



Heavy rain hits life
in Mumbai again;
800 evacuated
pages 9 & 12



Mehbooba gets notice
from anti-corruption
bureau in bank case
page 13



India's aggressive
actions can spark a
regional crisis: Imran
page 13



Rohit in roaring form
as India clinches T20I
series against WI
page 18

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NEARBY



Sengar says he is being
framed in car crash

LUCKNOW/NEW DELHI
Uttar Pradesh MLA Kuldeep Singh Sengar, jailed in a case of rape of a minor girl, claimed on Sunday that there was a "political conspiracy" to frame him and demanded a thorough probe into the car crash that left the rape survivor injured and two dead. "I would also pray to God that both the advocate and the pidditaa (Unnao rape survivor) recover fully," Mr. Sengar told reporters outside Sitapur jail.

NEWS ▶ PAGE 12

Now and then

Once hailed as a "tremendous talent", former cricketer Maninder Singh admits to having made a few mistakes in life. He now stays connected with the game through commentary and coaching.

▶ PAGE 5

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EDUCATIONPLUS ▶ 4 PAGES

J&K leaders placed under house arrest

Tension mounts as additional forces move in, occupy civilian installations and police stations

PEERZADA ASHIQ

SRINAGAR

An uneasy calm enveloped the Kashmir Valley on Sunday as additional security forces occupied civilian installations and police stations and were put in "standby mode."

Later in the night, National Conference vice-president Omar Abdullah and Peoples Democratic Party president Mehbooba Mufti were placed under house arrest. Congress leader Usman Majid and CPI(M) leader M.Y. Tarigami also said they were being detained.

Section 144 Cr.PC was imposed in Srinagar district from midnight and will remain in force till further orders. "There shall be no movement of the public. All educational institutions shall remain closed. There will be a complete bar on any kind of public meetings or rallies during the period of operation of this order. Identity cards of essential services officials will be treated as movement passes wherever required," read the order.

No curfew

However, there is no curfew in place, it added. In Jammu, the authorities said all schools, colleges and academic institutions, both private and government, were advised to remain closed as a measure of caution.

In a phased manner, mobile Internet services were snapped in all districts of the



Running on empty: People with gas cylinders waiting for refills in front of an outlet in Srinagar on Sunday. ■ NISSAR AHMAD

Kashmir Valley.

Mr. Abdullah said he was placed under house arrest in Srinagar. "The process has already started for other mainstream leaders. No way of knowing if this is true but if it is then I'll see all of you on the other side of whatever is in store. Allah save us," he tweeted.

Ms. Mufti said, "In such difficult times, I'd like to assure our people that come what may, we are in this together and will fight it out. Nothing should break our resolve to strive for what's rightfully ours."

CONTINUED ON ▶ PAGE 12
RAILWAYS TO GO EASY ON
TICKETLESS TRAVEL ▶ PAGE 13

PM Modi will chair Cabinet meeting today

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will chair a meeting of the Union Cabinet on Monday morning, where an important announcement is expected. It was not known whether the decision was related to Jammu and Kashmir.

Amid the build-up of Central armed police forces in the State, Home Minister Amit Shah chaired a review meeting with National Security Adviser Ajit Doval on Sunday.

The meeting, held at Mr. Shah's office in Parliament, was also attended by Union Secretary Rajiv Gauba, Intelligence Bureau chief Arvind Kumar and Research and Analysis Wing chief Samant Goel. Mr. Doval and other officials refused to comment as they left the meeting.

Mr. Shah also held discussions with Gyanesh Kumar, Additional Secretary, who is in charge of the Kashmir desk.

CONTINUED ON ▶ PAGE 12

Tourism takes a hit in Valley

Tourism took a major hit in Kashmir on Sunday. Against an average footfall of 3,000 tourists a day the previous week, just 350 arrived in the Valley on Sunday, despite the adverse advisory. An official said most hotels in tourist hotspots were emptied. "Around 700 tourists are still in the Valley after helping 90% tourists to leave Kashmir in the past two days. We expect 350 more to leave by Monday. Thereafter 35 will be left. All arrangements have been made for those who want to leave the Valley safely," another official said. ▶ PAGE 13

Take back bodies: India

The Army has asked Pakistan to take back the bodies of its Border Action Team soldiers lying in Indian territory, Army sources said on Sunday. The Army said it had foiled an infiltration attempt on Saturday and inflicted heavy casualties on the team. Pakistan has denied any "cross-LoC action" by its soldiers and called the possession of bodies by India "mere propaganda". ▶ PAGE 13



Shashi Tharoor and J. Geetha Reddy at a press meet on Sunday. ■ SHIV KUMAR PUSHPAKAR

CWC should appoint an interim president immediately and then hold an election to the party president's post as a leader elected by workers would be empowered and have more credibility.

"When we spoke with Rahul Gandhi, he said, 'I believe in a culture of accountability'. If Rahul Gandhi has done this, then it is relevant for everyone. This principle is not just for one person,"

"The resolution also outlines the way forward for the party.

A large section of the party has been demanding that the process of "electing" a new party president should not be limited to the 53-member working committee alone. Together with 24 members, 19 permanent invitees and 10 special invitees, the CWC has 53 members.

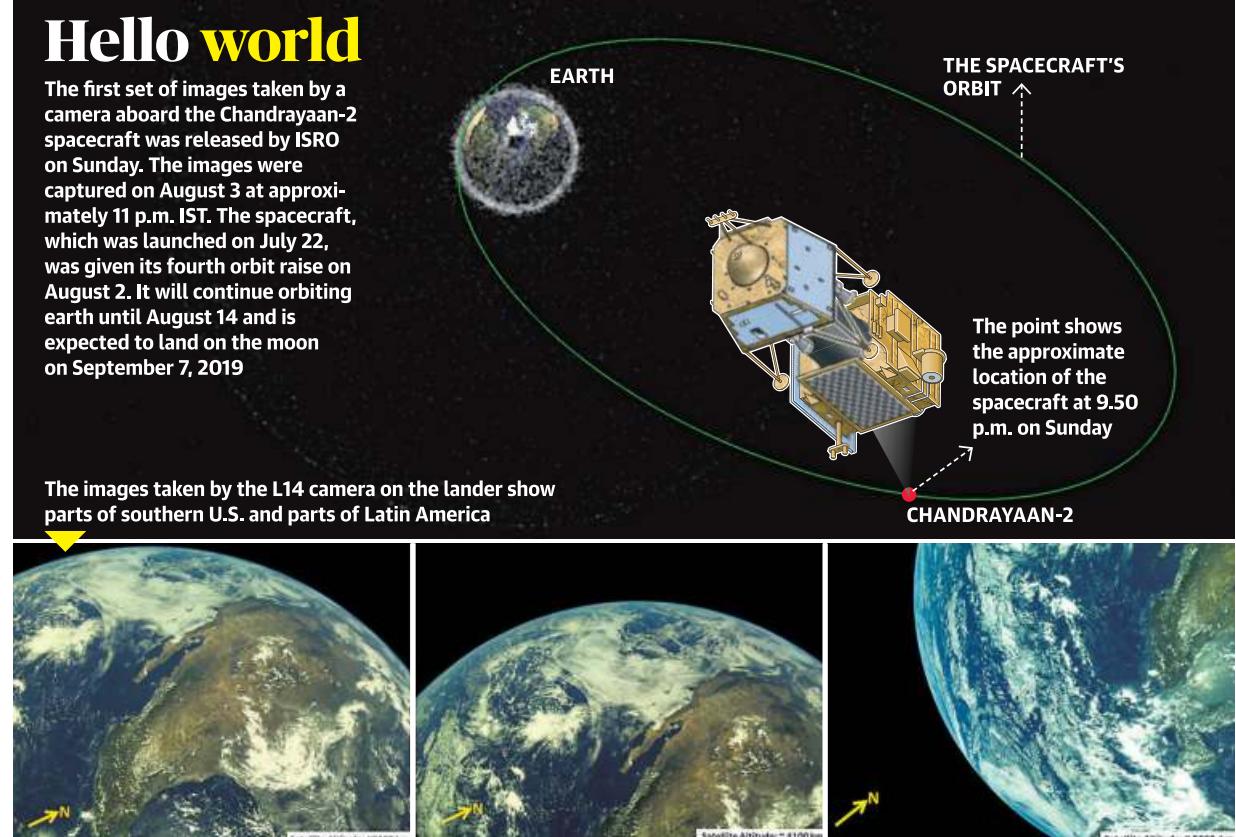
Provisional president Senior Congress leader Shashi Tharoor said the

CONTINUED ON ▶ PAGE 12
MILIND DEORA BETS ON PILOT,
SCINDIA ▶ PAGE 12

Hello world

The first set of images taken by a camera aboard the Chandrayaan-2 spacecraft was released by ISRO on Sunday. The images were captured on August 3 at approximately 11 p.m. IST. The spacecraft, which was launched on July 22, was given its fourth orbit raise on August 2. It will continue orbiting earth until August 14 and is expected to land on the moon on September 7, 2019.

The images taken by the L14 camera on the lander show parts of southern U.S. and parts of Latin America



30 die in U.S. in two mass shootings

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
HOUSTON/WASHINGTON

Two separate mass shootings within 24 hours left 29 people dead and several others injured in Texas and Ohio, the latest in a string of such incidents in the U.S. that have shocked the nation.

The first shooting took place in the southern border town of El Paso in Texas, where a 21-year-old gunman opened fire at a crowded Walmart store, killing 20 people and wounding 26 others on Saturday.

Hours later, a man killed nine people before being shot dead by the police in Oregon district in Dayton, Ohio, early on Sunday, the police said.

CONTINUED ON ▶ PAGE 14

Assam minorities bombarded with re-verification notices

RAHUL KARMAKAR
GUWAHATI

Anwar Hussain was surprised to receive a notice from the Local Registrar of Citizen Registration (LRCR) of the Goromari Revenue Block on Saturday.

The notice gave him less than 48 hours to appear, with all members of his family, for re-verification of their citizenship documents at the Golaghat North Development Block office in Golaghat district's Dergaon, about 330 km west of his village Kanahara in Kamrup district. They were

asked to report at 9 a.m. sharp on Monday.

"I somehow managed to hire a 22-seater bus for my family and a few others. The vehicle alone will cost me ₹18,000," said the 33-year-old Mr. Hussain, vice-principal of the Al-Amin Islamic Model School, before leaving for Dergaon in eastern Assam late on Sunday.

He was not the only one in Kanahara; 148 others had received a similar notice. By Saturday afternoon, about 50% of the people in most Muslim-dominated villages, such as

Goromari, Sontoli, Kalatoli, Topamari and Maligari, in Kamrup district had received the notice – almost simultaneously.

"All those who were asked to get their documents re-verified are included in the draft National Register of Citizens (NRC) published on July 30, 2018. They are not among the 40.07 lakh and 1.02 lakh put on the two lists of people excluded from the NRC," Kanahara village leader Muksed Ali Choudhury told *The Hindu*.

CONTINUED ON ▶ PAGE 12

Satwik and Chirag breach the wall of China

They won India's first-ever men's doubles final at the Thailand Open badminton championship



A day to remember: Chirag Shetty, left, and Satwiksairaj Rankireddy inked their names in bold in Indian badminton history. ■ AFP

V.W. SUBRAHMANYAM
HYDERABAD
India's Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty scripted a piece of history on Sunday by breaching the 'Chinese Wall' of reigning World champions Li Jun Hui and Liu Yu Chen, with a 21-19, 18-21, 21-18 victory in the men's doubles final of the Thailand Open badminton championship in Bangkok.

This is the first-ever Indian men's combination to win a BWF Super 500 title.

It was a revenge win for the Indians, who had lost to the World champions at the Australian Open early this year.

The Indian pair, ranked World No. 16, capped a week of consistent performances that saw them beat

No. 7 Fajar Alfian and Muhammad Rian Ardianto, No. 19 Ko Sung Hyun and Shin Baek Cheol and No. 27 Choi Solgyu and Seo Seung Jae.

Satwik in the front-court and Chirag controlling the back-court turned out to be a deadly combination. Satwik's brilliance included a splendid flick which fetched game-point in the first game.

See-saw battle

The second game saw a see-saw battle, but the Chinese won a test of nerves after the scores were tied at 18.

The intensity of the contest in the decider was palpable and the Indian duo kept their cool under pressure and raised their performance after trailing 1-4.

There was double delight for the Indians as they are poised to break into the World top 10. This is a shot in the arm as they eye a slot in next year's Tokyo Olympics.

'We stuck to plan'

"We were steady and did not rush things. We stuck to our plan of keeping the shuttle low and not hurrying through the points. I think that really worked," Satwik said later.

Chirag's father, Chandrashekhar Shetty, told PTI on the phone that his son's head had opened the doors for aspiring shuttlers. "What can I say! Spectacular win," he added.

MAKES INDIA PROUD ▶ PAGE 18

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Arvind Kejriwal

Chief Minister, Delhi

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Launch of Oral History Programme

(Documenting voices of the people)

of

Delhi Archives

in collaboration with

Ambedkar University Delhi

by

Manish Sisodia

Deputy Chief Minister, Delhi

Monday, 5 August 2019 at 4:00 PM

C.D. Deshmukh Auditorium, India International Centre
Main building, Max Muller Marg, New Delhi



The history of a place is incomplete without the lived experiences of its people. Tracing the personal journeys of common people will help us chart the journey of Delhi, which no history book can offer. The story of Delhi is not just about epic wars and the fall and rise of kingdoms, it is also about those intimate details, the songs, festivals, the recipes, the businesses that define the everyday culture of Delhi.

It is important to question and understand what constitutes our knowledge of history. An oral history project is a step towards inclusion. With the documentation of oral history through anecdotes, stories and experiences of citizens, the Delhi Archives shall bring forth a holistic story of Delhi.

I congratulate the Delhi Archives for taking on this programme with great enthusiasm and hope that their efforts may pay off.

-Manish Sisodia
Dy. Chief Minister, Delhi

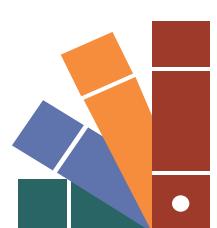
Panel Discussion at 3.00 PM

**Topic: Mapping Delhi through Oral Histories,
potential and possibilities**

**Sh. S. Irfan Habib, Sh. R.V. Smith,
Dr. Denys Leighton and Ms. Usha Purie**

Moderated by Sh. Sohail Hashmi

To contribute to the project, Please write to us:
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- An initiative of the Delhi government to map the journey of Delhi through voices of the people
- Important step to help scholars and researchers in filling the gaps of history
- 100 interviews will be conducted in a span of two years
- First phase to focus on the elderly women to map their relationship with Delhi
- Create an oral history archive for the public of anecdotes, songs, experiences, festivals, villages and businesses of Delhi



IN BRIEF

Resident doctors call off strike in the city

NEW DELHI
Resident doctors in Delhi decided to call off the strike on Sunday night. The announcement came a few hours after doctors of AIIMS called off their protest earlier in the day after Union Health Minister Harsh Vardhan assured them that their concerns over the NMC Bill would be addressed.

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Assembly to go paperless in three months: Speaker

NEW DELHI
In the next three months, the Assembly will go paperless as part of a project under which every MLA will be given tabs to keep abreast with House proceedings, said Speaker Ram Niwas Goel.

Tis Hazari courts under heavy security

STAFF REPORTER
NEW DELHI

The police said they have deployed officers for security in and around the Tis Hazari courts where rape accused BJP MLA Kuldeep Sengar will be produced on Monday afternoon.

The case pertains to the rape of a minor allegedly by Sengar in Unnao on June 4, 2017.

Shashi Singh had allegedly lured the victim to go to Sengar's residence.

On August 3, Tis Hazari court had issued production warrant against Sengar and Singh asking them to be present before it on August 5 at 12.30 p.m.

You don't give bail to convicted criminals'

+ U.S. woman says in a video after HC suspends 7-year jail term of man

STAFF REPORTER
NEW DELHI

The Delhi High Court suspended the seven years' sentence awarded to a man for digitally raping a foreign national and granted him bail.

Following the court's July 5 order, the victim from the U.S. recently shot a video outside the Indian Consulate in San Francisco alleging that she was denied assistance there. "...You don't give bail to convicted criminals

Visitors fill pages to save Daryaganj's weekly bazaar

The Sunday market has been under threat since HC order in July

SIDHARTH RAVI
NEW DELHI

Street vendors of the weekly book market in Daryaganj on Sunday took notebooks to fight a recent High Court order to vacate the stretch at Netaji Subhash Marg.

They distributed diaries to visitors to fill out testimonials urging authorities to reverse the action. Reams of pages were filled up by people from all over Delhi, Aligarh, Lucknow, Faridabad and even other countries.

For Rohan Srivastav, the Sunday book market has been a place where one can find cheap and often rare books. "As a student, it used to be a goldmine for me. It will be sad if this place shuts down," he told *The Hindu* while heading towards one of the bookstores, which was still open. Several testimonials along the same lines were recorded both in Hindi and English.

