause on **23rd day of January, 2020 at 10.30 A.M.** as to why the reliefs prayed for should not be granted and to file show-cause in the matter.

Take notice that in case of default, the application will be heard and determined in your absence, Given under my hand and seal of this Tribunal on this the **03rd day of December, 2019.**

Sd./- (Kanhaiya Kumar) REGISTRAR I/C

अधीक्षक का कार्यालय, पाटलीपुत्र चिकित्सा महाविद्यालय अस्पताल, धनबाद

पत्रांक :- 136/पीएमसी0एच20 दिनांक :-21.01.2020
अतिअल्पकालीन ई-निविदा सूचना
 पाटलीपुत्र चिकित्सा महाविद्यालय अस्पताल, धनबाद में वित्तीय वर्ष 2019-20 के लिए मानक स्तर के निर्माताओं अथवा उनके अधिकृत एवं अनुभवी वितरक से औषधि(L.V Fluid) आपूर्ति हेतु 2-बोली व्यवस्था (2-bid system) के अन्तर्गत निम्नांकित शर्तों के अधीन ONLINE निविदा आमंत्रित किया जाता है। निविदा अपलोड करने की अंतिम तिथि 29.01.2020 को संध्या 5.00 बजे तक होगी। हाथों-हाथ निविदा नहीं लिया जायेगा। विलम्ब से निविदा जमा होने पर विचार नहीं किया जायेगा। निविदा केवल ONLINE जमा करना है।
 ह/— अधीक्षक
 पाटलीपुत्र चिकित्सा महाविद्यालय अस्पताल
PR 224258 (Health Med Edu and Family Welfare)19-20*D

कार्यालय अंचल अधिकारी, कुन्दा

अति अल्पकालिन निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना संख्या-01 वर्ष 2019-20
 (1) विभाग का नाम:-अंचल कार्यालय कुन्दा
 (2) विज्ञापन दाता का नाम:-अंचल अधिकारी कुन्दा
 (3) निविदा प्राप्ति की अन्तिम तिथि एवं समय:-दिनांक 29.01.2020 को अपराह्न 2:00 बजे तक
 (4) निविदा खोलने की तिथि एवं समय:-दिनांक 29.01.2020 को अपराह्न 3:00 बजे तक
 (5) निविदा खोलने का स्थान:-अंचल अधिकारी कार्यालय, कुन्दा
आपूर्ति की जानेवाली सामग्रियों की सूची निम्नांकित है:-
मशीनरी एवं उपकरण:-

क्र० सं०	सामग्री का नाम	इकाई	कम्पनी/ फर्म	अभियुक्ति
1	2	3	4	5
01	लैपटॉप 8 G B रैम 2 T B	01	DELL	
02	लेजर जेट प्रिन्टर 1005 MODEL	01	HP	
03	कॉर्टेज 12 A	01	HP	

नोट:- निविदा की शर्तें अंचल अधिकारी, कुन्दा कार्यालय के सूचना पट्ट पर देखी जा सकती है।
PR 224236 (District)19-20#D अंचलअधिकारी, कुन्दा

स्थायी लोक अदालत का कैम्प कोर्ट
 दिनांक 24.01.2020 (शुक्रवार)

संबंधित व्यक्तियों को सूचित किया जाता है कि दिनांक 24.01.2020 को 12:00 बजे दिन से स्थायी लोक अदालत का कैम्प कोर्ट आई0डी0बी0आई0 बैंक के कल्याणपुर शाखा, बरवड़डा में आयोजित किया जायेगा। इस कैम्प कोर्ट में लोक उपयोगिता, बैंक, बीमा, डाक, टेलीफोन, अस्पताल, परिवहन, शिक्षण संस्थाओं से संबंधित शिकायतों का आवेदन प्राप्त कर उन्हें सुलह-समझौते के आधार पर निष्पादित किया जायेगा।

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

निवेदक
 अध्यक्ष
 स्थायी लोक अदालत, धनबाद

PR 224248 Law (19-20)_D

गुमला समाह्वरणालय, गुमला (कल्याण शाखा)

विज्ञापन

सरकार के सचिव, कल्याण विभाग, झारखण्ड, रॉबी के संकल्प संख्या - 2151, दिनांक 15.07.2015 के आलोक में गुमला जिलान्तर्गत कल्याण विभाग के द्वारा संचालित आवासीय विद्यालयों में रिक्तियों के विरुद्ध शिक्षण कार्य हेतु Service Procurement के आधार पर अंशकालीन सेवा के लिए एकरारनामा आधारित स्नातक/मैट्रिक प्रशिक्षक शिक्षकों का चयन किया जाना है। इस निमित्त शिक्षण कार्य हेतु अंशकालीन सेवा के लिए शिक्षकों का चयन हेतु योग्यताधारी बेरोजगार युवक/युवतियों से विहित प्रपत्र में दिनांक 05.02.2020 को अपराह्न 05.00 तक पूर्ण बायोडाटा एवं पासपोर्ट साईज के स्वअभिप्रेत फोटो के साथ समेकित जनजाति विकास अभिकरण (आई0टी0डी0ए0) कार्यालय, गुमला के पते पर केवल निबंधित/स्पीड पोस्ट के माध्यम से आवेदन-पत्र सशर्त आमंत्रित किए जाते हैं। निर्धारित तिथि के पश्चात् प्राप्त आवेदनों पर विचार नहीं किया जाएगा।

(1) कोटिवार पद एवं योग्यता :-

क्रम	स्नातक/मैट्रिक प्रशिक्षित शिक्षकों की रिक्ति	कुल पद	कोटिवार पद	न्यूनतम योग्यता	परिलब्धि/ वृत्तिका
1	2	3	4	5	6
1	विज्ञान-5 स्ना0प्र0	स्नातक प्रशिक्षित -39	स्नातक प्रशिक्षक का पद - अनु0 जाति- 01 अनु0जनजाति-18 अनारक्षित-20	1. स्नातक शिक्षक हेतु संबंधित विषय में स्नातक एवं NCTE द्वारा मान्यता प्राप्त संस्था से B.Ed होना आवश्यक है। 2. मैट्रिक प्रशिक्षित शिक्षक के लिए मैट्रिक/इण्टर के साथ मान्यताप्राप्त संस्था से द्विवर्षीय शिक्षक प्रशिक्षण आवश्यक है। 3. टेट उत्तीर्ण अभ्यर्थियों को प्राथमिकता दी जायेगी।	200/- रूपए प्रति घण्टी, अधिकतम चार घण्टी प्रतिदिन, एक सप्ताह में अधिकतम पाँच कार्य दिवस तक कार्य लिया जायेगा।
2	संस्कृत-3 स्ना0प्र0				
3	हिन्दी-5 स्ना0प्र0				
4	अंग्रेजी-5 स्ना0प्र0				
5	गणित-5 स्ना0प्र0				
6	उर्दू-1 स्ना0प्र0				
7	इतिहास-5 स्ना0प्र0				
8	भूगोल-4 स्ना0प्र0				
9	अर्थशास्त्र- 5 स्ना0प्र0				
10	शास्त्रीय शिक्षा- 1 स्ना0प्र0				
11	मैट्रिक प्रशिक्षित-20	मैट्रिक प्रशिक्षित का पद - अनु0जनजाति-10 अनारक्षित-10			

- (2) शर्तें एवं पात्रता :-**
- सभी पदों के चयन में राज्य सरकार के आरक्षण के प्रावधान का पालन किया जायेगा, शिक्षकों से कार्य एकरारनामा के आधार पर लिया जाएगा, जिसमें उसी प्रखण्ड के अ0जा0/अ0ज0जा0/पि0व0/महिला शिक्षकों तथा स्थानीय भाषा के जानकार को प्राथमिकता दी जाएगी। प्रखण्ड स्तर पर अभ्यर्थी अनुपलब्ध पाए जाने की स्थिति में जिला स्तर पर उपलब्ध योग्य अभ्यर्थी से चयन किया जायेगा।
 - जिला स्तर/प्रखण्ड पर संबंधित विषय के स्नातकोत्तर बी0एड प्रशिक्षित या शिक्षक प्रशिक्षण प्राप्त डिग्रीधारकों को मेधाक्रम के आधार पर निर्धारित शर्तों पर पूरी तरह अस्थायी रूप से संभित द्वारा एकरारनामा के आधार पर चयन किया जायेगा।
 - सभी चयनित अभ्यर्थियों को किसी भी तरह का मत्ता अनुमान नहीं होगा। वे किसी अवकाश के हकदार नहीं होंगे। यह पद स्थानांतरण नहीं होगा। चयनित शिक्षकों को विद्यालय में आवसन की सुविधा नहीं दी जायेगी। दैनिक उपस्थिति के आधार पर किए गए अध्यापन कार्य के आलोक में वृत्तिका का भुगतान किया जायेगा।
 - आवश्यकतानुसार चयनित शिक्षकों को अधिकतम 06 माह के लिए प्रत्येक कार्य दिवस एवं प्रति घण्टी के आधार पर रखा जायेगा। सेवा संतोषप्रद होने पर आवश्यकतानुसार उन्हें पुनः अगले छः माह के लिए रखा जा सकता है। किन्तु किसी भी परिस्थिति में सेवा एक वर्ष से अधिक नहीं होगी।
 - चयनित अभ्यर्थी भविष्य में इस पद पर स्थायी नियुक्ति हेतु दावेदार नहीं होंगे।
 - विभाग द्वारा नियमित शिक्षक के पदस्थापन होने पर स्वतः अंशकालिन शिक्षक का सेवा समाप्त हो जायेगा।
 - आवेदन विहित प्रपत्र में ही स्वीकार किया जाना है एवं आवेदन प्रपत्र पूरा भरा होना चाहिए। अपूर्ण आवेदन तथा निर्धारित तिथि के पश्चात् प्राप्त आवेदन पर विचार नहीं किया जाएगा।
 - विभाग द्वारा नियमित शिक्षक के पदस्थापन होने पर स्वतः अंशकालिन शिक्षक का सेवा समाप्त हो जायेगा।
 - अव्यय-पत्र यथा जाति, आवासीय, तकनीक योग्यता एवं कार्यानुभव प्रमाण पत्र की छायाप्रति स्व-अभिप्रेतमाहित करते हुए संलग्न करना आवश्यक होगा।
 - कार्मिक, प्रशासनिक सुचारु तथा राजभाषा विभाग, झारखण्ड सरकार के संकल्प संख्या 609, दिनांक 25.01.2016 के आलोक में उन्न की अधिकतम सीमा निम्नरूपेण होगी।

क्रम	कोटि	अधिकतम उम्र सीमा	विकलांगों के लिए अधिकतम उम्र सीमा
1	अनारक्षित	35 वर्ष	40 वर्ष
2	पिछड़ा वर्ग/अत्यंत पिछड़ा वर्ग	37 वर्ष	42 वर्ष
3	महिला (अनारक्षित/पिछड़ा वर्ग/अत्यंत पिछड़ा वर्ग)	38 वर्ष	43 वर्ष
4	अनुसूचित जाति/अनुसूचित जनजाति (पुरुष एवं महिला)	40 वर्ष	45 वर्ष

11. अंशकालीन शिक्षकों का चयन गठित चयन समिति के द्वारा नियम एवं शर्तों के अधीन किया जाएगा।
 12. उक्त विज्ञापन में किसी प्रकार का संशोधन/रद्द करने का अधिकार अधोहस्ताक्षरी को सुरक्षित रहेगा।
उक्त विज्ञापन एवं आवेदन का प्रपत्र समेकित जनजाति विकास अभिकरण (आई0टी0डी0ए0) कार्यालय, गुमला के सूचनापट्ट अथवा गुमला जिला के वेबसाईट गुमला.nic.in में देखा जा सकता है।
 नोट :- आवेदन-पत्र प्रेषित करने का पता निम्नवत् है :-
समेकित जनजाति विकास अभिकरण (आई0टी0डी0ए0) कार्यालय, गुमला, पोस्ट+थाना+जिला - गुमला, झारखण्ड -835207
उपायुक्त, गुमला।
PR.224260 Gumla(19-20)-D

6 ARRESTED FOR SMUGGLING COAL

Giridih: Continuing its anti-coal smuggling drive on Wednesday morning, police seized eight motorbikes loaded with 150 bags of illegal coal and arrested six persons involved in the illegal trade under Dewari police station here, said Circle Inspector P. Leyangi. The coal weighs 2 tonne and is worth more than Rs 50,000. The CI said the motorbikes ferrying illegal coal were intercepted at Ramusharan village area on Mandra road. The coal was loaded on the bikes from abandoned mines in Baniadidh and was being transported to other destination. Some coal smugglers managed to escape, police said. Giridih SP, S K Jha said that he instructed all police stations to stop illegal mining and transportation in the district. PNS

Artificial colour found in food samples: SFL Report

Samples collected during Dusshera-Diwali celebrations

PNS ■ RANCHI
 In order to keep a check on the quality of food especially during festivals like Dusshera and Diwali, officials from the Department of Health, Medical Education and Family Welfare visited various shops across the State capital collecting food samples from shops and street side food vendors. However, the reports released three months later by SFL Namkung show that some shops in Ranchi have used artificial colour unsafe for human consumption. As per the direction of Ranchi Deputy Commissioner, the samples were collected to check for adulteration by Sub Divisional Officer (SDO) Lokesh Mishra from vendors, shops and manufactures across the State capital. The report presented by SFL Namkung on Tuesday states that three shops in the city have used prohibited colours especially in items like boondi laddu. The shops include Jodhpur Mishthan Bhandar in Harmu and Maa Tara Sweets in Piska More. Apart from these samples of turmeric powder collected from Ashok Nagar's Pahlwan Hotel was also found to be harmful for human consumption.

असेनिक शाल्य चिकित्सक-सह-मुख्य कार्यपालकपदाधिकारी, DHS, गिरिडीह

DMFT Fund के अन्तर्गत सविदा के आधार पर पाया चिकित्सा कर्मियों की नियुक्ति हेतु विज्ञापन
 जिले में नवनिर्मित स्वास्थ्य विभागीय संरचना जिसकी स्थापना की स्वीकृति राज्य स्तर से प्राप्त नहीं है में स्वास्थ्य सुविधा सुनिश्चित करने के लिए तत्काल DMFT Fund से उपायुक्त गिरिडीह के अध्यक्षता में स्वास्थ्य विभागीय समीक्षात्मक बैठक में दिये गये निर्देशानुसार अनुबंध/मानदेय के आधार पर निम्न पाया चिकित्सा कर्मियों की कोटि वाररिक्त पदों के विरुद्ध नियुक्ति हेतु गिरिडीह जिला के स्थानिय निवासीयों से आवेदन आमंत्रित की जाती है। कुल कोटि वाररिक्तियां निम्नवत है :-

क्र.सं.	पद कानाम	कुलरिक्त	अनारक्षित	अनुसूचित जनजाति	अनुसूचित जाति	अत्यन्त पिछड़ा वर्ग	पिछड़ा वर्ग
1	ANM (DMFT Fund)	46	23	6	6	6	5
2	MULTI SKILL WORKER (DMFT Fund)	23	12	3	3	3	2
3	SWEEPER (DMFT Fund)	23	12	3	3	3	2
4	X-RAY TECHNICIAN(DMFT Fund)	2	1	0	0	1	0

नोट-रिक्तियों की संख्या आवश्यकता के अनुसार घटाई बढ़ाई जा सकती है।
 1. सभी तरह से विहित प्रपत्र में पूर्ण आवेदन को बन्द लिफाफे में निबंधित डाक/स्पीडपोस्ट से असेनिक शाल्य चिकित्सक-सह-मुख्य कार्यपालक पदाधिकारी, DHS, गिरिडीह के कार्यालय में दिनांक 09.02.2020 को 4:00 बजे अपराह्न तक जमा करवाया जा सकता है।
 2. उक्त नियुक्ति संबंधित अन्य शर्तें, अहर्ता, आवेदन शुल्क, आय, आवेदन प्रपत्र इत्यादि का विवरण वेबसाईट www.giridih.nic.in अथवा सिविल सर्जन कार्यालय, गिरिडीह के सूचना पट्ट पर उपलब्ध है।
 3. निबंधितडाक/स्पीड पोस्ट के लिफाफे पर पदनाम सहित (DMFT Fund)का उल्लेख अवश्य करेंगे।
असेनिक शाल्य चिकित्सक-सह-मुख्य कार्यपालक पदाधिकारी, DHS, गिरिडीह
PR 224283 (Giridih)19-20#D

JHARKHAND BIJLI VITRAN NIGAM LTD
 (CIN: U40108JH2013SGC001702)
ELECTRIC SUPPLY CIRCLE, RANCHI
 Regd. Office : KUSAI COLONY, DORANDA, RANCHI - 834002
 Telephone :- 0651-2490467, FAX No 0651-2490558& Email : ranchicircle.ese@gmail.com

e-Tender Notice
 e-Tenders in two parts Part-I (Technical and Commercial) and Part-II (price part) are invited from the reputed tenderers having good experience of following similar type of Civil works and having sound financial status:

Sl. No.	NIT No	Name of the works	Estimated cost in Rs.	Earnest money to be deposited in Rs.	Cost of BOQ (Non-refundable) in Rs.	Time of completion of work.
1	232/PR/J BVNL/19-20	Construction of boundary wall in west side open area at TRW (for DTR), Chutia, Ranchi.	15,74,100.00	31500.00	5000.00 + GST Extra	5 (Five) Months

Availability of tender documents on website From 24.01.2020 at 11.00 AM to 12.02.2020 up to 05:00 PM
 Last date and time for uploading of e-tender Up to 12.02.2020 up to 5.00 PM
 Last date and time for physical submission of original Demand Draft towards cost of BOQ and Earnest Money. Up to 13.02.2020 up to 5.00 PM
 Date and time for opening of Tender Part-I (Technical and Commercial) At 3.30 PM on 14.02.2020
 Date and time for opening of Tender Part-II (Price Part) Will be Communicated later on
 Tendering Officer and address for communication Electrical Superintending Engineer Electric Supply Circle, Ranchi

- e-Tender documents and BOQ including terms & conditions, specification etc. can be downloaded and submitted online on website <https://jharkhandtenders.gov.in>. Any details required in this regard can also be had from the office of the undersigned (0651-2490558) during office hours. NIC helpline no. 0651-2400178.
- Demand Draft from any Nationalized/ Scheduled bank of India towards cost of BOQ and Earnest Money will be in favour of **Accounts Officer, Electric Supply Circle, Ranchi**, payable at Ranchi.
- The tenders will be received through electronic tendering mode only.

सहित एवं संपूर्णित में कर्ता बचाने। कृपया अपनी शिकायतों को टेली फ्री नं० 1800 345 6570 पर दर्ज करायें।
Sd/- ESE, ESC, Ranchi
PR 224259 (Jharkhand Bijlee Vitran Nigam Ltd)19-20#D

झारखण्ड सरकार कल्याण विभाग उप निदेशक, कल्याण कार्यालय, पलामू प्रमण्डल, मेदिनीनगर

पलामू प्रमण्डल, अन्तर्गत कल्याण विभाग द्वारा संचालित निम्नलिखित अनुसूचित जाति/अनुसूचित जन जाति आवासीय विद्यालयों में शैक्षणिक सत्र 2020-2021 के रिक्त के अनुसार वर्ग प्रथम में नामांकन हेतु इच्छुक छात्र/छात्राओं से विहित प्रपत्र में आवेदन पत्र दिनांक 20.02.2020 तक आमंत्रित किये जाते हैं। आवेदन पत्र सम्बन्धित विद्यालयों में कार्य-दिवस को जमा किये जायेंगे।

जिला	विद्यालयों का नाम	नामांकन का वर्ग
पलामू	अनु0 जाति आवासीय उ0वि0, कौआखोह, पलामू।	वर्ग प्रथम
	अनु0जाति बालिका आवासीय प्राथमिक विद्यालय, लेस्लीगंज, पलामू।	वर्ग प्रथम (केवल बालिका हेतु)
	अनु0जाति बालिका आवासीय प्राथमिक विद्यालय, झूमरी, छत्तरपुर, पलामू।	वर्ग प्रथम (केवल बालिका हेतु)
	लातेहार - अनु0जन-जाति आवासीय मध्य विद्यालय, डोमाखांड, लातेहार।	वर्ग प्रथम
	अनु0जन-जाति आवासीय मध्य विद्यालय, छिप्रादोहर, लातेहार।	वर्ग प्रथम
	अनु0जन-जाति आवासीय मध्य विद्यालय, हेन्देहास, बरवाडीह, लातेहार।	वर्ग प्रथम
	अनु0जाति आवासीय प्राथमिक विद्यालय, होटवाग, लातेहार।	वर्ग प्रथम
	अनु0जाति आवासीय प्राथमिक विद्यालय, हडगडवा, चन्दवा, लातेहार।	वर्ग प्रथम
	आदिम जन जा0 आ0 प्राथमिक विद्यालय, ऑवरस्टॉड, मनिा लातेहार।	वर्ग प्रथम
	आदिम ज0जा0 बालिका आवासीय प्रा0 विद्यालय, कुटूम, लातेहार।	वर्ग प्रथम (केवल बालिका हेतु)
	आदिम ज0जा0 बालिका आवासीय प्रा0 विद्यालय, नेटरहाट, लातेहार।	वर्ग प्रथम (केवल बालिका हेतु)
	अनुसूचित जाति आवासीय प्राथमिक विद्यालय, बालूमाथ, लातेहार।	वर्ग प्रथम
	अनु0जा0 आवासीय प्रा0 विद्यालय, बनियों, लातेहार।	वर्ग प्रथम
	अनुसूचित जाति बालिका आवासीय प्राथमिक विद्यालय, गारू, लातेहार।	वर्ग प्रथम (केवल बालिका हेतु)
गढ़वा	राजकीय अ0ज0जा0 आवासीय उ0वि0, कुदरूम, गढ़वा।	वर्ग प्रथम,
	अनु0 जाति आवासीय मध्य विद्यालय, रमकण्ड, गढ़वा।	वर्ग प्रथम

- आवेदन-पत्र प्रत्येक कार्य दिवस में प्रातः 10.00 बजे से अपराह्न 05.00 बजे तक सम्बन्धित जिला कल्याण कार्यालय एवं सम्बन्धित विद्यालयों से प्राप्त एवं जमा करेंगे। (जिला कल्याण पदाधिकारी अपने कार्यालय में प्राप्त आवेदन-पत्रों को अपने जिला के सम्बन्धित विद्यालय को हस्तान्तरित करेंगे।)
- अनुसूचित जाति के विद्यालय में अस्वच्छ कार्य में लगे परिवार के बच्चों के लिए 25 प्रतिशत तथा मुसहर एवं मुईयों जाति के बच्चों के लिए 25 प्रतिशत स्थान नामांकन में सुरक्षित रहेगा। उसी प्रकार अनुसूचित जन-जाति के सभी उप जातियों के लिए संचालित आवासीय विद्यालयों में अनुसूचित आदिम जन-जातियों के लिए नामांकन में 25 प्रतिशत स्थान सुरक्षित रहेगा। यदि उक्त कोटि के आरक्षित सीटों के लिए छात्र/छात्राएँ उपलब्ध नहीं होते हैं तो प्रमण्डलीय उप-निदेशक कल्याण का अनुमोदन लेकर मेधा सूची से ही अन्य अनुसूचित जाति एवं जन-जाति की अन्य उपजातियों के बच्चों का नामांकन आरक्षित सीट के विरुद्ध किया जायेगा।
- वर्ग प्रथम में नामांकन हेतु मौखिक परीक्षा 28.02.2020 को सम्बन्धित विद्यालयों में प्रातः 10.00 बजे से होगी।
- नामांकन हेतु चयनित छात्र/छात्राओं की सूची विद्यालयों के सूचनापट्ट पर प्रकाशित की जायेगी।
- नामांकन हेतु आवेदन-पत्र जमा करने की अन्तिम तिथि 20.02.2020 निर्धारित है।
- नामांकन के समय चयनित छात्र/छात्राओं को जाति प्रमाण-पत्र, आय प्रमाण-पत्र, बी0पी0एल0 कार्ड एवं जन्मतिथि प्रमाण-पत्र मूल रूप में प्रस्तुत करना अनिवार्य होगा।
- वर्ग 01 में नामांकन हेतु उम्र सीमा दिनांक 01.04.2020 को न्यूनतम 06 वर्ष अधिकतम 07 वर्ष होनी चाहिए।
- जिन छात्र/छात्राओं के माता-पिता सरकारी सेवा में कार्यरत हैं उनके बच्चों का नामांकन हेतु आवेदन स्वीकार नहीं किया जायेगा। इस आशय का घोषणा-पत्र आवेदक के माता-पिता/अभिभावक के द्वारा आवेदन-पत्र के साथ जमा करना अनिवार्य होगा।
- असत्य एवं फर्जी घोषणा-पत्र देने वाले माता-पिता/अभिभावक के विरुद्ध आवश्यक कानूनी कर्वाइ की जायेगी।
- आवेदन का प्रारूप www.palamu.nic.in पर देखा जा सकता है।

उप निदेशक, कल्याण, पलामू प्रमण्डल, मेदिनीनगर।

PR. 224222 Welfare(19-20):D

MINOR IRRIGATION DIVISION, DHANBAD

Tender Inviting e-Procurement Notice
Tender Reference No. WRD/MIDIV/DHANBAD/F2 - 13/2019-20, Date : 21-01-2020

Name of Work	Renovation of Tantri Thakur Bandh (Talab), Under Block : Topchanchi, Dist. : Dhanbad
Estimated Cost (Rs.)	Rs. 88,05,400.00
Time of Complication	335 Days
Last Date/Time for Receipt of Bids Online	12-02-2020 up to 5:00 PM
Date of Publication of Tender on Website	06-02-2020 Up to 12:30 PM
Date of Opening of Tender on Website	14-02-2020 Up to 12:30 PM
Name & Address of Office Inviting Tender	Executive Engineer, Minor Irrigation Division, Luby Circular Road, Dhanbad - 826001
Contact Details of e-Procurement Officer	7004613452, 7979762810 Dhanbad.eemi@gmail.com
Helpline Number of E-Procurement Cell	7004613452 / 0651 - 2491232

Note : (i) Only e-Tenders will be accepted. The tender amount may be changed at time of Publication on website.
(ii) Tender(s) shall upload scanned copy of updated details of GST in Form GSTR 3B with tender documents.
(iii) Seniority will be consider as per the Clause 4.5 of Notification No. 6/WRD-105-Misc-17/12-4590 dated 29-10-2018 of Jharkhand Water Resources Contractor Registration Circular 2018.

