



Death toll in Mumbai building collapse rises to 13, search called off  
Page 9



India, China are maintaining peace on the borders: Rajnath  
Page 12



Netanyahu makes history as Israel's longest-serving leader  
Page 14



India gets an easy draw for 2022 World Cup Asian qualifiers  
Page 17

PRINTED AT • CHENNAI • COIMBATORE • BENGALURU • HYDERABAD • MADURAI • NOIDA • VISAKHAPATNAM • THIRUVANANTHAPURAM • KOCHI • VIJAYAWADA • MANGALURU • TIRUCHIRAPPALLI • KOLKATA • HUBBALLI • MOHALI • MALAPPURAM • MUMBAI • TIRUPATI • LUCKNOW • CUTTACK • PATNA

## Review Jadhav sentence, grant consular access, ICJ tells Pak.

World court rejects claim that the Vienna Convention doesn't apply in a 'spy case'

SUHASINI HAIDAR  
NEW DELHI

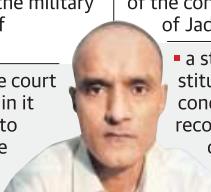
In a major verdict that accepted India's plea that former Indian naval officer Kulbhushan Jadhav's trial under espionage and terror charges in Pakistan violated international law, the International Court of Justice on Wednesday ruled that Pakistan should "review and reconsider" his conviction and death sentence. The court, based at The Hague in the Netherlands, also ruled that Pakistan should give the Indian government consular access to Mr. Jadhav, something Pakistan has failed to do in the three years since his arrest and to stay the execution of his sentence, pending the review process.

The ICJ held that the denial of consular access con-

### Long fight for justice

**India wanted ICJ to say that:**

- Pakistan is at breach of Vienna Convention by failing to inform India of the detention, failing to inform Jadhav of his rights, and declining access by consular officers
- the sentence by the military court is violative of international law
- Pakistan annul the court decision and restrain it from giving effect to the sentence or the conviction



stituted a "breach" of article 36 para 1(b) of the Vienna Convention on Consular Relations (1963) which Pakistan is a signatory to, which stipulates that all foreign nationals arrested must be given access to their government

### 'Indian stand vindicated'

KALLOL BHATTACHERJEE  
NEW DELHI

India on Wednesday said the ICJ verdict in the Kulbhushan Jadhav case vindicated its position that Pakistan had violated the Vienna Convention. "The court has directed that Pakistan is under an obligation to inform Shri Jadhav without further delay of his rights and to provide Indian consular officers access to him in accordance with the Vienna Convention," the MEA said.

**'TRUTH PREVAILLED' ▶ PAGE 13**  
**TAKeways FROM THE JADHAV CASE RULING ▶ PAGE 10**



## JPMiles.

More powerful than ever.

Now earn and redeem JPMiles on

flight bookings **across airlines** worldwide,

on **all hotel bookings** around the globe,

every time you **shop**, online or at a store,

on every swipe of our **co-brand cards**,

at hundreds of amazing **restaurants**,

at thousands of **petrol pumps**

and countless **other ways**.

Discover more at [jetprivilege.com](http://jetprivilege.com)

### NEARBY



Nine gunned down in U.P. over land dispute  
LUCKNOW

Nine persons, including three women, have been gunned down by a village head and his associates in Sonbhadra district of U.P. over a land dispute, police said on Wednesday.

**NATION ▶ PAGE 7**

### 'Withdraw non-bureaucrat nominees to DMRC board'

NEW DELHI

The Centre has asked the Delhi government to withdraw its nomination of "four private individuals" to the DMRC board of directors.

**CITY ▶ PAGE 2**

**GS TEST SERIES-2020 21<sup>st</sup> July**  
**PRELIMS 44 TEST MAINS 46 TEST**  
**SOCIOLOGY**  
**MALUKA IAS** (9910133084  
51/6, Rajinder Nagar, New Delhi-60)

## Hafiz Saeed held in terror financing case

Sent to prison on judicial remand, to face trial in Anti-Terrorism Court

MEHMAL SARFRAZ  
LAHORE

Pakistan on Wednesday arrested Hafiz Saeed, the alleged mastermind of the 2008 Mumbai terror attack that killed 166 people.

An FIR against Saeed, who has been declared a global terrorist by the U.S. and the UN, and four others – Abdul Ghaffar, Hafiz Masood, Ameer Hamza and Malik Za-

far Iqbal – was registered at



Hafiz Saeed  
the Counter-Terrorism Department (CTD) police station in Gujranwala, Punjab, on July 1 on charges of terror

financing. According to a statement from the CTD Punjab spokesperson, Saeed "has been sent to prison on judicial remand... He will face trial in the ATC [Anti-terrorism Court] Gujranwala in the said case."

A spokesman for Saeed's group, Jamaat-ud-Dawa (JuD), a wing of the Lashkar-e-Taiba, confirmed the arrest to the news agency AFP.

Lahore bureau chief of

Geo News Raees Ansari said Saeed was arrested on his way from Lahore to a court in Gujranwala to seek anticipatory bail. "Saeed got interim bail from an anti-terrorism court in Lahore earlier this week. The CTD, anticipating another interim bail – which is a norm in such cases – arrested him before he could reach the Gujranwala ATC," said Mr. Ansari.

**CONTINUED ON ▶ PAGE 12**

## All illegal immigrants will be deported: Shah

Says govt. will identify infiltrators

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT  
NEW DELHI

Answering a question on the National Register of Citizens (NRC), Home Minister Amit Shah told the Rajya Sabha on Wednesday that his government will ensure that all illegal immigrants are identified and deported.

Mr. Shah was replying to a supplementary question from Samajwadi Party MP Javed Ali Khan on whether the government intended to carry out an exercise on the lines of the NRC in Assam across the country.

Mr. Shah said the BJP manifesto, on the basis of

which his government had been elected, had clearly said the government would identify "illegal immigrants" and "infiltrators" from every "inch" of the country and "they will be deported in accordance to prevailing international laws".

His statement drew loud applause from the treasury benches.

The original question on the NRC was raised by BJP MP Amar Shankar Sable who questioned the inordinate delay in publishing the final list in Assam.

**CONTINUED ON ▶ PAGE 12**

## Bill to revamp medical education cleared

National Exit Test must for practice

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT  
NEW DELHI

In a move to bring sweeping changes to the medical education sector, the Centre plans to introduce the National Medical Commission Bill in this session of Parliament and repeal the Indian Medical Council Act, 1956.

The Union Cabinet approved a revised version of the Bill on Wednesday, almost two years after the original version was introduced in Parliament in December 2017. The 2017 Bill, which had provoked widespread protests over a proposal for bridge courses to allow AYUSH practitioners to prescribe allo-

pathic medicines, was referred to a Parliamentary Standing Committee and amended to remove that contentious initiative. However, it lapsed with the dissolution of the 16th Lok Sabha.

The current Bill proposes to convert the final year MBBS examination into a licensiate exam, which will be a requirement for doctors to practise medicine. The examination, to be called the National Exit Test (NEXT), will also be used for entrance into post-graduate medical courses, and act as a screening test for foreign medical graduates.

**AIIMS, JIPMER TO COME UNDER NEET ▶ PAGE 12**

Earn and redeem across:

Domestic or International Flight Bookings | All Hotel Bookings | Leading e-Commerce Partners | Fuel at IndianOil

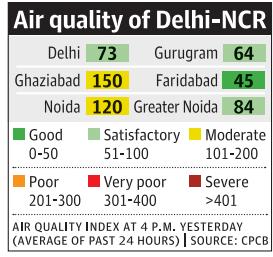
## IN BRIEF

Meghalaya Minister visits 'happiness class'

NEW DELHI  
Meghalaya Education Minister Lakhmuni Rymbui visited the Delhi government's Sarvodaya Bal Vidyalaya, Rouse Avenue on Wednesday to experience a happiness class session and interact with students. Mr. Rymbui said that he had come to study how he could replicate the initiative in Meghalaya.

## Pedestrianisation: traders protest in Karol Bagh

NEW DELHI  
Months after the pedestrianisation of Ajmal Khan Road in central Delhi, a section of traders belonging to Karol Bagh market on Wednesday held a protest alleging that not allowing cars in the street has severely affected their business. The disgruntled group of traders downed their shutters from morning till 2 p.m.



## DELHI TODAY

**Book Launch and Talk:** Release of book titled, Indo-Pak Relations: Beyond Pulwama and Balakot, authored by Dr. U. V. Singh. This book deals with the fundamental causes of the Indo-Pak conflict – why it's difficult, if not impossible, to have peace between the two neighbours. Followed by the release, the author will be in discussion with K. Natwar Singh, Lt. Gen. A. Hussain and Waqar Habibullah at Gulmohar Hall, India Habitat Centre (IHC), 7 p.m.

**Music:** The Raza Foundation presents a musical evening titled, "Singing Gandhi: Kumar Gandharva's 'Gandhi Malhar' and other music". This will be performed by Kalapini Komkali and S.N. Subba Rao. The event is organised as part of Gandhi Master series, at Seminar Rooms II-III, Kamaladevi Complex, India International Centre (IIC), 6:30 p.m.

**Dance:** India International Rural Cultural Centre (IIRCEN) presents a Kathak dance recital by Tabassmi Paul Majumdar from Hooghly in Govt. Sarvodaya Kanya Vidyalaya, Jaffarpur, 9 a.m. and Sarvodaya Kanya Vidyalaya, Chhawla, 11 a.m.

**Dance:** A solo Bharatanatyam recital by Priya Srinivasan, at The Stein Auditorium, IHC, 7 p.m.

**Exhibition:** A solo painting show by Joydeb Bal, at Convention Centre Foyer, IHC, 11 a.m. - 7 p.m.

(Mail your listings for this column at cityeditor@thehindu.co.in)

# 'Withdraw non-bureaucrat nominees to DMRC board'

Centre tells AAP government to name officials who have domain knowledge

DAMINI NATH

NEW DELHI

The Centre has asked the Delhi government to withdraw its recent nomination of "four private individuals" to the Delhi Metro Rail Corporation (DMRC) board of directors and instead appoint government officials with domain expertise, as has been the case so far.

Delhi Transport Minister Kailash Gahlot had on July 13 nominated Aam Aadmi Party leaders Atishi and Raghu Chadha, vice-chairperson of the Delhi Dialogue and Development Commission Jasmine Shah; and Naveen Gupta, son of Rajya Sabha MP and AAP treasurer N.D. Gupta, as the Delhi government's nominees to the board.

## Five members each

The Union Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA) wrote to the Delhi government on Tuesday asking it to "withdraw" the nomination of the private individuals. Of the 13 directors on the board of the DMRC, which is owned by the Union and Delhi governments 50-50, the Centre and State nominate 5 members each.

In his letter to Delhi Chief Secretary Vijay Dev, MoHUA Additional Secretary K. Sanjay Murthy said the DMRC was required to adopt Department of Public Enterprises guidelines "to strengthen corporate governance".

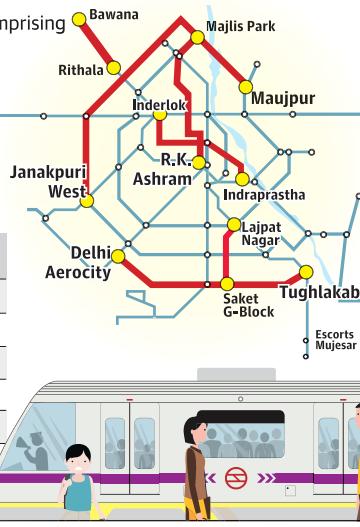
Mr. Murthy wrote that DPE guidelines issued on March 16, 1992, said that directors should be "officers dealing with the enterprise concerned or handling the issues of the sector", which is why the Centre's nominees were the MoHUA Secretary and Additional Secretary; Delhi Development Authority vice-chairperson; National Capital Region Planning Board Member Secretary; and Railway Board Additional Member.

Similarly, he added, the Delhi government's nomi-

## ON TRACK

- Under Phase-IV of Delhi Metro, three priority corridors comprising 61.7 km have been approved by both the Delhi government and the Centre. These sections are – Aerocity-Tughlakabad (20.20 Km), Janakpuri West-R.K. Ashram (28.92 km) and Majlis Park-Maujpur (12.55 km)
- The corridors which have not been approved by the Centre are Rithala-Bawana, Inderlok-Indraprastha and Lajpat Nagar-Saket G Block.

Corridor	Underground Length	Elevated Length
Aerocity to Tughlakabad	14.62 km	5.58 km
Lajpat Nagar to Saket G Block	2.07 km	5.89 km
Inderlok to Indraprastha	12.58 km	-
Janakpuri West to R.K. Ashram	7.74 km	21.18 km
Maujpur to Majlis Park	-	12.54 km
Rithala to Bawana	-	21.73 km
<b>Total</b>	<b>103.93 km</b>	



## Work on Phase-IV has started: Puri

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT  
NEW DELHI

Work on the delayed Delhi Metro Phase-IV project has started, Union Housing and Urban Affairs Minister of State (Independent charge) Hardeep Puri told Rajya Sabha on Wednesday.

Answering a question by BJP MP Vijay Goel, the Minister said the Centre had approved three priority corridors of Phase-IV totalling 61.7 km in March this year, but the Delhi government had told the Delhi Metro Rail Corporation (DMRC) not to start construction till

the Ministry revised its approval "in tune" with the State government's.

While the Centre had approved three corridors, the State government had approved all six proposed cor-

ridors under Phase-IV.

"The DMRC has informed that it has started preparatory work. The project is scheduled to be completed in five years from the date of start of work," the Minister said.

According to sources, the first tender of the Phase-IV project was floated last week for construction of 10 elevated stations and a viaduct on the Janakpuri West-R.K. Ashram corridor. Sources said the tender for the Maujpur-Majlis Park corridor of eight stations would be floated next week.

nees had been the Chief Secretary, the Finance Secretary, the Transport Secretary, a former Finance Secretary and the DMRC managing director. He added that all metro rail companies in the country had nominated officials associated with infrastructure, finance and urban development. "This is to ensure that individuals converge with functional, financial and managerial aspects are represented on the Board

and contribute to effective decision-making... It is pertinent to mention that government nominee directors bring not only domain knowledge and expertise, but are also accountable... for ensuring time-bound implementation of the project," he wrote.

**'Advise to top official'**  
He then "advised" the Chief Secretary that the Delhi government should "withdraw the nominations" in question

and "nominate, as earlier, such officials of the State government who deal with the subject and have domain knowledge, expertise and accountability to drive the DMRC into a world-class transport service provider".

An AAP government source said the NDA government had nominated BJP leader and former Chief Minister Madan Lal Khurana as the chairperson of the Board in 2003.

and "nominate, as earlier, such officials of the State government who deal with the subject and have domain knowledge, expertise and accountability to drive the DMRC into a world-class transport service provider".

An AAP government source said the NDA government had nominated BJP leader and former Chief Minister Madan Lal Khurana as the chairperson of the Board in 2003.

and "nominate, as earlier, such officials of the State government who deal with the subject and have domain knowledge, expertise and accountability to drive the DMRC into a world-class transport service provider".

An AAP government source said the NDA government had nominated BJP leader and former Chief Minister Madan Lal Khurana as the chairperson of the Board in 2003.

and "nominate, as earlier, such officials of the State government who deal with the subject and have domain knowledge, expertise and accountability to drive the DMRC into a world-class transport service provider".

An AAP government source said the NDA government had nominated BJP leader and former Chief Minister Madan Lal Khurana as the chairperson of the Board in 2003.

and "nominate, as earlier, such officials of the State government who deal with the subject and have domain knowledge, expertise and accountability to drive the DMRC into a world-class transport service provider".

An AAP government source said the NDA government had nominated BJP leader and former Chief Minister Madan Lal Khurana as the chairperson of the Board in 2003.

and "nominate, as earlier, such officials of the State government who deal with the subject and have domain knowledge, expertise and accountability to drive the DMRC into a world-class transport service provider".

An AAP government source said the NDA government had nominated BJP leader and former Chief Minister Madan Lal Khurana as the chairperson of the Board in 2003.

and "nominate, as earlier, such officials of the State government who deal with the subject and have domain knowledge, expertise and accountability to drive the DMRC into a world-class transport service provider".

An AAP government source said the NDA government had nominated BJP leader and former Chief Minister Madan Lal Khurana as the chairperson of the Board in 2003.

and "nominate, as earlier, such officials of the State government who deal with the subject and have domain knowledge, expertise and accountability to drive the DMRC into a world-class transport service provider".

An AAP government source said the NDA government had nominated BJP leader and former Chief Minister Madan Lal Khurana as the chairperson of the Board in 2003.

and "nominate, as earlier, such officials of the State government who deal with the subject and have domain knowledge, expertise and accountability to drive the DMRC into a world-class transport service provider".

An AAP government source said the NDA government had nominated BJP leader and former Chief Minister Madan Lal Khurana as the chairperson of the Board in 2003.

and "nominate, as earlier, such officials of the State government who deal with the subject and have domain knowledge, expertise and accountability to drive the DMRC into a world-class transport service provider".

An AAP government source said the NDA government had nominated BJP leader and former Chief Minister Madan Lal Khurana as the chairperson of the Board in 2003.

and "nominate, as earlier, such officials of the State government who deal with the subject and have domain knowledge, expertise and accountability to drive the DMRC into a world-class transport service provider".

An AAP government source said the NDA government had nominated BJP leader and former Chief Minister Madan Lal Khurana as the chairperson of the Board in 2003.

and "nominate, as earlier, such officials of the State government who deal with the subject and have domain knowledge, expertise and accountability to drive the DMRC into a world-class transport service provider".

An AAP government source said the NDA government had nominated BJP leader and former Chief Minister Madan Lal Khurana as the chairperson of the Board in 2003.

and "nominate, as earlier, such officials of the State government who deal with the subject and have domain knowledge, expertise and accountability to drive the DMRC into a world-class transport service provider".

An AAP government source said the NDA government had nominated BJP leader and former Chief Minister Madan Lal Khurana as the chairperson of the Board in 2003.

and "nominate, as earlier, such officials of the State government who deal with the subject and have domain knowledge, expertise and accountability to drive the DMRC into a world-class transport service provider".

An AAP government source said the NDA government had nominated BJP leader and former Chief Minister Madan Lal Khurana as the chairperson of the Board in 2003.

and "nominate, as earlier, such officials of the State government who deal with the subject and have domain knowledge, expertise and accountability to drive the DMRC into a world-class transport service provider".

An AAP government source said the NDA government had nominated BJP leader and former Chief Minister Madan Lal Khurana as the chairperson of the Board in 2003.

and "nominate, as earlier, such officials of the State government who deal with the subject and have domain knowledge, expertise and accountability to drive the DMRC into a world-class transport service provider".

An AAP government source said the NDA government had nominated BJP leader and former Chief Minister Madan Lal Khurana as the chairperson of the Board in 2003.

and "nominate, as earlier, such officials of the State government who deal with the subject and have domain knowledge, expertise and accountability to drive the DMRC into a world-class transport service provider".

An AAP government source said the NDA government had nominated BJP leader and former Chief Minister Madan Lal Khurana as the chairperson of the Board in 2003.

and "nominate, as earlier, such officials of the State government who deal with the subject and have domain knowledge, expertise and accountability to drive the DMRC into a world-class transport service provider".

An AAP government source said the NDA government had nominated BJP leader and former Chief Minister Madan Lal Khurana as the chairperson of the Board in 2003.

and "nominate, as earlier, such officials of the State government who deal with the subject and have domain knowledge, expertise and accountability to drive the DMRC into a world-class transport service provider".

An AAP government source said the NDA government had nominated BJP leader and former Chief Minister Madan Lal Khurana as the chairperson of the Board in 2003.

and "nominate, as earlier, such officials of the State government who deal with the subject and have domain knowledge, expertise and accountability to drive the DMRC into a world-class transport service provider".

An AAP government source said the NDA government had nominated BJP leader and former Chief Minister Madan Lal Khurana as the chairperson of the Board in 2003.

and "nominate, as earlier, such officials of the State government who deal with the subject and have domain knowledge, expertise and accountability to drive the DMRC into a world-class transport service provider".

An AAP government source said the NDA government had nominated BJP leader and former Chief Minister Madan Lal Khurana as the chairperson of the Board in 2003.

and "nominate, as earlier, such officials of the State government who deal with the subject and have domain knowledge, expertise and accountability to drive the DMRC into a world-class transport service provider".

An AAP government source said the NDA government had nominated BJP leader and former Chief Minister Madan Lal Khurana as the chairperson of the Board in 2003.

and "nominate, as earlier, such officials of the State government who deal with the subject and have domain knowledge, expertise and accountability to drive the DMRC into a world-class transport service provider".

An AAP government source said the NDA government had nominated BJP leader and former Chief Minister Madan Lal Khurana as the chairperson of the Board in 2003.

and "nominate, as earlier, such officials of the State government who deal with the subject and have domain knowledge, expertise and accountability to drive the DMRC into a world-class transport service provider".

An AAP government source said the NDA government had nominated BJP leader and former Chief Minister Madan Lal Khurana as the chairperson of the Board in 2003.

and "nominate, as earlier, such officials of the State government who deal with the subject and have domain knowledge, expertise and accountability to drive the DMRC into a world-class transport service provider".

An AAP government source said the NDA government had nominated BJP leader and former Chief Minister Madan Lal Khurana as the chairperson of the Board in 2003.

and "nominate, as earlier, such officials of the State government who deal with the subject and have domain knowledge, expertise and accountability to drive the DMRC into a world-class transport service provider".

An AAP government source said the NDA government had nominated BJP leader and former Chief Minister Madan Lal Khurana as the chairperson of the Board in 2003.

and "nominate, as earlier, such officials of the State government who deal with the subject and have domain knowledge, expertise and accountability to drive the DMRC into a world-class transport service provider".

An AAP government source said the NDA government had nominated BJP leader and former Chief Minister Madan Lal Khurana as the chairperson of the Board in 2003.

and "nominate, as earlier, such officials of the State government who deal with the subject and have domain knowledge, expertise and accountability to drive the DMRC into a world-class transport service provider".

An AAP government source said the NDA government had nominated BJP leader and former Chief Minister Madan Lal Khurana as the chairperson of the Board in 2003.

and "nominate, as earlier, such officials of the

# Four arrested after midnight chase, encounter in Gurugram

Accused are wanted in several cases of heinous crimes, including murder

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT  
GURUGRAM

An hours-long chase that started around midnight on Tuesday ended in a brief encounter and the arrest of four notorious criminals on the outskirts of Gurugram.

Three of the accused suffered bullet injuries and are undergoing treatment at a hospital in Delhi.

Police Commissioner Muhammad Akil said the accused planned to murder an arms dealer in Gurugram but were arrested by the Palam Vihar Crime Branch before they could carry out the plan. Four pistols, 25 live cartridges and a stolen Sports Utility Vehicle were seized from the men.

The accused are involved



Accused Lokesh had a bounty of ₹1 lakh on his head. ■ SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

in several cases of heinous crime, including murder, attempt to murder, and robbery. They all carried cash rewards on their arrest.

The chase began when police spotted an SUV without a registration number in Sector 40. The police had re-

ceived a tip-off that a gang of wanted criminals was in the area. When the police team tried to flag down the vehicle, the driver accelerated.

The pursuit went through Sector 47 driving road, Daulatabad flyover, and Dhanawapur Chowk. The accused were trying to get to the Dwarka Expressway.

## Stuck in a pit

The chase ended when the SUV got stuck in a pit near Tek Chand Nagar.

The driver of the SUV then allegedly opened fire at the police. He was hit during retaliatory fire by Inspector Brijender Hooda. The other accused also opened fire in a bid to escape but were quickly overpowered.

Lokesh alias Surya, Pradeep alias Sonu and Neeraj alias Sanju suffered bullet injuries. Their fourth accomplice was identified as Jagbir alias Kashmir. A case has been registered at Rajindra Nagar police station.

While Lokesh carried ₹1 lakh cash reward on his head, the Delhi Police had announced ₹50,000 cash reward each on the arrest of Pradeep and Neeraj.

Seven cases of murder, robbery and snatching are pending against the four in Haryana, Delhi and Rajasthan. Lokesh is a resident of Nafajgarh in Delhi whereas Pardeep and Jagbir are residents of Jassaur Kheri village in Jhajjar. Neeraj is from Sonipat.

## Bus driver thrashes passenger with iron rod, arrested

Victim had asked driver to stop bus after he realised he had boarded the wrong one

SAURABH TRIVEDI  
NEW DELHI

A cluster bus driver has been arrested for allegedly thrashing a passenger with an iron rod after he requested that the vehicle be stopped as he had boarded the wrong bus.

The incident took place in south Delhi's Lodhi Colony, said the police.

DCP (South) Vijay Kumar said that the bus driver, Ravi Kumar, was arrested within a few hours of the incident, which took place on Monday.

"The accused was taken for medical examination to ascertain whether he was



Deepak Sharma

drunk during the incident. The victim, Deepak Sharma, has suffered injuries and suffered a fracture in his hand," said Mr. Kumar.

Deepak is pursuing graduation from an open college

and works at a restaurant in Khan Market.

In his police complaint, Deepak said he was waiting for a bus at Dayal Singh College bus stand at around 9.30 pm on July 15. A cluster bus arrived around 10.30 pm.

"The display board on the bus said 'break down'. Since the bus driver stopped at the stand and I was getting late, I boarded the bus thinking that I would board another one at the next stand," said Mr. Sharma. He was the only passenger on the bus.

When the driver took a left turn from Sai Temple on Lodhi Road, Deepak asked the driver to stop as he needed to go straight. Instead of stopping, the driver allegedly started abusing Deepak.

"I managed to get off the bus, but the driver followed me with an iron rod and attacked me. He hit me on the head, leg, chest and hand," said the victim.

A couple passing through the area intervened and informed the police. The driver managed to flee in the bus but the couple had noted down the registration number, which helped the police trace the accused.

## CM meets kin of rape survivor

STAFF REPORTER  
NEW DELHI

Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal on Wednesday met the family of a six-year-old rape survivor, who was allegedly sexually assaulted by a rickshaw-puller in west Delhi's Janakpuri on Monday.

In addition to assuring her family the "best legal help", Mr. Kejriwal also announced ₹10 lakh as financial assistance for the girl. "I am horrified after seeing the condition

of the girl in hospital. Met her father. What society do we live in? The Delhi government will provide ₹10 lakh financial assistance and best legal help," he said in a tweet.

He was accompanied by Delhi Commission for Women chairperson Swati Maliwal. "Mr. Kejriwal has announced compensation for the girl and has assured best lawyer to ensure death penalty for the rapist," Ms. Maliwal said in a tweet.

## WALK-IN INTERVIEW

**WALK-IN INTERVIEW**

PEDICON PHARMACEUTICALS, is a leading pharma company based at Mumbai. We are inviting applications from well experienced smart, young females for Pharma tele marketing.

Interested candidates send your Resumes to [pediconpharma@gmail.com](mailto:pediconpharma@gmail.com) OR Call : 9539799369

Location : Hotel Ramada Plaza, Chandigarh, Zirakpur  
Date : 19.7.2019. Time : 9.30am to 12pm

No : 22,23 Evershine City, Mumbai. [www.pediconpharma.com](http://www.pediconpharma.com)

## Two held for manhandling policemen

STAFF REPORTER  
NEW DELHI

A couple was arrested on Tuesday for manhandling and misbehaving with traffic police officers in west Delhi's Mayapuri after they were stopped for a traffic violation.

Deputy Commissioner of Police (West) Monika Bhardwaj said the accused, Madhuri (49) and her partner Anil Pandey (59), are residents of Mayapuri. The duo was heavily drunk at the time of the incident.

In a video of the incident, the woman can be heard abusing a traffic police officer, is seen manhandling policemen, and tries to snatch the phone of the person who was taking the video. The incident took place around 6.30 p.m.

The couple was stopped because they were not wearing helmets and crossed the stop line at a red light. "Police officers made efforts to pacify the couple but they remained aggressive and manhandled the staff. Medical examination of the accused confirmed that they were drunk," Ms. Bhardwaj said.

The man also allegedly lied to the police that they were rushing because of a death in the family. A case has been lodged.

On Sunday evening, another video of two men abusing and manhandling traffic police officers in northwest Delhi's Netaji Subhash Place went viral after which the two were arrested.

TOGETHER  
LET'S  
**SUCCEED**



Interest up to  
**9.70%**  
p.a.\*

Public Issue of Secured NCDs rated 'CRISIL AA+/Stable' by CRISIL, 'CARE AA+; Stable' by CARE & 'IND AA+; Outlook Stable' by India Ratings

• Tradable NCDs from one of the largest asset financing NBFCs in the organised sector in India that cater to FTBs and SRTOs for financing pre-owned commercial vehicles

• No Tax Deduction at Source on Interest on NCDs for Residents

• Allotments on first come, first serve basis\*

• Minimum Application of ₹10,000\*

• Additional 0.25% p.a. for Senior Citizens\*

• Applications through ASBA mode only\*

Issue open from 17<sup>th</sup> July 2019 to 16<sup>th</sup> August 2019\*\*

\* For detailed terms and conditions, please refer to the shelf prospectus dated July 9, 2019 ("Shelf Prospectus") and the Tranche 1 Prospectus dated July 12, 2019 ("Tranche Prospectus"). \*\* The subscription date for the issue shall remain open for subscription on Working Days from 10.00 a.m. to 5.00 p.m. (Indian Standard Time) with an option for early closure or extension by such period, as may be decided by the Board or the Debt Issuance Committee. In the event of such early closure or extension of subscription list of the Tranche 1 Issue, the Company shall ensure that notice of such early closure or extension is given to the prospective investors through an advertisement in all those newspapers in which pre-issue advertisement and advertisement for opening or closure of the Tranche 1 Issue have been given on or before such earlier date or extended date of closure. Allotments by the Company, in consultation with the Designated Stock Exchange, shall be made on due priority basis i.e. a first-come-first-serve basis to each Portion, based on the date of upload of each Application on the electronic platform of the Stock Exchanges, proportionate to its allocation ratio. However, in the event of any date of oversubscription, the allotments would be made to the Applicants on a proportionate basis.

Registered Office: Mookambika Complex, 3rd Floor, No. 4, Lady Desika Road, Mylapore, Chennai, Tamil Nadu-600 004.

Tel No. +91-44-2499 0356, Fax: +91-44-2499 3272

Corporate Office: Wockhardt Tower, 1st Floor, Wing C-2, G Block, Bandra-Kurla Complex, Bandra (E), Mumbai-400 051.

Tel.: +91-22-4095 9555. Email: [sticncd@stic.org.in](mailto:sticncd@stic.org.in)

SHIRAM TRANSPORT FINANCE COMPANY LIMITED subject to market conditions and other considerations is proposing a public issue of secured, redeemable non-convertible debentures ("Secured NCDs") and will file the Shelf Prospectus dated July 9, 2019 and Tranche 1 Prospectus dated July 12, 2019 with the Registrar of Companies, Tamil Nadu at Chennai and will be filed with the National Stock Exchange of India Limited, BSE Limited and the Securities and Exchange Board of India. Shelf Prospectus dated July 9, 2019 and Tranche 1 Prospectus dated July 12, 2019 are available on our website www.stfc.org.in, and will be available on the websites of the stock exchanges [www.bseindia.com](http://www.bseindia.com) and [www.nseindia.com](http://www.nseindia.com). Investors proposing to participate in the issue, should invest only on the basis of the information contained in the Shelf Prospectus dated July 9, 2019 and Tranche 1 Prospectus dated July 12, 2019. Investors should note that investment in NCDs involves a high degree of risk and for details relating to the same, please refer to Shelf Prospectus dated July 9, 2019, including the section on "Risk Factors" beginning on Page 16 of the Shelf Prospectus dated July 9, 2019.

R K SWAMY BBDO STFC 100493-1002 ENG

**VISIONIAS**  
INSPIRING INNOVATION

LIVE/ONLINE  
Classes Available

[www.visionias.in](http://www.visionias.in)

**SELECTION IN  
CSE 2018**

**2**  
AIR

AKSHAT JAIN

**3**  
AIR

JUNAID AHMAD

**4**  
AIR

SHREYANS KUMAT

**9 in Top 10**

from various programs of VISIONIAS

**1**  
AIR

KANISHAK KATARIA

**5**  
AIR

SRUSHTI JAYANT DESHMUKH

**7**  
AIR

KARNATI VARUNREDDY

**8**  
AIR

VAISHALI SINGH

**9**  
AIR

GUNJAN DWIVEDI

**10**  
AIR

TANMAY VASHISTHA SHARMA

**YOU CAN BE NEXT**

**FOUNDATION COURSE  
GENERAL STUDIES**  
Prelims Cum Mains 2020

**DELHI**

Regular Batch

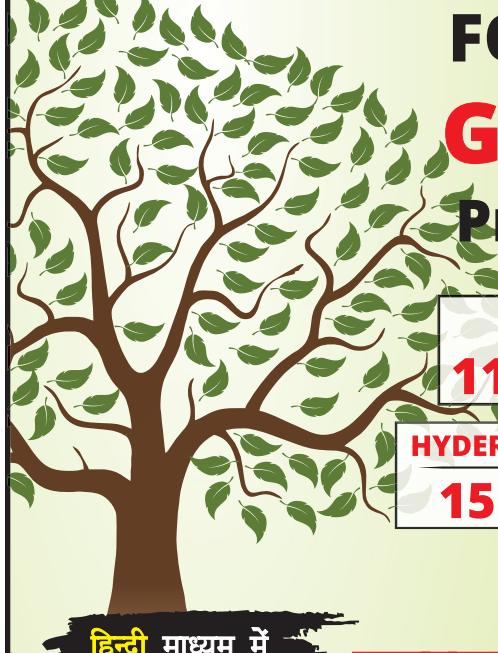
11 July 6 PM

Weekend Batch

25 July 9 AM

**LUCKNOW**

6 July 9 AM



हिन्दी माध्यम में

**सामान्य अध्ययन 2020**

**DELHI:** 6 Aug

**LUCKNOW:** 25 July

**JAIPUR:** 22 June

Batch also @  
AHMEDABAD

- ▶ प्रारंभिक, मुख्य परीक्षा और निवृत्ति के लिए महत्वपूर्ण सभी टॉपिक का विस्तृत कवरेज
- ▶ एनीमेशन, पॉवर प्लाइट, वीडियो जैसी तकनीकी सुविधाओं का प्रयोग
- ▶ मौलिक अवधारणाओं की समझ के विकास एवं विश्लेषणात्मक क्षमता निर्माण पर विशेष ध्यान
- ▶ अंतर - विषयक समझ विकसित करने का प्रयास
- ▶ मुख्य परीक्षा, निवृत्ति, PT, सीसैट टेस्ट सीरीज
- ▶ निवृत्ति लेखन - शैली, PT 365, Mains 365, सीसैट कक्षाएं
- ▶ कॉम्प्यूटरेशन स्टडी मटेरियल

**ONE YEAR CURRENT AFFAIRS  
for GS Mains 2019 in 75 Hours**



Specific targeted content oriented towards Mains exam

Complete coverage of The Hindu, Indian Express, PIB, Economic Times, Yojana, Economic Survey, Budget, India Year Book, RSTV, etc

**ENGLISH Medium** | 25 July 5 PM

**हिन्दी माध्यम** | 1 Aug 5 PM

**Monthly CURRENT AFFAIRS Revision 2020  
GENERAL STUDIES (PRELIMS + MAINS)**

These classes seek to develop a detailed topic-wise understanding of complex current affairs issues that aspirants are expected to cover.

Two to three classes will be held every fortnight.

**English Medium**

25<sup>th</sup> June | 5 PM

## Woman HRD official jumps to death

STAFF REPORTER  
NEW DELHI

A 52-year-old woman who worked with the Ministry of Human Resource Development jumped to death from an office building in Lodhi Colony, the police said.

A senior police officer said that the deceased was a resident of Karol Bagh.

