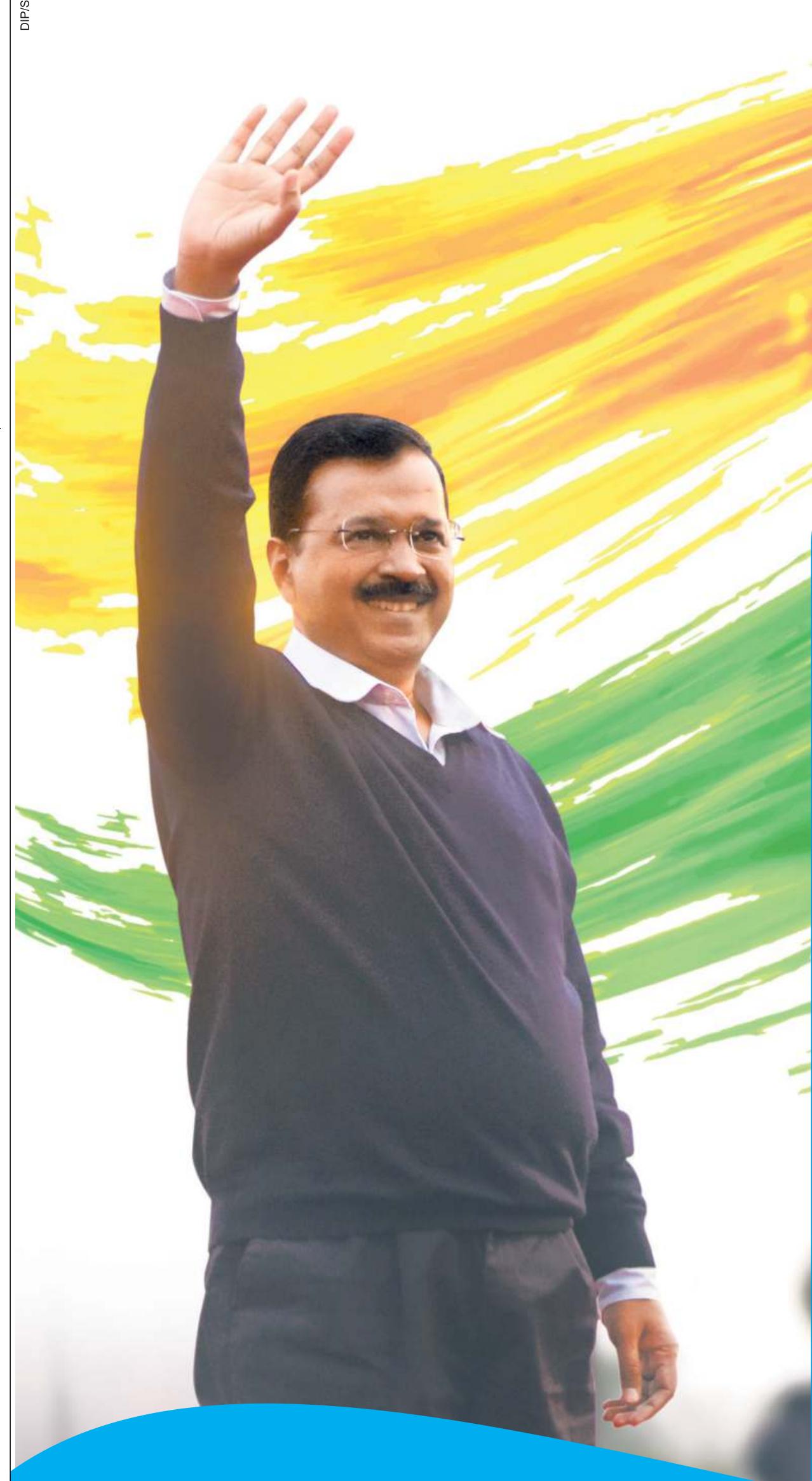




THANK YOU DELHI!

You are cordially invited for
the oath taking ceremony of
Chief Minister Shri. Arvind Kejriwal
on Sunday, 16 February, 10 a.m.
at Ramleela Maidan

DIPISHABDARTH/0329/19-20



जब भारत माँ का हर बच्चा
अच्छी शिक्षा पाएगा

जब भारत के हर बंदे को
अच्छा इलाज मिल पाएगा

जब सुरक्षा और सम्मान
महिलाओं में आत्म विश्वास जगायेगा

हर नौजवान के माथे से
बेरोजगार का तमगा हट जाएगा

जब किसान का पर्सीना उसके
घर में भी खुशहाली लाएगा

जब हर भारत वासी
जीवन की मूलभूत सुविधा पायेगा

जब धर्म-जाति से उठकर
हर भारत वासी भारत को आगे बढ़ायेगा

तब ही अमर तिरंगा
आसमान में शान से लहराएगा

दिल्ली सरकार

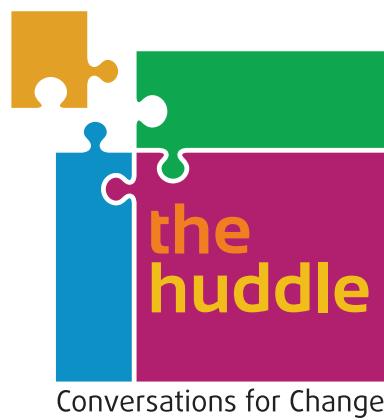
आप की सरकार

Directorate of Information and Publicity, Government of NCT of Delhi

BY INVITATION ONLY



THE HINDU

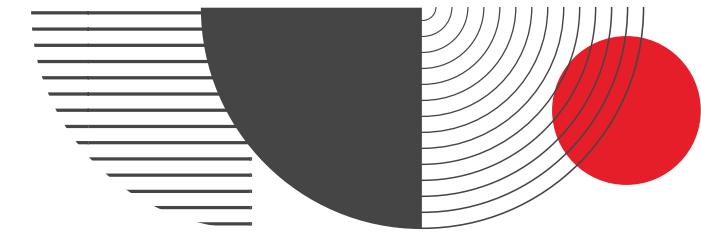


Conversations for Change



Inspired by India

Co-Powered by



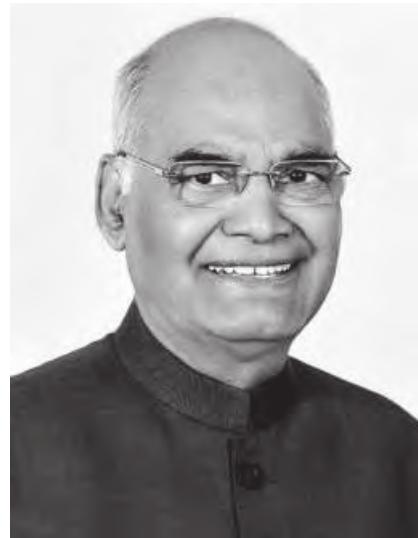
THE HINDU GROUP

Dialogue • Debate • Discussion

PREPARE to HUDDLE

Some of the most articulate statesmen, politicians, bureaucrats, academics, sportspersons and entertainers come together at The Huddle 2020 to discuss ideas that matter

February 22 & 23, 2020
ITC Gardenia, Bengaluru



Shri Ram Nath Kovind
Hon'ble President of India



Hon'ble Ranil Wickremesinghe
Former Prime Minister of Sri Lanka



Hon'ble Bhupesh Baghel
Chief Minister of Chhattisgarh



M K Narayanan
Former National Security Adviser



Manish Tewari
MP & Congress Party Leader



Rajeev Chandrasekhar
*Member of Parliament,
Rajya Sabha*



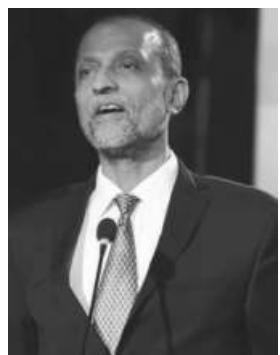
Anil Kumble
*Former Indian Cricketer, Coach &
Commentator*



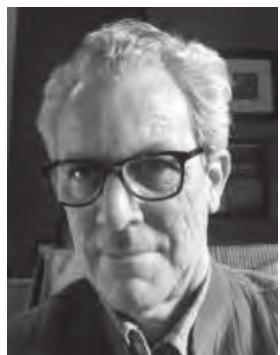
Ashwini Nachappa
*Former Indian
Tracking Champion*



Nirupama Rao
Former Foreign Secretary



Ajit Ranade
Economist



Max Rodenbeck
*South Asia Bureau Chief,
The Economist*



Taapsee Pannu
Actor



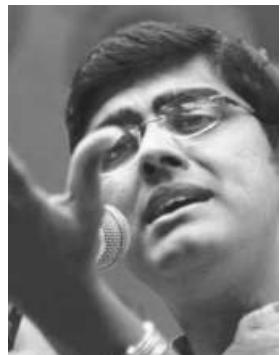
Manisha Koirala
Actor



Papa CJ
Author & Stand-up Comedian



Anil Srinivasan
Pianist & Educator



Sikkil Gurucharan
Musician



Mithila Palkar
Actor



Srinath Raghavan
*Professor of International Relations
& History, Ashoka University*



Jaimini Bhagwati
*Former Ambassador, World
Bank Treasury Specialist & Author*



Tejasvi Surya
Member of Parliament

and many more...

Associate Sponsor



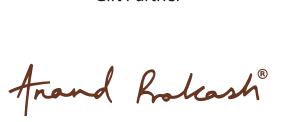
Comfort Partner



Session Sponsors



Gift Partner



Travel Partner



International News Partner





**EITHER CLEAR PRELIMS
OR GET 100% FEE BACK**
**Read Only 10-Red Books
& Nothing Else**

WITH TOPIC-WISE & DAY-WISE GUIDED ACTION PLAN (GAP)

- We guarantee you Min 70 Qs in GS Prelims 2020 from our 10 RED BOOKS for GS Pre Else your 100% Fee will be back.
- We will upload details of Qs from UPSC GS Pre 2020 that will come from these Red Books along with Page nos. on 3rd June 2020.

2021 COURSES NOW STARTED

10 Red Books cover

- All Old & New NCERTS and 70+ Major Books Covered.
- 100 % Coverage of Current Affairs (Jan 2019-April 2020) Covering 14 sources: PIB, Hindu, HT, Mint, PRS, IE, UNO sites etc.
- Practice Last 40 Years UPSC Os (1978-2019): Topic wise

SAVE MORE WITH PT TOPPERS' PACK 11,900/-		
OUR RECORD		
Year of Exam	Cut-off Marks for General Category	Data UPSC website
2019	99 (Expected)	154
2018	98	154
2017	105.34	154
2016	116	152
2015	107.34	168
2014	205 (incl. CSAT Marks)	162 (GS) + 140 (CSAT)

crack IAS.com
Arrow Education

crackIAS.com
921-7070707
crackiasquery@gmail.com

NEARBY



Nirbhaya case: apex court rejects convict's plea

NEW DELHI
The Supreme Court on Friday dismissed a petition filed by Nirbhaya case convict Vinay Sharma challenging the rejection of his mercy plea by the President. A three-judge Bench, led by Justice R. Banumathi, found no merit in Sharma's contention that the mercy plea was rejected because of non-application of mind. Justice Banumathi in her order rejected the grounds raised by Sharma.

NATION ▶ PAGE 9

SRI RAM'S IAS
IAS
Prelim Test Series (FREE)
Prelim-cum-Main June 2020
Interview Guidance
WhatsApp DAF to 9871737522
www.sriramsias.com
011-42437002, 09811489560

2 women get conditional bail in Bidar case

STAFF REPORTER
BIDAR

A court in Bidar on Friday granted conditional bail to Nazbunnisa and Fareeda Begum who were arrested on January 30 on sedition charges. The case was filed against the Shaheen School management in connection with children staging a play during annual day celebrations on January 21, in which a character had allegedly delivered a dialogue "insulting" the PM.

DETAILS ON ▶ PAGE 8

Following SC rap, telcos asked to pay AGR dues immediately

Furious Bench issues show-cause notice to DoT for letter 'staying' judgment

KRISHNADAS RAJAGOPAL
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Friday ordered the managing directors and directors of companies, including telecom majors Bharti Airtel and Vodafone Idea, to show cause why contempt proceedings should not be initiated against them for failing to pay even a "single penny" to the government in Adjusted Gross Revenue (AGR) dues, worth ₹1.47 lakh crore, despite an October 2019 judgment.

A three-judge Bench, led by Justice Arun Mishra, called the non-compliance with the judgment a "very disturbing scenario". It also drew contempt proceedings against a Department of Telecom (DoT) officer responsible for issuing an order to the Accountant General, a

Missed call

The SC on Friday warned telecom firms of contempt proceedings if they delay paying dues. A timeline:

- 2005: Govt's definition of Adjusted Gross Revenue (AGR) calculation challenged by firms. Govt. says AGR includes all revenues while companies argue that it includes only revenue from core services
- Oct. 24, 2019: SC sets aside the tribunal's judgment saying govt.'s definition is right. Orders telecom firms to pay ₹1.47 lakh crore
- Feb. 14, 2020: SC threatens telecom firms with contempt proceedings, slams officials for failing to enforce ruling

constitutional authority, on January 23, 2020, to desist from taking any coercive action against the defaulting companies.

Following the strictures, the DoT began issuing notices to the telcos to pay the AGR dues as early as mid-

night of February 14 (Friday). Failure to comply with the orders would entail company heads appearing in person in court at the next hearing on March 17, the court said.

CONTINUED ON ▶ PAGE 12

SOURCE: AGENCIES

Bharti Airtel to pay ₹10,000 cr. by February 20

YUTHIKA BHARGAVA
NEW DELHI

Bharti Airtel, one of the defaulting telcos hauled up by the Supreme Court for not paying AGR dues, informed the Department of Telecommunications (DoT) that it would deposit ₹10,000 crore by February 20, and promised that the remaining amount would be cleared "well before" the next date of the hearing – March 17. The DoT began issuing of notices circle wise to the telcos.

CONTINUED ON ▶ PAGE 12
PART PAYMENT ▶ PAGE 15



European Union calls for swift end to all curbs in Kashmir

It is in touch with India for a dialogue on the situation

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

The European Union (EU) has called for a swift removal of communication and political restrictions in Kashmir and is in touch with the Indian authorities for a continuing dialogue on the situation in Kashmir, a spokesperson said.

"Some restrictions remain, notably on Internet access and mobile services, and some political leaders are still in detention. While we recognise the serious security concerns, it is important that the remaining restrictions are lifted swiftly," said Virginie Battu-Henriksson, EU Spokesperson for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy.

The statement was issued a day after a delegation of 25 diplomats, which included EU Ambassador to India Ugo Astuto and several other Eu-



All for talks: European Union diplomats at a meeting in Srinagar on Wednesday. ■ PTI

ropean envoys, returned from a visit to Jammu and Kashmir on February 12 and 13. The delegation was not part of the earlier team of diplomats that visited Kashmir in January as they had insisted on meeting the jailed political leaders.

The Supreme Court on Friday asked the Jammu and Kashmir government to respond to a petition by Sara Abdullah Pilot against the detention of her brother and former Chief Minister Omar Abdullah under the Public Safety Act. ▶ PAGE 12

Omar's custody: SC seeks reply

The Supreme Court on Friday asked the Jammu and Kashmir government to respond to a petition by Sara Abdullah Pilot against the detention of her brother and former Chief Minister

Omar Abdullah under the Public Safety Act. ▶ PAGE 12

Violence breaks out



A protest against the CAA and the NRC in Chennai turned violent after the police took into custody a large number of protesters. The clashes lasted for four hours. ■ B. JOTHI RAMALINGAM

Gujarat hostel girls checked for menstruation

Undergarments inspected after complaints of temple, kitchen entry by some having periods

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
AHMEDABAD

At least 60 girls in a hostel in Gujarat's Kutch were allegedly asked to remove their undergarments to prove that they were not menstruating, after complaints that girls having periods had entered the temple and kitchen in the premises.

"What has happened is condemnable," said the institute's trustee Pravin Pandoria.

However, some hostel authorities have defended the sect's norms on keeping away menstruating women from the temple and the kitchen.

A student said the incident



Instructions for checking were reportedly given by the hostel rector and the college principal. Twitter/NCWIndia

took place in the hostel located on the campus of the SSGI, which offers graduate and undergraduate courses.

The State Women's Commission has ordered an inquiry and a team has been formed by Kutch University, to which the institute is affiliated.

"I have spoken to the local police regarding the incident and strong action will be initiated," said State Women's Commission chairperson Leela Ankolia.

NCW seeks report
The National Commission for Women has also sought a report. "We have sent a police team under a woman inspec-

tor to talk to the girls and are in the process of filing an FIR. Though the girls are not ready to come forward, we are confident that at least one girl will come forward to lodge an FIR," Kutch West Superintendent of Police Saurob Tolumbra said.

Gujarat's Deputy Chief Minister Nitin Patel and State Congress chief Amit Chavda condemned the incident. Mr. Patel said that the Education Department must take action. Mr. Chavda demanded that the State government order an inquiry.

CONTINUED ON ▶ PAGE 12

Odisha ex-MLA held for double murder

Anup Sai, three-time lawmaker, remanded in judicial custody

STAFF REPORTER
BHUBANESWAR

The Chhattisgarh police on Friday claimed that three-time Odisha MLA Anup Sai has confessed to committing the murder of a woman and her minor daughter in 2016.

Mr. Sai was produced before a local court in Raigad district of Chhattisgarh on Friday and remanded in judicial custody.

Addressing a press conference, Raigad SP Santosh Kumar Singh said the Chhattisgarh police talked to 700 people and pieced together the facts behind the murder before arresting the former MLA. "Despite having a family, the accused had developed a



Anup Sai ■

relationship with the woman identified as Kalpana Das. They were living together in Bhubaneswar until the deceased woman demanded that the accused marry her. Worried over the demand that could put his political career in jeopardy as well as his family life, Sai decided to finish her off," said Mr. Singh.

The checking on Tuesday.

Shocked and humiliated, some girls complained to local media in Bhuj, Kutch, on Thursday. Girls in the hostel are mostly from villages of Kutch district.

"What has happened is condemnable," said the institute's trustee Pravin Pandoria.

However, some hostel authorities have defended the sect's norms on keeping away menstruating women from the temple and the kitchen.

A student said the incident

occurred on May 7, 2016.

The Raigad police found it difficult to make much headway in the investigation initially because the bodies were unidentified. "We sent Kalpana's photographs to police in six States. The investigation picked up momentum after one year. From the call details retrieved, we came to know that the woman was in regular touch with the former MLA. Despite our repeated intimations to present himself before the investigating team, he avoided us," the Raigad SP said.

Chief Justice of India Sharad A. Bobde refused to put the Speaker on a deadline. "Needless to mention the Speaker had to take a decision in accordance with the

law," he observed.

Senior advocate Kapil Sibal again referred to a January 21 judgment by a Bench, led by Justice Rohinton F. Nariman, which required the Speakers of the Lok Sabha and the Assemblies to decide disqualification petitions within a "reasonable period" of three months.

Independent tribunal

This judgment also urged Parliament to amend the Constitution to strip Speakers, who may be biased by their political ideology, of their power to decide disqualification pleas under the Tenth Schedule. It refrained from passing any order on the prayer for a mandamus to the Speaker to disqualify the 11 AIADMK legislators under the anti-defection law.

Tenth Schedule and hand it over to an independent tribunal to decide fairly and impartially.

Mr. Sibal appeared for DMK leader R. Sakkarapani, who appealed an April 2018 order of the Madras High Court. The High Court held that it could not, merely on the basis of a writ petition under Article 226, encroach on the Speaker's powers under the Tenth Schedule. It refrained from passing any order on the prayer for a mandamus to the Speaker to disqualify the 11 AIADMK legislators under the anti-defection law.

Advocate General says Assembly Speaker has issued notice

Senior advocate Kapil Sibal again referred to a January 21 judgment by a Bench, led by Justice Rohinton F. Nariman, which required the Speakers of the Lok Sabha and the Assemblies to decide disqualification petitions within a "reasonable period" of three months.

Mr. Sibal appeared for DMK leader R. Sakkarapani, who appealed an April 2018 order of the Madras High Court. The High Court held that it could not, merely on the basis of a writ petition under Article 226, encroach on the Speaker's powers under the Tenth Schedule. It refrained from passing any order on the prayer for a mandamus to the Speaker to disqualify the 11 AIADMK legislators under the anti-defection law.

CONTINUED ON ▶ PAGE 12

Senior advocate Kapil Sibal again referred to a January 21 judgment by a Bench, led by Justice Rohinton F. Nariman, which required the Speakers of the Lok Sabha and the Assemblies to decide disqualification petitions within a "reasonable period" of three months.

Mr. Sibal appeared for DMK leader R. Sakkarapani, who appealed an April 2018 order of the Madras High Court. The High Court held that it could not, merely on the basis of a writ petition under Article 226, encroach on the Speaker's powers under the Tenth Schedule. It refrained from passing any order on the prayer for a mandamus to the Speaker to disqualify the 11 AIADMK legislators under the anti-defection law.

CONTINUED ON ▶ PAGE 12

Senior advocate Kapil Sibal again referred to a January 21 judgment by a Bench, led by Justice Rohinton F. Nariman, which required the Speakers of the Lok Sabha and the Assemblies to decide disqualification petitions within a "reasonable period" of three months.

Mr. Sibal appeared for DMK leader R. Sakkarapani, who appealed an April 2018 order of the Madras High Court. The High Court held that it could not, merely on the basis of a writ petition under Article 226, encroach on the Speaker's powers under the Tenth Schedule. It refrained from passing any order on the prayer for a mandamus to the Speaker to disqualify the 11 AIADMK legislators under the anti-defection law.

CONTINUED ON ▶ PAGE 12

Senior advocate Kapil Sibal again referred to a January 21 judgment by a Bench, led by Justice Rohinton F. Nariman, which required the Speakers of the Lok Sabha and the Assemblies to decide disqualification petitions within a "reasonable period" of three months.

Mr. Sibal appeared for DMK leader R. Sakkarapani, who appealed an April 2018 order of the Madras High Court. The High Court held that it could not, merely on the basis of a writ petition under Article 226, encroach on the Speaker's powers under the Tenth Schedule. It refrained from passing any order on the prayer for a mandamus to the Speaker to disqualify the 11 AIADMK legislators under the anti-defection law.

CONTINUED ON ▶ PAGE 12

Senior advocate Kapil Sibal again referred to a January 21 judgment by a Bench, led by Justice Rohinton F. Nariman, which required the Speakers of the Lok Sabha and the Assemblies to decide disqualification petitions within a "reasonable period" of three months.</

Air Quality of Delhi-NCR	
Delhi 173	Gurugram 103
Ghaziabad 167	Faridabad 107
Noida 156	Greater Noida 197
■ Good 0-50	■ Satisfactory 51-100
■ Poor 201-300	■ Very Poor 301-400
■ Severe >400	■ Moderate 101-200
Air Quality Index at 4 p.m. yesterday (Average of past 24 hours) Source: CPCB	

Notice to govt. over children struggling to reach school

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI

The NHRC has issued a notice to the Delhi government over reports that some children have to cross the Yamuna river by boat everyday to attend a school, putting their lives to immense danger, officials said on Friday.

Reportedly, if the boat is not available on a particular day, the students have to walk additional 2 km on a "non-motorable road" to reach the school, the rights panel said in a statement.

"The National Human Rights Commission has taken suo motu cognisance of a media report that Chilla Khadar village does not have a school due to which the children have to cross the Yamuna by boat everyday putting their lives to danger to attend a school," it said.

NHRC has issued a notice to the chief secretary of Delhi calling for a detailed report within four weeks.

DELHI TODAY

Talk: Seminar on 'Baul Tradition - An Eternal Journey towards Mysticism' by various speakers at Lecture Room-I (Annexe), India International Centre, IC, 9.30 a.m.

Dance: India International Rural Cultural Centre (IRCCN) presents "Adivasi ki Shaan - Tribal Folk Dances of Odisha" a group choreography by Arun Kumar Suna at Amphitheatre, IRCCN Bhawan, 7, Nelson Mandela Road, Sector C-1, Vasant Kunj at 6.30 p.m.

Exhibition: "Memory's Cut: Its Deep Embrace", a solo show by artist Re-men Chopra W. Van Der Vaart at Gujal Foundation, 24 Jor Bagh, 11 a.m. - 7 p.m.

Exhibition: "Trails of Materials", a group show of paintings and sculptures by Satish Sharma, Anju Kaushik and Rubikrat Vohra at Triveni Kala Sangam, 205, Tansen Marg, 11 a.m. - 8 p.m.

Exhibition: "Aarambh", a group show of sculptures and painting at Alturaash Art Gallery, 147, DLF South Court, Saket, 11 a.m. - 7 p.m. (Mail your listings for this column at cityeditor@delhi@thehindu.co.in)

'Over 6,400 ha. under land pooling policy'

Applications to be closed on Feb. 15: DDA

STAFF REPORTER
NEW DELHI

A day ahead of the last day for interested stakeholders to sign up for 10 of the sectors under the DDA's Land Pooling Policy, the agency on Friday said that over 6,400 hectares have been accumulated under the scheme.

DDA officials said that applications for the 10 sectors, which are nearing the eligibility criteria, will be closed on February 15 so that the urban body "can take stock" of things and "test the policy".

A senior DDA official involved in the project said, "The portal for the 10 sectors will be closed as the policy needs to be tested. It is for the first time that such a project is being undertaken and there are a lot of factors such as what all are required for the development needs to be

Fight is to take the Constitution, country back: Anurag Kashyap

Filmmaker assures Jamia protesters that they are not alone in their struggle

SREEMOYE MUKHERJEE
NEW DELHI

Filmmaker Anurag Kashyap on Friday expressed his solidarity with anti-Citizenship (Amendment) Act protesters outside Jamia Millia Islamia and assured them that they were not alone in their struggle and asked them to have patience as it was going to be a long fight.

"When the CAA was passed, I used to believe that we are finished and dead... but coming here today I'm convinced that we are alive," Mr. Kashyap said, adding that the fight was to "take the Constitution, country and everything back".

"Everyday I read stories and watch videos about you people. This gives me strength. What is happening gives us the understanding and strength that we have an existence," he added.

Standing atop a table, he addressed the gathering and said that what we needed today was transparency. "A government that says different things each time can no longer be believed for its saying but only by its actions," he said.

Mr. Kashyap said he had left Twitter but reopened the account in December after the police allegedly attacked students and entered the Jamia campus. "I had left everything and went away but I



Filmmaker Anurag Kashyap addressing anti-CAA protesters at Jamia Millia Islamia on Friday.

• SUSHIL KUMAR VERMA

changed my mind after seeing what happened in Jamia in December. I saw a video of a girl and that gave me the courage to return to Twitter. Now I will not stay silent," he said.

Protest must go on'
He added that no matter what happens, a non violent protest should continue till its aims are won.

"This government knows how to deal with violence, but would always be trumped by peace, love and empathy," he said.

After his Jamia visit, he went to Shaheen Bagh and

met the famed Dadis of the protest and also relished some biryani – the famous dish that has become a subject of contention between those in favour of and opposed to the CAA and NRC across the country.

Mr. Kashyap took to the stage and asked protesters to not give any reason to those in power to evacuate them from the site.

"When you fight for your rights, it is important that you stick with your truth. Don't give them any chance that they can violently remove you from here. They do not understand the language

of love. This is the only way to fight with them because they themselves do not know what they want," he said.

Potshots at Shah

He also took potshots at Home Minister Amit Shah during his speech, saying he personally would not believe whatever the government claimed about the CAA.

"If we are misinformed, come and explain it to us," Kashyap said, hailing the protesters for continuing the demonstration which started on December 15.

(With PTI inputs)

JNUTA expresses anguish over VC's continuance

Teachers' body says Vice Chancellor is mounting an open and direct attack on them

STAFF REPORTER
NEW DELHI

The JNU Teachers' Association on Friday organised a day-long hartal to express their "deep anguish" over Vice Chancellor M. Jagadesh Kumar being allowed to continue in the post despite his alleged "mis-governance".

The teachers wrote to Amit Khare, Secretary, Higher Education saying that 40 days have passed since the horrific violence on the JNU campus shocked the entire nation and the world. The removal of VC was a neces-

Q The VC is asking the Executive Council to consider a proposal to withdraw from JNUTA facilities like office space and collection of membership fees
• JNU TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION

sary condition for any impartial investigation into the incidents, but no action had been taken.

"The VC, who himself has

absolutely no moral authority to be in office, is mounting an open and direct assault on the JNUTA and the constitutionally guaranteed fundamental right to the association using a completely imaginary case of impropriety as a pretext," the teachers said.

Facilities deprived

They said that the administration was depriving the faculty of use of dining hall at the faculty centre, the complex which also houses the JNUTA office, and the faculty

club where a creche also functions.

"The VC is asking the

284th meeting of the Executive Council, scheduled for February 18, to consider a proposal to withdraw from the JNUTA facilities like office space and collection of membership fees, etc. This is a naked attempt to de facto ban the JNUTA, and therefore an assault on the right to form associations or unions, which is part of the fundamental right to freedom of the people behind the Constitution," JNUTA said.

The facilities deprived

They said that the administration was depriving the faculty of use of dining hall at the faculty centre, the complex which also houses the JNUTA office, and the faculty

club where a creche also functions.

"The VC is asking the

284th meeting of the Executive Council, scheduled for February 18, to consider a proposal to withdraw from the JNUTA facilities like office space and collection of membership fees, etc. This is a naked attempt to de facto ban the JNUTA, and therefore an assault on the right to form associations or unions, which is part of the fundamental right to freedom of the people behind the Constitution," JNUTA said.

The facilities deprived

Ten people, between the

284th meeting of the Executive Council, scheduled for February 18, to consider a proposal to withdraw from the JNUTA facilities like office space and collection of membership fees, etc. This is a naked attempt to de facto ban the JNUTA, and therefore an assault on the right to form associations or unions, which is part of the fundamental right to freedom of the people behind the Constitution," JNUTA said.

The facilities deprived

Ten people, between the

3 held for duping people on pretext of selling DDA plots

₹400 crore cheated from buyers

STAFF REPORTER
NEW DELHI

taken into account."

"It is also important to consider who will be paying the Extra Developmental Charges as the DDA is only a facilitator and not the developer. Through the test run, the hindrances can be ironed out," the official added.

Apart from two sectors in the N-Zone, sectors near Alipur are likely to meet the eligibility criteria next, officials added.

The urban body said that it had received around 6,113 applications which were being scrutinised "to assess the eligibility of the sectors" and will be verified by the Delhi government.

According to the policy, which was approved by the Centre in October 2018, a minimum of 70% contiguous land is required for development under the scheme.

The police said that the builders tried to attract homebuyers for investment in lucrative housing schemes in Dwarka.

The Delhi Development Authority said it has not issued any license or approval to Revanta Multi-state CGHS Ltd. and no one is authorised to invite persons to purchase any plot or flat in any project under the land pooling area without any prior registration of the project under the Real Estate Regulatory Authority (RERA), a senior police officer said.

Purchased on high rate
Most of the land was purchased on very high rates, from ₹8 crore up to ₹10 crore per acre, against the circle rate of ₹53 lakh for an acre, the police said.

A total of 16 criminal cases have been registered against various builders and societies for cheating people in the name of the DDA policy, the police added.

United we stand



Women from diverse backgrounds and faiths undertook the Mahila Ekta Yatra on Friday to protest sites in Delhi where thousands of women have been staging a 24x7 agitation to oppose the CAA-NPR-NRC. A scene after the yatra reached east Delhi's Sunder Nagri. • SANDEEP SAXENA

Youth Cong. stages protest against LPG price hike

'Hike is BJP's revenge for crushing defeat in Delhi Assembly elections'

STAFF REPORTER
NEW DELHI

sentential commodities.

said in a statement.

"State-owned oil marketing companies increased the price of non-subsidised LPG cylinders to the tune of ₹149 per cylinder from February 12. On one hand there is unprecedented crisis of unemployment and inflation in the country and on the other hand, Modi government by increasing the price of LPG cylinders has pinched the pocket of the people," IYC

Just because people did not vote in BJP's favour, they are punishing them by increasing the LPG price. This decision is cruel and harsh against poor and also shows the anti-poor mindset of Prime Minister Modi."

He added that the Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana was also an illusion, to spread in public for votes. IYC demanded the hike be rolled back.

Challenging the Delhi Deve-

lopment Authority's pro-

posed change of land use

for several plots along the 3-

km Central Vista.

Claims transparency

"It's up to the petitioners to file petitions. There has been total transparency. Bimal Patel [architect working on the project] has met all town planners. This is a project that is evolving

HC sends Chawla to Tihar, issues notice to Centre on his petition

Order comes day after trial court sent him to 12-day custody

STAFF REPORTER
NEW DELHI

The Delhi High Court on Friday sent Sanjeev Chawla, alleged bookie and key accused in one of cricket's biggest match-fixing scandals that involved former South African captain Hansie Cronje, to Tihar jail till further orders.

The High Court's order came a day after a trial court here had sent him to 12-day police custody.

The court also issued notice to the Centre on Chawla's plea and listed the case for hearing on February 19.

Chawla, who acquired British citizenship, has challenged the trial court order sending him to 12-day police custody. He contended that during his extradition, diplomatic assurances were given by the Government of India to the Government of U.K. that he will be kept in Tihar jail.

"In complete contravention

ary 13, 2020 at around 11 a.m. and instead of producing the petitioner before the Additional Chief Metropolitan Magistrate concerned, the respondent no. 2 (Union of India) illegally and wrongfully confined him in their custody," the plea said.

Chawla is alleged to have played a central role in conspiring with Cronje to fix a South African tour to India in February-March 2000.

High Court to hear petition on Gargi College incident

SC on Thursday declined to entertain plea

STAFF REPORTER
NEW DELHI

The Delhi High Court has agreed to hear on Monday a petition seeking a court-monitored CBI probe into the alleged molestation of students during a cultural festival at Delhi University's Gargi College last week.

Over 11 police teams were looking at technical details and also visited various sites in NCR in connection with identification of the suspects and investigation into the case, the police has said.

Advocate M.L. Sharma, who filed the petition, said nothing had been done till now. Police registered an FIR on February 9 and arrested a few, he said.

The plea was filed on Thursday after the Supreme Court declined to entertain the petition and asked the petitioner to move the High Court instead.

In his petition, Sharma has sought the preservation of all video recordings and CCTV camera footage of the college campus. The plea has also sought the arrest of people behind the "planned criminal conspiracy".

Ten people, between the

amount of consultations we have done, we are not going to allow the project to be derailed

Workers say construction ban should have been lifted earlier

'Govt. should pay minimum wages for the period the labourers were out of work'

STAFF REPORTER
NEW DELHI

Reacting to the Supreme Court lifting the ban on construction activities from 6 p.m. to 6 a.m. in Delhi-NCR, workers' associations as well as builders said that they were "heavily" affected by the ban "which should have been lifted much earlier", and demanded compensation in lieu of wages lost.

"Many labourers went back to their villages after the ban as they were unable to meet their expenses here without a job. Many of the major labour chowsks were about 70% empty after the ban," said Abhishek, general secretary of AICCTU (Delhi).

"This time, the ban on construction activities was unusually long and it was a huge set back for the sector. The air quality had improved last month and the ban should have been lifted earlier," said Rajiv Goel, chairman (Delhi) of the Builders Association of India.

Officials of the Delhi government's Environment Department, however, said that pollution is due to multiple factors, including construction dust, and they work on every front to control it.

On November 4, the top court had imposed a complete ban on construction



Pedestrians pass through heavy dust pollution in New Delhi on Friday. ■ SUSHIL KUMAR VERMA

and demolition activities in Delhi-National Capital Region (NCR) due to severe pollution prevailing during that period. On December 9, the Supreme Court allowed construction activities in the Delhi-NCR to take place between 6 a.m. and 6 p.m. following recommendation of the Central Pollution Control Board.

Suffered the most'

Mr. Abhishek said that they had protested outside the Chief Minister's residence last year after the ban.

"The government should pay minimum wages to the workers during the period of the ban or give them alterna-

tive work. These are people who do not cause pollution by driving cars or running ACs. But they bear the brunt of the pollution by working on the ground and when there is a ban they suffer the most. There is no end to their suffering," he added.

Mr. Goel said that labourers who leave a construction site do not come back easily and most of the equipment is taken on rent and they have to keep paying the rent, despite construction not happening. "Pollution is mainly due to stubble burning and weather conditions. If it is due to construction, then why is air quality not improv-

ing after stopping construction?" he asked.

Experts, meanwhile, said that now was the right time to lift the ban but the government should make sure that contractors follow dust control measures.

"Dust control measures should be implemented despite the fact that there is a ban or not. Right now the compliance to dust control measures is less and government should be more active in checking violations," said Vivek Chattopadhyay, a senior programme manager of 'Clean Air Programme' at Centre for Science and Environment.

Remembering bravehearts



Indian Youth Congress activists hold a candlelight march in memory of the 40 CRPF soldiers who were killed in the Pulwama attack last year, near India Gate on Friday. ■ SHIV KUMAR PUSHPAKAR

Illegal colonies: 151 people have received conveyance deeds, says Hardeep Puri

'Process will be finished in six months'

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

Out of a total of 2.15 lakh registrations and 995 completed applications for ownership rights over properties in 1,731 unauthorised colonies in Delhi, 151 applicants have been handed over conveyance deeds by the Delhi Development Authority (DDA), Union Housing and Urban Affairs Minister Hardeep Puri said on Friday.

The first batch of 20 applicants who had completed the process were given their conveyance deeds on January 4, after which the DDA carried on handing over the documents while the Assembly elections campaign was on, the Minister said.