Further details can be seen on website : <http://jharkhandtenders.gov.in> Executive Engineer, Minor Irrigation Division, Dhanbad
PR224285 (Minor Irrigation)19-20*D

MINOR IRRIGATION DIVISION, DHANBAD

Tender Inviting e-Procurement Notice
Tender Reference No. WRD/MIDIV/DHANBAD/F2 - 15/2019-20, Date : 21-01-2020

Name of Work	Renovation of Purana Bandh (Morepahar), Under Block : Govindpur, Dist. : Dhanbad
Estimated Cost (Rs.)	Rs. 41,13,600.00
Time of Complication	335 Days
Last Date/Time for Receipt of Bids Online	12-02-2020 up to 5:00 PM
Date of Publication of Tender on Website	06-02-2020 Up to 12:30 PM
Date of Opening of Tender on Website	14-02-2020 Up to 12:30 PM
Name & Address of Office Inviting Tender	Executive Engineer, Minor Irrigation Division, Luby Circular Road, Dhanbad - 826001
Contact Details of e-Procurement Officer	7004613452, 7979762810 Dhanbad.eemi@gmail.com
Helpline Number of E-Procurement Cell	7004613452 / 0651 - 2491232

Note : (i) Only e-Tenders will be accepted. The tender amount may be changed at time of Publication on website.
(ii) Tender(s) shall upload scanned copy of updated details of GST in Form GSTR 3B with tender documents.
(iii) Seniority will be consider as per the Clause 4.5 of Notification No. 6/WRD-105-Misc-17/12-4590 dated 29-10-2018 of Jharkhand Water Resources Contractor Registration Circular 2018.

Further details can be seen on website : <http://jharkhandtenders.gov.in> Executive Engineer, Minor Irrigation Division, Dhanbad
PR 224289 Minor Irrigation(19-20)D

MINOR IRRIGATION DIVISION, DHANBAD

Tender Inviting e-Procurement Notice
Tender Reference No. WRD/MIDIV/DHANBAD/F2 - 18/2019-20, Date : 21-01-2020

Name of Work	Renovation of Sijua Bara Bandh Talab, Under Block : Nirsa, Dist. : Dhanbad
Estimated Cost (Rs.)	Rs. 91,43,900.00
Time of Complication	335 Days
Last Date/Time for Receipt of Bids Online	12-02-2020 up to 5:00 PM
Date of Publication of Tender on Website	06-02-2020 Up to 12:30 PM
Date of Opening of Tender on Website	14-02-2020 Up to 12:30 PM
Name & Address of Office Inviting Tender	Executive Engineer, Minor Irrigation Division, Luby Circular Road, Dhanbad - 826001
Contact Details of e-Procurement Officer	7004613452, 7979762810 Dhanbad.eemi@gmail.com
Helpline Number of E-Procurement Cell	7004613452 / 06

CRPF facing critical shortage of armoured troop carriers

RAKESH K SINGH ■ NEW DELHI

Amid heightened threat to its pilgrims later this year, the CRPF — the lead agency for internal security and conduct of Yatra — is facing a critical shortage of armoured troop carriers to transport the paramilitary personnel in Jammu & Kashmir.

Officials said, the paramilitary is facing a shortage of up to 40 per cent of the sanctioned strength, a figure being withheld in order to avoid any risk to the troopers from the terrorists in the Valley.

The preparation for the Amarnath Yatra begins in March and a meeting was held

in the Home Ministry for procurement of the armoured troop carriers, sources said.

The shortage of the armoured troop carriers has accrued over the years as the paramilitary has not been able to procure bullet proof vehicles from Original Equipment Manufacturers during the last one decade, leading to an alarming shortfall in such vehicles, they said.

The security forces especially the CRPF is facing enhanced threat from the terror groups post-abrogation of Article 370 and reorganisation of the erstwhile State of Jammu & Kashmir into two Union Territories — J&K and



Ladakh, officials said, adding approvals for procurement of the specialised vehicles are yet to see the light of the day

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The security forces especially the CRPF is facing enhanced threat from the terror groups post-abrogation of Article 370

The Amarnath Yatra that is held between July and August is estimated to be tough from the security perspective as it will be the first such Yatra to be conducted after change in the special status of J&K

Last year, the Amarnath Yatra was called off midway ahead of the decision to scrap Article 370 on August 5 as a well calculated move to avoid any risk to the pilgrims

despite the Pulwama incident last year in which 40 CRPF personnel were killed while travelling in a convoy consisting of

non-armoured buses.

"The sanctioned numbers of bullet-proof bunker vehicles are badly needed as addition-

al deployment of 25 battalions of the CRPF was made in the Valley in anticipation of aggravated law and order situation following nullification of Article 370 that granted special status to Jammu and Kashmir," an official said.

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The terror groups are also seeking to find traction among the youth as the jihadi ranks are facing crisis due to the wiping out of the terror leadership in the Valley owing to counter-

terror action by the security forces in the last two years.

Last year, the Amarnath Yatra was called off midway ahead of the decision to scrap Article 370 on August 5 as a well calculated move to avoid any risk to the pilgrims.

In 2017, Amarnath pilgrims were targeted by the terrorists in July 2017 in which eight religious tourists were killed and over 30 others injured.

Likewise, in June 2016, the banned terror group Lashkar-e-Tayyeba ambushed a convoy of CRPF vehicles in Pampore and killed eight uniformed men of the paramilitary and injuring over 20 others.

INSHORT

JAPAN'S HUGE INFRA INVESTMENT IN N-E

New Delhi: Japan has huge investment in infrastructure projects in the Northeast and is collaborating with several States in the region in areas like forest, sewerage and disaster management, the Centre said on Wednesday. The issue was discussed threadbare when a delegation led by Japanese Ambassador Satoshi Suzuki called on Union Minister for Development of North Eastern Region Jitendra Singh, an official statement said.

GOVT TO UNVEIL ACTION PLAN TO BOOST ECONOMY

New Delhi: The Government will unveil its "plan of action" to boost the economy in the Union Budget to be presented on February 1, Union Minister Prakash Javadekar said asserting that economic fundamentals remain very strong.

43 FLIGHTS SCREENED FOR NOVEL CORONAVIRUS

New Delhi: A total of 43 flights and 9,156 passengers were screened for novel coronavirus till Tuesday at the seven identified airports including Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai and Kolkata, Union Health Ministry said on Wednesday. Till now, no cases have been detected through these screening efforts, the Ministry added.

MoRD SIGNS MoU WITH BILL GATES FOUNDATION

New Delhi: The Ministry of Rural Development (MoRD) on Wednesday signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation (BMGF) under the Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana — National Rural Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NRLM), for furthering their mutual objectives of strengthening grassroots institutions of the rural poor.

CBI ARRESTS 2 ENGINEERS FOR TAKING BRIBE

New Delhi: The CBI on Wednesday arrested an assistant garrison engineer and a junior engineer from the Garrison Engineer's office in Dehradun for allegedly accepting a bribe of Rs 40,000 for clearing bills.

Children in J&K are nationalists not culprits: Rajnath

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Days after Chief of Defence Staff (CDS) General Bipin Rawat said girls and boys between the age group of 10 and 12 years were being radicalised in Jammu & Kashmir, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh on Wednesday said the children from there are "nationalists" but sometimes get motivated in the wrong direction and those guiding are the "culprits."

Rawat had also said the misguided youth have to be weaned away by lodging them in deradicalisation camps.

Dispelling the notion of radicalisation, the Defence Minister said those youngsters "should not be seen in any other way."

Making this observation when asked about his opinion on the children from Jammu & Kashmir being motivated to join the National Cadet Corps (NCC), he said, "Youngsters are youngsters only. Sometimes, the way they should be motivated, people do not motivate them. In fact, they are motivated in the wrong direction."

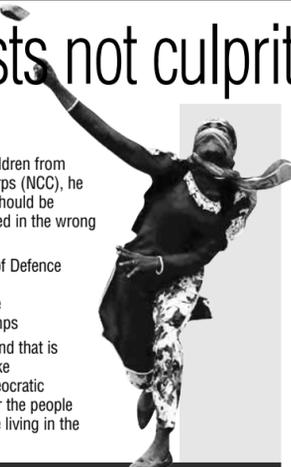
"That is why the kids should not be blamed for this. The ones who are wrongly motivating them should be

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In his address during the Raisina Dialogue here last week, Chief of Defence Staff (CDS) General Bipin had said children as young as 10 to 12 years are being radicalised in Kashmir and there is need to isolate those completely radicalised and put them in deradicalisation camps

Defence Minister said Indian values consider all religions equal, and that is why the country is secular and never became a theocratic state like Pakistan...Even America is a theocratic country. India is not a theocratic country. Why? Because our saints and seers did not just consider the people living within our borders as part of the family, but called everyone living in the world as one family," the Minister said



everyone living in the world as one family," the Minister said.

Singh underlined that India had never declared its religion would be Hindu, Sikh or Buddhist and people of all religions could live here." They (saints and seers) gave the slogan of 'Vasudev Kutumbakam' — the whole world is one family. This message has gone to the whole world from here only," he added.

He later presented Raksha Mantri Padak and commendation cards to NCC cadets and observed band and cultural performances of NCC cadets. Praising the parade and various performances of cadets, the Defence Minister said it has been able to boost the sense of national pride among Indian youth.

He also said the NCC plays an unparalleled role in transforming the youth into future leaders. "Today, NCC cadets can be found in almost every field, including Armed Forces, politics and sports. Even Prime Minister Narendra Modi, who is taking our country to newer heights, was an NCC cadet," Singh said. He also recalled his days as a cadet of the largest uniformed youth organisation in the world.

blamed. The ones who are motivating them in wrong direction are the culprits," the Defence Minister added. He made these remarks after attending the Republic Day annual camp of the NCC.

In his address during the Raisina Dialogue here last week, Rawat had said children as young as 10 to 12 years are being radicalised in Kashmir and there is need to isolate those completely radicalised and put them in deradicalisation camps.

He said radicalisation can be countered by looking at

where it is happening and who are behind it. The CDS also said radicalisation is happening in schools, universities, religious places and sites and then there are people spreading this. "First we need to get to the nerve of who is radicalising people. You can start isolating these people gradually and then start a counter radicalisation programme by identifying people who have been radicalised, to what degree..." he had said.

Meanwhile, addressing the NCC cadets, the Defence Minister said Indian values consider all religions equal,

and that is why the country is secular and never became a theocratic state like Pakistan. "We (India) said we would not discriminate among religions. Why did we do that? Our neighbouring country has declared that their state has a religion. They have declared themselves a theocratic state. We didn't declare so."

"Even America is a theocratic country. India is not a theocratic country. Why? Because our saints and seers did not just consider the people living within our borders as part of the family, but called

Gadkari convenes 2-day marathon review meet of all ongoing projects

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Road, Transport and Highways Minister Nitin Gadkari has convened a two-day marathon review meeting on Thursday and Friday of all the ongoing projects, worth Rs 3 lakh crore, of his Ministry as also that of the central road making agency NHAI.

Ministry sources said progress of about 500 projects especially struck/delayed projects will be taken up during the meeting to be held at Manesar near national Capital. Various stakeholders numbering about 600 Concessionaries/Contractors/Bankers and concerned officials of Union Governments and its Departments/Organisations, State NH Division, State PWD Departments will be attending the review meeting on January 23-24.

"This meeting is an important platform for ironing out issues and exploring the way forward for pending projects and helping in expediting the implementation," said a MoRTH official. Minister of State for Road Transport and Highways General (Retd) VK Singh will also attend the marathon meeting.

Officials said the first day of the meeting projects of South Zone (Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Pondicherry, Karnataka) and Central Zone (Chhattisgarh, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh and Gujarat) will be reviewed while projects

of Haryana, Odisha, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Jharkhand and West Bengal will be taken up on Friday.

The projects in the States of Punjab, Jammu & Kashmir, Ladakh, Uttarakhand, Maharashtra and Goa will be taken up afterwards. It may be stated that issues related to projects of North-Eastern States, and NHIDCL have already been reviewed in a separate meeting early this year.

This is the second time

within a week when Gadkari will be chairing a meeting of entire Transport Ministry and stakeholders with the first being the National Road Safety Council meeting last week when it was deliberated to improve road and highways infrastructure.

In the meeting, expressing concern for fatalities on roads, Gadkari had advocated to penalise the officers for faulty engineering of road infrastructure.

PM takes stock of progress made in 9 delayed projects

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Wednesday took stock of progress made in nine delayed projects, worth Rs 24,000 crore and spread across as many States at the first meeting of 'Pragati' this year.

These projects are in Odisha, Telangana, Maharashtra, Jharkhand, Bihar, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Kerala and Uttar Pradesh.

These include three from Railways, five from the Road Transport and Highways and one from the Petroleum and Natural Gas ministry, the Prime Minister's Office said in a statement.

Modi also reviewed the performance related to insur-

ance schemes — 'Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana' (PMJJBY) and 'Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana' (PMSBY).

The progress under the Crime and Criminal Tracking Network and Systems (CCTNS) project, which is a comprehensive and integrated system for effective policing through e-governance, also came up for review.

In the last 31 'Pragati' interactions, Modi has reviewed a total of 269 projects with a total investment of Rs 12.30 lakh crore.

He has also reviewed the resolution of grievance redressal related to 47 Government programmes and schemes across 17 diverse sectors.

BJP calls Cong 'Muslim League Congress'

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Charging the Congress with "Muslim appeasement" and "insulting Hindus", the BJP on Wednesday quoted Maharashtra Minister Ashok Chavan's comments on installation of a non-BJP coalition Government in the State to say the party should be termed "Muslim League Congress".

Citing Chavan's reported remarks that the Congress joined hands with the Shiv Sena in Maharashtra as Muslims also wanted the party to stop the BJP from coming to power, BJP spokesperson Sambit Patra accused Congress of betraying interests of Hindus and appeasing Muslims.

"The Congress leader says they joined the Government for Muslims. What is the sin of Hindus, Sikhs and others. The Congress has insulted Hindus and this comment has exposed it," the BJP leader claimed.

At his press conference Patra referred to comments of many opposition leaders, including those from AIMIM, to allege that they were "abusing" Hindus in the name of anti-CAA protests and sought apology from Congress president Sonia Gandhi and NCP's Sharad Pawar.

Patra also drew attention to the reported comments of AIMIM leader Akbaruddin Owaisi, whose brother Asaduddin Owaisi heads the party that Muslims ruled over the country for eight centuries to refer to him as Jinnah, Pakistan's founder

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For his part, Union Minister Giriraj Singh reacted saying, "Wo Mughal lutere thay. Aap Bharat ko darane ka kaam na karen. Jinnah ke raaste par na chalein. Bharatvanshi ab jaag chuke hain."

Asked about Congress leader Mallikarjun Kharge's reported jibe at the RSS for its "non-participation" in the freedom movement, Patra shot back, asking if parents of Sonia Gandhi, who is of Italian origin, had fought in India's independence struggle.

The Indian National Congress, he said referring to the opposition party's full name, should be called "Muslim League Congress". The Congress does "Muslim appeasement" for the community's votes but has never done any good for it, he claimed.

Pointing to a report in an Urdu daily, Patra said Congress leader Rahul Gandhi had once described his party as a 'party of Muslims' and its leaders coined terms like saffron terror. Since 1946, Patra claimed the Congress has done "Muslim vote bank politics".

BJP's focus is only 'Loot & Scoot': Cong

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Congress on Wednesday said the "Suit-Boot" BJP Government's focus is only on the industry of "Loot & Scoot" and under its rule "Common man is in pain but Con-man is in gain". The party questioned whether the BJP-led dispensation is involved in Frost International Bank Scam of Rs 3,592.48 crore and in the escape of its directors.

The Congress alleged the total bank fraud during the BJP's tenure amounted to over Rs 2.7 lakh crore.

The party stated political accountability must be fixed on Prime Minister and Finance Minister for Rs 2,70,513.49 crore public money looted from banks and Rs 5,00,000 crore written off of willful defaulters.

Congress spokesperson Jaiveer Shergill slammed the Government for not taking timely action against the directors of Frost International which is alleged to have defrauded banks to the tune of Rs 3,592 crore. He alleged that it was the Government that prevented the lodging of complaint in the scam.

"When the consortium of lending banks had authorised registration of complaint on June 15, 2019, why did it take more than seven months to register a complaint? Was someone in the BJP Government preventing the

registration of complaint?" Shergill questioned at a Press conference.

"When the PSBs having Government nominees on board were aware that the company is unable to return the money, why did it take them a year to request the MHA to issue a lookout notice?" he said.

The grand old party also

queried as to why the lookout notice was delayed.

"Despite issuance of LOC on January 18, 2019, why and on whose directions in the BJP Government did the investigating agencies not register a case till January 19, 2020, for an entire year against the suspected offenders who remain untraceable till date?" Shergill said.

NPR good when UPA brought it, bad when we repeated it: Javadekar

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Union Minister Prakash Javadekar on Wednesday hit out at parties questioning the National Population Register (NPR) saying it was welcomed in the past when the then Congress-led Government introduced it but is being dubbed as "bad" when the NDA regime is repeating it.

He also said the provision of "naturalisation" to grant Indian citizenship to foreign nationals in the principal Citizenship Act of 1955 still remains and Pakistani singer Adnan Sami became an Indian citizen due to that.

"That provision (of naturalisation) still remains. The Citizenship Amendment Act (CAA) takes note of persecuted minorities in three countries (Pakistan, Bangladesh and Afghanistan) who came to India seeking justice ... The amendment is about giving citizenship and not taking it," Javadekar said at a briefing of the decisions taken by the Union Cabinet.

Kerala and West Bengal are some of the States who have opposed the NPR exercise. The Supreme Court on Wednesday refused to stay the amended citizenship law without hearing the Centre.

Responding to a question on the issue, Javadekar said, "Those who are opposed to the Citizenship Amendment Act made have their own views,

but the Supreme Court decided not to give it (CAA) any stay," he said.

Responding to questions on the NPR, he said giving date of birth or place of birth of parents is optional in the exercise. "If you don't have it or don't remember, don't give it... Many questions are optional," he said.

Referring to the origin of the NPR, he pointed out that it was introduced by the Congress-led UPA Government in 2010. "Then you all welcomed it. They bring it, it is good. When we bring, it is bad. This cannot be the case. This is not fair," he said.

The Minister said the National Register of Citizens is limited to Assam and it was brought by then Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi. "They brought it (NRC) so it is good. We did not bring, so we are bad," he quipped.

To a question, the senior BJP leader said at one point of time, thousands of Tamil refugees from Sri Lanka were given Indian citizenship.

Responding to a question on "proposed" police action in Delhi's Shaheen Bagh, he said no action is on in the area.

"No action is being taken in Shaheen Bagh, there is a complaint... Police went to Jamia (university) there was a complaint, they did not go (enter) the JNU (campus), there is a complaint. This is not done (Aisa to nahin chalta hai)," he said.

India bans toxic chemical hydrochlorofluorocarbon

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

With an aim to combat climate change, India has banned import of toxic chemical hydrochlorofluorocarbon (HCFC)-141b used in the production of rigid polyurethane (PU) foams by foam manufacturers from January 1, 2020.

Since HCFC-141b, greenhouse gases that damage the earth's ozone layer, was not produced in the country, all the domestic requirements were being met through imports.

However, the Union Environment Ministry issued a notification last year in December seeking ban on import of the foam manufacturing companies. With this, India has completely phased out the important ozone-depleting chemical, said an official from the Ministry.

HCFC comprises inert compounds of carbon, hydrogen, and fluorine, and it is used instead of chlorofluorocarbon (CFC) as it is less destructive to the ozone layer. At present,

HCFCs are used in various sectors like refrigeration and air conditioning (RAC) and foam manufacturing. These sectors are directly related to urban development, agriculture through cold chain, and industrial development.

Simultaneously, the use of HCFC-141 b by foam manufacturing industry has also been closed as on 1st January 2020 under the Ozone Depleting Substances (Regulation and Control) Amendment Rules, 2014, said

a senior official from the Union Environment Ministry.

Nearly 50 per cent of the consumption of ozone-depleting chemicals in the country was attributable to HCFC-141 b in the foam sector.

The Ministry had adopted a structured approach to engaging with foam manufacturing enterprises for providing technical and financial assistance in order to transition to non-ODS and low GWP technologies under the HCFC Phase-out Management Plan

(HPMP), said the official.

Around 175 foam manufacturing enterprises have been covered under HPMP out of which, 163 enterprises are covered under stage II of HPMP. The complete phase-out of HCFC 141 b from the country in the foam sector is among the first at this scale in Article 5 parties (developing countries) under the Montreal Protocol.

The implementation of HPMP through regulatory and policy actions, implementation of technology conversion pro-

jects has removed around 7800 Metric Tonnes of HCFC 141-b from the baseline level of 2009 and 2010 of the country, he said.

The phase-out of HCFC-141b from the country has twin environmental benefits viz. assisting the healing of the stratospheric ozone layer, and towards the climate change mitigation due to transitioning of foam manufacturing enterprises at this scale under HPMP to low global warming potential alternative technologies.

CITIZENSHIP AMENDMENT ACT

Speak the truth about it: Didi to Shah

SAUGAR SENGUPTA ■ KOLKATA

A day after Amit Shah attacked her for spreading disinformation about the Citizenship Amendment Bill inviting her to an open national debate on the issue, Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee on Wednesday lashed out at the Union Home Minister for talking big but hesitating to come out with the truth about the CAA.

Banerjee who led an anti-CAA rally in Darjeeling with more than a thousand people referred to Shah's speech saying "yesterday I heard the Home Minister making tall speeches saying that I am telling lie about CAA and National Population Register... Now if we are lying let him tell the truth to the people. Let him tell whether

CAA is a selective Act which discriminates among people. Let him tell about the conditions mentioned in the NPR. Let him mention whether those who will be granted citizenship will have to live as foreigners for the first five years or not."

"And if such be the conditions then he will have to say whether the people will lose jobs because aliens cannot work in India... whether the children will lose their school certificates and whether the citizens will lose their rights to property they now own."

Wondering whether most of the people in the crowd had the date of births of their parents, Banerjee asked, "Do you have date of births of your parents? Is this how a responsible

Government works. They do not even the same thing at the same time. In the something they say something and in the evening they other something. They say date of birth is not mandatory. If it is not mandatory, why is it there in the columns?" she added.

Referring how thousands of Nepali speaking people had been banished from the National Citizenship Register, Banerjee said, "People are scared that if CAA and NRC are implemented they will be uprooted. I want to tell the hill people not allow NRC and CAA."

Referring to the rising inflation and decreasing jobs Banerjee said, "see what they have made of the Indian economy. They promised acchhee din (good days) but where the

jobs. Why so many people are unemployed today. Why the farmers are not getting their due and respect. Why Government factories like ordinance factory (in Kolkata) are being shut down... They are selling the country... and to hide these all they are raising the issues of CAA."

Claiming that in order to turn the attention of the people from grim economic scenario and failed promises she said, "they are setting people of one religion against the other. They are dividing the people to rule but implementing CAA, NRC and NPR," adding those who are protesting are being termed anti-Indians.

"The students are being beaten up if they raise their voices, the Opposition is harassed by the Agencies (read

CBI, ED etc) when they are raising the contentious issues. They are calling them Pakistanis. I want to ask why do you always bringing in Pakistan. Do you have extra love for that country to invoke its name always?" Banerjee asked.

She said the BJP leaders always were foul-mouthing her for protesting against their policies. "I want to tell the BJP that foul-mouthing me all the time will not work. Tell us whether you will withdraw CAA or not. If CAA is not a mischievous Act then why did you leave out Assam and Tripura, the States ruled by BJP? Why are these BJP-ruled states out of the purview of CAA?" There would be no CAA, NRC or NPR in Bengal she insisted.



Protesters participate in a demonstration against CAA and NRC at Shahjahan Eidgah in Aligarh on Wednesday PTI

Prashant Kishor dares Shah over CAA-NRC

Patna: Poll strategist-turned-politician Prashant Kishor fired a fresh salvo at the BJP on Wednesday, daring Union Home Minister Amit Shah to "go ahead and try implementing" the Citizenship (Amendment) Act and the National Register for Citizens which the latter had "audaciously announced to the nation."

Kishor, who is the national vice president of the JD(U), is helping Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal's Aam Aadmi Party for the upcoming Assembly polls even though his own party headed by Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar has tied up with the BJP to take on the less than a decade old party.