"The woman jumped from the fourth floor of the office building. Employees rushed her to a hospital where she was declared brought dead," the officer said.

The police said that a note has been recovered in which the deceased wrote that she felt lonely after her husband died of cancer in December. She used to stay with her sons.

*Suicide prevention helpline: Sanjivini, Society for Mental Health, 011-4076 9002, Monday-Saturday (10 a.m.-7.30 p.m.)*

## DDA to launch e-auction of plots for commercial development

Urban body collected around ₹2,500 crore from previous e-auction

SHINJINI GHOSH  
NEW DELHI

The Delhi Development Authority will soon be launching an e-auction scheme for multi-use commercial development across the national capital, senior DDA officials said on Wednesday.

The urban body is currently in the process of scanning various presentations being made by interested parties for the development work, said officials while adding that the DDA is aiming to create "iconic structures" in the Capital which will include shopping arenas as well as multiplexes.

"As of now, certain plots in Peeragarhi, Karkardula, Mayur Vihar and Rohini, among others have been identified. These are vacant plots that cover huge areas measuring approximately 30-

**The expression of interest has already been launched and the inputs from various players are being taken**

SUBU  
Commissioner Land Disposal

35 acres each," said Commissioner Land Disposal, Subu R.

"The aim is to provide areas where a family can go for entertainment purposes and we are looking forward for such developments. They will be iconic structures in Delhi for shopping as well as entertainment for people," he added.

### Proximity to metro

While selecting the areas, the land-owning agency has also kept in consideration proximity to metro stations.

"The expression of interest has already been launched and the inputs from various players are being taken

65 institutional plots that were put on offer.

"The rates for the institutional plots have been reduced to make the offers more attractive. The reduced rates are applicable for the fifth phase which is currently on," said Mr. Subu.

Meanwhile, in the four phases of e-auctions conducted by the urban body, approximately ₹2,500 crore was collected, said senior officials.

Currently, the fifth phase of the e-auction is under way, for which rates for institutional plots was reduced by 33%. The move came after the DDA failed to receive bids for institutional plots. While in the first and third phase, no bids were received for these plots, in the second and fourth phases, the DDA received three bids for a total of

## Draw of lots for 18,000 flats to be conducted on July 23

Exercise will begin at noon and will be broadcast live

STAFF REPORTER  
NEW DELHI

The Delhi Development Authority will conduct draw of lots for the housing scheme 2019 on July 23, senior officials of the DDA said on Wednesday.

The first phase of e-auction of vacant residential, commercial, industrial and institutional plots were conducted by the DDA in January. After having received over ₹900 crore through the first phase, the land owning agency has conducted subsequent phases where plots, including for small shops, kiosks and mobile towers, have been offered for auctions.

In the fourth phase that was conducted last month, the urban body received 72 bids for 80 residential plots which were on offer.



DDA's high-income group flats at Rohini Sector-29.

■ FILE PHOTO: SANDEEP SAXENA

portal itself," said a senior DDA official.

All the flats offered under this scheme were newly constructed ones and included approximately 450 HIG (high-income group) flats

and 1,550 MIG (middle-income group) flats. Additionally, around 8,300 LIG (low-income group) and 7,700 EWS (economically weaker section) flats were offered under this scheme.

## Delhi Congress distributes work among its working presidents

Haroon Yusuf, Devender Yadav to oversee university polls

STAFF REPORTER  
NEW DELHI

Delhi Congress president Sheila Dikshit on Wednesday allocated responsibilities to the three working presidents of the Delhi Pradesh Congress Committee. Haroon Yusuf and Devender Yadav were given the responsibility of overseeing the preparation for the upcoming Delhi University and other elections that the student-wing of the Congress and the National Student Union of India would contest that are usually held in early September.



Sheila Dikshit

presidents had at that time.

### Chacko's letter

The move comes after AICC in-charge of Delhi P.C. Chacko wrote to Ms. Dikshit on July 16 telling her that the working presidents had been appointed to look after organisational affairs in the areas allotted to them but no working arrangement was in place. He said that it was "disturbing that no working arrangement was in place". He added that Assembly elections were only a few months away and the working of the PCC had to be streamlined as early as possible.

A division within the Del-

hi Congress came to light last week when the three working presidents had written to Ms. Dikshit saying that several decisions that she had taken like setting up a fact finding committee to look into the results of the Lok Sabha election, dissolution of all 280 Block Congress Committees and appointment of district and block observers has been taken without consultation with them. In the letter to Ms. Dikshit, the three working chiefs had written "As be the directions of Congress president Rahul Gandhi, the PCC was designed to work under your leadership along with the three working presidents and it was intended to take collective decisions in consultation with each other for strengthening the party."

Mr. Chacko had also written to Ms. Dikshit asking her not to take any decisions regarding organisation of the party without consulting the working presidents and informing the general secretary in-charge.

During interrogation, Parvinder disclosed that in November 2018, he along with his accomplice attacked one Chanpreet, a resident of Hari Nagar, due to personal enmity. Deputy Commissioner of Police (Special Cell), Manishi Chandra said.

He was absconding since the incident and a case was registered against him, the officer said.

Later, Parvinder came in contact with his old friend Mani, also a resident of Hari-

## Woman killed, 4 injured as fire engulfs shanty

Three-year-old girl suffers over 90% burns and is battling for life, say police

STAFF REPORTER  
NEW DELHI

A woman died and four others, including a minor girl, suffered injuries when a 'jhuggi' caught fire in west Delhi's Moti Nagar on Wednesday morning. Condition of one of them is critical, the police said.

The deceased has been identified as Shahnaz Begum while her husband Mohd. Chhote, grand daughter Muskan (3), Adil (25) and Sadik (26) sustained injuries. The police said that both Shahnaz and Muskan suffered over 90% burns and were rushed to Safdarjung Hospital where the woman died and the girl is battling for life.

**Gas leak, spark from wire**  
Shahnaz's son Razik (18) said that the incident occurred around 8.30 a.m. when his mother rushed to help their



The jhuggi in Moti Nagar where the fire broke out on Wednesday morning. ■ SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

neighbour Adil and Sadik after a fire broke out in their jhuggi. It was raining and a lot of wires were jutting out in the jhuggi cluster. Adil and Sadik were transferring gas from a big cylinder to smaller ones due to which there was a gas leak. A spark from the wires led to the fire.

As the fire spread, the brothers shouted for help

and Shahnaz ran to help them. Her granddaughter Muskan too followed her.

"The fire spread quickly and the four of them got trapped. My father then rushed to help them. Meanwhile, all of us tried to douse the blaze. As it was raining, the fire was doused soon but all the five suffered severe burn injuries," Razik said.

Razik alleged that the fire

tenders reached half an hour late. He admitted that it was tough for the fire tenders to reach the narrow lanes. "We doused the fire by the time fire tenders reached," he said.

A fire official said that the call was received at 8.20 a.m. after which six fire tenders were pressed into service.

DCP (West) Monika Bhardwaj said that a case under Section 336 (Act endangering life or personal safety of others), 337 (causing hurt), 338 (causing grievous hurt) and 285 (negligent conduct with respect to fire or combustible matter) of the Indian Penal Code has been registered and further investigation is underway.

Meanwhile, Delhi Fire Service chief Atul Garg said that the firefighting equipment in the building were not in working condition.

## Fire breaks out at SBI building

STAFF REPORTER  
NEW DELHI

A fire broke out on the sixth floor of the State Bank of India (SBI) building on Sansad Marg on Wednesday morning. No injuries were reported in the incident.

A fire service official said that a call was received at 8.10 a.m. after which seven fire tenders were pressed into service.

"The fire was brought under control by 8.30 a.m. after which cooling off operation continued for the next few hours," the official said. He added that the cause of fire is yet to be ascertained.

Meanwhile, Delhi Fire Service chief Atul Garg said that the firefighting equipment in the building were not in working condition.

## 26-year-old man wanted in several criminal cases lands in police net

Pistol, cartridges recovered from his possession

STAFF REPORTER  
NEW DELHI

A 26-year-old man involved in several cases of murder and attempt to murder was arrested from north Delhi's Maurice Nagar, the police said on Wednesday.

Parvinder Singh, carrying a reward of ₹25,000 was nabbed on Tuesday from near Delhi University's Kiroli Mal College area, where he came to meet his accomplice on a stolen bike, they said.

A pistol and cartridges were recovered from his

possession, the police said. During interrogation, Parvinder disclosed that in November 2018, he along with his accomplice attacked one Chanpreet, a resident of Hari Nagar, due to personal enmity. Deputy Commissioner of Police (Special Cell), Manishi Chandra said.

He was absconding since the incident and a case was registered against him, the officer said.

Later, Parvinder came in contact with his old friend Mani, also a resident of Hari-

## Bail of two cancelled over fake torture charges

NIRNIMESH KUMAR  
NEW DELHI

A Delhi court has cancelled the bail of two accused for faking torture at the hands of police officials while being brought to court in south-west Delhi.

Additional Sessions Judge Sonu Agnihotri cancelled the bail of accused Vikas and Vikas Puri.

When the two appeared before the court, one bare-chested and the other with torn vest, the Judge enquired about their appearance. In reply, they blamed the officials accompanying them. But in a video shown by the lock-up in-charge to the court, the accused were seen trying to harm themselves. "...From today onwards, they are in custody in the present case," the Judge said.

Hence, Parvinder along with his accomplice Kimat Singh shot him dead near Ashok Nagar on June 10, the officer said. Kimat was arrested in this case while Parvinder was absconding, the DCP said.

Later, Parvinder came in contact with his old friend Mani, also a resident of Hari-

## Watery drive



A motorist drives through a waterlogged road after heavy rain lashed the city on Wednesday morning. The maximum temperature was recorded at 31.7 degrees Celsius, three notches below normal. Light rain is expected today. ■ R.V. MOORTHY

## Deposit ₹250 crore for bioremediation of landfills: NGT

Warns municipal officials that they will not get salaries if civic bodies fail to deposit amount

STAFF REPORTER  
NEW DELHI

The National Green Tribunal (NGT) on Wednesday directed the Delhi government and civic bodies to deposit an amount of ₹250 crore to an escrow account for a bioremediation and biomining project that is to be undertaken to deal with the Okhla, Ghazipur and Bhalwa landfills sites. A Bench headed by NGT chairperson Justice Adarsh Kumar Goel specified that out of the total amount, the Delhi government is liable to pay ₹125 crore while the



other half of the amount is to be borne by the civic bodies, which will also include a cost of ₹20 crore each from the New Delhi Municipal Council and the Delhi Cantonment Board.

Stating that in case the civic bodies fail to deposit

the amounts no corporation officer will get their salaries, the Bench observed, "At Bhalwa, Ghazipur and Okhla, leachate is contaminating the groundwater which is turning yellow and orange. The leachate is also reaching the Yamuna. There are traces of heavy metals in the groundwater and other parameters are several times beyond the permissible range."

Directing authorities to begin work from October 1, the Bench said, "We are giving you a scientific solution. All this indecisiveness and

putting blame on one another needs to stop. This [bioremediation] is already being followed in Ahmedabad. We will follow it for the entire country. It is a scientific model and cost effective. All that you have to do is temporarily hire machines and labour. No tender is needed either."

The green panel also came down heavily on the north municipal corporation for providing an estimated cost of ₹1,200 crore to remediate the landfill.

"Have you studied the Indore model? Why can't that

model be copied? It will create havoc somewhere else if you cap it. In the short-term it is okay, but long-term there will be plenty of problems, both in terms of human health and environment in unquantifiable terms," the Bench said.

Referring to a recent order the NGT had passed pertaining to the Pirana landfill site in Ahmedabad, the Bench suggested that once the land is reclaimed, a biodiversity park or a waste processing plant can be set up.

## Over 200 posts created to strengthen forest dept., govt. tells green panel

STAFF REPORTER  
NEW DELHI

Following a plea seeking directions to strengthen the State's Forest Department, the Delhi government, on Wednesday, informed the National Green Tribunal (NGT) that 242 additional posts were created recently to enhance the functioning of the department.

Delhi Chief Secretary Vijay Dev told a Bench headed by NGT chairperson Justice Adarsh Kumar Goel that the Lieutenant-Governor had already approved the posts and the process of recruit-

ment is expected to begin soon.

### Ground-level staff

"The forest department had said that they need more ground-level monitoring. So the posts are mostly for increasing ground-level staff, including rangers and security guards. Now, we have also authorised the forest department to conduct interviews as well. So issues pertaining to that will also be resolved," said Mr. Dev.

During the hearing, the Bench also suggested that the total area which one

guard is responsible for, be reduced so that there is better monitoring against encroachments.

"For one guard to look after an area with a 15-kilometre radius is not humanly possible...why not reduce the areas and make smaller divisions?" the Bench asked to which the Chief Secretary said that the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests can look into the matter.

While posting the matter next for November 19, the NGT directed authorities to furnish an updated status report to the tribunal.

DELHI Timings	
THURSDAY, JULY 18	
RISE 05:35	SET 19:20
RISE 20:32 SET 06:36	
FRIDAY, JULY 19	
RISE 05:35	SET 19:20
RISE 21:11 SET 07:30	
SATURDAY, JULY 20	
RISE 05:36	SET 19:19
RISE 21:46 SET 08:23	

Delhi Weather	max	min
Delhi City	32	24
Safdarjung	32	24
Palam	32	23

**Delhi Palam Today**  
**32°C** A cloudy and comfortable morning. Day will be warm with cloudy sky. Spell of rain thundershower will occur.

**Delhi Palam Tomorrow**  
**35°C** A hazy and comfortable morning. Day will be warm and humid with cloudy sky. Short spell of light rain may occur.

© Copyright Skymet Weather 2019  
All rights reserved.

**THE HINDU**  
DISCLAIMER: Readers are requested to verify and make appropriate comments to satisfy themselves about the veracity of an advertisement before responding to any publication in this newspaper. THG PUBLISHING PVT LTD., the Owner & Publisher & Owner of this newspaper does not vouch for the authenticity of any advertisement or advertiser or for any of the advertiser's products or services. The Owner, Publisher, Printer, Editor, Director/s, Employees of this newspaper/ company shall not be held responsible/ liable in any manner whatsoever for any claims and/or damages or for advertisements in this newspaper.

# 'Housing project' for stray cows

1,000 shelters to come up in Madhya Pradesh to accommodate 7 lakh animals

**SIDHARTH YADAV**  
Bhopal

Stray cows will soon have 1,000 shelters to call their homes in Madhya Pradesh. As part of 'Project Gaushala', the State government plans to move 7 lakh stray cows and bulls to shelters close to villages.

"First, let's not call them *awara* (wandering)," said R.K. Rokde, Director, State Animal Husbandry Department. "Instead, *nirashrit* (stray) sounds much more dignified."

## Land donated

Each *gaushala* (cow shelter) is being developed at a cost of ₹30 lakh on an acre or more of land donated by temples, individuals and informal groups. Each of the 100 cows in a shelter would have at least 27 sq. ft. under the shed to itself, and at least an extra 50 sq. ft. to roam. Newborn calves would be

## Bill to deal with cow vigilanism tabled

**PRESS TRUST OF INDIA**  
Bhopal

The Congress government in Madhya Pradesh on Wednesday tabled a Bill in the Assembly that seeks to amend a BJP-era law to prescribe jail terms for violence in the name of cow

vigilantism and ease bovine transportation.

Animal Husbandry Minister Lakhman Singh Yadav tabled the Madhya Pradesh Cow Progeny Slaughter Prevention (Amendment) Bill, 2019, in the Assembly.

tended to in special, intensive-care sheds; cow urine and dung would be stocked in tanks for use later as ingredients in different products; vermicompost pits and biogas units would be set up in the compound.

Each cow will be provided not less than ₹20 worth sawdust and fodder from deep mangers every day. For this,

the State government in this year's budget has set aside ₹132 crore.

Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme workers have been roped in to build the *gaushalas* at a cost of ₹300 crore, being drawn from the scheme. Under the watch of gram panchayats, self-help groups and NGOs working

for the welfare of cows will manage the shelters, once their bid to operate them is approved by Zila Gaupalan Samitis headed by District Collectors. Mr. Rokdesaid, "We will transfer funds for the feed to managers in four instalments in a year."

## Not all stray

Not all the cattle on the streets, however, are stray, he said. "As many as 13 lakh cattle have breeders and are left to roam streets and graze fields during the day. They won't be moved to the shelters."

Over the years, admitted

Mr. Rokde, with stricter implementation of the Madhya Pradesh Gauvanish Vadhi Pratishedi Adhiniyam, the State's cow slaughter prevention law, especially close to the State's porous borders to catch those transporting cattle illegally, the numbers of stray cattle has shot up.

**2 children die after drinking pump water**

## Sukhbir shedding crocodile tears, says Amarinder

Cong., AAP hit out at Akali Dal chief for politicising CBI closure report in Bargari sacrilege case

**SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT**  
CHANDIGARH

Two children died and 52 others were taken ill allegedly after drinking contaminated water in their village school in the district.

The incident occurred on Tuesday afternoon in Salgwan village where two children died and 52 others were taken ill after drinking "contaminated water" from a hand pump, Aligarh's CMO M.L. Agarwal said Wednesday.

The ruling Congress and Aam Aadmi Party have both hit out at the Shiromani Akali Dal, accusing its chief Sukhbir Singh Badal of trying to fool the people on the CBI closure report in the Bargari sacrilege case of 2015 and politicising the matter.

Punjab Chief Minister Amarinder Singh said on Wednesday that Mr. Badal was shedding "crocodile tears" on the Bargari issue, and made it clear that his go-

**Ranchi court modifies 'donate Koran' order**

## Allows college girl regular bail

**PRESS TRUST OF INDIA**  
RANCHI

A court here on Wednesday modified its order asking a college girl, arrested for an offensive Facebook post, to donate copies of the Koran as a pre-condition for bail.

The court changing its order allowed her regular bail by furnishing bail bond of ₹7,000 and two sureties of like amount each.

Judicial Magistrate Manish Kumar Singh modifying his Tuesday's order, said the court has granted a petition filed by the investigating officer cum-officer-in-charge

of Pithoria police station praying for doing away with the condition of donating copies of the Koran because of the difficulties in its implementation.

## Condition retained

The court retained its condition that one of the bailers should be a local resident of Ranchi district and another must be a relative of the petitioner. Lawyers of the civil court on Wednesday boycotted the court in protest against the order asking the girl to distribute copies of the holy book.

**Rajasthan considering policy on M-sand as substitute for 'bajri'**

In view of the SC ban on mining of the latter in the State

**SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT**  
JAIPUR

The Congress government in Rajasthan is considering formulating a policy on manufactured sand (M-sand) as a substitute of 'bajri' (riverbed sand) used for construction of buildings, in view of the Supreme Court's ban on mining of the latter in the State. The State government has issued a limited number of mining leases for 'bajri' at private land.

The riverbed sand, which is mixed with cement for construction, has not been legally available in the State since November 2017, when the Supreme Court imposed a ban on its mining. The non-availability of sand has had an adverse impact on the construction of houses and stalled several government and private projects, besides leading to illegal mining.

Though the halt to construction activities rendered a large number of workers and labourers unemployed, the Supreme Court later came down heavily on the State government for sanctioning leases for sand min-

We will appoint a senior lawyer for representing the State government in the cases pending in the apex court and try for their early disposal," he said.

Mr. Bhaya said the State government was issuing mining leases to the owners of private land measuring between 1 hectare and 4 hectares, while short-term licence could be issued to the contractors of government projects for land measuring up to 1 hectare. After a Supreme Court judgment of 2012, such a lease could be sanctioned only after obtaining environmental clearance, he added.

**Congress charge**  
The Congress had earlier accused the previous BJP government of being "hand in glove with the sand mafia", which was even taken note of by the Supreme Court. The ruling party said the BJP regime's negligence had resulted in unemployment of 25 lakh people, including construction labourers, 'bajri' truck drivers, truck owners, contractors and skilled workers trained in the construction sector.

Mines Minister Pramod Bhaya said in the State Assembly on Tuesday that 97 mining leases for 'bajri' were at present operative in the State, while 216 LoIs had been issued since January 8 this year. "We will appoint a

## U.P. ATS arrests Maoist in Bareilly

Kheem Singh carried a bounty of ₹50,000 on his head

**OMAR RASHID**  
LUCKNOW

The Uttar Pradesh Anti-Terrorism Squad on Wednesday arrested a suspected Maoist who carried a reward of ₹50,000 on his head from outside the Bareilly railway station, a senior police officer said.

Bora is allegedly known by several other aliases - Krishna, Prakash, Rajan, Prabhakar and Vijayprahram.

A resident of Almora district of Uttarakhand, Bora was an active member of the banned Maoist Communist Centre of India since 2003 and even participated in a weapons training camp in the forests of Nainital in 2004, the police said.

**Inputs from activist**  
The ATS claimed that the suspect, Kheem Singh Bora, was nabbed on the inputs of Manish Srivastava, an activist and professional translator, who, along with his wife Anita Srivastava, was recently arrested from Bhopal for alleged Maoist links.

Bora was arrested while travelling to Dhanbad to meet his associates, said Additional Director General, ATS, Aseem Arun.

A .308 bore countrymade pistol with five live cartridges, literature (yet to be legally examined), a pen drive and a jungle survival kit, in

cluding a folding knife, wire cutter, mosquito repellent cream, lighter, umbrella and a hand fan, were recovered from him, said the police.

Other charges against him include defacing walls in Uttarakhand with writings and posters on prohibition, jobs and migration, as well as his call for boycott of the State Assembly elections in 2012 and Lok Sabha election in 2014.

## Charges under UAPA

Bora faces four FIRs in Uttarakhand, including sedition, criminal conspiracy and under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act. From 1983 to 2003, he was active in various farmers' and students' movements before becoming the secretary of the zonal committee of the 3 USAC (Ut-

tar Bihar-Uttar Pradesh-Uttarakhand Special Area Committee) of CPI (Maoist) in 2006.

Mr. Arun said Bora's task was to propagate the Maoist ideology and recruit members from among farmers, youths, students and labourers.

Other charges against him include defacing walls in Uttarakhand with writings and posters on prohibition, jobs and migration, as well as his call for boycott of the State Assembly elections in 2012 and Lok Sabha election in 2014.

## Bhopal arrests

The Srivastavas were arrested from their residence in Shahpur area of Bhopal earlier this month.

They were accused of living in the city "using false identities and documents". The police are examining the literature and other materials recovered from them.

**Address ownership issue first: SAD on SYL canal**

**SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT**  
CHANDIGARH

of river water to spare for other States.

**Inalienable right**  
"Legally, constitutionally and historically, Punjab has exclusive, total and inalienable right over the waters of its rivers. Any authority set up to look into the optimisation of river water usage must first of all address the issue of constitutional ownership through the internationally accepted "riparian principle".

AKALI DAL president Sukhbir Singh Badal said Punjab does not have a single drop

challenge, it is the NDA government that is in power at the Centre and the Akali Dal is a part of it.

## Political stunt

AAP's Harpal Singh Cheema, the Leader of the Opposition, said the Akali Dal's stance of rejecting the CBI's closure report was nothing but a "political stunt".

"Mr. Badal is a master of theatrics and knows how to leverage a given situation to earn brownie points," said Mr. Cheema.

**Kathua rape: HC to hear father's plea**

**PRESS TRUST OF INDIA**  
CHANDIGARH

The Punjab and Haryana High Court will on Thursday hear plea of the father of the girl who was raped and murdered in Kathua last year, seeking enhancement of the sentence pronounced by a trial court.

Office of the Director General of Police Uttarakhand 12, Subhash Road, Dehradun RE-Tender Tender Identification no. DG-III-304/2019				
1- Name of Item: CCTV Camera with other accessories for police stations.				
2- Date of Issue of Tender- 15-07-2019				
3- Last Date of Receipt of Tender- 26-07-2019, 05:00 PM				
4- Date of opening of Tender - 27-07-2019, 11:00 AM				
Further Details can be seen from the e-procurement portal <a href="http://uktenders.gov.in">http://uktenders.gov.in</a>				
IG/P/M Chairman Purchase Committee, Police H.Q., Uttarakhand Dehradun.				
DIPR UK 8545				

JHARKHAND BIJLI VITRAN NIGAM LIMITED CIN No. U				

# HC quashes no-confidence motion notice against Salt Lake Mayor

Directs that a meeting be held in the next two days to prevent horse-trading

## SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

KOLKATA

The Calcutta High Court on Wednesday set aside a notice for no-confidence proceedings against the Mayor of the Bidhannagar Municipal Corporation [Salt Lake] which was scheduled on Thursday.

## Fresh notice

Justice Samapti Chattopadhyay directed that a fresh notice for no-confidence motion against Mayor Sabyasachi Dutta be issued within the next two days. The court observed that in order to prevent horse-trading, the



Sabyasachi Dutta • FILE PHOTO

meeting will have to be held within two days.

A notice was issued to Mr. Dutta on July 9 by the BMC Commissioner. The BMC is

one of the biggest civic bodies after the Kolkata Municipal Corporation and is run by West Bengal's ruling Trinamool Congress. Mr. Dutta has allegedly defied the TMC on a number of occasions and the party wants him removed from the post.

The no-confidence notice was challenged by Mr. Dutta on the grounds that it was not issued properly by the BMC chairperson. The Calcutta High Court has ordered that the notice be brought by the chairperson of the civic body.

Meanwhile, the issue of

no-confidence motion of the Bongaon Municipality, where violence had erupted on Tuesday, was also raised before the court.

Justice Chattopadhyay blamed the head of the civic body and observed that the police did not act to prevent the disturbance. Trinamool Congress MP and advocate Kalyan Banerjee raised questions over other irregularities before the judge which led to an argument in the court. The court observed that it has been doing its work honestly and without any fear or favour.

## Four killed in car-truck collision

## PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

KOLKATA

Four persons from Khurda and Bhadrak districts of Odisha were killed when their car hit a container truck in Howrah district of West Bengal on Wednesday, the police said.

The deceased were identified as Manoj Kumar Mohanty (38), P. Tejeswar Rao (37), Dilip Kumar Nayak (37) and Digvijay Ray (40).

## ED quizzes suspended TMC leader

Kunal Ghosh was earlier interrogated in October 2013

## PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

KOLKATA

The Enforcement Directorate, which has been probing the money laundering aspect of the multi-crore Saradha ponzi scheme, on Wednesday interrogated suspended Trinamool Congress leader Kunal Ghosh for the second time.

Mr. Ghosh, who visited the agency's office here at the CGO Complex, was questioned for nearly two hours.

ED sources said that Mr. Ghosh had allegedly received funds from the Saradha group to head its media unit.

"We are probing the flow of funds which Mr. Ghosh had allegedly received from the Saradha group and also the money laundering angle," sources said.

Mr. Ghosh was earlier interrogated by the agency in connection with the case in October 2013.

The Saradha group owned the dailies *Bengal Post* and *Sakabala*, which had ceased publication after the scam broke out in April 2013. Mr. Ghosh was initially arrested by a SIT of the Bidhannagar Police Commissionerate in November 2013 in connection with the case and later the Central Bureau of Investigation took over the investigation on the Supreme Court orders. He was granted interim bail in 2016.

It examined a total 139

## EDUCATIONAL

### CLASSIFIEDS MART

#### TO ADVERTISE:

[www.thehinduads.com](http://www.thehinduads.com)

011-43579738 • 43579797

#### EDUCATIONAL

### ESSAY

(Essay paper makes huge difference in Mains Score)  
By DR. RAMASWAMY Pro vice chancellor  
Pioneer in Essay Course  
Batch-4: 20<sup>th</sup> July Sharp at 7:00 am

### DR. RAMASWAMY IAS ACADEMY

Flat No. 22, Rajendra Park, Old Rajender Nagar, Near Rajendra Place Metro Station Gate-3  
Contact No. 9350933144, 9958589406, 9958589106  
Online/Offline Admission: [www.ramaswamyiasacademy.org](http://www.ramaswamyiasacademy.org)

### Most interesting optional made most simple PHILOSOPHY by Vivek Sir

AIR-40 GARIMA AGARWAL "Vivek Sir's extraordinary ability to simplify all complex topics & do comparative analysis improved my understanding in Philosophy."

### FOUNDATION COURSE

Personalised Mentoring & Guidance  
Answer Writing Perfection Assured

Free Orientation 22<sup>nd</sup> July at 3 pm

516, Basement, Near Karol Bagh Metro, Old Rajender Nagar, New Delhi-60  
MALUKA IAS 011-47340741, 8285025339, 9910133084

### PAVAN KUMAR'S IAS

(An Academy of General Studies & Public Administration)

### NEW BATCHES PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION

22<sup>nd</sup> July

### ETHICS

22<sup>nd</sup> July

### POLITY & GOV.

22<sup>nd</sup> July

### TEST SERIES

### GENERAL STUDIES

20<sup>th</sup> July

### ETHICS

20<sup>th</sup> July

### PUBLIC ADMIN.

21<sup>st</sup> July

ADMISSIONS ARE ON

Offline [www.pavankumarias.com](http://www.pavankumarias.com) Online

8447412868, 8447532310, 9911366520

18/4, First Floor, Old Rajender Nagar, Opp. Aggarwal Sweets, New Delhi-110060

011-45109939 / 9870309939 / 9990188537

CM YK

8447412868, 8447532310, 9911366520

18/4, First Floor, Old Rajender Nagar, Opp. Aggarwal Sweets, New Delhi-110060

011-45109939 / 9870309939 / 9990188537

CM YK

8447412868, 8447532310, 9911366520

18/4, First Floor, Old Rajender Nagar, Opp. Aggarwal Sweets, New Delhi-110060

011-45109939 / 9870309939 / 9990188537

CM YK

8447412868, 8447532310, 9911366520

18/4, First Floor, Old Rajender Nagar, Opp. Aggarwal Sweets, New Delhi-110060

011-45109939 / 9870309939 / 9990188537

CM YK

8447412868, 8447532310, 9911366520

18/4, First Floor, Old Rajender Nagar, Opp. Aggarwal Sweets, New Delhi-110060

011-45109939 / 9870309939 / 9990188537

CM YK

8447412868, 8447532310, 9911366520

18/4, First Floor, Old Rajender Nagar, Opp. Aggarwal Sweets, New Delhi-110060

011-45109939 / 9870309939 / 9990188537

CM YK

8447412868, 8447532310, 9911366520

18/4, First Floor, Old Rajender Nagar, Opp. Aggarwal Sweets, New Delhi-110060

011-45109939 / 9870309939 / 9990188537

CM YK

8447412868, 8447532310, 9911366520

18/4, First Floor, Old Rajender Nagar, Opp. Aggarwal Sweets, New Delhi-110060

011-45109939 / 9870309939 / 9990188537

CM YK

8447412868, 8447532310, 9911366520

18/4, First Floor, Old Rajender Nagar, Opp. Aggarwal Sweets, New Delhi-110060

011-45109939 / 9870309939 / 9990188537

CM YK

8447412868, 8447532310, 9911366520

18/4, First Floor, Old Rajender Nagar, Opp. Aggarwal Sweets, New Delhi-110060

011-45109939 / 9870309939 / 9990188537

CM YK

8447412868, 8447532310, 9911366520

18/4, First Floor, Old Rajender Nagar, Opp. Aggarwal Sweets, New Delhi-110060

011-45109939 / 9870309939 / 9990188537

CM YK

8447412868, 8447532310, 9911366520

18/4, First Floor, Old Rajender Nagar, Opp. Aggarwal Sweets, New Delhi-110060

011-45109939 / 9870309939 / 9990188537

CM YK

8447412868, 8447532310, 9911366520

18/4, First Floor, Old Rajender Nagar, Opp. Aggarwal Sweets, New Delhi-110060

011-45109939 / 9870309939 / 9990188537

CM YK

8447412868, 8447532310, 9911366520

18/4, First Floor, Old Rajender Nagar, Opp. Aggarwal Sweets, New Delhi-110060

011-45109939 / 9870309939 / 9990188537

CM YK

8447412868, 8447532310, 9911366520

18/4, First Floor, Old Rajender Nagar, Opp. Aggarwal Sweets, New Delhi-110060

011-45109939 / 9870309939 / 9990188537

CM YK

8447412868, 8447532310, 9911366520

18/4, First Floor, Old Rajender Nagar, Opp. Aggarwal Sweets, New Delhi-110060

011-45109939 / 9870309939 / 9990188537

CM YK

8447412868, 8447532310, 9911366520

18/4, First Floor, Old Rajender Nagar, Opp. Aggarwal Sweets, New Delhi-110060

011-45109939 / 9870309939 / 9990188537

CM YK

8447412868, 8447532310, 9911366520

18/4, First Floor, Old Rajender Nagar, Opp. Aggar

Revision of electoral rolls begins, to go on till July 30

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

MUMBAI  
The Chief Electoral Office in the State has started the process of revising electoral rolls, which will continue till July 30, according to an official statement released here.

Applications for inclusion as well as change of address or other corrections would be accepted in the respective Assembly segments at designated offices, the office of the chief electoral officer said in the statement.

The office has fixed the deadline of August 13 for clearing the applications. The data will be updated till August 16 and the final list of voters will be out on August 19.

Special camps will be organised on public holidays, such as July 20, 21, 27 and 28, for voters to submit their applications with the electoral officials, the statement added.

## Nigerian held for possessing cocaine

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

PUNE  
A Nigerian national was arrested for allegedly possessing cocaine worth ₹88 lakh here, police said on Wednesday.

Sholadoye Samuel Joy, 44, was in India on a business visa and lived in Undri, a suburb of Pune, police said, and was involved in selling cocaine to people in posh residential societies.

## AIMIM gears up for Assembly polls, eyes key constituencies

Is keen on playing to its strength, contesting at least 100 seats

SHOUMOJIT BANERJEE

PUNE  
With Prakash Ambedkar's Vanchit Bahujan Aghadi (VBA) hinting at contesting all 288 seats in the upcoming Assembly polls, the Asaduddin Owaisi-led All India Majlis-e-Ittehadul Muslimeen (AIMIM), which is Mr. Ambedkar's major ally, is keen on contesting at least 100 seats and has begun preparations for the same.

The AIMIM has identified four Assembly segments in Pune city, and is believed to have staked its claim to put up candidates on grounds that these areas had a sizeable minority population.

Senior AIMIM leader Anjum Inamdar told *The Hindu*: "With the Congress and the NCP fighting for their political existence, it is the VBA that has emerged as a potent and credible opposition to the BJP, and the AIMIM has played a major role

# Have done in five years what others failed to do in 15: CM

My priority is to make the State 'Congress-mukt', says Chandrakant Patil

SHARAD VYAS

MUMBAI

The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) will get a bigger voter share in the Assembly elections than it did in the general elections this year, Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis said here on Wednesday while welcoming the new State and city unit BJP chiefs.

Speaking at a function to mark the formal induction of Chandrakant Patil as the Maharashtra BJP president and Mangal Prabhat Lodha as the Mumbai unit president, Mr. Fadnavis said his government has done in five years what previous governments failed to do in 15 years. This, he added, was enough to ensure a second term for the BJP-Shiv Sena coalition.

"We have shown in the last five years we do not want power for the sake of power. It is to change the life of the common man. The aim of this government when it will come back to power will be to make Maharashtra the number one State. We have achieved significant growth in the past five years in industry, health and education. We want to do the same for the next five years," he said at the party's head office at Nariman Point.

Both Mr. Patil and Mr. Lodha on Wednesday gave a clarion call to party workers to oust Congress from Mumbai and the State. Mr. Lodha said the party must make the most of the golden phase in its expansion and eliminate the Congress from the financial capital. "Simple workers



**Confident trio:** Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis with State unit BJP president Chandrakant Patil (centre) and Mumbai president Mangal Prabhat Lodha at the party headquarters in Mumbai on Wednesday. ■ VIVEK BENDRE

like me have got a big responsibility. We want to rid Mumbai of the Congress in the next one year," he said.