On Friday, Mr. Puri handed over the conveyance deeds to another 34 applicants – taking the total to 151.

Stating that the scheme had "nothing to do with the Delhi elections", which concluded with results being announced on Tuesday, Mr. Puri said the whole process should be completed in six months. "The control norms for the size of roads, social infrastructure etc. will be finalised by the end of the month, after which the layout plans for the colonies will be



Union Housing and Urban Affairs Minister Hardeep Puri hands over a conveyance deed to a resident of an unauthorised colony in New Delhi on Friday. ■ PTI

made," he said at a press conference.

Asked whether the scheme as well as the government's proposed in-situ rehabilitation of slums had not worked in favour of the BJP in the Delhi elections, which were swept by the Aam Aadmi Party, Mr. Puri said the schemes had worked in favour of the party.

On the in-situ redevelopment plan for slums, a DDA official said surveys had been conducted at 32 slums and the remaining 160 would be covered soon.

These slums were on government or mostly DDA land, and tenders for the development of permanent housing there would be floated in 15 days, DDA vice-chairperson Tarun Kapoor said.

IN BRIEF

Being pressured to sign blank papers: GST official

NEW DELHI

GST official Gopal Krishna Madhav has moved a Delhi court seeking bail in a bribery case while alleging that the CBI was pressuring him to sign blank papers to implicate other senior GST officials. He was remanded in 14-day judicial custody on Friday after expiry of his CBI custody.

TO ADVERTISE PLEASE CONTACT

Mr. N SELVA KUMAR

PH: 9820350726

selvakumar.n@thehindu.co.in

Mr. MANOJ KUMAR KUSHWAHA

PH: 9999490055

manoj.kushwaha@thehindu.co.in

THE HINDU

India's National Newspaper

raymond
Wedding Collection Offer
Sherwanis
Ceremonial Wear Fabric & Customise Tailoring

Extra fine Pure Wool, Silk, Linen & Cotton blended

Fabric for Formals, Casual & Party Wears

By Economy Sales: 912758425

Latest Range of Designs & Colors

50% off GIFT PACKS AVAILABLE

BLAZER • SUIT

SHIRT • SWEATER • JACKET

PUNCHKUJIAN ROAD Garwal Bhawan, Opp. Metro Pillar 44, (Near Jhandewalan, Gole Chakkar)

WAZIRPUR A-5, Near Richi Rich Banquet (Opp. Shalimar Bagh)

JANAKPURI B-1/2, Main Najafgarh Road, Opp. Metro Pillar 543, Adj. Umang Palace,

NOIDA Nirula's Sec-2, C-135, Near Metro Station, Sec-15, Noida, UP

LAJPAT NAGAR 49, Main Ring Road, Adj. Haldi Ram, Near Moolchand, Crossing, Delhi

Cab driver arrested for making obscene gestures at passenger

The woman, a lawyer, had boarded the cab in Gurugram

STAFF REPORTER

NEW DELHI

A 38-year-old cab driver was arrested for allegedly making obscene gestures in front of a woman advocate on Friday, police said.

The accused, Satish Sharma, is a resident of Noida. According to the police, the lawyer had boarded the cab in Gurugram for the Delhi High Court. When the driver began making obscene gestures, the woman called the police and lodged a written complaint.

The woman shared the details of the incident on Twitter. In a series of tweets, the woman said: "I was sitting on the 2-seater at the end of 7th coach returning to Gurgaon on yellowline, & this man was standing facing

ice officer.

A case under Sections 506 (punishment for criminal intimidation) and 509 (word, gesture or act intended to insult the modesty of a woman) of the IPC has been registered at the Tilak Marg police station.

On the metro

In a similar case, a woman metro commuter alleged that a man flashed his genitals inside of his pant directed at me [sic]."

The woman also posted a photo of the man standing near the metro door. Metro officials replied to the woman's tweet and said they are looking into the matter.

The Delhi police has registered a FIR into the matter and are trying to trace the suspect with the help of the DMRC. "We have procured CCTV of the metro stations from where the suspect boarded and deboarded the metro. The case is under investigation and it will be worked out soon," said a police officer.

Two arrested for firing at shopkeeper in Jafrabad

STAFF REPORTER

NEW DELHI

Two men were arrested for allegedly firing in front of a shop in northeast Delhi's Jafrabad following an altercation, the police said on Friday.

The accused have been identified as Javed (27) and Junaid (24), both residents of Ghaziabad. According to the police, Shabir Khan, who runs a jacket shop in Jafrabad, stated that on February 7 around 1.25 p.m., two unknown persons wearing helmets came to his shop on a bike and the pillion rider opened fire towards the shop and fled.

CCTV footage

During investigation, police analysed footage from 60 CCTVs and identified both the accuse persons.

"On Tuesday, the police laid a trap near Welcome and nabbed Javed. On his instance, Junaid was arrested on Wednesday around 8 p.m. from Bhopura Bus stand in Ghaziabad," Deputy Commissioner of Police (North East) Ved Prakash Surya said.

During interrogation, Junaid disclosed that around a month back, he had visited the jacket shop in Jafrabad to purchase some jackets but got into an altercation with the shopkeeper over price, who scolded him publicly in the shop, the DCP said. In order to take revenge, he and Javed came to the shop later and fired several rounds at the establishment. One bike and one pistol with four live cartridges were recovered from their possession, they added.

Salary accounts of NDMC staff hacked, money siphoned off'

Police say they are looking into the complaints

STAFF REPORTER

NEW DELHI

The salary accounts of over 200 employees of the New Delhi Municipal Council (NDMC) were allegedly hacked and money siphoned off in the first two weeks of February this year, said the police.

We have received only two complaints of online fraud from the employees, but the NDMC employees' union has stated that over 200 staff have lost their salary after being cheated online.

Deepak Yadav, ADCP (New Delhi) said, adding that the matter has been forwarded to relevant depart-

ment for necessary action.

In a letter to the NDMC chairman, the union said that lakhs had been withdrawn from salary accounts by someone through ATM from different locations.

Card cloning

It is suspected to be case of forgery done by cloning of ATM cards.

The incident came to light NDMC employee Amir Yadav registered an FIR at Mandir Marg police station and SBI branch on February 9.

Mr. Yadav said he lost ₹15,000 from his salary account and that the money was illegally withdrawn

from an ATM in Munirka when he was at home.

"Most cases of frauds were conducted from SBI accounts... over 200 employees are suffering... their money was illegally withdrawn at different locations in Delhi-NCR, in some cases the money has been withdrawn from cities in south India," read a statement by the union.

The union added that the employees have started surrendering their ATM cards to authorities. "It is a very bad implementation of cashless transactions, which is a plan of the Centre," the union added.

DELHI DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
announces

Mega e-Auction of A Prime Commercial Property

for large integrated commercial development at Peeragarhi

**A chance to create
an iconic destination in Delhi**



Date Of
e-Auction:
20th April
2020

IMPORTANT DATES

Online Registration Starts:

18-02-2020 onwards

Last Date of Registration:

15-04-2020

Area: 1,15,843 sq.m*

Covered Area: 2,29,948 sq.m

Ground Coverage: 76,649 sq.m

Mandatory Green: 12,537 sq.m

*Including 7,000 sq.m. of Hotel Plot with permissible FAR of 26,250 sq.mtr. (@375) and permissible ground coverage of 2800 sq.mtr. max.



For details of the plot and procedure, kindly visit our e-auction website www.tenderwizard.com/DDAAUCTION or click the e-auction link available on our site www.dda.org.in and download the same through "E-AUCTION OF PROPERTIES" new link available at home page of e-auction portal. Intending bidders may register themselves / their firms online at the above site through "New Registration" link. Kindly note that digital signature of all the intending bidders are mandatory to participate in e-auctioning of DDA. A helpdesk has been opened at the Nagrik Suvidha Kendra, Ground Floor, D'Block, Vikas Sadan, INA, New Delhi to help the intending bidders to understand the process of e-auction. For obtaining digital signatures and registration / training of prospective bidders and for any other clarification of e-auctioning, please contact our help-desk no. 011-49424365 / 8800991846 / 8800378610 from 11.00 am to 5.00 pm, (all working days) or twhelpdesk83@gmail.com & twhelpdesk603@gmail.com.



For further details contact: Commissioner (LD), Vikas Sadan, INA, New Delhi - 110023

DELHI DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

Laying foundation for a better tomorrow

Please give your feedback on DDA Apps at [Google Play](https://play.google.com)

Visit DDA's website - www.dda.org.in or dial Toll Free No. 1800110332

D

'BJP's review meetings to be completed in 3-4 days'

Report will be sent to top leaders: Tiwari

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

The BJP in back-to-back meetings here on Friday reviewed its lackluster performance in the Delhi Assembly elections.

Delhi BJP president Manoj Tiwari said the review exercise will be completed in the next 3-4 days and a report will be submitted to the national leadership.

The marathon meetings where members from its national unit and Mr. Tiwari were present, took place at the party's State headquarters between Thursday and Friday evenings with more such meetings scheduled over the weekend.

Issues discussed

National general secretaries Arun Singh and Anil Jain, and Union Minister Nitin Gadkari and Arvind Kejriwal and reasons of not being able to counter the AAP government's pow-

er and water subsidy schemes, said insiders.

"The meetings went on throughout the day and will continue over the weekend; After identifying the issues, the party will seek to address them well in time before the 2022 civic body elections in the city," said a senior leader.

"Issues such as the 'terrorist' remark against Kejriwal and not being able to counter the power and water subsidies through offering a card allowing these subsidies to BPL citizens were discussed among others," a source claimed.

Complaints regarding the alleged unavailability of workers on the ground, which was pointed out by some star campaigners from outside the Capital; and issues related to the selection of candidates and the overshadowing of local candidates by star campaigners were discussed at the meeting, an insider said, adding that several senior and junior leaders came with specific data which will be analysed.

AAP invites Prime Minister to Kejriwal's oath-taking ceremony

Around 3,000 security personnel will be stationed across the city for event tomorrow

STAFF REPORTER
NEW DELHI

The Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) on Friday invited Prime Minister Narendra Modi to the oath-taking ceremony of party national convener Arvind Kejriwal and his Cabinet on Sunday at Ramlila Maidan. "It is official protocol and the invitation has been sent from the Delhi government," an AAP leader said. Invitations have also been sent to the eight BJP MPs and other Delhi leaders.

On Thursday, AAP had said it will not invite Chief Ministers or political leaders from other States for the ceremony. The party had said they would invite the President, Prime Minister and political parties in Delhi.

Mr. Kejriwal and senior AAP leader Manish Sisodia had invited all Delhiites to the ceremony, urging them to give their blessing to the AAP chief.

For the event, the Delhi Police has made elaborate security arrangements and



The oath-taking ceremony will take place on Sunday at Ramlila Maidan. ■ FILE PHOTO

issued a traffic advisory, said officials on Friday.

Around 2,000-3,000 security personnel will be stationed in the city, an official said, adding that the ceremony is scheduled to take place at 10 a.m.

Traffic regulations will be in place from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.," the official said. Multi-level security arrangements will be in place with CCTV surveillance of all the routes

leading to the venue.

Doorframe metal detectors and baggage scanners will also be installed in and around the ground.

On Sunday, cars will have to be parked at the Civic Centre and behind it while buses will be parked on Mata Sundri Road, Power House Road, Velodrome Road, Rajghat parking, Shanti Van parking and service roads in Rajghat and

Samta Sthal as per requirements, the advisory said.

Circular to teachers

Meanwhile, Delhi's Directorate of Education (DoE) has issued a circular to its officials, teachers and principals of government schools to attend the ceremony. The circular also says attendance will be compiled at the entry gates of the Ramlila Maidan.

In a tweet, Delhi BJP spokesperson Praveen Shankar Kapoor said: "The Aam Aadmi Party, which has won elections by making an announcement of freebies, has enough MLAs but not public support. With the fear of people not attending the swearing-in ceremony, the government has issued a directive to 30,000 teachers to mandatorily attend it."

Delhi Congress's chief spokesperson Mukesh Sharma tweeted: "It is clear that power is being misused to gather a crowd for the swearing-in ceremony."

(With PTI inputs)



A meeting of office-bearers of different States has been called on Sunday to decide on which State election we will be fighting

GOPAL RAI
AAP Delhi convener

AAP to fight local body elections across India

Local leaders will be in charge, says Rai

STAFF REPORTER
NEW DELHI

Aam Aadmi Party Delhi convenor Gopal Rai on Friday said that the party will be fighting all upcoming local body polls across India.

"Wherever we have our units, we will fight the upcoming local body elections. The central leadership will not campaign for these elections and it will be under the leadership of the local leaders," he told *The Hindu*.

He added that a meeting will be held on Sunday to decide on fighting Assembly elections in other States.

A meeting of office-bearers of different States has been called on Sunday to decide on which State elections we will be fighting," he added.

10 lakh missed calls

Mr. Rai said a campaign for people to join AAP, which was launched on Tuesday, will also be launched in every State. "We will expand the volunteer network through this programme," he said. The party had

launched a phone number on Tuesday – 9871010101 – in which people were asked to call to be a part of AAP for "nation-building". The party said they had received about 10 lakh missed calls within 24 hours. After the victory, AAP spokesperson Jasmine Shah had said the party's next focus will be on delivering its promises to the people of Delhi and the 2022 civic body elections.

HC seeks govt., Centre's reply on use of loudspeakers

STAFF REPORTER
NEW DELHI

The Delhi High Court on Friday sought response of the Centre and the city government on a petition seeking contempt action for not implementing judicial orders on the use of loudspeakers in the Capital.

Justice A.K. Chawla asked them to file status reports on the issue raised in the petition and listed it for hearing on May 15.

The plea by Sanjiv Kumar has claimed there has been wilful disobedience of the court's September 4, 2019, order to abide by the circulars, standing orders and rules which permit use of loudspeakers and amplified music systems only up to 10 p.m.

He contended that the Delhi government and the police have failed to take action against the misuse of loudspeakers even passing of the said judgment of the court.

Mr. Kumar has contended that even the Supreme Court has given directions that loudspeakers should not be used between 10.00 p.m. to 6.00 a.m.

NGT calls for scientific disposal of fly ash

Delhi hospital keeping two suspected COVID-19 cases in isolation

Healthcare institutions have been asked to stock up on medicines and other equipment, says Union Health Minister

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

Ram Manohar Lohia (RML) Hospital here, the nodal hospital for management/treatment of COVID-19 cases, has reported two suspected cases of the virus. The patients are being kept in isolation, said officials. The hospital has, so far, seen 40 suspected cases but has discharged 38 patients after they tested negative for the virus.

"The hospital currently has two suspected cases who have been kept under isolation," confirmed hospital authorities.

The hospitals here, including All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), Safdarjung Hospital, have been on red alert – to take-in, isolate and if infected treat COVID-19 – for nearly a month now.

The World Health Organisation (WHO) has called COVID-19 "public enemy number one", which could create significant political, economic and social upheaval.

Regional director WHO (South-East Asia) Poonam Khetrapal Singh explained that the emergence of any new pathogen with the potential to cause severe illness and death is of grave concern



Indians airlifted from Wuhan being examined at a quarantine facility set up by the ITBP in the Capital, on Friday. ■ PTI

and must be taken with utmost seriousness.

She said so far the vast majority of cases have been reported in China and that most of these in other countries have direct links to Wuhan or other parts of China.

She added that the risk for the region, as globally, is high in view of the region's proximity to and connectivity with China and the epicentre of the outbreak – Wuhan.

The World Health Organisation (WHO) has called COVID-19 "public enemy number one", which could create significant political, economic and social upheaval.

Regional director WHO (South-East Asia) Poonam Khetrapal Singh explained that the emergence of any new pathogen with the potential to cause severe illness and death is of grave concern

CThe government has set up a 24x7 control room for citizens who have any queries related to the SARS-CoV-2 virus. A control room has also been set up at the Directorate General of Health Services' headquarters

GOVERNMENT OFFICIAL

situation with representatives from the Ministries of Health, Home, Civil Aviation and Women and Child Development among others. "The situation is being monitored round-the-clock and we are holding review meetings dai-

ly. Also, all hospitals across the country are on high alert and have been told to stock up on medicines and other personal protection equipment," he added.

The Delhi government has also issued a public health advisory on the virus.

"The advisory prescribed do's and don'ts for the public to ward off any infection. The government has also set up a 24x7 control room for the citizens for any query related to the virus. A round-the-clock control room has also been set up at the Directorate General of Health Services' headquarters

current information, the virus can cause mild, flu-like symptoms as well as more severe disease. Patients infected with the disease are presenting with a wide range of symptoms, she said, adding that most of them seem to have mild disease and about 20% appear to progress to severe disease, including pneumonia, respiratory failure and in some cases death.

2% people died

"Chinese authorities said about 2% of people with the disease have died although the exact case-fatality ratio is still difficult to assess as the denominator [or number of infections] remains un-

known. However, this is a new disease and our understanding is changing rapidly," Dr. Singh said.

She also said WHO is continuing to analyse information on both current and any new cases as this is critical to enhancing our understanding of the severity of the illness. "Based on the information received so far and on our experience with coronaviruses such as MERS and SARS, it seems that COVID-19 appears to spread mostly by close person-to-person contact, through respiratory routes, in this case, droplets [for instance produced when an infected person coughs or sneezes or during certain health care procedures] and contaminated surfaces [when one infected person and another one are sharing a cup for instance]. This is why we recommend maintaining proper hand and respiratory hygiene," she said.

She added that the actual source of the virus remains unknown "but it is likely that a zoonotic spillover event/ events likely to have occurred for the virus to transmit from a potential animal source to humans and for the human to human transmission to happen".

A Valentine's Day appeal to save Aravalis

DU students send card made out of recycled paper to Haryana Chief Minister

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

This year's Valentine's Day was a special one for Aravali Bachao citizens' campaign – a movement against the Punjab Land Preservation (Amendment) Bill 2019 that was passed by the Haryana government last year amidst protests.

In a unique form of silent protest on Friday, Delhi University students along with a few people from Gurugram went to the Haryana Bhawan at Copernicus Marg in New Delhi with a Valentine's Day card and a petition letter addressed to Haryana Chief Minister Manohar Lal.

ture of your family as well as ours is in grave danger. We don't need development at the cost of our trees. Please save our Aravali forests!"

Petition submitted

The formal petition letter signed by all the students and other people was submitted to the Chief Minister's desk. A file number to track the same was given to the students with the receiving note. Simran, a student from the College of Vocational Studies in Delhi who had made the card, said:

"Respected Chief Minister, A Very Happy Last Green Valentine's Day! This is a plea from an unborn child, a pregnant woman, little children, teenagers, adults and ailing people. Please don't destroy our Aravalis. The future of development is in grave danger. We don't need development at the cost of our trees. Please save our Aravali forests!"

the name of development. Aravali forests cover is less than 10% of Gurugram and South Haryana and less than 2% of the entire State. We have written to Mr. Lal that the Aravalis must be protected as a home for wildlife and for the other critical environmental benefits these forests provide in terms of being the green lungs of NCR, water recharge zone and our shield against desertification."

Ayush, a student from the Delhi School of Social Work who went inside the Haryana Bhawan to hand the card and the petition, said: "By this unique protest on Valentine's Day, we wanted to tell the Haryana CM that in this time of climate crisis when India is the 5th most vulnerable country to climate change, the youth is very saddened by this PLPA Amendment Bill which seeks to open 74,000 acres of our pristine forest areas in the Aravali range around Delhi, Gurugram, Faridabad in South Haryana and Shivalik hills near Chandigarh when Haryana already has the lowest forest cover in India, just 3.5%, which is way below the national average of 20% forest cover."

After the Bill was passed on February 27, 2020, the city saw massive protests from citizens in the National Capital Region and walk out by Opposition parties.

After the Bill was passed on February 27, 2020, the city saw massive protests from citizens in the National Capital Region and walk out by Opposition parties.

(Office of The Sr. Medical Superintendent Zonal Hospital Dharmshala)

Phone : 01892-227595 Fax:01892-224812
Website: <https://www.hptenders.gov.in>
Email: zhdharamshala@gmail.com

NOTICE INVITING TENDER (NIT)

Tender Reference No-ZHD/Sanitation/Tender/2020-576-79 Date:- 10-02-2020
E-tenders are invited from registered Firms, Proprietorship firm(s)/ Partnership firm(s) / Company/ Corporation/Cooperative Society or any legal entity for providing SANITATION SERVICES for the (Sr. Medical Superintendent Zonal Hospital Dharmshala). Prescribed tender form can be downloaded from website <https://www.hptenders.gov.in> on or before last date and time for submission of tender. The date of online publication is 12-02-2020 & the last date and time for submission & uploading of filled in tender 06-03-2020 up to 5:00 PM. The Tender will be opened on 09-03-2020 at 02:00 pm. Duly completed tender form along with Cost of Tender Document (Rs.1000/ One Thousand), Earnest Money Deposit of Rs.1,50,000 (Rupees One Lac fifty thousand Only) in the form of Fixed Deposit Receipt (FDR) pledged in favour of (Sr. Medical Superintendent Zonal Hospital Dharmshala) issued by any of the Scheduled Bank along with other required documents should be uploaded on the website <https://www.hptenders.gov.in> and earnest money deposit should be dropped in the tender box placed in the office of the Medical Superintendent, Zonal Hospital Dharmshala before the last date and time fixed for submission of the tender. All subsequent corrigendum, modifications and clarifications in respect of this tender will be published only on aforesaid websites only. The bidders are advised to visit the aforesaid website regularly. The undersigned reserves the right to reject any or all the tender offers without assigning any reason.

Sr. Medical Superintendent
Zonal Hospital Dharmshala
Distt. Kangra Himachal Pradesh

HP/4731/19-20

HIMACHAL PRADESH PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT E-Procurement Notice INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB)

The Executive Engineer HPPWD Ghumarwin Distt Bilaspur H.P before Governor of H.P invites the online bids on item rate bids, in electronic tendering system, of from the eligible class of contractor registered with HPPWD for the works as detailed in table.

St. No Name of Work Estimated Cost Starting date for downloading Bid Earnest Money Deadline for submission of Bid
C/o I.P.D Block in Civil Hospital Ghumarwin (Sh- C/o Building 3,17,29,271/- 20-02-2020 4,04,000/- 07-03-2020

The bidder is advised to note other detail of tenders from the department website www.hptenders.gov.in

NORTH EASTERN RAILWAY
Single Tender Notice No. N/539/2/ST/19-20/48
"Single Tender" through Online (E-Tendering) is invited by Divisional Railway Manager (Signal & Telecom) Varanasi/N.E. Railway for and behalf of the President of India for the following work:
Tender Notice No. and Description of work : N/539/2/ST/19-20/48;
Name of Work: Comprehensive Annual Maintenance Contract of AMARARAJA make IPS for 36 months (03 years) of BSB Division. **Approx. value:- ₹ 9785563.20,** **Earnest Money :- ₹ 195700.00** **Cost of Tender Form :- ₹ 5,000/-** **Completion Period:- 36 Months.** <b

25 injured in
clashes in
Kanpur

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
KANPUR (U.P.)

Twenty-five people were injured in clashes that broke out between two groups in Mangta village here in Kanpur Dehat district, police said on Friday.

Eleven people were arrested after the violence on Thursday during the 'Bhim Shobha Yatra', taken out by members of the Scheduled Caste community after the Bhim Katha, which began on February 8.

"Both the communities entered into an altercation after a minor allegedly tore a poster of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar. Both the groups also pelted stones at each other, injuring 25 people," Additional Superintendent of Police Anup Kumar said.

The injured were admitted to Ursula Horsman Memorial Hospital in Kanpur, the police said.

U.P. Oppn. seeks judicial probe into deaths in anti-CAA clashes

Firing by police and BJP men behind casualties, alleges SP in Assembly

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
LUCKNOW

The Opposition on Friday demanded a judicial probe into deaths during the anti-CAA protests in Uttar Pradesh, with the Samajwadi Party (SP) alleging that the casualties were caused in firing by police and BJP men.

The demand was raised in the State Assembly during the Zero Hour, when Opposition parties also pressed for a discussion on the issue.

Opposition MLAs walked into the Well of the House, creating a ruckus, when Speaker Hriday Narayan Dixit turned down the notice for a discussion. The House was then adjourned for 30 minutes.

The SP sought a probe by a sitting Supreme Court or



A protest against CAA in Meerut on December 20. ■ FILE PHOTO

High Court judge into the deaths during the protests against the new citizenship law.

The Bahujan Samaj Party said a High Court judge should investigate.

"Hindus and Muslims fought together for the freedom of the country. Those who fought for freedom are being termed deshdrohi

(traitors) while those who supported the British have become rashtrawadi (nationalists)," Leader of Opposition Ram Govind Chowdhury said while demanding a discussion.

"During the anti-CAA protests, only Muslims were killed," he said and claimed that there was firing by police and BJP men during the

peaceful protests.

About 20 people were killed, mostly due to gunshot wounds, during protests in Meerut after the protest against the amended citizenship law turned violent on December 20, 2019, has

lodged a complaint against the Meerut police alleging that Aleem was killed in police firing. He has also purportedly attached video evidence with the complaint to prove that the police took Aleem to hospital in their vehicle.

Local news reports suggested that the district administration had been maintaining that the mortal remains of Aleem were left by unidentified people in the government hospital. DM

filled water in a park at 2.30 a.m. to disperse women protesters," she said.

case.

In the complaint addressed to the DM and the SSP, Mr. Salauddin has named 20 policemen, including the SHO of Nauchandi police station Ashutosh Kumar, for planning to shoot at the protesters.

"I have collected this information and evidence on my own. I didn't reach out to the police earlier because of fear," said Mr. Salauddin. "The police took a long time in giving us the post-mortem report. Now, policemen in plainclothes threaten us to make peace with what is left with us, otherwise we will be in for a long haul," he alleged.

some time and took the body to the government medical hospital and got his post-mortem done," claimed Salauddin in the complaint.

"I have collected this information and evidence on my own. I didn't reach out to the police earlier because of fear," said Mr. Salauddin. "The police took a long time in giving us the post-mortem report. Now, policemen in plainclothes threaten us to make peace with what is left with us, otherwise we will be in for a long haul," he alleged.

Supreme Court lawyer Ali Zaidi, who is representing Mr. Salauddin, said the police were "misleading" the inquiry on the basis of bogus evidence. "If the district administration doesn't register an FIR, we will approach the court."

Brother of CAA violence victim files complaint against police

Aleem killed by bullet fired by Meerut policemen on Dec. 20'

ANUJ KUMAR
GHAZIABAD

Mohd Salauddin, brother of Aleem, one of the five persons who lost their lives in Uttar Pradesh on December 20 over the Citizenship Amendment Act.

In the Assembly, Parliamentary Affairs Minister Suresh Kumar Khanna backed the police version that the deaths were not the result of police firing.

'Blankets taken away'

Congress Legislature Party Leader Aradhana Mishra Mona too alleged police atrocities. "In Lucknow, police took away women protesters' blankets and food at night. In Azamgarh, police filled water in a park at 2.30 a.m. to disperse women protesters," she said.

Local news reports sug-

gested that the district adminis-

tration had been main-

taining that the mortal

remains of Aleem were left

by unidentified people in the

government hospital. DM

filled water in a park at 2.30

a.m. to disperse women

protesters," she said.

Magisterial inquiry in the

case.

In the complaint ad-

dressed to the DM and the

SSP, Mr. Salauddin has

named 20 policemen, in-

cluding the SHO of Nauchandi

police station Ashutosh

Kumar, for planning to shoot

at the protesters.

"I have collected this

information and evidence on

my own. I didn't reach out

to the police earlier be-

cause of fear," said Mr.

Salauddin in the complain-

tant.

The locals, he said, took him to the City Hospital which refused to provide treatment to his brother and he died at the hospital. "Locals put his body on the road. Policemen came after

AAP threatens to cut power supply to Punjab CM's residence

Party seeks cancellation of power purchase pact with firms

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
CHANDIGARH

The Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) on Friday said that if the Congress government failed to cancel the power purchase agreements with private power companies during the upcoming Budget session, the party along with people of State would cut-off power of Chief Minister Amarinder Singh's residence in Patiala.

The decision was taken during a meeting of the party MLAs here. The meeting was chaired by Leader of Opposition Harpal Singh Cheema.

Mr. Cheema said the remarkable victory of the Aam Aadmi Party in Delhi Assembly polls was clearly visi-



AAP leader Harpal Cheema

ble not only in Punjab but across the country and abroad, for it was a vote for 'performance' and against the communal and divisive forces.

The stupendous victory had shown thumbs down to the fascist forces and decimated the Congress to zero, which would be replicated in

Punjab govt. trying to weaken Sikh institutions, says Badal

AKALI chief rejects idea of gurdwara body for Haryana

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
CHANDIGARH

The Shiromani Akali Dal (SAD) chief Sukhbir Singh Badal on Friday accused the Congress government in Punjab of conspiring to weaken Sikh institutions including the apex body for the management of Sikh shrines – the Shiromani Gurdwara Prabandhak Committee – by supporting the idea of a separate Gurdwara body for Haryana.

"The State government should immediately withdraw the additional affidavit filed by it in the apex court in this regard," said Mr. Badal here.

He was talking to journal-

ists after a joint delegation of the SAD and the BJP met the Punjab Governor V.P. Singh Badnore and requested him to direct the State government to immediately withdraw the additional affidavit, which Mr. Badal, said "supports the Haryana government by saying that the State Assembly of Haryana is com-

petent to enact a law after the Sikh Gurdwara Act, 1925."

'Biggest betrayal'

Mr. Badal termed the Punjab government's stance on the issue of a separate Gurdwara management body for Haryana as the biggest betrayal with interests of Punjab and the Sikh community.

The SAD chief alleged that at the behest of the Congress working president Sonia Gandhi and party's former president Rahul Gandhi, Punjab Chief Minister had changed Punjab's stance on this very sensitive issue while filing a fresh affidavit in the Supreme Court.

mindset, which has resulted

in rise in atrocities against them in the last few years," said Ms. Selja and Mr. Surjewala at a joint press conference here.

On the Pulwama terror attack, Mr. Surjewala said there are several unanswered questions. "Why is government not making the report public about the Pulwama attack. Who and how the 350 kg RDX and IED were brought?" he asked.

'Davinder's role'
"Did the suspended Deputy Superintendent of Jammu and Kashmir Police Davinder Singh, who was arrested for helping terrorists had any role?" he quipped.

STEP for Competitive Exams is a 40-day custom-built course to help you improve your English skills and crack competitive exams. It includes relevant video lessons, interactive practice sets & exercises on key topics:

- Grammar - Extensive coverage of concepts like reported speech, direct & indirect speech, subject and verb agreement
- Writing - Para jumbling, word reordering, idioms and phrases
- Reading - Step-by-step video lessons to tackle reading comprehension problems. Practice sets with fully solved solutions
- Vocabulary & Interview preparation - Answering common interview questions, building effective presentations.

**STEP
FOR COMPETITIVE
EXAMS**

Scan the QR code



Limited seats only

Visit BIT.LY/STEPATHONXI

**Biotechnology Industry Research Assistance Council
(A Govt. of India Enterprise)**

Invites proposals

for development, validation & pre-commercialization of products/technologies in the areas of
Healthcare
Energy & Environment
Agriculture & Secondary Agriculture
Veterinary Sciences & Aquaculture

under

Promoting Academic Research Conversion to Enterprise (PACE)

Supports academia through:

- i. **Academic Innovation Research (AIR):** For development of products/technologies (up to proof-of-concept)
- ii. **Contract Research Scheme (CRS):** For validation of products/technologies towards commercialization

"i4" (Intensifying the Impact of Industrial Innovation)

Supports industry through:

- i. **Small Business Innovation Research Initiative (SBIRI):** For development and initial validation of new products/technologies
- ii. **Biotechnology Industry Partnership Programme (BIIPP):** For validation, demonstration and pre-commercialization of products/technologies

Eligibility

PACE: Academic institute, University, NGO or Research Foundation, registered/accredited by a government body can apply either alone, or in partnership with academia or industry (while involvement of industry is optional for AIR scheme, it is mandatory to have an industrial partner for CRS).

i4: Single or consortium of Indian Company (ies) (registered under the Indian Companies Act, 2013) or Limited Liability Partnership (incorporated under the Limited Liability Partnership Act, 2008) with/without an academic partner.

For Online application and Scheme details logon to BIRAC website (www.birac.nic.in)

Apply before:
31st March, 2020 (5.30 pm)

For queries, please contact: GM and Head - Investment, BIRAC | Email: investment.birac@gov.in

रोजाना सुबह कोई न्यूज पेपर. पीडीएफ में डाउनलोड
करने के लिए www.DailyEpaper.in को विजिट करें।
या फिर आप  [Click Here](#)

ENGLISH

The Hindu
The Indian Exp
Business Standard
Hindustan Times
The Telegraph
Deccan Chronicle
Business Line
The Pioneer
The Financial Exp
The Times Of India
The Economic Times
Mint

HINDI

Dainik Jagran
Dainik Bhaskar
Jansatta
Amar Ujala
Pioneer
Hindustan
Prabhat Khabar
Rajasthan Patrika
Business Standard

GUJRATI

Sandesh

TELEGU

Eenadu
Sakshi
Nava Telangana

MARATHI

Loksatta
Sakal
Lokmat

Weekly News

Employment News
Karmasangsthan
Karmakshetra

Daily Update All Indian Newspaper in PDF

For Download Daily Newspaper in PDF, Please Visit DailyEpaper.in

[Click Here](#)  www.DailyEpaper.in

or

IF You Are Preparing For IAS, PCS, SSC Exam Then Just Download UPSC IAS All in One App From PlayStore. You will get here UPSC Complete Solution Free (All Study Material, Video Lecture, Magazines, Newspaper & The Hindu Analysis Video



UPSC IAS All in One - Mission 2020

Web360 Education

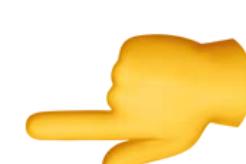
3+

You don't have any devices.

Add to Wishlist

Download

[Click Here](#)



CLASSIFIEDS MART

TO ADVERTISE:
www.thehinduads.com
011-43579738 • 43579797

EDUCATIONAL

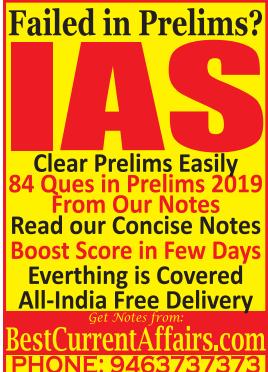


**FREE MOCK
INTERVIEW**

DATE Feb 2nd Week
@ Youth Hostel - Chanakyapuri
UCC, an Expert Coaching Centre at Bangalore is Providing Free Guidance on Personality Test
UPSC X-MEMBERS WILL INTERACT PERSONALLY
Kindly forward your Detailed Application Form to nalin.iiasolympiad@gmail.com

9686664985/1
www.universalinstitutions.com

EDUCATIONAL



Failed in Prelims?
IAS
Clear Prelims Easily
84 Ques in Prelims 2019
From Our Notes
Read our Concise Notes
Boost Score in Few Days
Everything is Covered
All-India Free Delivery
Get Notes from:
BestCurrentAffairs.com
PHONE: 9463737373

Mc Graw-Hill writer RAMESH SINGH'S GS ECONOMY
Basics+Current
updated with the latest Survey 2019-20 & Budget 2020-21
New batch: Mar. 02-Apr. 20 (2.30-4.45pm)

4A/41, Old Rajinder Nagar, Bada Bazar Road, N. Delhi- 60
www.rameshsingh.org | ph. 98182-44224; 80767-48812

CHAHAL ACADEMY
CSE MOCK INTERVIEW
(Feb: 16, 17, 20, 22, 23, 24 till March-15)
Minimum 3 Former UPSC Board Members in Each Mock Interview
Call/WhatsApp DAF @ 8287776460/9821553677
Email Your DAF - chahalacademy@gmail.com
B-7, Ground Floor, Apsara Arcade, New Delhi.