On July 3, the Delhi High Court had said, "No weekly bazaar shall be permitted on Netaji Subhash Marg for hacking/squatting".

The North body had submitted a list of squatting and non-squatting areas to the court. In the list, Netaji Subhash Marg was shown as a non-squatting area. The police also highlighted the congestion in the area and said permitting weekly bazaar will hinder the smooth flow of traffic.

Oppose relocation
Authorities had proposed that the vendors may shift to Ramlila Maidan instead. However, the vendors had opposed the idea. "It is an unsafe area...people urinate on the walls. There are all kinds



Before and after: Daryaganj wears a deserted look on Sunday after the High Court passed an order to ensure no weekly bazaars on the stretch; (inset) the Sunday market in May this year before the order. ■ V.V. KRISHNAN; REETI AGARWAL

of rallies taking place there. It is a terrible place for a book market," said vice-president of the Ganj Patri Sunday Book Bazar Welfare Association, Ashraf Lal.

"Khushwant Singh once called this market *sone ki chidiya* [golden bird] for its rare collection," said Lal. "Sheila Dikshit, Sonia Gandhi and even the Municipal Commissioner of the area [who is carrying out the action] said they come here to buy books," he said, adding that all sorts of books from textbooks to encyclopedias, second-hand and even rare books are sold here. "Even the World Book Fair can't compete with us," he said.

This market is a "natural bazaar" that developed in the area over the years, said Suresh Verma, who holds a PG diploma in book publishing.

"No one had set it up. It became famous on its own. There is no other place like this." To move to a different area would mean a major loss of business, claimed vendors.

"We used to sell books on a one-and-a-half km stretch before this. It was curtailed to 500 metres but we adjusted. Now, our books are laid out in such a way that there is enough space for pedestrians," said Mr. Verma.

Mr. Verma said despite being identified as a non-squatting zone, tehsil bazaar licences are regularly issued by the North body. "Isn't this a contradiction? We have now been told that once a town vending committee for the City SP zone is formed, it will look into the issue," he added.

Kanupriya Dinghra, a doctoral candidate at SOAS University in London, who is studying the market as part of her Ph.D thesis said she is helping the vendors with their campaign. "In the past, whenever the market has been shut down – like in 1995 and 2015 – it was because of public movements and efforts of the press, including writings of Khushwant Singh and Ramchandra Guha, that helped this market survive."

Delhi district courts secure second position in security

Chandigarh tops in the nationwide survey

STAFF REPORTER
NEW DELHI

Delhi district courts are ranked second only after Chandigarh in terms of security features in a nationwide survey of infrastructure by Vidhi Centre for Legal Policy.

Security is an essential requirement in court complexes, particularly to deal with hartals or strikes, escaping prisoners, or witnesses being threatened. Providing for the safety and security of judges, administrative staff, lawyers, litigants, witnesses, prisoners and undertrials are a fundamental guiding factor while designing court complexes.

The Vidhi survey found that only 11% of the court complexes surveyed had a working baggage scanning facility, while 71% had fire extinguishers and 48% had emergency exit signs.

Top three States

Chandigarh, Delhi and Meghalaya were the top States based on three aspects of security – baggage scanning facility, emergency exit signages, and fire extinguishers.

Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Goa, Manipur, Mizoram, Orissa and Tripura did not have a baggage scanning facility in any of the court complexes, both at the

main entrance and inside the court building, the report said.

States that did not have the facility in most court complexes were West Bengal (22 out of 23), Chhattisgarh (24 out of 25), Gujarat (32 out of 33), Jharkhand (23 out of 24), Madhya Pradesh (49 out of 50), Rajasthan (34 out of 35).

Poor performance
"The deployment of security personnel at the entrance could be a reason for the poor performance of most states as far as availability of baggage scanning is concerned," the Vidhi report said.

However, considering the large footfalls in court complexes on a daily basis, it is not practical for security personnel to thoroughly check baggage in the same manner that equipment does," it added.

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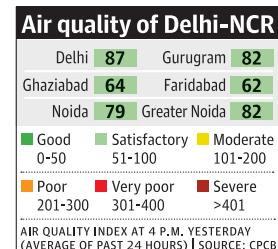
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CM inaugurates work on laying of water lines in 13 illegal colonies

Project costing ₹14.40 crore will be completed in 12 months

STAFF REPORTER
NEW DELHI



Arvind Kejriwal

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Tender Notice

Notice Inviting E-Tender
Notice No. : RE-DNR-Engg-Gr-176-WT-17B, Dated : 31.07.2019,
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PR/899/DNR/ENGG/T/19-20/52

IIT-Delhi showcases its research work at TechEx

STAFF REPORTER
NEW DELHI

The Indian Institute of Technology on Sunday showcased projects by its researchers developed under the IMPACTING Research, INnovation and Technology (IMPRINT) and Uchhatar Avishkar Yojana (UAY) schemes of the Ministry of Human Resource Development at an exhibition titled TechEx.

The exhibition was inaugurated by Minister for

Human Resource Development, Ramesh Pokhriyal. "Behind the development of developed countries, there is a special contribution of the research done in the universities there. Our educational institutions have to play a similar role in building a new India," he said.

Over 50 models/prototypes under IMPRINT and 26 under UAY were showcased at the exhibition on various themes.

Man involved in four murders arrested

STAFF REPORTER
NEW DELHI

A sharpshooter of the Abdul Naseer gang, who was involved in four murder cases, has been arrested, the police said on Sunday.

Kumar Gyanesh, Additional DCP (South-East) said that the accused Ible Hassan alias Dilshad was an active member of the gang.

"A team from Shaheen Bagh police station was keeping an eye on the movements of criminals released on bail

said that once the project is completed, filtered drinking water to these colonies will be supplied through the 7.1-MG UGR near ESI Hospital, Okhla Industrial Area Phase-I.

To benefit 2 lakh people

"Once completed, this internal water supply scheme will benefit two lakh people residing in A-Block, B-Block, B-1 Block, B-Block Y area, A-Block, L-Block, L-1: A-Block, C-Block: Part-I, L-1st Block, C-Block, L-Block, F-3 Block, C-Block: Part-II of Sangam Vihar Colony," the government said.

The Delhi government

recently. We got an information about Ible and a trap was laid at Abul Fazal Enclave where he was spotted," he said.

A countrymade pistol and a live cartridge were recovered from his possession, Mr. Gyanesh said.

During interrogation, Ible told the police that he was a vegetable seller before he started keeping bad company. He said he started committing crimes from 1999 to earn quick money.

Kejriwal slams BJP, Cong. for calling electricity subsidy an 'election stunt'

They are confused on whether to support or oppose govt.'

STAFF REPORTER
NEW DELHI

Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal on Sunday said that the BJP and Congress were not able to understand whether to support it or to oppose his government's new electricity subsidy.

"Some of them are calling it an election stunt. They are contesting elections in Maharashtra and Haryana, I challenge them to do a similar 'election stunt'. Why don't they take up such stunts?" Mr. Kejriwal said.

Addressing supporters, Mr. Kejriwal said, "Usually after five years of a government's tenure, there is an anti-incumbency against the

government. But for the first time, people have trusted this government and their love has only increased in the last five years. We are trying to live up to their expectations by working 24 hours a day."

'Basic right'

He said that his government believed that water and electricity are facilities without which no person can survive. "If someone does not have money then will they not use electricity? Everyone needs a bare minimum amount of electricity to use a fan, light, TV, fridge. This must be a basic right for all. Therefore 200 units have

been made free and up to 400 units, there is more than 50% discount on the bill," the Chief Minister said.

He said that the subsidy was possible as the government had been saving a lot of money due to its "integrity and honesty". "Earlier the other parties would loot this money. We do not loot and do not even allow others to indulge in corruption. With the money we are saving, we are investing in schools, hospitals, making electricity and water free and making transport free for women. These are the five things that must be free to lead a dignified life," Mr. Kejriwal said.

DELHI TODAY

Talk: A discussion on "How do we Rejuvenate Our Libraries?" by Mridula Koshy, Sanjoy K. Roy at IHC, 7 p.m.

Music: Guru Pranam Sangeet Samooh, a musical evening featuring Rudra Veena, recital by Pt. Bishoke Sil; Tala Vadya Kachchhari, a rhythmic percussion performance by Kumkamon N. Padmanabhan & Group; followed by a Kathak solo recital by Dr. Chitra Sharma; Odissi dance recital by Kavita Diwedi & Group at IHC, 7 p.m.

Exhibition: "An Archaeology of A New Identity", a solo exhibition by Sunil Yadav at Shridharani Gallery, Triveni Kala Sangam, 205, Tansen Marg, 11 a.m. - 7 p.m.

Exhibition: "Liminal spaces", a solo art show by Kanwal Singh at IHC, 11 a.m. - 7 p.m.

Exhibition: A solo show of paintings, drawings and graphics by Suraj Ghai at All India Fine Arts & Crafts Society, 1 Rafi Marg, 11 a.m. - 7 p.m.
(Mail your listings for this column at cityeditor@thehindu.co.in)

Alka to quit AAP, contest poll independently

STAFF REPORTER
NEW DELHI

AAP spokesperson Sauhard Bhardwaj, reacting to her announcement in a tweet, said: "She has announced this a dozen of times in the past. It takes 1 min to send a written resignation letter to party leadership. We will accept it on Twitter too."

"Alka Lamba has not worked in her constituency. She has been busy with foreign tours and vacations. Chandni Chowk will never forgive her, he said.

A revolution in governance

After successful implementation of Home Delivery of 40 Public services in Delhi

Now 30 more Public Services are available for Home Delivery

Call 1076

Arvind Kejriwal

Chief Minister, Delhi

Labour Department

- Grant of License for Contractor under Section 12 of Contract Labour (Regulation & Abolition) Act, 1970
- Grant of License for working of Passenger lift
- Grant of Registration of Establishment employing building workers of BOCW (RE&CS) Act, 1996
- Grant of Registration Certificate of Principal Employer under Section 7 of Contract Labour (Regulation & Abolition) Act, 1970
- Periodical Inspection of Lift
- Grant of Electrical Contractor License
- Issuance of Certificate of Competency Class I (Electrical Supervisor)
- Booking of Tour Package

SC/ST Welfare Department

- Post Matric Scheme for SC Students
- Pre Matric Scheme for SC Students
- Post Matric Scholarship for OBC Student of College/Professional Institution
- Post Matric Scholarship for OBC Student (PMS-OBC)
- Pre Matric Scholarship for OBC Student (PMS-OBC)

Higher Education

- Higher Education and Skill Development Guarantee Scheme of Delhi Higher Education Aid Trust
- Merit-cum-Means Income Linked Financial Assistance Scheme of Delhi Higher Education Aid Trust

Food & Supplies Department

- Addition of Members in the Ration Card
- Change in Head of Family
- Change in Residential Address
- Deletion of Members in the Ration Card
- Issuance of Duplicate Ration Card
- Transfer of Ration Card within Delhi
- Updation of mobile no. of beneficiary

Transport Department

- Addition of new class of vehicle to a Driving License
- Motor Vehicle Tax

Tourism Department

- Registration of Bed & Breakfast establishments

Delhi Transport Corporation

- Issuance of general all route Bus Pass for AC & Non AC Buses
- Issuance of Delhi-NCR bus passes.

Drugs Control

- Grant of License to Chemist
- Grant of License for sale of Homoeopathic drug
- Grant of License for sale of schedule X drug

Citizens of Delhi need to Call 1076 for availing the Public Services at their doorsteps. An executive will visit the Citizen's residence to do their work. A fee of Rs. 50/- will be charged for availing the Public Service at Doorstep. Now, Citizens of Delhi can avail total 70 services (Additional services will be added in a phased manner).

Step 1 : Dial 1076 & request for your desired service

Step 2 : Call Centre Executive will detail out mandatory requirement for availing the particular service.

Step 3 : Executive will capture relevant details and book appointment SMS will be sent to citizen once appointment is booked.

Step 4 : A day before the appointment, applicant will get SMS confirming the appointment. If the citizen wants to reschedule /Cancel the appointment he /she can call 1076.

Step 5 : Applicant shall receive System generated OTP before the visit of Mobile Sahayak. Applicant will share the OTP with the Mobile Sahayak.

Step 6 : Mobile Sahayak will fill online application. Applicant has to handover self attested photocopy of all the documents relevant to the application. Confirmation SMS about submission from user department will be sent to applicant.

Step 7 : Verification / Examination , done by department. In few services i.e. driving license applicant is required to visit user department

Step 8 : Once the document / Certificate is ready, SMS will be sent to applicant.

Step 9: Wherever, postal facility is not available, Mobile Sahayak would deliver the documents.

Step 10: Feedback by call centre

NOW AND THEN

'I live for the day and don't look too far ahead'

Cricketer Maninder Singh on following the path of spirituality, and staying connected with the game through commentary and coaching

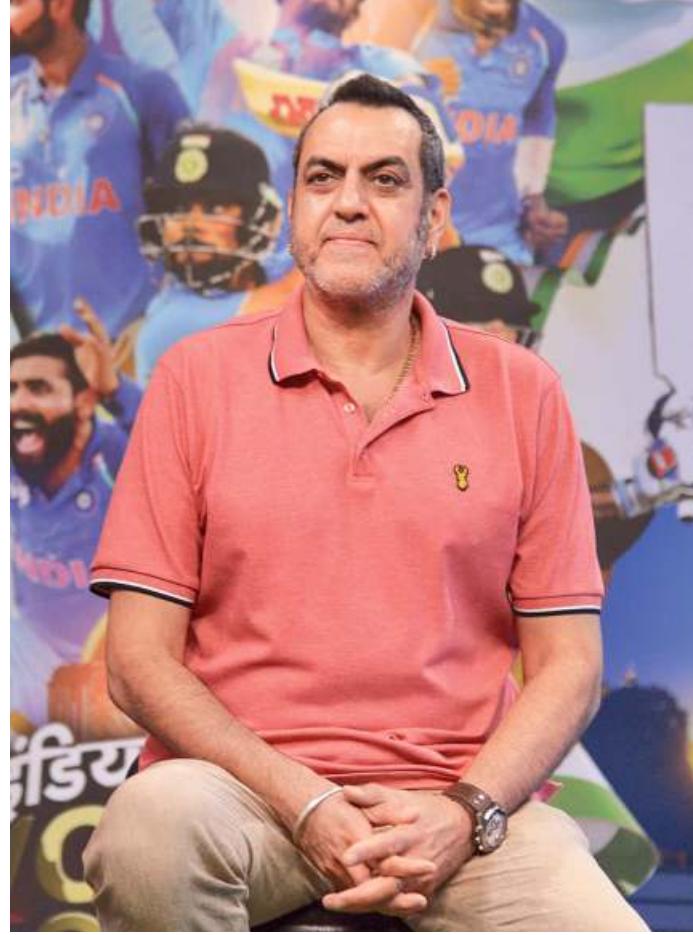
VIJAY LOKAPALLY

Spinners mature late but Maninder Singh quit competitive cricket at 30, less than a year after claiming seven wickets in a Test against Zimbabwe at Ferozeshah Kotla, his home ground. "I had no motivation left," says Maninder. Experts did notice a change in his bowling action, but that seemed no reason for this gifted bowler to walk away from the game he fell in love with as a teenager, they believed. Many asked him to reconsider, but he stuck to his guns.

Off field, on the game
It wasn't the end of his love for the game though. One of cricket's biggest underachievers, as often reiterated by Kapil Dev, Maninder continues to earn a part of his livelihood from it. "I have been with News Nation for five years now and the channel has been kind to me. I enjoy the lively working atmosphere, and our discussions on the game are serious," says the expert commentator.

In his straight-talking way he says, "It can be boring sometimes to watch cricket, but if I have to give my opinion, then I must watch the matches. You can't be dishonest towards your viewers and fans. I do extensive homework for my cricket shows and don't hesitate to take a stand."

As a player, Maninder commanded the respect of the best of batsmen. "His talent was awesome and he would deceive you in the air. It was tough to read his spin because he had a lethal arm," was how Test batsman N.S. Sidhu, a fine player of spin, described him once. Then he served the game as an umpire, excelling on the first-class circuit.



He was simultaneously commenting on cricket when he was told to pick one of the two around 2001-02. "I chose to be a commentator [on Star Sports] because it was a nice way to stay in touch with the game. It gave me a chance to get into the ring and give my views. I learnt from [Ian] Chappell and [Tony] Greig to make the game interesting for the viewer by adding colour to the picture. Sushil Doshi [Hindi commentator] taught me the importance of voice modulation."

Back in the day
A debut at 17 in Pakistan heralded Maninder's entry to international cricket in 1982. He was welcomed as a "tremendous talent" by stalwarts like Sunil Gavaskar and G.R. Viswanath. His best (seven for 27) came against Pakistan at Bengaluru in 1987; unfortunately India lost the match.