Considered number two in the Devendra Fadnavis-led cabinet, Mr. Patil replaced Raosaheb Danve, who resigned as the state BJP chief after his induction into the Union cabinet.

Mr. Patil said making the "Congress-mukt" was his priority and added that BJP will look to secure over 51% of the vote share along with ally Sena. He was confident of making inroads into the strongholds of Congress and the Nationalist Congress Party (NCP).

When asked if the party

would breach Baramati – NCP's stronghold – he said the party would do what senior leader Smriti Irani did to win Amethi. "She kept going there (Amethi) day after day. On the same lines, we will win Baramati by 2024 and eliminate Congress and the NCP from State," he said.

He, however, admitted that defeating NCP leader Ajit Pawar in Baramati would be like day-dreaming.

"NCP won got a lead of 1.20 lakh votes in the Lok Sabha elections in Baramati. It is difficult to cover it in this Assembly elections. But I have set the target of winning Baramati LS seat in 2024," Mr. Patil said.

A few months back, the minister had said that the BJP and the Sena would contest 135 seats each, leaving the rest for the allies. When reminded of that comment, Mr. Patil said, "The small allies of BJP and Shiv Sena also have some mass base. If we want that base to vote for us, we need to give them seats." (With PTI inputs)

"The BJP-Sena and allied parties should win 220 seats," he said in response to a question over how many seats the saffron alliance is eyeing to win.

He, however, dodged a question whether he himself would contest the Assembly elections or not.

A few months back, the minister had said that the BJP and the Sena would contest 135 seats each, leaving the rest for the allies. When reminded of that comment, Mr. Patil said, "The small allies of BJP and Shiv Sena also have some mass base. If we want that base to vote for us, we need to give them seats." (With PTI inputs)

agitation – and the pivotal role essayed by the Brigade in it – would also yield rich dividends.

"Our [Sambhaji Brigade's] base is strong in Marathwada and Vidarbha. While we are generous enough to laud Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis's efforts in ensuring the Maratha quota, it must be remembered that the foot soldiers in the agitation were from the Brigade," he said, claiming that they still had widespread support at the ground level despite the BJP government's 'triumph' in fulfilling the Maratha community's demand on the quota.

At the same time, Mr. Shinde said that the Brigade had no wish to overreach itself and would play only to its strengths.

"If we ally with the VBA, we will only be demanding a couple of seats in PUNE where we are in a strong position like the Parvati Assembly segment. The objective will be to pool in our collective resources to overthrow the BJP government," he said.

"Being ideologically opposed to the BJP, our first preference will be the VBA. The Brigade's work at the grassroots level and the community work of its parent body, the Maratha Seva Sangh will certainly prove of great help to the VBA-AIMIM front if we do ally with them," said Santosh Shinde, district president of Sambhaji Brigade.

Mr. Shinde expressed confidence that the momentum of the Maratha quota



Asaduddin Owaisi-led AIMIM is confident that though short on numbers, they have a formidable base. ■ FILE PHOTO

in that. While we may not have numbers, we have a formidable base and are confident of making significant gains in the State, and in Pune city."

The party currently has one MP Imtiaz Jaleel (Aurangabad), one MLA Waris Pathan (Byculla, in Mumbai) and 137 corporators and councillors in civic bodies and municipal councils across the State, with a strong base in the Aurangabad, Solapur, Nanded and Yavatmal districts.

In this year's general elections, the VBA and the AIMIM cornered the traditional Dalit-Muslim votebank in at least eight-nine Lok Sabha

segments, leading to several major upsets, including that of Swabhiman Paksha leader Raju Shetti in Hatkanangale (Kolhapur), and veteran Congressman Sushilkumar Shinde in Solapur.

"It is not our intention to come across as a Muslim-centric party. We will be taking into consideration all sections of society aligned with the VBA. The four segments in Pune city also have

agitation – and the pivotal role essayed by the Brigade in it – would also yield rich dividends.

Mr. Inamdar and other leaders claimed that AIMIM is poised to snatch the votes traditionally held by NCP and Congress in the city and the State.

"Being ideologically opposed to the BJP, our first

preference will be the VBA. The Brigade's work at the grassroots level and the community work of its parent body, the Maratha Seva Sangh will certainly prove of great help to the VBA-AIMIM front if we do ally with them," said Santosh Shinde, district president of Sambhaji Brigade.

Mr. Shinde expressed

confidence that the momentum of the Maratha quota

will be to pool in our collective resources to overthrow the BJP government," he said.

"If we ally with the VBA, we will only be demanding a couple of seats in PUNE where we are in a strong position like the Parvati Assembly segment. The objective will be to pool in our collective resources to overthrow the BJP government," he said.

"Being ideologically opposed to the BJP, our first

preference will be the VBA. The Brigade's work at the grassroots level and the community work of its parent body, the Maratha Seva Sangh will certainly prove of great help to the VBA-AIMIM front if we do ally with them," said Santosh Shinde, district president of Sambhaji Brigade.

Mr. Shinde expressed

confidence that the momentum of the Maratha quota

will be to pool in our collective resources to overthrow the BJP government," he said.

"Being ideologically opposed to the BJP, our first

preference will be the VBA. The Brigade's work at the grassroots level and the community work of its parent body, the Maratha Seva Sangh will certainly prove of great help to the VBA-AIMIM front if we do ally with them," said Santosh Shinde, district president of Sambhaji Brigade.

Mr. Shinde expressed

confidence that the momentum of the Maratha quota

will be to pool in our collective resources to overthrow the BJP government," he said.

"Being ideologically opposed to the BJP, our first

preference will be the VBA. The Brigade's work at the grassroots level and the community work of its parent body, the Maratha Seva Sangh will certainly prove of great help to the VBA-AIMIM front if we do ally with them," said Santosh Shinde, district president of Sambhaji Brigade.

Mr. Shinde expressed

confidence that the momentum of the Maratha quota

will be to pool in our collective resources to overthrow the BJP government," he said.

"Being ideologically opposed to the BJP, our first

preference will be the VBA. The Brigade's work at the grassroots level and the community work of its parent body, the Maratha Seva Sangh will certainly prove of great help to the VBA-AIMIM front if we do ally with them," said Santosh Shinde, district president of Sambhaji Brigade.

Mr. Shinde expressed

confidence that the momentum of the Maratha quota

will be to pool in our collective resources to overthrow the BJP government," he said.

"Being ideologically opposed to the BJP, our first

preference will be the VBA. The Brigade's work at the grassroots level and the community work of its parent body, the Maratha Seva Sangh will certainly prove of great help to the VBA-AIMIM front if we do ally with them," said Santosh Shinde, district president of Sambhaji Brigade.

Mr. Shinde expressed

confidence that the momentum of the Maratha quota

will be to pool in our collective resources to overthrow the BJP government," he said.

"Being ideologically opposed to the BJP, our first

preference will be the VBA. The Brigade's work at the grassroots level and the community work of its parent body, the Maratha Seva Sangh will certainly prove of great help to the VBA-AIMIM front if we do ally with them," said Santosh Shinde, district president of Sambhaji Brigade.

Mr. Shinde expressed

confidence that the momentum of the Maratha quota

will be to pool in our collective resources to overthrow the BJP government," he said.

"Being ideologically opposed to the BJP, our first

preference will be the VBA. The Brigade's work at the grassroots level and the community work of its parent body, the Maratha Seva Sangh will certainly prove of great help to the VBA-AIMIM front if we do ally with them," said Santosh Shinde, district president of Sambhaji Brigade.

Mr. Shinde expressed

confidence that the momentum of the Maratha quota

will be to pool in our collective resources to overthrow the BJP government," he said.

"Being ideologically opposed to the BJP, our first

preference will be the VBA. The Brigade's work at the grassroots level and the community work of its parent body, the Maratha Seva Sangh will certainly prove of great help to the VBA-AIMIM front if we do ally with them," said Santosh Shinde, district president of Sambhaji Brigade.

Mr. Shinde expressed

confidence that the momentum of the Maratha quota

will be to pool in our collective resources to overthrow the BJP government," he said.

"Being ideologically opposed to the BJP, our first

preference will be the VBA. The Brigade's work at the grassroots level and the community work of its parent body, the Maratha Seva Sangh will certainly prove of great help to the VBA-AIMIM front if we do ally with them," said Santosh Shinde, district president of Sambhaji Brigade.

Mr. Shinde expressed

confidence that the momentum of the Maratha quota

will be to pool in our collective resources to overthrow the BJP government," he said.

"Being ideologically opposed to the BJP, our first

preference will be the VBA. The Brigade's work at the grassroots level and the community work of its parent body, the Maratha Seva Sangh will certainly prove of great help to the VBA-AIMIM front if we do ally with them," said Santosh Shinde, district president of Sambhaji Brigade.

Mr. Shinde expressed

confidence that the momentum of the Maratha quota

will be to pool in our collective resources to overthrow the BJP government," he said.

"Being ideologically opposed to the BJP, our first

preference will be the VBA. The Brigade's work at the grassroots level and the community work of its parent body, the Maratha Seva Sangh will certainly prove of great help to the VBA-AIMIM front if we do ally with them," said Santosh Shinde, district president of Sambhaji Brigade.

Mr. Shinde expressed

confidence that the momentum of the Maratha quota

will be to pool in our collective resources to overthrow the BJP government," he said.

"Being ideologically opposed to the BJP, our first

preference will be the VBA. The Brigade's work at the grassroots level and the community work of its parent body, the Maratha Seva Sangh will certainly prove of great help to the VBA-AIMIM front if we do ally with them," said Santosh Shinde, district president of Sambhaji Brigade.

Mr. Shinde expressed

confidence that the momentum of the Maratha quota

will be to pool in our collective resources to overthrow the BJP government," he said.

"Being ideologically opposed to the BJP, our first

preference will be the VBA. The Brigade's work at

## IN BRIEF



Kerala school scripting a record with Big Pen

MALAPPURAM Panthalloor Higher Secondary School near Manjeri in Kerala is on a mission to enter the Guinness Book of World Records. The school has made a giant pen using more than 5,000 throwaway plastic pens collected by students. Taking inspiration from the hugely popular Big Ben bell of the clock at London's Elizabeth Tower, the school has named the art piece Big Pen. The 7 m long pen weighs 68 kg and has a diameter of 30 cm.

## Snag grounds SpiceJet flight at Renigunta

TIRUPATI The Hyderabad-bound flight belonging to SpiceJet was grounded at the Renigunta airport reportedly owing to a technical snag on Wednesday. The aircraft from Hyderabad, that was scheduled to land here at 6.30 a.m. and start by 7.30 a.m., landed at 8.20 a.m. and took off by 8.50 a.m.. However, it returned within 10 minutes citing technical snag.

## Monsoon in Kerala turning active after a lull

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM Active to vigorous monsoon conditions can be expected over Kerala from Thursday to Saturday, the India Meteorological Department (IMD) said on Wednesday. Red alerts, signifying extremely heavy rainfall, have been issued for Idukki and Malappuram for Thursday, Pathanamthitta, Kottayam and Idukki for Friday, and Ernakulam and Idukki for Saturday.

# What about our right to issue a whip, ask Congress, JD(S) leaders

SC direction indirectly infringes on our rights: Minister

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT  
BENGALURU

Hours after the Supreme Court on Wednesday gave rebel MLAs of Karnataka freedom to opt out of the ongoing Legislative Assembly session, leaders of the Janata Dal (Secular) and Congress knocked on the door of the Speaker to seek a clarification on whether a whip could be issued and if it would hold water.

"The direction indirectly infringes on our rights," Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Minister Krishna Byre Gowda told reporters after a meeting with Speaker K.R. Ramesh Kumar here. "Parties have the right to issue a whip, and by allowing the choice to attend the session, it [the order] indirectly restricts rights given to the legislative parties in the Tenth Schedule."

He said that no opportunity was given to them to argue their case and they were



Karnataka CM H.D. Kumaraswamy arriving at Vidhana Soudha to meet Speaker K.R. Ramesh Kumar. ■ K. MURALI KUMAR

## SC order a moral victory

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT  
BENGALURU

Expressing happiness over the interim judgment of the Supreme Court on the issue related to resignations of MLAs and petitions seeking their disqualification, Karnataka BJP president B.S. Yeddyurappa on Wednesday described it as a "moral victory for rebel MLAs".

not made respondents. Mr. Gowda said both the Congress and the JD(S) had sought clarification from the Speaker on this issue. Ho-

In a press release, Mr. Yeddyurappa said it was a "victory of the Constitution and democracy" and maintained that it would set a new trend in parliamentary democracy.

Pointing out that it was just an interim order, he said the Supreme Court in future would ponder over the powers of the Speaker.

ever, the Speaker had refused to provide any at this point of time, added the Minister.

"The Speaker said if the

parties, using their rights, issue a whip and if it is violated, we could approach him as per the Tenth Schedule. He said he will inquire about it and that he will give his decision," said the Minister.

### Leaders meet Speaker

Mr. Gowda said the two parties would take a decision on issuing the whip by Thursday and indicated that they were in favour of it. On Wednesday, top leadership of the coalition, including Chief Minister H.D. Kumaraswamy and chairman of the coordination committee Siddaramiah, met the Speaker, seeking clarification on and to discuss the consequence of the Supreme Court order.

The parties also wanted to know whether a member could be absent without seeking leave of absence. Mr. Gowda said the Speaker clarified that as per the Karnataka Legislative Assembly rules, members have to seek leave of absence. "While they are exempt from participating from the House proceedings, if they choose to stay away from the House, they have to adhere to the rules," he said.

Fresh alerts to aircraft pilots and officials speaking on condition of anonymity indicate a broad period between July 20-31. But a spokesman for the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) said it was part of a wide window indicated earlier and cautioned against assuming any finality. "A date will be known only when those working on the job get some clarity," he said.

ISRO is yet to publicly share any details on the hitch that was noticed just an hour before the scheduled launch at 2.51 a.m. on July 15. Asked if the glitch related to the GSLV-MkIII launch vehicle, ISRO's spokesman declined to comment, citing the 'classified' nature of expert committee findings.



Journey stalled: ISRO's GSV carrying Chandrayaan-2 stands at the Satish Dhawan Space Centre in Sriharikota after the mission was aborted on July 15. ■ AP

## Moon mission awaits new date with destiny

ISRO studying hitch that halted launch

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT  
BENGALURU

There is no clarity yet on when Chandrayaan-2 may be launched, three days after the launch of the moon mission was halted on the launchpad less than an hour before lift-off.

Fresh alerts to aircraft pilots and officials speaking on condition of anonymity indicate a broad period between July 20-31. But a spokesman for the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) said he would not endorse the information to avoid 'causing any confusion'.

### Earth phase may shrink

Chandrayaan-2 is to be India's first lander-rover mission to the Moon as a sequel to the first orbiting mission of 2008. India also hopes to be the first country to land at the lunar south pole.

With the delay in the launch, ISRO may shrink the original 17-day period that the spacecraft was set to go around the Earth in increasingly higher orbits before being put on course to the Moon. A senior scientist said there was enough cushion in the mission to reduce the number of Earth orbits.

## Telangana Cabinet nod for draft municipal bill

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT  
HYDERABAD

The Telangana Cabinet on Wednesday approved the draft municipal bill to be introduced by Chief Minister K. Chandrasekhar Rao in the Assembly on Thursday.

Thereafter, both Assembly and Legislative Council would debate the bill.

The marathon Cabinet meeting, presided over by Mr. Rao, decided to supply to beneficiaries proceedings of the hiked social security pensions Assembly constituency-wise on July 20. The government had already decided to hike the pensions for aged persons, widows, beedi workers, toddy-tappers, handloom weavers, single women, elephantiasis-affected persons and AIDS victims from ₹1,000 to ₹2,016 a month. The hike was from ₹1,500 to ₹3,016 for physically challenged persons and aged artists. The hike was made effective from June and payable this month.

A release said the Collectors were asked to organise programmes in constituency headquarters to hand over the proceedings of hike to beneficiaries on July 20. Immediately after the programmes, the money would be deposited in bank accounts of beneficiaries. Ministers, MPs, MLAs, MLCs and Zilla Parishad chairpersons would participate in the programmes.

The hike in pensions would entail an additional burden on exchequer to the tune of ₹12,000 crore, of which the State government would bear ₹11,800 crore and the Centre ₹200 crore.

## Trust vote: odds stacked against coalition govt.

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT  
BENGALURU

The Supreme Court order giving relief to 15 dissident Congress and Janata Dal (S) MLAs from participating in the confidence motion in the Karnataka Assembly on Thursday may have made the collapse of the 14-month-old coalition government imminent.

This will be the third motion on trust vote moved in

the Assembly after the fractured mandate in the 2018 elections.

The ruling coalition can count on 100 MLAs against the 107 reportedly commanded by the Opposition BJP. The Chief Minister H.D. Kumaraswamy-headed government has seen 13 Congress and 3 JD(S) MLAs submit resignation letters to the Speaker, while two Independents, who quit the Ministry, with

too have withdrawn support to the government.

The BJP had made at least half a dozen attempts earlier to topple the coalition by luring ruling party MLAs, but this time it seems confident of crossing the finish line.

Ramalinga Reddy, a former Minister and seven-time MLA, who also submitted his resignation, is expected to withdraw it and vote in favour of the Congress. With

his inclusion, the coalition will still have just 101 votes, including the Speaker's. The vote of N. Mahesh, BSP MLA, who had a pre-poll alliance with the JD(S), is uncertain.

The hopes of the government's survival received a jolt when rebel MLAs refused to meet Water Resources Minister D.K. Shiva Kumar, who has assumed the role of a trouble-shooter for the Congress.

## Rock bottom



Cause for concern: Due to the poor monsoon, the Himayatsagar reservoir, which has been meeting the drinking water needs of Hyderabad for close to 100 years, is now left with storage that will suffice only for a few days. The Hyderabad Metropolitan Water Supply and Sewerage Board is thinking of alternative arrangements to supply water to the city. ■ NAGARA GOPAL

## Kerala's University College in 'detox' mode

Full-time Principal posted; publicity material removed from campus

STAFF REPORTER

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM The Directorate of Collegiate Education in Kerala has begun virtual cleansing of the University College by setting in motion a host of remedial measures.

The college will have a full-time Principal after a brief hiatus. C.C. Babu, who was transferred from Government College, Thrissur, has been posted as Principal. The post remained vacant since the retirement of J. Anil Kumar on March 31 with senior faculty members undertaking the responsibilities in the intervening period.

Despite classes being suspended, the campus was buzzing with activity on Wednesday with the college authorities removing several publicity materials installed by the Students Federation of India (SFI) college unit, including banners, flags and posters. Graffiti were washed under the supervi-



Acting tough: Police using water cannons to disperse agitating MSF workers who tried to enter the University College in Thiruvananthapuram on Wednesday. ■ S. MAHINSHA

sion of the faculty. The clean-up was in adherence to a decision taken at the college council meeting convened by Additional Director of Collegiate Education K.K. Suma a day ago.

**SFI panel** Meanwhile, the SFI constituted an ad hoc 25-member unit committee in place of the panel dissolved in the af-

termath of last week's violent incidents. The committee, chaired by Kerala University union chairman Riyas A.R., a second-year B.A. Malayalam student, includes final-year student Akhil Chandran, who was allegedly stabbed by former SFI leaders.

The high point of the protest was an attempt by a lone Kerala Students Union activist, Shilpa, to storm the Secretariat block housing the office of Kerala Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan. Women police officers overpowered her and hustled her away in a van to the nearby Cantonment police station.

**TTD to scrap 'classifications' in VIP darshan system**

More importance for ordinary pilgrims, says chairman

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

TIRUMALA As a first step towards revamping the administration under the new dispensation, the TTD on Wednesday resolved to scrap the "classifications" in the VIP break darshan system with immediate effect.

TTD Chairman Y.V. Subba Reddy said the decision was taken to weed out corruption and at the same time attach more importance to ordinary pilgrims.

There would be no scope for any discrimination with equal treatment to the VIPs except for those who fall under the protocol category. A decade back, the VIPs

were extended a uniform treatment which is now revised with modifications to suit the present day requirements.

It will come into force in a couple of days after updating the software.

**No limit'** Presently, no limit of any kind had been imposed on the issuance of VIP tickets which was left to the discretion of the TTD officers concerned, who would take decisions on a day-to-day basis based on the pilgrim turnout.

This apart, the management was also open to new ideas such as introduction of

alternative systems, provided they contributed to a faster darshan to common pilgrims, Mr. Subba Reddy said.

About two and half to three hours were wasted in facilitating 3,500 to 5,000 people with VIP letters every day.

Unless the time was tweaked down to at least half, no justice could be done to the ordinary pilgrim, he said.

Mr. Subba Reddy also ruled out setting up a camp office at the capital city of Amaravati. "As I have never asked for any camp office, how can anybody sanction it?" he asked.

expert in Stone Age and Iron Age archaeology, Dr. Selvakumar will examine the site next week.

### The findings

The iron implements found include a nail, a chisel, a wedge, a knife and a dagger. The broken pieces of the dagger were recovered from a cist found at the location.

Mr. Rajan said that while the knife was found beside another cist, the nail, chisel, wedge and two other tools were recovered from the top of a broken urn at South Malampuzha. He said the tools that could not be identified might be a spearhead and the top portion of a sickle. The iron implements were spotted



Rare find: The implements can throw light on the life of people who lived during the Iron Age.

during a survey of Iron Age sites and burials as part of a University Grants Commission-aided project

that began in 2014. "The region has many varieties of Iron Age burials, including cairn circles, stone circles,

cist burials, dolmens, urn burials, and menhirs," said Mr. Rajan.

### Earlier exploration

An exploration conducted by M.G. Sasibhooshan in 1980s had found burial sites within the catchment areas of Malampuzha. Archaeological Survey of India director M. Nandiraju has asked the Victoria team to survey the region thoroughly and to document their findings in detail.

The survey is expected to continue for a few more weeks. Mr. Rajan said that deeper studies were required to find the exact period of the implements recovered from Malampuzha.

## Team from Kerala college finds Iron Age tools

Implements were recovered from the Malampuzha dam's catchment area

ABDUL LATHEEF NAHA  
PALAKKAD

A team of explorers from the Government Victoria College in Kerala have stumbled upon iron implements belonging to the Iron Age, from the catchment area of the Malampuzha dam.

K. Rajan, a former head of the History department at the college who led the exploration, said the find had immense potential to throw light on the life of people in the centuries immediately before the beginning of the Christian era.

V. Selvakumar, an archaeologist from Tamil University, Thanjavur, has corroborated the finding. An

## IN BRIEF



Robert Vadra seeks time to submit reply

NEW DELHI

Robert Vadra on Wednesday sought additional time from the Delhi High Court to submit his reply to the Enforcement Directorate's (ED) petition for the cancellation of his anticipatory bail.

**Clear salary dues, says Air India Pilots' union**

NEW DELHI

An Air India pilots' union has written to the airline's Chairman and Managing Director, Ashwani Lohani, demanding they either pay the pending salaries or waive the mandatory notice period. They have also appealed to the airline to allow them to explore better jobs.

## Mumbai building crash toll rises to 13

STAFF REPORTER

MUMBAI

The death toll in Tuesday's building collapse in Dongri in south Mumbai went up to 13 with the recovery of three more bodies, including those of two children, early on Wednesday.

Late in the evening, the National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) and the fire brigade called off the search and rescue operations.

"The search and rescue operation has been called off after removal of the debris and search of the entire area," Sachidanand Gawde, PRO of the NDRF team, said.

"Debris is completely cleared by now but some locals have reported one person missing. So the fire brigade is on standby," Additional Municipal Commissioner Ashwini Joshi said.

## Under treatment

Of the 22 injured persons admitted to the JJ Hospital, two have been discharged, six are still under treatment and one remains critical.

Search operations continued through the night to rescue a mother and two children trapped under a concrete slab. Around 5.30 a.m., fire brigade personnel were able to remove the slab. However, the minors did not survive.

## Normal rainfall measure may be lowered

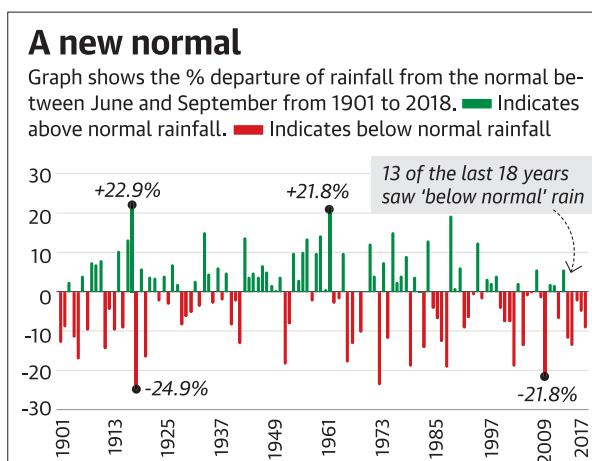
IMD proposes to revise LPA quantum by 2%

JACOB KOSHY

NEW DELHI

The India Meteorological Department (IMD) is likely to revise downward by 2% the quantity of 'normal' monsoonal rain, two independent sources confirmed to *The Hindu*.

Currently, 89 cm of monsoon rain from June to September is considered 'normal', more technically, the long period average (LPA), and this is derived from the average rainfall that the country got from 1960-2010. Were this change to happen, the definition of 'normal' rainfall could dip below 88 cm, unprecedented since 1950. The dip in average rainfall is largely due to a surge in



drought and depressed rainfall since 2000; 13 out of the last 18 years have seen 'below normal' rains (where rainfall is less than 95% of the normal) in India and there have been droughts (where rainfall was less than 90% of the normal) in 2002, 2004, 2009, 2014, 2015, 2016

and 2017.

The IMD routinely updates 'normal' rain every 10-12 years but the changes can take nearly 5 years to reflect in the agency's official forecasts.

This time the change could be reflected by 2021 after taking into account the

monsoon rainfall from 1970-2020, a senior meteorologist connected to IMD's forecast process told *The Hindu*.

This year the IMD has forecast monsoon rains to be 96% of the LPA, just shy of 'below normal' rainfall.

Research into the monsoon has observed a rough 30-40 year cycle of a rise and fall in average rainfall when computed since 1900. Since the 1990s, India is in a 'low epoch' meaning that average rainfall has been below normal. Global warming has generally made Indian rainfall more erratic and prone to bursts of intense rainfall and long periods of drought.

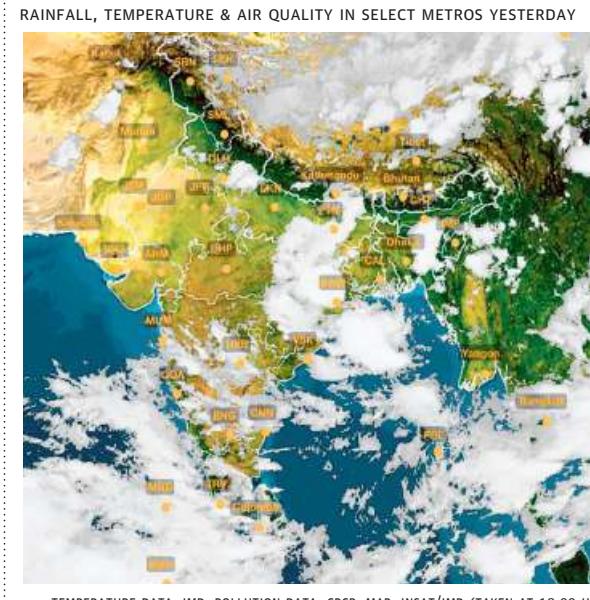
This year the monsoon has been 16% short over India so far, largely due to a shortfall in June. It has improved in July and the IMD has forecast a pick-up in the coming days due to a 'monsoon

'soon pulse' in Southern India. Kerala, the Konkan coast, Odisha and Madhya Pradesh will see heavy rainfall.

Separately, the IMD is also examining an internal report on whether the monsoon withdrawal and onset dates in parts of Central India and North India need to be changed. This is because records over nearly two decades show that the monsoon rainfall after entering Kerala on June 1 has in recent decades been stalling and sluggishly advancing into parts of central India, eastern Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan. It has also been withdrawing late.

"These changes are needed to update agricultural advisories so that farmers can make better decisions on sowing their crop," said a senior IMD meteorologist.

## WEATHER WATCH



TEMPERATURE DATA: IMD, POLLUTION DATA: CPCB MAP: INSAT/IMD (TAKEN AT 18.00 HRS)

**Forecast for Thursday:** Heavy to very heavy rainfall at isolated places likely over Konkan region, Goa, Tamil Nadu, coastal and south interior Karnataka, central Maharashtra, Vidarbha, Chhattisgarh, Uttarakhand, Punjab, Haryana, Chandigarh and Delhi.

CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN	CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN
Agartala	.....	35.0	24.0	Kozhikode	4.2	33.0	24.0
Ahmedabad	.....	39.0	28.0	Kurnool	8	34.0	24.0
Aizawl	32.0	30.0	24.0	Lucknow	.....	36.0	26.0
Allahabad	3.5	39.0	26.0	Madurai	.....	36.0	25.0
Bengaluru	3.0	30.0	21.0	Mangaluru	20.0	29.0	23.0
Bhopal	.....	35.0	25.0	Mumbai	4.2	31.0	27.0
Bhubaneswar	0.6	37.0	25.0	Mysuru	8.8	30.0	21.0
Chandigarh	2.3	30.0	25.0	New Delhi	21.6	31.0	24.0
Chennai	0.9	36.0	27.0	Patna	.....	37.0	28.0
Coimbatore	.....	32.0	23.0	Port Blair	16.7	29.0	24.0
Dehradun	5.2	30.0	23.0	Puducherry	.....	36.0	27.0
Gangtok	42.4	29.0	23.0	Pune	.....	31.0	23.0
Goa	67.0	30.0	23.0	Raipur	.....	37.0	28.0
Guwahati	9.3	34.0	25.0	Ranchi	19.8	34.0	25.0
Hubballi	.....	27.0	21.0	Shillong	0.4	27.0	17.0
Hyderabad	1.1	35.0	24.0	Shimla	36.7	21.0	15.0
Imphal	.....	30.0	20.0	Srinagar	.....	33.0	18.0
Jaipur	.....	37.0	28.0	Thiruvananthapuram	10.6	29.0	24.0
Kochi	12.1	30.0	24.0	Tiruchi	.....	39.0	28.0
Kohima	7.4	26.0	18.0	Vijayawada	0.8	38.0	27.0
Kolkata	53.4	36.0	27.0	Visakhapatnam	0.4	36.0	27.0

(Rainfall data in mm; temperature in Celsius)

**Pollutants in the air you are breathing**

CITIES	SO <sub>2</sub>	NO <sub>x</sub>	CO	PM <sub>2.5</sub>	PM <sub>10</sub>	CODE
Ahmedabad	.....	127	48	63	.....	.....
Bengaluru	..	62	82	46	83	.....
Chennai	..	6	36	78	95	.....
Delhi	19	33	53	47	106	.....
Hyderabad	3.9	36	29	90	48	.....
Kolkata	13	61	10	127	120	.....
Lucknow	4	30	50	151	.....	.....
Mumbai	14	7	13	46	105	.....
Pune	68	8	67	42	42	.....
Visakhapatnam	6	74	41	117	153	.....

Moderate levels of particulate matter pollution recorded in most cities across the country. Going by Central Pollution Control Board data, Patiala, Punjab recorded a healthy Air Quality Index (AQI) of 34. On the contrary, Talcher, Odisha, recorded an AQI of 192, indicating moderate air pollution.

Scarlett was found dead with bruises at Anjuna beach in Goa on February 18, 2008. Two locals, Samson D'Souza and Placido Carvalho, were accused of leaving her to die after drugging and sexually abusing her. The Goa Children's Court had acquitted both last year.

The High Court convicted D'Souza under IPC Sections 328 (for administering drugs), 354 (outraging woman's modesty), 304 (culpable homicide not amounting to murder), and 201 (causing disappearance of evidence) and for child abuse under Section 8(2) of the Goa Children's Act. Arguments on the quantum of sentence would be heard on July 19. The case, initially investigated by the Goa police, was handed over to the CBI after Scarlett's mother Fiona Mackown raised doubts over the probe.

However, the locals, who had not allowed him to take over the farmland for two years, protested, following which he and his men opened fire at them, police said.

Four persons were also injured in the incident that took place in Murtiya village under the Ghorawal police station on Wednesday, the police said.

State Director General of Police O.P. Singh said five persons have been arrested

States to manage their dams. The Bill lays the onus of the dam safety on the dam owner and provides for penal provisions for wilful "commission and omission of certain acts." The Bill also provides for establishment of a National Dam Safety Authority as a regulatory body to implement the policy, Javadekar said.

The CCEA also approved the ₹1,600-crore pre-investment expenditure for the Dibang Multipurpose Project in Arunachal Pradesh, India's largest hydropower project.



Water power: The Bill aims at improving safety of dams. ■ PTI

2010 but it has never been successfully passed, largely due to opposition by States at various times. Karnataka, Kerala, Tamil Nadu and Odisha have opposed the Bill on the grounds that it encroaches upon the sovereignty of

and a door-to-door search was launched to nab the others.

Additional DG Law and Order P.V. Ramasastri said the incident was set off after headman Yagya Dutt Bhuria, reached the village with his associates to take possession of a farmland he had purchased two years ago.

However, the locals, who had not allowed him to take over the farmland for two years, protested, following which he and his men opened fire at them, police said.

State Director General of Police O.P. Singh said five persons have been arrested

## Nine gunned down in U.P. over land dispute

3 women were among those killed

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

LUCKNOW

Nine persons, including three women, have been gunned down by a village head and his associates in Sonbhadra district of Uttar Pradesh over a land dispute, police said on Thursday.

Four persons were also injured in the incident that took place in Murtiya village under the Ghorawal police station on Wednesday, the police said.

State Director General of Police O.P. Singh said five persons have been arrested

## Green light for 3 railway projects

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

NEW DELHI

The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs on Wednesday approved three new railway projects, with a combined investment of over ₹6,000 crore, giving a boost to rail connectivity in Uttar Pradesh and Assam.

The three projects – an 81.17 km new railway line between Sahjanwa and Dohrighat (U.P.), doubling of 142.97 km New Bongaigaon-Agthori line (Assam) and construction of a 150-km-long third railway line between Allahabad and Mugh-

alsari– are expected to generate a total direct employment of 89.79 lakh man-days during the construction period.

The Centre said the new line connecting Dohrighat to Sahjanwa is expected to generate an employment of 19.48 lakh man-days and would be completed by 2023-24 by the Construction Organization of North Eastern Railway.

The project is expected to help "cope up with the future traffic and remove capacity constraints," the government said.

State Director General of Police O.P. Singh said five persons have been arrested

and a door-to-door search was launched to nab the others.

Additional DG Law and Order P.V. Ramasastri said the incident was set



## Balance and tilt

SC order on rebel MLAs hands over the floor advantage to the Karnataka Opposition

The Supreme Court's interim order stating that the 15 dissident Karnataka legislators cannot be compelled to attend the House, means they are not bound by any whip relating to the trust vote moved by Chief Minister H.D. Kumaraswamy. This gives the numerical advantage in the House to the BJP-led Opposition. Without the support of the 15 lawmakers, the ruling coalition will be reduced to a minority. The other limb of the order permits the Speaker to decide on the resignation of these MLAs in a time-frame he considers appropriate. Although the court says there was an imperative necessity "to maintain the constitutional balance", the order tilts the odds in favour of the Opposition in the vote. It amounts to holding that provisions of the anti-defection law, under which parties can issue whips to their members to vote in a particular way, will not be applicable to the 15 MLAs. The order raises the concern whether it does not constitute a perilous precedent for granting *ad hoc* judicial exceptions from constitutional provisions on defection and set the tone for future judicial intervention to suspend the operation of any whip in respect of a few. Alternatively, the court, which is understandably reluctant to intervene in the Speaker's power ahead of his decisions, could have refrained from making any orders about the legislators' presence during the trust vote, and made it clear that any action against them arising out of their absence or manner of voting would be subject to judicial review.