Results prove over unparalleled supremacy and leadership in Philosophy
IAS PHILOSOPHY
A Tradition of Excellent Results, incredible Performance Year after Year
Except a couple of students all selected students with PHILOSOPHY Optional (English or Hindi Med.) are trained by PATANJALI
INTERVIEW GUIDANCE for PHILOSOPHY OPTIONAL Students by Dharmendra Sir
17th February, 2020 | 10 AM
NEXT IAS
BIG LEARNINGS MADE EASY
in association with **PATANJALI IAS**
Ground Floor, 6, Old Rajinder Nagar (Near Salwan School Gate No. 2) New Delhi-60
Mob.: 8 800 3 38 0 6 6, 9 8 1 0 1 7 2 3 4 5

UPSC PRELIMS 2020
Worried about information overload??
LEARN
► ELIMINATION TECHNIQUES
► INTELLIGENT GUESSING
IMPROVE YOUR PRELIMS SCORE 30+ MARKS
BATCH STARTS: 22nd February 20 CLASSES 2 BATCHES: 11:00 - 01:00 PM 05:00 - 07:00 PM
COURSE FEES: Rs 3000/- Offer for first 50 students: Rs 2000/-
Date: 14/02/2020
PERSONAL LOST & FOUND
I Aditi Bhardwaj have lost 12th Passing Certificate in Shahdara, Delhi. Finders please contact: 9582332760
It is notified for the information that my original qualifying examination certificate of MA in secondary examination of year 2019 and roll no. 8163305 issued by CBSE has been actually lost. Lokesh Gupta, B-31A, Aruna park Shakarpur Delhi
SUMIT RAJPUT
376 & 488 Layer's Chamber, Block-I, Delhi High Court, New Delhi-110003
Dated: 15th February, 2020

L2A 011-25721883, 40109834
98 G.F, Old Rajendra Nagar, Market, Delhi-60
www.l2a.in / Email: L2ADELHI@gmail.com / info@l2a.in

YOUTH DESTINATION
OUR DREAM, OUR MISSION
IAS-PCS
NEW FOUNDATION BATCH
Free Workshop हिन्दी माध्यम
सामाज्य अध्ययन
कला एवं संस्कृति
द्वारा श्री शशांक पाठक
17 Feb. 11:30 am
ENGLISH MEDIUM
General Studies POLITY
By Mr. Anil Srivastava
18 Feb. 06:00 pm
ONLINE LIVE CLASSES AVAILABLE
MOCK INTERVIEW UPSC 2019
6th Feb. Onwards till March 15 | Time: 10 am to 6 pm.
WhatsApp Your DAF/Call 997149493 / 9811334451
Or Email Your DAF - youthdestination99@gmail.com

9811334434, 9811334480
youthdestination.in youthdestination99@gmail.com
639, DR. MUKHERJEE NAGAR, OPP. SIGNATURE APARTMENT, DELHI-110009

CM YK

EDUCATIONAL

Vedanta IAS Academy
India's No.1 Institute for UPSC Exam
ISO 9001:2015 Certified Company
VST (Vedanta Scholarship Test)
LAST CHANCE
All India Level SCHOLARSHIP
For all category ON TUITION FEE UPTO 100%
Registration Open ENROLL NOW!
Last Date of Registration is 20.02.2020
DATE OF EXAM 23rd Feb. 2020
For more information visit our center or Website
www.vedantaiasacademy.co.in
H.O.: D-11/156/157/145 Sec.-8, Rohini, Delhi-85
B.O.: Mukherjee Nagar, Batra Cinema, Delhi-110009
Centralised Enquiry 9911753333

CURRENT BASED MOST RELEVANT GS PRE 30 TESTS Available in PDF

ASK FOR FREE DEMO PDF AT: iaspjad@gmail.com
9983820303, 9602579783
Visit: www.pjad.in

LEGAL NOTICE

IN THE COURT OF THE HON'BLE IV th ADDL. DISTRICT JUDGE, KADAPPA, A.P. STATE M.V.O.P.NO.332/19

Derangut Lakshmidevi & others...Petitioners

Vs (1) Mr.JABARSINGH PAL, S/o Shri Bhagiyath Singh Pal, Major Hindu, Lorry owner bearing No.MP-07-HB-9660, residing at 9, Eram Raj, Gurarli Gird, Gurarli City, Madhya Pradesh State.

(2) VINOD BAGHEL, S/o Kamal Singh, Aged 24 years, Hindu, Lorry driver, R/o Badukaikan, Ramnagar, Galli No.4, Distt. Madhya Pradesh State.

...Respondent No.1&3 NOTICE

Petitioner filed M.V.O.P. No. 332/2019, for compensation against both of you and your Insurance Company, for the death of husband of 1st petitioner in your Lorry bearing No.MP-07-HB-9660 accident. The said M.V.O.P. is posted to 03-03-2020, for your appearance in the above Hon'ble Court.

Hence, you are directed by the Hon'ble Court to appear in the above court on 03-03-2020, at 10-30 a.m., in person or through Advocate, and file your objections if any, otherwise, matter will be decided ex parte.

Sd/- P.SRIKRANT REDDY, B.A.B.L. Advocate, Kadapa, A.P.

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE

Public at large is hereby informed by way of this notice that my client Sh. Abhimanyu Tanwar S/o Sh. Satyakumar Dutt and his family R/o WZ-138, Naraina village, New Delhi-110028, have served all their social relationship from his son name Mr. Alok Tanwar and disowned him from their movable and immovable property due to his hostile attitude in the family. Therefore, as my clients shall not be responsible for any of his acts done in past, present or future.

SUMIT RAJPUT
376 & 488 Layer's Chamber, Block-I, Delhi High Court, New Delhi-110003
Dated: 14/02/2020

PERSONAL LOST & FOUND

I Aditi Bhardwaj have lost 12th Passing Certificate in Shahdara, Delhi. Finders please contact: 9582332760

It is notified for the information that my original qualifying examination certificate of MA in secondary examination of year 2019 and roll no. 8163305 issued by CBSE has been actually lost. Lokesh Gupta, B-31A, Aruna park Shakarpur Delhi

BATCH STARTS: 22nd February 20 CLASSES 2 BATCHES: 11:00 - 01:00 PM 05:00 - 07:00 PM

COURSE FEES: Rs 3000/- Offer for first 50 students: Rs 2000/-

Date: 14/02/2020

NOTICE

Public at large is hereby informed by way of this notice that my client Sh. Abhimanyu Tanwar S/o Sh. Satyakumar Dutt and his family R/o WZ-138, Naraina village, New Delhi-110028, have served all their social relationship from his son name Mr. Alok Tanwar and disowned him from their movable and immovable property due to his hostile attitude in the family. Therefore, as my clients shall not be responsible for any of his acts done in past, present or future.

SUMIT RAJPUT
376 & 488 Layer's Chamber, Block-I, Delhi High Court, New Delhi-110003
Dated: 15th February, 2020

NOTICE

Public at large is hereby informed by way of this notice that my client Sh. Abhimanyu Tanwar S/o Sh. Satyakumar Dutt and his family R/o WZ-138, Naraina village, New Delhi-110028, have served all their social relationship from his son name Mr. Alok Tanwar and disowned him from their movable and immovable property due to his hostile attitude in the family. Therefore, as my clients shall not be responsible for any of his acts done in past, present or future.

SUMIT RAJPUT
376 & 488 Layer's Chamber, Block-I, Delhi High Court, New Delhi-110003
Dated: 15th February, 2020

NOTICE

Public at large is hereby informed by way of this notice that my client Sh. Abhimanyu Tanwar S/o Sh. Satyakumar Dutt and his family R/o WZ-138, Naraina village, New Delhi-110028, have served all their social relationship from his son name Mr. Alok Tanwar and disowned him from their movable and immovable property due to his hostile attitude in the family. Therefore, as my clients shall not be responsible for any of his acts done in past, present or future.

SUMIT RAJPUT
376 & 488 Layer's Chamber, Block-I, Delhi High Court, New Delhi-110003
Dated: 15th February, 2020

NOTICE

Public at large is hereby informed by way of this notice that my client Sh. Abhimanyu Tanwar S/o Sh. Satyakumar Dutt and his family R/o WZ-138, Naraina village, New Delhi-110028, have served all their social relationship from his son name Mr. Alok Tanwar and disowned him from their movable and immovable property due to his hostile attitude in the family. Therefore, as my clients shall not be responsible for any of his acts done in past, present or future.

SUMIT RAJPUT
376 & 488 Layer's Chamber, Block-I, Delhi High Court, New Delhi-110003
Dated: 15th February, 2020

NOTICE

Public at large is hereby informed by way of this notice that my client Sh. Abhimanyu Tanwar S/o Sh. Satyakumar Dutt and his family R/o WZ-138, Naraina village, New Delhi-110028, have served all their social relationship from his son name Mr. Alok Tanwar and disowned him from their movable and immovable property due to his hostile attitude in the family. Therefore, as my clients shall not be responsible for any of his acts done in past, present or future.

SUMIT RAJPUT
376 & 488 Layer's Chamber, Block-I, Delhi High Court, New Delhi-110003
Dated: 15th February, 2020

NOTICE

Public at large is hereby informed by way of this notice that my client Sh. Abhimanyu Tanwar S/o Sh. Satyakumar Dutt and his family R/o WZ-138, Naraina village, New Delhi-110028, have served all their social relationship from his son name Mr. Alok Tanwar and disowned him from their movable and immovable property due to his hostile attitude in the family. Therefore, as my clients shall not be responsible for any of his acts done in past, present or future.

SUMIT RAJPUT
376 & 488 Layer's Chamber, Block-I, Delhi High Court, New Delhi-110003
Dated: 15th February, 2020

NOTICE

Public at large is hereby informed by way of this notice that my client Sh. Abhimanyu Tanwar S/o Sh. Satyakumar Dutt and his family R/o WZ-138, Naraina village, New Delhi-110028, have served all their social relationship from his son name Mr. Alok Tanwar and disowned him from their movable and immovable property due to his hostile attitude in the family. Therefore, as my clients shall not be responsible for any of his acts done in past, present or future.

SUMIT RAJPUT
376 & 488 Layer's Chamber, Block-I, Delhi High Court, New Delhi-110003
Dated: 15th February, 2020

NOTICE

Public at large is hereby informed by way of this notice that my client Sh. Abhimanyu Tanwar S/o Sh. Satyakumar Dutt and his family R/o WZ-138, Naraina village, New Delhi-110028, have served all their social relationship from his son name Mr. Alok Tanwar and disowned him from their movable and immovable property due to his hostile attitude in the family. Therefore, as my clients shall not be responsible for any of his acts done in past, present or future.

SUMIT RAJPUT
376 & 488 Layer's Chamber, Block-I, Delhi High Court, New Delhi-110003
Dated: 15th February, 2020

NOTICE

Public at large is hereby informed by way of this notice that my client Sh. Abhimanyu Tanwar S/o Sh. Satyakumar Dutt and his family R/o WZ-138, Naraina village, New Delhi-110028, have served all their social relationship from his son name Mr. Alok Tanwar and disowned him from their movable and immovable property due to his hostile attitude in the family. Therefore, as my clients shall not be responsible for any of his acts done in past, present or future.

SUMIT RAJPUT
376 & 488 Layer's Chamber, Block-I, Delhi High Court, New Delhi-110003
Dated: 15th February, 2020

NOTICE

Public at large is hereby informed by way of this notice that my client Sh. Abhimanyu Tanwar S/o Sh. Satyakumar Dutt and his family R/o WZ-138, Naraina village, New Delhi-110028, have served all their social relationship from his son name Mr. Alok Tanwar and disowned him from their movable and immovable property due to his hostile attitude in the family. Therefore, as my clients shall not be responsible for any of his acts done in past, present or future.

SUMIT RAJPUT
376 & 488 Layer's Chamber, Block-I, Delhi High Court, New Delhi-110003
Dated: 15th February, 2020

NOTICE

Public at large is hereby informed by way of this notice that my client Sh. Abhimanyu Tanwar S/o Sh. Satyakumar Dutt and his family R/o WZ-138, Naraina village, New Delhi-110028, have served all their social relationship from his son name Mr. Alok Tanwar and disowned him from their movable and immovable property due to his hostile attitude in the family. Therefore, as my clients shall not be responsible for any of his acts done in past, present or future.

SUMIT RAJPUT
376 & 488 Layer's Chamber, Block-I, Delhi High Court, New Delhi-110003
Dated: 15th February, 2020

NOTICE

Public at large is hereby informed by way of this notice that my client Sh. Abhimanyu Tanwar S/o Sh. Satyakumar Dutt and his family R/o WZ-138, Naraina village, New Delhi-110028, have served all their social relationship from his son name Mr. Alok Tanwar and disowned him from their movable and immovable property due to his hostile attitude in the family. Therefore, as my clients shall not be responsible for any of his acts done in past, present or future.

SUMIT RAJPUT
376 & 488 Layer's Chamber, Block-I, Delhi High Court, New Delhi-110003
Dated: 15th February, 2020

NOTICE

Public at large is hereby informed by way of this notice that my client Sh. Abhimanyu Tanwar S/o Sh. Satyakumar Dutt and his family R/o WZ-138, Naraina village, New Delhi-110028, have served all their social relationship from his son name Mr. Alok Tanwar and disowned him from their movable and immovable property due to his hostile attitude in the family. Therefore, as my clients shall not be responsible for any of his acts done in past, present or future.

SUMIT RAJPUT
376 & 488 Layer's Chamber, Block-I, Delhi High Court, New Delhi-110003
Dated: 15th February, 2020

NOTICE

Public at large is hereby informed by way of this notice that my client Sh. Abhimanyu Tanwar S/o Sh. Satyakumar Dutt and his family R/o WZ-138, Naraina village, New Delhi-110028, have served all their social relationship from his son name Mr. Alok Tanwar and disowned him from their movable and immovable property due to his hostile attitude in the family. Therefore, as my clients shall not be responsible for any of his acts done in past, present or future.

SUMIT RAJPUT
376 & 488 Layer's Chamber, Block-I, Delhi High Court, New Delhi-110003
Dated: 1

Timings

DELHI

SATURDAY, FEB. 15
RISE 07:00 SET 18:11
RISE 00:00 SET 11:16
SUNDAY, FEB. 16
RISE 07:00 SET 18:12
RISE 00:50 SET 11:58
MONDAY, FEB. 17
RISE 06:59 SET 18:13
RISE 01:53 SET 12:43

Delhi Weather

max min

Delhi City 25 14

Safdarjung 25 14

Palam 25 11

Delhi Pali Today
26°C Shallow fog will prevail during the morning. A warm afternoon lies ahead. Moderate winds are likely to persist.

Delhi Pali Tomorrow
27°C Mist and shallow fog will prevail in the morning. A warm day lies ahead. A clear sky lies ahead.

Copyright Skymet Weather 2019
All rights reserved.

THE HINDU
DISCLAIMER: Readers are requested to verify the most appropriate enquiries to satisfy themselves about the veracity of any published in this newspaper. THE PUBLISHER, EDITOR AND OWNER OF THIS NEWSPAPER, DOES NOT VOUCH FOR THE AUTHENTICITY OF ANY ADVERTISEMENT OR ITS CLAIMS. IN NO EVENT CAN THE OWNER, PUBLISHER, PRINTER, EDITOR, DIRECTOR/S, EMPLOYEES OF THIS NEWSPAPER/COMPANY BE HELD RESPONSIBLE IN ANY MANNER WHATSOEVER FOR ANY CLAIMS AND/OR DAMAGES FOR ADVERTISEMENTS IN THIS NEWSPAPER.

Goa govt's plan for tax on feni opposed

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

PANAJI

The Goa government's proposal to impose a tax on feni, which has earned the State heritage drink tag, and to increase excise tax on liquor has been opposed by industry players and political leaders.

Chief Minister Pramod Sawant, in the State budget presented on February 6, proposed a hike in the excise tax on liquor and a tax on the MRP of feni.

Goa Forward Party chief and Fatorda MLA Vijai Sar-desai questioned the decision to impose such a tax.

"Whose idea was it to tax the heritage drink, which has GI? Did it come as a suggestion from the pre-budget online suggestions that the Govt sought? Or was it an original idea by the head of the Govt? #Goa needs to know!" he tweeted.

State Ports Minister Michael Lobo said he would request the Chief Minister to consider reducing tax on wine and feni.

The Cashew Feni Distillers and Bottlers' Association has already expressed its objections. Gurudatt Bhakta, president of the association, had said the tax will hurt genuine bottlers and distillers and also hike prices of the "common man's drink".

12-km Pune Metro stretch to be operational next month: Javadekar

Navlakha, Teltumbde denied anticipatory bail

HC gives them four weeks to approach apex court

SONAM SAIGAL
MUMBAI

Eighteen months after the names of activist Gautam Navlakha and professor Anand Teltumbde were added to the Elgaar Parishad case, the Bombay High Court on Friday rejected their anticipatory bail pleas.

A single Bench of Justice P.D. Naik said that "prima facie there is material against the applicant to show his complicity in the crime. Thus even on the test of prima facie material involving the applicant in the crime, no case is made out for entertaining the application."

However, the court gave four weeks' time to Mr. Navlakha and Mr. Teltumbde to appeal against the order in the Supreme Court.

On August 22, 2018, the names of the two activists were added to the original FIR registered by Tushar Ramesh Damgade at Vishrambaug police station in Pune on December 31, 2017. The Unlawful Activities Prevention Act had been added to the FIR in May 2018.

The FIR alleged that members of the Communist Party of India (Maoist) were inciting violence by creating communal disharmony. It said members of Kabir Kala Manch, through songs, plays and speeches, spread enmity between different communities. As a result, there were instances of violence,



Anand Teltumbde and Gautam Navlakha



Anand Teltumbde and Gautam Navlakha

arson and stone pelting at Bhima-Koregaon.

The prosecution claimed that searches at the residences and workplaces of activists Rona Wilson, Surendra Gadling, Sudhir Dhavale, Harshali Poddar, Sagar Gorkhe, Dipak Dhengale, Ramesh Gaychor and Jyoti Jagtap had yielded incriminating documents from their computers, laptops, pen drives and memory cards.

The lawyers for Mr. Navlakha and Mr. Teltumbde vehemently argued that there was no substantial material to link them with the case, and that electronic data that was inadmissible was being presented as evidence.

The court observed in its order that the defence counsels have pointed out that the mention of 'Comrade Anand' in any letter is not evidence enough to link Mr. Teltumbde.

But the Bench also noted

that the special court in Pune had said in its order, "It was observed that the court was satisfied that the investigating agency had some material to establish the identity of applicant as Anand or Comrade Anand, as referred to in the documents forming part of charge sheet ... The stand that he was in Goa in last week of December 2017 and first week of January 2018, is belied by the material. The investigation was still in progress. Considering the nature and magnitude of the conspiracy, the investigating agency is required to be given sufficient opportunity."

The Bench also said that according to the special court, the documents seized from the houses of some of the accused revealed a "deep-rooted conspiracy of extremely serious repercussions and the applicant (Navlakha) was a party to the said conspiracy."

Speaking on other projects concerning Pune, Mr. Javadekar said the Mula Mutha river cleaning project is going to be expedited and that meetings at both Central and State levels have been planned. He reiterated that the loan given by the Japan International Cooperation Agency for the project will be repaid by the Centre, and not by the State government or the Pune Municipal Corporation.

Responding to questions on the air quality in Delhi, he claimed that pollution levels in the national capital had come down significantly.

"We [the Centre] have spent ₹17,000 crore on the Eastern Peripheral Expressway and the Western Peripheral Expressway, which have provided an alternative route to around 60,000 vehicles which used to transit via Delhi. We are continuing to work on several fronts to reduce pollution and combat climate change," he said.

Digging through: Tunnelling work under way for the Pune Metro late last year. ■ FILE PHOTO

of March," he said.

In June last year, the Maharashtra Metro Rail Corporation (MahaMetro) had announced that it would complete the 12-km stretch – comprising 7 km on Line 1 from Pimpri to Swargate and a 5 km stretch on the Vanaz-Ramwadi Line 2 – by the end of December 2019.

MahaMetro had fast-tracked the completion of

this stretch in keeping with the Prime Minister's wish of seeing the Pune Metro running by the year-end. However, the corporation failed to stick to its deadline.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi had laid the foundation stone for the ₹1,420-crore project in December 2016, just ahead of polls to the Pune and Pimpri-Chinchwad civic bodies.

Education Minister Varsha Gaikwad with students at the launch of the scheme in Pune on Friday. ■ SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

multiple languages with chapters in the syllabus read out by voice artistes to help visually challenged students as part of this project," Ms. Gaikwad said.

The minister, who responded to queries from children across a number of schools in rural Maharashtra, said the virtual classroom, with better guidance from experts, will ultimately help in reducing students' stress prior to examinations.

Experts from diverse fields – besides regular subjects in the curriculum – including sports, industry and politics will be on hand to impart lessons to children. Our aim is that the benefits

being availed by students in schools in developed urban pockets like Pune must be availed by children in rural areas like Latur," Ms. Gaikwad said.

The minister, who responded to queries from children across a number of schools in rural Maharashtra, said the virtual classroom, with better guidance from experts, will ultimately help in reducing students' stress prior to examinations.

The project is being implemented by the Valuable Group using its V-SAT based

interactive technology. Three Studios have been set up in the old building that hitherto housed the State Institute of Educational Technology, popularly known as Balchitravani, to establish contact with the schools.

In May 2017, Balchitravani, which was set up by the Maharashtra government to bolster children's education in the State and remained a fixture in Pune's educational fabric for more than three decades, shut shop after the erstwhile Bharatiya Janata Party-led government claimed it lacked funds to support it.

The defunct institute has since been absorbed by the Balbharti as part of its e-learning arm.

Taking veiled jibes at the Shiv Sena, the MNS chief said only his party actually

being availed by students in schools in developed urban pockets like Pune must be availed by children in rural areas like Latur," Ms. Gaikwad said.

The minister, who responded to queries from children across a number of schools in rural Maharashtra, said the virtual classroom, with better guidance from experts, will ultimately help in reducing students' stress prior to examinations.

The project is being implemented by the Valuable Group using its V-SAT based

First phase of Mumbai-Delhi Express Highway to be ready by Deepavali

Gadkari inaugurates Mumbai-Pune intercity electric bus service, first in country

AJEET MAHALE

MUMBAI

Union Minister for Road Transport and Highways Nitin Gadkari on Friday said the first phase of the Mumbai-Delhi Expressway, between Delhi and Jaipur, will be completed by Deepavali this year.

"The work on the Mumbai-Delhi Expressway is in full swing. In Deepavali, we aim to start the first phase between Delhi and Jaipur," he said in Mumbai. Mr. Gadkari will also visit Sweden to see how e-highways are implemented there.

The minister said the target is to complete the entire project, which will reduce the travel time between the two cities by 12 hours, in three years.

Mr. Gadkari was speaking at the inauguration of the first intercity electric bus service in the country –



Green travel: Nitin Gadkari inaugurates the intercity electric bus service in Mumbai on Friday. ■ VIJAY BATE

Coronavirus among reasons for State's e-bus service delay

AJEET MAHALE
MUMBAI

MSRTC's delay in launching electric buses," he said, on the sidelines of the inauguration of his company's maiden electric bus service, which will also have an electric bus provided by Mozev. He said had there not been supply side issues, the MSRTC service would have also launched by this month.

Summer target

Ankit Singhvi, founder and managing director of Mozev, said it is too early to comment on the impact of the outbreak. "There would be some impact given that supply chains are global in nature. The effect will be clearer in the next two-three weeks," he said.

He said the depots had been finalised and work was on in full swing to get power supply to the depots. "Our target before the onset of summer is that we are able to deploy at least 10 buses. That's our first target. By the end of this year, all 50 buses will have been deployed," Mr. Singhvi said.

Prasanna Patwardhan, chairman and managing director of Prasanna Purple, said he was told by manufacturers that the virus outbreak has had an impact on the procurement of components for electric buses. "Nearly 95% of the components of electric bus equipment are manufactured in China. We don't know when the supply side will be restored. It is one of the reasons for the

'Congress fading away caused BJP's defeat in Delhi elections'

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

PUNE

Saying that the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) always takes lessons from both its victories and defeats, Union Minister Prakash Javadekar on Friday attributed the BJP's defeat in the Delhi Assembly elections to the complete disappearance of the Congress from the poll arena, which resulted in a direct contest between his party and the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP).

"The BJP's defeat in the Delhi elections was, in a way, owing to the sudden disappearance of the Congress from the poll scene. As a result, there was a direct fight between us and the AAP. Now, it is another

matter whether the people made the Congress disappear, or whether the party melted away on its own or whether their votes got transferred to the AAP," said Mr. Javadekar, speaking to reporters here.

The AAP won the polls by a landslide, snaring 62 of the 70 seats. While the BJP won eight seats, the Congress failed to open its account in the Union Territory for the second consecutive time. Mr. Javadekar attributed the AAP's defeat in the Delhi Assembly elections to the complete disappearance of the Congress from the poll arena, which resulted in a direct contest between his party and the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP).

"The BJP's defeat in the Delhi elections was, in a way, owing to the sudden disappearance of the Congress from the poll scene. As a result, there was a direct fight between us and the AAP. Now, it is another

matter whether the people made the Congress disappear, or whether the party melted away on its own or whether their votes got transferred to the AAP," said Mr. Javadekar, speaking to reporters here.

The AAP won the polls by a landslide, snaring 62 of the 70 seats. While the BJP won eight seats, the Congress failed to open its account in the Union Territory for the second consecutive time. Mr. Javadekar attributed the AAP's defeat in the Delhi Assembly elections to the complete disappearance of the Congress from the poll arena, which resulted in a direct contest between his party and the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP).

"The BJP's defeat in the Delhi elections was, in a way, owing to the sudden disappearance of the Congress from the poll scene. As a result, there was a direct fight between us and the AAP. Now, it is another

matter whether the people made the Congress disappear, or whether the party melted away on its own or whether their votes got transferred to the AAP," said Mr. Javadekar, speaking to reporters here.

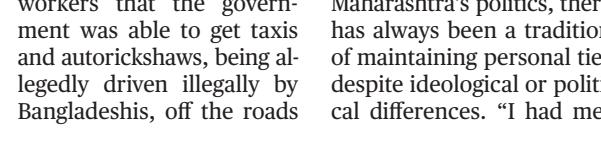
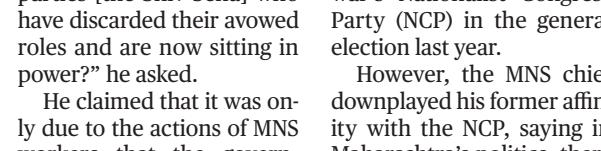
The AAP won the polls by a landslide, snaring 62 of the 70 seats. While the BJP won eight seats, the Congress failed to open its account in the Union Territory for the second consecutive time. Mr. Javadekar attributed the AAP's defeat in the Delhi Assembly elections to the complete disappearance of the Congress from the poll arena, which resulted in a direct contest between his party and the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP).

"The BJP's defeat in the Delhi elections was, in a way, owing to the sudden disappearance of the Congress from the poll scene. As a result, there was a direct fight between us and the AAP. Now, it is another

matter whether the people made the Congress disappear, or whether the party melted away on its own or whether their votes got transferred to the AAP," said Mr. Javadekar, speaking to reporters here.

The AAP won the polls by a landslide, snaring 62 of the 70 seats. While the BJP won eight seats, the Congress failed to open its account in the Union Territory for the second consecutive time. Mr. Javadekar attributed the AAP's defeat in the Delhi Assembly elections to the complete disappearance of the Congress from the poll arena, which resulted in a direct contest between his party and the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP).

"The BJP's defeat in the Delhi elections was, in a way, owing to the sudden disappearance of the Congress from the poll scene. As a result, there was a direct fight between us and the AAP. Now, it is another



195 schools log in to Balbharti's virtual classroom

Scheme to be implemented in 530 more schools in stages, says minister

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

PUNE

To boost access and quality of education in Maharashtra's rural hinterland, Education Minister Varsha Gaikwad on Friday inaugurated the ambitious Virtual Classroom and Studio scheme, which will be implemented in 725 schools across the State.

The scheme is to be implemented under the E-Balbharti project of the Maharashtra State Board of Textbook Production and Curriculum Research (Balbharti). The objective

IN BRIEF



Jagan discusses three capitals plan with Shah

VIJAYAWADA

Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy on Friday met Union Home Minister Amit Shah in New Delhi and brought to his notice a host of issues, including the proposal for three capitals, the Disha Bill, and issues relating to the A.P. State Reorganisation Act.

Church row: Kerala HC summons Collector

KOCHE

The Kerala High Court has asked the Ernakulam District Collector to come up with the modalities for handing over the Kothamangalam church to the Orthodox faction. The court expressed its displeasure against the government for its failure to implement the court order. The court further directed the Collector to finalise the modalities and appear before it on February 25.

Two women get conditional bail in Bidar sedition case

They were arrested on January 30 in connection with a play 'insulting' the PM

STAFF REPORTER

BIDAR

The principal district and sessions court in Karnataka's Bidar on Friday granted conditional bail to Nazbunnisa and Fareeda Begum, who were arrested on January 30 on sedition charges.

The sedition case was filed against the Shaheen School management in connection with children staging a play as part of their annual day celebrations on January 21, in which a character had allegedly delivered a dialogue "insulting" Prime Minister Narendra Modi. Ms. Nazbunnisa was arrested for "teaching" the controversial dialogue to her 11-year-old daughter who delivered it and Ms. Fareeda Begum, the headmistress of the school, for allowing the controversial performance.

The judge, Managoli Pre-mavati Mallikarjuna, granted



Congress leader Siddaramaiah leaving Bidar jail after meeting Nazbunnisa and Fareeda Begum. ■ GOPICHAND T.

bail upon executing a personal bond for ₹1 lakh with two sureties for the like sum. Among the bail conditions is that the accused should appear before the investigating officer as and when called upon and extend cooperation in investigation. The order also said that the accused shall appear before the court concerned on all the dates of the hearing, un-

less prevented by any genuine cause.

The two women are likely to be released from Bidar jail on Saturday.

'Not even defamation'

Coming down heavily on the police and the State for framing sedition charges against the women, Leader of the Opposition Siddaramaiah on Friday said the words ut-

tered by the child in the play cannot even be construed as defamation.

"It was a satiric drama and whatever was said by that girl in the drama, even if it targeted the Prime Minister or anybody else, cannot be construed as sedition. It does not attract even defamation charges. Pushing two innocent women behind bars is a deliberate and inhuman effort to create fear among people," Mr. Siddaramaiah said. He met the arrested women in Bidar jail on Friday.

Referring to the sedition charges "falsely" framed against innocent people elsewhere in the State, including one on a Mysuru student for displaying a 'Free Kashmir' poster, the former Chief Minister said sedition cases were being booked on flimsy grounds to suppress the freedom of expression.

Narrow escape for Sabarimala pilgrims

Pampa-bound KSRTC bus catches fire near Chalakkayam

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

PATHANAMTHITTA

A Pampa-bound Kerala State Road Transport Corporation (KSRTC) bus carrying Sabarimala pilgrims caught fire near Chalakkayam on Friday. However, all passengers are safe, according to reliable sources.

District Transport Officer Roy Jacob told *The Hindu* that the bus was completely destroyed in the fire before the Fire and Rescue Services



Lucky escape: The KSRTC bus that caught fire near Chalakkayam on Friday. ■ SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

personnel reached the accident site from Pampa.

Mr. Jacob said the bus used for chain service between Pampa and Nilakkal was carrying pilgrims to

Pampa around 7 p.m. The fire outbreak was reported following a tyre burst when the bus was nearing Chalakkayam in the forests.

The driver stopped the bus immediately, facilitating the passengers' rescue before the fire gutted the vehicle.

Minor injuries

Mr. Jacob said there were 75 persons on board, and all of them were safe. Three passengers, who sustained minor burns on their legs, were given first aid at the Government Hospital at Pampa later, he said.

The Pampa police have registered a case.

Fake visa racket busted in Hyderabad

Women were sent to Dubai on valid visa and from there to Kuwait on fake papers

STAFF REPORTER

HYDERABAD

Some members of the human trafficking gang busted by the Cyberabad police had spread tentacles in Sri Lanka to get revenue stamps of Kuwait for preparing 'fake' visas of that country in Hyderabad. The gang has sent 21 women from East Godavari and West Godavari districts to Kuwait till now.

Seven persons, including kingpin Rukuber Rao, 32, from Katedan in Rajendranagar, were arrested and 16 Indian passports, 13 fake visa documents, 13 fake passport stamps of various offi-

cials were seized from their possession.

Rao, who returned to India after working in Singapore and South Africa for several years, started booking flight tickets for people through NBS Travels in Kumabonam of Tamil Nadu, said Cyberabad Commissioner of Police V. C. Sajjanar. "The agents sent the women to Dubai on valid visit visas and from there to Kuwait on fake visas, which they manipulate here. The entire process is to avoid paying the security deposit to the Protector of Emigrants," he said.

He said that another accused, Shaik Basheer Ahmed, 60, from Kumbakonam would go to Sri Lanka every month to get the revenue stamps of Kuwait from one Kumar, who somehow managed to procure them. "The stamps were used to prepare the duplicate visas," the officer said.

Once they reach Dubai airport, they tear off the visa documents and board a flight to Kuwait with fake documents by avoiding immigration clearance. There the immigration officers don't have a system of checking visas online," an officer said.

In Kuwait, Rao's agents, Laxmi, Sharada, Srinu and Sara, would provide employment to the women. The gang was apprehended by the Special Operations Team of Shamshabad zone, led by Additional DCP G. Sandeep Kumar.

OFFICE: CIVIL SURGEON CUM C.M.O. RANCHI

Sadar Hospital

Puruliya Road Ranchi 834 001 (Jharkhand)

Tel no. – 0651 – 2215618 Email : - csofficeranchi@yahoo.com

NOTICE INVITING EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (E.O.I)

Letter No. 371 Date -12-02-2020

The hospital is one of the premier govt. hospitals in the state and India. The institute provides free medical services.

Expression of Interest (E.O.I) is invited from medical specialists for providing services at Sadar Hospital, Ranchi.

SLNo	Name of Post	Min Qualification	Experience (Preferable)	No. of Posts	Emoluments
1.	Orthopaedic Surgeon	M.S/DNB (Orthopaedics)	Minimum 2 yrs in a 50 bedded hospital.	2	1,05,000/-
2	Anaesthesiologist	Degree/Diploma/DNB	Minimum 2 yrs in a 50 bedded hospital.	2	1,05,000/-
3	Laparoscopic Surgeon	M.S./DNB and trained in Laparoscopic Surgeon	Minimum 2 yrs in a 50 bedded hospital.	1	1,05,000/-
4	Paediatric Physician	M.D/DCH	Minimum 2 yrs in a 50 bedded hospital.	1	1,05,000/-
5	Cytologist	M.D (Path.)	Minimum 5 yrs. In cytopath	1	1,05,000/-
6	G.D.M.O	MBBS	Minimum 1 yr.	10	63,000/-

Terms and Conditions

Relevant document can be downloaded from www.ranchi.nic.in

The desirous candidates having requisite qualifications and fulfilling other eligibility conditions may come for appearing in walk-in-interview along with filled application on prescribed format and all the certificates in original in support of their qualification, experience in DDC Conference Hall, Vikash Bhawan, Katchery Chowk, Ranchi – 834 001 at 10 AM on Feb 24 2020.

Number of vacancies can be increased or decreased.

No TA/DA will be paid to candidates attending the interview.

Chairman, Hospital Management Society, will have the sole authority to accept or reject any application, if he is satisfied with the cause to do so, without assigning any reason thereof.

Civil Surgeon Cum Chief Medical Officer

Deputy Commissioner

Ranchi

PR225322 (Health Med Edu and Family Welfare)19-20*D

EAST CENTRAL RAILWAY

SCHEDULE OF E-AUCTION NOTICE (SCRAP SALE)

Month : FEB 2020 DIVISION : Dhanbad Division , DATE : 20.02.2020 (Thursday), Mobile : 9771426770, (a) Bidders are advised to inspect the scrap lot before submission of bid. They are allowed to inspect the lot, on an authority from the concerned officer of Railway Administration, at the site of lot mentioned in the auction catalogue on any working day (except Saturday). (b) The complete details of materials and terms and conditions will be as per Auction Catalogue, which shall be available with the respective auction conducting authority of East Central Railway or from our website: www.reps.gov.in prior to the date of auction.

Principal Chief Material Manager PR/2235/HCI/Store/N19-20/24

EAST CENTRAL RAILWAY

CANCELLATION NOTICE

Sub: Notice for cancellation of e-tender notice no. C-732-ENQ-DHN-20 dt 25.01.20, E-tender for manning of enquiry offices for 18 stations and handling of twitter cell & Rail Madad Portal in Commercial Control over Dhanbad division for 1095 days (03 years) was called vide e-tender notice no. C-732-ENQ-DHN-20 dt 25.02.2020 & uploaded on IREPS on 25.01.2020 and published in various newspaper on 30.01.2020 is hereby cancelled due to unavoidable reason.

DCM, East Central Railway, Dhanbad PR/2235/DHN/COM/LC/19-20/24



Office of The Executive Engineer

Himachal Pradesh Public Works Department

TelNo:01781252004

Mail : eepwd-kotkhai-hp@nic.in

e-Procurement Notice

INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB)

1. The Executive Engineer HPPWD Kotkhai Dist Shimla H.P on behalf of Governor of H.P invites the online bids on item rate, in electronic tendering system, from the eligible class of contractors/Firms registered with HPPWD for the works as detailed in the table.

Sr. No	Name of Work	Estimated Cost	EMD	Cost of tender	Time	Eligible class of Contractor
1	Improvement on Sidhpur Baghi Road Km 5/0 to 6/0 and Gummabaghi Road Km 22/0 to 22/480 (SH- Improvement of curves and tarring work)	Rs. 10291378/-	Rs. 135413/-	Rs. 3000/-	2 Month	Class B

Tender document and other instructions can be downloaded or viewed online from the portal <https://htptenders.gov.in> by the firm/individual registered on the website which is free of cost.