When he 'retired', it was because he wasn't happy with the way he'd lived life. "I took to meditation. I was initiated into it by my homoeopath, Amrita Wadh-



wa and guided by a friend, Chan-

der Mohan."

Today, he says he is at peace

with himself. His daily routine in-

cludes spending time with his 87-

year-old mother, yoga, meditation

and performing paath.

"I made a few mistakes; I suf-

fered because of them, and wast-

ed my talent," says the much-mel-

lowed man now. "I fought alcohol

and temperament issues, and I

was falsely accused of being a

drug addict, of attempting to end

my life. I don't want youngsters to

make the mistakes I made. They

must learn to handle success, be

humble and respectful."

Now, he looks at life with a

fresh perspective. "I have gone

through very difficult times, but

life is good now. I begin and end

my day with prayers and do my

work honestly. I tell youngsters

not to be like me."

Strangely, Maninder, despite

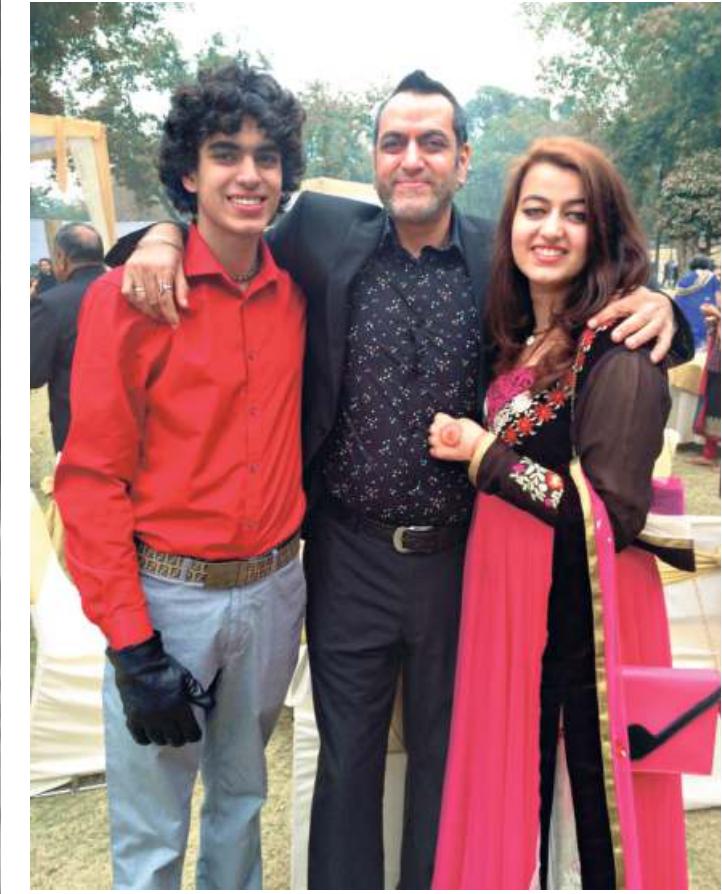
playing in front of packed stadi-

ums, has had a phobia of crowds.

"That is the reason I never went

to watch the Republic Day parade

(From left to right) Maninder Singh at the TV studio; in action at the nets during his playing days; with son and daughter. ■ R.V. MOORTHY; SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT; THE HINDU ARCHIVES



**MANINDER SINGH,
54, LEFT-ARM SPINNER**

CAREER SPAN: 1982 to 1995

PLAYED: 35 Tests, 59 ODIs

KNOWN FOR: His ability to beat the batsman with flight and turn

FOR THE RECORD: Claiming 7 for 27 against Pakistan in a Test at Bengaluru

[in the Capital] which I followed with passion on TV. I don't visit gurdwaras for this reason, because I once got lost as a child [in a huge gurdwara congregation]. I love quiet places."

Capital city

For Maninder, the Capital is a "great city with a lively culture". His life revolved around Lutyens' Delhi. "My school [Air Force Bal Bharti] was close to Lodhi Garden, and coaching [at National Stadium] was a nice walk from home [Lodhi Colony]. My favourite restaurant [Pindi] was on Pandara Road."

He says he was fortunate to have a caring principal (H. Baxi) and administrator (V.K. Duggal). "At Khalessi College, my principal G.S. Randhawa, political science teacher [D.S. Claire], English teacher [Lakshmi Singh] and sports in-charge [Pargat Singh] were a big help in guiding me in their respective fields," he says.

In his 54 years he has seen the city grow, though he feels security has deteriorated. "But it is a delight to drive on Delhi roads."

As Maninder reflects on his career, he gives all credit to cricket coach Gurcharan Singh. "I owe everything to him. He taught me cricket and shaped my life. Gurcharan Sir was the one who con-

vinced my parents to allow me to play cricket." In fact, it was he who helped him get admission in school. "He treated me like his son. You don't get gurus like Gurcharan Sir any more. [Bishan] Bedi's guidance, and support from Mohinder Amarnath were priceless too," he says, expressing gratitude for all the people who shaped his life.

He now devotes time to guiding young talent, often coaching for free. He picks off-spinner Hrithik Shokeen, who made his India under-19 debut in February this year, as a promising player.

Maninder is a proud father: "My daughter [Rui Pavani] is happily married and my son [Arjun] is studying to be an interior designer. God is looking after me and my family. My philosophy is simple: I live for the day and don't look too far ahead."

NHAI repairs MG Road underpass

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
GURUGRAM

The National Highways Authority of India on Sunday carried out repair work on the newly constructed right-turn underpass on Mehrauli-Gurugram Road here, two days after heavy rain damaged the structure.

The stormwater drain on both sides of the underpass at the exit was dug up for a length of around 100 metre to be relaid to prevent recurrence of the situation. Also iron sheets were tightened with nuts and bolts to hold together the extension joints of the concrete wall that had widened due to the cave-in of the road.

It had led to spillage of rainwater inside the structure causing it to flood. The canopy of the structure, which had got disjointed at multiple points, was also repaired and welded. The cracks appearing on the concrete wall were also filled and painted.

The underpass had flooded on August 2 after a sudden rush of water from Ghata hit the structure following heavy rainfall. The traffic through the underpass was restored on Saturday after the water was pumped out.

In the case of Gurugram's underpass cave-in, it seems the strengthening of the retaining walls and desilting of drains has not been addressed on time, said Dikshu C. Kukreja, a socio-environmentalist planner.

Man 'accidentally' shoots at friend

STAFF REPORTER
NEW DELHI

In a suspected case of accidental firing, a 21-year-old man was shot at allegedly by one of his friends in north-west Delhi's Jahangirpuri, the police said on Sunday.

The incident took place on Saturday evening, they said. According to the police, the victim, Vinay was having drinks with his friends, when one of them fired at him causing a gunshot injury on his left shoulder.

The victim was rushed to Babu Jagjivan Ram Memorial Hospital where he was given first-aid and referred to Lok Nayak Hospital

for further treatment, Deputy Commissioner of Police (North-West) Vijayanta Arya said. The victim's condition is stated to be stable, the officer said.

Sumit, victim's friend, told the police that he along with Vinay and two more friends were having drinks in one of their shanties when one of them suddenly fired at Vinay, the officer added.

A case has been registered and the accused has been identified. Investigation revealed that it was a case of accidental firing. The accused is absconding, the police added.

Husband stabs woman over suspicion of illicit affair

Accused, an alcoholic, arrested

STAFF REPORTER
NEW DELHI

A 58-year-old man allegedly stabbed his wife in south Delhi's Sangam Vihar following a fight over suspicion that she was in a relationship with a younger man, the police said on Sunday.

The incident happened on Saturday morning. The couple has three sons who were at home at the time of the incident. They managed to lock their father in a room and rushed the woman to a nearby hospital, a senior police officer said.

However, investigation revealed that the accused is jobless and an alcoholic. He often picked up fights with his wife and children over petty issues, the officer said.

The weapon of offence has also been recovered, the police said.

DELHI Timings

MONDAY, AUG. 05
RISE 05:45 SET 19:10
RISE 10:07 SET 22:30
TUESDAY, AUG. 06
RISE 05:45 SET 19:09
RISE 11:11 SET 23:09
WEDNESDAY, AUG. 07
RISE 05:46 SET 19:08
RISE 12:13 SET 23:47

Delhi Weather

max min

Delhi City 36 27

Safdarjung 36 27

Palam 36 26

Delhi Palam Today

35°C A warm and humid day is likely. Spells of rain and thundershower would occur over parts of the city.

Delhi Palam Tomorrow

30°C Fall in temperatures is likely. Moderate spells of rain and thundershower lies ahead.

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IN BRIEF

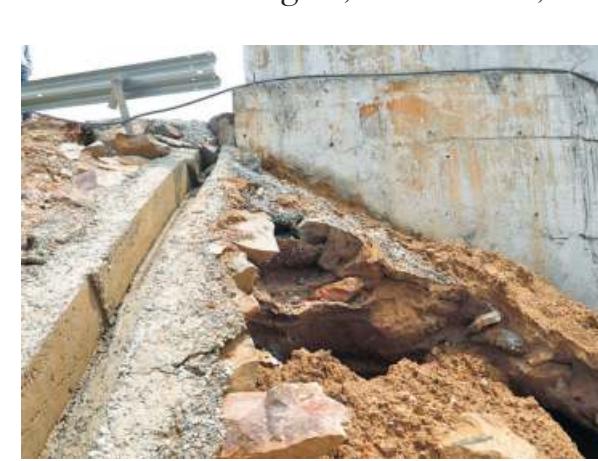
Ramjas College holds blood donation camp

NEW DELHI

Medical teams from the Army collected over 300 units of blood during a blood donation camp held at Ramjas College on Sunday, an NGO "I am still Human" which organised the camp said. The camp saw the participation of students, faculty as well as Army veterans. The event was flagged off with a bike rally comprising 470 bikers from India Gate to Ramjas College.

THE HINDU

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Around 15-20 complaints of cave-ins, mostly on the new Kundli-Manesar section was received over the last fortnight. ■ MANOJ KUMAR

soil in the area was sandy leading to the cave-ins. He said the process of compaction of the soil was expected to be complete by next monsoon and hoped that there would be no such instances next year.

Arshad, a truck driver, who usually takes the expressway on his way to Chennai from Sonipat, said there were no fuel stations and puncture shops on the road. He said it was dangerous to travel on the road at night since there were no lights and it had caved-in at several points.

Way Side Amenities'

Though four sites have been earmarked on the expressway for "Way Side Amenities" – fuel stations, restrooms and food joints – and six acre land is acquired for each, tender has been given only for one. "The tender was awarded to IOCL for a fuel station near Jhajjar, KM

47 a month ago for one of the sites and the construction has begun. We are in the process of allocating the remaining three sites as well. However, no decision has been taken on the bids for the food joints. The proposal is under consideration of our commercial and housing wing," said a senior Haryana State Industrial and Infrastructure Development Corporation (HSIIDC) official, not willing to be named.

Of the total vehicles using the road daily, around 13,500 are cars and 6,700 light commercial vehicles. The rest of the traffic comprises trucks and multiple-axle vehicles. Indicating a surge in the traffic on the highway, the HSIIDC has given a fresh tender to R.K. Jain Infra Projects Private Limited for ₹56.65 lakh per day for toll collection a week ago for the next four months, which is almost double compared to ₹35 lakh tender in

Traffic to increase

The tenders are now given for a short period, ranging from 3-4 months, in view of the gradual increase in traffic. The traffic is expected to increase steeply for the next six months before the growth settles down.

Mr. Goyal said lampposts

were erected on the Kundli-Manesar section and electricity connection was awaited. He hoped that electricity would be available by next fortnight. Mr. Goyal said that electricity was already provided on the loops with the help of generator sets.

They informed the police

about the incident, the offic-

DM inspects library at Darul Uloom campus

Allegation of helipad being built there

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

GAZIABAD
Reacting to orders from the Chief Minister's office, the District Magistrate of Saharanpur inspected the under-construction library in the sprawling Darul Uloom campus in Deoband on Saturday.

Vikas Tyagi, zonal coordinator of the Bajrang Dal, had made a complaint to the CM's office that a helipad was being built on top of the huge structure.

District Magistrate Alok Kumar had asked the administration to submit a report. Unsatisfied, he made a detailed inspection of the site with Senior Superintendent of Police Dinesh Kumar and PWD engineers.

After the inspection, Mr Kumar told the media that there was no trace of a helipad on the rooftop but the university administration did not ask for permission

for making addition to the existing structures and building of new structures from the authorities concerned. "Action will be taken in this regard as per law," he said.

Responding to the action, Maulana Arshad Madani, national president of the Jamiat Ulema-e-Hind, said: "This is for the first time that the local administration has undertaken an inspection after a complaint, which seemed to be motivated, was lodged. We will abide by the rules and take necessary permissions in future."

'Not part of plan'

On the helipad issue, Mr. Madani said it was never part of the plan. "Many foreign dignitaries visit the seminary and every time it is the local administration that makes arrangements for their travel and landing of aircraft."

Sonbhadra DM and SP shunted out

U.P. CM cracks down on errant officials after inquiry report into killing of tribals

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

LUCKNOW

The Uttar Pradesh government on Sunday shunted out the District Magistrate and the Superintendent of Police of Sonbhadra, besides ordering action against 13 other officials after they were indicted in an inquiry into the killing of 10 Gond tribals last month over a land dispute.

'FIRs against guilty'

Addressing a press conference at his residence, Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath said FIRs will be registered against several police and administration officials for alleged irregularities and members of the Adarsh Krishi Sahkari Samiti, Umbha, on charges of land grabbing.

The disputed land in Umbha and Saphi villages will also be transferred back and registered in the name of the gram sabha, he said, while announcing that a Spe-



CM Yogi Adityanath

cial Investigation Team will look into the matter.

Mr. Adityanath said departmental proceedings have been initiated against Sonbhadra District Magistrate Ankit Kumar Agrawal and Superintendent of Police Salman Taj Patil for taking "one-sided decision" against the villagers.

Directives have been issued to attach Mr. Agrawal and Mr. Patil to the Personnel Department and the DGP

Headquarters, respectively, he said.

S. Ramalingam has been made the new District Magistrate of Sonbhadra, while Prabhakar Chaudhary is the new Superintendent of Police, officials said.

"The entire matter will be probed by an SIT. The SIT will be headed by DIG SIT J. Ravindra Gaud and will have Additional SP Amrita Mishra along with three inspectors. DG SIT R.P. Singh will be monitoring the work of the SIT," the Chief Minister said.

He said another team will be set up under Additional Chief Secretary (Revenue) Renuka Kumar to look into the issue of land grabbing by "fake" societies in the last 60-70 years in Mirzapur and Sonbhadra.

'No action on report'

"Fake societies in Sonbhadra and Mirzapur have grabbed more than one lakh acre of land. In 1972, the then Chief

Minister Hemwati Nandan Bahuguna had constituted a probe committee under Mangaldev Visharad. However, no action was taken as a number of Congress leaders were involved," Mr. Adityanath said.

"The government has formed a six-member team that will probe into the land grabbed by fake societies in Mirzapur and Sonbhadra and then using it for their personal use. The probe report will be submitted in three months' time," he added.

In July, 10 people were killed and 28 injured in the clash after a village headman and his supporters opened fire on a group of tribals over a land dispute.

The Personnel Department has initiated action against Ghorawal SDM Vijay Prakash Tiwari, and an FIR will be registered against him, according to an official statement.

Mother, daughter crushed to death

Came under train while chasing a thief

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

GAZIABAD

A woman and her daughter were crushed to death by an oncoming train near Mathura in the early hours of Saturday after they fell from the Trivandrum Express while chasing a thief who stole one of their bags, the police said.

Jogender Kumar, Superintendent of Police, Railways, Agra region, said that Meena Devi, 45, and Manisha, 21, who hail from Durgapur in West Bengal, jumped out of the moving train when they discovered that a thief had stolen their bag which had cash and identity cards. While the thief escaped, the mother and daughter were crushed by the Sampark Kranti Express that passed on the adjacent track.

"The incident happened in S2 coach near the Vrinda-

van city station and it seems the thief pulled the chain before jumping off the train. Meena was found dead on the spot while Manisha died during treatment."

Meena's son Akash, 23, slept through the whole incident and was woken up by fellow passengers. "Akash told us that the family had boarded the train at Hazrat Nizamuddin. They were going to Kota to get Manisha admitted for medical coaching. He also told us that the bag that has been stolen had around ₹4000, two mobile phones, and some crucial documents," said Mr. Kumar.

Inspector transferred

The SP has transferred inspector Rajesh Dubey, the GRP in-charge of the Mathura station, to the Police Lines and a departmental inquiry has been ordered for dereliction of duty.

Assam flood toll reaches 90

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

GUWAHATI

Floods in Assam claimed one more life on Sunday, pushing the toll to 90, even as the overall situation improved considerably. Nearly 88,000 people remain affected by the deluge.