"Being dismissive of citizens dissent could be the sign of strength of any Govt. @amitshah ji, if you dont care for those protesting against

#CAA_NRC, why dont you go ahead and try implementing the CAA & NRC in the chronology that you so audaciously announced to the nation!", Kishor wrote on his twitter handle.

The 42-year-old, whose first claim to fame was his handling of Narendra Modis spectacularly successful election campaign in 2014, made the remarks in the backdrop of Shahs assertion at a pro-CAA rally in Lucknow that "CAA is here to stay and it will not be taken back", countrywide protests by opposition parties and others notwithstanding.

The Bihar BJP was, expectedly, ruffled by the latest outbursts of Kishor, who joined the JD(U) about two years ago, got elevated to the top party post within weeks, and has been taking a public stand on the burning issue that has embarrassed the NDA. "There is no move

on #NRC by the Govt but #CAA is now a legislation made by Parliament. Respect the Constitution. Dont worry. The Supreme Court has agreed to listen to the voice of dissent. Just to satisfy the professional ego and political frustration why creating hue and cry", state BJP spokesman Nikhil Anand said replying to Kishors tweet.

"You have all the right to disagree but selective propaganda on religious lines to suit the Congi (sic) style politics of Muslim appeasement must not be encouraged. The Gazette notification to start the process of #NPR and implement #CAA is published. Won't be taken back at any cost, Anand added.

The JD(U) did not react to Kishor's comment. Party leaders are refraining from saying anything on the poll strategist-politician's assertions in recent times. PTI

Protesters 'lathicharged' by police in Etawah

PTI ■ LUCKNOW

People protesting against the Citizenship (Amendment) Act were allegedly lathicharged by police in a Muslim-dominated area in Uttar Pradesh's Etawah district even as demonstrations continued against the legislation in Lucknow and Aligarh.

A video of the Etawah incident, where policemen can be seen using batons and chasing away protesters in the area on late Tuesday night, has also gone viral on social media.

Violence broke out when police tried to disperse the protesters who were observing a sit-in since Tuesday morning in Pachraha area, defying prohibitory orders imposed there.

"Police used force against us while we were holding a peaceful protest. Our brothers and cousins were beaten up and we were abused. We were physically tortured. We have a right

to protest," one of the women protesters said.

Responding to the allegations, police said the protesters had staged a dharna defying prohibitory order imposed in the area and pelted them with stones. Police said they had to use mild force to chase the protesters away.

In the video, policemen can be seen entering houses and shops.

The sit-in was organised in solidarity with the women protesting at Shaheen Bagh in Delhi against the new legislation.

"Police are citing prohibitory orders to end our protest. What about the large public meetings being held by ministers," another protester said. In Lucknow, protesters at the Clock Tower (Ghantaghar) in old city area of Lucknow held a symbolic 'havan' with Hindu women joining them.

Rajnath: India fulfilled its 'moral duty' by enacting it

Meerut: Defence Minister Rajnath Singh on Wednesday said religious minorities in Pakistan, Afghanistan and Bangladesh are living a "life of misery" and India has fulfilled its "moral duty" towards them by enacting the CAA.

Addressing a rally in support of the Citizenship Amendment Act (CAA) in Shatabdi Nagar here, he also questioned those opposing the National Register of Citizens (NRC) and said the government has not discussed it.

Dismissing allegations that the Centre is pursuing a "divisive agenda" through the CAA, Singh said the BJP doesn't do politics on religious lines for selfish gains.

"In Pakistan, Afghanistan and Bangladesh, religious minorities are living a life of misery. India has fulfilled its moral duty (by enacting the CAA)," he said.

"The entire world is accepting India's power. We don't do politics on the lines of religion for selfish reasons," he said.

The citizenship law is being viewed from a Hindu-Muslim perspective, but Prime Minister Narendra Modi speaks of justice, he added.

Singh said the NDA had prepared the citizenship legislation in its first tenure, but it could not be enacted.

On the NRC, Singh said, "The government has had no discussion on the NRC. And suppose it has, then what is the problem with having a register of citizens?"

"Shouldn't there be a register of citizens? Shouldn't there be a document for people to seek benefits of government schemes," he asked the crowd at the rally.

Singh said the BJP wants to do politics by winning people's hearts and asserted that the

party is working to fulfil all its promises.

"Whenever a political party contests elections, it makes various kinds of promises. I was given the responsibility to prepare the BJP's manifesto for the 2019 (Lok Sabha) elections. Within seven months of being elected, the BJP has been rapidly fulfilling its promises," he said. "I want to assure the people of India that our party will deliver on whatever it promises. We do not want to cheat the people," he said. "By the end of 2022, every house will have a pucca roof. Tap water will reach every household by the end of 2024. PM Modi put Rs 6,000 each in the bank accounts of farmers," he added.

The minister said the BJP had also taken steps for farmers' welfare. "Farmer brothers need not worry, we will pay you every single penny for your hardwork," he said. PTI

Khadi fights back to prevent misuse of trademarks globally

Seeks protection under article 6ter of Paris Convention

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) has stepped up efforts to prevent misuse of its brand and symbol both within the country and on foreign soil. KVIC is proprietor of over 100 trademarks including the symbol of 'Charkha' in India and other countries like Russia, China, Germany, Australia, UK and Bhutan.

These trademark and symbols have been misused time and again by private players. In an initiative to prevent such misuse, KVIC has taken up the matter with the Ministry of External Affairs, Ministry of Commerce and Permanent Mission of India at UN, Geneva seeking International Trademark protection of symbol of 'Charkha' under the article 6ter of the Paris Convention.



Article 6ter of the Paris Convention for the protection of Industrial property of 1883 (1967 Stockholm Act) safeguards armorial bearings, flags and other State emblems as well as official signs and hallmarks of the States party to the Paris Convention. The signs published with World Intellectual Property Organisation (WIPO) under this act are prevented from being registered or used as trademarks, across the world, without authorisation.

Speaking about the initiative, Chairman KVIC VK Saxena said, "KVIC is one of those unique institutions in India that links the nation's past, present and future on its

functional plane, through self-reliance and sustainability. Ever since the pre-independent era, Khadi has been considered as the national symbol for Swadeshi. The word marks KHADI, KUTIR, "SARVO-DAYA and the logo of Khadi India and Charkha are the harbingers of this spirit of Swadeshi, hence, must be protected at all cost."

Saxena said that due to the negligence of earlier Governments, some private entities managed to register these symbols to fulfill their personal material motives. This initiative to prevent wrongful use of the trademarks will help reinstate the dignity and pride attached with Khadi and the

symbols representing it, he said.

Saxena has written to Commerce Minister Shri Piyush Goyal seeking his intervention so as to expedite the matter pending with the Department of Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) which comes under the Ministry of Commerce.

KVIC is fighting cases in several countries for violation of the Khadi Mark Regulations. The regulations issued in 2013 by the Ministry of MSME, empowered KVIC to grant 'Khadi Mark' registration and take royalties from any producer using the Khadi Mark. In continuation, KVIC has issued notices against 600 entities in India, including a renowned garment chain and 3 entities in the International market for misusing these symbols and indulging in unfair trade practices in the recent past.

"Prime Minister Narendra Modi has been endorsing Khadi and due to his appeals the sale of Khadi has gone up manifold," Saxena said.

CBI registers fresh four cases against Chhota Rajan

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The CBI has taken over the probe into an attempt to kill a veteran journalist in 1997 and three other fresh cases allegedly involving jailed gangster Chhota Rajan.

Noted crime reporter in Mumbai Baljeet Shersingh Parmar was severely injured when motorcycle borne shooters of Rajan allegedly attacked him outside a building at Antop Hill on June 12, 1997.

The agency has taken over the Mumbai police FIR in the case filed under IPC Section 307 (attempt to murder).

The agency has registered two more cases of extortion by alleged gang members of Rajan and one case related to issuing threats to life, according to the FIRs.

The agency has booked Rajan and his henchmen Guru Satam and Suresh for allegedly demanding Rs 20 lakh as extortion money from businessman Devang Bipin Parikh in 1995.

The other case pertains to alleged demand of ₹ 25 lakh in 1998

from a man named Ghisulal Jain by Hemant, who is believed to be a member of Rajan gang, officials said.

The Mumbai police had filed charge sheets in both the cases but Rajan remained absconding, they said.

The last case is related to threats issued to the life of builder Shabbir N Patel and his son in 1996..

In November last year, the CBI had taken over 10 cases, including those of extortion and murder, in which Rajan was an accused. These cases were registered in a 14-year period since 1992.

These cases include killing of trade union leader Datta Samant in 1997 in Mumbai in which Rajan's role is suspected.

Rajan was arrested at Bali airport in Indonesia on October 25, 2015, and deported to India.

He is an accused in around 70 cases in Maharashtra, including the J Dey murder case in 2011. After this, the Maharashtra government had handed over all the cases relating to Rajan to CBI.

Pavan Varma's conduct an act of indiscipline: senior JD(U) leader

PTI ■ PATNA

Janata Dal (United) leader Vashishtha Narayan Singh on Wednesday took strong exception to party colleague Pavan Varma questioning 'in publ' the tie-up with BJP for the Delhi Assembly polls by extending the alliance beyond Bihar, calling it 'absolutely' an act of indiscipline.

Singh, a Rajya Sabha member and the head of the JD(U)'s state unit, asserted that the decision to align with the BJP was taken after "due deliberation".

He further said although the party respected freedom of thought of every member, it was 'anuchit' (inappropriate) on part of the career diplomat-turned-politician to make public his letter to the Chief Minister and national president Nitish Kumar.

"I consider his (Varmas) conduct as inappropriate and will put forth my views forcefully whenever a party meeting takes place", Singh told a news channel. He also said "if there were any reservations, these ought to have been expressed in a party forum. People may have their individual opinions and the party respects that. But airing these in public is something I do not approve of".

He also said Varma had 'absolutely' committed an act of indiscipline by sharing on the social media his two-page letter to Kumar in which the chief minister was reminded of the unease he had been allegedly expressing 'in private' over the BJP's ideology and agenda.

KPCC to announce jumbo office bearers list this week

ARUN LAKSHMAN ■ THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

The Kerala Congress which has been without a proper committee will be announcing the list of office bearers by this week end. While State Congress chief and former Union Minister of State for Home, Mullappally Ramachandran was adamant for a "One man, One post" rule to be implemented in the list of office bearers, the powerful "A" and "I" group managers of the party scuttled the move.

The "A" group led by former Chief Minister Oomen Chandy was somehow accommodative to the suggestion of the KPCC president, but the "I" group led by the Opposition leader Ramesh Chennithala did not budge for the "One man, One post" theory and hence the party will once again be having a jumbo list of office bearers. In addition to the KPCC

president, there will be five working presidents in Kodikkunnil Suresh, PC Vishnunath, K Sudhakaran, KV Thomas and VD Satheshan. There will be six vice presidents and thirty general secretaries in the list followed by sixty secretaries. The number of state executive members of the party is yet to be decided.

With the advent of Sonia Gandhi back as the AICC president, senior leaders of the party had a major say and it was after much confabulations and inter party discussions, the list is to be finalized. However it is learnt that KPCC president Mullappally Ramachandran was adamant that party leaders with criminal antecedents will not be accommodated as office bearer which was met with stiff resistance from the group managers.

Interestingly in the agitation against the Citizenship Amendment Act (CAA),

Mullappally has taken a stiff position that there will not be any joint agitation with the CPM. This was after the opposition leader Ramesh Chennithala had taken the initiative for a joint agitation with the CPM and other left forces and Oomen Chandy supporting this. Mullappally had stayed out of the meeting.

Incidentally the AICC high-command - read Sonia Gandhi - had stood by the position taken by the KPCC president and in the press conference held at Kerala house, New Delhi both Chandy and Chennithala had to bite humble pie and subscribe to the position taken by the KPCC president. In the list of party office bearers also, the KPCC president had done his maximum to reduce the number of contenders and sources in the Congress party told *The Pioneer* that the list would have been double the present figure had not Mullappally taken a strong stand.

Antony, Venugopal, Mullappally axis developing in Kerala Cong

ARUN LAKSHMAN ■ THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

A new troika has emerged in the Kerala Congress scheme of things with two powerful leaders of the party, AK Antony, CWC Member and close confidant of Sonia Gandhi and KC Venugopal, AICC general secretary (Organisation) and close associate of Rahul Gandhi putting in their weight behind the beleaguered KPCC president Mullappally Ramachandran who was being pushed around by the "A" group and "I" group.

Sources in the Congress told *The Pioneer*, that it was the strength of these two leaders that Mullappally had taken on both Chandy and Chennithala on the CAA issue and raised the red flag for the joint agitation with the CPM.

To solve the vexed issue of announcing the list of office bearers, both these leaders had thrown their weights behind the KPCC president and at the same time carefully seeing it to that the group managers are not offended.

The support of these two powerful leaders who have a major say in the organisational affairs of the Congress party has given a fresh impetus to Mullappally who is fast emerging as a major power centre in the state

Congress.

With the state going to polls in 2021 and the Congress led UDF all set to replace the LDF Government led by the CPM, there are possibilities of Mullappally being considered as the Chief Minister candidate as there is bound to be fight between Ramesh Chennithala and Oomen Chandy for the CM post.

There is already a subtle whispering campaign in the corridors of State Congress that an Ezhava leader has not don the mantle of Chief minister of the Congress since R Shankar who was Chief minister from 1962-64.

With the Congress led UDF winning nineteen of the twenty lok Sabha seats in the last general elections, the graph of Mullappally Ramachandran has gone high and the seven term lok Sabha member who has won the parliamentary elections from the CPM bastion of Vatakara is keeping his fingers crossed. "These are early days to comment on the Chief ministership and my primary responsibility is to work among the grass root and to strengthen the party machinery. 2020 we have to face the local body elections and in 2021 the assembly elections and these two are my present priorities", Mullappally told *The Pioneer*.

Suspect in Mangaluru airport bomb case surrenders

Bengaluru: A 36-year-old man, who is suspected to have planted the explosive at the Mangaluru International Airport, surrendered before the police here on Wednesday, officials said.

The suspect has been identified as Adithya Rao, a native of Manipal, police said, adding that he resembled the one captured on CCTV footage at Mangaluru airport

The man turned up at the DG and IGP office here in the morning, where he was detained and taken for medical tests and preliminary inquiry done, they said. The suspect confessed to having planted the bomb at the airport, police said.

He is reported to have got information on making the explosive via internet, sources said.

"One suspect named Adithya presented before police between 8-9 am, claiming that he was responsible for Mangaluru incident—he will

be handed over to Mangaluru police team for further investigation..." Bengaluru (Central) DCP Chetan Singh Rathore told reporters earlier in the day.

A team of police officials, led by an Assistant Commissioner of Police (ACP) from Mangaluru arrived in the city later to question the suspect and carry out necessary legal procedures.

Police sources said, Rao, an engineering graduate and an MBA holder, who was taken to Ulsoor Gate police station in Bengaluru for questioning, was subsequently handed over to Mangaluru police, which is investigating the case.

He was presented before the Additional Chief Metropolitan Magistrate (ACMM) court here and transit warrant secured, officials said, adding that he will be produced before a court in Mangaluru on Thursday to obtain his custody. PTI

Trump offers to 'help' resolve Kashmir issue

Davos: President Donald Trump has said that the US is watching the developments between India and Pakistan over Kashmir "very closely" and repeated his offer to "help" resolve the dispute between the two neighbours during his meeting with Prime Minister Imran Khan here.

Addressing the media with Prime Minister Khan prior to their private meeting on the sidelines of the World Economic Forum here on Tuesday, President Trump asserted that trade and borders were both critical points for discussion, while Khan said that for him, Afghanistan was the top priority.

Trump told Khan, whom he referred to as 'my friend', that he would speak to Prime Minister Narendra Modi about



the ongoing Kashmir issue. The US president is expected to visit India in the coming weeks, marking his first visit after taking up his post in the White House.

"What's going on between Pakistan and India... if we can help, we certainly will be willing to. We have been watching it very closely and it's an honour to be here

with my friend," Trump said.

"The Pakistan-India conflict is a very big issue for us in Pakistan and we expect the US to always play its part in deescalating the tensions, because no other country can," Khan said.

President Trump has repeatedly offered to mediate following India's August 5 decision to revoke the special status to Jammu & Kashmir and bifurcate the Sate into two Union Territories, evoking strong reactions from Pakistan which has been trying to internationalise the issue.

No scope for third party mediation: Govt sources

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

As President Donald Trump again offered to "help" India and Pakistan to resolve the Kashmir issue, New Delhi on Wednesday categorically asserted that there is no role for any third party on the issue.

Government sources also said India's long-held position has been that Kashmir is a bilateral issue between India and Pakistan.

Responding to Trump's offer, they said there is no question of any mediation or intervention by any third party.

This assertion came after the US President, while addressing the media with Pakistan Prime Minister Imran Khan in Davos on Tuesday, said the US was watching the developments relating to Kashmir "very closely" and repeated his offer to "help" resolve the dispute.

It was Trump's fourth offer in last five months to help both the countries resolve the Kashmir issue after India withdrew the special status of Jammu and Kashmir and bifurcated the state into two union territories.

"What's going on between Pakistan and India... if we can help, we certainly will be willing to. We have been watching it very closely," Trump said.

Official sources said India's clear and consistent position has been that there is no role to play for any third party on Kashmir. The US President is expected to visit India in the second half of February.

It is learnt that India had communicated to Washington after Trump's offer to mediate on Kashmir last year that it is a bilateral matter with Pakistan.



Villagers at a polling station during the second phase of Panchayat elections at Nasirabad in Ajmer district on Wednesday

Mumbai gets nod to remain open 24x7 from January 27

New 'Vibrant Mumbai Nightlife' policy will not be applicable to bars, pubs and restaurants serving liquor

TN RAGHUNATHA ■ MUMBAI:

After initial resistance from certain quarters, the Maharashtra Government on Wednesday approved the implementation of its much-discussed 'Mumbai 24x7' or 'Vibrant Mumbai Nightlife' policy from the intervening night of January 26 and 27.

At a weekly meeting presided over by Chief Minister Uddhav Thackeray, the State Cabinet gave a go-ahead for the 'Mumbai 24x7' policy without tweaking the current excise rules which permit service of alcoholic beverages only till the existing time limits of 1.30 am.

In effect, the new 'Vibrant Mumbai Nightlife' policy will not be applicable to bars, pubs and restaurants serving liquor, which will be permitted to serve alcoholic beverages only till the existing time limits of

1.30 am.

The new 'Mumbai 24x7' policy — which is a brain child of Shiv Sena leader and current Tourism and Environment Minister Aditya Thackeray — will allow malls, multiplexes and eateries in the designated areas to function round-the-clock.

State Home Minister Anil Deshmukh, who had initial reservations about implementing the Mumbai 24x7 because of security reasons and on the ground that bars and restaurants cannot serve liquor, came around after Aditya — at a meeting held a few days — convinced him that the policy could be implemented without tweaking the current State excise rules and imposing a lot of burden on the city police force.

Addressing a news conference jointly with the State Home Minister after the State

Cabinet gave a nod for the Mumbai 24x7, Aditya said: "Mumbai's identity is being that of a safe city. In Mumbai, you can get to see women and women moving around Marine Drive and other places safely at around 2 am or 3 am. Mumbai police perform their duty well. But, take the case of tourists coming to Mumbai, they would not be in the city for more than 36 hours. To increase the employment and tourism in Mumbai, we came up with the Mumbai 24x7 proposal in 2013. We are implementing it after seven years."

"We will implement this policy in malls and mill compounds coming under the Shops and Establishment Act. The malls and mill compounds are in non-residential areas. The people do not live inside these places. There are facilities like parking lots, CCTV, decibel limits, solid waste management. All the establishments there are licenced ones. We are giving permission to all these establishments to remain open for all 24 hours."

In fact, the Maharashtra Shops and Establishments

(Regulation of Employment and Conditions of Service) Act, 2017, allows all establishments to operate around-the-clock.

"There would not be any change in the excise rules. The liquor will be served only up to 1.30 am in bars and restaurants. We are changing that. We are providing facilities who want to eat out, go for shopping or movies. The MVA Government is a people's Government. We are Government of aspirations. Unlike the BJP Government, we want to encourage the youngsters," the Tourism Minister said.

Home Minister Anil Deshmukh said that the State Government would ensure that there was no stress on the police force.

"We do not enforce anything here. If some units are not able to keep their establishments for all 24 hours, they can do so. It is not the job of the state government to increase the footfalls. We are enabling the owners of these establishments. Mumbai being an international city, we are giving a 24x7 facility," Aditya said.

"London's nightlife econo-

my is 5 billion pounds. In Mumbai, there are five lakh people who directly employed in this service sector. When we say that employment will increase because of Mumbai 24x7, it is because the owners of these establishments will have to employ their staff in three shifts. Going that logic, we will have an employment potential of 15 lakh people or at least 10 lakh people in this service sector. Keeping these establishments open, state revenue will increase through various taxes," he said.

"I do not think there will be tension for the police. Currently, the police personnel do is to track if the establishments are open beyond the stipulated hours rather than controlling crime. Now they do not have to do that job and can concentrate on the job they are meant to do. If the establishments want more security, they can employ private security or hire police security by paying money," Aditya said.

Public distribution and civil supplies minister Chhagan Bhujbal said that Mumbai

Police Commissioner and Municipal commissioner would decide where nightlife would be allowed. "During the meeting a lot of suggestions came in. Like in some of the railway stations of Mumbai where there is rush for 24 hours, people come and go, eateries could remain open there," Bhujbal said.

Earlier this week, at the bi-annual crime conference, Uddhav, along with his Cabinet colleagues and bureaucrats, held a meeting with the city police officers Mumbai 24x7 proposal.

Palghar: A 14-year-old boy allegedly committed suicide at a Government-run residential school for tribal children in Maharashtra's Palghar district, the police said on Wednesday.

Sunil Khandvi, resident of Beriste village, was the student of a government-run Ashram school at Hirve Pimpalpada in Mokhada tehsil, a police official said.

His body was found hanging from the window grill of the school toilet on Sunday.

The school superintendent told the police that Khandvi had written in the school register on January 19 that he was going home and would remain absent for a few days.

However, the next day he was found to have hanged himself with a bed sheet in the school toilet, the police officer said. The reason for committing suicide was yet to be ascertained, he said, adding that further probe was on.

Tribal boy commits suicide at Govt school in Maha's Palghar

Palghar: A 14-year-old boy allegedly committed suicide at a Government-run residential school for tribal children in Maharashtra's Palghar district, the police said on Wednesday.

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Not Nightlife but 'killing life' for Mumbaikars: BJP

PNS ■ MUMBAI

Opposing the Maharashtra Government's Mumbai 24x7 decision, senior BJP leader and former Minister Ashish Shelar said on Wednesday 'Mumbai Nightlife' decision taken by the Uddhav Thackeray dispensation would prove to be a 'killing life' for Mumbai.

Reacting to the State Government's go-ahead for the implementation of Mumbai 24x7, Shelar said: "The nightlife decision is going to be a killing life for mumbaikars. Two years, 14 persons were killed in a massive fire that broke out in two pubs.

The decision is an effort to regularise massive FSI irregularities in the Kamala Mill compound in the name of tourism". "Mumbaikars are already stressed over a number of restaurants, bars, ladies bars and pubs existing in the residential areas. The nightlife decision will increase their inconvenience further. The work burden on the police personnel will increase," Shelar said.



President Ram Nath Kovind on Wednesday conferred the Bal Shakti Puraskar 2020 to 49 children in the age group of 5-18 years at a ceremony at Rashtrapati Bhawan here. The Bal Shakti Puraskar is given to children in the fields of innovation, social service, scholastic, sports, art and culture and bravery and carries a medal, a cash prize of ₹ 1 lakh, a certificate and a citation

NIA shifted Davinder Singh to Jammu

PNS ■ JAMMU

National Investigation Agency (NIA) team, interrogating Davinder Singh, DySP arrested by the police along with Hizbul Mujahideen terrorist Naveed Babu from Jammu-Srinagar National Highway on January 11, shifted him to Jammu along with other arrested terrorists on Wednesday.

The NIA team, which took over the probe from the Jammu & Kashmir police recently, is trying to establish the link whether Davinder Singh was regularly transporting HM terrorist Naveed Babu to a relatively safe hideout in Jammu and whether he was also in touch with over ground workers (OGWs) active in the region to facilitate hassle free stay of HM commander.

Last week, police had also arrested younger brother of Naveed Babu, studying in Chandigarh.

According to highly placed sources, Naveed's brother had carved out a safe hideout for his brother in Bhatindi area of Jammu and the same was likely to be used for accommodating terrorists, ferried by Davinder Singh at the time of arrest.

Anantnag and also took stock of the security in other districts," DGP Singh said.

"We have strengthened the security measures in Srinagar ahead of the Republic Day," he added. In the run up to the Republic day celebrations, a high alert has been sounded in Jammu and Kashmir after intelligence inputs suggest of possible terror strikes.

According to latest intel reports, a joint module of Jaish-e-Mohammed and Hizbul Mujahideen militants have been tasked by their handlers in Pakistan to carry out dastardly attacks in the run up to the Republic day.

There are inputs that militants could launch suicide attacks on security installations in south Kashmir and defence positions across the south of Pir Panjal in the Jammu region.

According to inputs, terrorist movement has also been traced in areas of Srinagar and Budgam districts.