To be fair to the Supreme Court, it is being burdened with the task of unravelling political knots created by amoral strategems. In this case, the "political thicket" into which the court has been dragged has its origins in manoeuvres to reduce the combined strength of the Janata Dal(S) and the Congress. In a bid to thwart tactical resignations, the government and the Speaker adopted the counter-strategy of not immediately accepting them, but initiating or pursuing disqualification proceedings. One of the questions in the litigation is whether it is resignation or disqualification that should get priority. The objective of disqualifying the MLAs rather than allowing them to quit will not save the government, but it will prevent them from taking oath as ministers in an alternative Cabinet. Though the court's order recognises the Speaker's authority to rule whether the resignations are genuine, and fixes no time-frame, it is a Pyrrhic victory; for, their continuance as members puts them under no obligation to vote for the government in view of the allowance given to stay away during the vote. The dissident MLAs risk nothing other than their seats, certainly not the opportunity to join the Cabinet of a successor-government. When the court takes up the substantive questions of law for adjudication, it should squarely address the new-found interplay between issues of resignation and disqualification, lest it become a perennial source of political controversy.

## Sword against pen

India needs a free and independent media for its own well-being

Journalists are facing heightened threats around the globe, according to the 2019 World Press Freedom Index compiled by Reporters Without Borders (RSF), covering 180 countries and territories. It notes that the number of countries regarded as safe for journalists is on the decline; this should be a wake-up call. Hatred of journalists has degenerated into violence in many places, and India is no exception. In 2018, at least six Indian journalists were killed in the line of their work, the report said. India's rank fell by two places to 140 from 138 – in 2016 it was 133 and in 2017 it was 136. In 2014 India's ranking was 140, but this year's setback is qualitatively different. The report notes that organised campaigns by supporters of Hindutva "to purge all manifestations of 'anti-national' thought from the national debate" is putting journalists in danger. Women journalists are particularly at the receiving end, and covering sensitive but important topics of public interest such as separatism in Jammu and Kashmir and Maoist insurgency has become more difficult. Authorities use anachronistic sedition laws against journalists, who also face the wrath of militants and criminal gangs.

Hostility towards the media is a defining feature of hyper-nationalist politics in many countries. In India, the Centre and several State governments have not merely shown extreme intolerance towards objective and critical reporting but also taken unprecedented measures to restrict journalism. The Finance Minister's recent order barring credentialled reporters from the Ministry's premises is a case in point but this is not an isolated measure. There is a systematic attempt to limit the scope of journalism in India through physical restrictions, denial of information and hostile rhetoric against journalists by senior government functionaries. The Narendra Modi government is unlikely to take the RSF report seriously. While expression of concern by foreign countries or global bodies regarding human rights, religious violence or media freedom is routinely dismissed as external interference in India's sovereignty, the government knows all too well that in a globalised world these perceptions matter. What else would explain the Prime Minister's single-minded pursuit to improve India's position in the World Bank's annual Ease of Doing Business ranking? If India is concerned about its reputation in terms of business and investment, it should be equally or even more concerned about its standing as a democratic, pluralist country with a free and dynamic press. That is not so much for the inflow of investment or luring global corporations, which may care little about a destination-country's democratic credentials – but for India's well-being.

# At the UNSC, a three-point agenda

India should once again become a consensus-builder, instead of the outlier it has progressively become



JAYANT PRASAD

**I**ndia's singular objective as a non-permanent member of the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) in 2021-22 should be to help build a stable and secure external environment. In doing so, India will promote its own people's prosperity, regional and global security and growth, and a rule-based world order. It could emerge a partner of choice for developing and developed countries alike.

India's representation in the UNSC has become rarer. It is to re-enter the Council after a gap of 10 years. The previous time, in 2011-12, followed a gap of 20 years. In total, India has been in the UNSC for 14 years, representing roughly a fifth of the time the United Nations (UN) has existed. India must leverage this latest opportunity to project itself as a responsible nation.

### Changing state of world

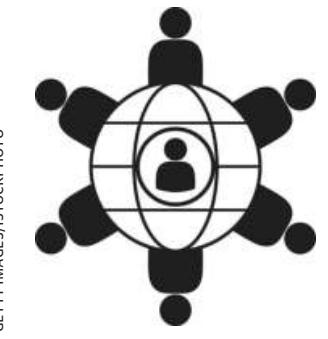
India finds itself in a troubled region between West and East Asia, a region bristling with insurgencies, terrorism, human and narcotics trafficking, and great power rivalries. There has been catastrophic dislocation in West Asia. The Gulf is in turmoil. Though the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (Daesh) has been defeated, Iraq and Syria are not going to be the same as before. Surviving and dispersed Daesh foot soldiers are likely preparing new adventures, many in their countries of origin. The turbulence in West Asia is echoed in North and South Asia, a conse-

quence of the nuclear and missile tests by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and Afghanistan's slow but unmistakable unravelling from the support, sustenance and sanctuary provided in its contiguity to groups such as the Haqqani network, the Taliban, and al-Qaeda. Other problems in Asia include strategic mistrust or misperception, unresolved borders and territorial disputes, the absence of a pan-Asia security architecture, and competition over energy and strategic minerals.

Alongside, the western world is consumed by primordial, almost tribal instincts, turning its back on the universal values it once espoused as western values. Pundits and political scientists, who had spoken of the end of the nation state and the end of history itself, are grappling with the rise of new nationalism.

The benign and supportive international system that followed the Cold War has all but disappeared. At the beginning of this century, the words 'national interest' had acquired almost a pejorative connotation. They are now back in currency. Fear, populism, polarisation, and ultra-nationalism have become the basis of politics in many countries. No wonder that five years ago, when Henry Kissinger completed his latest work, *World Order*, he found the world to be in a greater state of disorder than at any time since the end of World War II.

Even so, the world is in a better place today than when the UN was first established. The record on maintaining international peace and security, one of the prime functions of the UNSC, has been positive, with or without the UN. The world has been distracted from its other shared goals, especially international social and economic cooperation. Although



coordination between 193 sovereign member nations will be difficult, it is well worth trying. To this end, the permanent members (P-5) as also other UN members must consider it worth their while to reform the Council.

A report by PricewaterhouseCoopers, "World in 2050", predicts that by 2050, China will be the world's number one economic power, followed by India. In China's case, this is subject to its success in avoiding the middle-income trap. And in India's, to more consistent economic performance than the experience of recent years. That said, one of the challenges of the international system today, and for India in the UNSC, is that this profound impending change is largely unrecognised by the great powers and other countries.

### What should India aim to do?

There is no need for India to fritter away diplomatic goodwill in seeking an elusive permanent seat in the UNSC – it will come India's way more by invitation and less by self-canvassing. India will have to increase its financial contribution, as the apportionment of UN expenses for each of the P-5 countries is significantly larger than that for India. Even Germany and Japan today contribute many times more than India. Although India has been a leading provider

of peacekeepers, its assessed contribution to UN peacekeeping operations is minuscule.

At a time when there is a deficit of international leadership on global issues, especially on security, migrant movement, poverty, and climate change, India has an opportunity to promote well-balanced, common solutions.

First, as a member of the UNSC, India must help guide the Council away from the perils of invoking the principles of humanitarian interventionism or 'Responsibility to Protect'. The world has seen mayhem result from this. And yet, there are regimes in undemocratic and repressive nations where this yardstick will never be applied. Given the fragile and complex international system, which can become even more unpredictable and conflictual, India should work towards a rules-based global order. Sustainable development and promoting peoples' welfare should become its new drivers.

Second, India should push to ensure that the UNSC Sanctions Committee targets all those individuals and entities warranting sanctions. Multilateral action by the UNSC has not been possible because of narrowly defined national interest. As on May 21, 2019, 260 individuals and 84 entities are subject to UN sanctions, pursuant to Council resolutions 1267, 1989, and 2253. The U.S. Department of Treasury's Office of Foreign Assets Control maintains a larger list of individuals and entities subject to U.S. sanctions. The European Union maintains its own sanctions list.

Third, having good relations with all the great powers, India must lead the way by pursuing inclusion, the rule of law, constitutionalism, and rational internationalism. India should once again become a consensus-builder, in-

stead of the outlier it has progressively become. A harmonised response is the sine qua non for dealing with global problems of climate change, disarmament, terrorism, trade, and development. India could take on larger burdens to maintain global public goods and build new regional public goods.

For example, India should take the lead in activating the UNSC's Military Staff Committee, which was never set into motion following the UN's inception. Without it, the UNSC's collective security and conflict-resolution roles will continue to remain limited.

### Looking at polycentrism

A rules-based international order helps rather than hinders India, and embracing the multilateral ethic is the best way forward. India will be a rich country in the future and will acquire greater military muscle, but its people will remain relatively poor. India is a great nation, but not a great power. Apolarity, unipolarity, a duopoly of powers or contending super-powers – none of these suit India. India has a strong motive to embrace polycentrism, which is anathema to hegemonic powers intent on carving out their exclusive spheres of influence.

Finally, India cannot stride the global stage with confidence in the absence of stable relations with its neighbours. Besides whatever else is done within the UN and the UNSC, India must lift its game in South Asia and its larger neighbourhood. Exclusive reliance on India's brilliant team of officers at its New York mission is not going to be enough.

*Jayant Prasad has served as Ambassador in several stations and is a former Director General of the Institute for Defence Studies and Analyses*

## Takeaways from the Kulbhushan Jadhav case ruling

India's more successful legal journey to the ICJ must now reshape New Delhi's approach to potentially difficult situations



ARJUN SUBRAMANIAM

**K**ulbhushan Jadhav, the former Indian Navy officer, who was allegedly abducted by Pakistani intelligence from Iran and sentenced to death on charges of espionage and terrorism by a farcical military court in Pakistan, has been given a glimmer of hope by the ruling of the International Court of Justice (ICJ). Responding to a petition by India that sought an annulment of his death sentence because Pakistan had violated numerous international treaties and extracted irregular confessions under coercion, the ICJ, on July 17, 2019, ruled with a decisive vote (15-1) that Mr. Jadhav cannot be executed by Pakistan, and that he must be given adequate consular access and a fair trial. The ruling also urged Pakistan to review his conviction. This constitutes a major diplomatic and legal victory for India, with Pakistan accusing India of 'ambushing' it at The Hague.

### Focussed strategy

Given its rather lukewarm record in the past of securing the release of Indian detainees in Pakistan through bilateral negotiations, In-

dia's strategy in this case has been to exploit increasing international acceptance that Pakistan was an emerging 'rogue' state. Laying stress on Pakistan's scant regard for Article 36 of the Vienna Convention on Consular Relations – it deals with the arrest, detention and trial of a foreign citizen – India's counsel, Harish Salve, highlighted two compelling arguments. First was the arrest process, which was not accompanied by an immediate notification to Indian consular officials in Islamabad. There was a delay of over three weeks before India was informed, and it was during this period, according to reliable sources from within Pakistan, that Mr. Jadhav was subjected to all means of coercion and forced to sign a 'confession taken under custody' without adequate legal representation. Second was the two-way denial of access and communication by any means between Mr. Jadhav and consular officials and a failure to inform him of the rights he enjoyed under the convention.

The legitimacy of military courts has always been controversial within the international legal system that emerged in the post-World War II era as a fast-track system of delivering skewed justice by authoritarian regimes and military dictatorships. Purportedly set up in Pakistan in 2015 as a counter-terrorist and anti-corruption initiative, Mr. Jadhav's sentencing in April 2017 was based on confes-

sions taken in captivity and is part of several arbitrary sentences by Pakistan's Military Court.

### Violation of rights

The International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR) recognises the right to an effective defence against criminal charges, and to a fair and impartial trial, in which the accused is represented by a lawyer of his choice. By denying consular access, Pakistan has stood in gross violation of both the Vienna Convention and the ICCPR. Had due process been followed, and then had Mr. Jadhav been charged with espionage, India may not have had the necessary room to take the matter to the ICJ.

By attempting to circumvent the 'due diligence' process, Pakistan has exposed serious chinks in its legal environment and jeopardised its standing in the comity of nations. The Jadhav case has also revealed Pakistan's desperation in its search for 'proxies' as drivers of the internal unrest in Balochistan. Reliable sources within India's in-

telligence agencies hint at the possibility of Mr. Jadhav having been abducted by armed groups operating on the border between Iran and Balochistan. Pakistan is known to have used proxy Sunni groups such as the Jaish al-Adl against Iran, and Iranian officials have often spoken to their Indian counterparts about Pakistan's sponsorship of terrorist activities along the Iran-Pakistan border. A testimony to the growing menace of this group is its recent designation as a front of Jundullah – which is a 'Specially Designated Global Terrorist'.

India has shown both intent and resilience in attempting to secure the release of Mr. Jadhav despite the many hiccups along the way. Following a synergistic approach steered by the National Security Adviser and the External Affairs Minister, India fought the kidnapping of Mr. Jadhav, an Indian national who was legitimately residing in Iran after retirement from the Indian Navy. Realising, in 2017, following his death sentence that the overall deteriorating relations between India and Pakistan had closed the door on any bilateral way of securing his release, India rightly chose to go the 'international way' by fielding a formidable legal team led by the jurist, Harish Salve. Sparing no efforts on the human aspects of the case too, India managed to get Mr. Jadhav to meet his mother and wife after the death sentence was pronounced.

The first success achieved by the Indian legal team was on May 9, 2017 when the ICJ sent an urgent message to the Prime Minister of Pakistan, urging him to stay the execution till India's case was heard fully and the ICJ arrived at a verdict. Moving slowly but surely through the legal battle for over two years, India has been demonstrating significant synergy between various stakeholders in the case.

The final verdict will, hopefully, galvanise the Indian establishment to step on the pedal and exert pressure on Pakistan to rescind the death sentence and allow Mr. Jadhav consular access and legitimate legal platform to mount his defence. While it would be wishful thinking to assume that Mr. Jadhav would return to India soon, there is a glimmer of hope on the horizon that the Indian strategic establishment would do well to exploit. Having deftly navigated the legal and diplomatic channels and restrained the Pakistan military by securing manoeuvring space following the ICJ verdict, a leading power such as India must demonstrate its intent and capacity to extract desirable outcomes out of potentially difficult, or seemingly impossible situations. Kulbhushan Jadhav's case is one such challenge.

*Arjun Subramianam is a strategic commentator and Visiting Professor at Ashoka University*

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Letters emailed to letters@thehindu.co.in must carry the full postal address and the full name or the name with initials.

### An exclusionary tactic

It is obvious that both the Centre and Assam government want to deprive more people from inclusion in the National Register of Citizens (NRC). Hence, they are seeking a re-verification of 20% of those already enrolled (Front page, 'Centre, Assam move SC for sample re-verification of NRC,' July 17). There have been many disturbing reports on the anomalies in the process of NRC updation, especially about the use of locally developed Digitised Legacy Data software without subjecting it to the rigours of necessary testing.

Moreover, there are also reports that complete data on the 1951 NRC and electoral rolls of 1966 and 1971, based on which the present NRC is being unavailable.

As mentioned by the writer in her article, "The many hurdles in proving citizenship" (OpEd page, July 17), a majority of those left out of the NRC are impoverished and illiterate. They are not in a position to fight for their legitimate rights in the court of law and are in danger of being declared "foreigners" even though they could be genuine nationals.

S.K. DEB,  
Kolkata

**Disqualify the defectors**  
It has become routine for elected representatives to change loyalties for pecuniary benefits, threatening the stability of an elected government, following which a different party captures power. This amounts to a clear breach of the trust of voters who elected the MLAs and

endangers the very fabric of democracy. The present Anti-Defection Law does not act as a deterrent. Hence, it needs to be suitably amended to ensure that members of a party, irrespective of the numbers, are not able to defect till they complete their full term (Editorial, "Karnataka conundrum," July 15). If they defect, they should be disqualified.

M. GOVINDARAJ,  
Gudiyatham, Tamil Nadu

**A test of federalism**  
Elected representatives from non-Hindi-speaking States are often compelled to protest against the Central government for conducting recruitment tests only in Hindi or English and denying an equal opportunity to many candidates (Front page, "Centre annuls test to

recruit postmen," July 17). Such quiet enforcement, where the state favours one or two languages for competitive recruitment exams, is against the principles of federalism and especially disadvantages those living in rural areas.

H.N. RAMAKRISHNA,  
Bengaluru

**A realistic move**  
The postponement of Chandrayaan-2's launch need not be viewed as a dampener. The ability to identify a malfunctioning component and recognise the attendant risk is as laudable if not more as a successful launch. We need to take lessons from the disaster that befell NASA's Challenger space shuttle on January 28, 1986 (Editorial, "Waiting for daybreak," July 16). A design fault in one of its components had been

known to NASA scientists. Since, on the day of the launch, the temperature was below the permissible limit, the engineers raised an alarm. However, President Ronald Reagan's address scheduled for the same evening had included a 'successful launch' in its content. To avoid embarrassment, NASA's management overruled the technical advice. Soon after lift-off, the launch vehicle exploded, killing all the seven crew members. The Rogers Commission concluded that NASA's organisational culture and decision-making processes were the culprits. Physicist Richard Feynman observed that "for a successful technology, reality must make precedence over public relations, for nature cannot be fooled". The ISRO team should be

congratulated because the presence of the President of India at the launch site did not weigh on them and they placed reality above public relations.

R. NARAYANAN,  
Thiruvananthapuram

**Judges not 'Lords'**  
The Rajasthan High Court's decision to do away with the archaic practice of addressing judges as 'My Lord' and 'Your Lordship' is laudable and can be emulated by other courts. In the place of 'My Lord', 'Mr. Judge', can be used. The custom of calling a judge 'Your Honour' can also be dispensed with ("Rajasthan HC seeks to dispense with 'My Lord,' July 15).

K. PRADEEP,  
Chennai

**MORE LETTERS ONLINE:**  
[www.thehindu.com/opinion/letters/](http://www.thehindu.com/opinion/letters/)

# Turkey's tilt towards Russia

Why Ankara is ready to risk NATO's ire over a defence deal with Moscow



STANLY JOHNY



"Russian President Vladimir Putin has made a few compromises to keep Turkey tilting." Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan and President Putin at a joint press conference after a meeting in Ankara in April 2018. •REUTERS

In November 2015, a Turkish F-16 shot down a Russian fighter jet over the Syrian border, ratcheting up tensions between Moscow and Ankara. There were speculations that Russian President Vladimir Putin would retaliate. But Mr. Putin didn't take any military action against Turkey. Instead, he stayed focussed on his strategic goal of defeating the anti-regime rebels and jihadists and bolstering Syria's existing state institutions. Mr. Putin's strategy was not to attack Turkey, but to win over it. He exploited the cracks in the Atlantic alliance, especially in U.S.-Turkey relations. Evolving regional equations also favoured his bet. On July 12, three and a half years after the Russian bomber was downed by the Turks, Ankara received the first batch of the S-400, Russia's most advanced missile defence systems, despite threats and warnings from the U.S. and NATO.

## An irony

This is a pivotal moment in the post-Soviet order. Turkey is a NATO member and also hosts a U.S. airbase in Incirlik. Turkey's strategic location, in the intersection of southern Europe, Central Asia and West Asia, makes it a prime catch in geopolitical games.

During the Cold War, Turkey was a key buffer for the Atlantic powers against the Soviet Union. Even after the Soviet Union disintegrated, the U.S. continued to maintain a close alliance with Ankara. But now, a high-tech Russian missile system protects a NATO nation's airspace. This is an irony as the idea of NATO, a relic of the Cold War, is to check Russia.

The U.S. has raised several technical issues over Turkey acquiring the S-400. It fears the system will gather data from the latest radar-evading American bombers, F-35, for which Turkey has placed an order. In response to Turkey's decision to go ahead with the S-400 deal, the U.S. has already suspended training programmes for Turkish pilots. Ankara

could also attract sanctions from Washington. But beyond these issues, the political point of a NATO member defying NATO and a powerful member of the alliance to buy Russian weaponry is what makes the S-400 deal the hottest post-Soviet weapons agreement.

## Turkey's failed bet

Why did Turkey defy the U.S., even risking sanctions when its economy is underperforming? A host of factors led President Recep Tayyip Erdogan to redirect foreign policy.

The fissures in U.S.-Turkey ties date back to the 2003 Iraq War when Ankara refused to be a launchpad for the American invasion. During the Syrian crisis, Turkey wanted the U.S. to interfere in Syria on behalf of the rebels and overthrow the Assad regime, but the Obama administration refused to do that. Turkey at that time was betting on the Arab Spring as a foreign policy tool to expand its influence in West Asia and North Africa. The expectation was that the dictatorships in the region would be replaced by Islamist political parties (say, the Muslim Brotherhood) which is ideologically aligned with Turkey's ruling Justice and Development Party. But this bet was counterproductive, especially in Syria.

In the initial years of the Syrian crisis, the porous Syrian-Turkish border was a crucial transit point for rebels and jihadists alike. By the time Turkey started sealing the border, the Islamic State (IS) had established itself as a dominant player in Syria.

The IS initially attacked Syrian government forces and rebel groups. But once it started facing the heat on the battlefield, it turned against Turkey, carrying out a host of terror attacks in 2016. Another consequence of Turkey's failed Syrian bet was the empowerment of Syrian Kurdish rebels, who have close ideological and military ties with the Kurdistan Workers' Party, which has been fighting the Turkish forces for decades. When Kurds fought the IS in the battlefield, the U.S. started supporting them directly. So Turkey lost all sides in Syria. It failed to topple the Assad regime as the Russians and Iranians came to the regime's rescue. The porous border policy backfired as jihadists turned against Turkey. Finally, there is an empowered Kurdistan across the border controlled by battle-hardened Kurdish rebels, who Turkey sees as its primary enemies.

Turkey accepted this new reality. It gave up its demand to topple the Assad regime, and shifted its focus to creating a buffer between its border and Syrian Kurdistan. For this it needs Russian and Syrian help, as the Syrian government also doesn't want to see the Kurds being empowered any further. But Kurds were the U.S.'s partners in the war against the IS, and over 2,000 U.S. troops are still stationed in Syrian Kurdistan. Here Turkey's interests directly clash with the U.S.'s.

There were other issues as well. Ankara blames Fethullah Gulen, a U.S.-based Turkish cleric, for the 2016 failed coup bid against Mr. Erdogan.

dogan, and wants him to be extradited to Turkey. (Turkey also issued an arrest warrant against a former top CIA officer with links to Mr. Gulen.) The U.S. refused to give in to Turkey's demands. Turkey also wanted to buy the Patriot missile defence system from the U.S., but Washington initially was not keen on selling it to Ankara. As all these issues piled up, Turkey turned to a willing Russia.

## Putin's calculus

For Mr. Putin, Turkey is a big win, a luxury which even his Soviet bosses didn't have. If it has Turkey on its side, Russia will have seamless access to the Mediterranean Sea from the Black Sea (where it has Naval bases) through the Bosphorus Strait. And if Russia wants to deepen its engagement in West Asia in the long term, Turkey's role would be critical. Mr. Putin has made a few compromises to keep Turkey tilting. He didn't do anything when Turkey invaded Afrin, a largely Kurdish town on the Syrian side, last year, despite protestations from Damascus. Also, after freeing much of Syria from rebels' hands, Russia didn't do the same in Idlib, Syria's last rebel/jihadist-held enclave where pro-Turkey rebels are also stationed. Instead, Russia initiated talks with Turkey and Iran for truce, and reined in the Syrian government. Step by step, Mr. Putin lured Turkey to his side.

This doesn't mean that Russia and Turkey have become new regional allies. There are still structural issues between them. In Syria, where both countries continue to back rival sides, the crisis remains unresolved. Turkish national security establishment has historically been aligned with the U.S. Russian and Turkish interests vary in several other countries, from Libya to Israel. But the unmistakable message that Turkey has sent is that the U.S. is no longer an indispensable partner in its national security strategy. Turkey has also told NATO that it's ready to risk the organisation's ire over a defence deal with Russia. Turkey is tilting. The U.S. will have to either mend its ways to retain a drifting Turkey or take retaliatory steps against an ally. Either way, it's a "check" by Mr. Putin on the grand geopolitical chessboard.

stanly.johny@thehindu.co.in

# The price of a good cuppa

The lives of tea-estate workers in West Bengal have worsened in many aspects over the years



SOUMITRA GHOSH

The tea plantation sector continues to play a significant role in the economy of north Bengal. There are 276 organised tea estates spread over the three tea-growing regions of West Bengal: Darjeeling Hills, Terai and Dooars. Besides the formally registered large tea plantations, there are thousands of small growers. According to one estimate, the plantations employ about three lakh permanent daily-wage workers. However, despite their large numbers, the issues of tea plantation workers, such as labour standards and violation of human rights, hardly get any space in the media, let alone being discussed in policy circles. As the plantations are located in remote places, the narratives of deprivation remain confined to these alienated enclaves.

Our independent survey in 30 tea gardens across West Bengal in 2017 revealed that the living conditions in the plantations have not seen any improvement in decades. In fact, the situation has worsened in some respects in recent years, despite the presence of laws for labour protection.

## Dismal implementation of law

The Plantations Labour Act (PLA), 1951 gave certain social and economic rights to the workers. Nevertheless, the ground realities point to a dismal implementation of the Act's major provisions in West Bengal.

For instance, though the Act makes it mandatory to provide housing accommodation to every worker and his/her family, almost one-third of the 501 surveyed households were found to be living in huts made of wood, mud, straw and dry leaves. Further, half of them were living in semi-kutcha homes and only a fourth of the families were residing in pucca houses. Moreover, one in 10 homes did not have electricity.

Water and sanitation remained a major issue. Half of the households lacked safe drinking water and toilets. Latrines had not been set up in labour lines by the management of many tea estates and plantations and though some toilets had been constructed through government initiatives, they were not properly maintained. Hence, labourers had to go to the fields to relieve themselves.



Access to quality education remained a dream for the children of the plantation workers as the government schools were in a shambles. Many of the children either never had an opportunity to go to school or attained education only up to the primary level (nearly 40% of those surveyed belonged to these categories). Further, workers in certain plantations reported that they were unable to send their children to high school because of the distance. Though the PLA requires plantation owners to provide transport for schoolchildren, many estates chose to look the other way.

Further, though the PLA makes provision of medical facilities mandatory, only four of the 30 tea gardens surveyed were found to have fully functioning hospitals. More than half of them did not have hospitals at all and of those that had a medical facility, most did not have a residential doctor.

## Lack of quality medical care

The unhealthy living conditions, coupled with a lack of quality medical care, had a bearing on the health of the workers. Respiratory and digestive diseases were common while many reported chronic ailments such as hypertension, diabetes, arthritis and asthma. Nonetheless, one-sixth of the sick workers did not seek treatment.

Apart from being deprived of their PLA entitlements, at least 11% of the workers reported denial of rations from the Public Distribution System as they did not possess ration cards. Not surprisingly, these deprivations pushed them further into the vicious cycle of poverty, hunger and malnutrition. Every second child under the age of five was found to be stunted and starvation deaths were very common. However, these issues did not come into public knowledge as governments refused to acknowledge them.

The PLA is considered to be one of India's most labour-friendly pieces of legislation. However, it remains largely unenforced and governments have turned a blind eye to the infractions. In the light of what our survey has found, there is a need to recognise that provision of services mandated by the PLA would call for a far-reaching enforcement. However, so far, the state has not demonstrated the political will needed to raise the standard of living of tea-plantation workers. It is high time governments, both at the Centre and in West Bengal, ensured that the workers are able to live a life of dignity.

Soumitra Ghosh is an Assistant Professor at Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai

## The benefits of blockchain

India could take a leaf out of Europe's book instead of calling for a blanket ban on cryptocurrencies

ANIL K. ANTONY & ANKUR PRASAD

The Banning of Cryptocurrency and Regulation of Official Digital Currency Bill, 2019 has proposed stringent penalties, including 10 years of imprisonment, for holding, selling or dealing in cryptocurrencies such as Bitcoin. Given the high chances of cryptocurrencies being misused in money laundering, various government bodies such as IT, CBDT, and the customs departments have endorsed this endeavour.

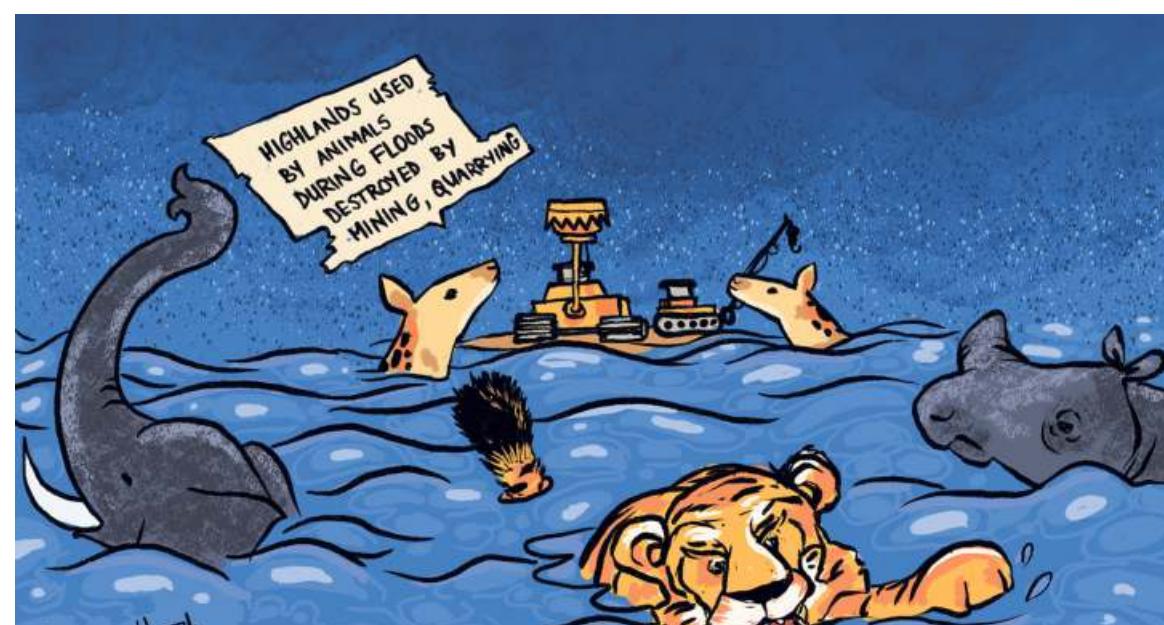
While it is important to put mechanisms in place to deter bad actors, a blanket ban on all forms of cryptocurrency transactions will result in India missing out on what may become one of the biggest technological revolutions since the Internet.

## The potential of blockchain

While an oversimplification, blockchain can be described as a way for people to share extra space and computational power in their computers to create a global supercomputer that is accessible for everyone. Every computer connected to a blockchain network helps validate and record transactions. People who connect their computers to a network are known as validators and receive transaction fees in the form of tokens.

Many technologists believe that the blockchain industry is poised for an explosion similar to what happened to the smartphone industry. None of us could have imagined services such as Google Maps or Uber which came to fruition due to the new mobile platform. Start-ups have already built thousands of apps on blockchain platforms like Ethereum. However, these apps aren't easily available to non-tech savvy consumers through an app store, and hence their usage remains low. They also face technical problems including scalability and slowing down of the network when many people use these apps simultaneously. New companies such as Algorand and CasperLabs are investing millions in research and development and are close to solving these issues.

Blockchain technology has the potential to create new industries and transform existing ones in ways we cannot imagine. For instance, it has the potential to facilitate nano-pay-

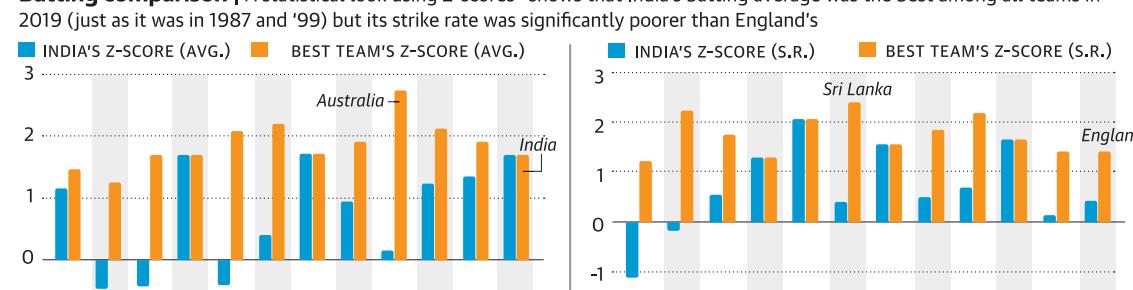


## DATA POINT

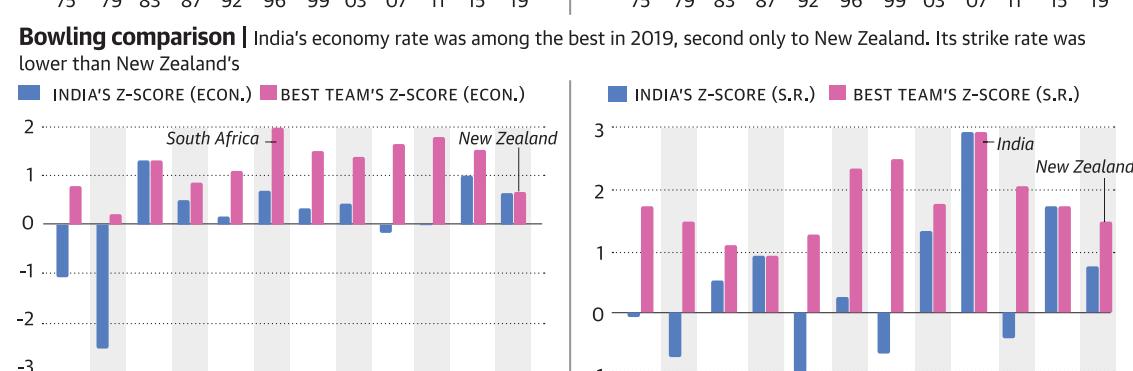
### How good was team India?

India's batting and bowling performance (in average and economy rate, respectively) was close to the best in the 2019 World Cup. The graphs compare India's performance with the best team's performance in each edition of the World Cup. By Sumanth Sen

**Batting comparison** | A statistical look using Z-scores\* shows that India's batting average was the best among all teams in 2019 (just as it was in 1987 and '99) but its strike rate was significantly poorer than England's.



**Bowling comparison** | India's economy rate was among the best in 2019, second only to New Zealand. Its strike rate was lower than New Zealand's.



\*The statistical analysis uses Z-scores to evaluate the Indian team's performance in comparison with the other teams. The Z-score captures how exceptional a team's batting average (among other variables) is, when judged against the averages of other teams. It is a measure of how many standard deviations away from the mean score a team's average (or strike rate/economy rate) is. The higher the Z-score, the more impressive the team's record.

Anil K. Antony is Convener of INC-Kerala Digital Media; Ankur Prasad is the Head of Product for Amazon Moments

FROM The Hindu ARCHIVES

FIFTY YEARS AGO JULY 18, 1969

Apollo 11 racing to the moon

Apollo-11 was well on target for the moon today [July 17] after its three-man crew had successfully fired its main rocket for three seconds - the first flight path correction of the historic mission. The spacecraft's speed was increased by 25 KPH (21 feet per second), an essential correction if it is to pass 111 kilometres above the moon on Saturday [July 14]. Had the firing failed the craft would pass 323 kilometres above the moon, marking it necessary for the astronauts to make unscheduled orbital changes. The three-second firing was made at 16:17 GMT (21:47 IST) less than two hours after the spacecraft passed the halfway stage on its historic mission. Officials at the Houston Space Centre let them wake on their own accord as there was nothing urgent for them to do. "Good morning up there," said a ground controller when he heard noises from the capsule. One of the first things the American astronauts learnt after they awoke this morning from a good night's sleep was that Luna-15, the latest Russian unmanned spacecraft, was orbiting the moon. They made no comment. They breakfasted on fruit cocktail, sausage, meat patties, cinnamon, toasted bread cubes, cocoa and grapefruit drink. To conserve energy for their moon landing this week-end, today's flight plan was not a crowded one.