Key Dates:

1. Date of Online Publication	24/02/2020 11:00 HRS
2. Document Download Start and End Date	24/02/2020 11:00 HRS upto 04/03/2020 17:00 HRS
3. Bid Submission Start and End Date	24/02/2020 11:00 HRS upto 04/03/2020 18:00 HRS
4. Physical Submission of EMD and Cost of Tender Document	05/03/2020 upto 10:00 HRS
5. Date of Technical Bid opening.	05/03/2020 11:00 HRS
6. Evaluation of Technical Bid followed by Opening of Financial Bid.	Date to be announced

Executive Engineer, Kotkhai Division HPPWD, Kotkhai

HP / 4753/19-20 On Behalf of Governor of Himachal Pradesh

Appeal For Identification

General public is hereby informed that this person Name : Unknown

Si/o : Unknown, R/o : Unknown,

Age : 40 Years, Sex : Male, Height :

5 Ft. 5 Inch, Complexion :

Shallow, Face : Round, Hair :

Curly Small Black, Eyes :

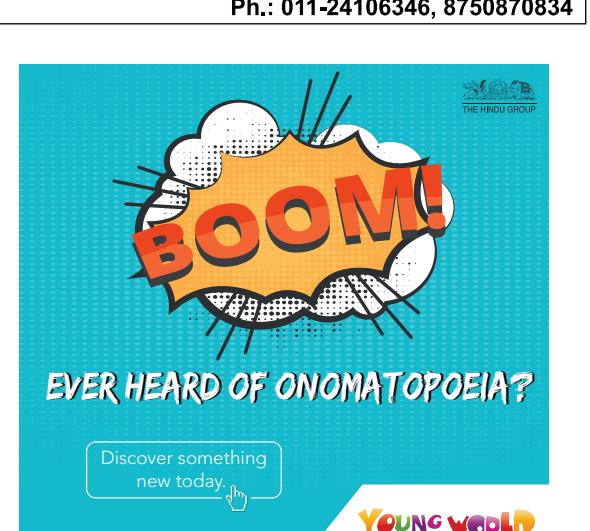
Black, Wearing : Blue Colour Jacket and Grey Colour Pant, has been found dead on 08.01.2020 at 12:40 pm at

Safdarjung Hospital Near Gate No. 4, New Delhi.

In this regard a DD No. 16A Dated 08.01.2020 has been registered at PS. Safdarjung Enclave, Delhi.

Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out information about this person but no clue has come to light so far.

Any person having any information or clue about this person may kindly inform to the following. SHO DP/7215/SW/2020. PS. Safdarjung Enclave, Delhi Ph.: 011-24106346, 8750870834



Bharat Nirman through Rural Roads

Chief Engineer (Kangra Zone) HPPWD Dharamshala H.P., 176215

Bharat Nirman

UNDER PRADHAN MANTRI GRAM SADAK YOJANA (PMGSY)

e-Procurement Notice

The Chief Engineer (Kangra Zone) HPPWD Dharamshala-176215

IN BRIEF



'India's position on Global Hunger Index alarming'

NEW DELHI
Despite high food production, it is alarming that India ranks 102nd on the Global Hunger Index, said Vice President Venkaiah Naidu on Friday, at the convocation of the Indian Agricultural Research Institute. Nutritional security requires measures to improve protein and vitamin deficiencies, he said.

M.P. govt. sets up panel to monitor tribal policies

BHOPAL
Days after Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Kamal Nath cautioned the RSS against its purported plan to coerce tribals into declaring themselves as Hindus for the forthcoming census, the Congress government has set up three teams with six tribal MLAs each to help monitor existing schemes for tribals.

Protests defer training of 1,200 police recruits

GUWAHATI
The Nagaland government has deferred the training of 1,200 police recruits - against the 206 posts advertised for - following protests by a tribal organisation. However, the protesters cited inadequate infrastructure as the reason for the protests.

ED files chargesheet against Sana Sathish Babu

NEW DELHI
Days after the CBI gave a clean chit to its former Special Director Rakesh Asthana, the Enforcement Directorate (ED) on Friday filed a chargesheet against businessman Sana Sathish Babu, on whose complaint the case was registered against the senior IPS officer.

DGCA issues advisory on coronavirus screening

NEW DELHI
The DGCA has issued an advisory requiring all passengers arriving from Japan, South Korea, Thailand and Singapore to undergo screening for coronavirus infection. Earlier, thermal screening was mandatory only for passengers arriving from China and Hong Kong.

Puducherry entitled to more funds from Centre, says report

'Its revenue collection is higher than many States'

RAJESH B. NAIR
PUDUCHERRY



Puducherry Chief Minister V. Narayanasamy with Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman in New Delhi. ■ SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

The Union Territory of Puducherry was entitled ₹2,731 crore for the current fiscal from the Centre than the actual allocation of ₹1,545 crore, according to an assessment report prepared by the National Institute of Public Finance and Policy (NIPFP), a Central government organisation.

The assessment, done against the backdrop of Union Territories not coming under the purview of the Finance Commission recommendations for devolution of funds, noted that Central allocation to Puducherry is in the form of grants to meet the gap in resources and fi-

nancing of schemes. The Union Territory was eligible to get a larger share of the revenue, the report said.

Puducherry, according to the assessment report, has a higher revenue collection compared to the Gross State Domestic Product (GSDP). It was higher than most States. It also runs a small revenue deficit and a fiscal deficit of less than 3%.

The debt to GSDP ratio has been around 3%. A considerable part of the deficit was met through open market borrowings. If the UT was part of the Finance Commission, the allocation would have been higher than the current allocation. In case the region was part of the 14th Finance Commission Recommendations, the exchequer would have been

An official also highlighted the disparity in allocation to Puducherry and New Delhi. While in the case of the national capital, the Centre incurred the expenditure for salary to the police and pension, no such favour was done to Puducherry.

entitled to a sum of ₹2,731 crore for 2019-20.

CM meets FM

According to a senior official, the issue figured prominently in a meeting Chief Minister V. Narayanasamy had with Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman in New Delhi on Thursday.

Mr. Narayanasamy referred to the assessment report and the allocation made by the Centre. Going by the report, the territory was eligible to get around ₹1,186 crore extra during the current financial year.

A official also highlighted the disparity in allocation to Puducherry and New Delhi.

While in the case of the national capital, the Centre incurred the expenditure for salary to the police and pension, no such favour was done to Puducherry.

Major allocations

Tamil Nadu Budget for 2020-21 has given priority to education, rural development & infrastructure



■ Maintenance grant for persons with debilitating spinal cord injuries and chronic neurological conditions, namely Parkinson's disease and multiple sclerosis

■ ₹660-crore project to ensure basic infrastructure, including housing for tribals

■ CCTVs in all buses at a cost of ₹75.02 crore under the Nirbhaya Fund

■ Reduction in stamp duty for rental agreements under the new Tenancy Act from 1% to 0.25%

T.N.'s debt rises, revenue deficit set to double

Unexpected drop in State's share of Central taxes

T.K. ROHIT
SANJAY VIJAYAKUMAR
CHENNAI

Tamil Nadu's net outstanding debt is expected to rise significantly to over ₹4.56-lakh crore in 2020-21, from ₹3.97-lakh crore projected in 2019-20. The State's revenue deficit too is set to double compared to the previous projection owing to a host of factors, Deputy Chief Minister and State Finance Minister O. Panneerselvam said, presenting the Budget in the Assembly on Friday.

The State's revenue deficit is likely to double to ₹21,617.64 crore compared to the projection of ₹10,040.31 crore for the year. Even for 2019-20, the revenue deficit is now pro-

jected at ₹25,000 crore, an increase of ₹10,000 crore from the earlier estimate, largely due to an "unprecedented" drop of ₹7,586 crore in the State's share of Central taxes". The burden imposed on the State finances

by the takeover of debt of Tangedco under the UDAY scheme, the lag effect of the implementation of the 7th Pay Commission and slower growth in tax revenue were cited as reasons for the increase in revenue deficit.

Scientists radio-tag Indian pangolin

This will help understand its habits: experts



Pangolins are among the most trafficked animals in the world.

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

For the first time, scientists have radio-tagged the Indian pangolin, an endangered animal that is rarely sighted in forests here.

The Indian pangolin, which dons a thick scaly skin, is hunted for meat and used in traditional Chinese medicine.

Researchers say tagging the animal will help understand the habits of the elusive, nocturnal animal.

Radio-tagging involves attaching a transmitter to an animal to monitor its movement.

"In recent years, we have successfully busted pangolin-smuggling syndicates that involved poachers and smugglers from more than

nine States," said Rajesh Shrivastav, Chief Wildlife Warden of Madhya Pradesh.

Pangolins are among the most trafficked wildlife species in the world. The projected population declines range from 50% to 80% across the genus.

Out of the eight species of pangolin, the Indian and the Chinese pangolins are found in India. Both these species are listed under Schedule I Part I of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.

'Ramayana-themed' train on the cards, says Railways

It is likely to be launched after Holi: official

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

The Railways plans to run a new train, Ramayana Express, with Ramayana-themed interiors and religious songs playing on board to give the passengers a feeling of 'travelling in a temple.'

The train is likely to be launched after March 10, said Railway Board Chairman V.K. Yadav on Friday, adding that the train schedule will be released in the coming week.

The train will originate from different locations, north, south, east and west, so that people from across the country can avail its ser-



The Railways had introduced 'Shri Ramayana Express' in 2018 to cover destinations related to the epic. ■ FILE PHOTO

vices. The exterior and the interiors of the train will be Ramayana-themed. We can have bhajans playing on board ... we are hoping to run the train after Holi," he said.

Mr. Yadav added that this will be different from 'Shri Ramayana Express' that was introduced in November 2018 to cover important destinations related to the epic.

Mr. Yadav said the Railways has charted out plan to complete long-pending projects of national importance in Jammu and Kashmir and in the northeast by 2023. Additionally, the Ministry aims to commission 50 'super critical' projects where capacity enhancement is needed, by the way of doubling or tripling the lines, by 2022.

WEATHER WATCH

RAINFALL, TEMPERATURE & AIR QUALITY IN SELECT METROS YESTERDAY



Forecast for Saturday: Dense fog very likely at isolated places over coastal Odisha. Strong surface winds (speed reaching 20-30 kmph) very likely to prevail over the plains of northwest India.

CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN	CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN
Agartala	...-29.0	...-14.0		Kozhikode	...-35.0	...-25.0	
Ahmedabad	...-33.0	...-16.0		Kurnool	...-35.0	...-20.0	
Aizawl	...-19.0	...-8.0		Lucknow	...-27.0	...-13.0	
Allahabad	...-28.0	...-14.0		Madurai	...-35.0	...-23.0	
Bengaluru	...-32.0	...-18.0		Mangaluru	...-35.0	...-24.0	
Bhopal	...-29.0	...-13.0		Mumbai	...-36.0	...-20.0	
Bhubaneswar	...-34.0	...-16.0		Mysuru	...-33.0	...-18.0	
Chandigarh	...-24.0	...-13.0		New Delhi	...-25.0	...-14.0	
Chennai	...-33.0	...-22.0		Patna	...-27.0	...-13.0	
Coimbatore	...-35.0	...-21.0		Port Blair	...-30.0	...-22.0	
Dehradun	...-27.0	...-11.0		Puducherry	...-32.0	...-22.0	
Gangtok	...-14.0	...-8.0		Pune	...-33.0	...-17.0	
Goa	...-35.0	...-22.0		Raipur	...-31.0	...-14.0	
Guwahati	...-28.0	...-13.0		Ranchi	...-28.0	...-12.0	
Hubballi	...-32.0	...-19.0		Shillong	...-16.0	...-6.0	
Hyderabad	...-33.0	...-15.0		Shimla	...-22.0	...-7.0	
Imphal	...-23.0	...-5.0		Srinagar	...-8.0	...-2.0	
Jaipur	...-30.0	...-15.0		Thiruvananthapuram	...-34.0	...-25.0	
Kochi	...-33.0	...-25.0		Tiruchi	...-34.0	...-21.0	
Kohima	...-16.0	...-7.0		Vijayawada	...-33.0	...-21.0	
Kolkata	...-30.0	...-16.0		Visakhapatnam	...-30.0	...-22.0	

(Rainfall data in mm; temperature in Celsius)

Pollutants in the air you are breathing Yesterday

CITIES SO₂ NO_x CO PM_{2.5} PM₁₀ CODE

Ahmedabad	55	72	21	103	110	■■■■■
Bengaluru	14	35	60	74	96	■■■■■
Chennai	.7	29	24	141	141	■■■■■
Delhi	.8	37	14	224	260	■■■■■
Hyderabad	.4	88	54	158	144	■■■■■
Kolkata	37	149	26	284	334	■■■■■
Lucknow	.7	47	54	277	141	■■■■■
Mumbai	14	53	29	126	125	■■■■■
Pune	.87	29	89	.148	.113	■■■■■
Visakhapatnam	10	.63	50	.149	.125	■■■■■

Air Quality Code: ■ Poor ■■ Moderate ■■■ Good (Readings indicate average AQI)
SO₂: Sulphur Dioxide. Short-term exposure can harm the respiratory system, making breathing difficult. It can affect visibility by reacting with other air particles to form haze and stain culturally important objects such as statues and monuments.

NO_x: Nitrogen Dioxide. Aggravates respiratory illness, causes haze to form by reacting with other air particles, causes acid rain, pollutes coastal waters.

CO: Carbon monoxide. High concentration in air reduces oxygen supply to critical organs like the heart and brain. At very high levels, it can cause dizziness, confusion, unconsciousness and even death.

PM_{2.5} & PM₁₀: Particulate matter pollution can cause irritation of the eyes, nose and throat, coughing, chest tightness and shortness of breath, reduced lung function, irregular heartbeat, asthma attacks, heart attacks and premature death in people with heart or lung disease

In observation made at 4



Choice and candidacy

De-criminalisation of politics cannot be achieved by judicial fiat alone

The idea of removing the taint of criminality from electoral politics has been engaging the country for decades. Yet, whatever progress made in this regard has been through the initiative of the Supreme Court and the Election Commission. Political parties which ought to be cleansing the system with legislation and internal organisational reforms have done precious little, and their reluctance to avoid fielding those with criminal antecedents is quite obvious. The Court, in September 2018, sought to enforce greater disclosure norms about electoral candidates. On noting the "alarming increase" of those with a criminal background in the last four general elections, the top court has now come up with an additional requirement while hearing a contempt of court petition. Now, parties have been asked to explain candidate choice and why those with criminal cases pending against them were preferred over those with no such record. The Court has asked national and regional parties to disclose the reason for their selection "with reference to qualifications, achievements and merit of the candidates concerned", and barred them from merely citing "winnability" as a reason. In addition to full disclosure of the cases pending against them on their official websites and social media accounts, the parties are also required to publish these details in a local regional language paper and a national newspaper. This is a forward movement from the present situation in which the burden of disclosure is on candidates through mandatory affidavits filed along with their nomination papers.

The latest order is in line with a series of judgments aimed at preserving the purity of the election process: directions to ensure the asset disclosure and criminal records of candidates, the incorporation of the 'none of the above' option in the voting machine, and the invalidation of a clause that protected sitting legislators from immediate disqualification after conviction. In addition, the Court has directed the establishment of special courts in all States for the quick disposal of cases involving elected representatives. However, it must be underscored that de-criminalisation of politics cannot be achieved by judicial fiat alone. The political class has to respond to the challenge. Parties would probably justify their choice of candidates by pointing out that the law now bars only those convicted and not those facing charges, however serious they may be. Besides, they are apt to dismiss all pending cases as "politically motivated". A legislative option is to amend the law to bar from contest those against whom charges have been framed. A more meaningful option would be for parties to refrain from giving ticket to such candidates. Beyond this debate, a larger question looms: what good will more information on the background of candidates do, if voters back a particular leader or party without reference to the record of the candidates fielded?

Troubling data

Growth is not held back by high finance cost, but by poor consumer demand

Earlier this week in Parliament, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman spoke about green shoots in the economy. One of the variables she laid faith in was the industrial output data which showed a 1.8% growth in November after contracting from August to October. This faith in a growth recovery proved misplaced as the December industrial output data, out on Wednesday, shows a contraction of 0.3%. This is curious because the core sector, accounting for 40% of the index of industrial production, showed a 1.3% growth in December. The villain seems to be manufacturing, which contracted by 1.2%, with consumer durables and non-durables in sharp decline. This does not square up with anecdotal evidence from consumer durable manufacturers – of seeing a recovery. Be that as it may, what is clear is that the growth impulses are unstable yet and certainly not uniform across sectors. And as luck would have it, even this tentative recovery is under threat due to the coronavirus outbreak in China. The shutdown of factories in China due to this is likely to affect supply chain networks for products from mobile phones to automobiles. Manufacturers in India are reporting slim inventories for critical items of production and if factories do not begin to hum in China soon – the chances of that happening are remote given signs of an intensifying outbreak – it could spell trouble for India.

Meanwhile, inflation continued to hold sway with the January prints showing a rise in both consumer price inflation and wholesale price inflation. CPI accelerated to 7.59% in January, the second successive month of above 7% print, while wholesale price inflation broke the 3% barrier in January (3.1%) moving up from 2.59% in December. The surge in both numbers is largely due to rise in food prices, including of proteins and pulses but core inflation has also moved up to 4.1%. While food inflation may calm down this month following the retreat in vegetable prices, the rise in core inflation is cause for worry. With cooking gas prices rising by a huge ₹144 a cylinder the inflation expectations of households may also go up. Inflation is likely to remain well above the RBI's median of 4% at least for the next two quarters. The central bank has already paused on its rate cut cycle and going by the latest data it appears that the next rate cut – the last in the cycle – will not happen until later this calendar year. Interest rates are being driven down through other measures and again, it is not as if growth is being held back by high finance costs. Far from it. Banks are reporting poor credit growth because businesses are unwilling to invest. And this in turn, is due to lack of demand. The key to a turnaround is, therefore, in the hands of the consumer.

One Asia, two perspectives

The Asian economic story has moved from pessimism to optimism — a subject for two economists, over 50 years apart



C.T. KURIEN

In 1968, Gunnar Myrdal, distinguished Swedish economist and later a Nobel Laureate, published his three-volume *Asian Drama*. Its subtitle, *An Inquiry into the Poverty of Nations*, reflecting Adam Smith's *An Inquiry into the Nature and Causes of the Wealth of Nations*, was meant to convey that it should be seen as a modern epic.

That the economies of Asian countries, perhaps mainland Asian countries excluding Japan, were in dire poverty in the early part of the 20th century was widely accepted. But in the middle of the century they became independent countries and UN members that called for necessary changes in diplomatic parlance. The poor countries became "underdeveloped" (and rich countries "developed") and development became the central idea in official and scholarly discourse. And soon the crux of the problem was identified too. The underdeveloped economies were caught in a "low-level equilibrium trap" – low incomes, low savings, low investment – and thus a built-in inability to grow. The remedy, of course, was foreign aid accompanied by labour-intensive technologies.

Myrdal refused to fall in line. It is hazardous to summarise what took Myrdal 2,000 pages to analyse Asian countries and then to arrive at his own pessimistic conclusion about the continent's prospect. As an economist, he used the standard concepts of the profession, but what he put forward as the "social system" had additional features: attitude towards life and work and institutions in general. Expounding these special features of Asia took the major part of *Asian Drama*.

Value comparison
Myrdal made a comparison of "Western values" and "Asia Va-

lues". Among the latter he included survival mindedness; irresponsiveness to opportunities for betterment; scorn for manual labour; unwillingness to work for others; superstitious beliefs and irrational outlook; submission to authority and exploitation; low aptitude for cooperation. Combine these with what Myrdal considered to be institutions specific to Asia – underdeveloped institutions for enterprise, employment and credit; imperfections in the authority of government agencies; low standards of efficiency and integrity in public administration. Add to these the caste system and the joint or extended family, and Asia emerges substantially different from western nations. He was willing to concede that radical policy measures could bring about change in Asian countries, but thought that social, cultural and religious attitudes made it virtually impossible to realise changes via that route. Asian countries, therefore, were caught in a poverty trap, he felt.

While working on *Asian Drama*, Myrdal was possibly not aware that another scholar was working on Asian economic development in historical perspective. Angus Maddison in several of his historical studies in the late 1970s and early 1980s, especially *The World Economy in the Twentieth Century* (1989) pointed out that in 1820, just two centuries ago, Asia accounted for almost two thirds of the world population and three fifths of the world's income. China and India put together accounted for half the world population and world income. That is, Asia (China and India in particular) was not always at the bottom of the pit and poverty was not its characteristic feature.

Another recent study on Asia is *Resurgent Asia: Diversity in Development* by Deepak Nayyar (Oxford, 2019). Some readers may remember that he was one-time Chief Economic Adviser, Government of India as also Vice-Chancellor, Delhi University. In the book, he recalls that when *Asian Drama* came out in 1968, he was a graduate student in Oxford University

and that the pessimistic outlook about Asia was widely prevalent in academic circles. Nearly 50 years later (and after holding academic positions in different parts of globe and authoring many books), he decided to take a closer look at Asia, by now noted for its diversity in development.

Nayyar saw that the two Asian giants, China and India, contributed close to 60% of the global manufacturing production and an even larger proportion of manufactured exports until around 1750. However, over the next two centuries, the Industrial Revolution in Britain brought about a radical transformation of the situation that changed the profile completely, except for the outlier, Japan. During the second half of the 20th century, the situation has changed again as is widely known. It began with the East Asian tigers, South Korea, Taiwan, Hong Kong and Singapore. Soon others joined, Malaysia, Thailand and Indonesia; then, of course, China and India. The economic profile of Asia has completely changed.

A diverse Asia
These changes indicated too that Asia cannot be and should not be treated as a single unit; social, cultural and economic conditions are significantly different among Asian countries, much more than in other continents, Europe for instance. Initially, the author considers four sub-regions, East Asia, South East Asia, South Asia and West Asia, and then 14 states. The states are China, South Korea and Taiwan in the East; Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam in South-East, Bangladesh, India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka in the South and Turkey in the West.

The colonial era witnessed a precipitous decline in Asia's eco-

nomic position. By 1962, Asia's share in the world population diminished to 50%, while its share in global income fell sharply to 15%. And by 1965-70, Asia was the poorest continent. For China and India taken together these shares plunged to 35% and 8%, respectively. The share of China and India in world manufacturing production collapsed from 47% in 1830 to 5% in 1963. By the second decade of the present century, things had changed drastically, but also differentially in the sub-regions and countries. East Asia was the leader and South Asia was the laggard with South East Asia in the

midst.

Of equal importance is the fact that the big economies of Asia, notably China and India which began their development strategies as closed economies opened up to international trade and capital movements subsequently, and have become notable players in what since the turn of the 21st century at least has come to be referred to as "the global economy".

Nayyar also notes that the growth of the Asia economies has considerably reduced the percentage of their population considered to be below the poverty line. But that has been accompanied by sharp increases in inequalities of income and more so of wealth in democratic India and even communist China which also raises questions about the future. Obviously the transformation of Asia during the past 50 years has been phenomenal, and there can be little doubt that in the next 50 years, Asia's multifaceted economic performance will continue and by the beginning of the next century, if not earlier, China will overtake the United States as the largest economy. Indeed, three other economies to claim top positions will most likely be from Asia – India, Indonesia and Japan and many other Asian countries may also do well, a far cry from the pessimism that was the cardinal note of Myrdal's *Asian Drama*. And yet there will be problems too. Absolute poverty may be minimal by 2030, but the poverty-inequality-unemployment nexus may continue. There are also the challenges of technology and environmental consequences. But these are global issues and will affect other economies also. Nayyar's concluding words are optimistic. "There can be little doubt that, circa 2050,... Asia will account for more than one-half of world income, and will be home for more than one-half the people on earth. It will, thus, have an economic and political significance in the world that would have been difficult to imagine fifty years ago...."

C.T. Kurien is formerly, Director, Madras Institute of Development Studies



A tale of outbreaks, both in China

Unlike the SARS crisis, Beijing has handled the coronavirus epidemic better; but its secretive attitude still causes concern



PALLAVI AIYAR

The title of the third chapter of my China memoir, *Smoke and Mirrors*, was 'Coronavirus'. This was not an act of pre-configuration, but merely an account of having lived in Beijing during the 2003 SARS epidemic, or Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome, which was also caused by a coronavirus.

There are obvious parallels between the epidemics of 2002-2003 and 2019-2020. Both began in winter and featured cover-ups and whistleblowers. The origins of both were traced to China's unregulated wet markets and the sale of wildlife. Both resulted in quarantines, empty streets and considerable panic. They featured the jaw-dropping feats of entire hospitals being constructed within a few days' time. And both demonstrated the pros and cons of China's authoritarian political system: the ability to implement drastic measures to contain a crisis, but only after the unnecessary escalation of the crisis resulting from a repressive culture of censorship.

But there are also differences.

SARS was far deadlier, with a mortality rate of about 10%. The mortality rate for the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) is yet to be established, but appears to be about 2%. However, it is much more infectious. More than 1,300 people have died from the new virus, a number that is already greater than SARS' final death toll of 774. It took eight months for SARS to spread to more than 8,000 people. The COVID-19 has infected over 63,000 people in about six weeks.

More openness this time
There are also differences in the government's handling of the epidemics. With SARS, the cover up went on for far longer than it did in the present instance. Although the SARS virus first began appearing in November 2002, China's then Heath Minister, Zhang Wenkang, gave a televised press conference as late as April 3, 2003, assuring the world that Beijing had only a handful of infections. Then suddenly on April 20, it was announced that the capital in fact had 339 confirmed cases, 10 times more than the 37 infections made public until then.

With regard to the current epidemic, the first instances of COVID-19 appeared in early December. By the end of the month, China had already alerted the World Health Organization (WHO)

to several cases of A SARS-like pneumonia in the city of Wuhan. By the second week of January, China had genetically sequenced the virus and shared it with WHO. On January 23, Wuhan suspended all public transportation; all outbound trains and flights were halted. In the days that followed, travel restrictions were applied to neighbouring cities as well, eventually affecting well over 50 million people.

How other nations reacted
But despite these almost-dracoian measures and the improved speed with which the Chinese authorities have responded to the ongoing epidemic, the global response has been more fearful and arguably more xenophobic than during SARS. The restrictions on travel to and from China are more punitive, even as there is a resurgence of racist tropes portraying Chinese food habits and other customs as unsafe and unsavoury.

The U.S. (with some exceptions)

and Australia have banned entry to all foreign nationals who have been to China in recent weeks. Other countries, including India, Malaysia, Russia, Vietnam and Italy, have temporarily stopped issuing certain classes of visas to travellers from Hubei Province, where Wuhan is situated, or China altogether.

What accounts for this larger, arguably "excessive" reaction? Social media certainly plays into it. SARS occurred in the pre-Facebook/WhatsApp/Twitter era, although text messaging was already well established then. Also, far greater numbers of Chinese are travelling abroad today.

There are certainly genuine concerns about public and personal health, but these have meshed with the discomfiture that many around the world feel towards China, a country that has exponentially grown in economic and military heft. The widespread mistrust of China's political system and anxieties about its geostrategic intentions are mingling with an ugly schadenfreude as China is exposed to censure. It is perhaps unavoidable. China's new status as a major world power means that its handling of crises will inevitably be subject to global scrutiny.

And although compared to SARS, this handling has shown improvements, it nonetheless throws the deficiencies, even fragility, of

China's political system, into sharp relief. The severity and extent of the disease in Wuhan was underestimated for weeks. Information was not adequately shared. Worse, those like Dr. Li Wenliang (the whistleblower who subsequently contracted the virus and died) who tried to voice their concerns were muzzled by the police. The egregious consequence of the weeks-long official silence was that it facilitated the movement of some five million people in the days before Wuhan was quarantined.

In some way, it would seem that the more things have changed in China, the more they have remained the same. The larger context of the Chinese political system, in particular its overly controlling attitude towards information, has proved persistent. Local government incompetence is hardly confined to China, but in less restrictive societies, whistleblowers such as Dr. Li would likely have found the means to get their message out. Under China's President Xi Jinping, state control over the media has only deepened, which, together with his unabated emphasis on maintaining social order, means China remains vulnerable to crises despite surface strength.

Pallavi Aiyar is a former Beijing correspondent of The Hindu



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.

Crime and politics

The Supreme Court judgment ordering political parties to publish the "entire criminal history" of their candidates for the Assembly and Lok Sabha elections and the reasons for their selection is one more step in the judiciary's endeavour to make politics free of criminals (Front page, "Publish criminal history of candidates, SC orders parties," Feb. 14). But this verdict may not actually prevent parties from fielding candidates with criminal cases, as they can escape by telling that the candidate in question has "since been reformed" or has been "striving hard

to help the poor people in society" or giving some such concocted reason. Further, given the fact that people have been electing candidates with criminal cases with huge margins for a long time, knowing fully well their criminal history, the publication of the same in the media may not make much of a difference. There are a large number of factors such as caste, money, liquor, local leaders' influence, material inducements, traditional party affiliations, promises of all kinds by parties, etc., influencing the voters at the time of elections. Amidst the charged atmosphere of elections, the criminal

history of the candidate disappears into the background. As such, the Supreme Court should have taken a more proactive stand on the issue and framed concrete guidelines to be followed by the Election Commission to prevent persons with criminal cases from contesting elections.

KOSARAJU CHANDRAMOULI,
Hyderabad

■ The Supreme Court's directive to parties reveal the criminal antecedents of candidates may not have a telling bearing on the outcome of future elections but is, to some extent, a step in the right direction. True,

this may discourage the fielding of tainted candidates and some of the present politicians may not be in the fray. But, their close aides may get a chance to contest and win elections, only to act at their behest. There is another dimension to India's electoral scenario due to which unethical practices cannot be totally ruled out. A majority of the Indian voters have been conditioned to expect something in return for casting their votes and this has, of late, become a norm. Once leaders get elected, this modus operandi makes corruption in their functioning unavoidable. In such cases, the desirability of candidates becomes

secondary, if not irrelevant when voters make their choice. Unless the voters realise the value of their votes, nothing much can be done. Self-realisation is the only way in which the system can be cleansed.

V. LAKSHMANAN,
Tirupur, Tamil Nadu

The Delhi common man
The resounding victory of the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) in the Delhi Assembly polls not only dealt a body blow to the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), it also very clearly established that local issues matter the most to the people of Delhi. As a party that has striven to better the living standards of the Delhi

people, AAP was an automatic choice for most voters. At a time when the ordinary Delhi resident was struggling for basic necessities like water and power, grandiose developmental plans that promise a 'country beautiful' or *ache din* at some undetermined time ceased to be of much appeal. The result is rightly being hailed as a defeat of the politics of polarisation and hate. However, it is surprising that AAP has not been able to replicate its Delhi electoral success in other States.

PACHU MENON,
Margao, Goa

Fighting a virus, yet again

Kerala is drawing from its experience in controlling the 2018 Nipah virus outbreak to prepare for a potential COVID-19 spread. While the government's efforts are commendable, it's too soon to rejoice, warn health experts. **C. Maya** reports on a State on tenterhooks

On January 30, Swaraj Round in the heart of Thrissur town was bustling as usual. Shops were open, and vehicles crowded the streets. Around 2 p.m., however, suddenly all hell broke loose. The very calm yet grave-looking Health Minister of the State, K.K. Shailaja, had just made a formal announcement on television. The first imported case of the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) in India had been confirmed in Kerala, she said. The patient was being monitored in Thrissur town at the General Hospital located on Swaraj Round. The patient was a female student who had returned home from Wuhan, the epicentre of the COVID-19 outbreak in China.

As the news spread, panic-stricken people formed queues outside pharmacies to buy face masks. Others covered their faces with dupattas and hurried home. Patients from the General Hospital quickly got themselves discharged. Breathless coverage unfolded on news channels.

The girl was one of the hundreds of Malayali medical students studying in Wuhan University in Hubei province. She had come home for the Lunar New Year holidays. She had reached Thrissur on January 24 via Kolkata and Kochi. Seeing an alert about the virus, she had gone to the nearest primary health centre at Mathilakam to inform the health officials about her travel. As she did not have any symptoms then, the officials gave her the number of the District Surveillance Officer and asked her to dial the official in case she came down with a flu. When she developed a sore throat three days later, she promptly contacted the officer and was rushed to the hospital. She was placed in the isolation ward and her blood/throat swab samples were collected and sent to the National Institute of Virology in Pune for testing. Thrissur was anxious and afraid, but Kerala was prepared.

Surveillance strategy

Late in December, when news about the mystery Chinese virus trickled in, Kerala, like the rest of the world, watched the evolving situation, concerned. Days later, as the number of patients with COVID-19 steadily grew, China began to initiate extraordinary measures. It temporarily shut down public transport and locked down entire cities. Immediately, in distant Kerala too, surveillance and emergency preparedness measures began to be launched.

As soon as the World Health Organization (WHO) sent out a notification on the disease on January 18, all those who are part of the Integrated Disease Surveillance Programme and the district surveillance teams were alerted. They were told that increased surveillance of all SARS (Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome) and influenza-like illnesses was required. WHO guidelines and clinical protocols were circulated to all the districts. Kerala was especially at risk as hundreds of Malayali students, who were pursuing undergraduate medical courses or nursing courses in China, were on their way home. Seventy-two of them were from Wuhan.

"The airport-based surveillance was launched on January 23," says Amar Fettle, State Nodal Officer for Public Health Emergencies. "We were taken aback by the large number of people we had to place under surveillance from day one. On average, we received a daily list of 100-150 persons with a recent travel history to China. Anyone with mild symptoms of flu was directly sent to the isolation wards of selected hospitals in districts. They were taken in special ambulance services that had been arranged at all the airports. Those without any symptoms were sent home with instructions that they strictly quarantine themselves at home."



publicised as the first point of contact for the public to clarify any doubts regarding COVID-19 and related issues.

Going into overdrive

Though the State was prepared to tackle any outbreak, when the first positive case of COVID-19 in Kerala was detected, authorities went into overdrive. All the health personnel in the State were asked to undertake surveillance, monitoring and contact-tracing exercises. The State had learned the importance of contact tracing during the Nipah virus outbreak of 2018.

The second sample that tested positive for SARS-CoV-2 on February 1 belonged to a friend and fellow traveller of the girl student from Thrissur. The boy's father recalls the sheer horror with which the family watched the news about the first positive case of COVID-19 in Kerala. "I was trembling. I immediately drove my son to the Alappuzha Medical College hospital. The scenes at the isolation ward were terrifying. Alien-like figures in full protective gear and face masks took my son inside. It sort of felt like a final goodbye," he says. The father is quarantined at home at present. His son, who has recovered well, has been discharged.

The third positive case was confirmed on February 3. This patient too was a student from Wuhan and was kept under isolation at a district hospital in Kanhangad in Kasargod district.

"It is true that we were doing a bit of an overkill, focusing on all the Wuhan returnees and isolating them immediately," says R. Aravind, Head of Infectious Diseases, Thiruvananthapuram Government Medical College. "But the additional measures we took paid off because all the three people who tested positive were already in isolation when we detected the virus. We would have missed these cases if we had not isolated the Wuhan returnees right away because their symptoms were very mild. They would not have been admitted in hospitals in the normal course."

Aravind says an aggressive surveillance and quarantine strategy had been

evolved following reports that even asymptomatic patients could spread the disease. "Asymptomatic transmission could have been a game changer. That would have thrown all our control strategies out of gear. Given the huge number of potential returnees from China to the State and the high density of population here, we were willing to err on the side of caution," he says.

The approach may not have been evidence-based, but the situation called for the State to always be one step ahead. The guidelines prepared by the team of clinicians were more elaborate and stringent than those of the WHO. The guidelines were also constantly revised. While the Centre suggested an incubation period of 14 days, the State extended it to 28 days. Test samples were required only of those admitted in hospitals with symptoms. But as the debate about possible asymptomatic transmission raged, Kerala authorities decided to collect test samples from everyone who had returned from Wuhan after January 15.

In the initial days, it was difficult to conduct surveillance and impose quarantine, says V. Meenakshy, Additional Director of Health Services, Public Health: "Most people thought our response was exaggerated. We appealed to people to voluntarily report to us if they had any travel history to China because surveillance is not always foolproof. But people were trying to evade us so that they would not be forced into quarantine. Everything changed after the first positive case of COVID-19 surfaced. Suddenly self-reporting increased. Our helplines were inundated with calls."

A nightmare called contact tracing

Surveillance officers had to undertake the painstaking exercise of contact tracing. According to the WHO, people in close contact with someone who is infected with a virus, such as SARS-CoV-2, are at higher risk of becoming infected themselves, and of potentially further infecting others. The patient's contact with friends, co-travellers, taxi drivers, cleaning staff in hotels, people on the streets and so on had to be traced by the authorities. Needless to say, the list of contacts was endless. For the first positive case in Thrissur, 82 contacts were identified; for the infected person in Alappuzha, 52 contacts were traced.

But it was tracking the contacts of the third patient in Kasargod that turned out to be an exercise in patience and te-

nacity, Meenakshy says. "The patient had gone from Kolkata from Wuhan and then taken a flight to Bengaluru. He travelled in a taxi and stayed at a hotel. The next day he took another taxi to the airport and boarded a flight to Kochi. From the airport he took an auto rickshaw to Angamaly, stayed at a hotel, and later caught a train to Kanhangad. His friend and his uncle met him at the railway station and dropped him home. Retracing his route and identifying possible contacts was really a nightmare," she says. Flory Joseph, the epidemiologist leading the surveillance team at the Kasargod district hospital, says they managed to track down 186 persons who might have come in contact with the patient.

"With each person, we had to explain the situation, allay their fears, and call them daily to ensure that they were fine," she says. This is not an unfamiliar exercise for the Health Department of Kerala which tracked over 2,500 people during the 2018 Nipah virus outbreak.

Banking on the Nipah experience

In fact, the entire framework of Kerala's response to the threat of a possible public health emergency due to COVID-19 is based on its experience in managing the Nipah outbreak. The Nipah outbreak took the State health system by surprise. With a high case fatality rate of 88.9%, the virus created a lot of panic. By the time the outbreak was contained, 17 people had died.

Though the State identified the infectious agent with the second case and launched control measures, Nipah had already spread to multiple sites from the index case (the patient in an outbreak who is first noticed by the health authorities). Epidemiological investigations later revealed that the index case was a "super spreader"; he had transmitted the infection to 19 people. The lesson from the episode was stark: simple and universal infection control protocols in hospitals would have prevented human-to-human transmission and saved lives.