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By Sachin Arora 05 AUG 3:00pm

SOCIOLOGY

By Dharmendra 05 AUG 3:00pm

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Rains continue, flood alert in many areas

Two, including a 10-year-old, die in separate incidents; 2,000 people rescued; Godavari in spate

SHOUMOJIT BANERJEE

PUNE
Relentless showers continued to pound Pune, Satara and Sangli districts in western Maharashtra, and Nashik in north Maharashtra throughout Sunday. District authorities evacuated more than 2,000 persons from inundated areas.

Ten-year-old Kunal Ajay Dodke was killed and his younger sister injured after a wall of their house caved in on Sunday morning in Lonavala, around 70 km from Pune. The police said heavy rain might have triggered the wall collapse.

In what is thought to be another rain-related accident, one person drowned while another was feared dead in Satara after their car plunged into a waterfall near Koyna dam late on Saturday. According to the Satara police, the two people were travelling to Kamargaon when the driver lost control of the car. The driver has been identified as Satara resident Nitin Shelar, while rescue teams are searching for the other occupant of the car.

Schools closed today

Pune city and district were battered by near-continuous rain since Saturday evening through the better part of Sunday.

Pune Collector Nawal Kishore Ram declared a holiday for all schools in the district on Monday, taking into account the grim forecast for the next 48 hours, making use of powers recently bestowed by the State Education Department on district collectors to declare school holidays in case of a disaster or emergency.

"Going by the India Meteorological Department's (IMD) forecast of heavy rain in the forthcoming days and in wake of the continuous rainfall that commenced



Down under: Omkareshwar temple in Pune is flooded due to heavy rain on Sunday; (below) various parts of Nashik are submerged after water was released from Gangapur dam.

MANDAR TANNU ■ SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

since Saturday in the Maval, Mulshi, Bhor, Velha and Junnar talukas of Pune among other areas, we have decided to declare a holiday for school-going students to preclude any untoward incident," Mr. Ram said.

In Pune city, with over 41,000 cusecs (cubic foot per second) of water released from the Khadakwasla into Mutha river, the Bhide bridge was submerged and there were traffic snarls at several points in the city.

The relentless downpour especially threw the commute awry in Pimpri-Chinchwad and Wakad areas, after over 35,000 cusecs discharged from Mulshi dam flooded Sanghvi and Wakad.

Discharge from the Khadakwasla dam inundated low-lying areas in Balewadi, Baner, Aundh, Yerwada, Sinhgad Road and Bopodi.

Rescue teams moved more than 300 families dwelling in low-lying of the city to safer zones owing to the discharge of massive quantities of water from the



Khadakwasla, Pavna, Mulshi and other dams.

Several people were trapped in residential areas in Pimpri and Sanghvi after their homes were flooded. More than 50 residents of old Sanghvi were successfully rescued by the fire department and local police in the morning.

Following the discharge of water from Mulshi dam, the district administration issued stern warnings to deter monsoon picnickers. Seven members of a family stranded at a house in the waterlogged Kamshet area were al-

so rescued by a team of the NDRF, said authorities.

Karad, Sangli on alert

The rain has led to the four major dams in Pune district — Khadakwasla, Panshet, Varsagaon and Temghar — to fill up to more than 90% of their cumulative storage capacity of 29.15 TMC.

With the Pavna dam swelling to capacity owing to continuous rain in the past week, the Pimpri-Chinchwad Municipal Corporation scrapped the water rationing it had enforced throughout the summer.

Going by the IMD's forecast of heavy rain in the forthcoming days, we have decided to declare a holiday for school-going students

NAWAL KISHORE RAM
Pune collector

Pune and Satara are expected to receive heavy showers for the next 48 hours, IMD officials said. With the steep increase in the discharge of water (more than 50,000 cusecs) from the Koyna dam, a high alert has been sounded for Karad (in Satara) and Sangli cities.

Discharge of 20,000 cusecs from the Chandoli dam in Sangli led to flooding in nearby villages, while in adjacent Kolhapur district, heavy rains disrupted communications between several villages in the district.

Nashik inundated

The Nashik District Collector, too, has declared a holiday for schools and colleges on Monday.

With the Godavari river in spate and the continuing release of water from the Gangapur dam, parts of the district, including the holy spots of Trimbakeshwar and Panchavati, were completely deluged, making them out of bounds for tourists.

River waters reached up to the neck of the Dutondya Maruti, a statue of Hanuman, in Panchavati, and even entered the Trimbakeshwar temple as showers continued to lash Nashik city and the talukas of Igatpuri, Trimbakeshwar, Peint, Surgana and Dindori.

According to authorities, the Trimbakeshwar tehsil had received more than 300 mm rain till Sunday morning while Nashik city received 84 mm rain.

Raising alarm over EVMs, key opposition parties — including the Congress, NCP and MNS — on Friday pitched for reverting to the use of ballot papers and announced a protest march on

Oppn. raps CM for holding rallies in time of distress

'Govt. should announce natural calamity, distribute relief fund'

ALOK DESHPANDE

MUMBAI

The Opposition on Sunday criticised Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis for continuing with his political campaign despite many parts of the State being flooded due to incessant rains.

State Congress campaign committee chief and former MP Nana Patole asked Mr. Fadnavis to return to Mumbai and control the situation, warning that if he fails to do so, the Congress party will storm into Mantralaya and take control of the disaster control room.

"At a time when many parts of Maharashtra are facing risk from floods, Mr. Fadnavis is busy in his five-star political campaign using public money. The State machinery is busy hosting the

CM at various places, and as a result, citizens are living in constant fear of losing everything to the floods. The Chief Minister should have handled the flood situation instead of going on a political campaign," he said.

Mr. Patole said Mumbai, Thane, Palghar, Nashik, Navi Mumbai, Raigad, Sangli, Kolhapur and Pune are in grave danger owing to rising river water levels. "The State government should immediately call it a natural calamity and sufferers should be distributed relief money through State Disaster Relief Fund," he said, adding that a Congress delegation will be visiting the Chief Secretary on Monday.

Leader of Opposition in the Council and Nationalist Congress Party leader Dha-

najay Munde, too, censured Mr. Fadnavis, calling his political campaign insensitive. "Who will save the people of Maharashtra? The ruling party is busy organising tours and campaigns with an eye on election. The administration is being run through tours," he said.

The government, however, said the CM and Chief Secretary are monitoring the situation and relief operations. "Directions have been issued to district collector offices to ensure relief operations are conducted wherever needed. The district administration has been given the powers to take decisions. We are monitoring everything and the CM is being informed of every action," said an official from the Chief Minister's Office.

Opposition heading for historic defeat in polls, says Fadnavis

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

GONDIA

Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis, while addressing a press conference in Gondia on Sunday, said the Opposition was heading for a "historic defeat" in the forthcoming Assembly polls.

Criticising the opposition parties, he said they have joined hands against the use of electronic voting machines (EVMs) in elections to make an excuse for their own losses.

Raising alarm over EVMs, key opposition parties — including the Congress, NCP and MNS — on Friday pitched for reverting to the use of ballot papers and announced a protest march on



Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis at a Mahajanadesh Yatra rally in Gondia on Sunday. ■ SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

hence, are using this as a covering fire. The *maha morna* (long march) against EVMs later this month will result in *maha* defeat of the Opposition," he said.

+ Cong. objects to Yuva Sansad events in junior colleges

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

AHMEDABAD

The Congress has objected to the Maharashtra government's order asking junior colleges across the State to hold 'Yuva Sansad' elocution competitions, accusing it of attempting to influence young minds.

The government on July 24 asked 9,700 junior colleges to conduct elocution competi-

tions where students will speak on the Central government's various welfare schemes — like the Jan Dhan Yojana, Swachh Bharat Abhiyan, Ujjwala Scheme, and Ayushman Bharat Scheme — and authorised the district education officer to supervise such events.

According to the resolution, the competition is an attempt to empower the youth. It aims

to create awareness among students in the age group of 15 to 19 years about generating new ideas, seeking suggestions on the implementation of government schemes and getting to know their expectations.

However, the State Congress's campaign committee chief Nana Patole said the topics for debate have nothing to do with the educational curri-

culum of students. "The scheme has been conceptualised to influence the young minds with the Bharatiya Janata Party's agenda. The students are being roped in for its poll campaign," he alleged.

The Opposition will protest against "politicisation of education" if the decision to conduct the Yuva Sansad events is not revoked, he said.

Statue of Unity shortlisted for UK-based structural award

Winner to be announced on November 15

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

AHMEDABAD

The Statue of Unity, a memorial to Sardar Patel, in Gujarat's Kevadia town has been shortlisted for 'The Structural Awards 2019' of the UK-based Institution of Structural Engineers (IStructE).

The 182-m-tall statue was unveiled by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on October 31 last year.

It is among the 49 structures that will vie for the prestigious award, according to the institution's website. The awards will be announced at a function in London on November 15.

Other structures shortlisted for the award include a sports stadium with a roof made of rotating petals at Hangzhou in China, a 22-m-deep basement beneath a five-star hotel in London and buildings showcasing the world's best seismic performance in San Francisco, according to the website.

'Extraordinary innovation'
"Our profession has once again demonstrated extraordinary innovation over the past year. The 2019 shortlist offers many great examples of the ingenuity, creativity and skill of structural engineers worldwide," professor Tim Ibell, head of the judging panel, said.

"One of the aims of this awards programme is to increase awareness of the important work that structural engineers do," Martin Powell, chief executive of the institution, said.

Commenting on the Statue of Unity, the judging panel said,



Moment of pride: The Statue of Unity will join the likes of Sydney Opera House, Severn Bridge if it wins the awards. ■ FILE PHOTO

"This is an impressive sculpture by virtue of its scale and location. It put great demands on the engineers to conquer the challenges — defining the design loads, selecting the right materials for the right purposes, and handling the uncertainties of geology."

The statue, designed by architect Ram Suthar and built by Larsen and Toubro, has a viewing gallery at a height of 150 m which provides visitors a spectacular view of the Sardar Sarovar dam and its vicinity.

Past winners of this award include iconic structures such as Sydney Opera House in Australia, the Pompidou Centre in Paris and Severn Bridge in England.

The institute has been bestowing this award for best structural designs for the last 52 years.

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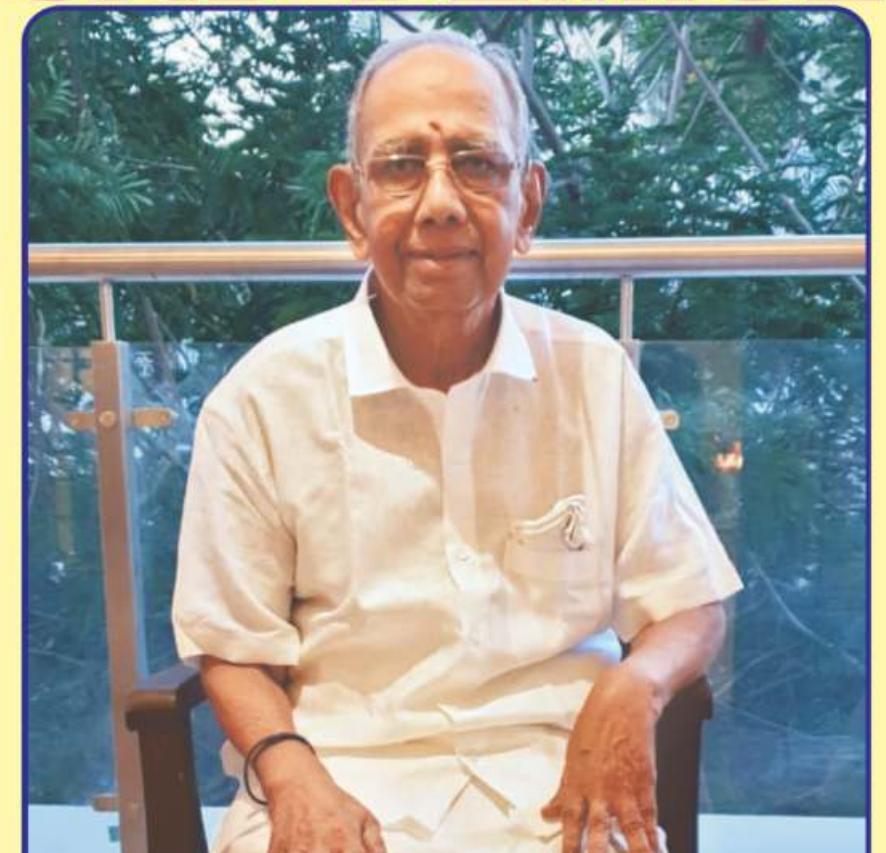
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SAD DEMISE



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IN BRIEF

**Jagan visits desalination facility in Israel**

VIJAYAWADA
Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy visited the H2ID desalination facility at Hadera in Israel on Sunday. He was accompanied by Deputy Chief of Indian Mission in Tel Aviv, Tshering W. Sherpa. The visit was organised by the Israeli company's senior executive Rafi Shamir. Plant engineers gave a presentation on the desalination mechanism. Mr. Reddy enquired about the processes, and its capital and operational costs.

Panic in A.P. village after leopard attack

CHITTOOR
The killing of a bull reportedly by a leopard in a forest fringe village in Chowdapalle mandal here in Andhra Pradesh on Saturday has created panic among the villagers. The leopard also attacked a couple of cattle, according to a villager. Forest field staff said that in spite of repeated advice, some villagers were taking their cattle deep inside the reserve forests for grazing, making them vulnerable to attacks by wild animals.

Ex-Minister seeks ₹204 cr. in damages

BENGALURU
Former Karnataka Minister and Congress leader D.K. Shivakumar has filed a defamation suit in a local court against BJP leader and Vijayapura MLA Basanagouda Patil Yatnal, seeking ₹204 crore as compensation for "tarnishing his image through baseless statements". Mr. Yatnal had alleged that Mr. Shivakumar had been pressuring top BJP leaders to ensure that he is freed from cases probed by the Income Tax Department and the Enforcement Directorate.

Action likely against IAS officer

Kerala police shift Sriram Venkitaraman to prisoner's cell in govt. hospital

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

The Kerala government appeared ready to take action against IAS officer Sriram Venkitaraman, indicted for alcohol-impaired reckless driving that resulted in the death of journalist K.M. Basheer early Saturday.

Meanwhile, the police shifted Mr. Venkitaraman from the private hospital where they had admitted him following the accident to the prisoner's ward at Government Medical College Hospital (MCH) here.

A magistrate had earlier pronounced him fit to be incarcerated.

The prison doctor referred him to the MCH after Mr. Venkitaraman's discharge summary indicated that he had sustained spinal trauma in the accident and required medical attention.

The government had come under sharp criticism for allowing Mr. Venkitaraman to stay in a top hospital despite the "gravity of his crime".

Officials said Chief Secretary Tom Jose had received a preliminary report from the



High-profile case: Sriram Venkitaraman being moved out of a private hospital in Thiruvananthapuram on Sunday. ■ PTI

State police detailing the charges against the young bureaucrat.

The police informed the government that they had booked Mr. Venkitaraman for culpable homicide not amounting to murder for having caused the fatal accident in an inebriated state.

The crime entails a punishment of imprisonment up to 10 years.

Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan issued a stern warning that nobody was above the law, indicating that action against him may follow.

Revenue Minister E. Chandrasekharan also signalled that the government viewed the incident as a grave mat-

ter. Leader of the Opposition Ramesh Chennithala had sought Mr. Venkitaraman's removal from service.

'Watertight case'

The police claimed to have a watertight case against the bureaucrat. The Chief Chemical Examiner's laboratory is scheduled to submit a report on Monday on whether Mr. Venkitaraman was alcohol-impaired at the time of the crash.

The GH doctor who examined him issued a certificate that Mr. Venkitaraman had tested 'positive plus' for alcohol impairment.

Mr. Venkitaraman's co-passenger, a woman, testified before a magistrate that the bureaucrat appeared "drunk" and had insisted on driving the vehicle at high speed despite her protests.

The woman for allowing an "intoxicated person" to drive the car registered in her name.

The management of Malayalam daily *Siraj* demanded that a special investigation team be formed to probe the death of the journalist, K.M. Basheer.

Bengaluru Mayor fined for plastic use

She paid ₹500 for violating ban

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
BENGALURU

Facing flak for presenting a basket of fruits wrapped in banned plastic to Karnataka Chief Minister B.S. Yediyurappa recently, Bengaluru Mayor Gangambike Mallikarjun said she "voluntarily" paid a fine of ₹500 for the violation.

After the photo of her presenting the basket went viral, Ms. Gangambike was criticised because there is already a ban on plastic and several traders in the city had been penalised in the past for storing and using plastic products.

"My photograph of gifting a basket of dry fruits wrapped with a plastic cover to the Chief Minister went viral in the social media. Being the first citizen of the city, I did not wish to send across a wrong message to the people of the city. Hence, I decided to pay the penalty even before this clause is incorporated in the plastic ban bylaw," the Mayor said.



Gangambike Mallikarjun

The Mayor, however, pointed out that there was no clause in the rules for penalising those using plastic though there was such a provision against traders.