A HUNDRED YEARS AGO JULY 18, 1919.

Judicial Methods Criticised.

Mr. Eardley Norton addressed this evening [July 17, in Calcutta] a public meeting at the Indian Association on the present political situation. Mr. Norton began with a short history of the growth of political life in India and said that the people of the country would be well advised in taking whatever reforms were offered to them and then press for more. They should work out their own salvation by fighting their own battles and by pressing the rulers that they were fit to be entrusted with further installments of freedom. They should co-operate in the successful working of the Reform Scheme and thus lay their claim to get more freedom. They should accept whatever political concessions now given to them and then go on agitating for more and more. Though there were a few Englishmen here who were against Indian aspirations they did not represent the millions of liberal-minded Englishmen, who sympathised with Indian aspirations and who wanted to see India more and more prosperous and self-governing.

FROM PAGE ONE

## Karnataka rebel MLAs need not attend House'

On the other hand, the court said it should not shackle the Speaker's authority. He should be allowed to arrive at a decision on the resignations at an "appropriate time".

"In the present case, the discretion of the Speaker while deciding the issue should not be fettered by any direction or observation of this court. The Speaker should be left free to decide the issue in accordance with Article 190 read with Rule 202 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Karnataka Legislative Assembly framed in exercise of the powers under Article 208 of the Constitution," the court held.

The court said the Speaker, once he had taken a call on the resignations, should place his decision before the court. The court's order may act as an impetus for the Speaker to take a quick call on the pending disqualification as well as resignation of the MLAs. In fact, senior advocate A.M. Singhvi, for the Speaker, submitted on July 16 – the final day of

the Bench described its order on Wednesday as a "prudent" interim exercise and a deft balancing act in the face of "conflicting and competing" rights of the Speaker and the dissident MLAs. The court said the interim order is only meant to maintain the constitutional balance between the authority of the Speaker and the rights of the rebel MLAs.

The decision on Wednesday comes as a complete U-turn from the court's order on July 11, asking the Speaker to decide the resignations of 10 of the total 15 MLAs "forthwith or within the remaining part of the day."

## ICJ tells Pakistan to review Jadhav sentence

The court also upheld India's contention that the Vienna convention overrides a 2008 bilateral agreement between India and Pakistan on consular access.

Significantly, all 16 judges on the UN judicial organ's panel ruled unanimously that the ICJ's jurisdiction held over the case.

On six other contentions, including on the comprehensive violation of the Vienna Convention by Pakistan, the immediate granting of consular access to Mr. Jadhav, an "effective review and reconsideration of the conviction and sentence", and a continued stay of execution, the ICJ panel ruled 15-1 in India's favour.

**Lone dissenter**  
Pakistani Judge Justice Jilani, was the lone dissenter on those rulings.

## Hafiz Saeed held in terror financing case

Foreign policy analyst Hasan Akbar said the JuD leader's arrest has been announced as part of renewed efforts under the "national action plan" to clamp down on terror financing.

"Saeed has previously used the courts effectively to gain bail. We expect that enough evidence will be provided by law enforcement agencies to ensure that any bail application is rejected by the High Court," Mr. Akbar told *The Hindu*.

**Avoid blacklisting**  
He believes that Saeed's arrest will help Pakistan make a strong case to avoid blacklisting by the FATF (Financial Action Task Force, an anti-money-laundering monitor based in Paris) in

October.

"Equally significant, the action can help generate forward momentum towards de-escalation ahead of the Kartarpur opening later this year, renewing hopes that the idea of a dialogue between India and Pakistan can be germinated in the months to come," he said.

The arrest comes a few days before Pakistan Prime Minister Imran Khan's maiden U.S. visit.

After Saeed was arrested on Wednesday, U.S. President Donald Trump tweeted: "After a ten year search, the so-called "mastermind" of the Mumbai Terror attacks has been arrested in Pakistan. Great pressure has been exerted over the last two years to find him!"

## All illegal migrants will be deported, says Shah

Replying to Mr. Sable, Minister of State Nityanand Rai said the government was committed to ensure that an "error free" NRC is published where no genuine Indian citizen is left behind and no illegal immigrant is added.

Mr. Rai added that the Home Ministry and the President's office have got over 25 lakh memoranda from those whose names have been excluded from the NRC. He said the govern-

ment will be filing an appeal in the Supreme Court seeking more time to publish the register to ensure there are no errors.

Mr. Rai was also asked by Mr. Sable if the government has an estimate of the number of Rohingya Muslims of Myanmar living in the country. Mr. Rai said the government was working on collating the numbers but it was problematic because the Rohingya Muslims are living across the country.

## Congress divided over Karnataka order

Abhishek Singhvi claims victory, Randeep Surjewala calls it 'terrible judicial precedent'

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT  
NEW DELHI

The Congress on Wednesday was divided over the Supreme Court order on the Karnataka rebel MLAs, with senior leader Abhishek Manu Singhvi claiming victory but the party's chief spokesperson Randeep Surjewala describing it as a "terrible judicial precedent".

In a series of tweets, Mr. Surjewala reminded the Supreme Court of its May 2016 order regarding defections in Uttarakhand, while Mr. Singhvi, who represented Karnataka Assembly Speaker K.R. Ramesh Kumar before the top court, said there had been a "disinformation campaign by the BJP", but the Congress had won as a political party.

Mr. Surjewala, soon after

arguments – that the Speaker could decide both disqualification and resignations "by tomorrow".

The Speaker's grounds for rejection of the resignations remains limited. He can reject a resignation only if it is not in proper format or if found to be involuntary or bogus. In this case, the MLAs have already filed sworn affidavits in the court that their resignations are voluntary and genuine.

The Bench described its order on Wednesday as a "prudent" interim exercise and a deft balancing act in the face of "conflicting and competing" rights of the Speaker and the dissident MLAs. The court said the interim order is only meant to maintain the constitutional balance between the authority of the Speaker and the rights of the rebel MLAs.

Mr. Surjewala, soon after

when the discussion gets over

ABHISHEK SINGHVI

the interim order was given, took to Twitter to argue that nullifying the whip had provided "blanket protection" to the rebel MLAs.

"SC's order nullifying the whip & by extension, operation of the Constitution's Xth

Blanket protection to MLAs, who are driven not by ideology but by far baser concerns, is unheard of... Does this mean the Court can interfere with the working of the State Legislature by deciding when a whip will be enforced?

RANDEEP SINGH SURJEWALA

Schedule to punish MLAs betraying the public mandate, sets a terrible judicial precedent!" he tweeted. "Blanket protection to MLAs, who are driven not by ideology but by far baser concerns, is unheard-of," he said.

"Tragic that SC didn't appreciate the context and designed history of defections to subvert democratic mandates by Modi Govt over last 5 yrs. SC should recall own judgement of May 2016 striking down the illegal attempt of BJP in Uttarakhand to form govt," the Congress communication chief said.

Mr. Surjewala, who is also a lawyer, argued that the top court's order abandoned the principle of separation of powers.

"Does this mean: 1. Court can interfere with the working of the State Legislature by deciding when a Whip will be enforced? 2. Abandonment of the 'Basic Structure' doctrine of Separation of Powers?" he asked.

"As a political party we are extremely happy that we

have emerged victorious... The court says we should not fetter the Speaker in any manner. He may decide any time he wants and any way that he wants," Mr. Singhvi told presspersons and added that the court had not set any date for the Speaker's decision on the resignations.

Explaining the portion of the order where the court said that the 15 rebel MLAs could not be forced to take part in the proceedings in the Assembly, Mr. Singhvi said this was a "protective order for the future" till such time the court decides finally.

"The stage of whip will come when voting takes place and voting at the moment is not scheduled until Friday-Saturday," he said.

## BJP expels MLA after gun video

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT  
NEW DELHI

The BJP on Wednesday expelled its Uttarakhand MLA Pranav Singh Champion from the party for six years, days after a purported video of the legislator brandishing guns and dancing at a house party became viral on social media. Party media head and Rajya Sabha member Anil Baluni told presspersons that the party had taken cognisance of his serial public misconduct.

Mr. Champion was first sent a show-cause notice by the State unit before the expulsion orders were issued.

He was already suspended from the party for earlier instances of alleged misdemeanour.

## 'Samjhauta blast case lacked proof'

Shah defends not filing appeal

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT  
NEW DELHI

AMIT SHAH

Home Minister

they were let off and an attempt was made to link it to a particular religion, Mr. Shah alleged. Those killed in the blast and their relatives did not get justice as the real culprits remained at large.

Mr. Shah, responding to the apprehensions, assured the House that the Modi government would never allow misuse of the NIA law. The amendment extends powers to the agency to investigate terror-related incidents involving Indian nationals and assets abroad. It also extends the NIA's jurisdiction to human trafficking, counterfeit currency, manufacture or sale of prohibited arms, cyberterrorism, and offences under the Explosive Substances Act.

Earlier, when Mr. Shah was about to speak, Left parties' members demanded that the Bill be sent to a Select Committee.

However, Deputy Chairman Harivansh rejected it, saying there was no prior proposal. They then boycotted the Home Minister's speech.

## India, China maintaining peace on border: Rajnath

Adhir Ranjan raises issue of incursion in Ladakh region

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT  
NEW DELHI

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh on Wednesday informed the Lok Sabha that India and China had been maintaining "peace and tranquillity" on the border by respecting bilateral pacts, and added that the government was "fully alive" to the country's security needs.

Mr. Singh, however, acknowledged that at times some "unpleasant incidents" had taken place because of "differences in perception with regard to the Line of Actual Control (LAC)".

The Minister was responding to a question raised by Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury, leader of the Congress in the House, during Zero Hour on reports that Chinese troops had come six kilometres inside India on July 6, and planted their flags in the Demchok area of the Ladakh region.

**'Grave concern'**  
The Congress leader said the incident was of "grave concern" since it came after the 72-day stand-off on the Doklam plateau at the tri-junction of India, China and Bhutan. "China has often been transgressing into India and follows it up with aggressive



Keeping watch: An Army patrol in the Sub-sector North along the Line of Actual Control with China. ■ FILE PHOTO

diplomacy," Mr. Chowdhury said.

The Defence Minister then assured the House that there was complete restraint by the armed forces of India and China at Doklam, especially after the informal summit between Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Chinese President Xi Jinping in Wuhan.

"India and China are respecting bilateral pacts to ensure peace and tranquillity along the border," Mr. Singh said and added that both sides were exercising restraint.

Asserting that there was

nothing new for troops to transgress the LAC as it was not properly delineated, Mr. Singh listed out the various mechanisms available to the two sides to maintain communication such as meetings of commanders, flag meetings, a hotline and dialogue between Special Representatives at the level of the National Security Advisers.

"I want to assure the entire nation, not just about our border with China, but across the country...we are fully alive to the security needs of our country," Mr. Singh told the House.

Initially, in the same case, seven persons were arrested and U.S. agencies had confirmed their role. However,

## LS clears Appropriation Bill

Allows govt. to borrow ₹98.18 lakh crore for 2019-20

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT  
NEW DELHI

The Lok Sabha on Wednesday passed the Appropriation (No.2) Bill-2019 allowing the Union government to withdraw ₹98.18 lakh crore from the Consolidated Fund of India to meet its expenditure during 2019-20.

The Bill, moved by Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman, was passed by a voice vote after the House approved demands for grants for several Ministries which were collectively put to vote and passed by applying guillotine.

Earlier in the day, the Lok Sabha discussed demands



Nirmala Sitharaman

across the country, good coaching facilities, adequate nutritional support and regular checks of sports facilities. We hope that in the upcoming international games, India will better its medal tally," Mr. Rijiju said.

He said that his Ministry aimed to support players and not control them.

The House also discussed demands for grants of various Ministries, including rural development, agriculture and farmers' welfare, railways, and road transport and highways.

The government in February had come out with an interim Budget.

## 1,083 MHA staff dismissed in five years

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT  
NEW DELHI

A total of 1,083 officials in the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) have been dismissed from service in the last five years on the grounds of "lack of integrity and ineffectiveness" in public interest, Union Minister of State for Home Nitayanan Rai said in the Rajya Sabha on Wednesday.

Mr. Rai said action against government servants is a continuous process and as per the applicable disciplinary rules, the government has the right to take disciplinary action against erring officials.

The government in February had come out with an interim Budget.

They are bringing in changes that will allow early selection of players from

their own admission procedures so far such as the various All India Institutes of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), the Jawaharlal Institute of Postgraduate Medical Education and Research (JIPMER), Puducherry and the Post-graduate Institute of Medical Education and Research (PGIMER), Chandigarh.

The Commission would also be responsible for regulating fees and other charges for 50% of the seats in private medical colleges and deemed universities.

This would be an increase from the 40% of seats whose fees were proposed to be controlled under the original NMC Bill, 2017.

These measures will ensure a transparent admission process and also bring down admission fee," said the statement. "The NMC and the respective Boards will ensure a dynamic and modern educational environment, decreasing the emphasis on physical infrastructure, achieving the norms in global standards and an effective grievance redressal mechanism."

## 'Open to improving Fasal Bima Yojana'

Agriculture Minister tells Lok Sabha

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT  
NEW DELHI

Promising to create a new breed of "smart farmers by introducing smart farming", Agriculture Minister Narendra Singh Tomar on Wednesday told the Lok Sabha that the government was open to improving its welfare schemes, including the Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) for crop insurance.

With several members raising concerns about the working of the scheme on the ground, Mr. Tomar invited suggestions from members on how to make it better.

**Easier, more useful**

"We are working on how can we make the PM Fasal Bima Yojana more easier, more useful, more beneficial," Mr. Tomar said, and added, "Earlier also, there was the PM Fasal Bima...Today, there is focus on PM Fasal Bima." The Minister said neither he nor the Prime Minister considers the crop insurance scheme as fool-proof.

The Minister made these remarks during the passage of the Demand for Grants under the Ministries of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare, and the Rural Development Ministry. Mr. Tomar said the government was working on collating the numbers but it was problematic because the Rohingya Muslims of Myanmar living in the country. Mr. Tomar said the government was left behind and no illegal immigrant is added.

Mr. Tomar said the government was working on collating the numbers but it was problematic because the Rohingya Muslims of Myanmar living in the country. Mr. Tomar said the government was left behind and no illegal immigrant is added.

Mr. Tomar said the government was working on collating the numbers but it was problematic because the Rohingya Muslims of Myanmar living in the country. Mr. Tomar said the government was left behind and no illegal immigrant is added.

Mr. Tomar said the government was working on collating the numbers but it was problematic because the Rohingya Muslims of Myanmar living in the country. Mr. Tomar said the government was left behind and no illegal immigrant is added.

Mr. Tomar said the government was working on collating the numbers but it was problematic because the Rohingya Muslims of Myanmar living in the country. Mr. Tomar said the government was left behind and no illegal immigrant is added.

Mr. Tomar said the government was working on collating the numbers but it was problematic because the Rohingya Muslims of Myanmar living in the country. Mr. Tomar said the government was left behind and no illegal immigrant is added.

Mr. Tomar said the government was working on collating the numbers but it was problematic because the Rohingya Muslims of Myanmar living in the country. Mr. Tomar said the government was left behind and no illegal immigrant is added.

Mr. Tomar said the government was working on collating the numbers but it was problematic because the Rohingya Muslims of Myanmar living in the country. Mr. Tomar said the government was left behind and

# We want him back soon, say Jadhav's relatives

Family and friends hail role of government

JAI NARAYAN TIWARI  
VASANTH SUNDARRAJAN  
MUMBAI

The verdict by the International Court of Justice, which was announced in favour of Mumbai resident Kulbhushan Jadhav, was greeted with jubilant celebration across the city. Minutes after news of the verdict landed, his family members expressed happiness and hope.

"The Indian government has presented our side very well and Wednesday's verdict is a very positive one. Even though none of us will rest easy till Kulbhushan actually comes home, the efforts taken by the government so far inspire hope and we are nothing but thankful to the government for it," Mr. Jadhav's uncle,



**On cloud nine:** Friends of Kulbhushan Jadhav celebrating in Mumbai. ■ EMMANUEL YOGINI

Subhash Jadhav, a retired Assistant Commissioner of Police (ACP), said.

Several of Mr. Jadhav's childhood friends, who live in the Prithvi Vandana society in Lower Parel, greeted the verdict by releasing balloons in the air.

The son of a retired ACP, Mr. Jadhav grew up in the police quarters in the same lane as the building, and many of the residents have been praying for his release ever since he was caught.

One of his childhood friends, Sachin Kale, said, "Once again, we have won. Pakistan has no sense of legal proceedings but justice is still being done. We are very happy that our prayers are being heard." The senti-

ment was echoed by all of Mr. Jadhav's other friends, including Arvind Singh, Jitendra Shah, Sunil Singh, Shubash Deshmukh and Tushar Shingte.

**Night-long celebration**  
"We will be celebrating the whole night and soon, when Mr. Jadhav is back with us, we will celebrate with him as well," Mr. Singh said.

An official with the Coast Guard School in Powai, where Mr. Jadhav's children study, spoke highly of Mr. Jadhav. "He is truly a very congenial man and none of us believes that he would do any of the things that he is accused of," the official said.

Residents of Javli village in Satara, where Mr. Jadhav hails from, were happy. "The Indian government should get him released at any cost. It is their responsibility," a villager said.

(With inputs from Gautam S. Mengle)

## Advantage India

How the Jadhav case unfolded

**March 3, 2016:** Kulbhushan Jadhav is arrested. Weeks later, Pakistan terms him "an Indian spy" arrested from Balochistan

**March 25:** India rejects claims, says there's no proof that he was arrested in Balochistan

**March 29:** India seeks consular access to Jadhav

**April 10, 2017:** A Pakistani Army court sentences him to death

**April 12:** According to a media report, Jadhav is charged with terrorism and sabotage by a court

**May 8, 2017:** India approaches the ICJ against Pakistan's decision

**May 9:** ICJ stays Jadhav's execution

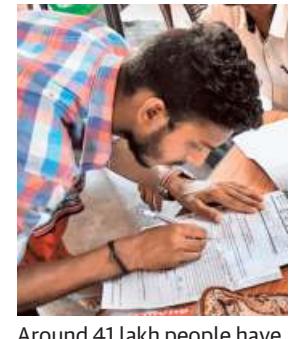
**June 16:** World court asks India to make its submission by September 13

**June 22:** Jadhav files mercy petition before Pakistan army. It claims he filed the plea with a confessional statement that he was involved in subversive activities in Balochistan

**December 8:** Pakistan allows Jadhav's wife, mother to meet him on Dec. 25

**February 18, 2019:** World court begins four-day public hearing in Jadhav case

**July 17, 2019:** ICJ rules that Pakistan must review Jadhav's death sentence



# Music, videos for NRC mindspace

Creative agencies to document work

VIJAYA SINGH  
NEW DELHI

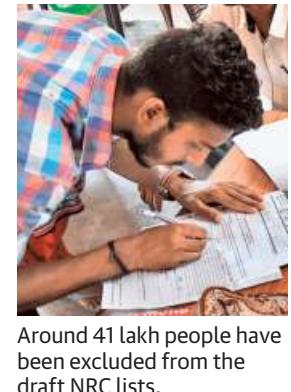
The Union government wants to showcase and publicise the National Register of Citizens (NRC) exercise through music videos and films. The office of the NRC Coordinator has invited bids to film the process for which it will "share data" with private creative agencies.

The documentary will include "the verification processes undertaken across the State, interviews of [the] public and interviews of officials involved in NRC work," the Request for Proposals (RFP) says.

Stating the purpose for floating the RFP, the office of NRC State Coordinator Prateek Hajela said, "NRC update is an extremely huge exercise without any precedence and it is imperative that adequate documentation of the process is carried out. Such documentation also needs to be done in formats which are to be understood and have the ability to record the elaborate and IT-intensive nature of the exercise."

The RFP added that the State Coordinator, NRC "accordingly intends to get a proper audio-visual documentation of the NRC Update Project."

The RFP said the language of the documentaries will be English with versions in Hindi and Assamese. "Sub-titles for interviews and other written material will also have to be in English while Hindi and Assamese language will be



used for the respective language version," it said.

Around 1,200 employees of software major Wipro have provided the IT back-up to the project.

The NRC exercise in Assam – under the supervision of the Supreme Court – is one of the most keenly watched processes in the country as several lakh people will be rendered Stateless once the final list is published.

The SC has asked the list to be published by July 31 but the Centre and the State have moved the Court seeking "sample re-verification" in areas bordering Bangladesh.

## Hearings under way

Around 41 lakh people have been excluded from the draft NRC lists published in July 2018 and June this year. Around 36 lakh have filed claims against their exclusion and objections have been filed against two lakh inclusions. The hearings for these claims and objections are underway at various NRC centres.

# Truth and justice have prevailed, says Modi

KALLOL BHATTACHERJEE  
NEW DELHI

"Truth and justice have prevailed. Congratulations to the ICJ for a verdict based on extensive study of facts. I am sure Kulbhushan Jadhav will get justice. Our Government will always work for the safety and welfare of every Indian," said Prime Minister Narendra Modi in a message on the social media.

External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar said that he had spoken to Mr. Jadhav's family after the verdict was

I wholeheartedly welcome the verdict of International Court of Justice in the case of Kulbhushan Jadhav. It is a great victory for India

SUSHMA SWARAJ  
Former External Affairs Minister



delivered, and "applauded their courage." Former External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj also congratulated the entire diplomatic team, Prime Minister Modi and the legal team led by India's counsel Harish Salve.

"I have a degree of personal satisfaction that a lot of adjectives were used by Pakistan in its submissions that I described as unfortunate because of my upbringing as Indian. The Court has said Pakistan is guilty of in-

ternationally wrongful acts and it must cease those acts. This is a trenchant indictment," said Mr. Salve, while addressing a press conference in London.

"The court said Pakistan has to do everything to make the Vienna Convention a living reality," said Mr. Salve, pointing out that the international legal body also asked for a fair trial of Mr. Jadhav. He said the judgment gives India a "good moment" to help Mr. Jadhav get justice.

Mr. Salve also pointed

that a re-trial of Mr. Jadhav in a military court in Pakistan would not meet the standards set by the ICJ. He described the verdict as a victory for the rule of law.

The verdict was welcomed by outgoing Congress president Rahul Gandhi and former Home Minister P. Chidambaram.

"My thoughts tonight are with #KulbhushanJadhav & with his distraught family...for whom this verdict brings a rare moment of relief, joy & renewed hope..." Mr. Gandhi tweeted.



# Centre's interlocutor in J&K holds talks with Omar

Says he is open for talks with anyone who wants to meet him

PEERZADA ASHIQ  
SRINAGAR

Reigniting hopes of a political reach-out in Kashmir, the Centre's interlocutor, Dineshwar Sharma, on Wednesday said he is willing to meet whoever wanted to meet him" after he met former Chief Minister and National Conference vice-president Omar Abdullah in Srinagar.

Speaking to *The Hindu* after the meeting, Mr. Sharma said he met Mr. Abdullah as his mandate was to meet all kinds of people, not just politicians, in Jammu and Kashmir. "I keep meeting so many people. I met the Governor recently and non-political figures. My job is to meet everybody," he said.

He met Mr. Abdullah at



his residence in Srinagar on Wednesday morning. Sources said the "NC leader insisted on an early installation of an elected government in the Hurriyat, which stands for a dialogue outside the Constitution."

This is Mr. Sharma's second significant meeting since July 16 when he met Governor Satya Pal Malik

# Ayodhya panel seeks more time

LEGAL CORRESPONDENT  
NEW DELHI

The Ayodhya mediation committee chaired by Justice F.M.I. Kalifulla, former Supreme Court judge, has filed a report in the Supreme Court on the progress made so far in talks with parties disputing the title over the contested Ramjanmabhoomi-Babri Masjid land. The committee has requested the court for more time.

The Supreme Court had recently asked the mediation panel for a progress report following an application filed by Gopal Singh Visharad, an original claimant who filed a title suit way back in 1950, through his survivor Rajendra Singh, on July 9, claiming that the mediation is making no progress.

The application had urged the Supreme Court to stop mediation and start adjudication on the pending Ayodhya appeals.

# SP backs Azam Khan in land grab case

Says false cases lodged against him

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT  
LUCKNOW

The Samajwadi Party (SP) has thrown its weight behind its senior leader Azam Khan who faces charges of land grab in his Rampur constituency.

Mr. Khan is the Lok Sabha member from Rampur in western U.P.

SP chief Akhilesh Yadav has formed a 21-member internal committee to investigate the allegations of land grab levelled against Mr. Khan, as well as the Rampur administration's alleged hounding of the party MP.

SP spokesperson Rajendra Chaudhary said on Wednesday that "false cases" had been lodged against Mr. Khan.

The party panel, led by the SP's leader in the Legislative Council Ahmad Hasan, will go to Rampur on July 20 and submit a report to Mr. Yadav in three days.



Meanwhile, Rampur district police chief Ajay Pal Sharma said 13 cases had been lodged against Mr. Khan after he complained to local farmers that he used intimidation and force to illegally occupy their land.

"Investigation is on," said Mr. Sharma, adding that a former local officer of the police had also been named in the FIRs.

Mr. Khan was booked in June for allegedly occupying public property.



## TICEL BIO PARK LTD.

(TIDCO Centre for Life Science)

CIN: U45309TN2001PLC047979

No.5, CSIR Road, Taramani, Chennai - 600 113. Ph: +91 44 2254 2060/61/62, Fax: +91 44 2254 2055, E-mail: md@ticelbiopark.com



Tenders for Supply, Installation, Testing and Commissioning of Sewage Treatment Plant, Effluent Treatment Plant and Reverse Osmosis Water Plant Works by MBR Technical System Works & Supply, Installation, Testing and Commissioning of Vacuum, Compressed Air and Lab Exhaust System Works

TICEL Bio Park - I established in Technical Collaboration with Cornell University, USA at a cost of ₹ 54 Crores is in Operation Since 2004. The Hon'ble Chief Minister, Govt. of Tamil Nadu, has inaugurated the ₹ 168 Crores TICEL Bio Park - II on 09-09-2015 and also announced under Rule 110 for construction of Biotechnology Park - III in Anna University Campus, Coimbatore at a cost of ₹ 55 Crores.

TICEL invites Tender for the following services for Bio Park - III at Coimbatore:

Name of the Tender	Tender Document Cost (in ₹)	EMD (₹ in Lakhs)	Date of the Pre-Bid Meeting at Site	Last Date of Submission	Date of Technical Bid Opening
Tender for Supply, Installation, Testing and Commissioning of Sewage Treatment Plant, Effluent Treatment Plant and Reverse Osmosis Water Plant Works by MBR Technical System Works & Supply, Installation, Testing and Commissioning of Vacuum, Compressed Air and Lab Exhaust System Works	16,800/-	1.48	3.00 P.M. on 23-07-2019	02-08-2019 before 3.00 P.M.	02-08-2019 @ 3.30 P.M. @ TICEL Bio Park - I, No.5, CSIR Road, Taramani, Chennai - 600 113.
Tender for Supply, Installation, Testing and Commissioning of Vacuum, Compressed Air and Lab Exhaust System Works	16,800/-	2.00	4.00 P.M. on 23-07-2019	02-08-2019 before 3.00 P.M.	02-08-2019 @ 4.00 P.M. @ TICEL Bio Park - I, No.5, CSIR Road, Taramani, Chennai - 600 113.

Tender Documents can be downloaded from TICEL's website viz. [www.ticelbiopark.com](http://www.ticelbiopark.com) from 18-07-2019 onwards. The downloaded Tender Documents should be submitted by the Bidder along with Tender Document Fee of ₹ 16,800/- in the form of Crossed Demand Draft drawn on any Nationalized Bank in favour of TICEL Bio Park Ltd., Payable at Chennai. Tender Documents downloaded from the website which are submitted without the non-refundable Tender Document Fee will be summarily rejected. The EMD should be in the form of Crossed Demand Draft drawn on any Nationalized Bank in favour of TICEL Bio Park Ltd., Payable at Chennai.

TICEL reserves the right to accept/reject any one/all the Tenders without assigning any reasons thereof.

MANAGING DIRECTOR

**CSIR - INDIAN INSTITUTE OF CHEMICAL BIOLOGY**  
(Council of Scientific & Industrial Research)  
4, Raja S. C. Mullick Road, Kolkata - 700032

## EXTENSION OF BID SUBMISSION DATE

The last date for bid submission in r/o e-tender No. 2019\_CSIR\_28075\_1 for Sweeping & Cleaning Services for Jadavpur & Salt Lake Campus has been extended further till 22.07.2019 at 3.30 p.m. For further details please refer to our website <https://iicb.res.in/tenders> and <https://etenders.gov.in/eprocure/app>

(Administrative Officer)

## UNIVERSITY OF MADRAS

Chepauk Campus, Chennai - 600 005.

### NOTICE INVITING TENDER

University of Madras invites sealed tenders in Two Bid System from eligible Professional Agencies / Service Providers for Providing Manpower Services on Outsourcing Basis. The eligibility for participating in the tender and other details are given in the University website [www.unom.ac.in](http://www.unom.ac.in) under "Tender" column. Last date for receipt of Tender is 20.08.2019.

F.1(C)/Estt/2019/449 dated 12.07.2019

# U.S. House condemns Trump's 'racist' tweets on lawmakers

The first time a President has been rebuked by the House in more than 100 years

JULIE HIRSCHFELD DAVIS

WASHINGTON  
The House voted on Tuesday to condemn as racist President Donald Trump's attacks against four congresswomen of colour, but only after the debate over the President's language devolved into a bitterly partisan brawl.

The measure, the first House rebuke of a President in more than 100 years, passed nearly along party lines, 240-187, after one of the most polarising exchanges on the House floor in recent times. Only four Republicans and the House's lone independent, Rep. Justin Amash of Michigan, voted with all Democrats to condemn Mr. Trump.

"I know racism when I see it, I know racism when I feel it, and at the highest level of government, there's no room for racism," said Rep. John Lewis (Democrat), an icon of the civil rights movement.

Some Republicans were just as adamant in their defence of Mr. Trump: "What has really happened here is that the President and his supporters have been forced to endure months of allegations of racism," said Rep. Dan Meuser (Republican). "This ridiculous slander does a disservice to our nation."

Republicans ground the proceedings to a halt shortly before the House was to vote on the non-binding resolution, which calls Mr. Trump's tweets and verbal volleys "racist comments that have legitimised increased fear and hatred of new Americans and people of colour".

It was the Democrats' response to Mr. Trump's attacks



**Making a point:** Minnesota Democratic representative Ilhan Omar speaking with reporters in Washington on Tuesday. ■ AFP

on Reps. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez of New York, Ilhan Omar of Minnesota, Ayanna Pressley of Massachusetts and Rashida Tlaib of Michigan, who he said should "go back" to their countries, an insult that he has continued to employ in the days since.

"There's no excuse for any response to those words but a swift and strong, unified condemnation," House Speaker Nancy Pelosi said as the House debated the resolution. "Every single member of this institution, Democratic and Republican, should join us in condemning the President's racist tweets."

**Shocking and shameful?** As Republicans rose to protest, Ms. Pelosi turned toward them on the House floor and picked up her speech, her voice rising as she added, "To do anything less would be a shocking rejection of our values and a shameful abdication of our oath of office to protect the American people."

Rep. Doug Collins of Georgia, the top Republican on

the Judiciary Committee, made a formal objection to the remarks, charging that they had violated the rules of decorum, which call for lawmakers to avoid impugning the motives of their colleagues or the president. It was a stunning turn in a debate about Mr. Trump's own incendiary language.

Mr. Trump on Tuesday denied that his tweets were racist and implored House Republicans to reject the measure. The President raged on Twitter, calling the House resolution a "con game".

"Those Tweets were NOT Racist," Mr. Trump wrote. "I don't have a Racist bone in my body! The so-called vote to be taken is a Democrat con game. Republicans should not show 'weakness' and fall into their trap."

Late on Tuesday, the President praised how the Republicans voted, tweeting, "So great to see how unified the Republican Party was on today's vote concerning statements I made about four Democrat Congresswomen".

The vote was a show of unity for Democrats who had been squabbling for weeks – and a test of Republican principles. In the end, the only Republicans to cross party lines were Reps. Fred Upton of Michigan, Susan Brooks of Indiana, Brian Fitzpatrick of Pennsylvania and Will Hurd of Texas, the House's only black Republican.

At one point, Rep. Emanuel Cleaver II (Democrat), who was presiding in the House when Republicans challenged Ms. Pelosi's words, banged the gavel, rose from the marble dais and stormed off the House floor. "We aren't ever, ever going to pass up, it seems, an opportunity to escalate, and that's what this is," Mr. Cleaver said, his voice rising in frustration. "We want to just fight."

**Defending Trump**  
For their part, Republicans took to the floor not to defend the President's remarks but to condemn Democrats for what they called a breach of decorum.

Ultimately, it was left to Rep. Steny Hoyer, the majority leader, to recite the official ruling that Ms. Pelosi had, in fact, violated a House rule against characterising an action as "racist". The move by Republicans to have her words stricken from the record then failed along party lines, and Ms. Pelosi was unrepentant.

"I stand by my statement," she said as she strode through the Capitol. "I'm proud of the attention being called to it, because what the president said was completely inappropriate." ■ NY TIMES

## U.S. not to sell F-35 fighter jets to Turkey

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA  
WASHINGTON

President Donald Trump has announced that the U.S. would not sell the F-35 fighter jets to Turkey after Ankara purchased the S-400 missile defence system from Russia.

Mr. Trump said it was not fair that when Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan "really wanted" to buy the Patriot surface-to-air missile system, the previous Obama administration did not sell it.

"We have a situation where Turkey is very good with us, very good. And we are now telling Turkey that because you have really been forced to buy another missile system, we're not going to sell you the F-35 fighter jets," Mr. Trump told reporters on Tuesday.

**Protesters, Sudan Army rulers ink deal**

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE  
KHARTOUM

Sudan's protesters and the ruling generals on Wednesday inked a deal that aims to instal a civilian administration, a key demand of demonstrators since President Omar al-Bashir was deposed in a coup three months ago.

Deputy chief of the military council General Mohamed Hamdan Dagalo

said the agreement was a "historic moment" for Sudan. It has "opened a new and promising era of partnership between the armed forces, RSF (Rapid Support Forces) and leaders of the glorious Sudanese revolution," he said.

# Taliban shuts 42 health clinics in Afghan province

Nearly 6,000 people will be hit, says Swedish NGO



Ahmad Khalid Fahim, programme director for the Swedish group. ■ AP

open in the province's government-controlled areas.

Parwiz Ahmad Faizi, the group's communications manager, said the closures came after Afghan forces last week raided a clinic run by the NGO in Daimerdad district. The Afghan troops, acting on intelligence, were allegedly looking for suspected Taliban fighters hiding in the clinic.

Ahmad Khalid Fahim, programme director for the Swedish group, said two staff members, a guard and a lab worker, and two other people were killed in the attack, while a fifth person has been missing. Mr. Faizi said the closures would affect health services for around 6,000 patients, particularly women and children.

Taliban spokesman Zabiullah Mujahid confirmed the closure of the NGO's facilities.

## U.S. mulls raising merit-based immigration to 57%

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA  
WASHINGTON

The Trump administration is proposing to increase merit-based legal immigration to 57% and half of those would be based on family and humanitarian grounds, in an effort to overhaul the existing system.

Senior presidential adviser Jared Kushner, who is also the son-in-law of U.S. President Donald Trump, said having an immigration policy that would attract talented and meritorious people from across the world would create over \$500 billion in tax revenues over 10 years.

countries that it competes with for talent. He said just 12% of people become legal immigrants through merit-based system right now.