Raut: Uddav to visit Ayodhya on completion of 100 days of power

TN RAGHUNATHA ■ MUMBAI:

In an apparent effort to indicate that it has not deviated from its Hindutva path after forming a Government with the Congress and NCP, the Shiv Sena on Wednesday announced that its president and Chief Minister Uddhav Thackeray would visit Ayodhya after the MVA Government completes 100 days in office.

Announcing the Chief Minister's impending visit to Ayodhya, Shiv Sena MP and spokesperson Sanjay Raut tweeted: "Chalo Ayodhya! CM #UddhavThackeray will visit Ayodhya on the completion of 100 days in power! @OfficeofUT"

In another tweet, Raut said: "Our government has begun performing its duties in great vigour. We shall complete five years in office. After government completes 100 days. CM Uddhav Thackeray shall go to Ayodhya. After seeking blessings of Lord Ram, will decide on future course of action."

Uddhav, who had announced after the Supreme Court verdict in the Ayodhya dispute case that he would go once again Ayodhya on November 24, 2019, had postponed his visit then, owing to the impasse in the govern-

ment formation in the state. The public perception was that the Sena would soft-peddle its Hindutva agenda as long as it is running the government in the state with the Congress and NCP.

It may be recalled that Uddhav had on November 25, 2018 — along with his wife Rashmi and son Aditya, had visited Ayodhya. On June 16, 2019 year after the Lok Sabha polls, he once again visited Ayodhya and offered prayers at the makeshift Ram Lalla shrine.

However, atmosphere has changed after he joined hands with the "secular" and NCP to form a Maha Vikas Agadhi government in Maharashtra. The perception that has been gaining ground in the state political circles that in order to ensure that there is no threat to its government in the state the ruling Shiv Sena is pursuing the Hindutva as vigorously as it was doing earlier. So much so that its erstwhile ally BJP has been taking pot shots at the Shiv Sena for giving up on its Hindutva agenda for the sake of power.

Interestingly enough, Raut came out with a tweet a day ahead of the first grand convention of the Raj Thackeray-led Maharashtra Navnirman Sena (MNS). It is speculated

that at the convention, MNS chief Raj Thackeray embrace the Hindutva path and change the colour of his party flag.

Raj had recently met former Maharashtra chief minister and senior BJP leader Devendra Fadnavis, sparking speculation about the possibility of the MNS joining hands with the Amit Shah-led party.

Meanwhile, talking to media persons, Raut extended invitation to Congress' former president Rahul Gandhi and NCP chief Sharad Pawar to accompany Uddhav Thackeray to Ayodhya. "We want that our alliance leaders should also come along. Rahul Gandhi also visits several temples".

On her part, BJP national spokesperson Meenakshi Lekhi had earlier in the day wanted to know if Chief Minister Uddhav Thackeray would also take Congress leaders along with him to Ayodhya. How the alliance partners of the Sena react? How will he show his face to them — to the ones who questioned the very existence of Lord Ram, even went to the Supreme Court stating the same,"she said.

Uttar Pradesh's deputy chief minister Dinesh Sharma described Uddhav's impending visit to Ayodhya as a "political stunt".

Maha makes film 'Tanhaji' tax-free

TN RAGHUNATHA ■ MUMBAI:

The Maharashtra Government on Wednesday announced that the historical drama 'Tanhaji — The Unsung Warrior' would be tax-free in the State till April 30, 2020. At its meeting presided over by Chief Minister Uddhav Thackeray, the State Cabinet decided to waive State Goods and Services Tax (SGST) on the tickets of Tanhaji — The Unsung Warrior and compensate for the loss from its exchequer. "Thank you Uddhav Thackeray ji for declaring #Tanhaji The UnsungWarrior tax-free in the State of Maharashtra. @OfficeofUT @CMOMaharashtra," lead actor in the film Ajay Devgn tweeted.

The martyrdom of Tanaji Malusare — the Commander of the Maratha Empire headed by Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj — in the bloody battle of Sinhagad Fort in Pune with the then commander of the fort Udaybhan Sinh Rathore allied with the Mughals, holds a special place in the state's history.

The governments of Uttar Pradesh and Haryana had earlier exempted 'Tanhaji — The Unsung Warrior' from tax.

High alert in J&K ahead of R-Day

MOHIT KANDHARI ■ JAMMU

After losing two soldiers, one each from the Indian Army and Jammu & Kashmir police during fierce gunfight in Khrew area of Pampore in South Kashmir's Pulwama district on Tuesday, a joint team of security forces on Wednesday once again trapped group of terrorists responsible for killing their buddies, one kilometre away from the encounter site, and eliminated at least one terrorist.

According to ground reports, massive searches were going on in the Khrew area after the initial gunfight with terrorists resulted in killing of two soldiers. Due to bad weather and poor light conditions, the search operations were halted and the same were resumed early Wednesday morning.

After the fresh contact was established with the hiding terrorists, the security forces tightened the cordon and eliminated at least one of the terrorists in the ensuing encounter, official sources said.

Confirming the elimination of one of the terrorists, twitter handle of the Jammu & Kashmir police posted a message which read, "Police & Security forces killed one of the killers of Martyred SPO



Shahbaz Ahmed and Martyred Rifleman Rahul in this operation even before bodies of these martyrs reached their respective homes. Operation is going on at Nagander one kilometre away from yesterday encounter site."

Official sources claimed, security forces were conducting random searches in the area since Wednesday morning to track down the foot prints of the terrorists hiding in the area. Meanwhile, mortal remains of both the soldiers were dispatched to their native places after a formal wreath laying ceremony in Srinagar. Senior police and Army officers paid their tributes to both the martyrs. Interacting with the media in Srinagar, DGP Dilbagh Singh said, the security has been beefed up in Kashmir.

"All arrangements have been made with regard to security measures on ground, the security in South Kashmir has been reviewed. We visited

Jammu: Police recruitment drive for women gets good response

MOHIT KANDHARI ■ JAMMU

To realise their childhood dream of donning 'khaki' uniform and serve the mother Nation, large number of 'enthusiastic' young girls from remote areas of Jammu region are queuing up outside Police headquarters for last couple of days, braving adverse weather conditions, to participate in the special recruitment drive aimed at raising two women battalions.

So far aspirants from hilly districts of Doda, Ramban, Kishtwar and twin border districts of Rajouri, Poonch have attended the first leg of the special recruitment

drive, currently underway at Gulshan ground.

Since early morning, aspirants start converging along with their parents and family friends to attend the rally. Since they are travelling from far off places they prefer reaching venue at the earliest to avoid any last minute hiccups. The atmosphere inside the Gulshan ground was electrifying when group of media persons reached the venue of the special drive.

In the first leg, the candidates were undergoing physical endurance/standard test. After clearing the first hurdle, jubilant candidates were allowed to interact with media persons for

a short span of time. The candidates, greeted them with patriotic chants and loud cheers. "We are feeling proud, we are participating in the recruitment drive despite facing many hardships". Several candidates, names not being disclosed, claimed they wanted to serve the mother Nation by joining the police force. "I am very optimistic, after clearing the first round without facing any major hurdle i am set to participate in the second round", a NCC cadet from Bhallessa in Doda district said.

Another candidate from Ramban claimed, "i want to help my family. We have seen many ups and downs during

our childhood days, now i want to help my parents as they had struggled alot while raising my siblings and ensuring better education facilities for us".

Senior police officers, supervising the recruitment drive told reporters in Jammu, "the morale of the aspiring candidates is very high and they are all keen to serve the police force".

Briefing media persons, Inspector General of Police (Armed) Danesh Rana said, "the current recruitment drive is aimed at raising two women battalions, one each for Jammu and Kashmir divisions".

He said, the candidates are being screened in a very pro-

fessional manner. We have allocated district wise quota for aspiring candidates. Rana said, "we are following a very transparent process. There is no scope of any human intervention during the recruitment drive and only meritorious candidates are expected to make it to the final list".

Union government had earlier announced two women battalions in June 2018 to enhance the representation of women in the Police force. The final sanction was given by the State Administrative Council (SAC) under the chairmanship of former Governor Satya Pal Malik in January 2019.

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PAPER WITH PASSION

Miffed allies

Slighted by the BJP over seats, the Akali Dal and Dushyant Chautala refuse to contest Delhi polls



The allies are proving to be an itch again for the BJP in the run-up to the Delhi Assembly elections and though it may not be betting big on them, the mutual differences are worsening its arrogant and abrasive image. The Shiromani Akali Dal (SAD), its long-time ally, which was hoping to contest six seats, has now decided to withdraw from the race altogether, citing irreconcilable differences on several issues, primary among them being the Citizenship Amendment Act (CAA). The SAD is dead against the religion-based conditionality in the new law and wants all minority communities (some Ahmadiyyas are in Punjab) to be included. Besides, the BJP was pushing it to contest under the lotus symbol, clearly intended to subsume federal parties under its umbrella than that of the National Democratic Alliance (NDA). Ever since the Akali leadership has passed into the hands of Sukhbir Singh Badal and the SAD has been pushed down the ladder of political dominance in Punjab, it has slowly and steadily been asserting its independence. By choosing to end the alliance in Delhi, it hopes to douse the fire of criticism in Punjab that it is now being guided by the Hindutva ideology and supporting contentious issues like the abrogation of Article 370 and CAA without looking at the bigger picture. Its core constituency feels these issues serve a predominantly Hindu voterbase and do not find much resonance among Sikhs, who have been shortchanged. This has become more pronounced after the Akal Takht jathedar, Giani Harpreet Singh, publicly lambasted Hindutva, going so far out as to seeking a ban on the Rashtriya Swayamsewak Sangh (RSS).

Already Congress Chief Minister Amarinder Singh, by passing an Assembly resolution against the CAA, has pushed the Akalis into a corner. As for Delhi, there are around 10 lakh Sikh voters, who could potentially affect the results in about 10 of the 70 Assembly seats. Question is whether this slippage would impact the BJP vote share. Rifts between the Akali Dal and the BJP have been widening ever since the seat-sharing fiasco in the Haryana Assembly elections, with the latter attempting to poach some of its candidates. While all of these moves may seem hurtful to the coalition dharma, fact is the emaciated SAD needs the BJP's majoritarian weight to have a stake in both Central and State politics. The BJP, post the mammoth Lok Sabha verdict of last year, is not looking to be overtly dependent on the Punjabi vote in the city. In fact, it doesn't see too much of a community drift, arguing that the presence of the Akalis could have led to an ideology-based split. It claims the neutral Sikh vote would come its way and is, in fact, hoping to divide the Sikhs as those with Panthic loyalties and those that are non-aligned. In that sense, it is trying to undercut the Akalis. Besides, the Delhi BJP, which once thrived on the anti-Sikh riots sentiment to draw the Sikh vote towards it from the Congress and had the Punjabi Hindu vote with negotiators like Madan Lal Khurana, is now much more dependent on other community votes like the Purvanchalis while consolidating its hold among Baniyas. The shift in the power axis is apparent from the fact that the BJP has accommodated both the Janata Dal (United) and the Lok Janshakti Party (LJP), allocating three seats between them, clearly with an eye to the Bihar elections. However, both these allies are not with their fair share of troubles. JD(U) senior leader Pawan K Varma has sought "ideological clarity" over the seat-sharing with BJP in Delhi while colleague Prashant Kishor continues asking questions on CAA. Other than the SAD, the Jannayak Janata Party (JJP), the BJP's newest ally in Haryana, will also not be contesting the Delhi elections. Led by the fiery young descendant of the Chautala clan, Dushyant Chautala, it claims it didn't get the electoral symbols of its choice and is, therefore, withdrawing from the race. But there were murmurs of the party wanting to contest at least 12 seats. There is a sizeable Jat population that can swing the results in Najafgarh, Mundka, Mahipalpur, Mehrauli, Nangloi, Badarpur, Devli and Chhattarpur. And while Dushyant may not openly challenge the CAA, fact is he is finding it hard to justify a relationship of convenience politically. The BJP may not need the allies numerically now because it has stepped out of the pretend politics of Modi 1.0 and is gung-ho about its solo majority status. But it cannot consolidate its India map without its federal partners given its recent drubbing at the State polls. And with its oldest ideologically-friendly ally, Shiv Sena, walking out, it certainly could do without more friends turning foes and eroding popular trust in the process.

Another deadly virus

With complex strains emerging in China, we should ask why this is happening at all when dealing with public health risks



It looks like every second year, a new deadly contagion emerges in China. First, it was SARS, then Avian Flu, which was followed by Swine Flu and now, a new coronavirus has taken over the Chinese city of Wuhan. This new virus is estimated to have infected over 400 people, nine of whom have died. Thanks in no small part to the boom in international air travel within and outside China, which connects even secondary cities such as Wuhan, cases have spread in several countries now, including across the Pacific in the US. Earlier viruses like Avian Flu or Bird Flu were thought to have originated in illegal poultry farms where animals were kept in unhygienic conditions. In the case of Swine Flu, too, the emergence of the virus was in pig farms. Avian Flu led to the killing of millions of birds at poultry farms as they were culled. With the emergence of Swine Flu, where the virus was thought to have passed from domesticated pigs to humans, thousands of pigs were eliminated as well. And now, this latest virus, which does not have a moniker as yet, appears to have emerged from the illegal trade in marine wildlife in that Chinese city.

All of this does raise questions about hygiene standards and food quality issues that many towns and villages in China face behind the new glass and concrete skyscrapers. In this part of the world, illegal trading of animals and bird farms is common, often next to human dwellings. It should not be a surprise then that when pathogens do the dreaded inter-species skip, such an environment becomes an enabler. It is, therefore, contingent upon the Chinese authorities to get to the bottom as to why these new pathogens are emerging. This should be done on an urgent basis because the next outbreak may not be as contained or worse but more virulent and deadlier. Public health officials have been warning about the potential of a next global pandemic to rival the Spanish Influenza of exactly a century ago when an estimated 50-100 million people died, including around 17 million people in India. This is one reason why Indian authorities must be vigilant. During the Avian Flu crisis, authorities pre-emptively culled millions of chickens in poultry farms across the country. It is good to know that passengers arriving from China are being scanned at Indian airports. However, we have to stay on our toes and urge the Chinese to clean up their act.

A never-ending crisis

As more details about the Boeing 737 MAX emerge, it is becoming clearer that a fair dose of arrogance pushed the American plane-maker



KUSHAN MITRA

Boeing's internal documents, which revealed that executives mocked aviation regulators and airlines across the world, including India's Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA), were hugely damaging for the American planemaker and marked a torrid start to 2020 after a horrific 2019. The year began in the aftermath of the Lion Air 737 MAX crash in Indonesia. Using "friendly" media sources, Boeing executives said that poor pilot training (and the lack of it) was the primary cause of the crash. While there may have been an element of truth to that, the second 737 MAX crash of an Ethiopian Airlines jet, seconds after takeoff from Addis Ababa, dealt the final blow.

As a result, Boeing's 737 MAX fleet was grounded worldwide, some regulators doing it sooner than others, but the aircraft manufacturer kept on producing planes, even though they could not fly. Planes kept coming off the production line at over 20 a month, leading to over 200 aircraft being parked at Boeing's plant in Renton, Washington. However, with little space to keep so many airplanes — Boeing was also forced to park planes in employee car parking lots — the American manufacturer decided to suspend production a few weeks ago.

It is extremely fortuitous that the grounding of the Boeing 737 MAX has not collapsed the global aviation industry. It is noteworthy here that the MAX was still a new aircraft and had not been fully integrated with fleets across the world. The grounding is now beginning to impact growth opportunities for airlines. With large American carriers like American Airlines and Southwest Airlines, which are the largest operators of MAX, now delaying the re-introduction of the plane all the way till the middle of this year, this crisis is not going to end anytime soon. Boeing's nose has been grounded to the tarmac, its reputation ruined.

In most other industries, such a crisis might have been fatal for a company but the global airliner manufacturers' duopoly between the American Boeing and the European Airbus, where the latter has smartly and carefully not uttered a word or even celebrated the former's woes, makes the Coke-Pepsi duel look like a violent conflict in comparison. While the Chinese and the Russians are trying to up their game in the civilian airliner market — some could even argue that Boeing's fall has given them an opportunity — they are far from being an effective contender. It takes several billions of dollars and an army of engineers to develop a new aircraft. Right now nothing can beat the entrenched players.

But at the end of the day, the entire MAX crisis that has engulfed Boeing comes down to the fact that the manufacturer did not want to spend a huge sum of money on developing a new plane. The Boeing 737 is a design



that dates back to the early 1960s, the airworthiness certificate given to the aircraft is one that was issued almost seven decades ago. The Boeing 737 has been an immensely successful plane. During 2018, Boeing delivered its 10,000th 737 with a backlog of close to 5,000 aircraft remaining in its books. It has been off the competition over the years as well. The McDonnell Douglas DC-9 and Douglas MD80 family could not keep up with the success of the Boeing and eventually Boeing acquired McDonnell-Douglas.

However, the Airbus A320 family, developed by the European planemaker in the early 1980s, was a different kettle of fish. With its highly advanced wing and computerised fly-by-wire technology, Boeing had to develop new technology to keep the 737 competitive. So when Airbus decided to refresh the A320 with modern new high-bypass ratio engines, which would reduce fuel consumption, it got a lot of interest from airlines. While Airbus has had its share of problems over the years, particularly around the A380 super-jumbo, the A320 has been a money-spinner. With modifications in new engines — the New Engine Option (Neo) — it would become even more attrac-

ive. Despite the problems that India's low-cost carrier IndiGo has suffered with Neo aircraft, nearly a thousand such planes are in service currently. Boeing had to do something to keep up with the rising competition. Neo's efficiency gains over the existing generation 737 were massive.

But Boeing had a problem. When it started developing the 737 in the 1960s, it did not have to face much in terms of ground clearance and kept riding low to the ground. This made it easier for planes to service at smaller and less prepared airports, which were all but common in the 1960s and the 1970s. In fact, it was this very ability, coupled with it having lower engines, that made it attractive to the airlines. Even when the 737 was improved, few changes were made to this end. The problem with high-bypass ratio turbofan engines today is that to gain a perfect ratio, the front fan has to be massive. The 737's basic architecture made fitting such a new engine nearly impossible. And while Boeing should have ideally developed a new aircraft altogether, market realities made that an impossibility. It took it over a decade to develop the 787 Dreamliner with an overly optimistic entry into

service schedules. The subsequent delays left the company with a bloody nose.

The 787 is an immensely successful aircraft today, hundreds of them forming the backbone of airline fleets across the world. But Boeing did not have the time and its management thought of developing a new aircraft. A better option, no matter what the physics, would have been to re-engine the current airframe with minor modifications.

Well, the modifications were not simple. In order to fit a larger fan, Boeing engineers had to move the engine further forward and above the wing. This caused some major problems to the aerodynamic properties of the 737 but these could be solved. Pilots could be trained to deal with the changes. Then came another problem. One major selling point for airlines is to calculate the number of additional training pilots needed when they move to a new type of aircraft. Pilots trained on the regular Airbus A320 could fly the new A320 Neo with just a couple of hours of orientation. Boeing promised pretty much the same even though it was obvious — something that the stash of internal emails revealed — that pilots should have taken many more hours of training for

the MAX, even some hours inside the simulator.

The issue, as many people know now, is that Boeing decided to integrate much more software into the MAX to augment flying characteristics. One of those pieces of software was the Maneuvering Characteristics Augmentation System (MCAS), which in low-speed conditions, usually after take-off, would keep the plane from stalling. With the engines of the 737 MAX being shifted so much further forward, the centre of gravity of the plane, too, being far forward, only software could resolve it. As we know now, the MCAS system depended on good data from the sensors outside the aircraft. Sensors can fail and usually those failures should be notified, as on cars, to cite an example. But Boeing just made an alert system for a sensor data mismatch, an optional extra on the 737 MAX, even though it was but a software switch. The MCAS system made some sudden changes to the planes flightpath and without proper training to recognise the software intervention, pilots onboard had no clue how to deal with the issue. With little altitude, the pilots of the Lion Air and Ethiopian Airlines aircraft slammed to the ground.

At the end of the day, a company, once known to be extremely fastidious on the engineering front, made a stupid mistake. A firm that almost bankrupted itself while developing the Boeing 707 and then almost did so again with the Boeing 747 — which has proven that it can redefine the market even in contemporary times with the Boeing 777 and Boeing 787 — has ruined its reputation, thanks to the unnecessary shortcuts it took. As is being made clear in the emails for the public to see, sheer arrogance of its executives made matters worse.

It is being made apparent that the Boeing 737 MAX will not make it back into the service before mid-year. A freshly empowered Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), the civil aviation regulator in the US, will not be in the pocket of Boeing as it was once. It is unlikely that a company so vital to America's trading interests and its defence industry will be allowed to collapse. But the arrogance on display at the company was little different from that displayed by the bankers before the financial industry collapse of 2008. Boeing has to do a lot to repair its reputation and salvage the image of Boeing 737. Being humble shall make for a very good start.

(The writer is Managing Editor, The Pioneer)

SOUNDBITE

With no development on its agenda, the ruling party is making a complete exposition of its agenda to create a Hindu *rashtra*.

Congress MP
—Shashi Tharoor



Growing up in a country like India, you see wealth and poverty live together in such a symbiotic way... seeing that you become desensitised to it.

Actor
—Priyanka Chopra



What's going on between Pakistan and India... if we can help, we certainly will be willing to. We have been watching it very closely.

US President
—Donald Trump



Normalcy acrobatics is in full swing even as Kashmir continues to reel under a crippling internet shutdown and leaders remain detained.

PDP president
—Mehbooba Mufti



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Righting the wrong

Sir — A peaceful protest by Kashmiri Pandits to mark the 30th anniversary of their mass exodus from the Kashmir Valley grabbed some attention. Through it, they appealed to the Government to take plausible and sincere steps to rehabilitate them in the Valley. Successive Governments have only paraded their cause. Largely, they have either ignored the Pandits or used them for their selfish end. Left liberals, rights activists and secularists, too, have turned a blind eye to their rightful grievances though they have been campaigning for the rights of minority communities in general. Are Kashmir Pandits not a minority in the Valley? After the nullification of Article 370 and the revocation of special status to the former State of Jammu & Kashmir, it is the responsibility of the Union Government to restore normalcy in the Valley and rehabilitate the displaced Pandits willing to return. Even after the Supreme Court's directive, little action has been taken.

Nimai Charan Swain
Bhubaneswar

Crash barriers will make roads safer

This refers to the report, "Crash barriers planned to slash NH fatalities" (January 22). The Centre's plan to install crash barriers along its existing National Highways (NH) and make them mandatory for all future highway projects is welcome. This step is bound to bring down the number of crashes and fatalities. Coming closely on the heels of the enactment of the Motor Vehicles (Amendment) Act, 2019, that calls for stricter punishments for traffic violators, the installation of crash barriers will require a big push from the powers that be to make it a reality.

Crash barriers are designed to withstand the impact of even high speed vehicles and are expected to slide and roll the vehicles back on the road while keeping the level of damage to them as well as the barriers within acceptable limits. As per statistics, less than five per cent of the total network of about 1.50 lakh km of highways have installed crash barriers. India accounts for the highest number of road deaths in the world. The total number of accident-related deaths in 2018 stood at



1,51,417, indicating an increase of 2.3 per cent over 2017 figures. About 85 per cent of accident-related deaths happen in the most productive age group of 18-60. Cost effective solutions for crash barriers are available worldwide. All we need are implementation and adoption.

Shubham
Via email

Growth trouble

Sir — Once again, the International Monetary Fund (IMF) has slashed India's growth estimate to 4.8 per cent for this fiscal year and 5.8 per cent for 2020-21. Observers attribute such grim forecasts to an economic slowdown.

In the Indian context, the current growth projection follows a downward trend from 7.5 per cent last year to 6.1 per cent in October. It is disheartening that while growth projections have continued to decline in the recent past, the Government has taken little cohesive action for revival and has instead been demanding rate cuts from the

Reserve Bank of India (RBI).

Yet India is projected to be the second-fastest growing major economy in the world after China. There are miles to go for that to happen. The Government has to come up with a big bang strategy to revive growth.

Srishti Mathur
Ujjain

The clock is ticking

Sir — At a time when the country is faced with severe economic slowdown and given the seriousness of the problem of unemployment with agrarian crisis, too, at its peak, the common man is expecting relief and progressive measures in the Budget that is to be presented on February 1.

However, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman is busy attending various forums and meetings to defend the Government's decision to implement the Citizenship Amendment Act (CAA). With just a few days left for the Budget, one would have expected the Finance Minister to be giving finishing touches to it. Despite the fact that Sitharaman has taken several measures to revive the economy, the situation isn't showing any signs of improving. The Budget must focus on reviving demand, investment and growth. All of this must be done in a transparent manner.

Anna Mary Yvonne
Chennai

Send your feedback to:
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FIRST COLUMN

The tech-savvy road to health

Technology has not been a disruptive force in senior healthcare but that story is set to change over the next six years, says **Sushant Reddy**

We have just celebrated our entry into a new decade. The defining theme of the first two decades of this century was the rise of technology start-ups and their transformative change in our lives. Just 10 years ago, none of us could have imagined the lifestyle changes created by internet-enabled platforms and aggregators like Uber, Amazon, Swiggy, Zomato, Hotstar or Netflix. However, there are some sectors where technology hasn't had such a transformative effect, yet. One such is healthcare and more specifically, healthcare for senior citizens. What is senior healthcare? This in itself is a very generic term; in fact, the term is so generic that everything, from an Out Patient Department to in-hospital care to the pharmacy can be grouped into this category.