"Following this there was a heightened sense of awareness in hospitals that simple infection-control measures such as washing hands and using personal protective equipment could ensure the safety of healthcare personnel. Nurses in all our hospitals underwent intensive training in infection-control protocols in the post-Nipah period," says Aravind.

As part of improving disease surveillance, outbreak monitoring units were

We were already worried about our son, but what really hurt us was the lack of support from the local community.
Father of the patient in Alappuzha

set up in all the medical colleges in the State last year. These units scrutinised patients in emergency wings and isolated those with acute respiratory symptoms as soon as they come in. Nipah struck again in 2019, but this time the health authorities managed to immediately spot the index case, isolate him, and treat him. No one else was infected.

When the COVID-19 alert was sounded, all these baseline preparations fell into place. The rest of the measures concerned logistics and management, which the State health administration managed well. Overnight, the State Control Cell set up 18 sub-divisions (for surveillance, training and awareness, sample tracing, transportation and ambulance, etc.), charted out the roles and responsibilities of each team, and micromanaged nearly everything, right down to roping in local self-government bodies for assistance and ensuring that families quarantined at home had adequate food and supplies delivered to them.

Stigma and fear

On the ground, though, the families of those who had tested positive went through trying times. "We were already worried about our son, but what really hurt us was the lack of support from the local community," says the father of the boy in Alappuzha. Soon after he tested positive, the boy's image in a family photograph began to circulate on social media. Not only was he accused of spreading the virus, but people even began avoiding his grandfather's store, causing him big losses in business. The Nooranad police have since arrested two persons in connection with the social ostracism the family faced.

The antagonism displayed by the local community towards the family only died down when the Health Department began organising awareness campaigns at the grassroots. The department also mobilised its district mental health teams to offer psycho-social support over the phone to the stressed families that had been quarantined for 28 days.

News about the virus has also affected local businesses. Parassini Prakashan, a bus conductor, says he is struggling to run the service from the Kanhangad bus stand via the district hospital as no one wants to travel by that route any more. Almost all the small and medium businesses in the locality of the district hospital have been affected. COVID-19 has also spelled bad news for Kerala tourism, already impacted by two consecutive floods and the Nipah outbreaks. There were mass cancellations of tour packages after SARS-CoV-2 was reported.

Too soon to celebrate

On February 3, when the third positive case of COVID-19 was flagged, the government declared the virus a State-specific calamity. The declaration, which raised many eyebrows, was hastily withdrawn four days later when there

Kerala has a very responsive health system which has jumped into fire-fighting mode. It has mobilised all its resources to detect and contain COVID-19. But this is not a sustainable model; soon the system will wear itself out.

G. ARUNKUMAR
Director, Manipal Institute of Virology

were no more positive cases. Kerala remains on high alert and surveillance is still on. But the State rapid response team, which met on Wednesday, decided to relax the quarantine guidelines and relieve over a thousand people from their ordeal.

There is elation now. Some say there is overconfidence at having "got everything in control" and having successfully managed to limit the outbreak in the State to just three cases with no case of human-to-human spread. However, epidemiologists and public health experts warn that it is too early for the State to blow its own trumpet as the situation surrounding COVID-19 is still fluid and evolving. The epidemic continues to spread in China and beyond, but there is a lot that remains unknown: What are the virus reservoirs? What are the transmission dynamics? What is the period of infectiousness?

"We need to watch closely the recovery of the patients who tested positive. We need to watch them and their contacts for four weeks and make sure that they are not developing any new illnesses. How sure are we that we have only three positive cases or that there are no cases in the rest of India? We have no idea about the impact of environmental factors on virus behaviour. For Kerala, it is early days yet," says E. Sreekumar, a senior scientist at the Rajiv Gandhi Centre for Biotechnology, Thiruvananthapuram.

A long way to go

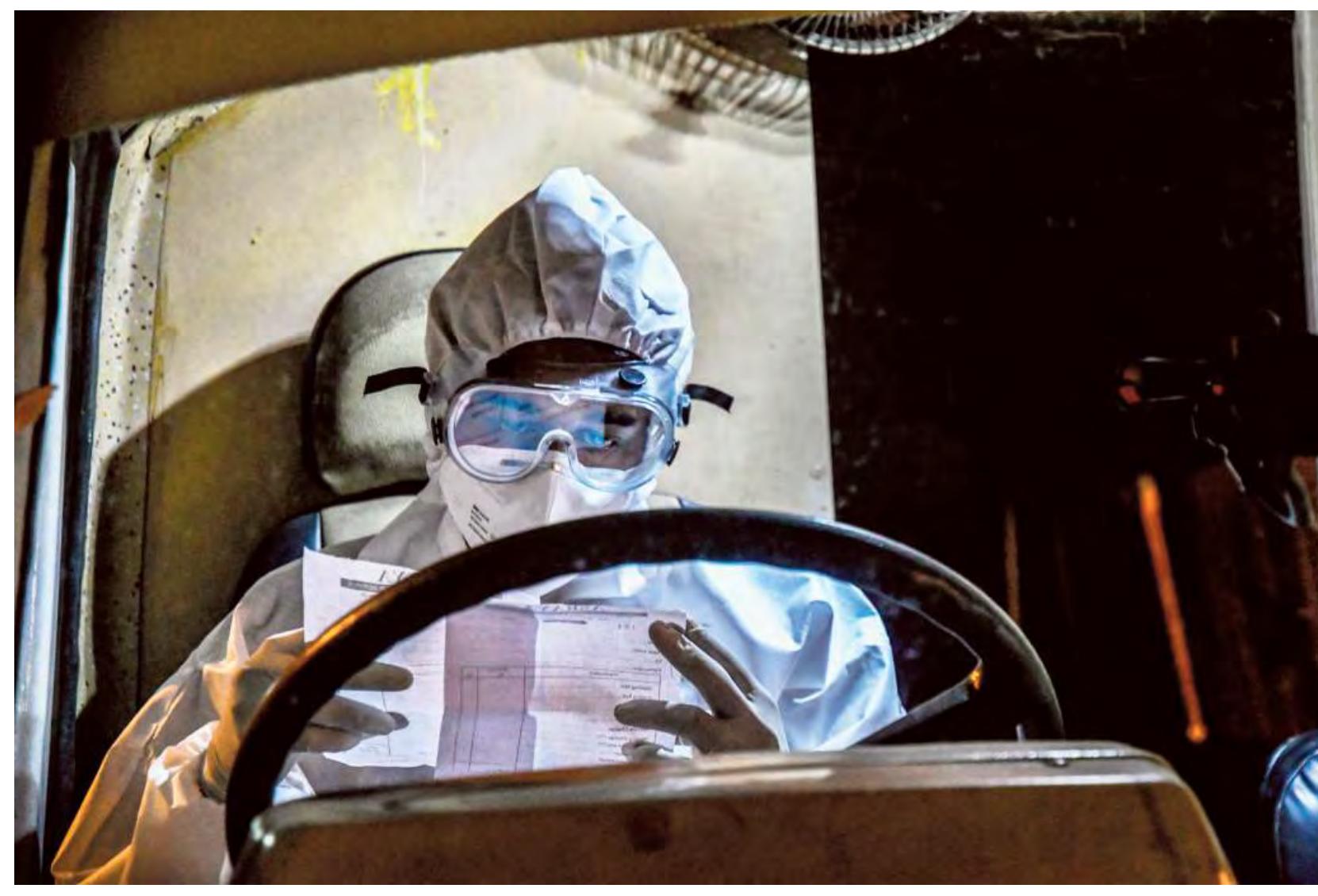
No surveillance is ever foolproof. The crucial question is whether the State is accounting for the gaps in surveillance and ready with a Plan B if the scenario changes and local transmission of the disease does happen. "Kerala has a very responsive health system which has jumped into fire-fighting mode. It has mobilised all its resources to detect and contain COVID-19. But this is not a sustainable model; soon the system will wear itself out. The real strength of a health system is in its ability to keep its regular disease surveillance system alive and active through the year, pick up unusual disease trends and undiagnosed deaths, and analyse data meticulously so that it is equipped to deal with surprises without taxing the entire system," says G. Arunkumar, Director, Manipal Institute of Virology. Both the Nipah episodes in Kerala were not picked up by the Integrated Disease Surveillance Programme, which means that the State has a long way to go, he says.

"While rejoicing over the 'success' of having contained the Nipah outbreak to the lone index case in 2019, we must understand that not every case of Nipah becomes a 'super spreader,'" he says. In 2019, the index case did not lead to further infections because the patient had encephalopathy and not respiratory symptoms. Arunkumar, who led the epidemiological investigation that unravelled Kerala's first Nipah encounter, cautions the State against relying too much on its Nipah strategy while dealing with COVID-19. "Drawing upon the experience of fighting Nipah is fine, but it is crucial to understand that Nipah and COVID-19 do not share the same epidemiology. The surveillance and control strategies for each are different. Nipah is not capable of sustained transmission and disappears when the virus runs its natural course. But COVID-19 is a multi-focal outbreak with a potential for sustained transmission. The odds that it is going to be a long-term problem requiring long-term engagement are quite high. Kerala would do well to be prepared for it," he warns. Also, because of the mild nature of the illness caused by COVID-19, it is unlikely that the system will pick up low-level community transmission of the virus right now.

In China too, the outbreak was picked up only when a sudden cluster of viral pneumonia cases appeared in hospitals, he says. The next step for Kerala would be to set up a surveillance mechanism for detecting viral pneumonia clusters, especially among older individuals, in hospitals, Arunkumar suggests. Testing all X-ray-positive viral pneumonia cases in hospitals for COVID-19 would help the State pick up the first case of the viral illness if the virus is active in the community, he says.

While Kerala rejoices, it would do well to prepare for the long haul as China continues to report more deaths due to COVID-19.

With inputs from Mini Muringatheri in Thrissur, Sam Paul A. in Alappuzha, and C.P. Sajit in Kasargod



FROM PAGE ONE

Telcos asked to pay AGR dues immediately

The court recorded in the order that the DoT's January 23 order was "nothing but a device to scuttle the order of this court".

The October 2019 judgment had given the companies three months to pay their dues in AGR. The DoT officer concerned has been asked to file a reply to the contempt notice.

"Let us wind up the Supreme Court then... There is no law left in the country. We are anguished. I feel I should not work in this system. Who is behind all this nonsense? How can a mere desk officer in your department defy a Supreme Court judgment by ordering that they need not pay and no coercive action will be taken... Does he think he is the Supreme Court? How can he literally stay an Supreme Court judgment? What temerity is this? Have you [government] even questioned him once for this?" Justice Mishra lashed out at the DoT, represented by Solicitor General Tushar Mehta.

"This desk officer behind this nonsense [January 23 letter]... does he think he is the Supreme Court? This is pure contempt! If your desk officer does not withdraw this letter within the next one hour or 30 minutes, he will go to jail today itself. Withdraw this [letter] immediately... We want him here," a visibly angry Justice Mishra orally

Bharti Airtel ready to pay ₹10,000 cr. by Feb. 20

An order by the U.P. (West) Telecom Circle directed all telecom service providers to "make the payment of outstanding dues of license fee and spectrum usage charge by 14.02.2020, 11.59 p.m., positively."

While a representative of one of the operators confirmed the receipt of this order, it is not clear how many such orders have been sent and what is the exact amount that the operators may need to deposit by Friday midnight.

Following the October 24, 2019 judgment of the Supreme Court in favour of the government, 15 companies owe ₹1.47 lakh crore in license fees (₹92,642 crore) and spectrum usage charge (₹55,054.51 crore).

U.P. govt. invokes NSA against Kafeel Khan

Superintendent of the Mathura jail Shailendra Maitri said the jail received Dr. Khan's release orders at 8 p.m. on Thursday and that he was due to be released on Friday morning.

In a letter to the district administration, the Aligarh police said there was a "strong possibility" of Dr. Khan causing a serious threat to public order if he returned to AMU.

If Dr. Kafeel is "released from jail, then he will certainly impact the peace and communal harmony in Aligarh by instigating students," wrote SSP Akash Kulhary to the DM.

Dr. Khan, who was arrested by the State's Special Task Force from the Mumbai airport, has been under suspension from the Baba Raghav Das (BRD) Medical College in Gorakhpur since the oxygen tragedy of 2017.

An FIR was lodged against him on December 13 in Aligarh under Section 153-A of the Indian Penal Code (promoting enmity between different groups). Section s 153 b, 505 (2) and 109 of the IPC were added later during investigation.

According to the FIR, Dr. Khan provoked the religious sentiments of Muslim students of AMU while addressing a gathering of around

addressed Mr. Mehta initially in the hearing.

When Mr. Mehta urged the Bench to defer the hearing and not make any insinuations that the DoT acted "hand in glove" with the defaulting companies, Justice Mishra shot back, saying: "Do not say anything more or you yourself will be in the frame. Do not take this lightly. There is no respect for the judicial system".

Mr. Mehta tried to pacify the judge, saying "We all know about Your Lordship's benevolence..."

Justice Mishra responded sharply, "No, you don't know me even an inch and we don't want respect from anybody in this world... I am not bothered about it myself... In fact, it is better not to live in this country, better to leave this country. This desk officer is writing constitutional authorities... He grants a stay... The judicial system of this country has been taken away".

Justice Mishra turned to senior advocate Fali Nariman, appearing for Vodafone, saying "Companies have not deposited any money... have no respect for the direction of this court". The court rejected Mr. Nariman's offer to make an immediate part payment in dues.

"Ensure that they pay up by the next hearing," Justice Mishra orally addressed Mr. Nariman.

With the Supreme Court coming down heavily on the Department of Telecommunications (DoT), the department also withdrew its January 23 order to not initiate any "coercive action" against telcos who fail to comply with earlier Supreme Court judgement asking companies to clear their dues by January 24.

According to official sources, the DoT order in question (January 23) was issued without the approval of the Telecom Secretary Anshu Prakash and the Union Minister for Communications Ravi Shankar Prasad.

The source added that "serious action" is being contemplated by the government on the issue.

SC seeks J&K reply to plea against Omar's custody

There has been no effort by authorities to verify truth behind information that my brother was a threat to peace: Sara

LEGAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

else, his sister, who has come," Mr. Sibal replied.

Justice Mishra persisted that if the petition had been filed so late, it could wait for another 15 days (till March 2) for a hearing.

Mr. Sibal clarified that there had been no delay. This petition challenged his fresh detention under the PSA and not his past six-month confinement under Section 107 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, he submitted.

"This is the PSA. This is a *habeas corpus*. Please list the case next week. It is the law... This is a matter of personal liberty," he said.

The court refused to bend.

"No, not next week," Justice Mishra said.

Ms. Pilot has urged for issuance of a writ of *habeas corpus* the authorities to forthwith produce Mr. Abdullah before the court and



Fighting for her brother: Sara Abdullah Pilot outside the Supreme Court on Friday. ■ BIBEK CHETTRI

set him at liberty.

Ms. Pilot, also represented by senior advocate Gopal Sankaranarayanan, has said she was gravely concerned about the welfare, safety and security of her brother. He was already under detention from August 5 last – the day

the Centre removed the special rights of the Kashmiri people under Article 370 – when the PSA was slapped on him on February 5, 2020.

Ms. Pilot has said she was shocked to learn that just like what happened to their father, the government, has im-

posed a fresh lease of detention under the PSA on her brother too.

Mr. Abdullah's detention from August 5 under Section 107 CrPC (security for keeping the peace) was scheduled to end on February 5. His release was imminent. He had served the maximum period of detention, she has said.

'Arbitrary use of power'

On February 5, the Executive Magistrate, instead of releasing him, ordered his further detention under Section 8 of the PSA of 1978 in an "arbitrary exercise of power".

In fact, she has said, in the past six months there has been no effort by the authorities to verify the truth behind the "information" that Mr. Abdullah was a threat to peace.

Ms. Pilot has argued that the detention order is illegal as it conflates 'governmental policy' with the 'Indian State', suggesting that any opposition to the former constitutes a threat to the latter.

Mr. Pilot has urged that the government, in its PSA dossier on Mr. Abdullah, has described him as a threat to public safety. It said he was "planning activities against the Union government". It has also highlighted "his popularity and potential to draw voters to polling booths".

The petition has argued that the detention order is illegal as it conflates 'governmental policy' with the 'Indian State', suggesting that any opposition to the former constitutes a threat to the latter.

"This is wholly antithetical to a democratic polity and undermines the Indian Constitution," it has said.

Who gained from Pulwama attack, asks Rahul Gandhi

Congress leader seeks report on findings of the probe

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

A year after the Pulwama terror attack, former Congress president Rahul Gandhi on Friday questioned the Union government on fixing accountability for the security lapse and on the findings of the inquiry into the attack.

While paying homage to jawans of the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) killed in the attack, Mr. Gandhi asked who actually 'gained' from the tragedy.

"Today as we remember our 40 CRPF martyrs in the #PulwamaAttack , let us ask: 1. Who benefited the most from the attack? 2. What is the outcome of the inquiry into the attack? 3. Who in



Rahul Gandhi
the BJP Govt has yet been held accountable for the security lapses that allowed the attack?" he posted on Twitter.

Congress communications chief Surjewala sought details on the role of former Deputy Superintendent of Jammu and Kashmir (J&K)

police Davinder Singh, the officer posted in Pulwama at the time of the attack, who was recently arrested for his militant links.

"Entire Nation pays homage to martyrs of #Pulwama ! Questions remain: 1. Why is the report of Pulwama attack not being made public? 2. Who is accountable? 3. Who brought the 350 kgs Improvised Explosive Device? 4. Why were intelligence reports of attack ignored? 5. Did Davinder Singh have any role?" asked Mr. Surjewala.

At a media conference in the Congress headquarters, party spokesperson Jaiveer Shergill alleged that the BJP was more bothered about "vote security" than "national security".

Congress leader insulting the memory of dead soldiers: BJP

Shahnawaz Hussain calls Rahul an LeT and JeM sympathiser

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

Prime Minister Narendra Modi paid tribute to the 40 CRPF soldiers killed in a terrorist attack on their convoy in Pulwama in Jammu and Kashmir a year ago, even as the anniversary became the centre of a war of words between the BJP and the Opposition.

"India will never forget the martyrdom of the security personnel killed in last year's Pulwama attack," Mr. Modi wrote on Twitter, terming the slain soldiers "exceptional individuals" who devoted their lives to serving and protecting the nation. Defence Minister Rajnath Singh also paid tribute to the jawans.



The BJP took umbrage at remarks made by Congress leader Rahul Gandhi on Twitter, asking who had benefitted from the attack.

The BJP said Mr. Gandhi was insulting the memory of the soldiers.

Party spokesperson G.V.L. Narasimha Rao said it was a "shame" that such remarks

were being made "when the nation is paying homage to martyrs of the dastardly Pulwama attack. Rahul Gandhi, a known sympathiser of LeT [Lashkar-e-Taiba] and JeM [Jaish-e-Mohammed], chooses to target not just the government but security forces as well". Mr. Rao added, "Rahul Gandhi will never question the real culprit, Pakistan."

His party colleague Shahnawaz Hussain said: "This is an insult to martyrs who sacrificed their life for the country. The Congress has done this in the past as well, and people taught them a lesson for this blunder. Such remarks by Rahul Gandhi help Pakistan counter India on international platforms." +

After Pulwama, JeM stands decimated, says CRPF official



Remembering the martyrs: A CRPF officer paying homage to the 40 jawans, who lost their lives in the Pulwama attack last year, at Lethpora on Friday. ■ NISSAR AHMAD

Memorial opened and tributes paid to 40 jawans

PEERZADA ASHIQ
SRINAGAR

Jaish-e-Mohammad (JeM), the outfit behind the Pulwama terror attack that left 40 CRPF jawans dead this day last year, "stands decimated", a top CRPF official said on Friday, as a memorial was inaugurated and floral tributes were paid to the deceased jawans in a low-key ceremony in Lethpora.

"We took JeM head on soon after the Lethpora attack. All the JeM men, including its top commanders involved in the attack, were

killed in concerted operations. Today, it stands decimated," Zulfikar Hassan, Additional Director General, CRPF, said. On the progress in the investigation, he said, "The National Investigation Agency (NIA) is investigating the attack. It has made huge progress in the case".

The official data suggest that at least 10 JeM supporters were arrested this year, mostly in Awantipora-Pulwama axis, which remains the hub of the outfit for many years now. Senior officials of all the wings of the security forces laid wreaths at the memorial to pay tributes to the jawans.

this year. "Yasir did pose a potential threat. His killing has brought down the recruitment of locals and the outfit's striking capability", said a top counter-insurgency police officer.

The official data suggest that at least 10 JeM supporters were arrested this year, mostly in Awantipora-Pulwama axis, which remains the hub of the outfit for many years now. Senior officials of all the wings of the security forces laid wreaths at the memorial to pay tributes to the jawans.

J&K visit a chance to see situation: EU

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

Following the visit of EU Ambassador to India Ugo Astuto and several other European envoys to Jammu and Kashmir earlier this week, the EU spokesperson on Monday said, "The visit confirmed that the Government of India has taken positive steps to restore normalcy... The visit presented a welcome opportunity to see the situation on the ground and to interact with local interlocutors."

The statement comes even as the regional bloc has called for a swift removal of Internet and communication curbs in the Union Territory.

A diplomatic source told *The Hindu* that the delegation of envoys interacted with diverse sections of the Kashmiri civil society and witnessed heavy security presence in Srinagar where the threat of terror attacks persisted, six months after India ended the special status of the State.

No trade deal during Trump visit a setback: U.S. diplomat

Indian policy direction a matter of concern: Alice Wells

SRIRAM LAKSHMAN
WASHINGTON DC

If India and the U.S. cannot achieve a modest trade deal with U.S. President Donald Trump visiting India, it would be a "big setback", Washington's top diplomat for South and Central Asia, Alice Wells said.

U.S. Trade Representative (USTR) Robert Lighthizer cancelling his trip this week to India has cast doubt on whether a mini trade deal could be completed before the February 24 visit of Mr. Trump. Mr. Lighthizer will possibly visit along with Mr. Trump, *The Hindu* had reported, leaving open the possibility that a modest agreement could be finalised.

Ms. Wells said if a "tiny phase 1 trade deal" with the U.S. President visiting India could not be achieved, it would be a "big setback". She was speaking to reporters on the sidelines of a Un-

ited States India Business Council (USIBC) welcome reception for Indian Ambassador Tarun Singh Sandhu on Thursday evening.

They continue to try and finalise an agreement," Ms. Wells said, adding, however, that she could not speak for the Office of USTR and is not privy to the details of the ne-

gotiation. She said the U.S. would like to have "a lot more ambitions" for making India part of the global supply chain but that the U.S. experience in negotiating trade was "very painful" and that the policy directions in India – including in the recent Union Budget as well as the e-commerce policy (a draft was introduced in early 2019) – were of concern. Ms. Wells will not be accompanying President Trump to India and neither will Secretary of State Mike Pompeo.

In response to a question from *The Hindu* on whether Mr. Trump would offer to mediate between India and Pakistan, Ms. Wells said the U.S. President is aware that India is not interested in mediation.

She stressed that Mr. Trump is "genuinely interested" in how India and Pakistan are managing tensions and "concerned" about the tensions.

Aircel-Maxis case: CBI, ED file status reports in court

Chidambaram, son granted bail

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

The Enforcement Directorate (ED) on Friday informed a city court that its money laundering probe in the Aircel-Maxis case was under way, while the CBI said responses to the Letters Rogatory (judicial requests) sent to Malaysia were awaited. Both the agencies filed status reports of their investigation, in a sealed cover, as sought by the court.

The District and Sessions court marked both the ED and CBI cases to Additional Sessions Judge Ajay Kuhar. The matter has been listed for hearing on February 20.

Last month, the court reviewed the cases that were earlier adjourned *sine die* by then Special Judge O.P. Saini in September last, observing that the two agencies were seeking adjournment after adjournment.

Last year, the court granted bail to former Finance Minister P. Chidambaram and his son Karti Chidambaram

ram in the CBI and ED cases. They have refuted all the charges against them.

The probe agencies are probing the alleged irregularities in FIPB (Foreign Investment Promotion Board) clearance to the Aircel-Maxis deal during Mr. Chidambaram's tenure. In 2018, the ED filed a supplementary charge sheet naming the former Finance Minister, apart from others.

It alleged receipt of ₹1.16 crore in lieu of the FIPB approval in March 2006 for investments by Global Communication and Services Holdings Limited, a wholly-owned subsidiary of

Pawar says Maharashtra govt. nod to transfer Elgaar case to NIA 'improper'

NCP chief also hits out at the Centre's notification directing the probe agency to take over the case

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

PUNE

While stating that the decision to grant consent for the transfer of the Elgaar Parishad case to the National Investigation Agency (NIA) was entirely the prerogative of Chief Minister Uddhav Thackeray, Nationalist Congress Party (NCP) chief Sharad Pawar took a veiled jibe at Mr. Thackeray, remarking that the Maharashtra government's decision was "improper".

"We felt that role of the Pune police in the Elgaar Parishad probe was objectionable. Under the Constitution, law and order is a State topic...It was not proper for the Central government to take over the investigation from the State in the first place. It is even more improper for the Maharashtra government to grant consent for this transfer," Mr. Pawar said, speaking in Kolhapur



C It was not proper for the Central government to take over the investigation from the State in the first place. It is even more improper for the Maharashtra government to grant consent for this transfer

SHARAD PAWAR,
NCP CHIEF

on Friday.

Following the formation of the new 'Maha Vikas Aghadi' government in Maharashtra with the unlikely coalition of the Shiv Sena, the NCP and the Congress, it was Mr. Pawar who, on January 10, wrote to the Chief Minister urging the constitution of a Special Investigation Team (SIT) after publicly casting aspersions of the Pune police's investigations in the case, which saw the arrest of prominent intellectuals, academics, lawyers and activists charged with alleged links to the Maoists.

After the MVA government initiated a review a few days later to probe the actions of the Pune police, the BJP government at the Centre swiftly acted with the Union Home Ministry on January 24 issuing an order transferring the case from the Pune police to the NIA.

Abrupt timing

"The State [MVA] government had a meeting on the issue [setting up of SIT to probe Pune police] between 9 a.m. and 11 a.m. The same day at 3 p.m., the Centre abruptly issues a notification

directing the NIA to take over the case...while this process itself is improper, the Maharashtra government supporting it is even more improper," said Mr. Pawar.

Fissures likely

The NCP chief's sharp reaction against his new ally, Mr. Thackeray, came a day after NCP leader and State Home Minister Anil Deshmukh claimed to have been allegedly "overruled" by the Chief Minister in the decision to grant consent to the NIA to take over the Elgaar Parishad case.

The issue could prove to be a source of possible frictions between the Sena and the NCP, with the latter being opposed to the transfer of the case records to the NIA.

However, responding to another question pertaining to alleged rifts within the MVA's coordination commit-

tee, which comprises leaders from the three ideologically opposed parties, Mr. Pawar said that all was well and there were no problems among the Sena, the NCP and the Congress.

Among those arrested in the Elgaar Parishad case include poet-activist P. Varavara Rao, noted trade unionist Sudha Bharadwaj, activists Vernon Gonsalves, Arun Ferreira, Rona Wilson, Mahesh Raut, advocate Surendra Gaadling, Prof. Shoma Sen and writer-publisher Sudhir Dhawale - all of whom are presently lodged at Pune's Yerwada prison.

The Pune City police's case rests on an FIR registered in January 2018 in connection with the Elgaar Parishad held at Pune's Shaniwarwada Fort on December 31, 2017, as part of the bicentenary celebrations of the 1818 battle of Koregaon-Bhima.

The Mancha asked the

Assam party petitions UN on validity of CAA

'Plea in view of grave danger from Act'

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

GUWAHATI

They sought the intervention of the SPFII for considering the validity of the CAA under the spirit of Universal Declaration of Human Rights and for issuing refugee certificate to all eligible religiously-persecuted persons without any discrimination under the supervision of the UNHCR.

The Mancha asked the

UNHCR and SPFII to ensure that the language, culture, demographics and economic well-being of the indigenous population of Assam are protected as per the principles of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

The Mancha reminded the UN that India voted to adopt the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and was a signatory to a number of UN and world conventions on human rights, refugee issues and related matters although the country did not sign the 1951 Convention on Refugees and the 1967 Protocol.

CAA protests: recovery notices issued

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

LUCKNOW

The court of Additional District Magistrate in Lucknow has issued notices to recover ₹21.76 lakh from 13 persons accused of damaging public and private property in the vandalism and arson that took place during protests against the Citizenship (Amendment) Act.

Fixing culpability of the 13 persons, ADM (Trans Gomti) Vishwa Bhushan Mishra has given them 30 days to deposit the penalty amount.

The district administration had issued notices to 20 persons to recover damage to property, but charges were fixed only against 13.

The remaining seven were exonerated from paying the damages as the police could not provide evidence that they were present at the protest site in Khadra locality with "common object" on December 19, the notice said.

INTERVIEW | CHIRAG PASWAN

'Courts don't realise significance of reservation to SC, ST communities'

Hardly any representation for them in the higher judiciary, says LJP chief

SOBHANA K. NAIR

NEW DELHI

In the light of the recent Supreme Court judgement on reservation and promotions, and the government's reaction to it, Lok Janshakti Party (LJP) President Chirag Paswan has reiterated the need for an Indian Judicial Service sensitive to the needs of the SC/ST and OBC communities.

ment will once again step in. Minister for Social Justice Thawarchand Gehlot has proactively placed a statement in Parliament which reflects that the national government is working towards taking a corrective measure.

Isn't there a systematic flaw if repeatedly such judgements come and the government is found wanting in opposing it?

■ Yes, there is a problem. The bigger problem lies with the judiciary itself.

The Lok Janshakti Party has been demanding the setting up of an Indian Judicial Service. Such judgements reflect that the courts don't relate to problems of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. They just don't realize the significance of reservation.

There is hardly any representation from these communities in the higher judiciary. An Indian Judicial Service, with reservation for SC/ST, is the only way out. The government, too, should have been more pro-



Will the Delhi results have any impact on Bihar Assembly polls?

■ Not at all. In fact, I find it very funny the way senior Congress leaders are cheering Aam Aadmi Party while their own party has been wiped out. One regional party, in one particular State defeating the BJP can't be extrapolated to other States. Bihar will be fought on Bihar's own issues.

The LJP had supported the Citizenship (Amendment) Act. Have you revised your position on it considering widespread protests?

■ No. It was a well thought-out decision to support the CAA. Opposition is spreading a rumour that it's anti-Muslim, which is absolutely false.

The Act doesn't concern any citizen of this country. I agree with the protest against National Register for Citizens (NRC), but our PM has already clarified that it's not on the table. It was the Congress who linked the NRC with National Population Register first.

active in intervening when such cases are being heard.

You have repeatedly demanded an NDA co-ordination committee to keep allies in the loop, but the BJP is not listening to you. How important is such a committee?

■ A co-ordination committee could make things between the allies more cordial and easier. Mr. Amit Shah was handling two posts, being the National President of BJP and Home Minister; I understand how busy he was.

So to coordinate between all members of NDA wasn't very easy. At times we had communication gap which led to few nuisances.

The government has not yet filed a review petition or issued an ordinance to correct the Supreme Court's February 8 judgement which said reservation in promotion in public posts can't be claimed as fundamental right. Isn't the delay irking you?

■ I believe in our Prime Minister Narendra Modi. When a similar judgement came last time diluting the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Amendment Act of 2018, the Parliament session was extended for another day and the status quo was maintained by law.

So I believe the govern-

ECI lauds SC order on candidates' background

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

NEW DELHI

A day after the Supreme Court ordered political parties to publish details of candidates' criminal antecedents, the Election Commission of India (ECI) on Friday wel-

comed the ruling, saying it would reiterate its instructions to parties regarding the same.

"Election Commission of India wholeheartedly welcomes this landmark order," it said in a statement.

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU FISHERIES DEPARTMENT NATIONAL COMPETITIVE BIDDING(NCB)			
Dated : 13.02.2020 The Chief Engineer, Fisheries Department, Integrated Office Complex for Animal Husbandry and Fisheries Department, Nandanam, Chennai-600 035 invites sealed bids for the following works.			
Sl. No.	Name of work	Bid Security Rs.	Cost of Document Rs.
1.	Construction of Compound Wall at Nagapattinam Fishing Harbour in Nagapattinam District	4,60,000/-	15,000 + 1800 (GST)
2.	Establishment of Weighbridge with Infrastructure at Colachel Fishing Harbour in Kanyakumari District.	1,00,000/-	9,000 + 1080 (GST)
2 Months			
Date of Pre-bid meeting : 21.02.2020 Period for Availability of Bid : upto 5.45 p.m. on 27.02.2020 Last date of receipt of bids : 28.02.2020 upto 03.00 p.m. Date and Time of Opening of bids : 28.02.2020 at 03 A.M. Bid documents can be downloaded at free of cost through internet at the website www.tenders.tn.gov.in. DIPR / 902 / TENDER / 2020			
Chief Engineer, Fisheries Department, Chennai - 35			

Kerala Co-operative Milk Marketing Federation Ltd. Milma Bhavan, Pammal P.O, Thiruvananthapuram - 695004 Ph: 0471 2786415 to 416, E-mail: purchase@milma.com			
RE-TENDER FOR DAIRY CONSUMABLES			
KCMMF: PUR: DC: ET: 2020-21 15.02.2020			
Bids are invited through e-tenders for supply of Dairy Consumables for our Dairies. E-tenders are hosted in www.etenders.kerala.gov.in Last date for submission of offers is 24.02.2020. For more details, log on to www.etenders.kerala.gov.in or www.milma.com Managing Director.			

O/O. THE DIRECTOR WOMEN DEVELOPMENT AND CHILD WELFARE ANDHRA PRADESH STATE			
Jampani Towers, Lodge Centre Guntur - 522006 Phone No: 0863-2332587			
Corrigendum Notification No. ID2/2020, Dated 13-02-2020			
Corrigendum for the e-tender notification No. D2/2020 dated 24.01.2020 is issued by WD&CW department on supply of 9305 Water Filters to 91 ICDS Projects in 12 Districts of Andhra Pradesh from the Firms/ Organizations registered in INDIA.			
The Tender Document along with corrigendum is available for download at https://tender.approcurement.gov.in from 14-02-2020 - 02-00 pm to 27-02-2020 - 5:00 pm on payment of Rs.500/- (Rupees Five Hundred) through Demand Draft in favour of Director, Women Development & Child Welfare Department, A.P, Guntur from any nationalized Bank drawn at Guntur.			
Last date for submission of "e" Tenders is 27-02-2020 up to 05-00 PM. The "e" Tenders will be opened on 04-03-2020 at 09:30 AM in the Office of the Director, Women Development & Child Welfare Department, AP, Guntur in the presence of Tenderers or their representatives. For further details, contact O/o, the Director, WD&CW, Guntur over phone No.0863-2332587, Accounts Officer: 9440814406.			
DIPR 394PP/CL, Dt:14-02-2020			
Sd/- Kritika Shukla, Director			

YADAGIRIGUTTA TEMPLE DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY			
Tourism Plaza, 6-3-369, Greenlands, Begumpet, Hyderabad-500 016, Ph. 040-23400616			
Notification			
YTDA calls sealed bids from reputed firms / agencies, who are in concerned field for the following works to be taken up at Sri Lakshmi Narasimha Swamy Temple, Yadagirigutta, Yadadri-Bhongir District, Telangana State to reach undersigned on or before 22.02.2020. For details please visit website www.ytda.in. (1) Supplying and providing /fixing of Die-Cast of Aluminium-LM 6 Grade Decorative type railing and mandapams for queue line in Brahmotsavam area. (2) Supply and erection of Decorative Cast Iron lamp Poles.			
Sd/- Vice Chairman & Chief Executive Officer			

SHORT TERM TENDER NOTICE PUNJAB STATE GRAINS PROCUREMENT CORPORATION (PUNGRAIN) Anaj Bhawan, Sector-39C, Chandigarh			
E-Tender for Purchase of HDPE monofilament nets for RMS 2020-21			
online bids under two bid system i.e. Technical Bid and Financial Bid are invited for supply of HDPE monofilament nets to State Procurement Agencies for Storage of wheat during RMS 2020-21 in the State of Punjab. Bids can be submitted from 11:00 AM on 14.02.2020 till 05:00 PM on 21.02.2020 through e-tendering portal of Govt. of Punjab i.e., https://eproc.punjab.gov.in. Technical bids will be opened on 22.02.2020 at 10:00 A.M. in the committee Room, Anaj Bhawan, Sector-39C, Chandigarh in the presence of bidders who may wish to be present. The date and time of opening of financial bids will be notified to technically eligible bidders online. The detailed terms and conditions are also available on the website www.foodsupp.gov.in.			
Note : The cost of tender form is Rs.5000/-, non-refundable. The tenders will be accepted through e-Tendering only. Any further communication will be done through e-Tendering site in form of addendum / Corrigendum.			
DPR PB D-8693			
MANAGING DIRECTOR PUNGRAIN			

Assam party petitions UN on validity of CAA

'Plea in view of grave danger from Act'

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

GUWAHATI

They sought the intervention of the SPFII for considering the validity of the CAA under the spirit of Universal Declaration of Human Rights and for issuing refugee certificate to all eligible religiously-persecuted persons without any discrimination under the supervision of the UNHCR.

The Mancha asked the

UNHCR and SPFII to ensure that the language, culture, demographics and economic well-being of the indigenous population of Assam are protected as per the principles of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

The Mancha reminded the UN that India voted to adopt the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and was a signatory to a number of UN and world conventions on human rights, refugee issues and related matters although the country did not sign the 1951 Convention on Refugees and the 1967 Protocol.