"Compare that to some of our peer countries like Canada. They're at 53%, New Zealand at 59%, Australia 63%, Japan at 52%," he said. "Under President Trump's proposal, we'll go to 57%, which puts right in the range and it will make us competitive."

Last year 1.1 million people became citizens. "We are keeping the number the same. But we want to change the composition of what's that made up," he said.

## U.S. bans Myanmar military leaders over Rohingya abuses

REUTERS  
WASHINGTON

The U.S. announced sanctions on Tuesday against Myanmar military's Commander-in-Chief Min Aung Hlaing and other leaders it said were responsible for extrajudicial killings of Rohingya Muslims, barring them from entry to the country.

The steps, which also covered Min Aung Hlaing's deputy, Soe Win, and two other senior commanders and their families, are the strongest the U.S. has taken in response to massacres of minority Rohingyas in Myanmar. It identified the two others as Than Oo and Aung Aung, both Brigadier Generals.

"We remain concerned that the Burmese govern-



Min Aung Hlaing

ment has taken no actions to hold accountable those responsible for human rights violations and abuses, and there are continued reports of the Burmese military committing human rights violations and abuses throughout the country," U.S. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo said in a statement.

Mr. Pompeo said a recent disclosure that Min Aung Hlaing ordered the release

of soldiers convicted of extrajudicial killings at the village of Inn Din during the ethnic cleansing of Rohingya in 2017 was "one egregious example of the continued and severe lack of accountability for the military and its senior leadership."

A spokesman for the Myanmar military, Brigadier General Zaw Min Tun, said by phone the military had not ignored the accusations, citing internal probes. One army-led investigation in 2017 exonerated security forces of all accusations of atrocities. Another is ongoing.

"Right now we have an investigative committee ... to conduct a detailed investigation," he said. "They should value these facts."

## Critical media coverage may be treason: PTI

Imran Khan's party slams journalists

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE  
ISLAMABAD

The ruling party of Pakistan Prime Minister Imran Khan has launched another blistering attack on the press, linking critical coverage to potential "treason" in the latest broadside against the beleaguered media.

The official account of the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) party fired off over two dozen tweets in English and Urdu late on Tuesday, lambasting the press for coverage criticising the government and Mr. Khan which it deemed "Anti-State".

"Freedom of Expression is beauty of Democracy. Expressing Enemy's Stance is Not Freedom of speech but treason against its people,"

read one tweet.

"Media houses & journalists must take care that in their quest for criticism on State, they intentionally or unintentionally do not end up propagating enemy's stance," read another, with the hashtag: #JournalismNotAgenda.

Pakistan routinely ranks among the world's most dangerous countries for media workers, and reporters have frequently been detained, beaten and even killed for being critical of the government or powerful military. In recent years the space for dissent has shrunk further, with the government announcing a crackdown on social networks and media houses.

### IN BRIEF



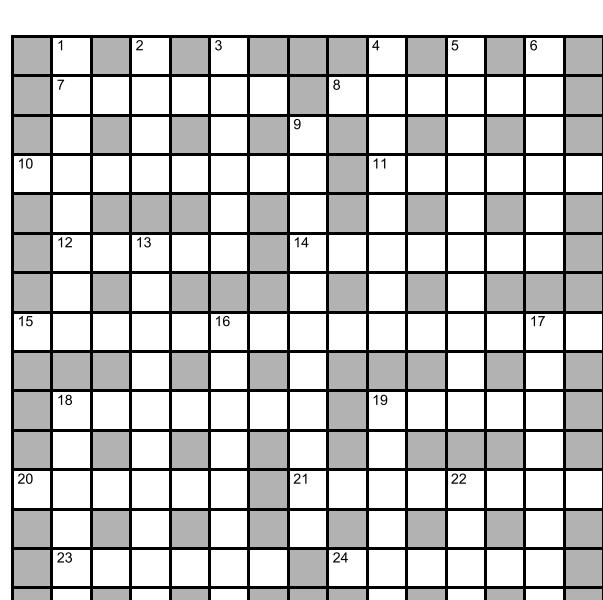
**U.S. court gives life term to Mexican drug lord**

NEW YORK  
Once one of the world's most powerful and notorious criminals, Mexican drug lord Joaquin "El Chapo" Guzman was jailed for life on Wednesday – the mandatory sentence for a host of crimes spanning a quarter-century. ■ AFP

**Turkish diplomat among two shot dead in Iraq**

ARBIL  
The Turkish vice consul to Iraq's autonomous Kurdish region was among at least two people shot dead Wednesday in the regional capital Arbil, prompting pledges of "retaliation" from Ankara. ■ AFP

### THE HINDU CROSSWORD 12681



#### ACROSS

7 Meal without a vessel (6)

8 China's neighbour having power to remove Western expatriate tycoon (6)

10 Tailor set mark to cut opening in robe (8)

11 One beginning to close old fireplaces (6)

(set by xChequer)  
12 Monsters go back, saint carries on (5)

14 Mum can supply loads of fish sauce (4,3)

15 Modern man reached space, a wonderful experience (7,3,5)

18 Get expert to heal (7)

19 Extract using force with support (5)

20 Bit of finery, over a pound during season (6)

21 Fancy heiress eating fine specimen of mackerel (4,4)

23 Perhaps a patient batting partner (6)

24 Instrument of Zulu heritage, timeless hit (6)

■ DOWN

1 Noble use questionable for a prig (8)

2 Barely reasonable (4)

### SUDOKU

1			9					
4	8	5						
9	2	7	8			6	5	
7				1				
	1	9		8	2			
				5			3	
2	5			9	7	1	4	
				4	5	2		
				7		3		

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★☆

Solution to puzzle 12680

A	N	I	H					
R	U	B	O	T	I	N	W	A
H	A	C	G	F	N	U		
E	R	E	D	S	T			
T	E	R	E	S	A	O	N	
U	S	E	R	E	S	A	O	N
U	S	E	R	E	S	A	O	N
U	S	E	R	E	S	A	O	N
U	S	E	R	E	S	A	O	N

Solution to yesterday's Sudoku

1	5	7	9	8	4	2	6	3

<tbl\_r cells="9" ix="1" maxcspan="1" maxrspan="1" usedcols="

## MARKET WATCH

	PRICE	CHANGE
Sensex	39,216	0.22
US Dollar	68.82	-0.16
Gold	35,500	-0.19
Brent oil	64.17	-3.79

## NIFTY 50

	PRICE	CHANGE
Adani Ports	417.05	-0.70
Asian Paints	1395.90	23.60
Axius Bank	752.60	-8.45
Bajaj Auto	2696.90	-35.55
Bajaj Finance	7854.55	-27.15
Bajaj Finserv	3463.30	14.60
Bharti Airtel	346.25	-4.50
BPCL	352.80	-1.65
Britannia Ind	2797.80	50.65
Cipla	557.55	4.00
Coal India	230.00	-2.80
Dr Reddys Lab	2666.30	-10.20
Eicher Motors	18433.70	-607.55
GAIL (India)	143.40	-3.95
Grasim Ind	926.70	-3.80
HCL Tech	1040.75	21.10
HDFC	2286.70	9.15
HDFC Bank	2397.45	6.25
Hero MotoCorp	2522.25	-21.40
Hindalco	203.45	4.35
Hind Unilever	1760.70	19.40
Indiabulls HFL	668.20	21.85
ICICI Bank	424.70	0.10
IndusInd Bank	1501.25	28.05
Bharti Infratel	264.00	0.30
Infosys	794.15	9.30
Indian Oil Corp	146.85	-0.20
ITC	272.90	0.95
JSW Steel	271.90	-2.00
Kotak Bank	1534.60	33.15
L&T	1455.45	-5.75
M&M	617.95	-4.95
Maruti Suzuki	6075.70	-82.35
NTPC	129.10	-1.85
ONGC	149.90	-2.35
PowerGrid Corp	208.00	-0.90
Reliance Ind	1281.85	-11.15
State Bank	372.40	8.05
5 Sun Pharma	430.05	-3.25
Tata Motors	167.90	-2.10
Tata Steel	475.70	-1.00
TCS	2117.25	11.25
Tech Mahindra	690.80	14.85
Titan	1109.90	-4.85
UltraTech Cement	4608.95	8.05
UPL	659.75	17.85
Vedanta	168.65	1.75
Wipro	259.60	-0.40
YES Bank	98.40	-5.45
Zee Entertainment	353.25	7.00

## EXCHANGE RATES

CURRENCY	TT BUY	TT SELL
US Dollar	68.61	68.93
Euro	76.93	77.29
British Pound	85.13	85.54
Japanese Yen (100)	63.38	63.67
Chinese Yuan	9.00	10.02
Swiss Franc	69.37	69.69
Singapore Dollar	50.38	50.62
Canadian Dollar	52.49	52.74
Malaysian Ringgit	16.66	16.76

Source: Indian Bank

## BULLION RATES CHENNAI

July 17 rates in rupees with previous rates in parentheses		
Retail Silver (1g)	42.3.....(41.8)	
22 ct gold (1 g)	3294.....(3312)	

+ L&T's Naik is non-executive chairman of Mindtree

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT  
BENGALURU

Larsen & Toubro-acquired Mindtree has appointed A.M. Naik (Anilkumar Manibhai Naik) as the non-executive chairman of the company with effect from July 18, 2019.

"Naik mirrors the defining characteristics of the company, viz., professionalism, customer-centricity, fidelity to core values, and a passionate commitment to serving the interests of country, cause and community," Mindtree said in a filing with the stock exchange on Wednesday.

Mr. Naik, the group chairman of L&T, is the fourth L&T official to come on the board of Mindtree now. Last month, L&T secured three board positions at Mindtree, bringing in S.N. Subrahmanyam (L&T CEO and MD), Jayant Damodar Patil and Ramamurthy Shankar Raman.

Mr. Naik has been working with L&T in the last over 54 years. He also led the company for over 20 years.

Meanwhile, Mindtree reported a 10.3% year-on-year (y-o-y) revenue growth during the quarter ended June 30.

The company posted a revenue of ₹264.2 million, a growth of 0.8% q-o-q and 9.4% y-o-y.

In constant currency terms, it posted a growth of 1.1% q-o-q/10.3% y-o-y. It posted a 52.7% q-o-q and 42.7% y-o-y dip in net profit at ₹13.4 million.

The company's total revenues stood at ₹1834.2 crore, a decline of 0.3% q-o-q and a growth of 11.9% y-o-y. Net profit at ₹92.7 crore, a decline of 53.3% q-o-q and 41.4% y-o-y.

"We have delivered stable results in the face of many uncertainties reflecting the unique strength of Mindtree," said its outgoing CEO Rostow Ravanan.

CM YK

# RBI reserves: panel for transfer in tranches

Jalan committee report expected within the next fortnight; consensus on decision unlikely

## SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

NEW DELHI

The Bimal Jalan Committee on treatment of Reserve Bank of India's reserves is likely to recommend a transfer of a specified quantum of RBI reserves to the government over two or three tranches over the next few years, an official in the Finance Ministry said. The committee will submit its report in 10-15 days, the official said, following the final meeting of the committee on Wednesday.

However, there is not likely to be consensus in the committee over this decision, he added.

The government and the RBI have been at loggerheads over the issue of how much of the central bank's reserves can be transferred



The panel was also tasked with suggesting an adequate level of risk provisioning that RBI should maintain. ■ KAMAL NARANG

to the Centre.

The government view has been that the RBI's reserves constitute 27% of its total assets, a much higher propor-

tion than the global norm of 14%.

As a means to reach a resolution on the issue, the central bank, in December,

constituted a committee under former RBI Governor Bimal Jalan.

**Statutory mandate**

The committee was to keep in mind the statutory mandate under the RBI Act that the profits of the RBI be transferred to the government after it made provisions which are usually provided by the bankers'.

Against this background, the committee was tasked with reviewing the status, need, and justification of the various provisions, reserves and buffers currently provided for by the RBI, and also review the global best practices followed by central banks in making provisions for the risks that central bank balance sheets are subject to.

The committee was also

tasked with suggesting an "adequate level" of risk provisioning that the RBI should maintain, and determining whether the current reserves were surplus of this or lower. If they are surplus, then the committee also had to come up with a suitable profits distribution policy.

## Fiscal deficit target

The treatment of the RBI's reserves is a matter of great importance at a time when the central government has committed to a fiscal deficit target of 3.3% in financial year 2019-20, and a further tightening to 3% the next year.

With tax revenues falling short of expectations, any off-Budget receipts from the RBI will be welcomed by the Centre.

## Future imperfect

₹259.7

Demand environment was stable in global markets, but in pockets such as BFSI, decision-making has been slower due to overall macro environment.

ABIDALI Z NEEMUCHWALA, CEO, Wipro

Metrics	Q1 FY20	Q1 FY19	Growth (%)
Revenue from operations (₹cr.)	14,716.1	13,977.7	14.0
Net profit (₹cr.)	2,387.6	2,120.8	12.6
Earnings per share (₹)	3.9	3.5	

## Wipro profit rises

12.6% to ₹2,388 crore

Firm gives subdued revenue guidance

## SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

BENGALURU

Tech major Wipro posted a 12.6% year-on-year growth in net profit to ₹2,388 crore, during the quarter-ended June against ₹2,121 crore in the corresponding quarter a year ago.

During the June quarter, the company posted a gross revenue of ₹14,716 crore against ₹13,978 crore last year, marking a 5.3% growth year-on-year. In dollar terms its IT services revenue declined 1.3%.

The company said factors like macro uncertainties, softness in manufacturing and healthcare, slowness in BFSI, project deferrals and delay in decision-making by clients have been the reason for the growth decline.

However, it saw robust demand from key financial clients.

Wipro also set a subdued revenue guidance for second quarter of FY20. The company expects revenues from IT services to be in the range of \$2,039 million to \$2,080 million, which translates to a sequential growth of 0-2% for the quarter ending September. Wipro CEO and executive director Abidali Z Neemuchwala said, "We had a slow start for the year than what was expect-

ed with revenues being down sequentially by 0.7%, though within our guidance range of 1% to 1%. Our YoY growth in constant currency terms was at 5.9%. Q1 is typically a weak quarter for us and we entered the quarter with macro uncertainties."

The demand environment was stable in the global markets, but in pockets like BFSI the decision-making has been slower due to overall macro environment, he said. "However, we are hopeful that some of this delay and deferral is temporary and will improve as we progress through the year," said Mr. Neemuchwala.

The company's digital business continued to see strong growth with revenue growing 5.6% QoQ and 34.6% YoY. Digital revenue now contributes 37.4% of the total business.

Addressing the media, Mr. Neemuchwala said, "Our wins in digital demonstrated this quarter that our leadership position as both digital and cloud transformation partner, provides our clients end-to-end capacity they require for their growth and future success."

Jatin Dalal, chief financial officer, Wipro said: "Our focus is to get back on the revenue trajectory."

## Cabinet okays amendments to bankruptcy code

Stress on time-bound resolution, financial creditors' voting

## SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

NEW DELHI

The Union Cabinet on Wednesday approved amendments to the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, placing a greater emphasis on more time-bound resolution and laying down voting rules of the financial creditors.

"The Union Cabinet today approved the proposal to carry out seven amendments to the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code 2016 through the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (Amendment) Bill, 2019," the government said in a release.

Among the amendments approved is the one that mandates a deadline for the completion of the resolution process within 330 days, including all litigation and judicial processes. "Votes of all financial creditors covered under Section 21(6A) shall be cast in accordance with the decision approved by the highest voting share [more than 50%] of financial creditors on present and voting basis," the release added.

## Minimum liquidation

Another amendment allows for creditors who voted against the majority to receive a minimum liquidation value. This decision would have retrospective effect in cases where the resolution plan has not yet been finalised or has been appealed against.

The Amendment Bill also states that the resolution plan will be binding on all the stakeholders, including governments, to whom a debt is owed.

"Welcome amendments to the IBC, specifically the clarity around process timelines, and the clarity around the binding nature of the proposed resolution vis-a-vis the central, state and local governments," Sanjeev Krishan, Partner & Leader - PE & Deals, PwC India said.

"Allowing all possible corporate actions as part of the proposed resolution plans

**IN BRIEF**

DCB Bank shares plunge

16% post Q1 earnings

NEW DELHI

Shares of DCB Bank plunged by over 16% on Wednesday after the company witnessed a rise in its bad loans proportion during the quarter ended June 30. The scrip tanked 16.39% to close at ₹199.65 on the BSE. The bank on Tuesday reported a rise of 17% in its net profit to ₹81 crore for the first quarter ended June 30. The bank's net profit in the April-June 2018 quarter had stood at ₹70 crore. PTI

**L&T arm-led JV bags key order from GIDC**

NEW DELHI

Larsen & Toubro (L&T) on Wednesday said its arm L&T Construction-led joint venture had bagged a contract for desalination plant from the Gujarat Industrial Development Corporation (GIDC). "The water and effluent treatment business of L&T Construction and Tecton Engineering and Construction LLC, UAE JV have secured a prestigious contract for a 100 MLD desalination plant from GIDC," L&T said. PTI

**EVs a huge opportunity for India, says Kant**

NEW DELHI

The electric vehicle (EV) segment is a big opportunity for Indian manufacturers and they should look at not only producing such models for the domestic market but also exports, NITI Aayog Chief Executive Officer Amitabh Kant said on Wednesday. "Electric vehicles are a sunrise opportunity as India has over 72% two-wheelers; our endeavour should be to make these electric, and also manufacture EVs for the world, in India," he said. PTI

# 'Digitally skilling talent pool is a priority'

Requirement will rise to 2.3-2.7 million digitally-skilled professionals during 2023: Nasscom

SANGEETHA KANDAVEL  
CHENNAI

IT lobby Nasscom has indicated that the demand for digitally-skilled workforce will rise at 35% compounded annual growth rate (CAGR) between FY 2019-2023.

"During financial year 2023, at our current trajectory, the requirement will rise to 2.3-2.7 million digitally-skilled professionals," said Kirti Seth, Industry Lead, FutureSkills, Nasscom, on the sidelines of their annual HR summit in the city.

NASSCOM had also bookmarked skilling as its top priority for the next three years. To do this, the immediate objectives include transforming 100 universities to supply digital talent, upskilling four million professionals by 2025 and driv-



**For a new era:** Efforts are on to build professional skills along with technical skills, says Debjani Ghosh. ■ K. PICHUMANI

ing the STEM (science, technology, engineering, mathematics) to STEAM (science, technology, engineering, arts, mathematics) transformation and ensuring its implementation across

the industry.

"STEAM includes arts - we need to bring in human skills too," Debjani Ghosh, president, Nasscom, said. Efforts are also being made to build professional skills along with

technical skills that are critical, she added.

"If we don't fix the problem of talent pool immediately, there will be a point where companies are going to start hiring from each other. That's going to have a big impact on wages and will redefine the competition landscape for companies," said Ms. Ghosh.

**Rising investments**

According to Nasscom, the industry is witnessing rising investments towards digital skilling initiatives in technologies such as artificial intelligence (AI), machine learning (ML), data science, cybersecurity, cloud, blockchain and several other segments.

The Indian ITES industry's digital talent base has been growing in excess of

20% YoY and today, there is an installed talent base of around 2.6 lakh in cloud computing, 1.85 lakh in AI and big data analytics, 1.85 lakh in social media and mobile platforms and 1.7 lakh in IoT.

Ms. Seth said that there were more than 100 universities and firms that have nominated their talent to be reskilled using the Futureskills platform. The platform has over 30 partners developing over 40,000 content pieces and an additional 6,500 content pieces are being curated by domain experts from the industry and academia.

Digital skilling is now being recognised as a KRA (key result area) in business scorecard by few companies in India.

# Jaypee insolvency: IDBI Bank told to furnish conditions for fresh bids

Flats for all allottees as per pact: NCLAT

**PRESS TRUST OF INDIA**

NEW DELHI

The National Company Law Appellate Tribunal (NCLAT)

on Wednesday directed IDBI Bank, the lead lender of the debt-ridden Jaypee Infratech,

to file an affidavit listing out new terms and conditions if a fresh bidding process is conducted.

A two-member bench, headed by Chairman Justice S.J. Mukhopadhyaya, asked the bank to file an affidavit by Friday in this regard. The appellate tribunal listed the matter for the next hearing on Monday. "We allow the learned counsel of the lenders [banks and financial institutions] to file an affidavit by July 19, 2019, showing terms and conditions, as may be imposed, if fresh resolution plans are allowed to be accepted," the bench said.

In the voting that took place on NBCC's bid, 34.75% of home buyers voted in favour, 1.44% voted against, whereas 23.8% did not vote.

Care said while an inquiry was on following the complaint, the board decided to send Mr. Mokashi on leave with immediate effect, pending the inquiry.

The board of the rating agency has appointed T.N. Arun Kumar, currently the executive director (Ratings) as the interim chief executive officer. "He [Mr. Kumar] will not be a part of the ratings operation to ensure independence of ratings," Care said.

Justed," the bench said. "Land attached to the building and with common area amenities would remain with the allottees," it added.

**Improve bid'** Meanwhile, NCLAT also orally suggested to the counsel representing the Adani Group to improve its bid. Adani has made an unsolicited offer to acquire the debt-laden realty firm.

During the proceedings, lenders submitted that the period between September 17, 2018 and June 4, 2019 should be excluded for the purpose of counting mandatory 270 days to complete the resolution process as the issue related to voting share of allottees was pending before the Allahabad Bench of the National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT).

Banks and financial institutions submitted that there was confusion regarding voting shares of the allottees and for its clarification they had approached the NCLT on September 17, 2018.

At NCLT, there was difference of opinion between members and it was referred to a third member and the issue was finally decided on June 4, 2019.

## L&T Infotech acquires AI firm Lymbyc for ₹38 crore

Acquisition will boost LTI's digital, analytics offerings.

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT  
MUMBAI

Steel manufacturers, especially non-integrated players, may see their margins coming under pressure on account of high iron ore prices, according to a Crisil research report.

The report said that iron ore prices, which contribute to around 15% of the total operating cost for non-integrated steel makers, are expected to rise ahead of the upcoming auctions and elevated global prices. As a result, this segment will see margins squeezed.

Iron ore leases, accounting for 30% of India's and half of Odisha's production, would expire in 2020, it noted.

Founded in 2012, Bengaluru-headquartered Lymbyc has customers in the U.S., U.K., Africa, and India and is known for its capabilities in analytics and data sciences space.

Sanjay Jalona, chief executive officer and managing director, LTI, said: "We believe self-service capabilities for AI and advanced analytics will be the next wave of disruption in the market place, and Lymbyc brings this capability to our Mosaic platform."

With growing dependence on data, global enterprises need to be better at data discovery, agile analytics and ability to process

large data sets. Lymbyc's expertise in these spheres will enhance LTI's Mosaic platform to provide differentiated analytics solutions in a SaaS model, said the statement.

Satyakam Mohanty, founder and CEO, Lymbyc said: "With AI becoming increasingly mainstream, we are excited to join hands with LTI and to help a larger and richer set of clients. Leni, our AI-based virtual analyst, is perfectly suited to deliver better value to business users and maximise their information and analytics investments."

Lymbyc is the fifth acquisition by LTI since the company got listed in 2016.

## Care Ratings MD and CEO sent on leave

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT  
MUMBAI

Care Ratings on Wednesday decided to send its MD and CEO Rajesh Mokashi on leave after an anonymous complaint to SEBI, the rating agency informed the exchanges.

Care said while an inquiry was on following the complaint, the board decided to send Mr. Mokashi on leave with immediate effect, pending the inquiry.

The board of the rating agency has appointed T.N. Arun Kumar, currently the executive director (Ratings) as the interim chief executive officer. "He [Mr. Kumar] will not be a part of the ratings operation to ensure independence of ratings," Care said.

## APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION



General public is hereby informed that one person namely Ramesh, S/o Shri Jit Singh, R/o Unknown, Age 48 years, Height 5'4", Complexion Shallow, Wearing Red colour T-shirt, sleti colour half lower and bare footed was found dead at Rain Basera, Geeta Ghat No. 243/44, Kudeshiya Park, Civil Lines, Delhi on 10.07.19. In this regard a DD No. 10-A dated 10.07.19 has been lodged at PS Civil Lines, Delhi.

Any person having any information or clue about this male deceased may kindly inform to the undersigned.

SHO  
PS: Civil Lines, Delhi  
Ph.: 23815444, 23817100

**EAST CENTRAL RAILWAY****TENDER NOTICE FOR SUPPLY OF STORES**

Online "e-open tender" through Indian Railways e-procurement portal (IREPS) www.ireps.gov.in are invited, for and on behalf of the President of India, for the following stores:-

Tender No.	Closing date/time of tender	Short Description	Qty.	EMD amount	Tender document cost
PS1805013B	02.08.2019 14.45 Hrs	Wagon Trestles Mobile	36 Set	Rs. 59,480/-	Nil

Note :- 1. For full details and submission of bid kindly visit IREPS Portal www.ireps.gov.in This tender notice is also available on the official website of Workshop Projects Organization Patna www.workshopprojects.org 2. The prospective firms / bidders submitting bid are advised to remain in touch with IREPS portal (www.ireps.gov.in) for updates including addendum / Corrigendum / Cancellation with respect to the above tender because no such notice / information concerned that shall be published in newspapers.

PR/760/WP/Store/T/19-20/48 Principal Chief Materials Manager, Workshop Projects, Patna

**NORTHERN RAILWAY****TENDER NOTICE**

The Chief Administrative Officer/Const. / Northern Railway, Kashmere Gate, Delhi for and on behalf of the President of India invites e-tender under Two Packet system for the under noted work.

Mode of Tender	E-Tender (Two Packet)
Tender Notice No.	74-W/1/1508/WA/UMB Dated: 16.07.2019
Full name of work	Construction of limited height subway (by pushing method) in lieu of LC No. 85-A, 90, 92, 94, 95 & 96 on Delhi - Ambala section of Delhi Division and at Km. 43/569.960 near ROB (B-40) at Malerkotla on LDH-DUI section of Ambala Division.
Approx. Cost	Rs. 2571.14 Lacs
Completion period	12 (Twelve) Months
Earliest Money amount	Rs. 14,35,600.00
Sale/availability of tender document on Rly. Website	Tender document will be available on IREPS website i.e. www.ireps.gov.in from 18.07.2019 to 08.08.2019 upto 11.30 hrs.
Last date/time of upload of tenders	08.08.2019 upto 11.30 hrs. Tender documents can be uploaded by the tenderer on IREPS website w.e.f. 24.07.2019 to 08.08.2019
Date and time of opening of tender	08.08.2019 at 11.30 hours (immediately after close of uploading of tender (D2). In case of two packet system, Financial bids of the eligible tenderers would be opened subsequently on the date & time to be notified later on.

Tender Notice No. 74-W/1/1508/WA/UMB Dated: 16.07.2019 2296/19 SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

**JHARKHAND URBAN INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT COMPANY LIMITED**

(A Government of Jharkhand Undertaking)  
3rd FLOOR, PRAGATI SADAN, KUTCHERY CHOWK,  
RANCHI 834 001, JHARKHAND,  
PH: +91 651 2225978, E-MAIL: juidco@gmail.com  
CIN: U45200JH2013SGC001752

**NIT No.:29  
VERY SHORT TENDER NOTICE**

NOTICE INVITED FOR SERVICES PROVIDER (AGENCY / FIRM / COMPANY) TO CONDUCT ONLINE EXAMINATIONS UNDER JUIDCO LTD.

1	Name of the work
2	Mode of submission of bid
3	Tender fee
4	Earliest Money
5	Date of start of submission of Bids
6	Last Date of Bid Submission
7	Date of Bid Opening
9	Bid Submission Address
10	Helpline details for procurement cell

Further details can be seen on website juidco.jharkhand.gov.in under Tender Link. Sd/-  
(D. D. Mishra)  
Project Director (Administration)  
PR 211754 (Urban Development) 19-20 (D)

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR  
SHER-I-KASHMIR INSTITUTE OF MEDICAL SCIENCES, SOURA SRINAGAR  
Department of Materials Management (Imports Section)

Soura, Srinagar, Jammu & Kashmir 190011  
E-mail: ammoimports@skims.ac.in Fax: 0194-2403403

**NOTICE**

Subject:- Procurement/Upgradation of Harmonic scalpel (Generator) from M/s Johnson & Johnson.  
SKIMS has received an offer from M/s Johnson & Johnson regarding upgradation of existing Harmonic Scalpel (Generator) (Model : Gen-04) (04 Units) to New generator (Model: Gen 11) being their proprietary item as claimed by them.  
In this connection, objections (if any) from companies manufacturing / marketing similar equipment capable of delivering the same result as intended from the above equipment, regarding the proprietary nature of the above equipment should be communicated within 15 days on the above mentioned email id after which the claim of the company who has claimed for the proprietorship of the equipment shall be accepted.

No: SIMS-324-106-2011-Eq-3203-07-3293-3296  
Dated:- 16.07.2019  
No: SIMS-3296,Dated:- 17.07.2019

Sd/-  
Asstt. Material Management officer  
Imports

The Government of India has received a loan/ credit number "Ln 7995-IN/Cr.4848-IN/Cr.4849-IN" from the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development/ International Development Association towards the cost of Rural Roads Project (Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana) Batch-II and intends to apply a part of the funds to cover eligible payments under the contracts for construction of works as detailed in the Table below. Bidding is open to all bidders from eligible source countries as defined in the bidding document. For further details, please log on to http://pmgsytender.gov.in.

Sr. No	Name of Distt.	Package No.	Name of work	Period of construction in Days	Estimated Cost Construction part Rs.	Maintenance part Rs.	Bid security	Cost of form
1.	Kulu	HP-06-334	C/O Link road from Kalig to Shilli Hiri (Koil to Bishala) Km 0/00 to 14/800 (SH, P/C, 57 m wide I/c dumping site, R/walls, B/walls, CD works in various Rds, Solding, Km stone, Logo board and essential parapets etc.)	510	10286304	0	2058000	5000
2.	Kulu	HP-06-347	C/O Link road from Muhan to Marchi Km 0/00 to 4/375 (SH, P/C, 57 m wide I/c passing places, R/walls, B/walls, CD works in various Rds, Solding, Km stone, Logo board and essential parapets etc.)	510	340641			

# Did 'cricketing sense' prevail in World Cup final?

England was awarded an extra run in the last over, which proved crucial in the final analysis

KARTIKEYA DATE

In Sunday's Cricket World Cup final, England's Ben Stokes hit the fourth ball of Trent Boult's final over to deep midwicket. New Zealand's Martin Guptill fielded the ball and threw it to the striker's end, where Stokes was returning for a second run. As Stokes dived to make his ground, the throw hit his outstretched bat and the ball was deflected away to the boundary. The umpires awarded England six runs – two for the shot and four overthrows – and Stokes was back on strike for the next ball.

Under the laws of cricket, the English side should have been awarded five runs, not six, and Stokes should have been at the non-striker's end when the next ball was bowled. Veteran umpire Simon Taufel termed the decision to award England six runs, a move on which there has been much debate over the last two days, a "clear mistake". After all, it occurred in the last over of the World Cup final, which ended in a tie.

According to the 'Laws of Cricket', runs and boundaries are two distinct types of scoring. Runs (Law 18) are based on an action by the batsman. To complete a run, the two batsmen must cross each other and reach the opposite end. Boundaries (Law 19) are based on where (and how) the ball goes. A boundary is scored when the ball crosses the boundary line.



**Contentious:** Ben Stokes offers an apology after the ball sped away to the fence, deflecting off his bat. Experts are of the view that since the batsmen hadn't crossed each other on a second run, it should have been only five runs instead of six. ■ AP

This distinction is the first of two crucial points to understand why that decision in the final was wrong.

#### The 'dead ball law'

Each delivery begins when the bowler starts his run-up and ends when the ball goes dead.

The circumstances under which a delivery is considered complete are specified under the 'dead ball law' (Law 20). When the ball is grounded outside the boun-

dary, the ball is 'dead'. This means that on the given delivery, no further runs or dismissals may be attempted. Let's say a batsman hits a cover drive and the ball begins rolling towards the boundary rope. The batsmen run two. If the ball crosses the line, it is dead – a boundary is declared and the batsman gets four. If the ball gets fielded, the batsman gets two.

The ball is presumed dead once the ball has "finally set-

tled" with the wicketkeeper or bowler. The play is evaluated based on how it ends. If the ball reaches the boundary, the team gets four runs, and not four plus the two which the batsmen ran. Whatever the batsmen ran between the moment the ball was hit and the moment the ball crossed the boundary is set aside.

An overthrow (Law 19.8) is logically identical. If the overthrow goes for a boundary, all action by the bats-

men between the "instant of the throw" and the moment it crosses the boundary is set aside and a boundary is awarded. Additionally, the runs completed prior to the "instant of the throw" are also awarded.

#### The batsmen didn't cross

Video evidence shows that Stokes and Adil Rashid had completed one run and turned for the second when Guptill made the throw. Crucially, the "instant of the

throw" was before the two batsmen crossed. Had the throw been made after the two batsmen crossed, the correct award would have been six runs. Since they didn't cross, the correct award should have been one-plus-four runs. Further, Rashid should have taken the next ball.

It must be noted that this is a very difficult thing for the two on-field umpires to judge, especially when the throw is made from the boundary. It would help if the TV umpire could intervene. But under the terms of the TV umpire's remit, such an intervention is not currently permitted unless it is requested from the field of play.

One widely held misconception is on the deflection off Stokes' bat. Under the Laws, such an accidental deflection is of no significance except when it hits the extra helmets behind the wicket-keeper (and if the ball hits the SpiderCam). After any other deflection, the ball remains in play. If Stokes had been judged to have deliberately made contact with the throw (he didn't), he would have been given out for 'Obstructing the Field'.

The Laws of Cricket are unambiguous. But they have to be understood as a system. Without such an understanding, one law can appear to contradict another. 'Cricketing sense' comes from the system of laws and not from any law in particular.

## Don't add four overthrows, Stokes told umpires

Anderson reveals the all-rounder's conversation with match officials

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA  
LONDON

England World Cup hero Ben Stokes asked the umpires to take away the four overthrows that proved decisive during the summit clash win over New Zealand on Sunday, according to his Test teammate James Anderson.

A throw from Black Caps fielder Martin Guptill deflected off Stokes' bat while he was diving to reach his crease to complete the second run and the ball ran off to the boundary in the dying stages of the England run chase.

Having taken into account the two completed runs and the resultant boundary from the overthrow, Stokes was awarded six runs, though some experts have opined that he should only have got five, which would have left England a run short of New Zealand's total of 241 for eight.

If Stokes had his way, the match might have never reached a tie and gone to a Super Over, where both teams scored 15 runs and England eventually won the World Cup on boundary count.

Anderson, who will be Stokes' Test teammate for

the upcoming Ashes series against Australia, said that the England all-rounder, who apologised the moment the incident happened by raising his hands, had appealed to the umpires to overturn their decision.

#### The etiquette

"The etiquette in cricket is if the ball is thrown at the stumps and it hits you and goes into a gap in the field you don't run. But if it goes to the boundary, in the rules it's four and you can't do anything about it," Anderson told the BBC's Tailenders podcast.

"I think, talking to Michael Vaughan who saw him (Stokes) after the game, Ben Stokes actually went to the umpires and said, 'Can you take that four runs off. We don't want it' But it's in the rules and that's the way it is," added Anderson.

"It's been talked about for a while among the players, potentially that being a dead ball if it does hit the batsman and veer off somewhere."

Stokes said he might have to say sorry "for the rest of my life" for the extra runs which he labelled "fluke".

## Kapil Dev-led panel could pick the coach

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA  
NEW DELHI

The Kapil Dev-led ad-hoc committee could pick the next National team coach but a final decision on the panel formation would be taken only after the next Supreme Court hearing. The application deadline for all the coaching roles is July 30.