Broadly speaking, senior healthcare can be classified into four areas: Hospital care, preventive care, home care and healthy living.

Hospital care: This is what everyone easily relates to as traditional healthcare. Episodic events such as emergencies, illness, injury treatments at a hospital come under hospital care.

Preventive care: All aspects of healthcare that are preventive in nature such as diagnostic tests, pharmacy, doctor consultations, disease management (diabetes, hypertension), health insurance and so on fall in the category of preventive care.

Home care: Healthcare services delivered at home such as nursing, physiotherapy, home Intensive Care Unit (ICU), dialysis and chemotherapy services, medical devices and so on come under this.

Healthy living: Services that enable a healthy lifestyle for seniors such as custom-designed senior homes, smart tracking devices, companionship services and so on come under this tag.

The fact remains that senior healthcare is a massive challenge. India is in the middle of a rapid demographic and cultural transition — senior citizens above 60 years are over a 100 million today and constitute eight per cent of the total population. This figure is expected to grow to 350 million, an estimated 20 per cent of the total population by 2050, a dramatic rise in the older population, both in size and proportion.

Another massive factor driving this transition is a mass migration, both domestic and international, of educated, urban youth that happened during the 80s, 90s and the first decade of the 21st century. The country recorded over 30 million international migrants and 139 million domestic migrants as of 2017.

These challenges have increased India's senior healthcare burden exponentially and the problem is compounded by the fact that despite massive technological advances in this century, it has not yet created a disruptive impact in the senior healthcare industry. This is because of three main reasons, fragmented and localised service providers, low tech savviness of seniors and language barriers.

Fragmented and localised service providers: Traditionally senior healthcare services have been very human-intensive. The role of care provider was and still remains extremely critical and everything else was not a deal breaker.

Low tech savviness of seniors: All things equal, technology adoption of millennials is much higher than that of senior citizens. While seniors are comfortable with popular apps like WhatsApp and YouTube, adoption of other technology in general has been less than spectacular.

Language barriers: English is not a preferred conversational medium for most senior citizens and as most technology platforms are designed for urban, English-speaking customers, this becomes a major mental obstacle not only for senior citizens but also for care providers.

So, the big question is, how can technology transform senior healthcare? There are multiple areas where technology can become a real force-multiplier.

Smart medical alert system: India does not have a reliable 911 emergency service that can be accessed by senior citizens. Having smart medical alert systems that can provide emergency support at the push of a button will be a great value addition for seniors.

Doctor-on-call services: Senior citizens usually avoid visiting a doctor for minor health issues because of mobility and logistic issues. A "doctor-on-call" service where general physicians and specialist doctors can talk over a voice/video call will be a great value proposition for senior citizens.

Internet of Things devices and smart tracking: Senior citizens have a higher risk of falls, rapid heart rate, breathlessness, low blood pressure and so on. Smart Internet of Things (IoT) devices that can track regular health vitals, detect abnormal patterns and alert care providers is another major opportunity in this space.

Smart senior living homes: The concept of senior living was a social taboo until recently. With reality developers revisiting the concept of "senior living", a lot of Indians are taking a fresh look at this concept.

Intelligent voice platforms: Voice is a major breakthrough when it comes to senior citizens. Easy, intelligent voice-based platforms to order medicines, schedule doctor appointments or health check-ups will be a major opportunity in future.

Technology has not been a disruptive force in senior healthcare but that story is set to change over the next five-six years. With rapid advances in voice-enabled platforms, artificial intelligence and IoT devices, start-ups are burning the midnight oil to come up with smart, easy-to-use technological solutions that create an impact in the senior healthcare industry. It is not a question of "if" anymore, it's just the "when" that needs to be answered.

(The writer is CEO and founder of a leading insurance aggregating platform)

THE OBJECTIVE OF THIS DIALOGUE (IN KASHMIR) IS TO GO CLOSE TO THE PEOPLE, LISTEN TO THEIR PROBLEMS AND FIND SOLUTIONS TO THEM.

—UNION MINISTER
MUKHTAR ABBAS NAQVI

POINT COUNTERPOINT



THE VISIT OF MINISTERS' BRIGADE IS TO HIGHLIGHT THE AGENDA OF THE BJP AT THE EXPENSE OF PUBLIC EXCHEQUER BY USE OF ENTIRE OFFICIAL MACHINERY.
— J&K CONGRESS COMMITTEE CHIEF
RAVINDER SHARMA

The changemakers

Young innovators Manav and Swati Subodh are empowering entrepreneurs to undertake social experiments, job creation and meaningful development in their communities



MOÏN QAZI

One of the dispiriting features of the modern development model is that despite oceans of research and studies, there has not been a substantive transformative impact on marginalised communities. Much of the outcomes have been purely academic and we need more dedicated, courageous and purpose-driven champions who can creatively apply their core competencies and new knowledge to enhance people's well-being. Similarly, we need to design tools and techniques that can help translate these insights into effective public policies and professional practices that can sustainably deliver quality outcomes on an exponential scale.

There is now a tribe of passionate entrepreneurs who are collaborating with like-minded allies and with those with different perspectives, to build a co-leadership of expertise to address pressing human challenges and accelerate the transition of the underprivileged from subsistence to sustainability in emerging economies. Some of them are bright people working to uncover and scale breakthrough disruptive solutions for leapfrogging meaningful social change. They have the vision to see the world the way it should be and create what is missing. They are combining business acumen with their conscience to solve problems in the community and foster a fairer society in an efficient and sustainable way.

A brother-sister duo, Manav Subodh and Swati Subodh, with diverse backgrounds and with careers on the cusp of steady and promising trajectories, decided to change track and pursue something that had relevance and meaning to the wider world, and in particular to the underserved communities. Manav was Global Manager, Marketing, Entrepreneurship and Corporate Affairs at Intel but found the canvas dimming his social horizon. Swati obtained her post-graduate in biotechnology and did her doctoral research in genomics at AIIMS. It was here that she had her moment of epiphany. Her laboratory was opposite the outpatients department where the daily sight of struggling patients stirred her and fired the imagination to furrow a path of concrete action. Manav and Swati realised that their path was never going to lead to the right level of fulfillment, because they were not doing something that exactly fitted the values they had cultivated over time.

Since it wasn't possible to change their values, they knew they needed to switch their careers. Manav was the first to take the plunge when he conceptualised the 1M1B (1 Million for 1 Billion) Foundation, an initiative to inspire a million young leaders, educators and entrepreneurs to generate jobs that will create better lives for a billion people in the underserved communities. The idea was to empower entrepreneurs who would undertake social innovations, job creation and meaningful development in their communities so that each in turn would create jobs and more stable economic lives for a thousand more.

With Swati's expertise in healthcare and Manav's expertise in entrepreneurship education and ecosystems, a social entrepreneurship model was conceptualised. They visualised that a million entrepreneurs — spanning different geographies and sectors — can come up with the right solutions that can impact one billion people. Everyone, according to them, is a natural entrepreneur and can play a vital role in promoting resilience in their communities. They believe that with relatively simple and inexpensive tools we can put the needle on tough problems but interventions fail to reach the right person at the right time. Sharing them equitably across the world to maximise the impact is a big challenge. Addressing these and other burning social problems requires understanding and reframing them with a fresh view. It is here that entrepreneurs like Manav and Swati

“ IT TAKES LOCAL ENTREPRENEURS, EMPOWERED TO ADAPT EASILY TO THE NUANCES OF LOCAL CULTURE, TO CREATE AND DRIVE CHANGE SUSTAINABLY ON THE GROUND. THE 1M1B FOUNDATION IS SERVING AS A MICRO-ACCELERATOR FOR GRASSROOTS ENTREPRENEURS BY GIVING THEM SKILL TRAINING, ACCESS TO TECHNOLOGIES, FINANCE AND THEN HELPING THEM LAUNCH THEIR OWN MICRO-ENTERPRISE ”



are stepping in and filling the vacuum. With a team of like-minded people who share this passion 1M1B started taking shape.

Manav and Swati understand that interventions for rural regeneration cannot be played out in the same way that society perceives the poor: Desperate citizens who need to be rescued by the elite. "We have to understand the local challenges to improve their composite livelihoods. You can't solve the problems of the last mile from the headquarters," explains Manav. According to him, it takes local entrepreneurs, empowered to adapt easily to the nuances of local culture, to create and drive change sustainably on the ground. The 1M1B Foundation is serving as a micro-accelerator for grassroots entrepreneurs by giving them skill training, access to technologies, finance and then helping them launch their own micro-enterprise. "We scan the local environment to get better assessment of needs of the area and prospective interventional aspects and partner with these entities to provide our know-how and execution pipeline to enable last mile access to maximise impact", he adds.

There are several interventions being promoted by 1M1B across segments. The Skills Accelerator programme helps individuals develop relevant skills to ensure that they are in line with the market needs. Fifty per cent of the participants get formal jobs and 15 per cent of them land up starting their own business. 1M1B is honing the leadership skills of micro-entrepreneurs along with building rural co-innovation labs. It helps accelerate the access of indigenous technologies to rural markets by pairing these entrepreneurs with mentors who help them in developing their ideas. It also connects global start-ups to rural markets. This access and exposure allows them to test their solution on the specific populations through other village-level players. The programme provides training in computer skills, communication, accounting,

finance, access to technologies and hands-on growth support to help them launch their own micro-enterprises. 1M1B believes that communities of artisans, particularly women, deserve economic opportunities and aims to keep alive the rich tradition of their craftsmanship. The foundation is working with *Kalamkari* weavers to provide a more robust economic base to the weaver community. It is also an implementation partner on providing training in Artificial Intelligence (AI) to 5,000 schoolchildren in New Delhi, Bengaluru and Hyderabad. Students are encouraged to come up with project ideas on how AI can be applied for societal good. Those selected are given access to the AI Youth Lab to advance their projects and create prototypes.

The Future Leaders programme is dedicated to identifying and nurturing the next generation of leaders committed to positive change. The target group comprises high school students and undergraduates who have the potential to have a meaningful influence on topics of relevance. During the course of the programme, they are imparted high-impact leadership development skills to develop the knowledge, resources and network needed to become an inclusive and socially-minded changemaker. These skills include thinking critically and from multiple perspectives, collaborating inclusively, communicating effectively and becoming empathetic leaders. The coaching also exposes them to an array of educational experiences that broaden their world view.

The latest batch participated in the fifth annual 1M1B Activate Impact Summit at the United Nations (UN) Headquarters in New York. The summit provided them the opportunity to learn about leadership through the lens of the experiences of leaders of civil society, government, industry, non-government bodies, private entities, venture funds, entrepreneurs and influencers.

The foundation is a UN-accredited

non-profit organisation with special consultative status to the UN Economic and Social Council and associated with the UN Department of Global Communications.

The foundation has a very innovative business development programme, called *Business Raja* (king). An AI-enabled chatbot, it is guiding aspiring entrepreneurs in rural India to grow their nascent ideas, raise funds and run their businesses successfully. It is simple in design. For the user, it is just another contact on WhatsApp they talk to about their ideas in three languages — Telugu, Hindi, and Kannada — as of now.

The chatbot asks a user about their ideas, how they came up with it, measures the person's personality and attains a complete profile. It also assesses their responses to tough questions — a sort of psychometric test.

An aspiring entrepreneur needs to follow a three-step process: First, share a business idea. The chatbot will provide reference resources that need to be completed. Then, the candidate will have to design a financial plan such as product pricing. Finally, if the idea works well, the chatbot will help in raising funds. A final score of investment readiness is then sent to the lending institution.

"The idea of *Business Raja* emerged while our team was working with grassroots innovators and helping them navigate the challenging entrepreneurial landscape. The AI chatbot and the resources associated with it help to do this, at scale so we can enable more entrepreneurs faster", explains Swati.

It doesn't require a flash of genius or invention of any radical idea to change the story line. What is ultimately needed is practical compassion. Most revolutionary solutions have been evolved by people like Manav and Swati who looked at the familiar landscape with fresh eyes. They saw promise where others saw hopelessness.

(The writer is Member, NITI Aayog's National Committee on Financial Literacy and Inclusion for Women)

Vote for the environment

The spectre of climate change is looming large and pollution cannot be stopped by turning a blind eye to it. In the February 8 Assembly polls, Delhiites need to elect a Government that makes environmental policies its priority



SRIRAJ KOTA

cities have become used to being wooed with sops and benefits. Whether it is regularisation of illegal colonies and structures or subsidised electricity and so on, we just lap it up.

However, do we ever stop to think what the cost of these sops is and who is footing the bill? The answer is that we the people or the electorate are eventually going to pay for the sops, collectively. The sole beneficiary in this will be the political party we elect, who will be laughing all the way to the seat of power, for the next five years.

We, as voters, must critically evaluate the promises being made by the Government in power and all the other contending parties and see what their commitment is for pressing issues such as climate change and the environment. And, we also need to look at the environmental cost of an election. This also needs to be audited and made public in order to ensure that the people realise the environmental costs of



this democratic exercise and which parties have had the smallest carbon footprint. This will usher in a positive change in the thinking of the voter which will in turn compel the parties to shun anti-environmental activities in the form of excess use of fuel, plastic and paper during campaigning. The people of Delhi need to question the Government and ask it what it has done to safeguard the environment and

also assess what the environment-related promises and assurances other contesting parties are bringing to the table. The subject of pollution in Delhi has been a hotly debated matter, with the ruling Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) claiming tremendous success in reining in the same with the help of the vehicle rationing initiative the Odd-Even Scheme. However, as is the norm in politics, these initiatives have been

heavily criticised by the Central Government.

Both the Centre and the Delhi Government have been trading charges over this key issue and blaming each other for the sad state of affairs in the Capital.

As the common man continued to suffer the impact of the pollution shrouding the city in a pall of smog, the judiciary took it upon itself to express reservations on the efficacy of the scheme in controlling the spiralling pollution levels in Delhi-NCR and pulled up the Centre, the Delhi Government and even the neighbouring States of Punjab, Haryana and Uttar Pradesh on the environmental crisis caused by crop residue burning by farmers.

The Supreme Court also directed the Central Government to assess the feasibility of the use of hydrogen-based fuel technology in the Capital to mitigate air pollution.

However, the fact remains that

things should not have come to such a pass. We need clear, tangible and more importantly quantifiable results against efforts undertaken to protect the environment by all stakeholders. The city is what we will leave to the future generations and it cannot be inhospitable due to pollution that has reached unmanageable levels and turned it into a "gas chamber", choking and killing the people that reside in it.

The spectre of climate change is looming large and pollution cannot be stopped by turning a blind eye to it. Combatting pollution and climate change need a concentrated and sincere effort by the Government in power that has the resolve and the firm mandate of the people behind it. So this time let us elect the environment. A Government that makes environmental policies its priority will then automatically get elected.

(The writer is an environmental journalist)



FOREIGN EYE



BE ALERT, NOT AFRAID

Sounding the alarm unnecessarily has dangers of its own. People may fail to pay heed next time, or may overreact this time. Equally, muting discussions can backfire, especially in a world where information, or unfounded rumours, can be shared so quickly. It is essential that Chinese authorities at all levels are open about the coronavirus outbreak, as well as assiduous in tackling it.

(The Guardian editorial)

Budget will have plan of action on economy: Min

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The Government will unveil its "plan of action" to boost the economy in the Union Budget to be presented on February 1, Union Minister Prakash Javadekar said on Wednesday, asserting that economic fundamentals remain very strong.

Responding to a question about the downward revision of India's growth rate by the International Monetary Fund (IMF), he said the economy is on the path of "revival" and nobody should have a pessimistic view about it.

"From the Union Budget, you will get Government's plan of action."

Our fundamentals are very strong. Therefore, nobody should create a pessimistic view about Indian economy," the Information and Broadcasting minister said at a briefing after the Union Cabinet meeting.

Asserting that the economy was on the path of "revival", he



Union Information and Broadcasting Minister Prakash Javadekar briefs the media on Cabinet decisions at Shastri Bhawan in New Delhi

said there are ups and downs in world economy, and it has reflection on economy of countries.

The IMF had on Monday lowered growth estimate for India to 4.8 per cent for 2019, citing stress in the non-bank financial sector and weak rural income growth as the major factors for the downward revision.

While providing an update on the global economy ahead

of the start of the World Economic Forum (WEF) annual summit, the IMF cut its India growth forecast.

India-born IMF Chief Economist Gita Gopinath had said growth in India slowed sharply owing to stress in the non-banking financial sectors and weak rural income growth.

Opposition parties have been attacking the Government over the economic slowdown and its policies.

Stock markets to be open on Budget day

New Delhi: Stock markets will be open for normal trading on February 1, Saturday, when the Union Budget will be presented. Generally, the markets are closed on Saturdays and Sundays, except for special circumstances.

In separate circulars on Wednesday, leading exchanges BSE and NSE said the markets would be open for trading on February 1 on account of Union Budget presentation.

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman is to present the Budget for 2020-21.

Trading would be conducted during normal hours from 9 am to 3.30 pm, as per the circulars.

According to markets sources, the decision has been taken following requests made in this regard by market participants as Budget contains several market-moving announcements.

In 2015, stock exchanges were open for trading on February 28, Saturday, when then Finance Minister Arun Jaitley had presented the Budget.

Budget may offer production incentives for fabless chip cos

IANAS ■ NEW DELHI

The Union Budget 2020 may unveil a scheme on production linked benefits to attract hi-tech manufacturing in semiconductors, and micro-processors to India, apart from giving tax incentives to solar electric charging infrastructure, computers, servers, and laptops.

For 'Make in India', there may be investment-linked income tax exemptions under Section 35AD of the Income Tax Act and other indirect tax benefits.

Many global semiconductor companies such as ARM, Qualcomm, Intel, Cadence and Texas Instruments have set up design and software development infrastructure here but per se, chip manufacturing plants are still elusive for India.

Intel, AMD and ARM for microprocessors, and Qualcomm, Samsung and MediaTek are the names in this segment globally who also cater to the telecom segment and their chips are imported by Indian companies.

core competencies in the strategic sub-sectors like fabless chip design industry. The Government could provide tax incentives to high-tech manufacturing plants in the fields of solar photovoltaic cells, lithium storage batteries, solar electric charging infrastructure, computers, servers, and laptops.

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The National Policy for Electronics, 2019, argues for special support for developing

BUSINESS CORNER

SRM INKS MOU WITH KANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY



Kattankulathur: SRM Institute of Science and Technology, Kattankulathur has signed a Memorandum of Agreement with Kansas State University (KSU), USA. Professors Ramasamy/Perumal and Krishna Jagadish from KSU visited SRMIST for the purpose. Both the faculties are also adjunct professors in SRMIST. Speaking on the occasion, Ramasamy Perumal said that the process of the MoU is lengthy, he is happy to have this association with SRMIST.

KAMDHENU PRESENTS GENNEXT CONSTRUCTION STEEL

New Delhi: Kamdhenu Limited has presented innovative steel in the field of construction steel. Power Alloy Steel 10000 (PAS10000) aims to take the industries to the next level. The alloy gives it better rust-proof qualities and gives this Rebar capability to bear 28 per cent more weight. Along with that it also gives double earth-quake prevention to the building.

Ujjwala inspires Ghana, India to assist Ghana in implementation of its LPG promotion policy

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Ghana wants to replicate the highly successful Ujjwala model of giving out cooking gas (LPG) connections to the need and has signed an agreement with state-owned Indian Oil Corp (IOC) seeking its assistance and technical expertise in implementation of the African nation's national LPG promotion policy.

Alhassan Sulemana Tampuli, Chief Executive, National Petroleum Authority (NPA) of Ghana and L K S Chauhan, Chief General Manager (LPG Operations), IOC signed the MoU in presence of Oil Minister Dharmendra pradhan and Michael Aaron, High Commissioner of Ghana to India.

"With India's emergence as a world leader in provision of clean energy to its citizens by the expansion of its LPG network, Ghana sought assistance from India in its own efforts to promote to safe, clean and environmentally friendly LPG for increased domestic, commercial and industrial usage," an IOC press statement said.

LPG coverage in Ghana is just 23 per cent and customers have to queue up at petrol stations with cylinders to get a refill. It wants to replicate the Indian model of setting up bottling plants where LPG can be filled in cylinders which are then transported to dealers who deliver them at customer doorstep with a view to expand the coverage to cover at least 50 per cent of the population.

Relief to Indians on card as New Jersey to lower college costs of H-1B visa holders' children

PTI ■ NEW YORK

The US state of New Jersey will enact a legislation that will make college and universities more affordable for the children of H-1B visa holders, mostly Indian IT professionals, bringing a huge financial relief to them.

New Jersey Governor Phil Murphy on Tuesday signed the legislation "S2555", allowing New Jersey students, who are the children of H-1B visa holders, to qualify for in-state tuition at public institutions of higher education. A majority of H-1B visa holders are Indians and this legislation comes as a significant relief to them, amidst an environment of stringent immigration laws and scrutiny under the Trump administration.

"New Jerseyans deserve equal access to higher education, and today we are taking another step towards making that possible. I'm proud to sign the legislation to help our students achieve their education goals, pursue a successful future and live their dreams here in their home state," Murphy said.

The legislation exempts dependent students whose parents or guardians hold H-1B visas from paying out-of-state tuition provided they meet certain criteria, including having graduated from a New Jersey high school and having attended a New Jersey high

school for at least three years. New Jersey is home to prestigious institutions such as Princeton University.

Secretary of Higher Education Zakiya Smith Ellis said New Jersey is working to make college affordable for New Jerseyans and the legislation will expand postsecondary opportunities to more residents such as dependents of H-1B visa holders. India's Deputy Consul General in New York Shatru Sinha welcomed the legislation, saying in a tweet that it is an "important initiative for the Indian community".

Primary sponsors of the legislation include Indian-American Democratic Senator Vin Gopal, Senator M Teresa Ruiz and Assembly members Raj Mukherji, Daniel Benson, and Robert Karabinchak.

President and CEO of Edison-based health technology company HealthEC Arthur Kapoor welcomed the legislation, saying it will tremendously benefit the Indian diaspora in New Jersey.

"Indian diaspora welcomes this bill since H-1B visa holders pay enormous amounts of taxes as well as social security contributions which they are never able to use as they return to India before they are eligible to receive benefits. This bill will allow their kids access to the best education," Kapoor said.

India falls to 51st position in EU's Democracy Index

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

India slipped 10 places to 51st position in the 2019 Democracy Index's global ranking, according to The Economist Intelligence Unit, which cited "erosion of civil liberties" in the country as the primary cause for the downturn.

India's overall score fell from 7.23 in 2018 to 6.90 in the Index that provides a snapshot of the current state of democracy worldwide for 165 independent states and two territories.

Govt allows 3 last dates for filing GSTR-3B for different categories of taxpayers

New Delhi: The Finance Ministry on Wednesday staggered last dates of filing GSTR-3B, a monthly return form, and has provided three dates for different categories of taxpayers, a move aimed at de-stressing the system. Currently, the last date for filing GSTR-3B is 20th of every month. From now onwards, there will be three dates — 20th, 22nd and 24th — of every month for different categories of tax payers.

In past, glitches in the return filing system of GST Network were reported on the

last day of filing of returns and trade and industry had to face problems. It may be noted here that about one-fifth of the total GSTR-3B returns were filing on the last day (January 20).

"From now on, the last date for filing of GSTR-3B for the taxpayers having annual turnover of ₹5 crore and above in the previous financial year would be 20th of the month. Thus, around 8 lakh regular taxpayers would have the last date of GSTR-3B filing as 20th of every month without late fees," the ministry said in a statement. The taxpayers

having annual turnover below ₹5 crore in previous financial year will be divided further in two categories.

The tax filers from 15 states/UTs — Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat, Daman and Diu, Dadra and Nagar Haveli, Maharashtra, Karnataka, Goa, Lakshadweep, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Puducherry, Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Telangana and Andhra Pradesh — will now be having the last date of filing GSTR-3B returns as 22nd of the month without late fees.

India advances 8 places to 72nd spot on Global Talent Competitiveness Index

PTI ■ DAVOS

India has moved up eight places to the 72nd position in the 2020 Global Talent Competitiveness Index that measures and ranks countries based on their ability to grow, attract and retain talent.

Switzerland topped the list of 132 countries, followed by the US and Singapore.

"Although more could be done to improve the country's educational system (68th in Formal Education), India's key strength relates to growing (44th) talent, due to its levels of lifelong learning (40th) and access to growth opportunities

(39th)," the Global Talent Competitiveness Index (GTCI) report noted.

The country's highest-ranked sub-pillar is employability, but the ability to match labour market demand and supply stands in contrast to the country's poor "mid-level skills", which result in a mediocre score in vocational and technical skills, the report said.

India's greatest challenge is to address its weak ability to attract and retain talent, where strengthening the role of minorities and women would raise the level of internal openness, it added.

The GTCI report was launched by INSEAD, a partner and sponsor of the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) Tent in Davos, Switzerland on Wednesday.

Switzerland topped this year's ranking, followed by the United States, its highest position yet, while Singapore is the third most talent-competitive country.

Other countries in the top 10 include Sweden at the 4th position, Denmark (5th), the Netherlands (6th), Finland (7th), Luxembourg (8th), Norway (9th) and Australia (10th).

Sebi comes out new framework to check non-compliance of listing rules

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Sebi on Wednesday put in place a stricter mechanism to deal with non-compliance of listing conditions under which stock exchanges will have powers to slap penalties up to ₹50,000 for certain violations.

At present, a stock exchange is allowed to charge a maximum amount of ₹10,000 for each violation of listing norms that need to be complied with by companies.