She also said there was a proposal to impose a fine on the end users of plastic products and it would be incorporated in the law.

"In order to spread awareness among masses about the problems posed by polythene bags, I decided to pay the penalty even before this clause is incorporated in the plastic ban bylaw," the Mayor said.

Wrong to back deflections, says A.P. Speaker

STAFF REPORTER
VIJAYAWADA

Endorsement of defections, as in the case of the four TDP Rajya Sabha members joining the BJP, should be condemned as it is unethical, Andhra Pradesh Speaker Tammneni Sitaram said on Sunday at a 'Meet the Press' programme here.

Asked for his comments on the "endorsement of defections" by Rajya Sabha Chairman M. Venkaiah Naidu, the Speaker said, "You should ask Mr. Venkaiah Naidu if it is not immoral to encourage such things. Since you have asked me, I shall tell my opinion. In politics, we need to uphold ethics and values. Encouraging unethical practices shouldn't be done. I don't want to invite controversy by speaking more on it."

Asked what he would do in a similar situation, Mr. Sitaram said he would rather disqualify the members who cross the floor. He said there was a need to amend the Anti-Defection Law to recall the members who shift their loyalties.

BJP promised to end 'tax terrorism', says Mohandas Pai

'Centre has failed to put an end to harassment'

MINI TEJASWI
BENGALURU

The Union government is aware of the 'tax terrorism' that has been taking place in this country, but it has not done enough to stop taxmen from harassing entrepreneurs and businessmen, says T.V. Mohandas Pai, former CFO at Infosys.

Mr. Pai told *The Hindu*:



T.V. Mohandas Pai

men are also under pressure to meet their collection targets," he said.

Expressing his disappoint-

ment at the system, Mr. Pai said, "Parliament and political leaders have failed us miserably in this regard [tax] and citizen liberties are put under heavy risk. The tax assessment system has broken down. The justice system is also not functioning effectively. As both these key systems have failed miserably, law-abiding citizens and entrepreneurs are left in the lurch."

According to Mr. Pai, bringing an end to 'tax terrorism' was part of the BJP's manifesto before the party

came to power in 2014, but it has failed to implement it so far.

'Insensitive move'

Expressing shock over the way the Income-Tax Department handled the issue of Cafe Coffee Day founder V.G. Siddhartha's case, Mr. Pai said, "Mr. Siddhartha had clearly written in his letter that he suffered harassment by taxmen. Who gave tax department permission to conduct press conferences, to float information about him in social media and also to di-

vulge personal details about him in the public? The tax department is not the court to call a person bad and punish him. It has no right to tarnish the reputation of a person, especially when he is no more in a position to defend himself. This is atrocious and insensitive."

After Mr. Siddhartha's tragic death, both Mr. Pai and Biocon CMD Kiran Mazumdar Shaw spoke openly about the rampant 'tax terrorism' and how entrepreneurs were being tortured in the country.

Responding to a query, Mr. Pai said, "I did not get a call, but Kiran did. The caller also spoke about me that Mohan should not talk about all these in public."

As per media reports on Sunday, Ms. Shaw confirmed that "a government official" called her recently and told her not to speak about issues such as income tax harassment.

However, she told *The Hindu*: "It was a government official who I know and who said it with concern. It was I guess friendly advice."

Flood situation in Godavari delta still grim

18,000 people shifted to relief camps; 71 villages report massive property loss

STAFF REPORTER

VIJAYAWADA

The flood situation in East and West Godavari districts in Andhra Pradesh continued to be grim as the Godavari river received heavy inflows in the last 24 hours.

The inflow at Dowleswaram was about 13.44 lakh cusecs at noon and outflow was the same. A total of 280 villages in 24 mandals across the Godavari districts are affected and over 75,000 people were affected by the floods. Nearly 18,000 people were shifted to relief camps in the East Godavari district and 47 medical camps were organised in W.G.

About 36,000 food packets were distributed in E.G district which bore the brunt of floods. Rajahmundry, Seethangaram and Devipatnam mandals were particularly affected by the floods and water entered the low-lying areas in Yanam district of the Union Territory of Puducherry.

Transportation links to 19 villages have been cut off and Yeduvagu and Siddharmagu bridges were submerged and property dam-



Tough times: Villagers returning home after flood waters started receding from the Devipatnam mandal in East Godavari district, Andhra Pradesh, on Sunday. ■ S. RAMBABU

aged were reported from 71 villages in the Godavari districts. The State Disaster Management Authority has cautioned people living in the Godavari island villages and canal banks against more heavy inflows due to intermittent rains.

The Revenue and Police

Departments were tasked with rehabilitation of people from the flood-hit areas in East and West Godavari districts while more rains were forecast at many places in coastal A.P. in the next few weeks.

Teams of the National Disaster Response Force and

SDRF were sent out on rescue and relief operations as the water levels were at dangerous levels.

Meanwhile, the Srisailam dam has been receiving flood waters from Jurala in Telangana. The inflow was 2.22 lakh cusecs. By evening, the level had risen to 857.60 feet

SDRF were sent out on rescue and relief operations as the water levels were at dangerous levels.

In June, a three-member herd that left the KWS had wreaked havoc on the fields and retreated into the sanctuary after a month.

In May, two elephants left the sanctuary and travelled as far as Pakala mandal, 70 km away, but retreated without creating any difficulty for the Forest Department.

A farmer from the Avulapalle panchayat said the ele-

Bone-dry tanks filling up fast

Good news for drought-hit Karimnagar

K.M. DAYASHANKAR

KARIMNAGAR

Incessant rain over the past 10 days in various parts of integrated Karimnagar district in Telangana has boosted farming activity with improved water levels in a majority of the minor irrigation tanks.

The irrigation tanks, which had dried out, have started receiving good inflows from its catchment areas following the rain, rekindling hope among farmers. As against the average rainfall of 410.3 mm between May 1 and August 4 earlier, the district received 450.6 mm rain this time.

On Sunday, as the State government took stock of the situation in Belagavi, Vijayapura, Bagalkot, Yadgir, and Raichur districts which have been affected by the release of huge quantum of water into the Krishna and its tributaries by Maharashtra. In all, 5,847 hectares of crops have been damaged.

The floods claimed its first victim on Saturday when Shivanand Shankar Nayak, a coconut seller, got washed away in a stream at Adeppa Ankalagi village in Belagavi district.

On Sunday, as the State

tanks, the rain water inflow ranged from zero to 25%.

Irrigation officials are, however, confident that all minor irrigation tanks would be filled to the brim soon enough with the monsoon remaining active for another two months or so.

Before this, the district was reeling under acute drought conditions due to delayed monsoon.

On the other hand, lifting of waters from the Medigadda barrage of the Kaleshwaram lift irrigation project to the Sripatha Yellampalli project by filling the Annaram and Sundilla barrages has also recharged the groundwater table, filling agricultural wells and borewells along the river Godavari.

Besides, copious inflows into the Sripatha Yellampalli project following the heavy rain in its catchment areas and release of flood waters from Kadem project in neighbouring Nirmal district has also improved the groundwater and recharged wells in the region.

Cong. support for UAPA in RS discomfits Kerala leaders

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

The Congress's support in the Rajya Sabha for the Bill seeking to amend certain provisions of the Unlawful Activities Prevention Act (UAPA) has proved to be a big embarrassment for the party's Kerala leadership and the United Democratic Front (UDF).

The amendments to the UAPA relate to the powers of the Centre and the States to designate individuals as terrorists and seize their property.

The Indian Union Muslim League had voted against the amendment Bill in the Rajya Sabha. The State Congress leaders were stunned by the party's decision to vote for the amendment Bill, which was passed by the Lok Sabha on July 24. The Congress had boycotted the vote in the Lok Sabha.

Strong protest
The Leader of the Opposition, Ramesh Chennithala, has conveyed the UDF's strong resentment and protest against the developments in the Rajya Sabha. He said it was disappointing to note that the Congress was unable to take a strong stand in Parliament that highlighted the concerns of minority communities. He said the party should have stuck to the stand it had adopted in the Lok Sabha.

In the Lok Sabha, Indian Union Muslim League national general secretary P.K. Kunhalikutty had expressed his party's opposition to tagging of individuals with suspected terror links as terrorists, as this violated the fundamental rights guaranteed by the Constitution. In the Rajya Sabha too, IUML member P.V. Abdul Wahab opposed the Bill.

Row over appointment of Kerala representative

N.J. NAIR

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

With the appointment of A. Sampath as Kerala's special government representative in Delhi assuming the colours of a political controversy, his efficacy in delivering the goods would be quite crucial for the State government to justify its decision.

The government had clarified that Mr. Sampath would primarily pursue Central schemes, clear bureaucratic wrangles that impede the flow of funds, and address the delay in accord-

Elephant herd leaves sanctuary, causes havoc

Several Chittoor farmers complain of crop loss

STAFF REPORTER

CHITTOOR

A herd of 10 wild elephants, which left the Koundinya Wildlife Sanctuary (KWS) located at Palamaner-Kuppam in Andhra Pradesh three weeks ago, has been raiding crops in about a dozen villages in Somali mandal under the Punganur range.

These elephants have destroyed standing crops of tomato and other vegetables and also pulled down trees in mango orchards.

We have deployed watchers and trackers to drive the animals back into their habitat

Navy, IAF rush to Mumbai's aid

Bhatsa, Ulhas rivers breach banks, leaving people stranded in their homes

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
MUMBAI

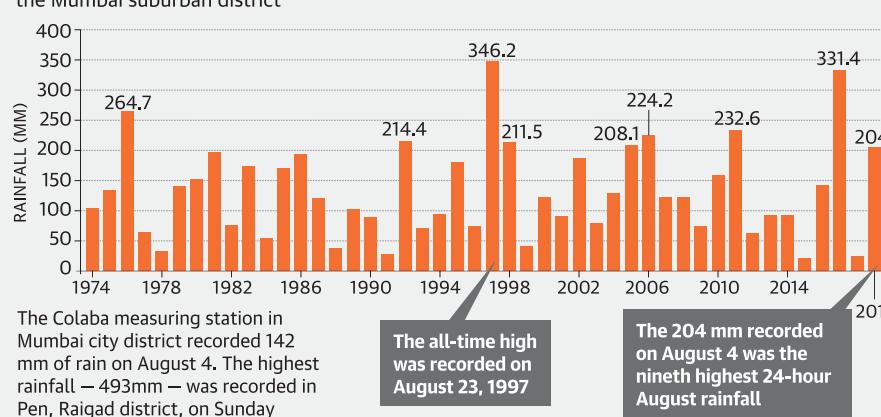
The Indian Navy, Army and Air Force on Sunday participated in rescue operations to assist Thane, Palghar and Kalyan district administration as Bhatsa and Barvi dams overflowed leading to Bhatsa and Ulhas rivers breaching their banks and stranding people in their homes. Waters rose up to a height of 8 to 10 feet requiring specialist assistance in evacuation.

Within 40 minutes of receiving a request from the Disaster Management Unit of the State government, the Indian Navy deployed three fully equipped flood rescue teams to assist the district administration. The Indian Air Force too deployed its Mi17 helicopter to airlift stranded villagers.

"Two teams operated in the vicinity of Khadawali village and have successfully

When it poured

The graph shows the highest one-day rainfall recorded since 1974 in August over Santacruz in the Mumbai suburban district



The Colaba measuring station in Mumbai city district recorded 142 mm of rain on August 4. The highest rainfall – 493mm – was recorded in Pen, Raigad district, on Sunday

evacuated 27 people to safety. One flood rescue team was active in Shahad region under Kalyan Dombivali Municipal Corporation (KDMC) till late on Sunday evening. All three teams are being positioned with district authorities overnight to

be able to respond quickly to any new emergencies that might arise overnight," Commander Mehul Karnik, chief public relations officer (CPO), Indian Navy said.

Naval teams from INS Tannaji, Mankhurd, INS Vajrabahu, Colaba and Material Or-

ganisation assisted 27 to safety in Kadawali and Shahad in KDMC limits as Ulhas and Bhatsa rivers overflowed. Officials said the Indian Air Force team made two sorties between 12.40 p.m. and 2.45 p.m. and airlifted a total of 58 people.

170 rescued from flooded hospital

Discharge of water from nearby Mulshi dam flooded Pune hospital basement

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
PUNE

Around 170 people, including 50 patients and 120 staff members, were evacuated from Surya Hospital in Pune's Wakad on Sunday after continuous discharge from the nearby Mulshi dam flooded its basement.

"After the water reached the hospital basement, a call was taken to move the patients and the staff to safer areas. All 170 people were safely evacuated to other hospitals and medical establishments in a two-hour joint operation carried out by the National Disaster Response Force (NDRF), the dis-



Underwater colony: A residential locality in Pune flooded by the Mula river following heavy rain on Sunday. ■ PTI

aster management cell of the Pune Municipal Corporation (PMC) and the Fire Department," NDRF spokesperson Sachidanand Gawade said.

The patients were moved to nearby hospitals like the Aditya Birla Memorial Hospital in Pimpri-Chinchwad.

Mr. Gawade said NDRF

teams, during reconnaissance, noted that the hospital was next to Mula river and that water levels were rising owing to discharge from the dam. "In the morning, not much water had entered the hospital premises. But around 1.30 p.m. we got a call requesting immediate evacuation."

"A few patients, who required immediate care, were shifted out to other hospitals before the rescue teams reached the spot. We assisted in the evacuation of the staff and the remaining patients through ambulances and other vehicles," Mr. Gawade said.

20,000 genomes to be scanned for cancer study

JACOB KOSHY
NEW DELHI

The Department of Biotechnology (DBT) plans to scan nearly 20,000 Indian genomes over five years, in a two-phase exercise, and develop diagnostic tests that can be used for cancer.

"Genomics research is a major thrust area for us. What is unique about this programme, called the Genome India Initiative, is its scale. The deliverables are genomic-based diagnostics that can be affordably made available through a lab," Dr. Swarup, told *The Hindu*.

In the next phase, about 10,000 "diseased individuals" would have their genomes sequenced. These data would be compared using machine learning to identify genes that can predict cancer risk, as well as other diseases that could be significantly influenced by genetic anomalies.

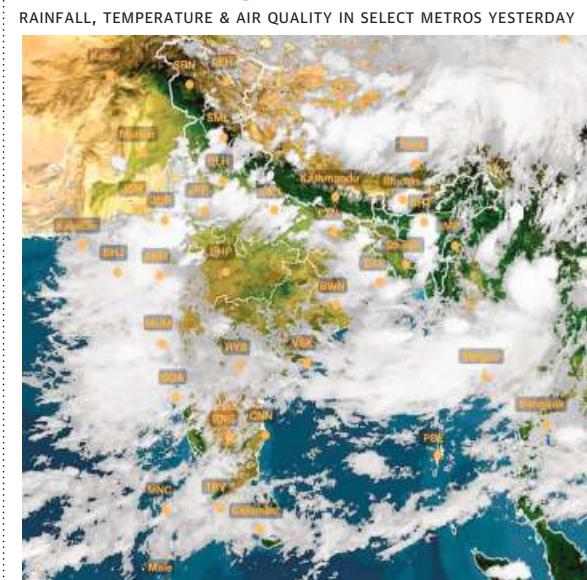
While 22 institutions, including those from the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) and the DBT would be involved in the exercise, the data generated would be accessible

to researchers anywhere. This would be through a proposed National Biological Data Centre, envisaged in the 'Biological Data Storage, Access and Sharing Policy' that is still in the early stages of discussion.

"The first phase involves sequencing the genomes of nearly 10,000 Indians to capture the biological diversity of the country, Renu Swarup, Secretary-DBT, told *The Hindu*.

The first phase involves sequencing the genomes of nearly 10,000 Indians to capture the biological diversity of the country, Renu Swarup, Secretary-DBT, told *The Hindu*.