The remaining seven were exonerated from paying the damages as the police could not provide evidence that they were present at the protest site in Khadra locality with "common object" on December 19, the notice said.

CAA protests: recovery notices issued

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

LUCKNOW

The court of Additional District Magistrate in Lucknow has issued notices to recover ₹21.76 lakh from 13 persons accused of damaging public and private property in the vandalism and arson that took place during protests against the Citizenship (Amendment) Act.

Fixing culpability of the 13 persons, ADM (Trans Gomti) Vishwa Bhushan Mishra has given them 30 days to deposit the penalty amount.

The district administration had issued notices to 20 persons to recover damage to property, but charges were fixed only against 13.

The remaining seven were exonerated from paying the damages as the police could not provide evidence that they were present at the protest site in Khadra locality with "common object" on December 19, the notice said.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA, DEPARTMENT OF SPACE
INDIAN SPACE RESEARCH ORGANISATION
U R RAO SATELLITE CENTRE
BENGALURU-560 017

Advt.No. URSC:01:2020

U R Rao Satellite Centre (URSC) Bengaluru, invites on-line applications for the following temporary posts, which are likely to

Virus inflicts growing toll on health workers

1,716 of them have been infected and six have died in China even as the total number of infections rose to 63,851

REUTERS
BEIJING

The new coronavirus has taken a growing toll of Chinese health workers on the front line of the fight to stop it, a top official said on Friday, as authorities reported more than 5,000 new cases, including more than 120 deaths.

China's National Health Commission said it had recorded 121 new deaths and 5,090 new coronavirus cases on the mainland on Thursday, taking the total number of infected to 63,851.

Some 55,748 people are being treated, while 1,380 people have died of the virus that emerged in December in Wuhan, capital of the central province of Hubei.

The latest toll takes account of some deaths that had been double counted in Hubei, the commission said.

The Chinese Health Commission Vice-Minister, Zeng Yixin, said 1,716 health workers had been infected and six had died as of Tuesday, with the number of infected staff rising.

"The duties of medical workers at the front are in-



Marriage story: A couple posing with their marriage certificates at a registry office on the occasion of Valentine's Day in Shanghai on Friday. • REUTERS

deed extremely heavy; their working and resting circumstances are limited, the psychological pressures are great, and the risk of infection is high," Mr. Zeng told a news conference.

Chinese officials and hospitals have repeatedly spoken of a shortage of protective equipment, including face masks.

The new figures for total infections gave no sign the outbreak was nearing a

peak, said Adam Kamradt-Scott, an infectious diseases expert at the Centre for International Security Studies at the University of Sydney.

Drastic measures

"While the Chinese authorities are doing their best to prevent the spread of the coronavirus, the fairly drastic measures they have implemented to date would appear to have been too little, too late," he said.

Chinese scientists are testing two antiviral drugs and preliminary results are due in weeks, while the head of a Wuhan hospital said plasma infusions from recovered patients had shown some encouraging preliminary results.

While the vast majority of infections and deaths have been in China, in particular Hubei, there have been nearly 450 cases in some 24 countries and territories out-

side mainland China, and three deaths. Japan confirmed its first coronavirus death on Thursday. One person has died in Hong Kong and one in the Philippines.

The biggest cluster of infections outside China has been on a cruise liner quarantined in a Japanese port, with 218 people on board confirmed as infected and taken to hospital.

On Friday, some of the ship's passengers were allowed to disembark – with priority for older passengers confined to windowless cabins – and complete their quarantine on shore.

There was good news for passengers on another cruise ship that was finally allowed to dock in Cambodia after being rejected by five countries over fears of the virus, even though no cases were reported on board.

The MS Westerdam, carrying 1,455 passengers and 802 crew, docked in Sihanoukville port late on Thursday. It had anchored offshore earlier to allow Cambodian officials to board and collect samples from passengers with any signs of illness.

Third Indian on ship infected

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
TOKYO

A third Indian crew on board the cruise ship Diamond Princess, off the Japanese coast, has tested positive for the novel coronavirus, the Indian Embassy in Japan said on Friday. Officials also confirmed that 218 people on the quarantined ship have been infected.

Egypt reports Africa's first case

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
CAIRO

Egypt's Health Ministry on Friday confirmed its first case of the novel coronavirus, making it the first in Africa. The nationality of the person was not given in the joint statement, which added that they had shown no "symptoms". The patient has been put into isolation in a hospital.



Gen. Shavendra Silva

division in the island's northern war-zone in the final months of the military offensive against Tamil Tiger rebels in 2009.

Rights groups say some 40,000 ethnic Tamils were killed in mass atrocities as government forces seized Sri Lanka's predominantly Tamil north.

The UN, in a report into the allegations, said Gen. Silva played a major role in orchestrating war crimes.

Mr. Pompeo nonetheless said that the United States hoped to maintain security cooperation with Sri Lanka, which last year was rocked by Easter Sunday bombings by Islamist extremists.

U.S. refuses entry to Sri Lankan Army chief

Move over 'war crimes' against Tamils

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
WASHINGTON

The U.S. said on Friday it would refuse entry to Sri Lanka's Army chief over "credible" evidence of human rights violations in 2009 during the final phase of the country's civil war.

Lieutenant General Shavendra Silva, whose appointment last year drew wide international criticism, will be ineligible to visit the U.S., as will his immediate family, Secretary of State Mike Pompeo said.

"The allegations of gross human rights violations against Shavendra Silva, documented by the UN and other organisations, are serious and credible," Mr. Pompeo said in a statement.

"We urge the Sri Lankan government to promote human rights, hold accountable individuals responsible for war crimes and human rights violations, advance security sector reform, and uphold its other commitments to pursue justice and reconciliation," he said.

Gen. Silva was the commanding officer of an Army

division in the island's northern war-zone in the final months of the military offensive against Tamil Tiger rebels in 2009.

Rights groups say some 40,000 ethnic Tamils were killed in mass atrocities as government forces seized Sri Lanka's predominantly Tamil north.

The UN, in a report into the allegations, said Gen. Silva played a major role in orchestrating war crimes.

Mr. Pompeo nonetheless said that the United States hoped to maintain security cooperation with Sri Lanka, which last year was rocked by Easter Sunday bombings by Islamist extremists.

ELSEWHERE



Erdogan raises Kashmir issue in Pak. Parliament

Notwithstanding India's objection, Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan on Friday raked up the Kashmir issue in Pakistan Parliament, vowing that Ankara will support Pakistan's stand. On an official visit to Pakistan, Mr. Erdogan said that Turkey will back Pakistan in its efforts to come out of the "grey list" of the Financial Action Task Force (FATF). RTI

Biggest jump in world defence spending: study

MUNICH

Global spending on defence rose by four percent in 2019, the largest growth in 10 years, led by big increases in the U.S. and China, says the *Military Balance* report by the International Institute for Strategic Studies. Both the U.S. and China increased spending by 6.6%, the report said, to \$684.6 billion and \$181.1 billion respectively. AFP

48 Rohingya arrested off Myanmar coast

PATHEIN

Nearly 50 Rohingya Muslims have been detained at sea by Myanmar's Navy, the latest from the persecuted minority to be caught trying to flee camps in Bangladesh and Myanmar's restive Rakhine state. They were likely heading to Malaysia or Indonesia, predominantly Muslim countries. AFP

U.S. says Huawei stole trade secrets, concealed N. Korea links

ASSOCIATED PRESS
WASHINGTON

The U.S. Justice Department has added new criminal charges against Chinese tech giant Huawei and several subsidiaries, accusing the company of a brazen scheme to steal trade secrets from competitors in America, federal prosecutors announced on Thursday.

The new indictment also alleges the company provid-

ed surveillance equipment to Iran that enabled the monitoring of protesters during 2009 anti-government demonstrations in Tehran, and that it sought to conceal business that it was doing in North Korea despite economic sanctions there.

The firm disputed the allegations. China's Foreign Ministry accused the U.S. government of "economic bullying" and improperly using

security allegations to "oppress Chinese companies."

The superseding indictment, brought by federal prosecutors in Brooklyn, adds charges of racketeering and conspiracy to steal trade secrets to an existing criminal case in New York, where the company already faces charges of lying to banks about deals that violated economic sanctions against Iran.

Iranian forces and allied militia play a key role.

According to the Syrian Observatory for Human Rights, the strikes launched late on Thursday hit military targets in the area of the international airport.

Rami Abdel Rahman, the director of the Britain-based Observatory, said the dead

Baby born on boat among 87 saved off Canary Islands

They were all migrants from Africa

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
MADRID

A baby born on a rickety boat bound for the Canary Islands was one of 87 migrants picked up by rescuers overnight, Spanish rescuers said on Friday.

The migrants, all of them from sub-Saharan Africa, were travelling on three boats which were picked up just south of the island of Gran Canaria, a spokesman for the Salvamento Maritimo rescue service said.

"A new-born baby was rescued and it seems that the mother gave birth in the boat just beforehand," she said, without specifying the sex of the infant but saying

both mother and baby were "doing well".

There were 54 people in the first two boats which were picked up on Thursday evening about 60 nautical miles south of Gran Canaria, and rescuers came across another vessel carrying 33 people as they were just off the island, she said.

Among those rescued were 30 women, six babies and four other children, while the rest were men, with all taken to the southern port of Arguinerin, she said.

In early January, another baby born aboard a makeshift boat carrying 43 migrants did not survive the journey and was declared dead.

The deal could lead to withdrawal of American troops

come as early as the weekend.

A senior U.S. official said on Friday the U.S. and the Taliban have reached a truce agreement that will take effect "very soon" and could lead to withdrawals of American troops from Afghanistan.

The official said the agreement for a seven-day "reduction in violence" to be followed by the start of all-Afghan peace talks within 10 days is "very specific" and covers the entire country, including Afghan government forces.

There were indications a formal announcement could

initiate peace negotiations that include all Afghan sides.

The official, who was not authorised to publicly discuss the matter and spoke on the condition of anonymity, said the Taliban had committed to a halt in roadside and suicide bombings as well as rocket attacks. The official said the U.S. would monitor the truce and determine if there were any violations.

Reduction in violence' Should the Taliban comply, the "reduction in violence" agreement would be followed by the signing of an agreement that would include

President Donald Trump previously called off the peace talks because of an attack that killed two Americans.

U.S., Taliban reach Afghanistan truce agreement, says official

The deal could lead to withdrawal of American troops

come as early as the weekend.

The official, who was not authorised to publicly discuss the matter and spoke on the condition of anonymity, said the Taliban had committed to a halt in roadside and suicide bombings as well as rocket attacks. The official said the U.S. would monitor the truce and determine if there were any violations.

Reduction in violence' Should the Taliban comply, the "reduction in violence" agreement would be followed by the signing of an agreement that would include

President Donald Trump previously called off the peace talks because of an attack that killed two Americans.

FAITH

Patient like the earth

The earth supports every form of life, whether plant, animal or human, and sustains all life, and so it becomes a point of comparison for those who want to speak about the virtues of patience and forbearance. A patient man is compared to Goddess Earth, said Malayanam, in a discourse.

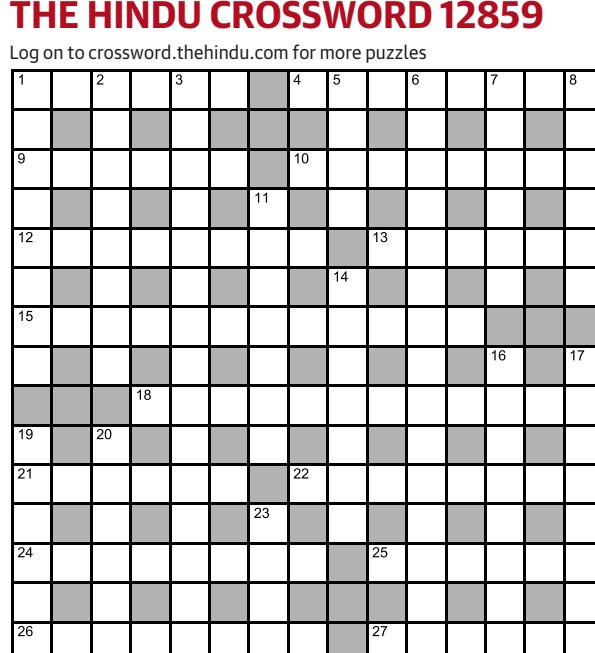
Thiruvalluvar says in verse 151 that to quietly bear criticism is to be like the earth. We dig the earth with sharp instruments. But does the earth retaliate? No, she continues to support us. Thiruvalluvar says a person who is charitable towards those who hurt him with their words is like the earth, which supports even those who hurt her. A commonly heard saying in Tamil is that a person who uselessly whiles away his time is a burden to the earth.

Thiruvalluvar also talks about those who burden the earth by their mere presence, in verse 570. Here, he talks about a ruthless ruler and his unscrupulous, uneducated ministers. Different commentators have interpreted this verse differently. Parimelazhagar says the uneducated ministers who advise the ruler are a burden to the earth. Another commentator, Pari Perumal, has a different take. He says the ruler who has chosen uneducated ministers to advise him is the one who burdens the earth.

Another commentator, called Paridhiyar, gives a detailed explanation of this verse. It is said that the earth has eight mountains and seven oceans. These are not burdensome to the earth. But the king who chooses unintelligent ministers is burdensome to the earth. In verse 572, Thiruvalluvar says that those without sympathy towards others are a burden to the earth. In verse 1003, Thiruvalluvar says that those who are keen to amass wealth, but are not interested in acquiring fame, are a burden to the earth.

THE HINDU CROSSWORD 12859

Log on to crossword.thehindu.com for more puzzles



ACROSS

- 1 Warehouse – work in shift, perhaps (6)
- 4 Reason to lean over on the elevated road (8)
- 9 Divulge self admission by a character (6)
- 10 Soldiers on top of a defensive position – fire (8)
- 21 Despicable characters, paid off by well known people (6)
- 22 Ale guzzling crazy fox (8)
- 24 After a drink at home, had something to contemplate (8)
- 25 In the game, no one is dealing (6)
- 26 Bedlamp inside is spoilt (8)
- 27 Egoist goes out in smoke (6)
- 31 Coming on? On the contrary running away (5,3)
- 32 Starts picking red and violet, truly corrupt (8)

(set by Arden)

- 3 Branching them, we are off – not in the game (7,3,5)
- 5 Top copy by Times (4)
- 6 I think resolving makes him a shy person (9,6)
- 7 Deliberate on the need to be on top (6)
- 8 Chop fodder, it's all up to God (6)
- 11 Had painting of a flower all around by agreement (7)
- 14 Some are to be kept out on road, he decides (7)
- 16 Considering the boss is on the way out, day is lost (8)
- 17 Put off by an ace villain (8)
- 19 Everyone in India has, say a Beetle (6)
- 20 Old boys get the central ball pump unit (6)
- 23 Complaint left out of fashion (4)

SUDOKU



DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★

Solution to puzzle 12858



Solution to yesterday's Sudoku



MARKET WATCH

	PRICE	CHANGE
Sensex	41257	-0.48
US Dollar	71.37	-0.08
Gold	41481	-0.007
Brent oil	57.27	1.59

NIFTY 50

	PRICE	CHANGE
Adani Ports	366.85	-2.25
Asian Paints	1877.05	3.00
Axist Bank	736.50	-11.30
Bajaj Auto	3146.40	10.00
Bajaj Finserv	9690.50	-26.70
Bajaj Finance	4781.75	-12.60
Bharti Airtel	565.00	25.05
BPCL	476.45	7.45
Britannia Ind	3096.65	-38.55
Cipla	447.10	3.70
Coal India	174.75	-3.05
Dr Reddy's Lab	3304.30	-20.30
Eicher Motors	18703.55	-651.75
GAIL (India)	122.55	-7.75
Grasim Ind	743.05	-9.20
HCL Tech	621.65	9.20
HDFC	2401.75	-1.90
HDFC Bank	1219.35	-22.05
Hero MotoCorp	2356.50	-52.45
Hindalco	194.00	-1.25
Hind Unilever	2255.05	-28.35
ICICI Bank	545.80	4.80
IndusInd Bank	1176.00	-54.75
Bharti Infralet	235.45	-9.40
Infosys	786.45	-5.80
Indian Oil Corp	115.10	0.35
ITC	207.70	-4.20
JSW Steel	289.15	-4.20
Kotak Bank	1680.95	-8.85
L&T	1295.15	2.90
M&M	523.00	-10.60
Maruti Suzuki	6913.80	-91.25
Nestle India Ltd.	16356.45	-55.75
NTPC	112.70	-2.45
ONGC	103.30	-2.05
PowerGrid Corp	184.10	-6.45
Reliance Ind	1487.60	13.45
State Bank	319.40	-8.05
Sun Pharma	418.55	-0.40
Tata Motors	169.10	-0.40
Tata Steel	343.55	-6.70
TCS	2184.20	-7.75
Tech Mahindra	834.15	6.15
Titan	1293.45	-4.65
UltraTech Cement	4434.35	-16.15
UPL	591.65	12.90
Vedanta	141.10	-1.40
Wipro	242.90	-0.85
YES Bank	38.90	1.70
Zee Entertainment	238.75	1.60

EXCHANGE RATES

CURRENCY	TT BUY	TT SELL
US Dollar	71.16	71.48
Euro	77.11	77.46
British Pound	92.73	93.15
Japanese Yen (100)	64.78	65.09
Chinese Yuan	10.18	10.23
Swiss Franc	72.49	72.81
Singapore Dollar	51.13	51.37
Canadian Dollar	53.71	53.95
Malaysian Ringgit	17.17	17.27

Source: Indian Bank

Duty cut to revive horse breeding

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
CHENNAI
The National Horse Breeding Society of India has thanked the Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman for taking steps to help revive the horse-breeding industry and making 'Make in India' a possibility for Indian breeders.

The Finance Minister, while presenting the Budget on February 1, had announced a reduction of customs duty for import of pure-line breeding stock.

While thanking the Finance Minister, Ameta Mehra, council member, National Horse Breeding Society of India, and MD, Usha Stud Farms, said the reduction in customs duty would enable breeders to buy better quality parentage breeding stallions and broodmares to produce young stock that had the potential for exports. Besides, it would also make Indian breeding competitive globally. According to Ms. Mehra, several neighbouring countries were buying a large number of expensive horses from Australia, the EU and Japan. "There is a large untapped export potential."

Bharti to make ₹10,000 cr. part payment in AGR dues by Feb. 20

Promises to clear remaining dues 'well before' March 17, the date of next hearing

YUTHIKA BHARGAVA

NEW DELHI

Bharti Airtel on Friday committed to deposit a part payment of ₹10,000 crore as part of its adjusted gross revenue-related dues by February 20, 2020, and promised to clear the remaining dues 'well before' March 17, the next date of the court hearing on the issue.

This follows the Supreme Court's Friday order asking the managing directors and directors of companies, including telecom majors Bharti Airtel and Vodafone Idea, to show cause as to why contempt proceedings should not be initiated against them for failing to pay even a 'single penny' to the government despite an October 2019 judgment of



Mounting pile: Bharti Airtel's liabilities add up to nearly ₹35,586 cr., of which ₹21,682 cr. is for licence fees. ■ REUTERS

the apex court. "In compliance with the judgment of the Hon'ble Supreme Court and their direction today, we shall deposit a sum of ₹10,000 crore [on account] by February 20, 2020, on behalf of the Bharti Group companies (Bharti Airtel,

Bharti Hexacom and Telenor India)," the company said in a letter addressed to the Member (Finance) at the Telecom Ministry.

Bharti Airtel's liabilities add up to nearly ₹35,586 crore, of which ₹21,682 crore is towards licence fee and

₹13,904.01 crore, SUC dues (excluding dues of Telenor and Tata Teleservices).

'Complicated process'
In the letter, accessed by *The Hindu*, Bharti Airtel said as per directions from the department, the firm was in the process of completing the self-assessment exercise. "You will appreciate this is a complicated process, covering 22 circles, multiple licences and a substantial period of time and hence, is time consuming," it said.

The company added that it was confident of completing the self-assessment exercise shortly and "make the balance payment, well before the next date of hearing fixed by the Hon'ble Supreme Court."

SpiceJet gets 'interim offer' from Boeing

Claims ₹537 cr. citing grounded craft

JAGRITI CHANDRA

NEW DELHI

Low-cost carrier SpiceJet has received an 'interim offer of compensation' from Boeing for the grounding of its 13 Boeing 737 MAX planes following a global ban on the aircraft, the airline said on Friday.

The airline had drawn up a claim of ₹537 crore since the grounding of the aircraft in March 2019. The claim is for expenses incurred on lease rentals and other identified expenses relating to the Boeing 737 MAX aircraft. The update on the status of compensation was part of the airline's financial results for the quarter ended December 31, 2019.

"Based on current stage of discussions with, and considering the interim offer of compensation received from the aircraft manufacturer, its own assessment and legal advice obtained by the company, management is confident of collection of the above income recognised by the company," as per the carrier's comments on the financial statement.

In a statement, the carrier said it had recorded a 33% rise in profit to ₹73.2 crore.

"Had the company not recognised such other income, the reported profit for the quarter would have been a loss of ₹1,73,195 crore," said the independent auditor's review report made to the board, referring to the compensation claim the airline expects to make to Boeing.

Exports decline 1.66% in January

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

NEW DELHI

The country's exports dropped 1.66% to \$25.97 billion in January, the sixth straight month of contraction, on account of a significant fall in shipments of petroleum, plastic, carpets, gems and jewellery, and leather products.

Imports also fell for the eighth consecutive month, down 0.75% to \$41.14 billion in January, widening the trade deficit to a seven-month high of \$15.17 billion, according to government data on Friday. Gold imports shrunk by about 9% to \$1.58 billion during the month under review.

Last time, it was in June 2019 when trade deficit aggregated at \$15.28 billion.

Of the 30 key sectors, as many as 18 segments showed negative growth in exports during the month.

Karnataka HC stays CCI order against Amazon, Flipkart

Centre probing FEMA violation charge against e-com giants'

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

BENGALURU

In a relief to e-commerce majors Amazon and Flipkart, the Karnataka High Court on Friday stayed the Competition Commission of India's order directing an investigation through its Director General into whether they had entered into anti-competitive agreements in violation of the provisions of the Competition Act 2002.

Justice P.S. Dinesh Kumar passed the interim order while admitting a petition filed by Amazon Seller Services Pvt. Ltd., and stayed the January 13 order of the CCI. The CCI had ordered the probe on a complaint by Delhi Vyapar Mahasangh



(DVM), which had alleged that Amazon and Flipkart were giving preference to select sellers and offering deep discounts by indulging in anti-competitive agreements.

Noting that the FDI policy prohibits an investor from indulging in deep discounts, giving preference to sellers, etc., on online marketplace, and that the Centre had initiated a probe under FEMA to ascertain whether the allegation of violation of conditions was true, the court said the complaint by DVM before the CCI too was on the same issue.

The CCI, the court said, had not properly deliberated the issues to come to a conclusion that there exists a case to conduct an investigation as it had concluded there was a possibility of an exclusive partnership between smartphone makers and e-commerce platforms though the agreements cited in the complaint were between the online platforms and the sellers.

On the measures to be taken to attract investments in textiles and clothing, he said the need for cost effectiveness is a major challenge.

One factor affecting cost effectiveness is lack of scale. "New industries should look at scale. The Ministry plans to develop 10 mega textile parks. Each one will be an integrated park. We hope to bring some economies of scale with this. India should be a destination for Foreign Direct Investment in textiles. We need good infrastructure for it." The Ministry is talking to the States and a meeting

will be held on Monday too.

Any State which has minimum 1,000 acres ready for the park will be supported to develop it, he said.

The Secretary was hopeful of textile and garment exports increasing this financial year compared to last year, when it was roughly \$38 billion. Indian exporters are largely cotton based.

"We should move to MMF (mannanoid fibre). If Indian exports in MMF grow to the level of cotton (ie, the share of Indian cotton product exports in global trade) the overall exports will increase by \$20-25 billion," he said.

Another thrust area will be technical textiles. The Cabinet is expected to approve the National Technical Textiles Mission, announced in the Budget, soon. It will be rolled out in a couple of months.

"We are going to spend ₹1,000 crore in developing raw materials for technical textiles; research associations will be asked to produce applications for these."

Overzealous interpretation of law poses risk to independent directors'

Penalising them for a company's action would be counter-productive: Sinha

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

MUMBAI

Overzealous interpretation of the law regarding the duties and responsibilities of independent directors will make such directors risk-averse and the companies will suffer in the process, said former SEBI chairman U.K. Sinha.

'Problem area'
"This is a problematic area... I think the balance in law is there... Unfortunately, we had some examples in the last three years where there have been overzealous interpretations. And that has led to a problem," Mr. Sinha said on the sidelines of the CII Corporate Governance Summit.

The former SEBI chief further said that the rules

would be counter-productive, he said. This assumes significance as there had been a few instances wherein warrants had been issued against independent directors for decisions taken by the board at a time when the director was not even on the board of the company.

HDFC chief executive officer Keki Mistry, while speaking at the event, said that independent directors needed some amount of immunity and should not be held accountable for the company's actions that are beyond the control of such directors.

"Some immunity and protection should be given to independent directors," Mr. Mistry said.

Further, he spoke about the increasing influence of

shareholder activism, which at times, he said, even tried to influence board decisions.

He highlighted a few instances wherein such activists objected to the directorship of long-serving individuals, including founders, on the board of the company.

Whistle-blowers

While stressing that genuine whistle-blowers needed to be rewarded and protected, he said that those who tried to misuse the system should be penalised.

Mr. Mistry also highlighted the role of proxy advisory firms, which, according to him, would become more 'pronounced' in the coming days making companies more careful in terms of corporate governance.

SC refuses to extend BS-IV deadline

LEGAL CORRESP

SHEFALEE VASUDEV

For a story published last year in the *New York Times*, designer Wendell Rodricks, now no more, spoke mystically to journalist Sarah Khan about the house he had lived in for the last 24 years with his partner Jerome Marrel. A 400-year-old structure, formerly called Casa Dona Maria in Colvale, Goa, it had belonged to a lady named Olinda Braganza.

Wendell had seen the house in a dream and would later visit it to take Mrs Braganza around her own home and narrate intimate details that no one could have known. No one but someone who had lived there before. In spirit or in the flesh. Some years later, Braganza wanted to sell the house, but only to Wendell. "A dream leads to a house. A house leads to a book. A book leads to a museum," Wendell told Khan. "That doesn't happen often in people's lives unless *dharma* decides it."

Wendell often spoke about dreams intersecting realities. Of the fashion industry and Moda Goa, the museum of Goan costumes and jewelry from pre-Portuguese rule to now, that he was painstakingly and passionately putting together over the years. He would later bring in a company of architects, an archiving firm and a board of advisors. Brick by breath, ebb or flow, with penitent patience and the perseverance of a man possessed.

State of consciousness

Where is Wendell now, three days after his untimely passing at 59 years? A death that shocked the Indian fashion industry, leaving many wrapped in dark grief. We may not know where exactly he rests but by existentialist rumination, he will be in his house-home forever – Casa Wendell and Jerome in Colvale. In memories, laughter, warmth, shared or/and secret worries, photos, collectibles, in the silent wails of his bereft pet dogs (some who are dead, others alive), in the emotions of his friends who will visit Jerome.

In spirit, Wendell will also transit to Moda Goa that will house more than 800-plus costumes and articles he collected. When the doors finally open, visitors will feel and miss Wendell.

Nobody really dies as long as they live in the memories of those alive. Now though, while he is presumably in 'bardo', the intermediary state between death and nirvana, we must rewind thoughts. Bardo, described in Tibetan Buddhist philosophy as a transitional stage between states of consciousness, resembles the idea of the Christian purgatory. "A temporary state after physical death for expiatory purification." Not everyone agrees with these post-mortem projections.

However, in the days soon after a death, a person is remembered, eulogised, loved,

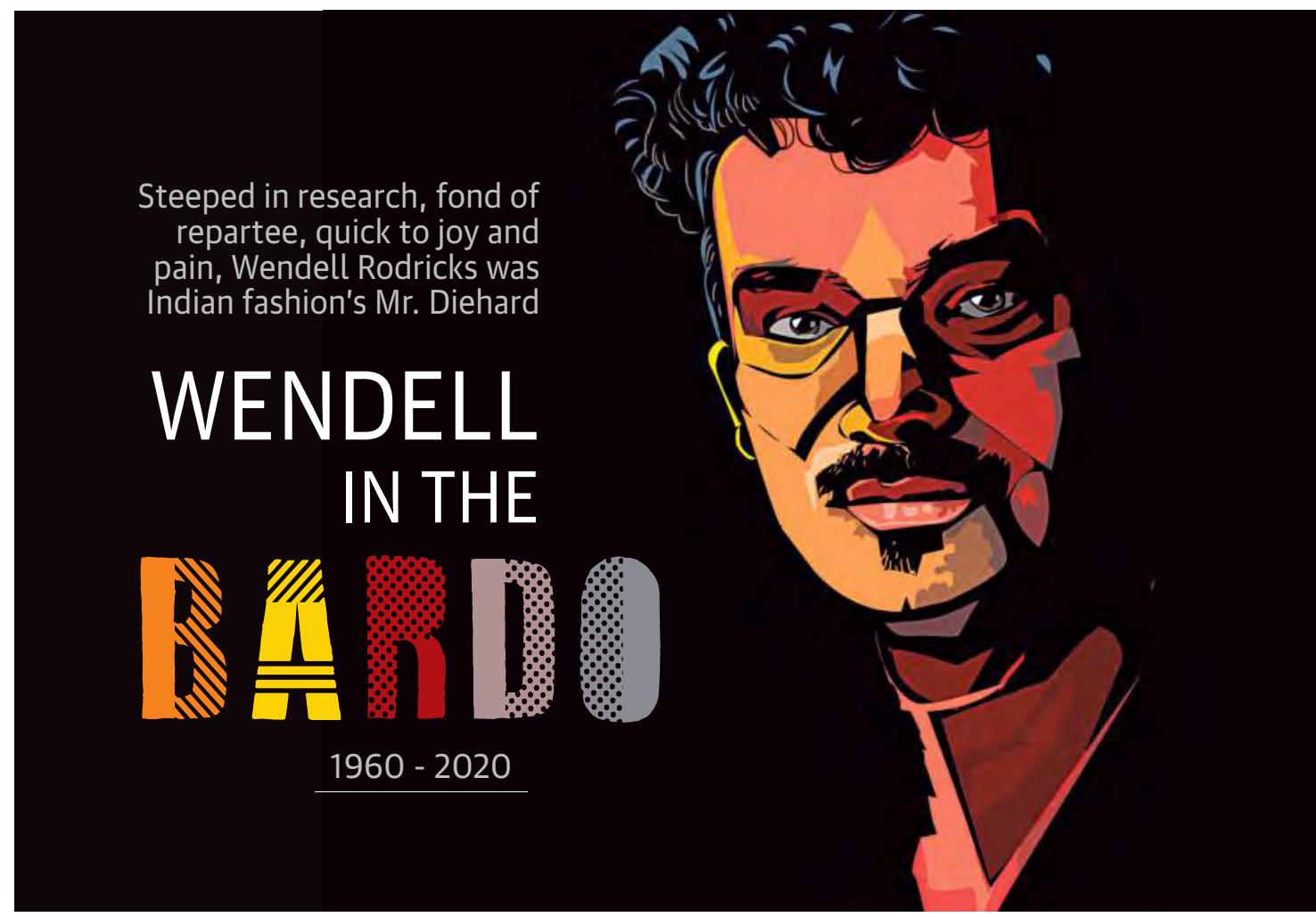


ILLUSTRATION: DEEPAK HARICHANDAN

missed and talked about persistently. That places a person in a transitional state. Wendell is in the media and in minds. What he stood for, what shaped him, who he shaped, his whims and idiosyncrasies, his devotion to detail and the extraordinary hard work he put in becoming the man he wanted to be.

A friend who has eclipsed, a mentor who taught debutants the shallows and depths of fashion, an ordinary man who loved food, then dieted and exercised, and loved East European cruises. Who lost no opportunity to proclaim love for his partner Jerome. A designer who created anti-embellished textiles in a country that worships bling. Who spoke for sustainability, simplicity in design and became the most known cultural ambassador of Goa. Who spoke his mind and bared his heart.

Wendell is in bardo because all these things are up in the air. Including the factoid that among Moda Goa's collections is a seventh

century Apsara found in a Colvale field where a Buddhist monastery once stood.

Man with many hats

I spent much of last night, unusually awake, burrowing into the transitional complexity of this theme to locate Wendell's relevance in Indian fashion. The idea is not unique. I have been morbidly fascinated with death states since childhood due to my writer father's melancholic personality and his death dialogues.

That was why I read and reread George Saunders' 2017 Man Booker-winning novel, *Lincoln in the Bardo*, with deep interest.

It surprises me in the

Wendell will be in his house-home forever – in memories, laughter, photos, in the emotions of his friends who will visit

research of my own work that a large of number of subjects I explored over the last two decades as a fashion journalist led me to Wendell now and again. Gay rights and fashion or unfashion. Size charts in India, the downsides and triumphs of modelling, his discovery of some of India's top glamour names, textile innovation, authoring books, winning the Padma Shri in 2014. Sending out the reimagined Kunbi sari on the ramp on actor-model Lisa Ray, who was recovering from multiple myeloma. He held back tears when veteran crafts practitioner Jasleen Dhamija (with actor Nandita Das) spoke about the Kunbi project (a loom and weaver revival project that, from 2012, continued at the government polytechnic in Panjim) at the then Wills India Fashion Week in 2010 in Delhi.

"This is not about commercial gain. Sometimes fashion needs to distance itself from finance that it feeds on so voraciously. When you see a Louis Vuitton or a Hermes Birkin bag, you think of money. When you see the Kunbi sari, you see a culture and a tribe," he told me for a story for *The Indian Express*.

Then there was an offbeat story on secret couture owned by Indians for *Mint Lounge*. I have no idea why I reached out to Wendell.

However, there he was talking about the clothes and accessories he was collecting for Moda Goa with pieces from private collections. It included a gold embroidered Bishop's mitre, a gold coin pendant that dated back to the Knights of Malta circa 1500s, garments and jewellery from the last century.

Conversations would plod on, on the phone and in person. He would continue to send links to new fashion films, news and books via email. I enjoyed his witty, ironic, sometimes sardonic assessments of fashion as celebrity theatre. I loved the way he dressed his models but did not always admire how he undressed his remarks on social media.

Wendell is in bardo as these thoughts have bubbled up in no chronological order. Must have, in other minds too.

With charm in plenty

A poignant one springs from 2015. My close friend, Sharda Ugra, a well-known sports journalist and I visited Wendell and Jerome at their Colvale residence for dinner. Earlier that day, I had picked up my long-ordered Kunbi sari from Wendell's Retreat & Style store in Panjim, but didn't have a white petticoat to do justice to its white field. I wore it with a red blouse and a dark petticoat. Sharda wore a hand-blocked-printed sari.

We arrived, excited and mismatched. The house is built on different floor levels with an architectural grammar that compels you to look around to orient yourself. The whisky was fabulous, the dogs were delightful, and the irresistible Jerome in a checked lungi was just the kind of husband material one would need to make a case for marriage.

I felt lightheaded and funny. Sharda was in great spirits, too. Wendell and Jerome spoke cricket with her and fashion with me. Life and death, Rekha and Sachin Tendulkar, Goa and Paris, masala mussels, multiple sclerosis, his muse Malaika Arora, books and bum trips, it all came up. Wendell talked about the "smallness" of two inches that makes women go mad if they gain that extra and how his fashion teacher in France, who called him "Mr. Rodriguez," asked him to design clothes for women who actually have hips.

Later that year, the hand-signed New Year card Jerome and Wendell would always send arrived with warm adjectives. An email preceded that. "Take care of the Kunbi. Cool wash on low spin short cycle. And don't tear the *manjista* strips for a wound. Wear with the happiness it was woven with..." wrote Wendell. *Manjista*, the red vegetable dye, is derived from a plant with healing properties according to Ayurveda. Quick to hurt from fashion industry barbs as to healing and moving on, the guru of persistence, Wendell Rodricks was Indian fashion's Mr Diehard.

Then God cast the die.

Shefalee Vasudev is editor of The Voice of Fashion.

Gary Foulkes

from the U.K.,
February 15



He's here as a part of All Things Nice and DLF's initiative to introduce Michelin star chefs to a Delhi audience

"It's going to sound like a cliche, but I love Indian food," says Gary Foulkes, who chefs at the Michelin-star Angler in London. On his day off, he and his family enjoy spicy food, so it's often Indian or Thai. It's often Brigadiers, Gunpowder, and Trishna in London.

This is Gary's third visit to India; he stayed here the longest when on a three-year trip around the world with his wife. "Most of my inspiration comes from travel," he says. He picks up the nuances of ingredients, and uses them for their flavour profiles, without actually cooking that cuisine. For instance, he'll infuse curry leaf into a roasted cauliflower with cashewnut milk and curd, to give it a different "flavour spectrum". There's also a cashewnut pesto he does, with curry leaves, salt, pepper, and olive oil. His style of cooking he says, is "tasty, light, rooted in classic cooking techniques but delivered in a modern way, but it's all about flavour." At his dinner, "Expect big flavour, presentation – it's very important to me that food looks as good as it tastes. It should be delicious," he says. While his king fish and lamb will be similar, the menu is based around what's of prime quality in India. (In photo: Monkfish)



At Setz, DLF Emporio, ₹6,500 for a five-course dinner with wine, 8 p.m.