According to a Sebi circular, exchanges can impose a fine of ₹50,000 per instance for non-compliance with respect to

obtaining in-principle approval of bourses before issuance of securities.

The bourses can levy a fine of ₹25,000 each in cases of non-disclosure of dividend distribution policy in annual reports and on the websites of the entities.

The amount would also be applicable in the cases of non-convening of annual general meeting within a period of five months from the close of a financial year and for not taking exchange's approval before filing request for change of name with Registrar of Companies (RoC).

The new framework would

come into force with effect from compliance periods ending on or after March 31, 2020.

The move is aimed at maintaining consistency and adopting a uniform approach in the matter of levy of fines for non-compliance with certain provisions of the listing regulations.

Besides, the exchanges can impose a penalty of ₹10,000 for delay in furnishing prior intimation about the company's board meeting as well as delay in non-disclosure of record date or dividend declaration, and non-compliance with norms pertaining to having a functional website.

Oil India moves SC against DoT seeking ₹48K cr payment on ₹1.47 cr revenue

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

State-owned Oil India Ltd (OIL) on Wednesday said it has filed a clarificatory/modificatory petition in the Supreme Court against a ₹48,000 crore demand raised by the telecom department on cumulative revenue of ₹1.47 crore it had earned on an NLD telecom licence.

Following the October 24 Supreme Court ruling that non-telecom revenues of telecom firms such as Bharti Airtel and Vodafone Idea should be included for considering payments of Government dues, the

telecom department asked OIL to pay ₹48,000 crore in principal dues together with interest and penalty. The dues sought are double the net worth of OIL.

"OIL had obtained a National Long Distance Service Licence (NLD Licence) to establish Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition System (SCADA System) for control, management, and protection of OIL's pipeline network used for transportation of crude oil, natural gas, and petroleum products," the company said in a statement.

The NLD licence is pre-

dominantly used for the SCADA system and only the spare bandwidth capacity is leased out to other telecom operators.

"As per the licence terms, licence fee is to be paid on gross total revenue from services provided under the NLD licence. Since the award of NLD licence, the cumulative revenue of ₹1.47 crore is earned by OIL from the leasing of spare bandwidth capacity on which all applicable licence fee and other statutory dues as per licence terms have been paid by OIL regularly," it said.

Tata Motors JLR to cut 500 jobs at UK factory

PTI ■ LONDON

Tata Motors-owned Jaguar Land Rover (JLR) on Wednesday said that around 500 jobs will be affected as it cuts down on shifts to optimise car production at its Halewood factory in Merseyside.

The factory, which builds the Range Rover Evoque and Land Rover Discovery Sport in the north west of England, will move from a three shift to a "two-plus" shift pattern from April as part of what the company says is an efficiency programme and does not imply a loss of volume.

India keen on importing more oil from Brazil

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

India on Wednesday expressed interest in raising the import of crude oil from Brazil as the world's third largest oil consumer is looking at diversifying its import basket beyond the highly volatile Middle East region. Oil Minister Dharmendra Pradhan met visiting Brazilian Minister for Mines and Energy Bento Albuquerque to review cooperation between the two countries.

"India is diversifying its crude oil supply and our oil companies have expressed interest in sourcing more crude from Brazil if offered favorable

commercial terms," Pradhan tweeted after the meeting.

India imports 84 per cent of its oil needs and two-thirds of its import come from the Middle East with Iraq and Saudi Arabia being the top suppliers. Pradhan said he also sought intervention for the early monetization of India's existing investments in the Brazilian energy sector.

ONGC Videsh Ltd, the overseas arm of state-owned Oil and Natural Gas Corp (ONGC), has two exploration blocks in Brazil — BC-10 and BM Seal-4 and is looking at monetizing discoveries made there.

Adani lays out plans to become world's largest renewable energy player by 2030

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Moving away from polluting coal, billionaire Gautam Adani on Wednesday laid out a blueprint to make his group the world's largest solar power company by 2025 and the biggest renewable energy firm by 2030 through aggressive capacity addition push in these areas.

The \$15-billion Adani Group — a sprawling conglomerate with interests in energy, agri-business, real estate and defence, among others — plans to double its renewable

power generating capacity of current 2.5 gigawatts (GW) by 2020 and further to 18 GW by 2025, Adani wrote in a LinkedIn post.

"Our vision is to become the world's largest solar power company by 2025 and largest renewable power company by 2030," the Adani Group chairman wrote. Adani Group not just owns coal-fired power plants but also coal mines in India and Australia. It has invested big time in coal as the Adani empire of mines, cargo ships, ports and power plants depend heavily on it.

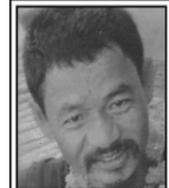
PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF ACCUSED PERSON

See Section 82 Cr. P.C.

Whereas complaint has been made by me that accused namely Sunil@Sonu, S/o Jagdish, R/o H.No. F-44, Gali No.81, Mahavir Enclave Part-III, Dabri, Delhi has committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence in case FIR No. 237/19, u/s 356/379/34 IPC, Dated: 24.06.2019, P.S. Janakpuri, Delhi and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest there upon issued that the accused Sunil@Sonu cannot be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said accused Sunil@Sonu has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant). Processing U/s 82 Cr. P.C. has been initiated in the case. Proclamation is hereby made that the said accused Sunil@Sonu, case FIR No. 237/19, u/s 356/379/34 IPC, Dated: 24.06.2019, P.S. Janakpuri, Delhi is required to appear before this Court to answer the said complaint on or before 28.02.2020.

By Order
Sh. Deepak Vats,
Metropolitan Magistrate, Room No.9
Ground Floor, Dwarka District Courts,
Sector-10, Dwarka, New Delhi

SEARCH FOR MISSING



General public is hereby informed that one person (depicted in the photo) namely Raju, S/o Shri Jang Bahadur, R/o F-383, Karampura, Moti Nagar, New Delhi, Age 35 years has been reported missing from his house since 28.12.19 at 05.00 am vide DD No. 37-A, dated 01.01.20 has been lodged at PS Moti Nagar, New Delhi. His physical description is as under:-
Height : 5', Complexion : Fair, Built : Medium, Clothing : Wearing Blue colour jacket, blue colour jeans pant and brown colour shoes.

Any person is having any information or clue about this missing person may kindly inform to the following.
E-mail ID: cbc@cbi.gov.in SHO
Tele: 011-24368638, 24368641 PS: Moti Nagar, New Delhi
Fax: 011-24368639 Ph.: 25101150
DP/8592/WD/20

SEARCH FOR MISSING



General Public is hereby informed that one man Name: Vinod, S/o: Prambhai, R/o: N-18, Raghuraj Nagar, Delhi, Age: 24 Years, Height: 5'2", Face: Long, Complexion: Shallow, Built: Normal, Wearing: Maroon Shirt & Blue Pant and Black Shoes in Feet has been missing since 12.12.2019 from the area of PS. Khyala, New Delhi. In this regard DD No. 37A, Dated 13.12.2019 has been lodged at PS. Khyala, New Delhi.

Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out the missing man but no clue has come to light so far. If anyone have any information about this missing man please inform the undersigned.
Web-site : http://cbi.nic.in SHO
E-Mail ID : cbc@cbi.gov.in
Fax: 011-24368639 PS. Khyala, New Delhi
DP/8590/WD/2020 Ph.: 011-28335696, 28335686

M/s Z Landholding LLP

LLPIN: AAB-4222
Registered office: 60B, SAINIK FARMS NEW DELHI, New Delhi-110062, NCR. Before the Central Government Registrar of Companies, Ministry of Corporate Affairs, 4th Floor, IFCI Tower, 61, Nehru Place, New Delhi-110019, NCR.
In the matter of: Section 13 (3) of the Limited Liability Partnership Act, 2008 And
In the matter of: M/s Z Landholding LLP, a Limited Liability Partnership having its registered office situated At-60B, SAINIK FARMS NEW DELHI, New Delhi-110062, NCR. Applicant.
PUBLIC NOTICE
Notice is hereby given to the General Public that M/s Z Landholding LLP proposes to make application to the Central Government under Section 13 (3) of the Limited Liability Partnership Act, 2008 seeking confirmation of alteration of the Agreement of the LLP in terms of the special resolution passed at the Meeting of all Partners held on 02.01.2020 to enable the LLP to change its Registered office from New Delhi in the "State of NCR" to Bhubaneswar in the "State of Odisha". Any person whose interest is likely to be affected by the proposed change of the registered office of the LLP may deliver either on the MCA-21 portal (www.mca.gov.in) by filing investor complaint form or cause to be delivered or send by registered post of his/her objections supported by an affidavit stating the nature of his/her interest and grounds of objection to the Registrar of Companies, Ministry of Corporate Affairs, 4th Floor, IFCI Tower, 61, Nehru Place, New Delhi-110019, NCR within Fourteen days from the date of publication of this notice with a copy to the applicant LLP at its registered office at the address mentioned above.
For and on behalf of the Applicant
M/s Z Landholding LLP
Sd/- Tapan Kumar Mohanty Designated Partner
Date: 20.01.2020, Place: New Delhi

MARKETS AT FIVE-WEEK LOW Sensex slips as investors cautious ahead of Budget

PTI ■ MUMBAI

The market gauge Sensex on Wednesday fell for the third straight session to mark its lowest level in over five weeks as participants moved to the sidelines exercising caution ahead of the federal Budget.

At close, the 30-share Sensex was down 208.43 points, or 0.50 per cent, at 41,115.38 — the lowest level for the index since December 16. After starting the session on a high note, the BSE gauge kept on shedding gains and touched the day's low of 41,059.04.

Likewise, the broader NSE Nifty settled 62.95 points, or 0.52 per cent, lower at 12,106.90 — marking its fourth straight session loss.

Both benchmark indices bore the brunt of heavy selling mainly in energy, financial and auto stocks.

A subdued corporate earnings season and banks' stressed assets situation have made investors realign their investment strategy, analysts said adding that the upcoming Budget will decide the course of the market in the near to mid-term.

Further, global agencies

slashing India's growth outlook is also weighing on domestic investor sentiment, they added.

On the Sensex chart, ONGC was the top loser, tumbling 5.13 per cent, followed by NTPC, Kotak Bank, Maruti Suzuki, HDFC, Asian Paints, ICICI Bank and Axis Bank.

On the other hand, Nestle India, TCS, Infosys, HCL Tech, SBI and Bharti Airtel ended with gains of up to 1.86 per cent.

Sectorally, BSE metal, oil and gas and power were among the major losers — dropping as much as 1.57 per cent.

While BSE IT, tech and telecom indices ended up to 1.09 per cent higher.

In the broader market, midcap and smallcap indices fell up to 0.32 per cent.

"Domestic markets after opening amid failed to hold on to gains amid profit-bookings across finance, auto, metal and pharma stocks; while FMCG and few IT stocks remained in green zone. Uncertainty ahead of Budget has resulted in investors' being cautious for the time being," Paras Bothra, President of Equity Research,

Ashika Stock Broking, said.

Besides, fears of contagion after the US announced its first case of a new virus that has claimed six lives in China also remained in hind-sight, he said.

Vinod Nair, Head of Research, Geojit Financial Services Ltd, said, "Banks, auto and midcaps are consolidating due to marginal slippage in NPAs and earnings growth than anticipated earlier.

The Q3 result had solid expectations but actual results are marginally below expectation for sectors like IT and banks, this is impacting the market. A lot will depend on the actual outcome of Budget for further direction, market is turning cautious before the big event."

On the currency front, the Indian rupee closed marginally up at 71.19 against the US dollar.

Global benchmark Brent crude fell 0.67 per cent to USD 64.16 per barrel.

Elsewhere in Asia, bourses in Shanghai, Hong Kong, Tokyo and Seoul ended with gains.

European markets were also trading on a positive note in their early sessions.

'GDP to grow by 5.5 pc in FY21, downside risks persists'

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

India's growth rate is expected to be marginally higher at 5.5 per cent in 2020-21 against the estimated 5 per cent for the current fiscal on the back of strong policy push coupled with revival in demand, a report said.

Citing an NSO report, India Ratings and Research (Ind-Ra) said the slow-down is a combination of several factors including an abrupt and significant fall in lending by non-banking financial companies close on the heels of a slowdown in bank lending and reduced income growth of households coupled with a fall in savings and higher leverage.

Although some improvement in FY2020-21 is expected, these risks are going to persist, India Ratings and Research principal economist Sunil Sinha said.

As a result, the Indian economy is stuck in a phase of low consumption as well as low investment demand, it said.

"A strong policy push coupled with some heavy lifting (even if this requires using the escape clause as suggested by the FRBM Service Committee headed by N K Singh) by the government is required to revive the domestic demand cycle and catapult the economy back into a high growth phase," it said.

The government has announced a slew of measures recently to prop-up the economy, but Ind-Ra believes they will come to aid only in the medium term.

The shortfall in the tax plus non-tax revenue to result in the fiscal deficit slipping to

6.3 per cent of GDP (budgeted 3.3 per cent) in FY2020, even after accounting for the surplus transferred by the RBI, it said.

"A continuance of low GDP growth even in FY21 means subdued tax revenue and limited room for stepping-up expenditure. Ind-Ra believes the government will have to construct the FY21 budget in a way that expenditure is rationalised and prioritised and all avenues of revenue generation are tapped," it said.

While rationalising, the focus of expenditure has to be on creating direct employment and putting more money in the pockets of the people at the bottom of the pyramid, it said, adding since their marginal propensity to consume is close to one, they are likely to spend what they receive.

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"This will support the consumption demand. Therefore, budgetary allocation to heads such as rural infrastructure, road construction, affordable housing and MNRREGA must be prioritised and allocation for non-merit subsidy/expenditure less critical for growth be rationalised," it said.

Also, gross fixed capital formation (GFCF) has become government dependent, as incremental private capex has been down and out, it said, adding, despite the fiscal constraints, the government has not shied away from infrastructure spending in the past and even resorted to fund them through extra budgetary resources.

Ind-Ra, therefore, believes the government will continue to focus on infrastructure spending and leverage all pos-

sible options — budget, off budget including National Infrastructure Investment Fund, it said.

Also, since a larger part of the government capex now takes place at the state government level, it will be important to keep a tab on the state government capex as well, it added.

With regard to inflation, it said, retail and wholesale inflation expected to be 3.9 per cent and 1.3 per cent, respectively as compared to 4.4 per cent and 1.4 per cent in the current fiscal.

Though oil prices are stable, retail food inflation after remaining subdued and in single digit for 70 months since January 2014, entered into double digits in November 2019 and accelerated to 14.12 per cent in December 2019, it said.

Govt approves pact with foreign countries for seafarers' certificate

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The government on Wednesday said it has approved a model pact with foreign countries for recognition of seafarers' competency certificates.

The decision was taken at a meeting of the Union Cabinet chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi here.

This will pave the way for mutual recognition of maritime education and training of

seafarers by the countries involved.

"The proposed bilateral MoU will enable India and another country with which such an MoU may be entered, to mutually recognise maritime education and training, certificates of competency, endorsements, documentary evidence of training and medical fitness certificates, issued to the seafarers who are citizens of respective countries," the Shipping Ministry said in a

statement.

The pact will facilitate unilateral recognition certificates issued by the Directorate General of Shipping to Indian seafarers by another country, without seeking similar acknowledgment by India of the certificates issued by that country, it added.

Under the pact, Indian seafarers will be eligible to be placed on ships under the flag of that country for employment, thus leading to increased

employment opportunities, the ministry said.

The bilateral MoU would therefore, make the seafarers of both the countries to be eligible for employment on ships of either party based on the certificates so recognized, it added.

"The Union Cabinet, chaired by the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, has given its approval for the Model Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for unilateral/bilateral recognition of

Certificates, pursuant to Regulation 1/10 of International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping (STCW) for Seafarers, 1978 as amended to be signed between the Directorate General of Shipping, Government of India and its counterparts in foreign countries, with the approval of Minister-in-charge of Shipping and the Minister of External Affairs," the statement said.

SCRIP	OPEN	High	LOW	LTP	CHANGE
NIFTY 50	12218.35	12225.05	12187.90	12106.90	-62.95
ZEE5	278.00	304.00	272.00	298.00	13.90
GRASIM	770.85	799.00	767.10	792.00	20.35
NESTLEIND	15369.00	15585.00	15301.00	15561.80	281.05
TCS	2181.00	2210.00	2173.70	2209.80	38.75
ADANIPOWER	379.95	385.00	379.00	384.00	4.05
HCLTECH	585.20	595.00	581.50	590.20	6.15
INFY	768.45	778.00	766.00	769.80	7.30
SBIN	317.00	317.00	313.70	315.65	1.95
BHARTIARTL	514.75	523.75	506.70	514.55	2.80
YESBANK	38.70	39.00	38.00	38.45	0.10
TITAN	1181.80	1185.95	1172.00	1178.00	1.80
M&M	553.50	556.50	549.00	553.65	0.85
BAJAJFINSV	9590.00	9600.00	9495.00	9545.00	10.70
BAJFINANCE	4186.00	4186.50	4123.35	4143.00	4.40
RELIANCE	1544.00	1546.75	1531.10	1535.25	1.35
ENERGEMOT	21160.00	21280.00	20944.00	21070.00	13.45
TECHM	780.00	790.45	776.20	778.55	-0.35
ITC	239.60	239.60	237.10	238.30	-0.15
INFRAEEL	244.85	245.00	235.50	240.35	-0.15
HEROMOTOCO	2408.70	2410.00	2379.00	2397.10	-1.60
SUNPHARMA	448.40	453.85	445.35	447.00	-0.40
ULTRACEMCO	4505.00	4540.00	4463.00	4477.00	-6.55
DREDDY	3060.55	3105.05	3047.40	3055.55	-4.90
HINDUNILVR	2063.00	2065.50	2027.20	2051.90	-3.50
BHDFNCA	3125.50	3138.70	3088.90	3105.30	-5.95
HDFC	1248.05	1255.00	1234.40	1241.85	-2.50
IOC	116.65	116.90	111.95	114.55	-0.25
VEDL	155.85	158.25	152.80	153.55	-0.35
WIPRO	248.60	251.95	245.40	246.40	-0.70
TATASTEEL	478.65	479.85	473.20	474.15	-2.00
JSWSTEEL	268.30	269.30	264.75	265.95	-1.30
CIPLA	474.40	480.30	475.20	478.00	-2.60
GAIL	127.20	127.90	125.50	126.05	-0.70
LT	1311.00	1312.00	1292.00	1294.90	-7.45
BAJAJ-AUTO	3105.00	3110.00	3070.10	3074.85	-22.20
INDUSINDBK	1346.35	1348.00	1323.00	1326.05	-10.30
HINDALCO	205.60	207.00	203.00	205.50	-1.65
INDUSINDBK	1348.00	1348.70	1323.00	1327.60	-0.50
AXISBANK	717.00	722.75	703.65	709.30	-1.75
BPCL	465.20	466.45	454.10	456.90	-6.95
ICICIBANK	511.50	534.95	520.75	521.00	-9.05
HDFC	2474.00	2483.35	2412.20	2418.00	-47.45
ASIANPAINT	1815.00	1818.70	1766.85	1773.20	-37.50
KOTAKBANK	1632.00	1637.90	1576.00	1591.00	-34.10
MARUTI	7340.00	7374.95	7107.95	7145.00	-157.65
UPL	582.85	582.85	575.40	564.45	-17.25
TATAMOTORS	191.95	192.50	184.25	185.60	-5.80
NTPC	114.90	115.15	112.50	112.50	-4.65
COALINDIA	199.10	199.40	196.00	191.55	-10.60
ONGC	122.00	122.00	116.90	116.30	-6.45

Bse 500

Script	Open	High	Low	LTP
FORTIS	148.45	153.65	146.40	151.40
HDFCBANK	1249.00	1255.45	1235.00	1240.35
VMART	1910.25	1920.00	1869.00	1878.35
TATASTEEL	276.40	309.95	272.45	300.25
CANFINHOME	472.95	504.90	470.05	455.95
BALFOUR	478.10	479.80	473.05	474.80
RELIANCE	1540.55	1546.70	1530.90	1533.10
IBULHSGFIN	305.30	306.05	295.00	296.25
TATAMOTORS	192.10	192.60	184.25	185.55
SBIN	316.60	317.00	313.70	316.10
ICICIBANK	534.70	534.90	521.05	523.00
IDEA	5.97	6.03	5.45	5.63
AXISBANK	719.40	722.60	707.00	712.75
BHARTIARTL	515.00	524.00	507.15	514.35
HDFC	2476.00	2481.20	2412.00	2417.10
RBLBANK	343.00	345.45	332.60	334.75
INFC	765.10	778.00	765.10	769.95
IOB	117.00	117.00	112.30	113.85
MARUTI	7334.20	7370.15	7109.65	7136.35
TCS	2175.50	2210.10	2175.50	2206.50
HAVELLS	595.00	617.80	588.50	599.90
KOTAKBANK	1630.60	1636.05	1576.05	1585.90
UPL	580.05	580.05	553.50	563.10
ASIANPAINT	1818.00	1818.00	1769.60	1778.30
JINDALSTEEL	186.80	186.80	177.60	178.90
RAIN	120.00	124.00	117.80	118.80
SUNPHARMA	448.20	454.00	445.40	446.20
ONGC	123.00	123.00	116.00	116.10
VOLTAS	705.00	705.00	692.50	695.45
YESBANK	38.60	39.10	38.00	38.45
COALINDIA	196.50	199.45	191.05	192.00
GRAPHITE	311.00	327.40	311.00	315.90
ITC	131.00	131.00	129.40	129.25
POWERGRID	200.50	202.30	193.10	199.55
AUROPHARMA	498.00	510.90	490.80	497.70
POLYCAB	1121.00	1128.90	986.35	993.95
BAJFINANCE	4170.00	4183.10	4125.00	4141.60
INDUSINDBK	1348.00	1348.70	1323.00	1327.60
JUSTDIAL	579.00	605.50	572.25	595.25
HDFC	3214.70	3261.30	3141.40	3172.05
PFC	107.10	111.90	103.90	109.10
HINDUNILVR	2061.25	2061.25	2028.00	2051.00
DLF	259.10	261.25	255.10	258.20
PIDILITIND	1423.00	1444.00	1420.25	1428.15
GILLETTE	6330.00	6353.80	6288.05	6314.30
PNBHOUSING	558.00	575.50	558.80	570.90
HDFCLIFE	649.00	614.40	602.55	612.75
PIIND	104.90	145.40	143.50	144.75
TATAGLOBAL	387.10	388.50	382.40	384.80
ICICIPRULI	494.00	511.80	489.00	515.75
NITTECH	1800.00	1894.30	1800.00	1871.40
RPOWER	2.01	2.14	2.01	2.07
BANDHANBANK	482.90	487.00	474.00	475.45
BANKBARODA	95.30	95.75	93.60	94.25
DISHTV	13.32	14.41	13.26	14.23
NTPC	114.40	115.60	111.70	112.20
INFRAEEL	245.00	245.50	235.40	240.95
VEDL	155.50	158.05	152.80	153.15
FEDERALBNK	95.05	95.60	93.40	93

Trend Blazer

Developing my own stories: Shweta

Actor **SHWETA TRIPATHI** started the year by signing her next project, which she will be announcing soon. She is also working on developing her own concept and stories.

"As an actor, who is constantly surrounded by stories and good writing, story ideas keep popping out every now and then. I came up with two ideas, which I closely believe in and I thought it's time to invest some energy and heart into them and see these ideas bloom into full-fledged stories," said Shweta.

"I am aware that it will be a time-consuming process but I want to put in that effort into developing these stories because I believe in them. I will actively participate in conceiving the story ideas with the help of Ashish and I am hoping by mid-2020 I am in a position to speak more about them," she added.

I can never pay back what Kangana did for me at that tender age. My parents used to faint everytime they saw my face. But she stood by my side, and after years of struggle when things got better, she buried her face in my lap and cried. I am glad she did because strongest people often forget to share their pain.

—Rangoli Chandel

Veteran actor **BHARATI ACHREKAR** feels that Indian television continues to lack good content, as a result of which the young audience is moving

towards web shows. She says, "Good content is a rare thing in television these days. Mostly stories revolve around a single character. I don't blame anyone, even they have to survive. There are so many channels, so there is a tough competition. Also, people's taste has changed owing to western influence. You have to cater to the urban and the rural audience too, whose mindset and tastes are different."

No complaints in life: Brad

Hollywood actor **BRAD PITT** is enjoying his life and says he has no complaints.

While walking the Screen Actors Guild Awards red carpet on Sunday, the actor spoke about taking stock of his life now. "It's a beautiful day here in LA. We got it well, we got it really good," Pitt said.

He continued: "I got friends, I got lovely kids, I like my coffee, I like my dogs. I've got no complaints."

Pitt has six children with his former wife, actor Angelina Jolie.

Earlier this month, the actor won for "best supporting actor" at the National Board of Review Awards in which he said his "goals in life now are pretty simple" as he listed standard aspirations of being happy and staying healthy.



Amrita: Untitled

The Enforcement Directorate roped in Saffronart, an international auction house, to host two auctions featuring the seized assets of fugitive businessman Nirav Modi. While the first sale, a live auction, will be on February 27 in Mumbai, the second will be an online sale on March 3 and 4.

The auctions will feature 15 artworks by significant modern and contemporary Indian artists as well as a selection of luxury watches, handbags and cars.