WEATHER WATCH



TEMPERATURE DATA: IMD; POLLUTION DATA: CPCB; MAP: INSTAT/IMD (TAKEN AT 18.00 HRS)

Forecast for Monday: Heavy to very heavy rainfall likely over central Maharashtra, Konkan, Goa, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Punjab, west Uttar Pradesh, east Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Nagaland, Manipur, Mizoram, Tripura, Saurashtra, Karnataka, Kerala and Mahe

CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN	CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN
Agartala	1.2	34.6	24.2	Kozhikode	—	32.2	26.9
Ahmedabad	54.1	31.4	25.0	Kurnool	6.0	28.8	22.9
Aizawl	25.0	28.9	23.2	Lucknow	—	36.5	28.3
Allahabad	—	36.9	28.5	Madurai	—	37.6	26.7
Bengaluru	—	27.9	21.0	Mangaluru	8.6	30.2	23.0
Bhopal	4.8	30.0	24.2	Mumbai	204.0	27.5	24.1
Bhubaneswar	0.2	31.4	24.8	Mysuru	1.0	27.8	19.8
Chandigarh	—	35.5	26.6	New Delhi	0.4	35.8	27.2
Chennai	—	37.9	29.2	Patna	—	36.4	25.2
Coimbatore	—	32.0	24.2	Port Blair	3.7	29.8	25.7
Dehradun	—	33.0	22.2	Puducherry	—	36.4	25.2
Gangtok	13.4	22.2	18.3	Pune	45.9	24.8	21.3
Goa	66.2	26.2	21.0	Raipur	1.2	29.5	24.2
Guwahati	—	35.4	26.9	Ranchi	8.6	30.7	23.4
Hubballi	—	23.0	21.0	Shillong	—	26.3	16.6
Hyderabad	6.6	28.7	22.8	Shimla	0.4	22.4	17.0
Imphal	—	30.6	23.3	Srinagar	—	31.9	18.2
Jaipur	16.8	34.2	26.0	Tiruchirappalliyuram	14.4	30.5	25.0
Kochi	0.8	30.6	26.8	Vijayawada	—	38.2	26.8
Kohima	38.6	30.6	26.8	Visakhapatnam	20.4	29.4	25.2
Kolkata	—	32.8	28.0	Visakhapatnam	15	51	47

(Rainfall data in mm; temperature in Celsius)

Pollutants in the air you are breathing

CITIES	SO ₂	NO _x	CO	PM _{2.5}	PM ₁₀	CODE
Ahmedabad	48	49	53	..61	102	■
Bengaluru	.6	20	56	70	—	■
Chennai	12	15	39	34	33	■
Delhi	18	51	28	83	140	■
Hyderabad	.6	33	30	7	14	■
Kolkata	.2	58	15	81	87	■
Lucknow	.5	13	51	86	—	■
Mumbai	16	15	102	—	40	■
Pune	75	8	67	13	13	■
Visakhapatnam	15	51	72	54	78	■

Yesterday

In observation made at 6.00 p.m., Sirsa, Haryana recorded an overall air quality index score of 179 indicating an unhealthy level of pollution. In contrast, Gulbarga, Karnataka a healthy AQI score of 12



Two missiles were tested against two live targets. ■ PTI

the Defence Ministry said.

The missiles with many state-of-the-art technologies engaged the targets at different ranges and altitudes, the Ministry stated.

INVITATION FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FOR AVALING WHITE LABELLING OF THE ELECTRICAL AND AUTOMATION PRODUCTS OF LARSEN & TOUBRO

Schneider Electric India Private Limited ("SEIPL") invites Expression of Interest ("EOI") from LV switchgear manufacturers in India for availing white labelling product manufacturing services from SEIPL, in compliance with the modifications provided in the order of the Competition Commission of India dated 18 April 2019 ("CCI Order"), approving the acquisition of the electrical and automation ("E&A") business of Larsen & Toubro ("L&T") by SEIPL and MacRitchie Investments Pte. Ltd. The CCI Order is available at:

https://www.cci.gov.in/sites/default/files/Notice_order_document/Public1.pdf

The white labelling product manufacturing services being offered by SEIPL is subject to the terms and conditions as set out in the CCI Order including the following:

- The white labelling product manufacturing service is being offered by SEIPL only for the existing product range, owned and manufactured at L&T plants, of the Five Products of L&T (Air Circuit Breakers ("ACB"), Molded Case Circuit Breakers ("MCCB"), Overload Relays, Contactors, and Switch Disconnector Fuse ("SDF")).
- The white labelling services for the Five Products of L&T can be availed for a period of 5 years for sale solely in the Indian market.
- The pricing and allocation of quantity for the white labelling contract will be governed as per the CCI order and monitored by the Monitoring Agency-Moore Stephens Singh Advisors LLP appointed by the CCI.
- At the end of the 5 year period for the white labelling service, a single LV switchgear manufacturer shall have the option to enter into a non-transferable, non-sub licensable, non-exclusive technology license solely for manufacture and sale in India with SEIPL for any of the Five Products of L&T for which it has availed of white labelling, subject to the quantity/duration and other terms & conditions as set out in the CCI Order at a reasonable commercial royalty rate for a period of 5 years. Such technology license to the third party LV switchgear manufacturer shall be in accordance with the terms and conditions of the CCI Order.

Interested LV switchgear manufacturers are requested to respond to this invitation for expression of interest by submitting their details at:

<https://www.schneider-electric.co.in/en/about-us/whitelabelling/whitelabelling.jsp> by 5th Oct.

2019, i.e., 2 months from date of publication of EOI. Specific product ranges available for white labelling will be shared with interested parties post registration at the link set out above.

For further details, please contact us at: white.label.support@se.com

Railways approves officials' request to fly for trips

Airfares are cheaper than AC-1, AC-2 train fares'

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI

Chief Justice of India Ranjan Gogoi on Sunday hoped that the country's institutions would help overcome the belligerence being shown by some individuals and groups.

"The present times are witnessing belligerent and reckless behaviour. I am hopeful that such incidents would turn out to be exceptions and the strong traditions and ethos of our institutions shall always assist the sta-

keholders to display resilience to overcome the belligerence of such wayward constituents," the CJI said at a function to lay the foundation stone of an auditorium of the Gauhati High Court.

CJI Gogoi's statement has assumed significance following the disclosure of data related to the National Register of Citizens (NRC) in the Assam Assembly on August 1. Only the Supreme Court, which is monitoring the NRC updating exercise, was to have been privy to

information regarding the citizenship list.

The CJI also expressed concern over the vacancies in the High Courts and the delay in serving summons in more than 1 crore cases across the country.

"Out of a total 1,079 seats in all the High Courts, 403 are vacant. And out of 2.1 crore criminal cases, 1 crore are pending at the summoning stage. How do my judges start the track if summons have not been served?" he said.



Freeing Kulbhushan

Pakistan's delay in giving full consular access reveals a non-serious attitude to ICJ order

Two weeks after the International Court of Justice at The Hague ruled in favour of India in the case of Kulbhushan Jadhav, Pakistan has yet to take the first step towards implementing the order: providing him "consular access". In its verdict on July 17, the ICJ had decided near-unanimously that by not informing India immediately of Mr. Jadhav's arrest in 2017, by not informing him of his rights, and not allowing the Indian High Commission to meet with him and arrange for his legal representation, Pakistan was in violation of the Vienna convention on consular relations. Although Pakistan's Foreign Ministry had offered a meeting between Mr. Jadhav and the Indian High Commission in Islamabad on Friday afternoon, the offer came with conditions, including CCTV cameras on proceedings, and a Pakistani official being in the room during the meeting. This was a violation of the unimpeded consular access that the ICJ had ordered, and India decided to reject the offer until Pakistan reconsiders its conditions. India's concerns are three-fold. First, Pakistan's delay in granting full consular access displays a non-serious attitude to implementing a clear-cut order from the UN's highest judicial body. This augurs badly for Pakistan's application of the rest of the ICJ order that calls for a full review of Mr. Jadhav's trial conviction and death sentence for terrorism and espionage charges. Most importantly, the nature of the conditions indicates Pakistan wants to monitor what Mr. Jadhav tells Indian officials closely, as much of their original case, as presented to the public, rested on his purported confession. If he shares adverse details of coercion, the court may well go beyond its current order in the case, and India may have a stronger chance of trying to have the trial overturned.

Islamabad must stop dragging its feet and creating unnecessary hurdles in providing what is a basic human right for Mr. Jadhav, and New Delhi needs to keep its rhetoric low, while pressing its case for access to the former naval officer, consistently and firmly. This will not be easy, as after some relative calm, shelling at the Line of Control has opened up with a new fury in the last few days. The allegations by Pakistan that the Indian Army is deploying cluster-munitions on civilian areas (firmly denied by the government), and the Army's claim that several Pakistani regulars and terrorists were killed in an infiltration attempt by a "Border Action Team" (BAT) have ratcheted up tensions further. The government's ham-handed reaction to the threats, of cancelling the Amarnath Yatra, pulling out tourists and pilgrims and raising security levels in the valley further, have only added to the narrative. It would indeed be a tragedy if the situation overshadows the fate of Mr. Jadhav, just when hopes had been raised by the international court verdict to help secure his freedom.

Bigger and better

More judges are welcome, but SC must focus on its role as interpreter of the Constitution

Any move to increase the strength of the judiciary ought to be welcomed, given the perennial complaint that availability of judges is not increasing in proportion to the institution of cases. In this perspective, the Union Cabinet's decision to raise the strength of the Supreme Court from 31 to 34, including the Chief Justice of India, will help in dealing with the large pendency – 59,331 cases on July 11. The law that fixes the number of judges in the highest court was last amended in 2009 to raise the figure from 26 to 31. Chief Justice Ranjan Gogoi had written to the Prime Minister recently, highlighting the problem of paucity of judges, due to which he was unable to constitute enough Constitution Benches to decide important questions of law. However, a moot question is whether the highest court should go into the correctness of every decision of every high court. Are the judicial resources available being used optimally? Is valuable time being taken up by mundane matters that do not impinge on larger questions that involve interpretation of laws and constitutional provisions? For instance, routine bail matters land up in the Supreme Court within days of persons being arrested. Every major crime or disaster seems to invite a litigant, ostensibly in public interest, who mentions the matter before the Chief Justice for urgent hearing. The court is being invited to even oversee flood relief work.

A mere increase in the court's strength may not be enough to liquidate the burgeoning docket. Another set of measures that would save the court's time, including a reasonable restraint on the duration of oral arguments and a disciplined adherence to a schedule of hearings may be needed. In this case, one of the principal objectives should be to preserve the apex court's primary role as the ultimate arbiter of constitutional questions and statutory interpretation. All other questions involving a final decision on routine matters, especially civil cases that involve nothing more than the interests of the parties before it, ought to be considered by a mechanism that will not detract from the court's primary role. Some countries have brought in a clear division at the level of the apex judiciary by having separate constitutional courts, which limit themselves to deciding questions of constitutional importance. It may be worthwhile considering the 229th Report of the Law Commission, suggesting a new system under which there will be one Constitution Bench in Delhi, and four 'Cassation Benches' for different regions of the country. These will be final appellate courts for routine litigation. This arrangement may also increase access to justice to those living in far-flung areas of the country and who may otherwise have to come to Delhi and spend more time and money in pursuing appeals. It may also cut down on the time taken for disposal of cases.

A political reinvention in a moment of crisis

India needs a national party to provide substantive opposition to the government — all is not lost for the Congress



NEERA CHANDHOKE

Today, we, the people of India, are trapped between a rock and a hard place. On one side is the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) which continues to bulldoze legislation, controversial at best and ill-intentioned at worst, through Parliament. On the other is the Opposition, unable to mount a concerted and effective critique of government policies. The sluggishness of the non-NDA parties is cause for some puzzlement. After all, 55% of the electorate has voted for them. Unfortunately, this vote is hardly reflected in Parliament.

Political scientists have been, for long, concerned with the often astounding gap between vote shares and the number of seats a party obtains in Parliament. This leaves a majority of the voters unrepresented. Democrats have strongly argued that the "winner takes all" principle needs to be relegated to the wayside and replaced with the system of proportional representation. This is, however, another story. The BJP is hardly likely to initiate an electoral project that might derail its relentless search for power by any means.

Bearish on the economy

What the ruling party is doing with the power it has acquired is equally puzzling. India is heading toward an economic crisis. Economic growth has slowed down, domestic and global capital is reluctant to invest in the economy, and unemployment reaches a new high every day. Seldom have prominent industrialists expressed such public concern about im-

pending economic disaster as they have now. But the BJP hardly shows interest in tackling the situation. It is more interested in demolishing democratic rights and bringing the minorities to heel.

The determined refusal to confront the crisis is symptomatic of a wider problem. The ruling party is not known for either innovative politics or imagination. Its concept of well-being is limited to a free gas connection and an indifferently built flat. Its ideology is stuck in colonial stereotypes of 'Hindu' and 'Muslim'. There is nothing new in its political discourse; merely a rehash of what V.D. Savarkar wrote in 1923. The problem is that the chauvinistic ideology of religious nationalism precludes reflection and self-critique. The great debates of contemporary politics have simply bypassed the party-multiculturalism, minority rights, redistributive justice, citizenship or cosmopolitanism.

Forgotten legacy

The Indian National Congress has, in the past, been more inventive because its ideology was forged in the heat of the freedom struggle. Pluralism, secularism, tolerance, citizenship, fundamental and minority rights, cosmopolitanism, non-violence and anti-imperialism were thrown up in the course of the movement. On these planks the Congress was able to mobilise vast masses of people against colonialism. Sadly, the party has forgotten its legacy. We need a national party to provide substantive opposition to the government. The Congress flounders, it is rudderless.

All is not lost. Moments of crisis can lead to reinvention. The party must reinvent itself, simply because it is synonymous with the history of our freedom struggle, and with enlightened leaders such as Jawaharlal Nehru. Remember



that Nehru's vision inspired great literature, poetry, films, art, theatre, and architecture. What do we have today except mediocre hagiography? A ruling class which cannot inspire cultural creativity can only rule by coercion. In modern politics, this is counted as a failure.

Leading from the front

To reinvent itself the Congress must draw upon five lessons of its own past, some good, some bad, some indifferent. One, its leaders were moral exemplars. They were visionaries and they were courageous. In the middle of Partition violence Nehru was there, in the killing fields of Punjab and Delhi. He persuaded people to desist from violence and he assured Muslims of their safety. Today when Indians are lynched and left to die on the streets, politicians stay safely indoors. Our own people die avoidable deaths and leaders are silent. We need leaders who motivate us by example.

Two, the Congress could lead the mainstream freedom struggle because it had a robust organisation, both decentralised and democratic. The party formed a coalition of what has been called 'big men': heads of caste groups, peasantry, industry, religious formations, and workers organisations. When the party initiated or called off a movement, it relied upon se-

cond rung leaders. The central leadership left State politics, for example the conflict over linguistic States, to regional bosses.

Three, diversity of opinions and interests in the party encouraged members to engage in dialogue and persuasion. They negotiated and accommodated class, caste, and group interests within the organisation. The Congress found place for most demands, from interest groups, from individuals desirous of social reform, and from individuals stirred by the desire for power and prestige. The Congress was accommodative and a dialogical party. It practised democracy.

Long shadow of centralism

Four, the decline of the party in the late 1960s and the early 1970s was caused by organisational atrophy. At one point of time, the Congress possessed the ability to address, negotiate, and resolve competing demands. As the party became the captive of the leader, it lost this skill. Even as Ms Indira Gandhi began to forge a national constituency over the heads of State leaders, the party slid into centralism and the politics of the durbar. The power of individual members depended on their proximity to the leader. The BJP should learn from this history. Recollect that even ministers of the party are faceless and anonymous, their fates are held hostage by the leader.

Five, the decline of the Congress took place at a time when politics demanded new forms of legitimacy. In the two decades following Independence, the Congress was legitimate because the party and its leadership were identified with the freedom struggle. Twenty years later, a new generation had no direct memory of the liberation movement. The Congress was however in thrall to its

leader; it failed to read the message of the time. By the late 1960s, simmering discontent came to pervade large parts of the country, and groups under the leadership of J.P. Narayan mobilised to target an unresponsive state and an equally unresponsive party system. The Congress had, however, mislaid the ability to contain discontent; it opted for coercion. Mrs Gandhi declared an Emergency.

Today, India faces imminent economic catastrophe. We confront serious threats to our democracy and to the Constitution. The ruling party is not particularly wedded to democracy. Right-wing authoritarianism has no love for any fundamental right that constrains the exercise of absolute power. Civil society will continue to struggle against violations of democracy. Scholars will write of the threat posed by wielders of absolute power to our constitutional democracy. But civil society has to function along with a democratic political party. Regional parties have degenerated into one-person dictatorships, or become family concerns. We have to call upon a party that had fought the first freedom struggle. The Congress has to step in after it reinvents itself. For only a democratic party can understand what the people of India want, desire and aspire for.

It is our duty to remind the Congress that it owes the people of India. What else can we say? We can only repeat Mark Anthony's words in Shakespeare's *Julius Caesar*: 'For I have neither wit, nor words, nor worth/Action, nor utterance, nor the power of speech/To stir men's blood/I only speak right on/I tell you that which you yourselves do know.' If the party does not respond, our future is an uncertain one.

Neera Chandhoke is a former Professor of Political Science at Delhi University

Pulling a Vietnam in Afghanistan

Mired in Afghanistan, America's retreat strategy mirrors its Vietnam war campaign



STANLY JOHNY

By the late 1960s, it became evident to American leaders that they could not win the Vietnam war. Richard Nixon, who was elected President in 1968, assigned Henry Kissinger, the National Security Adviser, to hold talks with the communist North Vietnam, seeking "peace with honour". The Americans were actually prolonging a war they had already lost. The goal was not to defeat North Vietnam but to stop them from taking over the South, the American ally. Daniel Ellsberg, who leaked the Pentagon Papers, called this approach the "stalemate machine".