Three's a charm

Over this weekend, Delhi will see three chefs who've attained celebrity status, do ticketed events

SUNALINI MATHEW

Marco Pierre White

from the U.K., February 15, 16

As a part of Delhi's first *World on a Plate*, a food festival now in its fifth edition that facilitates people's access to international chefs

On his third visit to the country (his first two were also a part of *World on a Plate*), Marco Pierre White will be doing a masterclass helping people cook a saffron risotto with vegetable stock. "It's not about teaching people. It's about giving people insights – insights into my world. In India you eat lots of rice, and it's vegetarian," he says, meaning everyone will have a taste of the food.

The class will have White engage with people in a conversation, as he invites people to cook with him, sharing the principles of making a risotto. "Once you learn the principles, then you can create your own flavours."

Known for being the youngest chef to have three Michelin stars and then returning them later, White who was called "the original bad boy of British cooking" by The Telegraph, is relaxed and feels he's almost on holiday in India. "This morning they made me the most delicious dosa," he says, adding that Indian cuisine's time is yet to come. "People in India have given me more than I have given India. In India, they don't try to impress you."

(In photo: White saffron risotto)

At the Philips Taste Theatre, DLF Avenue, Saket; on February 15th at 5 p.m., on February 16 at 3 p.m., ₹7,500 for all masterclasses on both days



Peter Kuruvita

from Australia,
February 15



He's here to kick off *Table Stories*, a Delhi-based pop-up, by Foodink Expeditions and Roseate Hotels & Resorts, which will bring to the city

11 chefs every two weeks, upto May 10th

He calls himself a chef, restauranteur, TV presenter, author, consultant, surfer, fisherman and family man, and tells stories that are an amalgamation of all. At a preview, he goes from person to person, pouring the coconut-based sauce onto the Snapper, as he talks of his of his grandmother's kitchen, his own childhood in Sri Lanka, and his oldest son of three taking part in a surfing competition. Peter Kuruvita pulls up memories easily. Of his fondest food memory, he says it'd have to be "My Aunty Padm's breadfruit curry. She'll still make it when she knows I'm coming. It's just rich and creamy, nutritious, satisfying – food filled with memories."

His life has been touched by the food of the islands: Sri Lanka, where he spent his growing-up years; Australia that he's made home; and Fiji, where his wife comes from.

"The ocean is my soul; it's a part of me," says the chef, whose Noosa Beach House that has a Chef Hat (Australia's version of a Michelin star) is based around his cooking style.

His dinner is about the sea, with crab, fish, and forming its core, with ingredients from the tropics: coconut, palm treacle, pineapple, tamarind. He describes his food as using the freshest ingredients from not more than 200 km away, modern, with a Sri Lankan twist. His butter-poached crab and beetroot curry are dishes to look forward to. (In photo: Beetroot Curry with Pickled Red Onion)

At The Roseate, NH 8, D Block, Samalka; ₹6,000 upwards, for a seven-course dinner, 8 p.m.

THE DIGEST

Udaipur Tales

Every country and region has its own form of storytelling, and at the third edition of this annual festival, children and adults alike can experience the diversity of this artform. Founded by Sushmita Singha and Salil Bhandari, the aim is to introduce new storytellers each year. "Last year, we had a Gond artist telling stories through his paintings. This time, we have representation from South Africa and Korea, and poetic and dance-based narrations from India," says Singha.

The main target audience are youth and adults. More nuanced storytelling patterns like *Kissa Gori* (a style popular during the time of Hindi-Urdu writer Munshi Premchand) and satire are on the cards.

"We lose the art of listening to stories as we grow up. We want to bring back the habit. Plus, there is the nostalgia..." explains Singha. Other styles include Dastangoi, Kathak ballet, Sufi and ballad singing.

On Friday and Saturday morning, there will be sessions for children, from 10.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. The line-up includes Bongwsa Kotta Ramushwana with stories from South Africa, mythological stories by Usha Venkataraman and mimicry by Vilas Janve. On the sidelines, are food stalls, handicraft stores, painting classes and music.

At Park Exotica Resort, Opposite Shilparamam, Udaipur. From February 21 to 23, 10.30 a.m. to 9 p.m. Free entry. Details on Udaipurtales.com

5 EVENTS WORTH YOUR WHILE



RETAIL

Handicraft

The Kutch Craft Collective has organised its first exhibition that showcases curated textile and non-textile craft products from the Kutch region. This three-day exhibition, on till 16th February, will offer a range of products for sale which include artisanal sarees, handloom and printed fabrics, and lifestyle products.

VENUE: The Aga Khan Hall, Bhagwan Das Road

TIME: 10 a.m. - 7:30 p.m.



EXHIBITION

Paintings

Artist Sabrina Gill is showcasing her solo show of paintings titled *A Melody in Colour* at India Habitat Centre. It is a collection of portraiture and landscapes on different media. The compositions are realistic in style and most of her work reflects human emotions with beauty as the central theme.

VENUE: Convention Center Foyer, IHC

TIME: 10 a.m. - 8 p.m.



FASHION

Design fest

The seventh edition of the Windmill Design Festival starts today. This two-day event will feature a mix of designers showcasing products for home. This includes accessories, furniture, furnishings, and tableware. Some of the featured designers at the festival include Cevvanti, Clay Story and Design Alchemy.

VENUE: Windmill Place, Aya Nagar

TIME: 10 a.m. - 7 p.m.



CONCERT

Snake charmers

India International Centre is hosting Sadabahar Aravalli, a concert by *saperas* (former snake charmers), this evening. They use the *been*, a wind instrument made from bottle gourd with bamboo pipes, and the *tumba*, a percussion accompaniment for making sound. The event will be narrated by Shamshad Khan Bahurupiya.

VENUE: Gandhi-King Memorial Plaza, IIC

TIME: 5 p.m.



FAIR

Fundraiser

Nourish Organics presents its first edition of Get Nourished Festival, a fundraiser event to support learning and development for specially abled children. This two-day festival, which begins today, is curated with the underlying theme of health and wellness. It will have fitness activities, food, art, and shopping outlets.

VENUE: NTH complex, Qutab institutional area

TIME: 11 a.m. - 10 p.m.

FILM REVIEWS

What not to do on Valentine's Day

With *Love Aaj Kal*, it's apparent that it's time Imtiaz Ali discovered a new template for romance

NAMRATA JOSHI

There are some defined elements to identify any Imtiaz Ali film with. Journeys to self-discovery and true love has been a perennial metaphor, in films like *Socha Na Tha, Jab We Met* and *Jab Harry Met Sejal*.

Another arc is that of commitment-phobia, the angst accompanying the now-on-off relationship and the idea of a robotic work self pitted against one's true actualisation.

His new 2020 release, *Love Aaj Kal* follows the latter trope. It is a marriage of Ali's own 2009 *Love Aaj Kal* and the more recent *Tamasha*. Two love stories – one set in 1990 Udaipur, the other in 2020 Delhi – cross paths, the wisdom drawn from the one in the past, guiding the future course of the other. Interestingly, Ali situates the two at significant junctures, cinematically speaking: one is set in the times of *Qayamat Se Qayamat*

DEBORAH CORNELIOUS

When you think of Blumhouse Productions, a spate of successful horror films like *Paranormal Activity*, *Insidious*, and *The Gift* come to mind. The production house has carved a name for itself with micro-budgeted films that have borne box office gold. Jason Blum, at the helm of the company, has in fact been nominated for a few Academy Awards for producing *Whiplash*, *Get Out* and *BlacKkKlansman*. But his latest project earns a few head scratches. A remake of the popular '70s show, *Fantasy Island*, the film is a peculiar addition to Blumhouse's roster.

Sure, it's got a supernatural inclination to it. But mostly the film is a tired adaptation of the essence of the series which had the time and scale to delve into the intricacies of a unique premise. *Fantasy Island* 2020

Tak (with a nod to the film as well), perhaps the last of the older brand of Bollywood romances that were about fighting the cruel society and family, rebelling and running away from the insensitive world. The second, set in 2020, is about lovers battling their own inner demons, as they have been in countless contemporary films.

The interesting departure is reimagining the role of the woman. For a change, in the new *Love Aaj Kal*, it's the girl Zoe (Sara Ali Khan) who is trying to run away, from the secure and smothering love to establish a career for herself.

Commitment phobia is just as feebly handled as the quest for work-life balance and the resolution comes out of nowhere, way too easy, making you wonder why you were needlessly taken round and round in the circuitous plot. The lack of conviction reflects even in the performances. Khan is high



Belying expectations Kartik Aaryan and Sara Ali Khan

■ SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Love Aaj Kal

DIRECTOR: Imtiaz Ali

CAST: Kartik Aaryan, Sara Ali Khan, Randeep Hooda, Arushi Sharma

STORYLINE: Two love stories—one set in 1990 Udaipur, other in 2020 Delhi—cross paths, the wisdom drawn from the one in the past, guiding the future course of the other

RUN TIME: 141 minutes

strung, but without grounding her ostensible pain in any persuasive context—other than an ambitious, materialistic mummy in the backdrop who herself has a scarred past. It renders Khan's angst as 'designer' as her home. Where is this anguish coming from, you wonder? Aaryan flares his nostrils, sports a cutesy pout, and plays silly in trying to portray a supportive simpleton, whether it's Raghu of the past or the Veer of today. The only one who manages to

anchor the film with relative gravitas is the older Raghu, played by Randeep Hooda (the bridge between the past and the present, in a reprisal of the Rishi Kapoor part in the original), who has grown wiser from his past mistakes and misdemeanours. But then Hooda is confined to the margins than being in the centre of action.

Ali's early films had a freshness and simplicity, a delightful irony underlying relationships, the warmth of characters and earthy humour. They made you connect because they were organic and spontaneous.

In the faux intensity and pointless philosophising in his more recent films (complete with a co-working cafe here called Mazi, name dropping Kabir and Rumi, an obsession with Lodhi Road wall paintings, and close-ups of the actors) the soul is entirely missing. Instead, a turgidity underlines the telling. Emotions are either utterly inane or highly overwrought, the conversations alarmingly trite.

Love swings through words like "compromise, underutilise, optimise," even as the audience is left rolling its eyes.

At best, love feels tortuous, tired, and worn out, and at its worst it becomes little more than a caricature. For the viewer, there is very little by way of options other than lapsing into sheer disinterest, boredom, and exasperation.

An Apte association

Polka dots, prints and frills feature in ISU's latest collection, to which Radhika Apte lends her name

PRIYADARSHINI NANDY



Joining the bandwagon of actors who've lent their name and face to internet retail brands is Radhika Apte. And while she takes no credit in being part of the actual execution of the fashion line, she does admit to have contributed to the creative process. And there's good reason why she decided to sign the dotted line.

"I am not a shopaholic. But I am extremely finicky when it comes to deciding what to wear. So when ISU approached me, they spoke about their design aesthetics and what they believed in. They were right up my alley," she says. The private label, by e-commerce platform Zapyle, was launched by founder Rashi Mendha in 2017. The 'Radhika Apte' collection, which is now available on the website, features polka dots, flowy skirts, frills, bows, prints – things the actor is personally quite fond of. "They've also done a line of loose denims that I quite liked," she adds.

Tailored for India

One of the main reasons for Apte to come on board was the focus on fits. "I need the perfect fit, even though my style is often minimalist. Almost all retail brands focus on the US and EU sizes in western wear. But we have different shapes and heights. We should be catering to Indian body types, which is what this brand is trying to do," she says. The research on cuts and fabrics ideal for our weather and physique was an added bonus.

And yes, she refuses to say she had anything to do with the line. "I am not big on the technical aspect of fashion, but, in a way, it is part of my life. So being part of a team, watching them ideate, and being able to contribute my ideas – that process was definitely a lesson for me," she says.

Recently in the news for moving to Hotstar to be in one of their own productions, Apte was also brought up, several times by stand-up comedian Vir Das in his latest Netflix show, *For India*. He

refers to her while talking about the dismal condition of Indian mainstream cinema, where, if there was ever a biography on Apte, no one but her would have to play it.

"Of course, Indian cinema is still regressive. They say things like people with dusky skin have more opportunities today, but it is not true. It is a joke to be honest, and it is like that even in Hollywood. It makes it much harder for people like me to get work, and it is frustrating. But it is what it is..." she concludes.

The Radhika Apte collection is on Zapyle.com. From ₹990 to ₹3,290

More yawns than frights

Fantasy Island seems like a slapdash attempt instead of a horror adventure film

brings back Mr Roarke (Michael Peña) as the host who manifests people's most desired wishes. Gwen (Maggie Q) regrets spurning the man she still loves; Patrick (Austin Stowell) wants to be a soldier for a weekend; while Melanie (Lucy Hale) seeks revenge on high school bully Sloane (Portia Doubleday). Last-



Supernatural inclination A still from the film ■ SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

ly, brothers from different mothers JD (Ryan Hansen) and Brax (Jimmy O. Yang) just want to have the party of their wildest dreams. While the island brings to life their fantasies, something obviously isn't right when things go awry.

That trouble should hit the fan, is visible a mile away. Director, co-writer and producer Jeff Wadlow seems to have done a

slapdash hurl of the script onto the big screen. With no consideration for nuance or gape, even run-of-the-mill jump scares, *Fantasy Island* unravels like a ball of yarn across a flat floor. It's strange how the film can be both predictable and confusing simultaneously. A twist that should ideally grab some eyeballs just ends up being exasperating, and frankly, a little

Fantasy Island

DIRECTOR: Jeff Wadlow

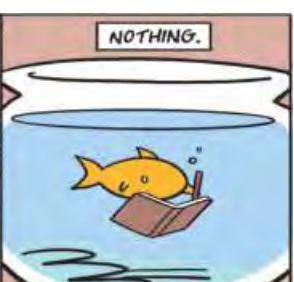
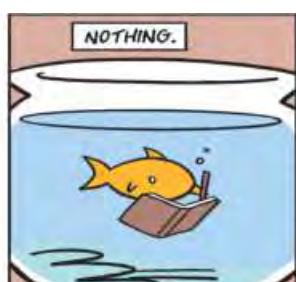
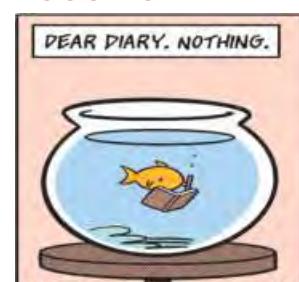
CAST: Michael Peña, Maggie Q, Lucy Hale, Austin Stowell, Portia Doubleday, Jimmy O. Yang, Ryan Hansen, Michael Rooker

STORYLINE: A group of seemingly unrelated people embark on fulfilling their fantasies on a mysterious island with supernatural powers

RUN TIME: 156 minutes

stretched. Whatever little humour there is, is courtesy of comedy veterans Hansen and O. Yang, and hits its peak right at the start with the two wading through woods: "I'm not into bush whacking", is met with the retort, "Is that why Jenny dumped you?" For a company that focuses on horror, Blumhouse's *Fantasy Island* elicits more yawns than frights.

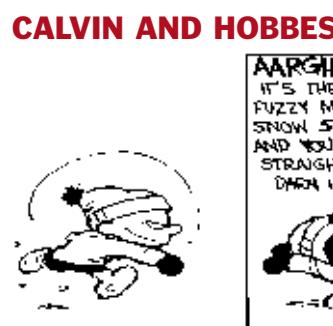
POOCH CAFE



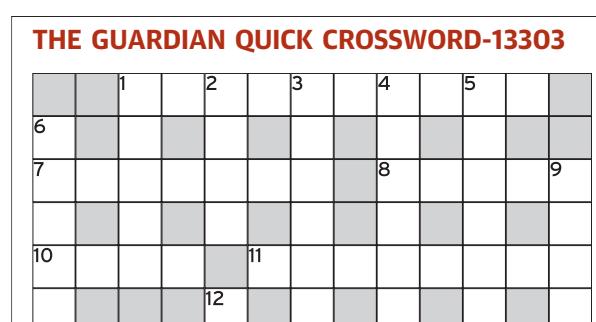
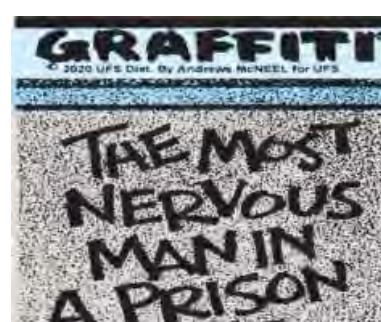
PEANUTS



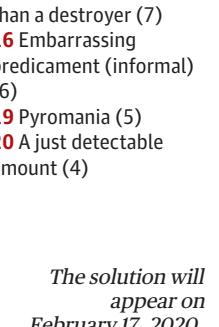
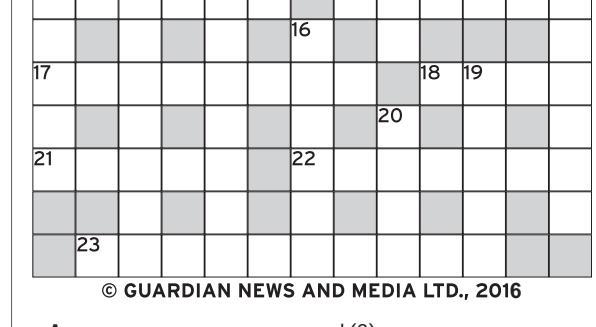
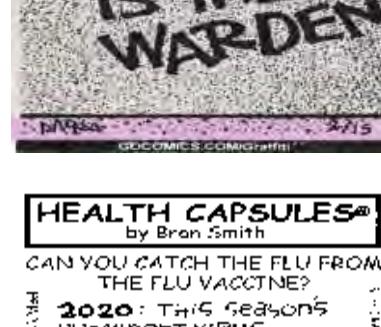
HAGAR THE HORRIBLE



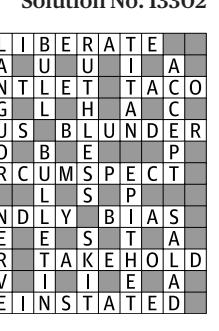
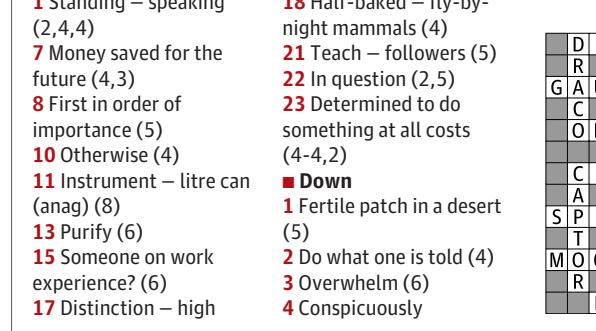
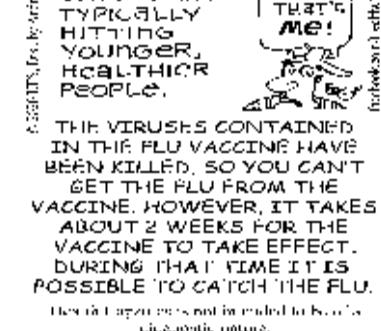
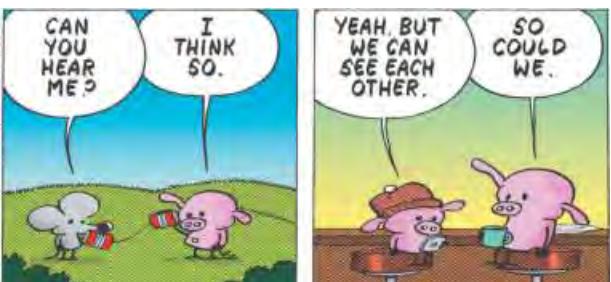
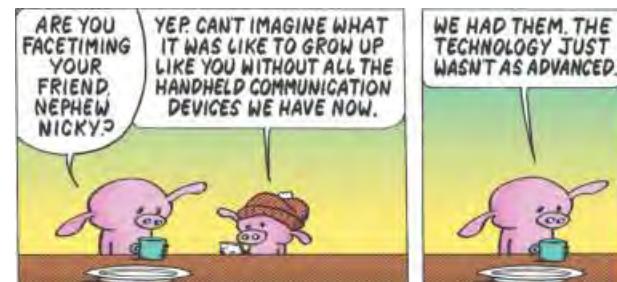
TIGER



WUMO



PEARLS BEFORE SWINE



THE GUARDIAN QUICK CROSSWORD-13303

To play The Guardian Quick Crossword, The Hindu Cryptic crossword, Sudoku & other puzzles online, scan the QR code.

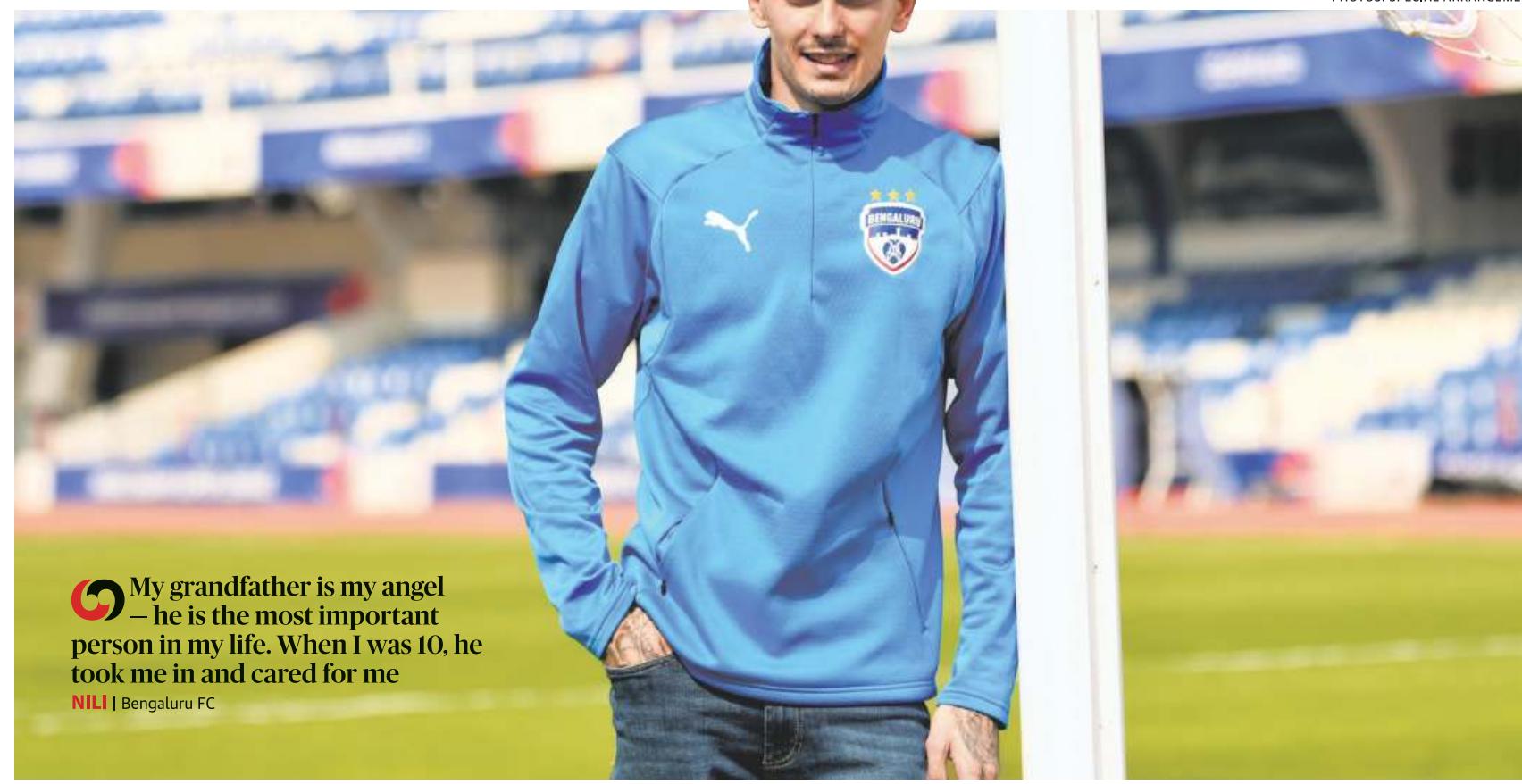
- outrageous (8)
5 Delete for ever (7)
6 Word or phrase expressing affection (10)
9 Greatly surprised (10)
12 Hellish (8)
14 Warship smaller than a destroyer (7)
16 Embarrassing predicament (informal) (6)
19 Pyromania (5)
20 Just detectable amount (4)

The solution will appear on February 17, 2020.

Solution No. 13302

D	E	L	I	B	R	E	A	T	E
R	A	U	U	I	A				
G	A	U	N	L	E	T	T	C	A
O	N	S	U	N	D	U	N	D	R
C	G	L	H	A	C				
O	B	E	P						
S	I	C	R	U	M	S	P	E	T
A	S	I	N	D	L	S	T	P	
S	P	I	N	D	L	B	A	I	
R	V	I	N	E	A				

M ND-NDE



PHOTOS: SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

'I was once on the streets, but now my life is great'

Bengaluru FC's new signing Nili went from stealing food as a child in Las Palmas to training alongside Messi, Neymar and Suarez at Barcelona. Although that fairytale didn't have a happy ending, the 25-year-old is at peace with himself

ASHWIN ACHAL

The arms of Bengaluru FC's new signing Francisco Jose Perdomo Borges, commonly known as Nili, are covered in tattoos. There is a lion, to

out with my mother. But she had problems with alcohol and drugs. She used to hit me a lot, so I was forced to live on the streets. I didn't have any money. I would wander around and peer through house windows. If I saw fruits or food inside, I would steal it. Those were desperate times," Nili recalls.

Just when his young life was spiralling out of control, his grandfather stepped in. "My grandfather is my angel – he is the most important person in my life. When I was 10, he took me in and cared for me," Nili says.

It is a luxury to train with guys like Messi. You can learn so much in every single minute of training. Off the field, Neymar is like me – he likes to have fun. Messi is more quiet and serious

denote that he is the king of the football jungle. A practising Christian, Nili has made space for a couple of Buddha portraits. The number 29 signifies his childhood jersey number.

A grand tattoo of Greek god Zeus, however, stands out as the most significant. "Zeus is for my grandfather, because he is the god of all gods," Nili says.

It is evident that Nili, born and raised in the Spanish city of Las Palmas, owes a great debt to his grandfather, Rafael Perdomo, who saved him from a tumultuous childhood

"My life as a kid was not easy. My father and mother fought all the time. When I was seven, I moved

To give Nili a positive outlet, Rafael got him to enrol in the Union Deportiva Las Palmas football academy. Nili – a versatile footballer who can play on the wings or in midfield – excelled at the sport and earned a spot in the senior Las Palmas reserves side in 2013.

Dream move
His big break came three years later, when he joined Barcelona at the age of 22. Nili was now playing alongside the likes of Lionel Messi, Neymar, Andres Iniesta and Luis Suarez. "It is a luxury to train with guys like Messi. You can learn so much in every single minute of training. Off the field, Neymar is like me – he likes to have fun. Messi is more quiet and serious," Nili says.

But the dream move did not last long. Nili managed just a solitary appearance – as a substitute in a Copa del Rey match – before signing with lower division side Albacete Balompie.

Nili, who describes himself as simple small-town boy, could not handle the pressure of expectations at Barcelona. "When I was in Las Palmas, I played football because I loved the sport. In Barcelona, you need to win every single game and every

single title. If you miss a pass in Las Palmas, the coach would say, 'No problem. Keep going. You can do better next time'. In Barcelona, it was different. If you cannot maintain a very high standard, then someone else will take your place," Nili says.

His short stint at Barca wasn't all bad. Nili takes great pride in telling the story of how Messi made his grandfather a happy man. "My grandfather, for the first time in his life, travelled from Las Palmas in the Canary Islands to the mainland. He came to see me train. After training, I asked Messi if he could take a photo with my grandfather. Messi readily agreed, and even gave my grandfather his jersey as a gift. That meant the world to me," Nili says.

In 2018, Nili left Spain to play for Greek side Platanias. A chat with an old friend, Odisha FC striker Aridane Santana, convinced him to make the move to BFC. "Aridane and I played together in Albacete; he also lived in the Canary Islands. We are like brothers. He told me that I should join BFC because they are an established Indian club. He felt I could perform well in the Indian Super League," Nili says. These are early days in

the Nili-BFC alliance, but the player has already experienced a few highs. Earlier this month, Nili got the chance to travel to Thimphu for an AFC Cup preliminary-stage clash against Paro FC. For Nili, Bhutan felt like

If you miss a pass in Las Palmas, the coach would say, 'No problem. Keep going. You can do better next time'. In Barcelona... if you cannot maintain a very high standard, then someone else will take your place

his spiritual home. "I have two Buddha tattoos. Bhutan has a rich Buddhist history. It was a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to go to Bhutan. I never thought it would happen. Thailand maybe, but Bhutan... never," Nili says.

Having overcome the trials and tribulations of the past, Nili is now truly at peace. "I was once out on the streets, but now my life is great. My wife and daughter – they are my main motivation now. Whenever I do something silly, my wife pulls me back on track. You need someone like that in your life to take you in the right direction. My grandfather played that role when I was young. I will do all I can to support my family," Nili says.



GAME THEORY

T20 World Cup: The chart-toppers and those who are tracking well

Australia will have the home advantage in its title defence at the ICC Women's T20 World Cup, which gets underway next week. A look at the best performers in the tournament's history and the form teams and players leading up to the seventh edition:

MOST SUCCESSFUL TEAMS

TITLES
Australia **2010, 2012, 2014, 2018** 4

England **2009** 1

West Indies **2016** 1

■ India has reached three semifinals (2009, 2010, 2018) and has a 50% match-win rate

MATCH-WIN RATE

Australia 76.56%

England 74.13%

New Zealand 71.42%

MOST RUNS

OVERALL
Suzie Bates (NZ) **(28 innings)** 881

Stafanie Taylor (WI) **(26)** 797

Charlotte Edwards (Eng) **(24)** 768

■ Mithali Raj holds the Indian record, with 726 runs from 23 innings. She is fourth on the all-time list

MOST WICKETS

OVERALL
Ellyse Perry (Aus) **(32 innings)** 36

Anya Shrubsole (Eng) **(23)** 33

Shabnim Ismail (SA) **(22)** 30

■ Poonam Yadav holds the Indian record, with 18 wickets from 13 innings. She is 12th on the all-time list

BEST WIN% SINCE THE 2018 EDITION (MIN: 10 WINS)

Wins Win%

Thailand **21** 84.00

Australia **11** 78.57

Bangladesh **10** 76.92

England **12** 70.59

India **10** 50.00

■ Thailand has qualified for the T20 World Cup for the first time

CM YK

PHOTO: GETTY IMAGES

A flop show by India batsmen

All three designated openers come a cropper, Vihari and Pujara the saving grace

INDIA IN NZ

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

HAMILTON

Hanuma Vihari's gutsy hundred and the seasoned Cheteshwar Pujara's 92 were the bright spots in an otherwise dreadful batting performance by India on the first day of their warm-up game against New Zealand XI here.

All the three designated openers – Mayank Agarwal (1), Prithvi Shaw (0) and Shubman Gill (0) – failed the seam and bounce test, falling cheaply.

With skipper Virat Kohli opting for an intense net session over the warm-up game, India managed only 263 with none apart from Vihari (101 retd. out) and Pujara able to score even 20 runs on a Seddon Park track that had liberal grass covering.

Worrying factor

What would worry the Indian team management was failure of all the three openers. Shaw and Gill were undone by the extra bounce while Mayank failed to counter to seam movement.

Ajinkya Rahane (18) was out by the end of the first hour, edging one to the slips, before Vihari and Pujara stemmed the rot and got a 195-run stand.

Seeing off Kuggeleijn

Once they saw off Kuggeleijn's first spell and the skiddy Blair Tickner, batting became easy in the second and



Quite at ease: Hanuma Vihari was equal to the challenge of countering the seaming conditions and notched up the lone century of the innings. ■ FILE PHOTO

third session. When the spinners were introduced, Pujara pulled Ish Sodhi over long-leg for a six while Vihari also hit three down the ground off left-arm spinner Ravindra.

India lost the last six wickets for 30 runs but what stuck out like a sore thumb

was another shot selection by Rishabh Pant when he tried an ugly hoick off Sodhi's bowling only to be caught by the man at extra-cover.

The scores:

India – 1st innings: Prithvi Shaw c Ravindra b Kuggeleijn 0, Mayank Agarwal c Cleaver b Kuggeleijn 1, Cheteshwar Pujara

c Cleaver b Gibson 92, Shubman Gill c Seifert b Kuggeleijn 0, Ajinkya Rahane c Bruce b Neesham 18, Hanuma Vihari (retd. out) 101, Rishabh Pant c Kuggeleijn b Sodhi 7, Widdhiman Saha c Cleaver b Gibson 0, R. Ashwin lbw b Sodhi 0, Umesh Yadav (not out) 9, Ravindra Jadeja c Allen b Sodhi 8; Extras (b-8, lb-7, nb-9, w-3): 27;

Total (in 78.5 overs): 263.

Fall of wickets: 1-0, 2-5, 3-5, 4-

5, 2-23, 6-245, 7-246, 8-246,

9-250.

New Zealand XI bowling: Scott Kuggeleijn 14-2-40-3, Blair Tickner 15-3-37-0, Daryl Mitchell 7-1-15-0, Jimmy Neesham 13-3-28-1, Jake Gibson 10-1-26-2, Ish Sodhi 14.5-0-72-3, Ravin Ravindra 5-1-30-0.

Ready to open if needed, says Vihari

'Knew we had to bat long and that's exactly what we did'

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

HAMILTON

Hanuma Vihari, on Friday, said he won't mind taking up the opener's role if the team management asks after India's inexperienced opening options were technically exposed by a second-string New Zealand attack on the opening day of the warm-up game here.

The trio's performance raised doubts about its ability to face the likes of Neil Wagner, Trent Boult and Matt Henry.

Not informed

"As a player, I am prepared to bat anywhere. As of now, I've not been informed anything. As I said before as well, if the team requires me to bat wherever, I am ready to bat," said Vihari, who retired after scoring 101.

The Andhra player has delivered whenever given a chance. Does he feel bad about not getting to play four successive Tests after the series-opener against South



In good nick: Pujara was the only other India batsman to come good, apart from Vihari.

■ FILE PHOTO: K.R. DEEPAK

Africa at Visakhapatnam last year in October?

"Sometimes you have to understand the team combination as well. You can't get disheartened by it. I understood when you are playing at home, we play five bowlers. It's obvious that one batter has to miss out."

Vihari was surprised by the extra bounce on offer on Friday but is happy to have countered the challenge in the warm-up game which provided him with an opportunity to prepare well.

"Initially, I thought the extra bounce surprised us. (In) the couple of matches I

played against New Zealand-A, the pitch didn't do as much as what it did in the morning today.

"Once we adjusted, me and Pujji (Pujara), we got our eye in, then we knew we had to bat long and that's exactly what we did," Vihari said after the end of day's play.

Indian men edge out Thailand

Enter semifinals of Asia Team Championships



Equaliser: Lakshya Sen's straight-game win over Suppany Avihingsanon brought India back on level terms. ■ FILE PHOTO: RITU RAJ KONWAR

BADMINTON

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

MANILA

The Indian men's team assured itself of a medal after progressing to the semifinals with a thrilling 3-2 win over Thailand at the Badminton Asia Team Championships here on Friday.

After K. Srikanth and B. Sai Praneeth faced reversals in the first two singles ties, India fought back to win the next three ties to set up a last four meeting with two-time defending champion Indonesia.

Sai Praneeth started the proceedings, but his gallant

effort ended in a 21-14, 14-21, 21-12 loss to world No. 12 Kantaphon Wangcharoen. In the second singles, Srikanth went down 22-20, 21-14 to Kunlavut Vitidsarn.

In the hunt

The pairing of M.R. Arjun and Dhruv Kapila kept India in the hunt with a 21-18, 22-20 win over Kittinupong Kedren and Tanupat Viriyangkura in the first doubles.

Lakshya Sen, who had a stellar run in 2019 with five titles, then registered a 21-19, 21-18 win over world No. 45 Suppany Avihingsanon to bring India back on level terms.

It then all boiled down to the makeshift pair of Chirag Shetty and Srikanth and the Indian duo dished out a superb game to outwit the pairing of Maneepong Jongjit and Nipithphon Phuangphuapet 21-15, 16-21, 21-15 in the deciding second doubles tie.

"It is an incredible result for us considering the fact that we didn't have Satwiksairaj (Rankireddy) and we generally depend on the singles to get us the win. But after we lost the first two singles, the way we got that doubles win and then Lakshya brought us back to level, it was a complete team effort," Chirag told PTI.

Paes-Ebden will face the Indian pair of Purav Raja and Ramkumar Ramanathan in the final. Raja-Ramanathan reached the summit clash after Saketh Myneni and Matt Reid were forced to retire due to an injury to Reid.

In the opening game of the second set, Reid sprinted back to retrieve a lob and landed on his knee. The Australian sought medical help in an attempt to continue playing, but was unable to sufficiently recover.

In the singles quarterfinals, Italian Julian Ocleppo edged out 13th seed Ilya Ivashka of Belarus 7-6(4), 6-7(3), 6-4, 6-2; Stefano Travaglia (Ita) bt Blaz Rola (Slo) 6-4, 4-6, 6-2; Benjamin Bonzi (Fra) bt Yuichi Sugita (Jpn) 6-7(5), 7-5, 6-4.

Smriti No. 4 in rankings



Moving up: Smriti Mandhana rose three rungs in the latest ICC women's T20I rankings for batters. ■ GETTY IMAGES

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

DUBAI

India star Smriti Mandhana on Friday rose three rungs to fourth but Jemimah Rodrigues dropped to seventh in the latest ICC women's T20 International rankings for batters.