Highlights of the auction include a 1,935 masterpiece by Amrita Sher-Gil, which has never been auctioned previously and a significant oil on canvas by MF Husain from his Mahabharata series. Both the artworks have been estimated to

A RICH HAUL

Saffronart to auction businessman Nirav Modi's seized artworks, luxury watches and handbags on behalf of the Enforcement Directorate

be priced at ₹12 crore or ₹18 crore.

The exhibition will also showcase a serene blue painting by VS Gaitonde from 1972, which is estimated to be priced at around ₹7 to 9 crore and a vivid red depiction of Krishna by Manjit Bawa (₹3 to 5 crore).

Apart from the modern artworks, important watches will also be on sale including a Jaeger LeCoultre Men's Reverso Gyrotourbillon 2 and a Gerrard

Perregaux Men's Opera One wristwatch. More than 80 branded handbags are there in the auction, out of which several are from the Birkin and Kelly lines by luxury retailer Hermes.

CEO and co-founder of the auction house, Dinesh Vazirani, said, "We are honoured to lend our services and expertise to the Enforcement Directorate. We are working with the ED to assess and evaluate each item and put together the catalogue for

both the sales, which include a distinguished line-up of artworks, too." He added that some of the brands offer the most popular luxury items internationally and have witnessed a great demand from celebrities and collectors.

This is the first time that the Enforcement Directorate has appointed a professional auction house to conduct an auction of seized assets in India. Earlier, in March 2019, the Income Tax Department had appointed the same auction house for the bidding that raised ₹54.84 crore.

Selected items from the forthcoming auctions will be exhibited at the Saffronart gallery in The Oberoi, New Delhi, during the India Art Fair later this month.

—With inputs from agencies



MF Husain: The Battle of Ganga and Jamuna Mahabharata

Making of Netaji's INA

Actors **SHARVARI WAGH** and **SUNNY KAUSHAL** say that even though their characters in *The Forgotten Army* might be fictional, the story and events that the audience will experience are real. By TEAM VIVA

I don't believe in enacting a character without knowing him or his background story," says actor Sunny Kaushal, who is set to make his debut with Amazon Prime Video's web series *The Forgotten Army*. So he studied deep. "There is always some blurred information that you have because of what you have read about history in school. But you would have never known the details of everything, including their betrayals, struggles and fights and even some part of their personal lives. We started reading and researching about everything through the 1999 documentary as well as internet and books. We collected a lot of material to educate ourselves on the topic," says he.

The series showcases the formation of Subhas Chandra Bose's Indian National Army after British army's defeat in Singapore during World War II. It has been told through the perspective of soldiers. Playing the role of soldiers could be highly taxing and challenging for debutantes. So how difficult did they find it to master all the moves? "For a week, we learnt how to live the way Army does. We had regular training on how to handle the gun and create formations. We worked on the standing postures, learnt what angles to hold and keep the gun so that you actually look like one from the Army. Apart from that, psychologically too, there was a lot of preparation to understand what soldiers have gone through in those three years during war," says Sunny.

Director Kabir Khan brought the story out to the public for the first time through the eponymous 1999 documentary, which also became the first reference for the actors to prepare for their respec-



'The personal lives and stories of the soldiers, their war rooms and battle set-up have been created based on archival footage and images to recreate the real history'

tive roles. Ever since Khan passed out of film school he wanted to tell the stories of these soldiers. He says, "Twenty-seven thousand of them died fighting to liberate the country. Just imagine their patriotism and valour. They are a forgotten chapter in our history and this story is an effort to make people realise their existence."

Sharvari tells us, "The 1999 documentary really helped us get into the skin of our characters since they are based on real lives."

However, Sunny points out that even though the characters might be fictional, the story and events that the audience would experience are real. Surinder Sodhi, played by him, might not have existed in reality but has been inspired by real people. Sunny tells us, "My character is an amalgamation of Gurbaksh Singh Dhillon, Shah Nawaz Khan and Prem Kumar Sahgal, the three faces who were charged in the Red Fort trial. So different elements from their stories have inspired Surinder's story."

Maya, played by actor Sharvari Wagh, is a civilian who later becomes a part of the INA. She is inspired by one of the leaders of the Rani Laxmibai Regiment, which comprised women "who fought shoulder to shoulder with men and stood till the end. They have been trained very well and how to fight with guns and all kinds of weapons. I am very glad that my first project has

been inspired by such a powerful story."

Since it's a period drama, the personal lives and stories of the soldiers, their war rooms and battle set-up have been created based on archival footage and images to recreate the real history. But why is it that there are so many films and series being made around chapters of Indian history today given the recent trend in Bollywood? "With the growth of good content, we are fortunate enough to have come in the industry at such a time when history is being valued so much," Sharvari says. Sunny goes on to add that another reason why history is making its way into mainstream cinema is because of the enhanced technology that we are equipped with today. "We are much better equipped today to create such content. What the director envisions, he can bring it alive the same way he has imagined. To recreate those times really needs a lot, including the right kind of animation, costumes and set-ups. You need a lot of means to do that. It's only now that they are able to express their creative vision. The biggest instance is of Kabir Khan himself, who has been working on this script for 20 years since his 1999 documentary."

Sharvari, who is set for her Bollywood debut with *Bunty Aur Babli 2*, talks about her take on sequels and whether they revive the essence of an old blockbuster or just take away its originality. She says, "The second part will revolve around the story which happens 10 years later. Might be their kids (laughs). It's like a time lapse. It's somewhat the same storyline and same characters but just the people and their approaches are different this time. I think that it's going to be a fun thing and something that people wouldn't have watched. So a sequel always has something to add of its own while maintaining the originality of both the versions."

(The series releases on Amazon Prime on January 24.)

Photo: Pankaj Kumar

From memories of childhood

Chanel delves into founder's orphanage days at its couture show

an equally strict jacket in pastel blue and sand. Apart from the occasional flash of colour, most of the designs came in black and white.

"What interested me in this (abbey) was the paradox between the sophistication of haute couture and the simplicity of this place," Viard said. "The strict suits of the pupils rub shoulders with structured dresses of an ethereal finesse."

Viard has less humour and a stricter aesthetic take than the flamboyant Karl Lagerfeld, her predecessor who died last year. And this more austere theme gave the French designer a platform to design more naturally with her own voice.

◆ GIVENCHY'S TIMELESSNESS

Musicians were suspended mid-air



while seated on chairs attached to stone columns for Givenchy's historic Left Bank show venue.

They played dramatic classical music to accompany spring's equally dramatic couture — an accomplished series of varied designs that made it seem as if designer Clare Waight Keller can't put a foot wrong.

The clothes spoke for themselves, without the need for cultural references, through deft plays of proportion.

A long charcoal tuxedo coat had a magnificent shape,

with a truncated full skirt billowing out unexpectedly at knee level in a clever reinterpretation of a knover silhouette.

Vividly coloured silk ruffles didn't just appear as details on gowns, but Keller used them to construct the structure and silhouette of trapeze-shaped garments that teemed like dense, oversize petals.

◆ ALEXIS MABILLE 'TEESES' HIS GUESTS

Burlesque superstar Dita Von Teese opened the show for Alexis Mabile in a black tuxedo with sensual décolleté that dripped down the leg with brooding black

sequins.

The French couturier this season used Von Teese — and her styles — as the touchstone for a collection that explored corsetry, lingerie and seductive undressing.

A white satin bustier was covered gently by a see-through lace chemise. A white floor-length gown had a bold dropped shoulder in which the segments seemed to fall off the bust, as if the model were in the process of undressing.

Mabile also used his signature bow theme to produce a gargantuan abstract neck bow whose proportions drowned the model. It was highly inventive.



◆ ARMANI LOOKS TO COLOUR, ASIA

The iconic Place Vendôme square was the enviable location for Italian design legend Giorgio Armani's latest display.

For Armani, couture is about celebrities and razzmatazz, and Tuesday was no exception as actresses Reese Witherspoon and Juliette Binoche held court.

The Asian-themed designs, though beautifully constructed, were secondary to that, sadly, and tended toward the repetitive.

Statement colour — sometimes overly bold — also defined the spring aesthetic. But the exhaustive show held no surprises.

A structured white silk tuxedo in a crossover design opened the show. The model wore a stiff black wig, a styling feature that appeared throughout the show.

The signature tuxedo led to a terracotta obi belt on hot pink loose pants and a V-neck tuxedo in imperial blue.

—AP



KIT HOLDS FOURTH FILM FESTIVAL

The 4th edition of Kalinga Global Film Festival (KGFF) was inaugurated at KIIT School of Film and Media Sciences. The inauguration ceremony was graced by Tusharkanti Behera, Minister of Sports and Youth Service, Electronics and Information Technology, Government of Odisha; Anubhav Mohanty, MP, Lok Sabha; Satyabrata Tripathy, Chairman of Odisha Film Development Corporation; Bijay Kumar Nayak, Director of Culture Department, Government of Odisha; Pankaj Saxena, professor of Screen Studies and Research, FTII, Pune; Dr Achyuta Samanta, Founder of KIIT and KISS and Himanshu Khatua, CEO of KIIT School of Film and Media Sciences.



While inaugurating, Behera said, "Odia cinemas have to improve more. It should maintain their uniqueness." Professor Saxena said that students of KIIT should reflect what they learn from Odisha in their films. The objective of this film festival is to encourage and ignite young minds, enrich intellectually inclined cineastes and promote aspiring film makers. "KGFF intends to organise a festival that would connect regular movie-goers, budding filmmakers and distinguished filmmakers so as to bring greater understanding of the art and craft of film making," said Khatua. KGFF presented a selection of feature films, short films and documentaries from all over Asia. There were three panel discussions on Film Society Movement, Film Appreciation and Critical Analysis and Film Education.

MoU signed between FSSAI and NIOS

National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS) and Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) have signed an MoU to create awareness in the field of food safety, hygiene and nutrition.

NIOS provides education at school stage up to pre-degree level through open learning system. Besides academics, NIOS provides around 100 vocational courses in different areas such as Agriculture, Business and Commerce, Engineering and Technology, Health and Paramedical, Home Science and Hospitality Management, Teacher Training, Computer and IT related sectors. FSSAI, an autonomous body established under the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India, is responsible for protecting and promoting public health through the regulation and supervision of food safety.

NIOS and FSSAI by coming together in a collaboration will not only create awareness about the need and requirement of food safety and hygiene but would also provide knowledge, skill and abilities to the learner to undertake employment (self/wage) in this key sector. The content developed by FSSAI on food safety and hygiene will also be incorporated in NIOS learning materials for home science and relevant academic and vocational programmes.

NEVER TOO YOUNG

President Dr Ram Nath Kovind awarded Parth Sarathi, a resident of Noida with Bal Shakti award along with ₹ 1 lakh, a medal and a certificate in Rashtrapati Bhawan on Wednesday. It will always be a memorable day for Parth because it is not often that you receive an award in Rashtrapati Bhawan from the President. He received this opportunity because of his consistent hardwork, optimistic behaviour and dedication towards the society. Earlier, Parth received an award for finding the lost kids through Aadhar camps. During the summer vaca-



tions, he helped 12 students meet their parents. He is the founder of Raasta foundation whose theme is — Maths and Music. In this foundation, he teaches mathematics and music to the kids so that they are stress free and happy. During the Greater Noida carnival, he organised a mini concert where eight kids sang a beautiful song. Those students performed the first time on the stage and received immense praise and appreciation from the audience. Parth is only 16 years old and a student of class 11th. It is commendable to see this passion, hardwork and dedication at such a young age.

Why not follow Vedas?



What an astonishing preach exists in Vedas — *Anti santannajahati, Anti Santannapashyati* — which means that even though the soul of a human being is closest to god yet he can't leave or see him. Indeed, soul can never be away from god at any time. This eternal fact is also stated in *Yajurved* mantra that god is near to *yogis* because they follow Vedas and practise *Ashtang Yog*, which let them feel god's presence. On the contrary, god is not close to those who are sinners and against Vedas. He knows every pious and sinful deed of the soul and accordingly awards each person in the form of happiness or sorrows respectively. If we deeply study *Bhagwad Geeta* under the guidance of acharya of Vedas, we find that *Bhagwad Geeta* at every step inspires readers to follow Vedas. *Rigved* mantra preaches that soul cannot destroy his sorrows and can never experience pleasure until he realises the presence of god, which can only be attained by following the *Vedic* path. *Rigved* mantra also preaches that without following the *Vedic* path no one can attain happiness. Further, *Samved* mantra points that when an aspirant listens to Vedas from Brahma, he can actually feel the presence of god. But nowadays, it is sad that people misled by so-called saints. Hence, there occurs a problem. We must thank god that he mercifully has enlightened all human-beings with knowledge of four Vedas to feel his presence and to destroy all sorrows of life. It becomes our utmost duty, which is entrusted to us by god himself that we follow the *Vedic* path. Otherwise peace cannot be maintained among public. The knowledge of Vedas emanates directly from god and like god it neither gets destroyed nor becomes old. It is immortal and has been preached by god to us to attain salvation. Nowadays people don't pay attention to invaluable *Vedic* knowledge. As a result, they get stressed, dishonour women, thefts increase and many such problems arise. It is mentioned in *Ramayana* that earlier daily Vedic preach and *agnihotra* was performed in every house. As a result, there was no man or woman who was affected with vices like anger, greed, meanness and many others. So during those days there was no question of insulting women or disgracing their honour which is observed nowadays. Why can't *Vedic* atmosphere be everywhere now? *Manusmriti shlok* and *Bhagwad Geeta shlok* state that all karmas or rather duties emanate from Vedas and they emanate from god. So why don't we follow the Vedas to destroy corruption and sins from the society? This fact is very well clarified in *Rigved* mantra that the human-life only achieves its motto when a it attains salvation along with pious worldly pleasure. (The author, Swami Ram Swarup, is the chief editor of *Ved Ishvareeya vani*, a bi-annual magazine.)

social teachings of Guru Nanak, fit perfectly to the characters of our story and join us not as professional actors or technicians but as a member of our mission," he said. The shooting lasted for 42 days in various parts of Punjab including Golden temple at Amritsar. "I hope this film will be remembered as one of the best devotional and social films," he added.

Rajnath honours NCC bravehearts



During his visit to NCC Republic Day Camp 2020, Defence Minister, Rajnath Singh conferred *Raksha Mantri Padak* and Commendation Cards to NCC cadets for their exemplary performance and devotion to duty. Rajnath Singh was welcomed by the Director General of National Cadet Corps, Lt Gen Rajeev Chopra, AVSM. A contingent of smartly turned out NCC cadets drawn from the three wings — Army, Navy and Air Force — presented an impressive Guard of Honour to the Defence Minister. *Raksha Mantri Padak* was instituted in 1989 and since then it is awarded to the most deserving cadet every year for bravery or exceptional service of the highest order. This year, the *Raksha Mantri Padak* was awarded to Lieutenant Raison Sam Raju of Kerala and Lakshadweep Directorate and Under Officer Rahul Sharma of Uttar Pradesh Directorate. Raksha Mantri Commendation Cards have been awarded to Sr Under Officer Shavetana Sambyal of Jammu and Kashmir Directorate, Capt (Dr) Rajeev Thomas of Kerala and Lakshadweep Directorate, Sr GCI Seema Rai of Uttar Pradesh Directorate and Cadet Soumya Ghosh of West Bengal and Sikkim Directorate. Rajnath Singh also inspected the well laid out 'Flag Area', prepared by the cadets from all the 17 NCC Directorates depicting various social awareness themes. He was given a briefing by the cadets on their respective models. He also visited the 'Hall of Fame', which has an archival collection of alumni photographs, models and other achievements of the NCC. In his address, he complimented the NCC for doing exceptional work towards *Swachhata Abhiyan*.



SK Sinha, Director (HR) of SPMCIL and BJ Gupta, General Manager (HR), recently received Nurturing Leadership Award 2020 for SPMCIL from SN Tripathi, Director, IIPA at DMRC Bhawan, New Delhi.



Meenakshi Davar, Director HR of POSOCO, has been awarded with Top Rankers Excellence Awards 2020 for HR Leadership for her significant contribution in the field of HR. The award was presented at the 21st National Management Summit.

HISTORY REPEATS ITSELF

In 1969, history was written in the Punjabi film industry with the release of *Nanak Naam Jahaz Hai*. New records were created at the box office, which were never broken. People removed shoes before entering theatres. The film was an unprecedented hit across the globe. After breaking all box office records, the film went on to win the coveted "National Award"

too! Now after 50 years of its release, producers Maann Singh Deep and Kalyani Singh are going to produce a new film under the same title *Nanak Naam Jahaz Hai*. Before becoming films producers, Maann and Kalyani were famous journalists. Talking about his thought behind making this film, Maann said that at a time, when people are spreading hate in the name of religion, caste, language and colour, he wanted to make a film which depicts compassion, love and true faith in god. "Whenever I can't seek solutions for my problems, I go to the Gurudwara to stay calm. I love the *shabads* recited there. Sikhism preaches love for mankind, irrespective of religion, caste, language and colour. "When I read the writings of Guru Nanak Dev ji, I was lost in the magic of Gurbani. Every word was so pure and touching. (The only holy book that has great writings of six gurus and saints of all religions)

that I wanted to spread this message of faith and love all across," said he. He feels that the best way to spread this message was through a film because he has a deep understanding of it. "Initially, I discussed the idea with my wife Kalyani Singh

who is a writer-director and has avid knowledge of Sikhism. She loved this idea and came out with a beautiful story," said Maann. It took them a while to get to this title but they feel that Baba Nanak blessed them with it. They worked on the story till

OSAKA SETS COCO CRUNCH

Defending champion will take on American prodigy in mouth-watering third round fixture

Australian Open
Live from 5:30am IST
SONY SIX & TEN 2 NETWORK

AFP ■ MELBOURNE

Fifteen-year-old prodigy Coco Gauff set up an Australian Open blockbuster with defending champion Naomi Osaka on Wednesday, as a pumped-up Serena Williams took another step towards a record-equaling 24th Grand Slam title.

On a day when men's seeds tumbled, Serbia's Novak Djokovic strode into the third round to be joined by Roger Federer, who dismissed Filip Krajinovic 6-1, 6-4, 6-1.

American teenager Gauff, showing a tenacity which is becoming her trademark, clawed her way back from a set down to beat the experienced Sorana Cirstea 4-6, 6-3, 7-5.

Gauff, who screamed and pumped her fists as she completed her victory, said her "will to win" had got her through the tough second-round match at a windswept Melbourne Park.

"My parents always told me you can always come back — no matter what the score is," said Gauff, who beat seven-time Grand Slam champion Venus Williams in round one.

Gauff also beat Williams on her Grand Slam debut last year at Wimbledon, and in another quirk, she faced Osaka in the US Open third round, going down meekly in straight sets.

Japan's 22-year old Osaka, beat China's Zheng Saisai 6-2, 6-4 but briefly lost her cool mid-match, hurling and kicking her racquet when she gave up a break in the second set.

"I was thinking that I really don't want to play a third set this time," explained Osaka, who is



Defending champion Naomi Osaka reacts during her second round match against Zheng Saisai

defending a Grand Slam title for the second time.

Former world number one Wozniacki, playing her final tournament before retiring, came from behind in both sets for a 7-5, 7-5 win over Dayana Yastremska of Ukraine.

Serena Williams shouted at the

top of her voice during a testing second set against 70th-ranked Tamara Zidasek, before seeing off break points to win 6-2, 6-3.

"She was a really good fighter — she did not just let me win," said Williams, who can equal Margaret Court's all-time mark of 24 Grand Slams if she lifts the trophy.

WIND 'MASSIVE FACTOR'

Earlier, Australia's world number one Ashleigh Barty raced through 6-1, 6-4 against Polona Hercog, buoying hopes of a first home winner since 1978.

"It was very different end to end, I think the wind was a massive factor particularly with the new



Serena Williams reacts after missing a shot against Tamara Zidasek

ball," she said. Djokovic also weathered the breeze — which followed heavy rain on Monday, and smog from bushfires last week — to beat Japanese wildcard Tatsuma Ito 6-1, 6-4, 6-2 in 95 minutes.

"They were tough conditions, pretty windy and it was hard to know where the balls were going. My serve helped a lot to get me out of trouble," said the Serb.

Federer was barely detained by Krajinovic, the world number 41, as he moved smoothly through in 92 minutes in the night match on Rod Laver Arena.

In other results, Petra Kvitova, last year's runner-up, came through 7-5, 7-5 against Paula Badosa of Spain, and China's Zhang Shuai ousted American Caty McNally 6-2, 6-4.

Former US Open champion Marin Cilic won a five-setter against French seed Benoit Paire, and one-time semi-finalist Milos Raonic beat Chile's Christian Garin in straight sets.

Also, Tennys Sandgren took the biggest scalp when he ousted eighth seed Matteo Berrettini in five sets.

Sandgren's fellow American Tommy Paul also pulled off a five-set upset when he beat Bulgarian 18th



Novak Djokovic celebrates after defeating Tatsuma Ito in second round match

seed Grigor Dimitrov 6-4, 7-6 (8/6), 3-6, 6-7 (3/7), 7-6 (10/3).

And Australia's John Millman further trimmed the number of high-ranked players when he ended the campaign of Polish 31st seed Hubert Hurkacz.

But Greek sixth seed Stefanos Tsitsipas was handed a slice of fortune when Philipp Kohlschreiber withdrew injured.

Among eight first-round matches held over from Tuesday, after rain wiped out half of Monday's schedule, Spain's Carla Suarez Navarro, also retiring this year, upset Belarusian 11th seed Aryna Sabalenka in straight sets.

Divij advances, Rohan Bopanna knocked out



Divij Sharan and his partner Artem Sitak

MELBOURNE: India's Divij Sharan and his New Zealand partner Artem Sitak progressed to the second round of the men's doubles event but Rohan Bopanna was knocked out of the Australian Open here on Wednesday.

Sharan and Sitak got the better of the Portuguese-Spanish duo of Pablo Carreno Busta and Joao Sousa 6-4, 7-5 in a thrilling one hour, 28 minutes encounter.

The pair will next face the winner of the first-round match between 10th seeds Mate Pavic-Bruno Soares and Ben Molachlan-Luke Bambridge.

Partnering Yasutaka Uchiyama of Japan, Bopanna went down to USA's Bryan brothers, Bob and Mike, 1-6, 6-3, 3-6 in a hard-fought one hour, 17 minutes contest.

Meanwhile on Wednesday Sania Mirza pulled out of the mixed doubles due to a calf injury. She was supposed to partner compatriot Rohan Bopanna.

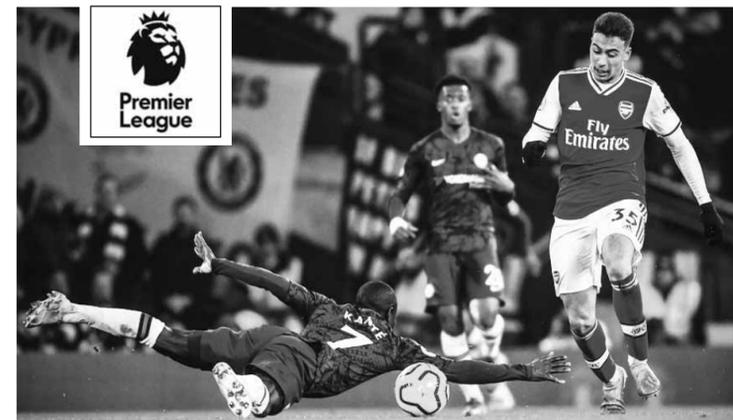
Mirza will, however, play in the women's doubles event.

Sania, who won the doubles title in Hobart International, will team up with Nadiia Kichenok of Ukraine for the Australia Open today.

The duo will face Chinese pair of Xinyun Han and Lin Zhu in their women's doubles first round clash.

"It's unfortunate that this niggling injury got aggravated in the Hobart final just as I was getting to the top of my game. It is a lot better now and I intend to give it my best shot in doubles. It's disappointing to miss out on the chance to partner Rohan in mixed," Mirza was quoted as saying by the *Times of India*.

Agencies



Arsenal forward Gabriel Martinelli moves past Chelsea's N'golo Kante to score his side's first goal

LAST GASP DRAMA

Ten-man Arsenal hold Chelsea in torrent of late Premier League goals

AFP ■ LONDON

Ten-man Arsenal slowed Chelsea's charge for a Champions League place on Tuesday as Manchester City kept their distant pursuit of Liverpool with victory at Sheffield United on a dramatic evening of Premier League football.

Fourth-placed Chelsea twice took the lead against Arsenal, who were reduced to 10 men after former Blues defender David Luiz took out Tammy Abraham when he was through on goal.

Jorginho put Chelsea 1-0 ahead from the penalty spot in the 28th minute but Gabriel Martinelli equalised for Arsenal in the second half.

Cesar Azpilicueta put Chelsea 2-1 up with just six minutes remaining but Arsenal levelled only three minutes later through Hector Bellerin.

The 2-2 draw leaves Chelsea six points ahead of fifth-placed Manchester United having played a game extra while Arsenal are in 10th spot, seemingly out of the running for a place in the top four.

AGUERO SPARES BLUSHES

Pep Guardiola's City, with defender Aymeric Laporte back in the side, looked as though they might rue Gabriel Jesus's squandered first-half penalty but their Argentine hitman Sergio Aguero came to the rescue.

Despite the 1-0 win, second-placed City remain 13 points behind runaway leaders Liverpool, having played two games more, and their bid to defend their title appears hopeless.

City's French central defender Laporte has been out of action since suffering a knee injury at the end of August and he was a surprise inclusion at Bramall Lane.