The Committee of Administrators (CoA) had asked the court for directions on the continuation of Cricket Advisory Committee (CAC) comprising Sachin Tendulkar, Sourav Ganguly and VVS Laxman.

However, if there is no directive from the court on the CAC, the CoA might be left with no other alternative but task the Kapil Dev-led committee with picking the coach.

The ad-hoc body comprising former India captain Kapil, Aunshuman Gaekwad and Shantha Rangaswamy had appointed W.V. Raman as the Indian women's team coach in December.



Kapil Dev. ■ V.V. KRISHNAN

On Tuesday, the BCCI has invited applications for the men's team support staff, including head coach who will need to be less than 60 years of age with a minimum international experience of two years.

The current support staff, comprising incumbent head coach Ravi Shastri, bowling coach Bharat Arun, batting coach Sanjay Bangar and fielding coach R. Sridhar, were given a 45-day extension following the World Cup, covering the West Indies tour from August 3 to September 3.

## Pandey and Krunal help India-A clinch the series

The visitors take an unassailable 3-0 lead with a thumping win in the third one-dayer

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA  
ANTIGUA

Skipper Manish Pandey struck an impressive century while Krunal Pandya took five wickets to guide India-A to a 148-run win over West Indies-A in the third unofficial ODI and take an unassailable 3-0 lead in the five-match series here.

Opting to bat, India-A put on a big total of 295 for six in its allotted 50 overs and then bowled out the hosts for 147 in 34.2 overs.

Although the visitors lost their opener Anmolpreet Singh for nought, the other opening batsman Shubman Gill (77 off 81 balls) and one-down Shreyas Iyer (47 off 69 balls) shared a valuable 109-run stand for the second wicket.

Thereafter, Pandey continued from where Gill had left, scoring a century off just 87 deliveries. He also ad-



Manish Pandey ■ FILE PHOTO

ded a solid 110 runs with Hanuma Vihari (29) for the fourth wicket.

Chasing 296 for a win, the home team got off to a decent start with John Campbell (21) and Sunil Ambris (30) putting on 51 runs together for the opening wicket.

#### Spinning a web

But soon, Krunal (five for 25) ran through their batting line-up with a fiercer bowl to West Indies-A out for below



Krunal Pandya ■ FILE PHOTO

150 runs. Lower down the order, Keemo Paul (34) tried to put up some resistance but in the end it was a comfortable victory for the Indians.

The fourth and fifth unofficial ODIs between the two sides will be played at Cooledge on Friday and Sunday.

**The scores:** India-A 295 for six in 50 overs (Shubman Gill 77, Shreyas Iyer 47, Manish Pandey 100) bt West Indies-A 147 in 34.2 overs (Keemo Paul 34, Krunal Pandya five for 25).

## Roy earns Test call-up

Ireland game will help England prepare for the Ashes series

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE  
LONDON

England has given Jason Roy his first Test call-up to face Ireland after the Surrey opener played a key role in his country's historic World Cup triumph, but pace bowler Mark Wood will be sidelined for between four and six weeks.

South Africa-born Roy scored 443 runs in the World Cup, but England's selectors were keen to get him red-ball practice ahead of the Ashes series which starts on August 1 at Edgbaston against Australia.

However, Durham's Wood, who has a left side strain, and Sussex paceman Jofra Archer, suffering from a similar same injury, were not selected for the Ireland clash.

**The squad:** Joe Root (Capt.), Moeen Ali, Jimmy Anderson, Jonny Bairstow, Stuart Broad, Rory Burns, Sam Curran, Joe Denly, Lewis Gregory, Jack Leach, Jason Roy, Olly Stone and Chris Woakes.



Jason Roy. ■ DAVID ROGERS/GETTY IMAGES

#### The Ashes schedule

**First Test:** Aug. 1 to 5, Edgbaston (Birmingham)

**Second Test:** Aug. 14 to 18, Lord's (London)

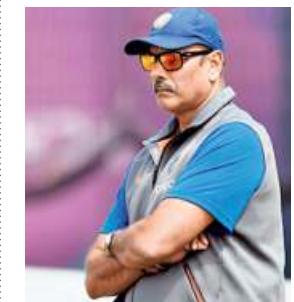
**Third Test:** Aug. 22 to 26, Headingley (Leeds)

**Fourth Test:** Sept. 4 to 8, Old Trafford (Manchester)

**Fifth Test:** Sept. 12 to 16, The Oval (London)

**All matches start at 3.30 p.m. (IST)**

## Shastri praises Williamson



Ravi Shastri. ■ REUTERS

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA  
NEW DELHI

India head coach Ravi Shastri has saluted New Zealand skipper Kane Williamson for showing remarkable composure during his team's heart-breaking loss to England in the World Cup final, where the winner was decided by boundary count rule at Lord's.

"Your composure and dignity viewing the sequence of events was remarkable. Your dignified grace and silence 48 hours since is simply remarkable. We know you have one hand on that WC. You Kane and Able (sic). God bless," Shastri wrote on his Twitter handle.

## Inzamam steps down as chief selector

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA  
KARACHI

Pakistan chief selector Inzamam-ul-Haq stepped down as the chief selector on Wednesday, but was open to take up any new assignment from the Cricket Board. The chief selector told a press conference in Lahore that he would not seek an extension or renewal of his contract, which expires on July 31.

"After more than three years as chief selector, I have decided not to seek a renewal of my contract," the former skipper said.

"With the ICC World Test Championship due to get underway in September, the ICC T20 World Cup in 2020 and the ICC Men's Cricket World Cup in 2023, I believe it is the right time for the Pakistan Cricket Board to appoint a new chief selector," Inzamam said.

## India gets relatively easy draw

Coach Stimac, however, terms it a very tough challenge

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA  
KUALA LUMPUR

The Indian football team was on Wednesday handed a comparatively easy draw for the 2022 World Cup second round Asian qualifiers, being clubbed with Qatar, Oman, Afghanistan and Bangladesh in Group E.

The 40 Asian countries were divided into eight groups of five teams each in the draw held at the Asian Football Confederation headquarters here. All the teams in each group will play home-and-away round-robin matches starting from September 5.

The eight group winners and four best runners-up will advance to the final round of 2022 World Cup qualifiers and the 2023 AFC Asian Cup Finals.

India head coach Igor Stimac termed the draw "a very tough challenge".

"I will teach the team to respect the opposition, but when we step on to the pitch, we will do everything to win. We are just at the beginning of our journey. I hope that it will be a long one," he added.

"We need to respect eve-



**Think-tank:** Coach Igor Stimac will bank on Sunil Chhetri to lead the way for India. ■ COURTESY AIFF

## Ewan on top in a frenetic finish

No change in the overall leading positions

TOUR DE FRANCE

AGENCE FRANCE-FRANCE  
TOULOUSE

Australian Caleb Ewan picked up his first Tour de France stage win in a mass sprint at Toulouse on Wednesday as Frenchman Julian Alaphilippe kept the overall lead.

With defending champion Geraint Thomas and his Ineos teammate Egan Bernal also finishing in the pack, there was no change in the overall top three after a 167km run from Albi to Toulouse, marked by a fall that forced Nairo Quintana into a successful race to catch up.

Ewan timed his explosive burst to perfection, catching and overtaking Dutch sprinter Dylan Groenewegen right on the line after a long home straight. Elia Viviani was third on a finish designed for the pure sprinters.

#### Finally...

"It took me half the Tour de France to get my win, but I got it in the end," said Ewan.



**Pipped at the line:** Caleb Ewan, left, timed an explosive final push to perfection to edge out Dylan Groenewegen. ■ AFP

sagan of Slovakia kept his green jersey after finishing fourth behind Ewan. "I con-

gratulate him, he's too fast for me on that kind of course," said the 30-year-old Sagan.

Colombian Bernal kept hold of the under-25's white jersey and said Ineos would remain calm in its quest for the yellow jersey.

"We won't be attacking just yet, but I feel good going into the mountains" said Bernal, on his second Tour.

"After more than three years as chief selector

# Koepka punts on inside knowledge to land him another Major

Says he has a big advantage as his caddie Elliott is a local and is quite familiar with the course



REUTERS  
PORTRUSH (NORTHERN IRELAND)

American Brooks Koepka believes he has a "big advantage" in this week's British Open in the form of his local-born caddie who grew up playing on Royal Portrush.

Such is four-time Major winner Koepka's belief that caddie Ricky Elliott can give him valuable "inside info" on the course that he even ignored a practice round invitation from Tiger Woods.

Elliott was a promising young amateur player, winning the Ulster Boys' and Ulster Youths' Championships but struggled when he turned professional and switched to caddying in the U.S. But he remains a well-known figure in Portrush and while he has spent the past six years travelling the world on Koepka's bag, his parents Pat and Martha still live in the town and his brother Peter is the owner of



**Ready to fire:** Brooks Koepka feels that caddie Ricky Elliott could well prove to be his trump card. ■ AP

a golf shop in nearby Coleraine.

**68-year gap**  
The Open is being held at Portrush for the second time – 68 years after the only other

occasion the Northern Ireland venue held the Major.

That means few players have the intimate knowledge of the links course that Elliott possesses.

"Luckily my caddie has

played this golf course I can't tell you how many times, so that's a big advantage," Koepka told a news conference on Tuesday.

"Every hole I just step up on, (I say) 'You tell me what

to do, you've played it more than anybody.' So just let him figure it out."

Woods, who has never played Portrush, said he had tried to set up a practice round with Brooks but got

nowhere.

"I texted Brooksie, congratulations on another great finish. What he's done in the last four Major championships has been just unbelievable. To be so consistent, so solid," Woods said.

"And I said, 'Hey, dude, do you mind if I tag along and play a practice round?' I've heard nothing," he said with a grin.

Koepka may have won four Majors in the last two years, including a second

straight PGA Championship at Bethpage Black in May, but he said the large crowds at practice have been more focused on his hired help.

"I probably hear more, 'Ricky! Hey, Ricky, what's going on?' than anything. I'm sure he'll have quite a bit of friends and family out. It will be a special week for him, for sure," he said.

**'Nothing cooler'**  
It would be even more special if he happened to pick



■ COMPILED BY ASHWIN ACHAL

## McIlroy and a five-year drought

Irishman hopes the 'home' environment will do the trick



**AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE  
PORTRUSH**  
Rory McIlroy said on Wednesday that he was not feeling extra pressure this week as the British Open returns to Northern Ireland for the first time since 1951, and hoped that the home fans can help him end a five-year Major drought.

The World No. 3 is the bookmakers' favourite to lift the Claret Jug for the second time, on Sunday, despite not having claimed a Major title since the 2014 PGA Championship.

He said in the past he struggled being the focus of attention at the Irish Opens,

Rory McIlroy. ■ REUTERS

although he did win a tournament in 2016.

"I think it's probably easier this week because it's

such a big tournament," said McIlroy, who opens his title tilt at Royal Portrush on Thursday alongside US Open winner Gary Woodland and England's Paul Casey.

"You've got the best players in the world here, and I don't feel like I'm the centre of attention."

"I'm here to enjoy myself. Hopefully, it doesn't take another 68 years for the tournament to come back here. But at the same time, I mightn't get an opportunity to play an Open Championship here again. I'm really just treating it as a wonderful experience and one that I really want to enjoy."

such a big tournament," said McIlroy, who opens his title tilt at Royal Portrush on Thursday alongside US Open winner Gary Woodland and England's Paul Casey.

Tiger Woods has shrugged off concerns about his lack of golf heading into this week's British Open, saying he needs to carefully manage the remaining years of his career.

Woods has played only 10 competitive rounds since winning the Masters in April and his last tournament start was at the U.S. Open.

By the time the 43-year-old tees up on Thursday, he will have gone 32 days without playing competitively.

"Last year, I played too much. I played 17 events," Woods told a news conference.

Woods has played only 10 competitive rounds since winning the Masters in April and his last tournament start was at the U.S. Open.

By the time the 43-year-old tees up on Thursday, he will have gone 32 days without playing competitively.

"So it's understanding how much I can play, preparing how much I do at home and getting ready. And that's the tricky part is trying to determine how much tourna-

ment play I need to get the feel for the shots and also understanding where my body is," Woods added.

"I'm trying to figure it out and trying to play enough golf to where that I can compete and win events."

Woods said his Masters victory took a lot out of him and he went on a two-week family vacation in Thailand after finishing tied for 21st at the U.S. Open last month.

"It's not quite as sharp as I'd like to have it right now," he said. "My touch around the greens is right where I need to have it. I still need to get the ball – the shape of the golf ball a little bit better than I am right now, especially with the weather coming in and the winds are going to be changing."

"I'm going to have to be able to cut the ball, draw the ball, hit at different heights and move it all around."

## I am not finished yet, says Dutee Chand

She is yet to qualify for both this year's Worlds and 2020 Olympics

### ATHLETICS

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA  
NEW DELHI

Ace sprinter Dutee Chand on Wednesday declared that she is not finished yet and the gold she won at the World University Games last week would spur her to achieve more despite the negative vibes from some quarters after her recent admission of same-sex relationship.

The 23-year-old Dutee became the first Indian woman track and field athlete to clinch a gold medal in the World Universiade after she won the 100m dash event in Napoli, Italy on July 9.

#### Answer to critics

Dutee said the gold was an answer to her critics, who had written her off after her admission of same-sex relationship.

"Many people have commented in bad languages. They said that Dutee is now focused on her personal life and her athletics career will be over. I wanted to let them know that I am not finished



**Prime objective:** Dutee Chand wants to keep her feet rooted and focus on the tougher tasks ahead. ■ PTI

yet," she said in an interview.

"Just like any other human being is concerned about his or her personal life, I also need to think about my personal life. That is why I came out and made everybody know about my relationship (with a girl of her village)."

#### Focus on tougher tasks

Dutee also described her history-scripting gold in the World Universiade as the "highlight" of her career but wants to keep her feet rooted to focus on the "tougher" tasks of qualifying for the World Championships and Olympics.

She is yet to qualify for both the World Championships, to be held in Doha later this year, and next year's Olympics in Tokyo.

After winning the yellow

Dutee, who holds the 100m national record of 11.24 seconds, will have to be at her best if she is to qualify for the Sept. 27-Oct. 6 World Championships.

"The 100m gold was my first at World level, it is my career highlight so far. But it is a tough road ahead. My target is to qualify for the World Championships and then the Olympics," she said.

"I am overwhelmed by the congratulatory messages from so many people including such important people. But I am not going to be carried away by this (historic 100m gold at World Universiade) and I have to focus on the important events ahead," she said.

The World Championships qualification timing is 11.24, which is higher than the 2017 standard of 11.26, while the Tokyo Olympics 100m qualifying time is 11.15 which is a much tougher task. Dutee ran her season's best of 11.26 during the Asian Championships in Doha in April and she will have to at least repeat it in less than next two months' time.

47.5s for the fifth place.

Hima Das (23.25s) and V.K. Vismaya (23.43) clocked their season best as they took the top two spots in the women's 200m.

The field in both the races was such a weak one that it would have been a surprise if the Indians had not won.

#### Season-best for Mallick

Meanwhile in Finland, National record holder Amiya Kumar Mallick won the men's 100m bronze clocking a season-best 10.55s in the Lapinlahti Grand Prix.

## Round-robin format will help: Titans coach

Believes it will open up competition

### PKL

V.V. SUBRAHMANYAM  
HYDERABAD

Titans coach Gholamreza Mazandarani of Iran believes that the round-robin format of the Vivo ProKabaddi League this season should make the competition more open and will give equal chances for all teams.

"This is a format which gives a chance for team lagging behind in the early part of the league to come back strongly. However, we are confident of sustaining the momentum right from the word go and determined to win the title this time around," said the Iranian, who guided his national team to gold in the last Asian Games, on the sidelines of a promotional event here on Wednesday.

"We have a very strong balanced side with the likes of Siddharth Desai, Vishal Bharadwaj and having plugged some of the gaps during the preparations



should one of the strong contenders," feels the Titans coach who trained U Mumba last season.

It is also informed that the feared right-corner defender, Aobzhar Mohajer Mighani, will lead Telugu Titans this season.

Telugu Titans team owner Srinivas Seeramaneni hopes the sport will get a fillip as the modern, international and competitive face of kabaddi would be on show and which would benefit all stakeholders involved with the game.

## Ramkumar claws back from the brink

### INDIANS ABROAD

SPORTS BUREAU  
NEWPORT

Qualifier Ramkumar Ramanathan bounced back from a precarious situation to turn the tables on Sergiy Stakhovsky of Ukraine 5-7, 7-6(6), 6-2 to reach the pre-quarterfinals of the \$652,245 ATP tournament on Tuesday.

After losing the first set, the 134th-ranked Ramkumar was down a break in the second before turning the match on its head.

In doubles, Leander Paes, seeded third with Marcus Daniell of New Zealand, won 10-5 in the super tie-break against the Aussies, Max Purcell and Luke Saville, in the pre-quarterfinals.

The results:  
**\$652,245 ATP tournament, Newport, US: Singles (first round):** Ramkumar Ramanathan bt Sergiy Stakhovsky (Ukr) 5-7, 7-6(6), 6-2.

**Doubles (pre-quarterfinals):** Marcus Daniell (Nzl) & Leander Paes bt Max Purcell & Luke Saville (Aus) 2-6, 6-2, [10-5].

**\$25,000 WTA, Bucharest, Romania: Doubles (pre-quarterfinals):** Irina Bara & Patricia Maria Tig (Rou) bt Cristina Bucca (Esp) & Prarthana Thombare 6-2, 7-6(5).

**\$25,000 WTA, Lausanne, Switzerland: Doubles (pre-quarterfinals):** Oksana Kalashnikova (Geo) & Ena Shibahara (Jpn) bt Rosalie Van Der Hoek (Ned) & Ankita Raina 3-6, 6-4, [10-6].

**\$25,000 ITF men, Gandia, Spain: Singles (first round):** Sheil Koteka (Ken) bt Aryan Govetas 4-6, 7-6, 6-2.

**\$25,000 ITF women, Qufing, China: Singles (first round):** Yehua Zhou (Chn) bt Ashmita Eswaramurthy 6-0, 6-1.

**Doubles (pre-quarterfinals):** Shuyue Ma (Chn) & Alana Parabny (Aus) bt Ho Ching Wu (Hkg) & Ashmita Eswaramurthy 6-4, 6-4.

**\$25,000 ITF women, Palmela, Portugal: Singles (first round):** Eva Fuerro Alvarez (Esp) bt Sathwika SSama 6-2, 6-3.

## Anas and Hima run to gold; silver for Nirmal and Vismaya in a weak field



### TABOR GP

SPORTS BUREAU  
TABOR (CZECH REPUBLIC)

It was virtually an all-India race as National record holder Muhammed Anas won the men's 400m gold in 45.40s at the Tabor Grand Prix here on Wednesday.

There were three Indians behind him with Nirmal Noah Tom clocking a season-best 45.59s for the silver while K.S. Jeevan and M.P. Jabin took the next two spots.

Britain's Grant Plenderleith was way behind, in

47.51s for the fifth place.

Hima Das (23.25s) and V.K. Vismaya (23.43) clocked their season best as they took the top two spots in the women's 200m.

The field in both the races was such a weak one that it would have been a surprise if the Indians had not won.

#### Season-best for Mallick

Meanwhile in Finland, National record holder Amiya Kumar Mallick won the men's 100m bronze clocking a season-best 10.55s in the Lapinlahti Grand Prix.

It was the first time Mallick, whose national record 10.26s came in 2016, was going below 11s this year. Malaysian Jonathan Nyepa (10.48s) and Rechmal Miller (10.52) finished ahead of the Indian.

**The results (Indians only):**  
**At Tabor: Men's 400m:** 1. Muhammed Anas (45.40s), 2. Nirmal Noah Tom (45.59s), 3. K.S. Jeevan (46.60s), 4. M.P. Jabin (47.16s).

**Women's 400m:** 1. Hima Das (23.25s), 2. V.K. Vismaya (23.43).

**At Lapinlahti, Finland:** Men's 100m: 3. Amiya Kumar Mallick (10.55s).



## TV PICKS

**Indonesia Open:** Star Sports 1 (SD & HD), 7.30 a.m.  
**The Open golf:** DSport, 3.30 p.m.

## IN BRIEF



**Portrush set for record British Open attendance**

PORTRUSH The 148th British Open at Royal Portrush is set to become the second-highest attended tournament in history with 237,750 spectators expected across the week, the organisers said on Wednesday. The first Open to be held in Northern Ireland since 1951 will be the best-attended outside of St. Andrews. Despite bracing conditions on Wednesday with strong winds and driving rain, the locals continued to head to the course to watch the final practice day. AFP



**Messi is the face of soccer; Griezmann**

BARCELONA Barcelona's last signing Antoine Griezmann said his new teammate Lionel Messi is the best footballer in the world and the face of the sport. "For me, he (Messi) is the number one, like LeBron (James) in basketball. They're the ideal," the French international forward said. "Messi is the face of soccer because he has something different that others don't have. We can only see (such talent) every 30 years or so."



**Steve Bruce named Newcastle head coach**  
NEWCASTLE Newcastle United announced on Wednesday that Steve Bruce has been appointed head coach following the departure of Rafael Benitez from the Premier League club. "Newcastle United can now announce that Steve Bruce has been appointed as the club's new head coach," the club said on its website, adding that the former Manchester United player had signed an initial three-year contract. AFP

## Rithvik and Divya triumph

## CHESS

## SPORTS BUREAU

TIRUCHENGODE

IM R. Raja Rithvik (Telangana) and WIM Divya Deshmukh (Maharashtra) remained unbeaten throughout and emerged the champions of the National sub-junior (under-15) chess championship here on Wednesday.

**Important results (final round, TN unless specified):**  
**Open:** Ajay Karthikeyan 7.5 lost to R. Raja Rithvik (TS) 9.5; Samant Aditya (Mah) 8 lost to Kushagra Mohan (TS) 9; Praloy Sahoo (WB) 7.5 lost to S. Rohith Krishna 8.5; V. Pranav 8.5 bt Santan Chakravarthy (WB) 7.5; Aaryan Varshney (Del) 8.5 bt L. Srihari (Pud) 7.5; Nikhil Magizhnan 7.5 lost to Anadat Kartavya (Guj) 8.5; M. Pranesh 7.5 drew with Devesh Anand Naik (Go) 7.5; R. Rathneesh 7 lost to Aditya Varun Gampa (TS) 8; N. Vignesh 7 lost to Soham Kamotra (J&K) 8; Arjun Gupta (Del) 7.5 drew with P. Srikrishnan 7.5.

**Girls:** Jain Nityata (MP) 7.5 lost to Divya Deshmukh (Mah) 9.5; Bristy Mukherjee (WB) 8 drew with L. Jyothsna 8.5; Divyabharathi Masanam 7 lost to Mrudul Dehankar (Mah) 9; V. Rindhiya 7 lost to M. Sai Divya (AP) 8; M.K. Poorna Sri 7.5 drew with Arushi Kotwal (J&K) 7.5; Bhagyashree Patil (Mah) 7.5 drew with P. Tarunka 7.5; Nayani Kaa Muralidharan 8 bt Chinnam Vyshnani (AP) 6.5; C. Tina 7 lost to Dhyana Patel (Guj) 7.5; V. Meenatchi Rajam 7 drew with Chopdekar Gunjal (Go) 7; K.M. Shrija 7.5 bt Tanvi Vasudev Hadkonkar (Go) 6.5.

## Dominant show by Indians

Men and women's teams register thumping wins to top their groups

## C'WEALTH TT

**AMOL KARHADKAR**  
CUTTACK

India's men and women registered thumping wins in the preliminary stage to top their respective groups and qualify for the Super Eights in style on the opening day of the 21st Commonwealth Table Tennis Championship.

So dominant were the Indian teams that in 12 matches that the men and women featured over four rubbers in all, the home team paddlers dropped just two games.

## Short work

Despite playing in a tricky group along with Scotland and the dangerous Singapore, A. Sharath Kamal's troupe made short work of both the teams without much fuss. Only Sharath lost the opening game against Singapore's Zheyu Clarence Chew but made a strong comeback to leave his opponent in awe.

The women, on the other hand, had an easy draw in the first stage. Despite resting Madhurika Patkar in both the ties and key paddler Manika Batra in the second, the women hardly broke any sweat while thrashing Sri Lanka and South Africa with an identical margin of 3-0. Aiyika Mukherjee lost the only game for the Indian women against Sri Lanka's Ch-



**Comeback win:** Sharath Kamal rallied well after losing the first game to douse the challenge of Singapore's Zheyu Clarence Chew. ■ BISWARANJAN ROUT

mathsara Fernando.

## More players arrive

Meanwhile, TTFI secretary-general M.P. Singh confirmed that five paddlers from Uganda and three from Guyana will arrive here latest by Friday and participate in the individual events. Both had to withdraw from the team championship since they didn't get the requisite approval from their respective governments.

It will result in the number of participating countries in the event increasing

to 14. "More the merrier," he said.

**Select results: Team championship (preliminary stage):**  
**Women: Group B: India bt Sri Lanka 3-0** (Manika Batra bt Bimandi Bandara 11-5, 11-4, 11-5; Archana Kamath bt Ishara Madurangi 11-5, 11-5, 12-10; Aiyika Mukherjee bt Chamathsara Fernando 11-3, 11-3, 8-11, 11-4).

**India bt South Africa 3-0** (Archana Kamath bt Danisha Patel 11-6, 11-2, 11-2; Madhurika Patkar bt Palesa Mtshoeliba 11-2, 11-5, 11-3; Sutirtha Mukherjee bt Simeen Mookrey 11-1, 11-4, 11-4).

**Sri Lanka bt South Africa 3-0.**

**Men: Group B: India bt Scotland 3-0** (G. Sathyian bt Niall Cameron 11-4, 11-7, 11-8; A. Sharath Kamal bt Colin Dalglish 11-2, 11-6, 11-9; Harmeet Desai bt Dylan Curry 11-2, 11-6, 11-1).

**India bt Singapore 3-0** (G. Sathyian bt Yu En Koen Pang 11-7, 11-9, 11-8; A. Sharath Kamal bt Zheyu Clarence Chew 8-11, 11-5, 11-4, 11-9; Harmeet Desai bt Shao Han Jos 11-4, 11-7, 11-6).

## Qualifiers for Super Eights:

**Women: Group A: Singapore, Wales;** **Group B: India, Sri Lanka;** **Group C: Australia, Malaysia;** **Group D: England, Nigeria.**

## Trying to maintain balance between career and passion

Biokineticist Danisha Patel has won five successive national table tennis titles in South Africa

**AMOL KARHADKAR**  
CUTTACK

Despite being a sporting nation, table tennis is far from popular in South Africa. No wonder then that the rainbow nation's top female paddler is known in her locality in suburban Johannesburg more for her highly specialised profession as a biokineticist than her five successive national championship titles.

But Danisha Patel has no qualms about it.

"Table tennis is way behind in terms of popularity and support in comparison with sports like soccer, rugby and cricket. Things are changing at a slow pace but unfortunately it's still considered a recreational activity more than a competitive sport," reveals the 26-year-old southpaw.



**Love for the sport:** Danisha Patel says table tennis is considered a recreational activity more than a competitive sport in South Africa. ■ BISWARANJAN ROUT

juries," she says.

Having been working as a professional for five years, Danisha is trying to maintain balance between career and passion. But it's her career option, she says, that helps her motivated towards pursuing her passion.

"I cannot train much due to my work commitments but I love the sport so much that I manage to train whenever I can. More importantly, since I spend most of the day in the gym, it helps me remain match-fit."

## Relatives in Gujarat

A member of the vast Indian expat community in South Africa, Danisha has relatives

in Navsari district in Gujarat. While she spent a few days in her ancestral place after competing in the Surat edition of the Commonwealth Table Tennis Championship in 2015, this time around, she is planning to spend four days in Pune along with her childhood friend.

"I like exploring India. I have been to south, and spent a good vacation on the house boats in Kerala. Now I am looking forward to exploring the western part and hopefully I can bump into one of the Bollywood stars, especially my favourite Sidharth Malhotra," she concludes with a wink.

## Subhankar and Rituparna advance

## RUSSIA OPEN

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA  
VLADIVOSTOK

Five Indians, including top seed Subhankar Dey and Rituparna Das advanced to the pre-quarterfinals of their respective singles competition at the Russian Open BWF Tour Super 100 tournament on Wednesday.

Subhankar defeated England's Hin Shun Wong 21-10 21-6, Siril Verma saw off local shuttler Sergey Sirant 21-15 21-21 21-11 and Rahul Yadav Chittaboina downed another Russian Anton Ivanov 21-5, 21-9.

In women's singles, Rituparna beat Singapore's Chua Hui Zhen Grace 21-12, 21-8 while Vrushali Gummadidi defeated Russia's Alina Kurzogova 21-8 21-9.

Third seed Thuy Linh Nguyen of Vietnam defeated Riya Mookerjee 21-11, 21-19 while Lakshya Sen gave a walkover to Miha Ivanic of Slovenia.

## Deepika Kumari bags silver

## ARCHERY

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA  
TOKYO

India's top-ranked woman archer Deepika Kumari Wednesday clinched a silver medal at the 2020 Tokyo Olympics test event after losing to 18-year-old Korean An San in straight sets here.

Ranked fourth in the qualification round, Deepika found the going tough against the second seed, who produced fine shooting including a flawless third set to clinch the match 6-0 in her favour.

A double gold medallist at the recently-concluded fourth stage of the World Cup in Berlin, San took the first set narrowly when she pipped the Indian by one point.

The Korean then won the second set 29-25, before three perfect 10s won her the gold.

The Indian women's team is yet to qualify for the next year's Olympics but Deepika said the exposure will help.

This was Deepika's first



**Creditable show:** Deepika found the going tough against the second seed and managed a silver. ■ FILE PHOTO: BISWARANJAN ROUT

individual final in a world event since she won a gold at the third stage of the World Cup in Salt Lake City in June, 2018.

The silver medal for Deepika will definitely boost the sagging morale of Indian women's archery contingent, who missed the Olympic quota places for Tokyo Games.

In the semifinal, she thrashed China's eighth seed Zheng Yichai 6-0, but Deepika was at her best in the quarterfinal against Italy's Tatiana Andreoli as she shot nearest to the bull's eye.

bounce back from a 0-4 deficit to win 6-5 in the tiebreaker.

Earlier, Deepika defeated Lee Shuk Kwan of Hong Kong (6-0) in the first round, before ousting Anastasia Pavlova (6-4) of Ukraine and Sonoda Waka of Japan (6-0).

## Bombayla loses

Laishram Bombayla Devi lost in the second round to Malaysia's Nur Aliya Ghapar 5-6 in a thrilling tiebreaker that was decided on who shot nearest to the bull's eye.

## Impressive start by Sindhu, Srikanth

## INDONESIA OPEN

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA  
JAKARTA

Indian shuttlers P.V. Sindhu and K. Srikanth made impressive starts to their campaign, progressing to the second round of the Indonesia Open with contrasting wins at the BWF World Tour Super 1000 tournament here on Wednesday.

Sindhu and Srikanth prevailed over Japan's Aya Ohori (21-12, 21-19) and Kenta Nishimoto (21-14 21-13) respectively.

The highest honour, Bharat Gaurav Award, will be conferred on legendary cricket captain Kapil Dev.

Fifth seed Sindhu, who is

eyeing her first title of the season, defeated Ohori 21-21, 21-15 while eighth seed Srikanth, who had made the India Open final this year, beat Nishimoto 21-14 21-13 in 38 minutes.

**Indian results: Men's singles:** K. Srikanth bt Kenta Nishimoto (Jpn) 21-14 21-13; Wing Ki Vincent (Hkg) bt B. Sai Praneeth 21-15, 13-21, 21-10; Shi Yu Qi (Chn) bt H.S. Prannoy 19-21, 21-18, 22-20. **Women's singles:** P.V. Sindhu bt Aya Ohori (Jpn) 21-12, 21-15. **Mixed doubles:** Winny Oktavia Kan-dow & Tontowi Ahmad (Ind) bt R. Satwiksairaj & Ashwini Pon-nappa 21-13, 21-11.

four silver and five bronze.

**The results: Junior men:** 25m rapid fire pistol: 1. Anish Bhanwala 29 (584); 2. Egor Isakov (Rus) 23 (575); 3. Florian Peter Ger (19) 580; 4. Adarsh Singh 17 (574); 6. Agneya Kaushik 9 (575); 11. Rajkumar Singh Sandhu 571; 26. Udayveer Singh Sidhu 563; 35. Harshwardhan Yadav 1713; 2. China 1710; 3. India-A (Agneya Kaushik, Rajkumar Singh Sandhu, Udayveer Singh Sidhu) 1709; 4. India (Anish Bhanwala, Adarsh Singh, Harshwardhan Yadav) 1708.

## A red and gold farewell for Bhaichung Bhutia likely

The former India captain has expressed a desire for ceremonial send-off

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT  
KOLKATA

Former India captain Bhaichung Bhutia is likely to end his club career in East Bengal colours eight years after retiring from international football.

"Bhutia has announced his retirement from international football but not from club football. In the centenary year of East Bengal, he has expressed his desire to play for five minutes and announce his retirement from the club," said EB coach Alejandro Menendez.

"The coach will decide when and where Bhaichung can play," said Sarkar in the presence of Bhutia.

Bhutia last donned the India colours in the AFC Asian Cup in Qatar in 2011. He could not achieve his goal of

retiring from club football in EB colours in 2015 due to a knee injury.

## Thanking East Bengal

Thanking EB for spotting him early, Bhutia — who would be honoured with 'Identifying and Nurturing the Icon' award — said, "I came here from Sikkim as a 17-year-old and I cried when I left behind my family. But I got a bigger family here and never became homesick... Other than Mohun Bagan, no other club has made so much contribution to Indian football."

"My parents brought me to this world, but East Bengal gave me identity," said Bhutacharya.

This was Deepika's first

## Durand Cup football is back — bigger and better!

Oldest tournament in Asia will feature teams from ISL, I-League

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT  
KOLKATA

Durand Cup, the oldest football tournament in Asia, is being revived in a big way as teams from the ISL and I-League will compete

July 20 marks 50 years of the Apollo 11 lunar mission that put the first man on the moon. We take a look at how commercial space exploration is becoming a reality

# FLY ME TO THE MOON



**Chariots for Apollo**  
Footprint of an astronaut on the moon with earth above the horizon; and (bottom) Astronauts Neil Armstrong, Michael Collins and Buzz Aldrin

NASA AND GETTY IMAGES/ISTOCK

NAHLA NAINAR

This week, US agency National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) is in a celebratory mood. July 20 marks the 50th anniversary of Apollo 11, the first-ever mission that took astronauts Neil Armstrong, Buzz Aldrin and Michael Collins to the moon, in a journey that continues to enchant not just the world's scientific community, but also popular culture.

This televised journey drew a global audience of 600 million people, and gave us many oft-repeated (and sometimes abused and meme'd) Armstrong quotes like 'The Eagle has landed' and 'One small step for man, one giant leap for mankind.'

Even though Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) had to call off its Chandrayaan 2 lunar mission this week due to a technical snag, the country is already known as a leader in moon exploration with the 2008 Chandrayaan 1 probe that was made using indigenous technology.

Apollo 11 was a breakthrough in more ways than one. Not only did it transport human beings to another planetary body, but also created a

competitive era among nations to send their representatives to space.

Once dominated by the US and the former USSR, today's 'space race' has India, China, South Korea and West Asian countries in the reckoning with their own exploration programmes.

In the new millennium, another dimension has popped up: commercial space tourism.

#### Tourists aboard

Ever since American businessman Dennis Tito strapped himself up for a flight that was literally 'out of this world' on April 28, 2001, several other, albeit extremely wealthy aspirants, have set their sights on becoming tourists in space.