Cut to today's Afghanistan. It's hard to miss the similarities in the U.S.'s strategy. After 18 years of fighting – longer than America's direct military involvement in Vietnam – the U.S. has realised that it cannot win the Afghan war. The American goal is no longer defeating the Taliban but to stop them, at least for now, from taking over Kabul. Veteran diplomat Zalmay Khalilzad is the new Kissinger. Just as Nixon wanted to get out of Vietnam, President Donald Trump too wants to get out of Afghanistan.

The U.S.'s involvement in Viet-

namese regime was unpopular, oppressive and weak. In a visit to Saigon, the South's capital, a few months after he assumed the presidency, Nixon promised peace and asked the communists to reciprocate. He badly wanted a deal, and Mr. Kissinger was his bet.

Nixon first started "Vietnamising" the war – reducing U.S. troop presence in Vietnam and shifting the focus from direct participation in land war to training and advisory roles, while continuing with air strikes. At the same time, Mr. Kissinger started talks with Le Duc Tho, a North Vietnamese revolutionary and diplomat. When talks were deadlocked, the U.S. offered to pull out of the South as a compromise. In 1973, the U.S., North Vietnam and representatives of South Vietnam and Viet Cong, the communist guerrillas from the South, signed the Paris Peace Accords. The North and the South agreed to a ceasefire and continue holding peace talks, while the U.S. agreed to pull troops out of Vietnam.

In the case of Afghanistan as well, the U.S. is negotiating from a position of weakness. The war entered a stalemate long ago. America's allies stand divided. The go-



Vietnamese regime was unpopular, oppressive and weak. In a visit to Saigon, the South's capital, a few months after he assumed the presidency, Nixon promised peace and asked the communists to reciprocate. He badly wanted a deal, and Mr. Kissinger was his bet.

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vernment in Kabul, which the U.S. backs, is known for infighting and chronic corruption. The security forces are struggling to ensure basic security to the public, even in the capital city. Like Nixon's "Vietnamisation", U.S. President Barack Obama had started "Afghanising" the war – pulling out most troops and moving the remainder to training and advisory roles. The Afghan war is also unpopular in America. Mr. Trump, who campaigned to wind down America's foreign interventions, wants to end it. But the U.S. cannot unilaterally pull out, especially when the Taliban is on the offensive. That would cause a lasting stain on America's already battered reputation as the world's pre-eminent military power. Hence, it needs a deal; finding one is Ambassador Khalilzad's mission.

Advantage Taliban

Mr. Khalilzad has already held multiple rounds of talks with the Taliban's representatives in Doha, Qatar. As in Vietnam, the main demand of the Afghan insurgents is a complete U.S. troop withdrawal. The U.S. and the Taliban have agreed to a road map for peace: the U.S.'s withdrawal in return for the Taliban's assurance that Afghanistan would not be used by terrorists.

The U.S. has already made two big compromises in its rush for an exit deal. It has given in to the Taliban demand that the Afghan government should be kept away from the peace process. The Taliban does not recognise the Kabul

government and has made it clear that it would hold talks with the government only after a pullout of foreign troops. Second, the U.S. continued to hold talks even in the absence of a ceasefire. As a result, the Taliban continued its terror campaign even when the peace process was under way.

U.S. officials have hoped that a deal could be reached by September 1. It is anybody's guess what will happen to the Afghan government once America is out. When the U.S. was forced to pull out of Vietnam, the Southern and Northern governments hadn't reached any settlement but for the ceasefire. The plan was for talks to continue, seeking a final agreement. The ceasefire did not last long. In the two years after the U.S. pulled out, the communists captured Saigon and the government crumbled like a house of cards.

In the case of Afghanistan, there is not even a ceasefire between the government and the Taliban even as the U.S. is preparing to make an exit. The winning side is the Taliban, which, unlike the Viet Cong, is an anti-modern, anti-woman, anti-minority fundamentalist machine, whose earlier regime was notorious for excessive sectarian violence. The Taliban is part of the problem, not a solution. The Communists unified Vietnam, and after early years of struggle, modernised the economy and rebuilt the country into an Asian powerhouse. For Afghanistan, the tunnel gets longer and darker.

stanly.johny@thehindu.co.in

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.

Sengar's stronghold

That the residents of Unnao, Uttar Pradesh, are defending Kuldeep Singh Sengar, the expelled Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) MLA, despite the fact that he is in jail and charged with raping a young woman, speaks volumes about the money and muscle power of politicians belonging to the ruling party (Front page, "Despite the outrage, Unnao bats for rape-accused Kuldeep Sengar," August 4). Earlier, some BJP MLAs in the erstwhile Jammu and Kashmir government had expressed their solidarity with those involved in the Kathua rape episode. Acts that show tolerance towards the alleged

perpetrators of heinous crimes have been on the rise under the previous and current Central governments. The BJP high command, by not reigning in such criminals, has only emboldened them and this has had a detrimental impact on the peaceful coexistence between communities. Those in authority should do their best to bring justice to the victims of these crimes.

A.JAINALABDEEN,
Chennai

■ The way in which the Unnao episode is unfolding makes me wonder whether our society has lost all sense of morality and ethics. Even after two years of the incident, the case remains

unsolved and amidst so many twists and tragic turns, it has required the Supreme Court's intervention to fast forward the investigations. Indian society needs to recalibrate its moral compass if we are to progress as a civilisation. With its brute majority, the government should deal with rape cases with a firm hand without showing favour to anybody. Bringing justice to those affected by such crimes is as important as maintaining national security, the government's pet theme.

A.S. SRINIVASAN,
Chennai

■ The surge in troop deployment and the eviction of tourists and pilgrims from

Kashmir have left the people flummoxed and fearful. (Front page, "Uncertainty grips Kashmir Valley," August 4). At the same time, one cannot question the government's right to adopt pre-emptive measures based on actionable intelligence about possible attacks. Though the government cannot be expected to reveal the exact details of the intelligence reports, a reassuring clarification that the security blanket is not to further any political agenda will help to assuage the people's concerns.

V.N. MUKUNDARAJAN,
Thiruvananthapuram

■ The situation in Kashmir, in the wake of the Centre's decision to ask Amarnath

pilgrims to cancel their trips and its move to increase the number of troops in the Valley, is a cause for concern. The government's actions give an impression that its top echelons are planning something 'big' and its unilateral handling of all issues is bound to have serious repercussions. The BJP would do well to remember that notwithstanding its brute majority in Parliament, democratic governance is premised on consensus.

J. ANANTHA PADMANABHAN,
Tiruchi

■ **UAPA amendments**
India undoubtedly needs tough laws to combat terrorism, but the proposed amendments to the Unlawful

Activities (Prevention) Act may be misused by leaders to settle political scores. A wrongful designation of an individual as a terrorist will cause irreparable damage to his/her reputation and career. The amendments also give more power to the Centre, encroaching on the authority of States. The law can become one more weapon in the hands of a regime hell-bent on delegitimising dissent. The government needs to be mindful of fundamental rights of citizens while legislating against terror ("UAPA Bill gets Rajya Sabha nod," August 3).

T.S.N. RAO,
Bhimavaram, Andhra Pradesh

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The roots of sexual brutality

In India, it is the quintessential form of political privilege and social authority



V. GEETHA

As the young woman from Unnao, victim of multiple outrages, battles for her life, we, who are often reduced to being hapless chroniclers, have once again to wonder at the everyday workings of India's criminal justice system. Though several rounds of police and judicial reforms have sought to improve its workings, and humanise its approach, the fact remains that at the level of the police thana, other factors direct police action. Local political power; economic, social and sexual tensions between individuals; caste and community equations; habitual misogyny; and the measure of impunity that a perpetrator of crime might claim and exercise all shape not only police responses but those of the civilian government as well, including of doctors, revenue officers and those in the local Collectorate.

As those of us who have worked on issues of sexual assault since the late 1970s know, a complainant is most likely to be disbelieved, blamed for what happened to her, and denigrated and rubbed off if she is a Dalit or Adivasi, or from a community perceived as marginal. If she persists in keeping with the justice system, its menacing indifference is calculated to demoralise her. If her family supports her, there might be some relief and care, but if they don't or cannot because they are themselves under pressure to keep quiet, she is left feeling abandoned and friendless and, worse, tainted. Many a time, a protest or a campaign, or the continued presence of women's groups, Dalit groups and progressive political and civil rights interventions alone have made it possible for even an FIR to be registered.

Civic indifference

With respect to the Unnao incident, notwithstanding the fact that the families of the alleged perpetrators and victim are known to each other, and from the same caste, the sequence of events has not been essentially different. For fear of the alleged



"Multiple and entangled wrongs as unfolded in Unnao do not appear as such to those who commit them." A solidarity rally for the Unnao rape victim in front of India Gate in New Delhi on July 29, 2019. • AFP

perpetrator, an MLA belonging to the Bharatiya Janata Party, the police did the bare minimum that was required of them. It was only after the victim, who had been persistent in her quest for justice, threatened self-immolation in front of Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath's office did the wheels of justice begin to move somewhat decisively.

What stands out even in this familiar landscape of crime is civic indifference to sexual violence. It is as if such violence is expected in situations where a supplicant approaches a man in power, and is made to wait upon or transact his ostensible largesse. We were witness to a similar and equally outrageous act in Banda, in Uttar Pradesh, in 2010, when a minor girl accused sitting Bahujan Samaj Party MLA Purushottam Dwivedi of rape. Her family had approached him for assistance and protection, since there had been an attempt to kidnap and sell the girl, with the collusion of the local police. Unlike in the Unnao instance, though, Mayawati, who was Chief Minister, called for the prosecution of her MLA. It is noteworthy that the victim had the

support of the country's only rural women's news network, *Khabar Lahariya*, which has been long active in the region.

An ornamental document

The violently transactional nature of sexual assault in these circumstances bears looking at in some detail. A woman approaches an elected representative of the people for assistance, exercising her right to state redressal and assistance. She realises very soon that her claims are not transactable in a civic sense, but only in a violently sexual sense. In the event, not only is her bodily integrity violated, but also a series of constitutionally guaranteed rights, including the right to life and livelihood. And by those who have taken an oath in the name of the Constitution!

However, these crimes are not viewed in these terms. The Constitution is seldom viewed as enunciating shared civic values and morality. Rather, it exists as a formal and ornamental document that affirms not so much our sovereign democratic selves, but the privileges we have gained as elected representatives. Se-

cond, multiple and entangled wrongs as unfolded in Unnao and Banda and indeed elsewhere do not appear as such to those who commit them.

For one, they are validated in any number of ways, first by the family, and next by kin and caste networks. Kuldeep Singh Sengar's brother and henchmen were fully behind his various reportedly criminal acts. More important, whatever their personal feelings, Sengar and Dwivedi's spouses felt honour-bound to insist that their husbands could never have done what they ostensibly did. For to admit that their spouses are capable of such acts of crime would be tantamount to conjugal infidelity, and a denunciation of the caste family. Female complicity in these instances helps secure male authority as given and 'natural', thus placing it beyond the pale of questioning.

In any case, even if spouses do not actively endorse their husbands' crimes, the perpetrators suffer no pangs of conscience. After all, both within the family and without, a powerful man's right to a woman's body appears a natural extension of his maleness: marital rape is not an issue, for one, and male sexual entitlement is something that women are expected to reckon with. If they don't, that is entirely their problem, as has been made clear with respect to a slew of #MeToo allegations.

Survival of caste society

Further, such entitlement and power are affirmed by their constitutive context, which is caste society. Birth-based superiority, illegitimate as it is, cannot be sustained, unless it is renewed day in and day out through a combination of patent lies and brute force. Verbal and physical acts of sexualised humiliation and violence directed at the lower castes and Dalits are necessary for the survival of caste society and increasingly so, in the face of challenges and resistance. In the Unnao instance, and in other such instances, sexual brutality is thus not an afterthought: it is the quintessential form of political privilege and social authority in our social context. Our criminal justice system is yet to reckon with such routinised and habitual criminality, for it is never quite registered as such.

V. Geetha is a feminist historian and writer

Rajasthan's effort to criminalise mob lynching is a good start

The Bill goes beyond just codifying SC directives

ANMOLAM
& FARHEEN AHMAD

In furtherance of the recommendations made by the apex court in *Tehseen S. Poonawalla v. Union of India*, the Rajasthan government has introduced the Rajasthan Protection From Lynching Bill, 2019. If it gets passed, Rajasthan will be the second State after Manipur to have a dedicated law criminalising mob lynching as a special offence, in addition to the other offences under the Indian Penal Code.

The Bill follows the Supreme Court's recommendations in authorising the setting up of special courts, appointment of a dedicated nodal officer, and stipulating enhanced punishments. However, its scope is more comprehensive as it not only criminalises acts of lynching, dissemination of 'offensive material' and fostering of a 'hostile environment', but also provides for relief, legal aid, compensation and rehabilitation.

Broad definition

The Bill defines lynching as an act or series of acts of violence or aiding, abetting or attempting an act of violence, whether spontaneous or planned, by a mob (two or more persons) on the grounds of religion, race, caste, sex, place of birth, language, dietary practices, sexual orientation, political affiliation and ethnicity. Though wide-ranging in content, the document does not cover cases of solitary offences. Noticeably, the Bill says that police officers and district magistrates have to take measures to prevent lynching and related offences. However, unlike the law on mob lynching in Manipur, it does not prescribe any punishment for dereliction of duty.

Further, some of the Bill's provisions might attract legal scrutiny. Section 8(c) of the Bill says that whoever commits an act of lynching, where the act leads to the death of the victim, shall be punished with rigorous imprisonment for life and a fine not less than ₹1,00,000 and



which may extend to ₹5,00,000. As regards sentencing, this provision completely deprives the judiciary of any amount of discretion.

Taking away judicial discretion

It needs to be stated that a court needs to consider all the facts and circumstances, different for each crime, while making a decision on punishment. The Supreme Court, while declaring Section 303 of the IPC unconstitutional in *Mithu Singh v. State of Punjab*, held that "the exercise of judicial discretion on well-recognised principles is, in the final analysis, the safest possible safeguard for the accused. The legislature cannot make relevant circumstances irrelevant, deprive the courts of their legitimate jurisdiction to exercise their discretion".

Section 9 of the Rajasthan Bill stipulates, *inter alia*, the same punishment for lynching and "attempting" an act of lynching. In the context of criminal law and sentencing, the principle of proportionality mandates an adequate balance of the gravity of the crime, the interests of the victim and of society, and the purposes of criminal law. The constitutional courts have time and again applied the principle of proportionality and have struck down laws that are excessively harsh or disproportionate.

Lynching is an egregious manifestation of prejudice, intolerance, and contempt towards the rule of law. With all its limitations, the Rajasthan Bill is evidence of political will by the State government. It is expected that deliberations help in the enactment of a more constitutionally robust Bill. However, legislation cannot act as a panacea; what is required is political commitment. It is high time that the other States and the Centre show some urgency so that creeping threats are prevented from metastasising into an out-of-control monster.

Anmolam is a lawyer, running BDLAAP, a non-profit organisation; Farheen Ahmad is a research scholar at the South Asian University, New Delhi

FROM THE READERS' EDITOR

Fair and participative journalism needs resources

High-quality journalism does not come free of cost



A.S. PANNEERSELVAN

Following *The Hindu*'s Open House in Kochi, many wrote to us seeking more details about the increased space for contributions from readers. Some raised a few questions about the idea of an interactive readers' mail, which will deal with local and civic issues.

R. Sivakumar from Chennai suggested that the 'Letters to the Editor' section on the editorial page should allow more space for letters. Jayaprakash Reddy from Nalgonda wrote: "It is most gratifying that the Editor has given his approval to start edition-centric letters to deal with local and civic issues. But whether this is confined only to the Kochi edition is not clear. I request the Editor to clarify this. There was a local letters column in the Hyderabad edition long ago, but it was stopped after a few months due to reasons better known to the Resident Editor." S. Malaithi from Bengaluru asked to extend the scope of the readers' mail section to include social and political issues too.

Clarifications

To clarify, readers' responses to local and civic issues will not be confined to the Kochi edition alone. The Editor is keen to have a dedicated weekly section of readers' letters in all editions. Two, the 'Letters to the Editor' section is common for all the editions across the country and some additional letters that cannot be accommodated in print are published online. Given the fact that space is premium in a newspaper, there is little scope for allotting more space on the editorial page for letters. Three, the scope of the readers' mail section cannot be extended to social and political issues in a blanket manner due to a range of reasons. While the newspaper may welcome comments on social and political issues, it is also acutely aware of the need for a rigorous verification process. We need to remember what distinguishes journalism from different individual initiatives such as blogs. The authors of *The Elements of Journalism*, Bill Kovach and Tom Rosenstiel, have come with a fine distinction: "In the end, the discipline of verification is what separates journalism from entertainment, propaganda, fiction, or art."