Sheffield United goalkeeper Dean Henderson denied Jesus from the penalty spot about 10 minutes from half-time after a foul on Riyad Mahrez.

But City made amends when substitute Sergio Aguero, on for Jesus, tapped in from Kevin De Bruyne's cross in the 73rd minute.

Southampton's 2-0 victory against Crystal Palace, thanks to goals from Nathan Redmond and Stuart Armstrong, continued a remarkable turnaround for the club, who hit rock bottom ear-

Laporte surprised to be back in action

AFP ■ MANCHESTER

Manchester City defender Aymeric Laporte admits he has returned from his serious knee injury earlier than he expected.

The Frenchman was a surprise inclusion in Pep Guardiola's starting line-up against Sheffield United, having not been involved with the first team for almost five months.

He required surgery after suffering a knee injury during City's home win against Brighton on August 31.

Laporte's comeback in the 1-0 win for City at Bramall Lane lasted 78 minutes and he is now looking forward to the rest of the season.

"Normally it would have been later but I spoke with the manager and tried today (Tuesday) and he told me I would play so I

am very happy to be back as soon as possible and have minutes and help the team," said Laporte.

"It was very important for me to try to be with the team, to be involved. It was

a good test of fitness. The game was difficult because they are very strong, a good team."

"It was difficult for me (being out), my team-mates see me suffering," he added. "But now I can help the team out and give my best."

City have had problems at the back in Laporte's absence and his return helped City record their first clean sheet in any competition since December 29.

After the match, Guardiola admitted his team had missed the 25-year-old and described him as the best left-sided central defender in the world. Laporte said: "It's great to hear that from this manager as he is one of the best in the world, if not the best. I am very happy to hear that but I have to work to stay there and keep going."



Alvaro Odriozola poses with Bayern crest

Odriozola moves Bayern on loan

MUNICH: Bayern Munich have signed Real Madrid right-back Alvaro Odriozola on loan until the end of the season, the two clubs confirmed on Wednesday.

The 24-year-old Spain international will bolster Bayern's defence, which has been left short on cover with centre-backs Niklas Suele and Lucas Hernandez sidelined by knee injuries.

"We decided to comply with the request of our head coach Hansi Flick for reinforcements in defence and together we decided on Alvaro Odriozola," said Bayern chairman Karl-Heinz Rummenigge in a statement.

"We are very happy about his signing and would like to thank those in charge at Real Madrid for their very friendly and cooperative discussions."

The move helps both parties as Odriozola, who was signed from Real Sociedad for 35 million euros (\$39 million) in 2018, has struggled for game time in Madrid, where Dani Carvajal is preferred in the right-back role. AFP



Lyon down Lille on penalties

LYON: Lyon beat Lille on penalties after a dramatic 2-2 draw at the Groupama Stadium on Tuesday to reach their sixth French League Cup final, setting up a possible clash with record eight-time winners Paris Saint-Germain.

Renato Sanches dragged what proved to be the last penalty of the shootout wide to send Lyon through. This is the final season of the League Cup after the French league voted to suspend the competition from next term to ease fixture congestion.

Lyon will bid to lift the trophy for the second time when they take on the winner of second semi-final between Reims and PSG on April 4 at the Stade de France.

Portugal midfielder Sanches gave visitors Lille a 13th-minute lead with a low left-footed strike from outside the area to score his second goal for the club since joining from Bayern last August.

But the hosts were gifted a way

back into the game four minutes later when centre-back Gabriel handled inside the area.

Moussa Dembele drilled the spot-kick into the top corner to grab his sixth goal in five games.

Houssem Aouar appeared to have fired Lyon into the final with a fine long-range strike with five minutes remaining.

There was another twist in the tale, though, as despite a lengthy delay for a VAR review, Lille were awarded an injury-time penalty for what appeared to be an excellent tackle by former Manchester United full-back Rafael on Jonathan Bamba.

Loic Remy, on as a 78th-minute substitute, stepped up with a cool Panenka finish down the middle of the goal to force more spot-kicks.

But Ciprian Tatarusanu, playing in place of usual Lyon goalkeeper Anthony Lopes, saved Bamba's opening penalty before Sanches' miss sealed Lille's fate. AFP

India's campaign end in Thailand

BANGKOK: Top Indian shuttler Saina Nehwal suffered a second consecutive opening round defeat as she went down to Line Hojmark Kjaersfeldt to bring curtains on the country's campaign in the Thailand Masters tournament here on Wednesday.

The fifth seeded Saina lost to unseeded Kjaersfeldt 13-21, 21-17, 15-21 in a hard fought 47-minute contest. World number 18 Saina had a 4-0 head-to-head record against the number 29 Dane before Wednesday's match.

With Saina's defeat, India's campaign came to an end in the BWF World Tour Super 300 event.

In the men's singles, the trio of Kidambi Srikanth, Sameer Verma and H S Prannoy, too, faltered in the first round.

Verma lost to Malaysia's Lee Zii Jia 16-21, 15-21 in a 39-minute men's singles match. The story went on similar lines for the fifth seeded



Srikanth, who went down to Shesar Hiren Rhustavito of Indonesia 21-12, 14-21, 12-21, in a match that lasted 48 minutes.

This was Srikanth's third consecutive first-round exit this season.

It was curtains for Prannoy too. He lost 17-21, 22-20, 19-21 to Malaysia's Liew Daren. PTI

'Strong chance' Cavani will join Atletico



Edinson Cavani celebrates after scoring for PSG

PARIS: Edinson Cavani wants to join Atletico Madrid and is being treated "unfairly" by PSG, the Uruguayan striker's father said on Wednesday. Cavani, 32, has fallen out of favour at PSG, where he is competing with Kylian Mbappe, Neymar, Mauro Icardi and Angel di Maria for starting spots in attack.

A number of clubs are reportedly keen on signing Cavani, who has scored a club-record 198 goals for PSG and whose contract expires in the summer. Atletico appear to be the 32-year-old's preferred choice but the La Liga outfit and PSG are yet to agree a fee.

"I would like him to play there, (Atletico coach Diego) Simeone wants him now," Cavani's father Luis told Spanish programme *El Chiringuito*.

"I think there is a strong chance he will go to Atletico. There is also the option to join the club in June. There are lots of other clubs interested but when you give your word to a team, you respect it.

"If he is allowed to leave tomorrow and Atletico still want him, I think he will sign. He is a player who needs time to play. PSG are treating him unfairly." AFP

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

LIGHTNING QUICK

Rana's unbeaten 68-ball 105 helps Delhi beat Vidarbha by 6 wickets in 347 run chase

British Rana played the "best knock" of his first-class career as Delhi shocked defending champions Vidarbha by six wickets in an incredible final day run chase in the Ranji Trophy here on Wednesday.

With this memorable run chase on day four, Delhi handed Vidarbha their first outright defeat in a first class game after three years.

Chasing 347, Rana, who has made a name with his big-hitting exploits in the IPL, smashed an unbeaten 105 off only 68 balls as Delhi reached the target in 73 overs, leaving Vidarbha gutted.

Delhi now have 16 points and stay in hunt for a quarterfinal berth while Vidarbha stay put on 17 points.

The chase was set up by openers Kunal Chandel (75 off 146) and Hiten Dalal (82 off 146) with a steady stand of 163 in under 49 overs.

The left-handed Rana then took charge and sent the Vidarbha bowlers including fancied Umesh Yadav (0/85 in 19 overs) on a leather hunt with eight fours and seven sixes.

"I had promised our coach (KP) Bhaskar sir that if its 75 overs and around 320 runs, we will win. This is the best first class knock that I have played. I haven't forgotten the 2017 final in Indore, which Vidarbha won without playing outstanding cricket.

"I knew I can hit their spinners out of the ground," Rana told reporters having ripped opposition off-spinner Akshay Wakhare (64 off 9 overs) with slog sweeps, cuts and drives.

Vidarbha coach Chandrakant Pandit took a gamble with a sporting declaration but it backfired as a side with its back to the wall produced the best performance of the season.

Openers Kunal and Hiten played confidently without taking pressure on an eased out track.

Once Rana came in, Vidarbha sensing danger, deployed a negative field '7-2' (seven on the off side) field.

Their pacers Rajneesh



Sarfraz Khan celebrates after completing his maiden triple hundred during Ranji Trophy game against Uttar Pradesh at Wankhede Stadium on Wednesday

Gurbani (0/64 in 12 overs) started bowling on an imaginary seventh off stump line.

The umpires started calling no ball and then Delhi started

attacking as they were forced to change the line.

"I knew they would bowl negative line but what I didn't like was time wasting tactic. Once



Maharashtra players pose after win against Assam during Ranji Trophy game

HIGHEST SUCCESSFUL CHASES IN RANJI

Score	Team	Opponent	Venue	Season
372-4	Saurashtra	Uttar Pradesh	Lucknow	2018-19
371-4	Assam	Services	Delhi	2008-09
360-4	Rajasthan	Vidarbha	Jaipur	1989-90
357-5	Rajasthan	Services	Jaipur	2018-19
348-4	Delhi	Vidarbha	Delhi	2019-20
344-4	Punjab	Bengal	Ludhiana	1992-93

FAISEL FEATURES

they started bowling within the stumps, I knew I will blast them if it's in my arc," said KKR's dependable middle-order batsman.

"This is my natural game and I don't like advise if people come and tell me to change my mindset. I only welcome advise when I need them," he said.

MAIDEN TRIPLE HUNDRED
MUMBAI: Staying true to his words, young Sarfraz Khan stuck his maiden triple hundred to single-handedly give Mumbai the crucial first-innings lead and grab three points on the last day of their Elite Group B match against Uttar Pradesh.

Uttar Pradesh had posted a humongous 625/8 declared in

their first-essay courtesy wicket-keeper Upendra Yadav's unbeaten maiden double-ton.

But Sarfraz's (301 not out off 391 balls; 30x4; 8x6) Herculean task overshadowed Yadav's double-ton on a flat track, which had absolutely nothing for the bowlers even on the final day.

Right-handed Sarfraz was the cynosure of all eyes at the Wankhede Stadium, as he batted for as long as 633 minutes and hammered 30 fours and eight sixes.

What is more special about his knock is that the pint-sized batsman was suffering from fever two nights ago, but he came out

to bat and did the job for his team.

Sarfraz, who had played for Uttar Pradesh and returned to Mumbai, had all shots in the book.

But more importantly, contrary to his style, he showed restraint and respected the good balls.

Sarfraz, in the process, became the seventh Mumbai batsman to score a triple ton in first-class cricket and joined the illustrious list comprising Wasim Jaffer (301 and 314 not out), Rohit Sharma (309 not out), Ajit Wadekar (323), Sunil Gavaskar (340), Vijay Merchant (359 not out) and Sanjay Manjrekar (377).

The hosts resumed the final day on overnight score of 353/5 needing 273 more runs to overhaul Uttar Pradesh's first innings total, with 22-year-old Sarfraz unbeaten on 132 in company of his skipper Aditya Tare, who was unbeaten on 9.

Sarfraz first got able support from Tare (97 off 144 balls, 14x4) and then Shams Mulani (65 off 82 balls; 5x3; 1x6), as they took the game away from Uttar Pradesh.

While Sarfraz and Tare added 179 runs for the sixth wicket, he and Mulani added 150 runs for the seventh wicket and it was their partnership that ensured Mumbai crossed Uttar Pradesh's first-innings total.

Sarfraz, who had completed his individual 250, took a single, as Mumbai surpassed Uttar Pradesh's mammoth total and celebrated like the team had won the match.

Then Mumbai allowed Sarfraz to complete a well-deserved 300.

He completed his triple ton with a six over wide long on, after which the match was called off.



Sanju Samson in a file picture

Shaw, Samson celebrate senior team call up

PTI ■ LINCOLN

The in-form Prithvi Shaw flourished yet again as India A notched up a convincing five-wicket victory over New Zealand A in the first unofficial ODI here on Wednesday.

A day after being picked as the injured Shikhar Dhawan's replacement in India's ODI squad for the assignment against New Zealand's senior team, the 20-year-old Shaw smashed 48 off 35 balls to lay the foundation for the visiting team's chase.

Wicketkeeper Sanju Samson, who replaced Dhawan in India's T20 squad, blazed away to a 21-ball 39, while Suryakumar Yadav hammered 35 off a mere 19 deliveries.

Chasing 231 after opting to field, India completed the task with more than 20 overs to spare at the Bert Sutcliffe Oval.

With the ball, Mohammed Siraj was the most successful bowler for India A, picking up three wickets for 33 runs in 6.3 overs, while there were two wickets apiece for Khaleel Ahmed and Axar Patel.

Their efforts helped India A bowl out New Zealand A for 230 with nine balls to spare in the 50-over match.

Quite a few home team players got off the blocks easily but could not go on to make substantial contributions. Rachin Ravindra top-scored with 49 off 58 balls and skipper Tom Bruce made 47 off 55.

India A got their chase off to a brisk start with Shaw and his opening partner Mayank Agarwal (29) picking the gaps at will.

The visitors had raced to 79 in 9.1 overs when Shaw fell to James Neesham. The 20-year-old Shaw, who came into the match after a 100-ball 150 in a practice game, hit five fours and three sixes.

Captain Shubman Gill (30) got out after getting his eye in and after that, Samson showed his prowess, smoking two maximums and three boundaries.

Mumbai player Suryakumar, who can also use the big handle to good effect, struck three fours and two sixes to take his team close to victory.

Vijay Shankar (20) and Krunal Pandya (13) then got the job done as India A took lead in the three-match series.

Tri-series before WC will help in team composition: Smriti

MUMBAI: Playing in a tri-nation tournament before the Women's World T20 will help in strategising and team composition, senior India player Smriti Mandhana said on Wednesday.

The marquee event will start in Australia next month but before that, the country is hosting India and England in a tri-series. "Most of them have played in Australia, I think India A touring Australia last month is also going to be a big help (as) four-



Smriti Mandhana in a file picture

five players were part of that team as well," Mandhana told reporters.

She added, "The tri-series is going to be a really important tournament, thinking about the team composition or what is needed or what target we need to aim at on Australian wickets."

The left-handed batswoman said the tri-series matches could tell them a lot about what will be a safe target during the World Cup. "How can our bowlers plan better, all those things we are

going to understand once we land in Australia and play the tri-series.

"Specially the targets, tri-series will define the targets, like what the scoreline will be for the World Cup.

"England, Australia and India is always going (to be challenging). We are going to aim at good targets so I think that (tri-series) is an important tournament leading up to the World Cup," the 23-year-old said.

According to Mandhana, the team has been thinking about the WorldT20 for the past one year.

"Last one year, whatever we were doing during the matches, we were thinking about the World Cup, so finally we are leaving for the World Cup, it is quite exciting.

"I'm looking forward to playing this World Cup with this team as it is a new team with a mixture of experienced and new players," she said.

Jemi working on increasing bat speed to hit big shots



Jemimah in a file picture

DUBAI (PTI): To make up for "lack of strength", India opener Jemimah Rodrigues is working on increasing her bat speed, which, she hopes, will aid in hitting big shots in the upcoming Women's T20 World Cup.

The lively 19-year-old is also striving to hone her backfoot skills ahead of the marquee event, starting in Australia next month.

"I'm working more on my back foot, developing my back foot more and trying to increase my bat speed. Because looking at my size, you can

make out I don't have that much strength to hit the sixes... But I've been working on that for quite some time," said Jemimah in a *Road To The T20 World Cup* podcast.

Since making her international debut in 2018, she has consistently put in commendable performances to established herself as a key member of the team.

India take on defending champions Australia in the opening game of the tournament in Sydney on February 21, and the youngster believes her side will have to be mentally strong against the hosts.

"I think when it comes to Australia, you got to be the best or you can't play. That's the kind of team they are. My favourite team to play against is also Australia. It's more of a mind game than just skills (when you play them on the field)," Jemimah said.

Jemimah, who will be playing her first World Cup, is looking forward to play in the final of the tournament, which will mark an important milestone in her life.

"I can't put it in words, how important it will be for me to be a part of the Indian team that plays in a World Cup final. It's quite exciting. I'm really looking forward to it," she said.

Southee 'looking forward' to India series

PTI ■ AUCKLAND

New Zealand's veteran seamer Tim Southee is "looking forward" to the India challenge, leaving behind the disappointment of being dropped for the final Test of Australia series earlier this month.

"It's about making that adjustment. What's gone is gone and it was very disappointing, the guys would have learnt

from it, and now we've got to look forward to the Indian series," Southee was quoted as saying by *stuff.co.nz*.

Then, coach Gary Stead had said it was felt Henry would offer more pace than Southee.

But the 31-year-old is expected to lead the New Zealand attack when the five-match Twenty20 series against India starts at Eden Park on Friday.

He admitted he was disappointed not to have played in Sydney but said he has moved on.

"It's disappointing. You're gutted every time you're left out. It's an absolute dream to play for NZ and every time you do miss out it hurts, but you've got to respect the decisions and try to help out and give back to the team, even when you're not playing."



Angelo Mathews celebrates after double hundred

Mathews 200* hurt Zimbabwe

AFP ■ HARARE

Angelo Mathews struck his highest Test score with an unbeaten double century on Wednesday as Sri Lanka left Zimbabwe battling to save the series opener going into the final day at Harare.

Former skipper Mathews eclipsed his previous Test best of 160 and finished 200 not out after a marathon knock spanning 468 balls, as Sri Lanka declared their first innings on 515 for nine.

Zimbabwe, playing their first Test since November 2018, ended the fourth day on 30 without loss and trailing by 127 runs after Brian Mudzinganyama was drafted in as a concussion substitute for opener Kevin Kasuza.

Debutant Kasuza, who made 63 in the first innings, suffered a delayed concussion after he took a blow to the helmet while fielding at short leg on Tuesday.

Mudzinganyama became the fourth Zimbabwean to make his Test debut in this match. He was unbeaten on 14 with Prince Masvauze 15 not out at stumps.

The 32-year-old Mathews brought up his 10th Test century, his first since December 2018, in the morning session and steadily added to his total with considerable support from Dhananjaya de Silva and Niroshan Dickwella.

De Silva and Dickwella both scored 63 but two quick wickets for Sikandar Raza, who finished with three for 62, hastened the declaration as Mathews reached 200 with a sweep to the square leg boundary.

With one day remaining, the visitors appear the only team capable of victory although the pitch looks likely to have the final say.

I see 'incredible' Kohli breaking more records: Smith

IANS ■ NEW DELHI

It's the year of the World T20 and it isn't just Virat Kohli and the Indian boys who are looking to take every opportunity to prepare for the showpiece event slated to be held later in the year. Run-machine Steve Smith is already excited at the prospect of playing another ICC event at home after the 2015 World Cup. In fact, he believes that his stint in the IPL with Rajasthan Royals will have a major role to play in the build-up to the mega event Down Under.

Speaking to IANS, Smith spoke about the much-debated proposal to have four-day Tests, India skipper Kohli's gesture to ask fans to support him during the 2019 World Cup, the Indian Premier League and how Tim Paine has done a brilliant job leading Australia in Test cricket.

For a man who has dominated batting charts in the last few years, Smith's numbers in the shortest format of the game definitely has room for improvement. But the former Australia skipper wants to keep playing and improving on the go rather than changing his style of training going into the World T20.

"No real specific training, but just playing a lot more T20 cricket and just getting the right tempo I guess for the game is the most important thing for me. I would love to be a part of the World Cup, it's obviously at home in Australia. I was involved in the ODI World Cup here in 2015 and had the most amazing six-weeks of my cricketing career and loved every minute of it. So yeah would love to be

involved in another World Cup at home for sure!" he smiled.

Asked if he was looking at his time with Rajasthan Royals to try some new stuff as it will be the perfect training ground for the World T20, Smith doesn't sound the sort who likes to tinker much with his training ritual. But he does have it on his mind to give his leg-spin skills a thought.

"Ah, don't want to try too much different. I don't really know, maybe a bit more bowling perhaps, but then that takes time away from my batting. So yeah, it's a difficult one but we'll wait and see," he reveals.

A chat with Smith can never move forward without discussing Kohli. It looks like these two will go ahead and share all the records between them when they hang their boots. The greatness of Smith though is in his humility. The moment the talks move towards the comparison, he decides to highlight how brilliant Kohli has been both as batsman and leader.

"Yeah, he is terrific. His batting numbers just speak for themselves. I think he's an incredible player in all three formats and I think we will see him break many records. He's already broken plenty of them and I see him breaking many more over the years. He has got the hunger for runs and doesn't stop getting them. Hopefully he can stop getting them against Australia, that'll be nice.

"As a captain he's already made India the number one side in the world in Test cricket. From what I have seen he sets really good standards for

them. He is a lot about fitness and is health conscious and things like that. He's got the Indian side into a really good place and leads them exceptionally well," the 30-year-old pointed.

Asked about Kohli's gesture to ask fans to show him support during the 2019 World Cup, Smith feels it was really nice of the India skipper. "In the World Cup it was really nice of Virat to do what he did. He did not have to do that and yeah it was a lovely gesture and really appreciated that," he smiled.

Kohli, in fact, won the 'Spirit of Cricket' award for his gesture in England. There have been talks that Smith is a natural leader and that the national captaincy could well return to him in the near future. But for the batsman, Paine is the captain and someone who is doing a good job with the boys.

"Yeah, Tim's done a terrific job. He has led the troops really well. Obviously retaining the Ashes in England in twenty-odd years was an exceptional effort and yeah he has led the team exceptionally well," he said.

From the Ashes to the ICC's proposal to have four-day Test matches on a regular basis from 2023, Smith is a traditionalist in the matter and wants the format to stay as it is.

"I am comfortable with five days. I like the challenge of a five-day Test match. Obviously, there has been a lot of talk of the four-day Tests, but my personal opinion is I like five days. I don't make the decisions obviously of who it all works out but my opinion is five-days Tests is what it is all about," he signed off.

SINGLES

TOP FIELD FOR B'URU ATP CHALLENGER

BENGALURU: The third edition of the Bengaluru Open from February 10 to 16 will see one of the best fields in the ATP Challenger Tour event with four players from the top-100 world rankings taking part in it. Lithuanian Ricardas Berankis, ranked 69th in the ATP rankings, followed by 74th ranked Stefano Travaglia will lead the top field. Japanese journeyman Yuichi Sugita (91) and Australian James Duckworth (94) are the other players in the top-100 who will be vying for honours in the biggest ATP Challenge Tour event in Asia which offers a total prize purse of \$ 162,000. Defending champion Prajesh Gunneswaran, currently the highest ranked Indian at 123, will lead the home challenge in company of 2017 winner Sumit Nagal (131).

NIKHAT, SHIVA ENTER STRANDJA QUARTERS

NEW DELHI: Four-time Asian medalist Shiva Thapa (63kg) and defending champion Nikhat Zareen (51kg) on Wednesday sailed into the quarterfinals of the Strandja Memorial Boxing Tournament with resounding victories in their second-round bouts in Sofia. Also making the quarters was national medalist Duryodhan Singh Negi (69kg) after a comprehensive 5-0 triumph over Ireland's Kieran Molloy. Zareen was declared the winner after local favourite Saida Asenovva forfeited during the opening round of the contest. Former world Bronze-medallist Thapa defeated Poland's Pavel Polakovic 5-0 in his last 16 stage clash.

MEXICAN STRIKER HERNANDEZ JOINS GALAXY

LOS ANGELES: Javier Hernandez completed his long-awaited transfer to the Los Angeles Galaxy on Tuesday, saying the lure of playing regular football had prompted his move to Major League Soccer. The Mexican international striker, who will reportedly become the highest paid player in MLS, with *Sports Illustrated* saying he will earn \$6 million (5.41 million euros) a year, joins the Galaxy after a frustrating spell at Spanish side Sevilla. The Mexican star heads to the MLS after a successful career in European club football which included stints with Manchester United, Real Madrid, Bayer Leverkusen and West Ham, as well as Sevilla. Hernandez has scored more than 200 goals for club and country throughout his career.

AUSTRALIA TO HOST INDOOR CRICKET WC

MELBOURNE: Australia is set to host the 11th edition of the Indoor Cricket World Cup from October 10 to 17. The tournament will be held at the state-of-the-art indoor cricket venues in Melbourne — Casey Stadium & CitiPower Centre. Last held in 2017, Australia are the reigning men's and women's champions and the host will be seeking to continue the run of never losing a World Cup in either division in the 25-year history of the tournament. Cricketers from up to 10 countries will compete in the tournament in four divisions: under-21 men and women and open men and women.

GIBSON IS B'DESH NEW PACE BOWLING COACH

DHAKA: Bangladesh have appointed Otis Gibson as their new pace bowling coach, replacing South African Charl Langeveldt who resigned in December. The 50-year old former West Indies fast bowler signed a two-year agreement. Gibson, who has enjoyed two successful stints as bowling coach with England and has served as head coach of the West Indies and South Africa, will join the squad for the Pakistan tour which begins in Lahore on Friday.

IRAN TEAMS AFC CL MATCHES MOVED TO UAE

KUALA LUMPUR: Two Iranian football clubs' AFC Champions League preliminary round matches have been moved to a neutral country because of security fears. The Asian Football Confederation said the ties — Shahrood FC of Iran v Riffa of Bahrain and Iran's Esteghlal FC v Kuwait SC will now be played in the United Arab Emirates on Jan 25. Both the matches were scheduled to be played in Iran on Tuesday but were postponed and "moved to neutral venues because of ongoing security concerns and the decision of several governments to issue travel warnings to the Islamic Republic of Iran," said an AFC statement.

AGENCIES