Harmanpreet Kaur has remained static at ninth in the same list.

Among the bowlers, Poonam Yadav dropped six places to fall out of the top 20. Anuja Patil and Delissa Kimmince lost big as well, falling 11 places to 31, and 14 places to 33 respectively.

Although Suzie Bates, New Zealand's No. 3, retained her top spot, there were other movements in the top 10, with Bates' teammate and captain Sophie Devine rising four spots to no.2, the ICC said in a statement.

Australia opener Beth Mooney and Mandhana, who made two half centuries, dropped down a position to four, while South Africa captain Dane van Niekerk completed the top five after gaining one position.

ries during the tri-series, both made upward movements, while Meg Lanning, despite dropping three positions, hung on to the top five.

Among the bowlers, Ellyse Perry's golden run with the ball gave her a jump of four places into the top 10, to No.7.

England fast bowler Anya Shrubsole tumbled six places to fall out of the top 20. Anuja Patil and Delissa Kimmince lost big as well, falling 11 places to 31, and 14 places to 33 respectively.

Among all-rounders, Devine claimed the top spot after gaining one position, while Nat Sciver also jumped one place to round out the top three.

Hayley Matthews dropped down a position to four, while South Africa captain Dane van Niekerk completed the top five after gaining one position.

Man City falls foul of UEFA FFP rules

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE

NYON

Manchester City has been banned from European competitions for the next two seasons for "serious financial fair-play breaches", UEFA announced on Friday.

The English champion, which was also fined €30 million, immediately announced it was appealing the suspension to the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS) "at the earliest opportunity".

"Manchester City is disappointed but not surprised by today's announcement by the UEFA Adjudicatory Chamber," the club said.

Announcing the ban a UEFA statement declared: "The Adjudicatory Chamber has imposed disciplinary measures on Manchester City Football Club directing that it shall be excluded from participation in UEFA club competitions in the next two seasons (ie. the 2020/21 and 2021/22 seasons)." European football's governing body said that City "failed to cooperate in the investigation".

City lost a previous appeal to CAS over UEFA's original decision to refer it to its adjudicatory chamber over the alleged FFP violations.

Warner expects hostile reception

Opener and Smith to tour S. Africa after 'Sandpapergate'

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE

SYDNEY

Australia opener David Warner is braced for a hostile reception but hopes fans will show "respect" as he and Steve Smith return to South Africa for the first time since the 'Sandpapergate' ball-tampering scandal that rocked world cricket.

The last time the pair played in South Africa, almost two years ago, it was sent home in disgrace for attempting to alter the ball with sandpaper during a Cape Town Test. It cost the two 12-month suspensions and for Warner, a lifetime leadership ban.

Sangakkara is captaining England's MCC for four games in Lahore, where he was wounded in a militant attack on the Sri Lankan team. Sangakkara, 42, suffered shrapnel wounds to his shoulder and narrowly escaped a bullet which whistled past his head as the Sri Lankan players lay pinned down on the floor of the team bus.

But Sangakkara, who is also the president of the Marylebone Cricket Club (MCC), said Pakistan was slowly restoring its reputation as a safe destination for visiting teams.

pected to receive similar treatment in South Africa.

The batsmen are both in the Australian squad for three T20Is and three ODIs beginning February 21. The T20 on February 26 will mark the visitors' first match at Newlands since the 2018 scandal.

"For me personally, it won't be hard at all," Warner told Sydney radio station 2GB this week. "I just go there and I've got a job to do and that's to score runs and win games for Australia and put us in a good position."

But he added that "ob-

viously, it's going to be very hostile".

Australia will be using the tour to fine-tune preparations for the T20 World Cup on home soil in October – the only major cricket trophy the men's team has not won.

Equally dangerous batsman and wrist-spinner D'Arcy Short, who has been overlooked for a year, has replaced him in both formats.

"If you look at our squad selections over the last couple of months, it's all been pretty consistent," said skipper Aaron Finch.

Paes and Ebden combo scrapes through to title round



Perfect tango: Leander Paes and Matthew Ebden upped their game in the tie-breaker to sneak through to the final. ■ V. SREENIVASA MURTHY

to wrap it up 7-6(4).

Neither player gave an inch, and it went down to the wire. Ocleppo, the World No. 231, will take on gritty Australian James Duckworth in the semifinal on Saturday.

Fourth-seed Duckworth, in great form in recent months, knocked out ninth-seed Thomas Fabbiano (Ita) 6-7(5), 7-5, 6-4, 6-2; Stefano Travaglia (Ita) bt Blaz Rola (Slo) 6-4, 4-6, 6-2.

Unseeded Frenchman Benjamin Bonzi upset third-seed Yuichi Sugita of Japan 6-7(5), 7-5, 6-4, while Stefano Travaglia took out fluent Slovenian southpaw Blaz Rola 6-4, 4-6, 6-2.

The results: Singles (quarterfinals): Julian Ocleppo (Ita) bt Ilya Ivashka (Blr) 6-4, 6-3, 6-4; James Duckworth (Aus) bt Thomas Fabbiano (Ita) 6-7(5), 6-0, 6-2; Stefano Travaglia (Ita) bt Blaz Rola (Slo) 6-4, 4-6, 6-2; Benjamin Bonzi (Fra) bt Yuichi Sugita (Jpn) 6-7(5), 7-5, 6-4.

Doubles (semifinals): Matthew Ebden (Aus) / Leander Paes (Ind) bt Jonathan Erlich (Isr) / Andrei Vasilevski (Blr) 6-4, 3-6, 10-7.

Line-up: Singles semifinals (2 p.m. onwards): Ocleppo vs Duckworth; Bonzi vs Travaglia.

Doubles final (6.30 p.m. onwards): Paes / Ebden vs Raja / Ramanathan.

TV PICKS

Ranji Trophy: Star Sports 2 (SD & HD), 9 a.m.
ISL: Star Sports 2 (SD & HD), 7:15 p.m.
Premier League: SS Select 1 (SD & HD), 5:45 p.m. & 10:40 p.m.
Bundesliga: SS Select 2 (SD & HD), 7:40 p.m. & 10:40 p.m.
Serie A: Sony Ten 2 (SD & HD), 7:30 p.m., 10:30 p.m. & 1:10 a.m. (Saturday)
NBA: Sony Six (SD & HD), 7:30 a.m.

IN BRIEF



Tatum powers Celtics over Clippers

WASHINGTON Jayson Tatum scored 39 points, two off his career high, and Marcus Smart added 31 on Thursday as Boston Celtics defeated Los Angeles Clippers 141-133 in double overtime.

The results: Boston 141 bt LA Clippers 133; Oklahoma City 123 bt New Orleans 118.

Mazzini sizzles for Spiro/Horse & Wagon

NEW DELHI Six goals by Gerardo Mazzini powered Spiro/Horse & Wagon to a 9 goals to 6 1/2 victory over Col. Girdhari Singh ASC in the last league match of the Sawai Mai Singh Gold Vase polo tournament on Friday.

The results (league): Spiro/Horse & Wagon 9 (Gerardo Mazzini 6, Dhruvpal Godara 2, Buchi Prakash) bt Col.

Girdhari Singh ASC 6-1/2 (Naveen Singh 3, Basheer Ali 2, Prithvi Singh Rathore, handicap 1/2).



RCB unveils a new logo

BENGALURU Royal Challengers Bangalore (RCB) on Friday unveiled a new logo as part of a brand redesign, while staying away from renaming the team.

"The idea behind the design of the new brand identity is to give our rampant lion a contemporary makeover," said RCB chairman Sanjeev Churiwala.

Gokulam is champion

SPORTS REPORTER

BENGALURU Sabitra Bhandari broke KRYPSHA hearts by scoring an 87th minute winner as Gokulam Kerala FC clinched the Hero Indian Women's League title with a 3-2 win here on Friday.

The result: Gokulam Kerala FC 3 (Prameshwari Devi 1, Kamala Devi 25, Sabitra Bhandari 87) bt KRYPSHA FC 2 (Dangmei Grace 33, Ratanbala Devi 72). **Most Valuable Player:** Ratanbala Devi (KRYPSHA FC); **Highest scorer:** Sabitra; **Best Goalkeeper:** Linthoingambi (KRYPSHA).

Nisus wins main event

BENGALURU: Mr. Vishal Kamal Doctor's Nisus (Sandesh up), won the Bangalore Juvenile Million, the chief event of the races held here on Friday (Feb 14). The winner is trained by Prasanna Kumar.

RESULTS

1 SOMANATHAPURA PLATE (1,600m), rated 00 to 20; **TURF PROSPECTOR** (Naveen Kumar) 1, Bazinga (Chetan G) 2, Noble Splendor (S Qureshi) 3 and Fierce Fighter (Shreyas) 4, 3/4, 6-3/4 and Link. Im 40.78s. ₹ 32 (w), 12, 17 and 23 (p). SHP: 39, THP: 50; FP: 105, Q: 52, Trinella: 346 and 137, Exacta: 3,441 and 1,533. Favourite: Bazinga. Owner: Mr. A. Wajid. Trainer: Mahmood Khan.

2 CLASSIC STONE PLATE (Div. II), (1,400m), rated 15 to 35, 5-y-o & over; **ZEHNAESEB** (T.S. Jodha) 1, Analease (Saddam) 2, Perfect King (Arshad) 3 and Premier Premises (R. Marshall) 4. Not run: Bold Runner, 3, Shd and 1-1/2, Im 03.03s. ₹ 23 (w), 11, 59 and 18 (p); SHP: 166, THP: 44, FP: 605, Q: 619, Trinella: 2,286 and 630, Exacta: 8,813 and 3,022. Favourite: Zehnaebe. Owner: Mr. Gautam Makija. Trainer: Kishan Thomas.

3 DASHMESH STUD PLATE (Div. III), (1,200m), rated 30 to 50, 5-y-o & over: **BIG BOON** (B. Dharshan) 1, Darshasini (Chetan G) 2, Singhsaab (T.S. Jodha) 3 and Simone (S. John) 4. Nose, 1/2 and 1/2, Im 13.78s. ₹ 84 (w), 24, 45 and 30 (p). SHP: 136, THP: 55, FP: 3,440, Q: 1,861, Trinella: 32,924 and 14,110, Exacta: 1,36,601 (carried over). Favourite: Aceros. Owner: Mr. Neel Darashah & Mrs. Anneka Darashah. Trainer: Neil Darashah.

4 GODOLPHIN BARB TROPHY (1,400m), rated 45 to 65; **POSEIDON** (Darshan) 1, Whizzo (Vinod Shinde) 3 and Piper Regina (Irvan) 4, I, and Nk. Im 25.68s. ₹ 38 (w), 15, 12 and 31 (p). SHP: 43, THP: 56, FP: 172, Q: 42, Trinella: 776 and 537, Exacta: 5,103 and 2,187. Favourite: Ice Floe. Owners: Mr. H. Lakshman Gowda, Mr. N. Prem Kumar, Mrs. Divyajayoti C.M. and Mrs. Shruthiba L. Gowda. Trainer: V. Lokanath.

5 BANGALORE JUVENILE MIL-

Delhi presses for victory

Rajasthan finishes day three on 128 for two after being asked to follow-on

RAKESH RAO
NEW DELHI

Rajasthan continued to battle and deny Delhi the joy of finishing its Ranji Trophy campaign with a win after an absorbing day's play on Friday.

After being asked to follow-on, Rajasthan was 128 for two when stumps were drawn on the penultimate day. It still needs 197 runs to make Delhi bat again.

Earlier, resuming its first innings at 115 for four, Rajasthan folded at 299, with some resolute rearguard action from every batsman on view. Ashok Menaria used all his experience and scored 119. With the last three wickets adding 100 runs, Rajasthan showed it was not going to be easy for the host.

Host out of the race
Elsewhere, Bengal's victory over Punjab at Patiala ended Delhi's remote chance of qualifying for the quarterfinals.

The day belonged to Menaria and Mahipal Lomror, who took turns to steady Rajasthan's tumbling innings.

Skipper Menaria's second century of the competition and 11th in First Class cricket, reinforced his fine form this season. He was not troubled by the Delhi bowlers as he batted with certain authority during his 189-ball knock, dotted with 14 boundaries and three sixes.

When Rajasthan batted a second time, Lomror kept Delhi at bay with a positive intent. So far, he has hit a six and eight boundaries. Much



Gritty effort: Ashok Menaria used all his experience to keep Delhi at bay. ■ FILE PHOTO: K. PICHUMANI

depends on how he carries on when the action resumes on Saturday.

Among the bowlers, Simarjeet Singh continue to impress. The seamer finished with four wickets in the first innings and provided the breakthrough in the second. With the pitch assisting the spinners a bit more, Shivam Sharma and Shivank Vashisht could prove the difference.

The scores: Delhi – 1st innings: 623.

Rajasthan – 1st innings: Ramni-

vas Goloda c Rawat b Simarjeet 8, Manender Singh b Vashisht 21, Mahipal Lomror c Shorey b Shivam 18, Yash Kohari lbw b Bidhuri 0, Ashok Menaria b Ram 119, Rajesh Bishnoi lbw b Bidhuri 24, Salman Khan c Himmat b Simarjeet Singh 23, Rahul Chahar c Rawat b Shivam 16, Tanveer-ul-Haq b Simarjeet 19, Rituraj Singh lbw b Simarjeet 16, Aniket Choudhary (not out) 19; Extras (b-8, lb-1, nb-7): 16, Total (in 80.2 overs) 299.

Fall of wickets: 1-18, 2-37, 3-38, 4-80, 5-129, 6-178, 7-199, 8-267, 9-299.

Delhi bowling: Simarjeet 15.2-2-46-4, Bidhuri 13-3-40-2, Shivam 20-3-83-2, Vashisht 27-3-89-1, Rana 5-0-32-0.

Rajasthan – 2nd innings: Ma-

nender Singh lbw b Simarjeet 4, Ramnivas Goloda c Rawat b Shivam 28, Mahipal Lomror (batting) 64, Yash Kohari (retd. hurt) 16, Rituraj Singh (batting) 11; Extras (b-4, nb-1): 5; Total (for two wkts. in 39 overs): 128.

Fall of wickets: 1-4, 2-59.

Delhi bowling: Simarjeet 8-1-26-1, Bidhuri 2-0-7-0, Rana 4-0-7-0, Shivam 15-6-44-1, Vashisht 9-1-37-1, Himmant 1-0-3-0.

RANJI SCORES, FINAL ROUND, DAY 3

GROUP A

At New Delhi: Delhi 623 vs Ra-

jasthan 299 in 80.2 overs

(Ashok Menaria 119, Simarjeet

Singh 4/46) & 128/2 in 39

overs (Mahipal Lomror 64

battting).

Nadiad: Andhra 177 & 216/7 in

89 overs (Karan Shinde 64, B.

Sumanth 47, Axar Patel 5/77)

vs Gujarat 406 in 109.4 overs

(Parth Patel 57, Chirag

Gandhi 93 n.o., Axar Patel 89,

Yash Gardharia 44, Shoaib Mo-

hammed Khan 4/80).

Hyderabad: Hydera-

bad 272 & 139/7 in

49 overs (Aditya Sar-

ate 4/68) vs Vid-

arba 333 in 113.4

overs (Faiz Fazal 151,

Ganesh Satish 65,

Akhshay Wadkar 43,

G. Aniketh Reddy 4/61).

Patiala: Bengal 138

& 202 in 69.3 overs

(Arnab Nandi 51, Manoj Tiwary 65,

Krishan Alang 6/53) bt Punjab

151 & 141 in 47.3 overs

(Ramandeep Singh 69 n.o., Shahbaz

Ahmed 4/44). **Points: Bengal 6**

(32); **Punjab 0 (24).**

GROUP B

Bengaluru: Baroda 85 & 296 in

89.5 overs (Ahmadnoor Pathan

90, Pradeep Hooda 50, Abhi-

manyusingh Rajput 52, Parth

Kohli 42, M. Prasidh Krishna 4/

45) lost to Karnataka 233 &

150/2 in 44.4 overs (Karan Nair

71 n.o.). **Karnataka 6 (31); Bar-**

oda 0 (14).

Mumbai: Mumbai 427 & 238/5

decl. in 48.5 overs (Hardik

Tamore 113, Shams Mulani 70)

vs Madhya Pradesh 258 in 67.2

overs (Venkatesh Iyer 93,

Ankush Jaiswal 4/58) & 44/2 in

23 overs.

Rajkot: Tamil Nadu 424 vs

Saurashtra 346/6 in 126 overs

(Avi Barot 82, Arpit Vasavada

126 batting, Chirag Jani 47

batting). **Extras:** 1-4, 2-59.

Lucknow: Himachal 220 &

433/7 decl. in 107 overs (Ravi

Thakur 73, Akash Vashisth 141,

Nikhil Gangta 102, Saurabh Ku-

mar 5/121) vs Uttar Pradesh 119 & 77/4 in 26.1 overs.

GROUP C

Guwahati: Tripura 497 vs As-

sam 283 in 106.1 overs (Rishav

Das 122, Golok Sharma 41,

Harmeet Singh 6/110) & 76/5

in 21 overs.

Cuttack: Odisha 436 vs

Jharkhand 355/9 in 108 overs

(Kumar Suraj 107, Virat Singh



Hard-fought win: Abhishek Pradhan had to be at his best to get past a dogged Harinder Pal Singh Sandhu. ■ K. PICHUMANI

Saurav Ghosal and Joshna enter final

Pradhan prevails over Sandhu; Tanvi gets past Sunayna

NATL. SQUASH

K. KEERTHIVASAN
CHENNAI

Saurav Ghosal and Joshna Chinappa continue to dazzle.

Reaffirming the dominance in the SRFI-77th Senior National squash championships, the top seeds in mens' and womens' sections reached the summit clash in pursuit of their 13th and 19th overall titles respectively.

Saurav showed the 21-year-old Abhay Singh that he has got a lot to learn with a 11-9, 11-1, 11-8 victory, while Joshna outclassed Maharashtra's Sanya Vats, the 18-year-old, 11-9, 11-7, 11-4 in the semifinals on Friday.

While all this was expected, it was the other last-four clashes that caught the attention.

Abhishek Pradhan, the second seed, played out of his

skin to defeat Harinder Pal Singh Sandhu, a former champion in a five-game thriller 11-6, 12-10, 10-12, 9-11, 11-7.

High-intensity clash

A high-intensity clash ensured between Tanvi Khanina and Sunayna Kuruvilla, with the former emerging triumphant 11-6, 3-11, 11-8, 8-11, 12-10.

Harinder showed his trademark fighting abilities to come back from being two games down.

The decider and fifth game saw Tanvi take a 8-6 lead only to see Sunayna equalise at 8-each. Sunayna had a match point at 10-9, but she committed a backhand error. Tanvi then took the next two points to win the gruelling contest and set up a clash with Joshna.

The results (semifinals):

Men: Saurav Ghosal (TN) bt Abhay Singh (TN) 11-9, 11-1, 11-8; Abhishek Pradhan (Mah) bt Harinder Pal Singh Sandhu (TN) 11-6, 12-10, 10-12, 9-11, 11-7.

Women: Joshna Chinappa (TN) bt Sanya Vats (Mah) 11-9, 11-7, 11-4; Tanvi Khanina (Del) bt Sunayna Kuruvilla (TN) 11-6, 3-11, 11-8, 8-11, 12-10.

Major S. Maniam.

Asian Team championship on: Maniam

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
CHENNAI

There has been speculation for a while as to whether the Asian Team squash championships scheduled to held in Kuala Lumpur from March 25 to 29 will go on as per plan given the coronavirus threat.

However, Major S. Maniam, Director of coaching at Squash Racquets Association of Malaysia (SRAM) told the media here on Friday that the event would go on, but said if the teams pull-out then one will review the decision. "Two days ago we (SRAM) had a meeting with the Ministry of Health and they said we can continue with the event as long as the participants come and get screened at the airport. If they find a cause for concern, they will have to undergo a medical check-up. The Asian Squash Federation has also sent out a circular to all participating teams that the event is on until further notice," he said.

The much-anticipated clash between Tanvi and Sunayna was evenly matched. Tanvi's patience and deception prevailed over Sunayna's aggression and sharp and quick movements.

The decider and fifth game saw Tanvi take a 8-6 lead only to see Sunayna equalise at 8-each. Sunayna had a match point at 10-9, but she committed a backhand error. Tanvi then took the next two points to win the gruelling contest and set up a clash with Joshna.

The results (semifinals):

Men: Saurav Ghosal (TN) bt Abhay Singh (TN) 11-9, 11-1, 11-8; Abhishek Pradhan (Mah) bt Harinder Pal Singh Sandhu (TN) 11-6, 12-10, 10-12, 9-11, 11-7.

Women: Joshna Chinappa (TN) bt Sanya Vats (Mah) 11-9, 11-7, 11-4; Tanvi Khanina (Del) bt Sunayna Kuruvilla (TN) 11-6, 3-11, 11-8, 8-11, 12-10.

Major S. Maniam.

■ FILE PHOTO: R. RAGU

Humpy, Ju share lead

Harika in joint third spot

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
ST. LOUIS (USA)

India's K. Humpy defeated former World champion Alexandra Kosteniuk of Russia in 61 moves in the sixth round of the Cairns Cup chess tournament here to move into joint lead with Chinese ace Wenjun Ju.

D. Harika, the other Indian in the fray, shared points with Ju in 40 moves on Thursday.

With four points in her kitty, Humpy shares the lead with Ju.

Harika, on the other hand, is on three points after six rounds and is in joint

third spot with two other players. Harika, playing with black pieces, opted for King's Indian and equalised rather easily against Ju.

American youngster Carissa Yip posted her second straight win after four losses, beating Valentina Gunina in the only other decisive game of the day.

The results (sixth round): K. Humpy (4) bt Alexandra Kosteniuk (Rus, 3.5), Wenjun Ju (Chn, 4) drew with D. Harika (3), Katerina Lagno (Rus, 3) drew with Nana Dzagnidze (Grg, 3.5), Maria Muzychuk (Ukr, 3) drew Irina Krush (USA, 2), Carissa Yip (USA, 3) bt Gunina (Rus, 2).

Gujrathi, Harikrishna draw their games

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
PRAGUE

India's Vidit Santosh Gujrathi and P. Harikrishna had to settle for half-a-point each on a day of draws in the Masters event of the Prague Chess Festival here.

GM Gujrathi, the second highest-ranked Indian in the FIDE list after five-time World champion Viswanathan Anand, drew with David Anton Guijarro of Spain in 49 moves late on Thursday.

He is in joint lead with 1.5 points from two rounds with Jan-Krzysztof Duda and Nikita Vitiugov.

Harikrishna battled top-seed and higher-rated Duda of Poland and signed the peace treaty in 31 moves in a Catalan opening game.

"I thought I had some chances, but I missed 24...Qd7," Harikrishna said after his match.

The results (second round): P. Harikrishna (1) drew with Jan-Krzysztof Duda (Pol, 1.5), Sam Shankland (USA, 0.5) drew with David Navara (Cze, 0.5), David Anton Guijarro (Esp, 0.5) drew with Vidit Gujrathi (1.5), Markus Ragger (Aut, 1) drew with Nikita Vitiugov (Rus, 1.5), Nils Grandelius (Swe, 1) drew with Alireza Firouzja (Iran, 1).

Michelangelo Amendola to start from pole

MRF CHALLENGE

SPORTS REPORTER
CHENNAI

Belgium's Michelangelo Amendola, the championship leader, picked up two crucial points by qualifying for pole position as the third and final round of the MRF Challenge began at the MMRT here on Friday.

He saved his best for the last lap of the session, coming up with his quickest timing of 1:30.856s.

Closely behind

Following him closely was Jordanian Manaf Hijjawi (1:31.128). British teenager Joshua Mason was third quickest with a timing of 1:31.154.



Artist at work: Michelangelo Amendola picked up two crucial points in qualifying. ■ SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Coimbatore, driving the Race Concepts-prepared Honda City Vtec, was in a league of his own.

He clinched the pole in the Indian Touring Cars class of the MRF-MMSC FMSCI Indian National Car Racing

Championship (Round-I), clocking a time of 1:49.894s.

The results (qualifying):

MRF F2000: 1. Michelangelo Amendola (Belgium) (1min, 30.856secs); 2. Mannaf Hijjawi (Jordan) (1:31.128); 3. Joshua Mason (GBR) (1:31.154).

National Championship (Indian Touring Cars): 1. Arjun Balu (Race Concepts) (1:49.894); 2. Keith D'Souza (FB Motorsports) (1:54.001); 3. D. Vidyaprakash (Prime Racing) (1:54.849).

Super Stock: 1. A. Balaprasath (Race Concepts) (1:59.220); 2. Rithvik Thomas (Race Concepts) (1:59.962); 3. Raghu Rangasamy (Performance Racing) (2:00.338).

Support race: Volkswagen Ameo Super Race: 1. Saurav Bandyopadhyay (Thane) (1:54.222); 2. Anindith Reddy (Hyderabad) (1:54.536); 3. Avik Anwar (1:54.817).

DELHI JAL BOARD : GOVT. OF NCT OF DELHI

EXECUTIVE ENGINEER (SDW)VII

2142 JANTA FLATS G.T.B. ENCLAVE DELHI-110093

PRESS NIT NO-95 (2019-20)

(i) Details of the work:

S. No.	Name of work	Amount put to tender	Date of release of tender through E-procurement solution	Last date / time of receipt of tender through E-procurement solution
1	Replacement of old rusted & damaged 300 mm dia water line from GT Road Shahdara to Ahinsa Vatika Marg in AC-64 under NE-I Re-Invited	41,98,596.00	13-02-2020 2020_DJB_187926_1	27-02-2020 2:10 PM

Further details in this regards can be seen at <https://delhi.govtprocurement.delhi.gov.in>

ISSUED BY P.R.O. (WATER)

Advt. No. J.S.V. 810(2019-20)

Ex. Engineer (North East)-I

UTTARAKHAND POWER CORPORATION LIMITED

(A Govt. of Uttarakhand Undertaking)

Victoria Cross Vijeta Gabar Singh Urja Bhawan, Kanwal Road, Dehradun

Corporate Identity No. U40109UR2001SGC025867/2356

TEL. NO 0135- 2762444, FAX NO. 0135-2763839 E-mail: cocommercialupcl@gmail.com

Tender Specification No. 06/CE(COMM)/UPCL-06/2020-2021 (Non-Solar)

NOTICE INVITING TENDER FOR SHORT TERM PURCHASE OF NON-SOLAR RENEWABLE ENERGY FROM NEW & RENEWABLE SOURCES OF ENERGY (NRSE) PROJECTS LOCATED INSIDE/OUTSIDE UTTARAKHAND

Uttarakhand Power Corporation Limited invites e-tenders through DEEP Portal (www.mstecommerce.com) for supply of non-solar renewable energy from NRSE Projects from RE generators and traders (having valid Inter State Trading License) issued by CERC for interstate trading of energy, State Electricity Utilities, States, Generators, IPPs & CPPs as per table given below:

Month	Timings	Quantum of Power (Non-solar) MW	Minimum bid Quantity (MW)	Delivery Point
Apr-2020	00:00 to 24:00 hrs	25	5	
May-2020	00:00 to 24:00 hrs	25	5	
Jun-2020	00:00 to 24:00 hrs	25	5	
Jul-2020	00:00 to 24:00 hrs	25	5	
Aug-2020	00:00 to 24:00 hrs	25	5	
Sep-2020	00:00 to 24:00 hrs	25	5	
Oct-2020	00:00 to 24:00 hrs	25	5	
Nov-2020	00:00 to 24:00 hrs	20	5	
Dec-2020	00:00 to 24:00 hrs	10	5	
Jan-2021	00:00 to 24:00 hrs	10	5	
Feb-2021	00:00 to 24:00 hrs	10	5	
Mar-2021	00:00 to 24:00 hrs	10	5	

The time table for short term procurement/bid process and activities afterwards are as under:-

Last Date of request for purchase of tender document 22-02-2020 upto 14:00 hrs

Last date and time of submission of e-tender document 22-02-2020 upto 17:00 hrs

Date and time of opening of tender document (Part-1) 24-02-2020 at 12:00 hrs

Date and time of opening of Initial Price Offer (IPO) & e-Reverse Auction (e-RA) Shall be intimated through email after conducting technical evaluation of the tender.

Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) in the shape of Bank Guarantee made in favour of Executive Engineer (HQ), UPCL, VCV Gabar Singh Urja Bhawan, Kanwal Road, Dehradun

Cost of tender Specification (Demand Draft made in favour of) Executive Engineer (HQ), UPCL, VCV Gabar Singh Urja Bhawan, Kanwal Road, Dehradun

Rs. 29,500/- (Rs. Twenty Nine Thousand & Five Hundred Only)

The tender (containing envelopes for EMD and Bid) shall be accepted only if the cost of specification i.e. Rs. 29,500 against each source/bid is submitted in this office before submitting the tender.

In case, above date happens to be a holiday, then the date of submission and opening of tenders will automatically get shifted to the next working day, but the scheduled time will

Kobe tributes abound at Chicago

Team Giannis will wear number 24, Team LeBron will wear 2 at All-Star game

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE

LOS ANGELES

Tributes to the late Kobe Bryant, the Los Angeles Lakers legend who died last month in a helicopter crash, will play a major role in Sunday's 69th NBA All-Star Game.

This year's annual showcase of league talent will be played in Chicago and feature numerous nods to Bryant.

All-Star teams guided by LeBron James of the Lakers and Greek star Giannis Antetokounmpo of the Milwaukee Bucks will compete to win each of the first three quarters, which will all start 0-0 and last 12 minutes.

At the start of the fourth quarter, the clock will be turned off and a final target score will be established by taking the leading club's cumulative score through the first three quarters and adding 24 points – the number representing the jersey number worn by Bryant for the final 10 seasons of his NBA career.

The first team to reach the cumulative target score will win the NBA All-Star Game.

All-Star Game jerseys will also honour Bryant and his daughter.

Team Giannis players will wear jersey number 24 in tribute to Kobe while Team LeBron players will wear jersey number two, the number his daughter wore when playing youth basketball.

Both teams will wear jersey patches displaying nine stars, representing the nine people who were killed in the crash.

Academy Award-winning actress and Grammy Award-winning singer Jennifer Hudson, a Chicago native, will perform a special tribute to Bryant, his daughter and the others who were killed in the crash.

Team LeBron starters will include James, his Lakers teammate Anthony Davis, NBA scoring leader James

Harden of Houston, Kawhi Leonard of the Los Angeles Clippers and Slovenian guard Luka Doncic of the Dallas

Mavericks.

Team Giannis starters include the Greek big man, Cameron stars Joel Embiid of

Philadelphia and Pascal Siakam of Toronto and guards Kemba Walker of Boston and Trae Young of Atlanta.

KARNATAKA SMART CITIES INVESTMENT SUMMIT
5-6 February 2020, Bengaluru

Organiser: elets
Host State: Government of Karnataka
Country Partner: e-gov
Knowledge Partner: Karnataka State Government

Bengaluru Smart City Limited, Tumakuru Smart City Limited, Belagavi Smart City Limited, Mysore Smart City Limited, Mangalore Smart City Limited, Shimoga Smart City Limited

Key Highlights:
600+ National and International Delegates | 30+ Domestic and Overseas Exhibitors | Leading Multinational Smart City Solution Providers | Karnataka State PSUs and many more

GLIMPSES:

See you in Karnataka Smart Cities Investment Summit 2021
www.kuidfc.com | urban.eletsonline.com/karnataka

Sabse Pehle Life Insurance

Shanti Guaranteed

LIC's JEEVAN SHANTI
PLAN NO. 850 UIN 512N328V02

Non linked, Non Participating, Single Premium Annuity Plan

Plan Can be taken for Self Joint Lives Divyangjan lives
Plan Can be taken from age 30 years upwards*

GUARANTEED

- GUARANTEED ANNUITY RATES From inception of Policy
- GUARANTEED ADDITIONS during deferment period

LIC
LIC INDIA CORPORATION OF INDIA

Zindagi ke saath bhi, Zindagi ke baad bhi.

MARUTI SUZUKI ARENA



**THIS FEBRUARY,
TAKE THE LEAP OF JOY.**
IT'S THE RIGHT TIME TO BRING HOME YOUR FAVOURITE CAR.



Now **BS6 compliant**

ADDITIONAL OFFERS AVAILABLE ON LIMITED STOCK**

DZIRE SAVE UP TO ₹55 000*

SWIFT SAVE UP TO ₹53 500*

DZIRE SWIFT

E-book today at www.marutisuzuki.com or visit your nearest Maruti Suzuki dealership | For bulk orders, mail at: [\(NCR\)](mailto:anindya.sarkar@maruti.co.in); [\(Delhi\)](mailto:abhinav.verma2@maruti.co.in)

NORTH DELHI	Saya DD Motors (Azadpur) 47088888 9873563171	DD Motors (Narela) 958263509	T.R. Sawhney (Peeragarhi) 25963535	T.R. Sawhney (Badli) 9999324333	Rana Motors (Prashant Vihar) 9711507777	D.D. Motors (Wazirpur) 27153999	Krish (Tis Hazari) 9999159577	Rana Motors (GT Karnal Road) 9999149577	Fairdeal (Budh Vihar) 7290009371	SOUTH DELHI	Rohan (Mathura Road) 9560036262	T.R. Sawhney (Amar Colony) 9999563333	Competent (Lajpat Nagar) 8377007979	AAA Vehicleleads (Malviya Nagar) 9971500011	Prem Motors (Mahipalpur) 8745887458	Rohan (Chhatarpur Metro Station) 011-66764444	D.D. Motors (Okhla Ph-1) 40523000	Bagga Link (Kota) 8826892666			
Rana Motors (Safdarjung) 26712222	T.R. Sawhney (Gokulpuri) 9817000000	Magic Auto (Preet Vihar) 011-49077777	Competent (C.P.) 9582797749	T.R. Sawhney (I.P. Station) 9999399157	Fairdeal Cars (Sec-10) 9999700944	Vipul (Sec-63) 9873501288	Rohan (Sec-1) 8800091555	Magic Auto (Dwarka) 9560677777	T.R. Sawhney (Rajouri Garden) 9873781333	GREAT INDIA	Rohan (Mundka) 9650445555	Competent (Dwarka) 9582797879	Magic Auto (Dwarka Sec-13) 9818444481	AAA Vehicleleads (Mundka) 9650445555	Competent (Dwarka) 9582797879	TR Sawhney (Naraina) 9999137164	Competent (Shivaji Marg) 9582797748	Rana Motors (Janakpuri) 011-47911111	Fairdeal (Bhajanpura) 41845000	Competent (Shahdara) 011-67764444	D.D. Motors (Gazipur) 9910894050
Bagga Link (Patparganj) 9818199370	T.R. Sawhney (Gokulpuri) 9999399150	Magic Auto (Preet Vihar) 011-49077777	Competent (C.P.) 9582797749	T.R. Sawhney (I.P. Station) 9999399157	Fairdeal Cars (Sec-10) 9999700944	Vipul (Sec-18) 9873501288	Rohan (Sec-1) 8800091555	Magic Auto (Dwarka) 9560677777	T.R. Sawhney (Rajouri Garden) 9873781333	GREAT INDIA	Rohan (Udyog Vihar) 9971910523	Competent (Najafgarh) 9582797763	Prem Motors (32nd Milestone) 8750487504	AAA Vehicleleads (Mundka) 9650445555	Competent (Dwarka) 9582797879	Magic Auto (Dwarka) 9582797879	Competent (Shivaji Marg) 9582797748	Rana Motors (Janakpuri) 011-47911111	Fairdeal (Bhajanpura) 41845000	Competent (Shahdara) 011-67764444	D.D. Motors (Gazipur) 9910894050
Auto Nation (Mathura Road) 989956002	Vipul (Bellabagh) 971073300	Rohan (Palwal) 01275-304100	Fairdeal Cars (Piyali Chowk) 9582139824	Platinum Motocorp (IMT Chowk) 9953345312	Platinum Motocorp (Farrukhnagar) 9205192634	Platinum Motocorp (Pataudi) 905308437	Platinum Motocorp (Narnaul) 905308437	GREAT INDIA	Rohan (Mukund Nagar) 9650972222	GREAT INDIA	Motorcraft (Sahibabad) 9650972222	T.R. Sawhney (Mohan Nagar) 9882263544	Regent Auto (Meerut Road) 0122-2313204	Pasco (Islampur Sohna Road) 0122-2313204	Competent (Islampur Sohna Road) 9582797739	Rana Motors (Modi Nagar) 8057692222	Pasco (Alipur) 8683000956	Pasco (Bawali) 7082010000	Pasco (Neelam Chowk) 9999949739	FARIDABAD	

*Terms & Conditions apply. Terms & conditions are subject to change without any prior notice. All offers are brought to you by Maruti Suzuki dealers only. Total savings include cash discount (on selected models & variants), exchange bonus (on selected models & variants), ISL offer (for select Govt. & Corporate employees on select model & variants). Savings shown above are applicable on Dzire (Petrol), Swift Lxi (Petrol). Offers/Savings shown above may change without prior notice. **Additional offers on limited stock applicable only on 2019 make vehicles. *BS6 compliance available on select models & variants only. Accessories/colors/features shown may not be part of standard equipment and are for indicative purpose only. Car model and accessories shown may vary from actual product. Black gloss on vehicle is due to lighting effect. Images used are for illustration purpose only. Color shown may vary from actual body color due to printing on paper. All offers are valid till stock last. All offers are valid till 29th February, 2020 only.