Tito, a multi-millionaire engineer and technology services provider, paid \$20 million for the privilege of leaving the earth behind with the help of the Russian Federal Space Agency to spend a week aboard the International Space Station (ISS), fending off criticism by NASA that he wasn't adequately prepared.

Though there have been only six more people who have been to outer space after Tito (all of them aboard a Soyuz craft to the ISS), the idea of commercial space tourism seems to have taken off in earnest, if not in the interest of science, then at least for bragging rights to have 'gone where no one has gone before'.

This would explain why so many companies are staking their reputation and money on offering package tours to outer space.

From British tycoon Sir Richard Branson's Virgin Galactic to Amazon founder Jeff Bezos' Blue Origin, space travel has clearly caught the fancy of some big names on this planet.

And as PayPal co-founder and the head honcho of SpaceX, Elon Musk proved in February last year, the final frontier is not meant for human tourists alone... you can even send an

EMILY

#### Believe it or not!

Among the most enduring conspiracy theories of our times, up there with Elvis Presley sightings and the Illuminati controlling the world, is the 'fact' that the US government 'staged' the moon landings on a secret film set.

Critics raised doubts on how Buzz Aldrin's American flag could appear to be waving on the moon, when there could be no breeze there.

NASA clarified that Aldrin was twisting the pole to get lunar soil, which caused the flag to move.

Others nitpicked over the photographs, pointing out the absence of stars behind the astronauts (the scientific reason: the Sun outshone all the other stars when those pictures were taken).

Who filmed Neil Armstrong going down the ladder if he was the first man on the Moon? The answer:

Armstrong stopped to pull out a cable on the side of the Lunar Lander that released a TV camera that would broadcast his first steps.

**Environment-friendly** Kair plays perfect host; (inset) butterfly ■ AASHIKA TALREJA AND ABHISHEK GULSHAN

wide to absorb water. They can thus brave harsh conditions such as heat, drought, fire, frost and different kinds of soil settings as well. The spines on this plant are small, orange-yellow in colour and are present in pairs.

Flowering happens twice a year during the months of April-June and August-October. The fruits start as a greyish-green, slowly ripening into a fleshy pink.

The flower buds and the fruits of this plant are often pickled. Powdered tender stems and leaves are considered medicinal, and used on boils and swellings, while the

bark has been used as a laxative. It is one of the two prime ingredients of a famous Rajasthani Dish, 'Ker Sangri', where the fruit of this shrub is used.

The plant attracts insects (beetles and bugs), insectivores (birds that feed on insects) and frugivores (animals that live on fruits). It serves as a larval host for the Pioneer butterfly that lays its eggs on the plant. When the caterpillar emerges, it feeds on the soft narrow leaves and flower buds before turning into a pupa, eventually emerging as a butterfly. The pink berries are relished by birds that help carry out the process of pollination.

*The writer is the founder of NINOX - Owl About Nature, a nature-awareness initiative. He is the Delhi-NCR reviewer for Ebird, a Cornell University initiative, monitoring rare sightings of birds. He formerly led a programme at WWF India.*

#### PEOPLE

#### In a league of their own

Local soccer gets a shot in the arm with the return of the Delhi Football League, a two-day city-based tournament



Gunveet Singh Dang, a sports management professional, and Sarthak Singhal, a Delhi University graduate training to be a pilot, are bringing passion and purpose together. The two sports enthusiasts, hope to spread the love of the game, by building a platform for soccer players across the city to showcase their skills. Gunveet, in his first year of college, organised the first season of the Delhi Football League in June 2013, followed by another round in October the same year, and June 2014.

"DFL was a seasonal affair back in college, but after I graduated, I was introduced to a few exciting opportunities in the sports industry," says Gunveet. So he prioritised gaining experience there, simultaneously thinking about building a stronger base for DFL. He's garnered the support of Leh Leh Sports, a leading sports management company he works for.

Armed with knowledge, and a partner in Sarthak, the tournament is back for its fourth season. This five-a-side, two-day event comprises Group and Knock-Out stages, with two categories for the teams to play under: the Under-17 and the Open, with the latter having no age restrictions. Each match will last 25 minutes. The winners of the league will be awarded a cash-prize of ₹15,000 and the runners-up will get ₹7,000.

"We are expecting around 25-30 teams to register," says Gunveet, adding that there are already 16 registrations.

At SPADA Sports Arena, Gurugram; 20th-21st July; 9 a.m. onwards; for registration contact: 8447021283

MANSI ARORA

#### PRODUCTS

#### The sustainable Indian



Venn, a home-grown brand that crafts sustainable fabric into contemporary cuts and colours, aims to create a platform for ethical fashion. The idea is to tailor for the Indian body type. Their red-and-white collared cotton button down dress for instance, is a relaxed fit, for a day out. Its flattering silhouette with a belt to cinch in at the waist that gives it more shape. Other pieces in their collection, like the rustic orange collared top with miniature self-fabric buttons can add a pop of colour to otherwise staid workwear.

Available at [Weavervenn.com](http://Weavervenn.com); ₹1,690 upward

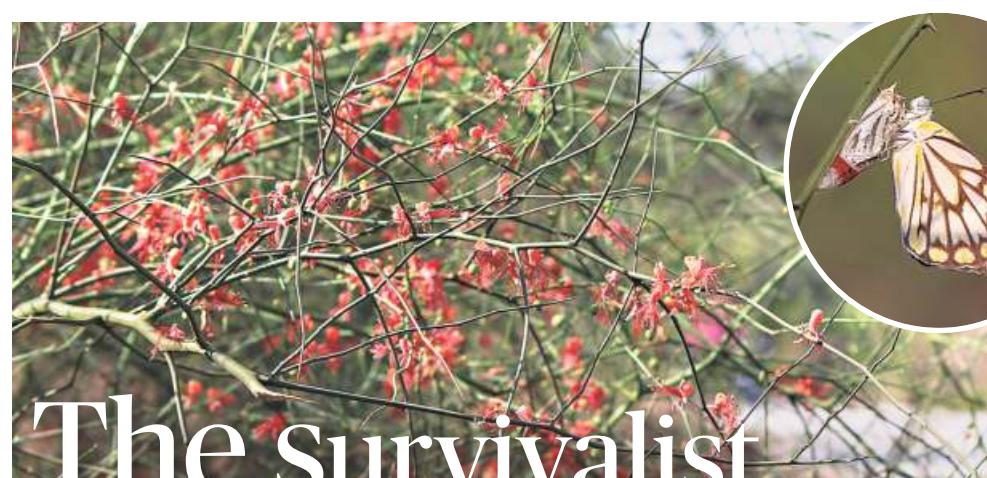
For a listing, or to be featured here, email us at [delhimetro@thehindu.co.in](mailto:delhimetro@thehindu.co.in)

#### IN OUR BACKYARD

Kair is a thorny shrub that conserves water and plays host to the one of the most beautiful butterflies

ABHISHEK GULSHAN

Plants in dry habitats (arid and semi-arid) tend to either have small or no leaves, invariably growing just thorns, an evolutionary trait that protects them from cattle grazing and also helps them conserve water and sustain themselves with very little. Since most of the leaves are shed, the process of photosynthesis is carried out by the thin twigs.



The Kair, or Karira, Kareel, is known in English as the Bare Caper, a shrub producing bright red flowers on its large thorny bush. The scientific name is *Capparis decidua*. Where there is space for spread

(such as in Mangar and in the Aravalli Biodiversity Park), it may grow into a small tree.

As with other members of its family, *Capparaceae*, which includes most shrubs, it adapts well to dry, exposed, rocky or

sandy habitats. It is dense, with leafless, green, wire-like thorny twigs. The young shoots in the bushes support narrow small leaves that they shed quickly.

The shrub has a huge root system spreading deep and



**Environment-friendly** Kair plays perfect host; (inset) butterfly ■ AASHIKA TALREJA AND ABHISHEK GULSHAN

wide to absorb water. They can thus brave harsh conditions such as heat, drought, fire, frost and different kinds of soil settings as well. The spines on this plant are small, orange-yellow in colour and are present in pairs.

Flowering happens twice a year during the months of April-June and August-October. The fruits start as a greyish-green, slowly ripening into a fleshy pink.

The flower buds and the fruits of this plant are often pickled. Powdered tender stems and leaves are considered medicinal, and used on boils and swellings, while the

bark has been used as a laxative. It is one of the two prime ingredients of a famous Rajasthani Dish, 'Ker Sangri', where the fruit of this shrub is used.

The plant attracts insects (beetles and bugs), insectivores (birds that feed on insects) and frugivores (animals that live on fruits). It serves as a larval host for the Pioneer butterfly that lays its eggs on the plant. When the caterpillar emerges, it feeds on the soft narrow leaves and flower buds before turning into a pupa, eventually emerging as a butterfly. The pink berries are relished by birds that help carry out the process of pollination.

*The writer is the founder of NINOX - Owl About Nature, a nature-awareness initiative. He is the Delhi-NCR reviewer for Ebird, a Cornell University initiative, monitoring rare sightings of birds. He formerly led a programme at WWF India.*

#### 5 EVENTS WORTH YOUR WHILE



LITERARY

**Book launch**  
Author Manu S. Pillai will launch his latest book, *The Courtesan, The Mahatma and the Italian Brahmin: Tales from Indian History*. The book tells stories from episodes of India's history, and of several of its men and women. Later, Pillai will be in conversation with Dr. Shashi Tharoor and author Devapriya Roy.

**VENUE:** Amaltas Hall, India Habitat Centre

**TIME:** 7 p.m.



ART

**Mixed media**  
Artistagram 2019, an ongoing group art show, brings together the works of visual artists including painters, sculptors, photographers, and graphic artists. Curated by Jyoti Kalra, the collection showcases colourful representations of thoughts in varied genres and expressions, all inspired by nature.

**VENUE:** Visual Arts Gallery, India Habitat Centre

**TIME:** 10 a.m. - 7:30 p.m.



LECTURE

**Nelson Mandela International Day**  
Prof. Rajen Harshe, president of the G.B. Pant Social Science Institute, and Shiv Shankar Mukherjee, the former Indian High Commissioner to South Africa, will speak at a lecture titled 'Nelson Mandela's Struggles and Worldview'. The event is organised as part of the Nelson Mandela International Day, on July 18.

**VENUE:** C.D. Deshmukh Auditorium, IIC

**TIME:** 6:30 p.m.



PERFORMANCE

**Comedy show**  
Prim and Improper, a comedy show by Vasu Primlani, will take place in Vasant Kunj this evening. Primlani is a professor and environmentalist, whose comedy delivers strong social commentary, on topics like inter-personal relationships, gender politics, and climate change.

**VENUE:** Vasant Kunj Social, Ambience Mall

**TIME:** 6 p.m. - 8 p.m.



FILM

**Documentary screening**  
The Foundation for Indian Contemporary Art will screen *Landless*, a documentary film by Randeep Maddoke. Set in Punjab, the film chronicles the struggles of landless Dalit labourers and the discrimination they faced in their lives. After the screening, the director will be in discussion with documentary filmmaker Sanjay Kak.

**VENUE:** FICA Reading Room, F-213, Lado Sarai

**TIME:** 6 p.m.

# THE PIPES ARE CALLING

Between spoonfuls of haggis at a Burns Supper, a choir from Delhi matches step with dancers in kilts, and sings Bollywood songs in Scotland



Sounds of Scotland  
(Clockwise from left) A festival in North Berwick; and aboard a ferry at sea • ANDY CATLIN, JOHN WOOD AND SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

REEM KHOKHAR

We disembark from our coach in sun-drenched Haddington. A cluster of beaming faces welcomes our choir group – The Capital City Minstrels. After the initial enquiries about our flight, a slightly awkward pause ensues. As if on cue, a bagpiper emerges, welcoming us with a lusty tune.

One of the Scots leaps into the centre, dragging one of us to dance. They cavort joyfully with linked arms, their enthusiasm prompting us to leap as gracefully as possible. The animated jig has broken the ice.

This is no ordinary visit. We are a choir from Delhi on a concert tour of the UK, and the first leg in Scotland is to perform at Haddington and Edinburgh with a local choir, The Sianco Singers. Many of us have visited Scotland before, but experiencing a destination through music showcases it in a completely new light.

We stay in the East Lothian area, about 45 minutes from Edinburgh. Our host choir arranges a Burns Supper – a celebration of Scottish poet Robert Burns' life and poetry, usually held closer, but not restricted, to his birthday, January 25. Supper begins with

## UPCOMING EVENTS IN SCOTLAND INCLUDE

Edinburgh Jazz and Blues Festival, till July 21

Fringe by the Sea – August 2-11, 2019, North Berwick

Edinburgh International Festival, August 2-26

Lammermuir Festival – across venues in East Lothian, September 13-22

dancing from the 1940s, beneath the wings of the Concorde."

Gathered under the nose of the Concorde, we break into 'Can't Help Falling in Love with You', the strong acoustics lifting our voices through the hangar. Later, dressed in bright Indian wear, we join the Haddington Festival Parade, lined up between a group in fancy dress and a catchy samba band. Haddington is the administrative head of the East Lothian County, set along the River Tyne. Though small, it is packed with a whopping 129 buildings of historic significance. Groups like the Haddington Concert Society organise an annual series of concerts open to the public, performed in local buildings.

## Birds central

A visit to the Scottish Seabird Centre in North Berwick is another highlight. On a catamaran cruise we see bobbing orange-billed puffins and a sky full of Atlantic gannets as we approach the imposing Bass Rock. The rocky island is home to the world's largest population of these stark white birds with black-tipped wings, Britain's largest seabird. North Berwick is a quintessential British seaside town, with sandy beaches, colourful cottages and stone houses, and is also the location

for the annual 'Fringe By the Sea' in August, a smaller version of the Edinburgh Festival Fringe, with a spritz of salty sea air.

Our concert at St John's Church takes us into Edinburgh. We enjoy a guided tour of the innovatively designed Scottish Parliament Building and walk along the Royal Mile, breaking into song at intervals, which elicits some stares and several smiles from people.

We conclude our tour at St Mary's Parish Church, the longest church in Scotland. With its excellent acoustics, the church is a popular venue for concerts and recordings and is a major venue for the Lammermuir Festival held in September. James Waters, co-director of the festival, elaborates on the event's focus on not just music, but also location. "Festivals are as much about place as about programme," he says. We are lucky to experience some of that magic. At St Mary's with its magnificent stained glass windows and lofty galleries, to feel its sound is incredible. We launch into Rabindranath Tagore's, 'Purano Shei Diner Kotha', which he wrote inspired by Robert Burns' 'Auld Lang Syne', the new year anthem. There is no greater thrill than to sing this song in Bengali and English, with a Scottish choir, in the country of its origin.

The Chennai-Delhi connect NalandaWay coaches 43,000 children from Tamil Nadu, Delhi, and Haryana • SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

SWETA AKUNDI

For the past week, 14-year-old Faizan has been on cloud nine. News of the success of his first-ever music video has reached far and wide – including his aunt in Lahore, who rang him up at his house in Ambedkar Nagar, Delhi, to congratulate him.

Faizan, along with 21 other children from various Government schools in Delhi, is part of a video mashup of Bollywood song 'Ilahi Mera' and Malayalam film song 'Paranne'. The video features them popping out from behind the walls of the capital city's Jamali Kamali mosque, overlooking the Qutub Minar, singing in pitch-perfect unison. It has garnered nearly 45,000 views so far, and has been shared by the likes of Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal.

Two thousand kilometres away, in Chennai, Sriram and his team from NalandaWay are overjoyed. The children in the video belong to Delhi Children's Choir (DCC), an initiative by the Chennai-based NGO. The DCC has been modelled after the Chennai Children's Choir, a well-known group of musically-inclined children from disadvantaged backgrounds in Chennai. "We started DCC last year, hoping to do the same thing we did with CCC – to help disadvantaged children learn visual and performing arts. Inclusion

of 'Ilahi Mera' and 'Paranne' for this video.

## New friends

There are two levels of impact: one, of politicians and celebrities recognising the DCC, and the second, more important, of increasing the children's self-esteem, during these six months of practice for the video. "We were all strangers when we started, but we've spent so much time together that we're all good friends now," says 16-year-old Nandini Premkumar.

She happily recalls how special she felt during the shoot: "There were huge cameras all around us and everyone was cheering us on." Along with it, came the much-sought-after approval from parents, teachers, and friends, spurring her on to pursue an education and career in music.

It was a similar vote of confidence for Faizan, who says, "DCC opened me to the possibilities of music. Before this, we didn't even have a music class in my school." But added to this is the advantage every teenager secretly hopes for: "Ever since the video came out, I have made so many new friends at school! People I didn't know before have started sitting and eating with me during recess."

Watch the video at NalandaWay Foundation's YouTube channel

# Songbirds soar online

Spurred by Chennai Children's Choir's success, NalandaWay got 22 children from Delhi Government schools to sing in a music video, which quickly went viral



The Chennai-Delhi connect NalandaWay coaches 43,000 children from Tamil Nadu, Delhi, and Haryana • SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

the Arts in mainstream education makes it less stressful, and more joyful. Every child, no matter what their background, should have access to some form of art," says Sriram.

NalandaWay, through its programme Art Labs, is currently working with 170 schools in Tamil Nadu, Delhi, and Haryana. Over 43,000 children go through this programme every year. The CCC recently performed at Serenade Choral Festival in Washington DC, and has been selected for UNESCO's #KindnessMatters global social media campaign. Sriram now hopes the same for DCC.

"For DCC, we auditioned 1,200 children from 250 Government schools in the areas of Ambedkar Nagar, Himapur and Girni, near Saket. Finally, these 22 were selected," he says. The group practises for three hours every Sunday at Kiran Nadar Museum of Art in Select Citywalk. "We teach them songs in different languages: from poems of Bharati in Tamil, to Amir Khusrau in Persian. Everytime we teach them a song in a language that's not their mother tongue, we make sure to explain the lyrics behind them," he says.

As for the selection of song, the team has only one rule. It should be aspirational, says Sriram, explaining their choice

of the traditional Selkirk Grace, a short, sweet prayer.

The highlight of a Burns supper is haggis, a traditional speciality made with sheep pluck (lungs, heart, liver) and seasoning. The bagpiper plays while the Scottish delicacy is brought in, followed by the 'Address to Haggis', a theatrical enactment of Burns' poem, in an old dialect, with words like sonsie and hurdies strung together in praise of the dish.

## Highland reel

A local band, Clappy Doo, brings us to our feet for the Ceilidh, traditional Scottish music and dancing. Soon we are in the midst of boisterous reels. The roles are switched when we play a few Bollywood songs, teaching the Scots some 'thumkas'. In between rehearsals, we set out to explore East Lothian, which is filled with treasures. The National Museum of Flight, housed in the original wartime buildings of the East Fortune airfield, has a spectacular collection of military, civil and leisure aircraftlike the Spitfires, Meteors, Jaguars, Harriers, and the crowning glory of civil aviation – The Concorde Experience.

Steve McLean, general manager, National Museum of Flight, says, "Our Wartime Experience event, which takes place every May, has seen performers delighting our visitors with songs and



## POOCH CAFE



## PEANUTS



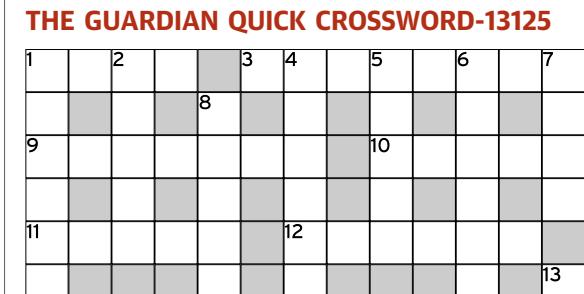
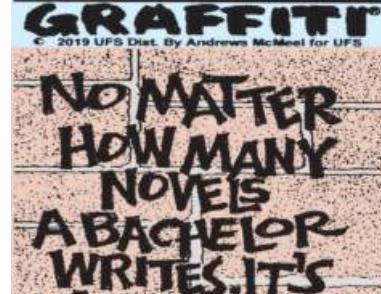
## HAGAR THE HORRIBLE



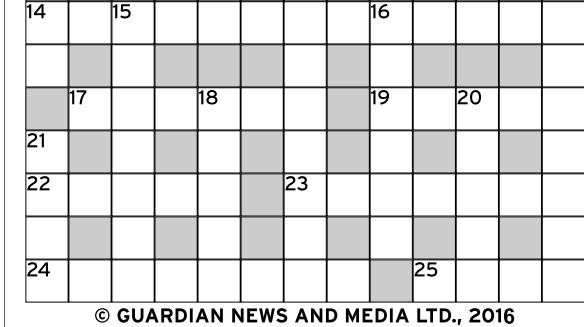
## CALVIN AND HOBBES



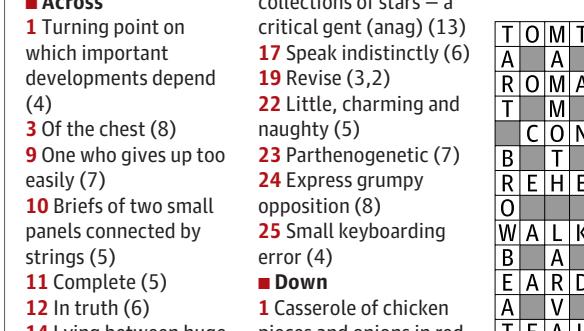
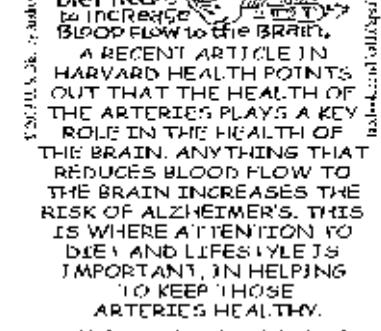
## TIGER



## WUMO



## PEARLS BEFORE SWINE



wine (3,2,3)  
2 Try to avoid (a problem) (5)  
4 Oil-fuelled light with a glass chimney for outdoor use (9,4)  
5 Highly valued (5)  
6 Agreement (7)  
7 Scuttler (4)  
8 One gazing intently (6)  
13 Mexican Pacific resort (8)  
15 Until now (4,3)  
16 Band worn for decoration (6)  
18 Language group of southern Africa (5)  
20 Flashy (5)  
21 Netting (4)

Solution will appear in The Hindu dated July 19, 2019.

Solution No. 13124

T	O	M	T	H	U	M	B	R	I	F	T
A	A	I	O	H	D	A					
R	O	M	A	N	H	O	D	L	U	M	
T	M	D	A	R	E	A					
C	Q	U	I	S	T	A	D	O	R		
B	T	U	R	I							
R	E	H	E	A	T						
O	R	V	U	A							
W	A	L	K	T	H	P					
A	E	R	T	H							
E	A	R	D	R	U	M	U	S	U	A	L
B	A	E	R	T	H						
A	V	S	I	R	N						
T	E	A	L	A	N	C	E	S	T	R	Y

# Musk unveils project on mind-machine interface

Neuralink showcases an early version of a sensor with hair-thin strands that could be implanted in brain



Elon Musk. ■ AFP

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE  
SAN FRANCISCO

Futurist entrepreneur Elon Musk late on Tuesday revealed his secretive Neuralink startup is making progress on an interface linking brains with computers, and said they hope to begin testing on people next year.

Mr. Musk has long contended that a neural lace meshing minds with ma-

chines is vital if people are going to avoid being so out-paced by Artificial Intelligence that, under the best of circumstances, humans would be akin to "house cats."

Mr. Musk and members of the Neuralink team laid out progress they have made on their mission at an event held in San Francisco to recruit talent in software, ro-

botics, neuroscience and more.

"Ultimately, we can do a full brain-machine interface," Musk said.

"Achieve a sort of symbiosis with artificial intelligence."

Neuralink unveiled an early version of a tiny sensor with hair-thin strands that could be implanted in a brain through a small incision by a

robot built for the high-precision task.

"They are tiny electrodes and the robot is delicately implanting them," Mr. Musk said, noting there could be thousands of the electrodes connected to a brain.

"This is something that is not going to be stressful to put in; will work well, and it is wireless."

The chip will communi-

cate wirelessly with an earpiece, which relays information to a smartphone application.

For now, the goal is to let a person with the implants control a smartphone with thought, but the technology could eventually extend to other devices such as robotic arms.

"We hope to have this in a human patient before the end of next year."

## Ebola outbreak a global health emergency: WHO

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE  
GENEVA

The World Health Organization on Wednesday declared the Ebola outbreak in the Democratic Republic of Congo a "public health emergency of international concern," a rare designation only used for the gravest epidemics.

The Ebola epidemic in DR Congo, the second deadliest on record, has largely

been contained to remote areas, but this week saw a patient diagnosed with the virus in the eastern city of Goma, the first case in a major urban hub.

"It is time for the world to take notice," WHO chief Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus said, as he invoked the emergency provision (PHEIC), activated by the UN health agency four times previously.

## Menstrual cups are safe, reusable and cheap: study

They collect blood rather than absorb it



A cup can last for up to 10 years, making it a cheaper alternative in the long run.

viewed, the cups were found to be as effective or better at collecting blood than sanitary pads or tampons.

The research showed no increased risk of infection. There were, however, five reported cases of toxic shock syndrome (TSS), a potentially life-threatening condition caused by bacteria getting into the body via foreign objects.

Since the overall number of menstrual cup users is unknown, researchers could not determine how this compared with tampons, known to boost the risk for TSS.

The cup is reusable and can last for up to ten years, making it cheaper in the long run than disposable alternatives.

## Ingenious technique to eradicate mosquitoes

Uses 2 methods — radiation and bacteria



Mass rearing of mosquitoes in containers at a company in Guangzhou, China. ■ AFP

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE  
TOKYO

A breakthrough technique harnessing two methods to target disease-carrying mosquitoes was able to effectively eradicate buzzing biters in two test sites in China, according to research published on Thursday.

The mosquitoes targeted are a type that is particularly difficult to control called *Aedes albopictus*, which are a major vector for diseases including Zika and dengue.

The study "demonstrates the potential of a potent new tool", wrote Prof. Armbruster, a Professor at Georgetown University.

Researchers harnessed two population control methods: the use of radiation — which effectively sterilises mosquitoes — and a strain of bacteria called Wolbachia that leaves mosquito eggs dead on arrival.

They conducted a two-year trial at two sites on river islands in Guangzhou.

The results were "remarkable", wrote Prof. Armbruster. The number of

hatched mosquitoes eggs plunged by 94%, with not a single viable egg recorded for up to 13 weeks in some cases.

And the average number of female mosquitoes — which transmit disease to humans — caught by traps fell by 83 to 94%.

The results were also borne out by a decline of nearly 97% in bites suffered by locals — which in turn shifted attitudes among residents, who were initially sceptical of the project's plan to release more mosquitoes into the local area.

## Now, an algorithm for an affordable cricket bat

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA  
NEW DELHI

Using computer modelling and optimisation algorithms, the world's best bat and maybe the most affordable could in the near future roll out from a lab to the cricket ground.

A high performing 'Algo-Bat', closely resembling the finest in the market and at a fraction of the price, is in the works in Canada's University of British Columbia, where scientists have developed a novel algorithm that

optimises the geometry of the bat and helps it hit the ball harder and further.

The result is a high performing bat that an aspiring cricketer can get their hands on at maybe just \$30-40 and ultimately bring more talent into the sport, the scientists said.

According to Sadegh Mazzolini, who wrote the algorithms, the idea was to optimise the bat's geometry, specifically the back profile so as to minimise the vibration caused by ball's impact.

### TEMPORARY CANCELLATION / DIVERSION / PARTIAL CANCELLATION / REGULATION AND RESCHEDULING OF TRAINS DUE TO NON-INTERLOCKING WORK AT TILAK BRIDGE STATION

In order to further strengthen the infrastructure, Northern Railway will undertake the Non-Interlocking work at Tilak Bridge station in connection with 5th & 6th line between New Delhi and Tilak Bridge stations. To execute this work, Railways will take appropriate traffic blocks upto 22.07.2019. Consequently, the following trains will temporarily be affected on the dates shown against each:-

#### CANCELLATION OF TRAINS

Train No. & Train Name	Date(s) of Cancellation (from originating station)
12419/12420 Lucknow-New Delhi-Lucknow Gomati Express	19 to 21.07.2019
12459/12460 New Delhi-Amritsar-New Delhi Express	19 to 21.07.2019
14205 Faizabad-Delhi Jn. Express	18 & 19.07.2019
14206 Delhi Jn.-Faizabad Express	19 & 20.07.2019
14207 Paratappgarh-Delhi Jn. Padmavat Express	18 & 19.07.2019
14208 Delhi Jn.-Paratappgarh Padmavat Express	19 & 20.07.2019
14211/14212 Agra Cantt.-New Delhi-Agra Cantt. Intercity Exp.	19 to 21.07.2019
14315/14316 Bareilly-New Delhi-Bareilly Intercity Express	19 to 21.07.2019
14323/14324 New Delhi-Rohat-New Delhi Express	19 to 21.07.2019
14521/14522 Delhi Jn.-Ambala Cantt.-Delhi Jn. Express	19 to 21.07.2019
14681/14682 New Delhi-Jalandhar City-New Delhi Express	19 to 21.07.2019
15035/15036 Delhi Jn.-Ranmangar / Kathgodam-Delhi Jn. Uttarakhand Sampark Kranti Express	20 & 21.07.2019
19565 Okha-Dehradun Uttarakhand Express	19.07.2019
19566 Dehradun-Okha Uttarakhand Express	21.07.2019
14085/14086 Tilak Bridge-Sirsila-Tilak Bridge Express	20, 21 & 22.07.2019
64088 Hazrat Nizamuddin-New Delhi EMU	Upto 21.07.2019
51911/51912 Delhi Jn.-Saharanpur-Delhi Jn. Passenger	19 & 20.07.2019
54055/54056 Moradabad-Delhi Jn.-Moradabad Passenger	20.07.2019
64012/64013/64014/64016 Shakur Basti-Palwal-Shakur Basti EMU	19 to 21.07.2019
64018 Shakur Basti-New Delhi EMU	19 & 20.07.2019
64031/64032/64034/64036 Ghaziabad-Shakur Basti-Ghaziabad EMU	19 to 21.07.2019
64053 Palwal-Ghaziabad EMU	19 to 21.07.2019
64071 Ballabgarh-Shakur Basti EMU	19 & 20.07.2019
64075/64077/64078/64080 Palwal-New Delhi-Palwal EMU	19 to 21.07.2019
64082 New Delhi-Palwal EMU	19 & 20.07.2019
64087 Hazrat Nizamuddin-New Delhi EMU	19 to 21.07.2019
64092 Hazrat Nizamuddin-Hazrat Nizamuddin EMU	19.07.2019
64091 Hazrat Nizamuddin-Hazrat Nizamuddin EMU	19 to 21.07.2019
64098 Shakur Basti-Hazrat Nizamuddin EMU	19.07.2019
64093 Hazrat Nizamuddin-Shakur Basti EMU	19 to 21.07.2019
64095 New Delhi-Shakur Basti EMU	19 & 20.07.2019
64096 Shakur Basti-Hazrat Nizamuddin EMU	19.07.2019
64097 New Delhi-Shakur Basti EMU	19 to 21.07.2019
64401/64406/64408 Ghaziabad-Delhi Jn.-Ghaziabad EMU	20.07.2019
64403 Ghaziabad-Delhi Jn. EMU	19 to 21.07.2019
64089 Hazrat Nizamuddin-Hazrat Nizamuddin EMU	Upto 22.07.2019
64411 Sahibabad-Delhi Jn. EMU	20.07.2019
64412 Delhi Jn.-Ghaziabad EMU	19.07.2019
64418 Delhi Jn.-Ghaziabad EMU	20.07.2019
64423/64424/64425/64427/64430/64432 Ghaziabad-New Delhi-Ghaziabad EMU	19 to 21.07.2019
64426 New Delhi-Ghaziabad EMU	20.07.2019
64428 New Delhi-Ghaziabad EMU	19.07.2019
64431 Ghaziabad-New Delhi EMU	19 & 20.07.2019
64439 Ghaziabad-Delhi Jn. EMU	20.07.2019
64445 Ghaziabad-Delhi Jn. EMU/64449/64450 Ghaziabad-New Delhi-Ghaziabad EMU/64469/64470 New Delhi-Panipat-New Delhi EMU	19.07.2019
64491/64492 Palwal-New Delhi-Palwal EMU	19 & 20.07.2019
64493/64494 Palwal-Hazrat Nizamuddin-Palwal EMU	20.07.2019
64569/64570 Kosi Kalan-Hazrat Nizamuddin-Kosi Kalan EMU	20.07.2019
64434 Delhi Jn.-Ghaziabad EMU	20.07.2019
64420 Ghaziabad-Hazrat Nizamuddin EMU	19 to 21.07.2019
64567/64568 Bulandshahr-Tilak Bridge-Bulandshahr EMU	20.07.2019

#### DIVERSION OF TRAINS

Train No. & Train Name	Diverted via	Date(s) from originating station
12055 New Delhi-Dehradun Janshatabdi	Delhi Jn.	19.07.19
12171 Lokmanya Tilak (T)-Haridwar AC Superfast	Agra Cantt.-Mitawali-Aligarh-Khurja-Meerut City	18.07.19
12172 Haridwar-Lokmanya Tilak (T) AC Superfast	Meerut City-Khurja-Aligarh-Agra Cantt.	19.07.19
12204 Amritsar-Saharsa Garib Rath	Ambala-Saharanpur-Moradabad	20 & 21.07.19
12259 Sealdah-New Delhi Duronto Exp.	Sahibabad-Delhi Shahdara-Delhi Jn.-New Delhi	18.07.19
12260 New Delhi-Sealdah Duronto Exp.	New Delhi-Delhi Jn.-Delhi Shahdara-Sahibabad	19.07.19
12274 New Delhi-Howrah Duronto Exp.	Delhi Jn.	20.07.19
12392 New Delhi-Rajgir Shramjeevi Exp.	Delhi Jn.	19 to 21.07.19
12398 New Delhi-Gaya Mahabodhi Exp.	Delhi Jn.	19 to 21.07.19
12484 Amritsar-Kochuveli Express	Adarsh Nagar-Delhi Safdarjang-Okhla	21.07.19
12501 Guwahati-New Delhi Poorvottam Sampark Kranti Express	Sahibabad-Delhi Shahdara-Delhi Jn.-New Delhi	20.07.19
12561 Jaynagar-New Delhi Swatantra Sainani Express	Sahibabad-Delhi Shahdara-Delhi Jn.-New Delhi	19 & 20.07.19
12562 New Delhi-Jaynagar Swatantra Sainani Express	New Delhi-Delhi Jn.-Delhi Shahdara-Sahibabad	20.07.19
12566 New Delhi-Darbhangha Bihar Sampark Kranti Express	Delhi Jn.	19 to 21.07.19
12581 Manduadih-New Delhi Superfast	Sahibabad-Delhi Shahdara-Delhi Jn.-New Delhi	18 to 20.07.19
12582 New Delhi-Manduadih Superfast	New Delhi-Delhi Jn.-Delhi Shahdara-Sahibabad	20.07.19
12715 H. Sahib Nanded-Amritsar Sachkhand Express	Okhla-Delhi Safdarjang-Adarsh Nagar	19 & 20.07.19
12903/12904 Mumbai Central-Amritsar-Mumbai Central Golden Temple Mail	Khutbav-Mathura Jn.-Alwar-Rewari-Delhi Jn.-Sahibabad	18.07.2019
14003 Malda Town-New Delhi Express	Sahibabad-Delhi Shahdara-Delhi Jn.-New Delhi	20.07.19
64095 New Delhi-Shakur Basti EMU	New Delhi-Delhi Kishanganj-Shakur Basti	Upto 22.07.19

#### REGULATION / RESCHEDULING OF TRAINS

Train No. 12627 Bangalore City-New Delhi Karnataka Express will be rescheduled by 120 minutes on 18.07.2019 from Bangalore City.