It is heartening to note the growing interest among readers about the economics of news production and the cost of journalism. Chidambaram Kudiarasu from Thoothukudi wrote: "At a time when the previous revenue model of advertising money is getting fragmented across platforms, readers should not grudge a few bucks more for high-quality journalism and baulk at pay walls." Rajiv Lochan felt that my claim that the revenue model for news publications was led by advertising for a century was not correct. He argued that till the market leader started the undesirable price war in 1990-91, the revenue model of the newspaper industry was reader-led, which covered operating expenses. He wrote: "Ad revenue was the surplus that would be reinvested in the business, paid out to employees and dividend out to shareholders. To claim that for a century the revenue model was led by ads is both misleading and incorrect."

The role of advertising

Mr. Lochan's argument is partially true. In the pre-liberalisation era, there was better balance between reader-led revenue and earnings from advertisers. It is also true that the circulation figures before 1990 were substantially low, which meant a limited operational cost. The transformation of the Indian media led to growth and proliferation. Every new platform – from privately owned TV channels to FM radio stations – expanded the market during this phase and advertising became the bedrock of financial sustainability of the news media industry. In its working paper, "A magic system? Print Publics, Consumption and Advertising in Modern Tamil Nadu", historian A.R. Venkatachalam observed how advertisements were critical inputs in the widening world of journalism. He cited the doyen of Tamil journalism, T.S. Chockalingam, to establish this point. Chockalingam wrote: "Without advertising revenue journalism simply cannot function".

Chockalingam's essay also explained the role of advertising in keeping the cover price considerably lower than the actual production cost. Mr. Venkatachalam's footnotes clearly indicate that Chockalingam made this observation as early as in 1943. Robin Jeffrey's path-breaking book, *India's Newspaper Revolution*, also confirms the role of advertising in the spread of the newspaper beyond the metropolitan centres.

readerseditor@thehindu.co.in

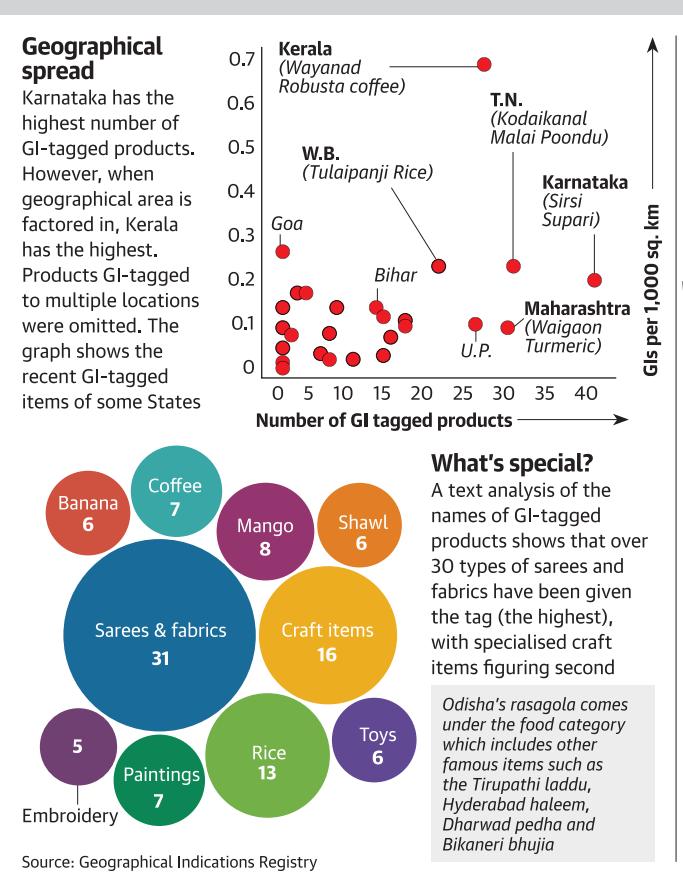


DATA POINT

Making a mark

Geographical spread

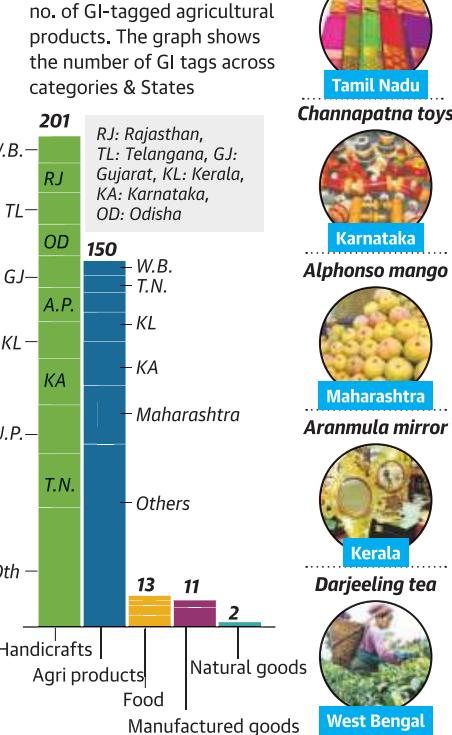
Karnataka has the highest number of GI-tagged products. However, when geographical area is factored in, Kerala has the highest. Products GI-tagged to multiple locations were omitted. The graph shows the recent GI-tagged items of some States



Odisha recently got a Geographical Indication (GI) tag for its variant of the rasagola. A GI tag is given to products that have a specific geographical origin and possess qualities or a reputation that are due to that origin. There are 347 GI-tagged products across the country. By Varun B. Krishnan

Category split

While Tamil Nadu has the highest no. of handicrafts, Maharashtra leads in the no. of GI-tagged agricultural products. The graph shows the number of GI tags across categories & States



Odisha's rasagola comes under the food category which includes other famous items such as the Tirupathi laddu, Hyderabad haleem, Dharwad pedha and Bikaneri bhujia

Source: Geographical Indications Registry

A HUNDRED YEARS AGO AUGUST 5, 1919.

India in the British Parliament

Replying to Lord Wolmer in the Commons [in London], Mr. Montagu stated that he had received to-day [July 31] only newspaper reports regarding the inadequacy of medical arrangements in the Indian Army and he had telegraphed to India for full information. He had no knowledge that any representations had been made to the General Staff at Simla in 1917 with regard to the necessity for laying a pipe line to the supply camp of Ali Masjid with pure water, but he would enquire, as he also promised to enquire to the number of men of the 6th Indian Brigade, who had been inoculated against cholera before proceeding to the frontier. Replying to Mr. Burn, Mr. Montagu said Government was most anxious to do what it could for Indian army officers taken prisoners at Kut, who had been invited to submit claims for compensation in respect to expenditure during captivity. Most of the claims had been submitted and he hoped that all would be settled shortly. Replying to Sir Rees, Mr. Montagu stated that he hoped to send to the Government of India shortly the advice of the Empire Cotton Growing Committee on the recommendations of the Indian Cotton Committee.

FROM PAGE ONE

PM Modi will chair Cabinet meeting today

A senior government official in Srinagar said the officials were asked to prepare for any kind of law and order situation. "We are always on alert, but we have not been given any reason for the deployment of additional forces. This is only for maintenance of law and order," the official told *The Hindu*.

Asked whether it was related to the abrogation of Article 35A that lets the administration decide the "permanent residents" of the State, the official said, "We have not been told anything."

Another official added that security threat to the Amarnath Yatra was always there. "The way the Kash-

mir Valley is being emptied of tourists and Amarnath pilgrims is unprecedented. But the security of the locals is also our responsibility, and we are deploying forces to address this concern," he said. As of now, there are 1.3 lakh Central forces deployed in the State, besides the Army and the police.

Last week, the Army said Pakistan-based terror groups had made attempts to launch *fidayeen* attacks in the Valley. The State government issued a circular asking Amarnath pilgrims to "curtail" the yatra in the wake of credible intelligence inputs about a terror attack. The State is now under President's rule.

Assam minorities get re-verification notices

"The notices have been a bolt from the blue. Most people like Jamir Ali, Janahara Khatun, Aamir Ali are daily-wagers and unable to get vehicles to centres 300-500 km away at such short notice. They fear they will be excluded from the NRC if they cannot turn up at the specified place in time," Mr. Choudhury said.

There were reports of similar notices served in minority areas of districts such as Barpeta, Goalpara, Dhubri, Morigaon and Karimganj.

'SC snubbed'
The Brahmaputra Valley Civil Society (BVCS), a group of academics, retired bureaucrats, lawyers and professionals, said the notices cited The Citizenship (Registration of Citizens and Issue National Identity Cards) Rules 2003.

"But the rules, as amended in 2009, and the Standard Operating Procedure that the Centre came up with for the NRC exercise say that a person has to be given at least 15 days to appear for a hearing. In a sudden bombardment of notices

on August 3, people have been asked to go to faraway places for hearings on August 5, 6 and 7," senior advocate H.R.A. Choudhury said. "The LRCRs and NRC authorities have also snubbed the Supreme Court, which on April 10 ordered that a person should be called for hearing to a centre within a convenient distance in the same district. The notices have also violated the SC ruling on July 23 against the government's plea for re-verification after NRC State Coordinator Prateek Hajela said 27% re-verification has already been done," Mr. Choudhury said.

Under fire
BVCS president Atowar Rahman said the notices have been served in mostly Muslim areas two days after the State government disclosed district-wise data on NRC inclusions and exclusions in the State Assembly. "We wonder if Mr. Hajela is under pressure from the government to have these notices served, or his office has done it voluntarily," he said.

J&K leaders put under house arrest

Mr. Omar Abdullah and Ms. Mufti earlier in the day had warned the Centre against abrogation of Article 35A and Article 370, which gives special status to J&K.

There is no official word on the arrests by the Governor's administration.

Earlier in the day National Conference (NC) president Dr. Farooq Abdullah chaired an all-party meeting in Srinagar and appealed to Prime Minister Narendra Modi "not to revoke Jammu and Kashmir's special status."

Dr. Abdullah said all parties resolved to be united in "protecting the identity, autonomy and special rights of J&K."

CWC to set the course for new leadership

Only such an election, he said, will provide legitimacy for Mr. Gandhi's successor. Earlier, former general secretary (organisation) Jarnardhan Diwedi too had questioned the rather "informal" process of consultations to pick Mr. Gandhi's successor.

For now, sources say, only a provisional presidential will be selected by the CWC. "The election is an eventual reality. But for now, we can't focus on it because there are crucial Assembly polls coming up in the next few months in Maharashtra, Haryana, Bihar and Delhi," a top Congress leader said.

Mr. Gandhi expressed the desire to leave the position during a CWC meeting held on May 25. At the time,

CWC members categorically said that there was no question of accepting Mr. Gandhi's resignation. For over a month, the party remained in denial.

On July 3, Mr. Gandhi, in an open letter to the party, said once again that he had no intention of continuing.

Following his letter, many, including Mr. Tharoor and Punjab Chief Minister Captain Amarinder Singh, pushed for Mr. Gandhi's younger sister Priyanka Gandhi Vadra to take over. On Thursday, during a meeting of general secretaries to plan the 75th birth anniversary of former Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi, Ms. Vadra categorically told the functionaries to rule her out of the race.

(With PTI inputs)

Heavy rain hits life in Mumbai again

Over 800 evacuated to safety, train services thrown off track, air traffic disrupted

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
MUMBAI

Heavy rain in Mumbai and adjoining regions disrupted life for the second consecutive day on Sunday, throwing train services off the track, disrupting air traffic and causing power outages in neighbouring Thane and Palghar districts.

Mumbai received 204 mm until Sunday morning, less than its neighbouring towns of Thane and Virar, but the third highest 24-hour August rainfall in a decade. This also marked the completion of total 'normal' rainfall for the season, with 2374.2 mm above the average seasonal rainfall of 2317.1 mm received between June and September.

The State is now under President's rule.



Closed line: The tracks at the Chunabhatti station in Mumbai went under water on Sunday. ■ PTI

Two electrocuted

Two persons died of electrocution in Santacruz and one was reported missing, feared drowned in Dharavi. A man in his mid-thirties was also feared to have drowned in the Phoolpada dam in Palghar district.

Over 400 people residing along Mithi river were moved

to safety, while another 400 people were evacuated in Palghar district. Power supply was cut off in many areas of Thane and Palghar districts, besides many areas in Mumbai, as substations went under water.

Earlier in the day, teams of the Navy, the Air Force and the Army were requisitioned

by the State government to rescue those stranded in Thane and Palghar. An IAF Mi-7 helicopter evacuated 58 people, including 16 children, and brought them to the Air Force Station at Thane. Two columns of the Army, consisting of 120 personnel, were sent to Thane district.

The Central Railway (CR) bore the brunt for the second day running as services across the Central Line and major sections of the Harbour Line were hit due to waterlogging. For over 12 hours, no train ran between Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Terminus (CSMT) and Thane, while suburban services bet-

ween CSMT and Mankhurd on the Harbour Line were suspended due to acute flooding.

Nearly 7,000 passengers across 12 long distance trains that had been regulated at various stations were provided with bus transportation to reach Mumbai.

A Rajdhani Express bound for Madgaon in Goa stopped well in time before the mudslide near Panvel due to the quick thinking of the loco pilot and assistant loco pilot AV Rathore and Pawan Kumar Patel.

However, it took the railway authorities nearly 11 hours to clear the sections. As a consequence of the mudslide, Konkan Railway had to cancel 15 trains and divert/short terminate an equal number which would have passed through that section.

With heavy rains forecast for the next 48 hours, the Maharashtra government declared a holiday on Monday in all schools and colleges in Mumbai city, Mumbai suburbs, Thane, Navi Mumbai, Raigad, Palghar, and Pune.

Milind Deora bets on Pilot or Scindia

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
MUMBAI

Congress leader Milind Deora on Sunday proposed the names of Sachin Pilot and Jayotiraditya Scindia for the post of party's national president.

Mr. Deora said he agreed with Punjab Chief Minister Amarinder Singh that the new Congress president should be young, capable and possess electoral, administrative and organisational experience, and a pan-India appeal.

"In my view, Sachin Pilot and Jayotiraditya Scindia have all these qualities and can provide strength to the organisation and vigour to the opposition space," he said.

He added that he was "unequivocally ruling myself out," adding that "I know my strengths and capabilities and I am willing to work with anyone in the best interest of our party." Mr. Deora said Mr. Pilot or Mr. Scindia should be made interim president at least, and be publicly backed by the Gandhi family.

IN BRIEF



Modi asks MPs to nurse constituencies

NEW DELHI
Prime Minister Narendra Modi called upon BJP MPs on Sunday to work with a positive mindset.

At the concluding session of a training programme for party lawmakers, he also referred to the next Lok Sabha election, scheduled for 2024, and told them to nurse their constituencies in a way that they can retain them on the strength of their work and conduct, sources said.

Nitish seeks Central status for university

PATNA
On the occasion of the centenary celebration of the central library of Patna University, Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar on Sunday reiterated his demand that it be granted the status of a Central university. Vice-President M. Venkiah Naidu, who was present at the event, assured all help for this. Earlier, in 2017, Mr. Kumar raised this demand before Prime Minister Narendra Modi but was turned down. Patna University is the 11th oldest University in India.

Sengar says he is being framed in car crash



A CBI team during a visit to the house of the rape survivor at Maki village in Unnao district of Uttar Pradesh on Sunday.

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
LUCKNOW/NEW DELHI

Uttar Pradesh MLA Kuldeep Singh Sengar, jailed in a case of rape of a minor girl, claimed on Sunday that there was a "political conspiracy" to frame him and demanded a thorough probe into the car crash that left the rape survivor injured and two dead.

"I would also pray to God that both the advocate and the pidihaata (Unnao rape survivor) recover fully," Mr. Sengar told reporters outside Sitapur jail.

He was being taken to Delhi by a CBI team, the Sitapur jail superintendent said.

Meanwhile, the CBI on

Sunday conducted searches on the premises of Sengar and others in Uttar Pradesh in connection with the truck-car collision.

According to the agency, the searches were carried out at 17 locations in Unnao, Lucknow, Banda and Fatehpur. The CBI named Sengar and nine others in the FIR and took over the probe from the Uttar Pradesh police.

The CBI has constituted a special team, comprising 25 officials and six forensic experts. The Supreme Court had earlier directed it to sum up the probe within a week. If necessary, it can take one more week.

(With PTI inputs)

Tenders cancelled to boost 'Make in India'

DPIIT changes norms to promote indigenous goods

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI

Government tenders worth over ₹25,000 crore were either cancelled or modified and re-issued after the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) stepped in to change their conditions to promote 'Make in India' goods, a top official said.

The Department is taking every step for effective implementation of public procurement order, 2017, to promote 'Make in India' products," the official said.

The government issued the order on June 15, 2017, to promote the manufacturing and production of goods and services in India and enhance income and employment in the country.

The CBI has constituted a special team, comprising 25 officials and six forensic experts. The Supreme Court had earlier directed it to sum up the probe within a week. If necessary, it can take one more week.

(With PTI inputs)

procurement of train set coaches was cancelled as the tender had certain restrictive conditions that were discriminatory against domestic manufacturers and favoured foreign players. The project cost was ₹5,000 crore.

A tender for ₹8,135 crore was modified with revised eligibility criteria for setting up of a 3x800 MW project. A tender worth ₹3,000 crore for Mumbai Metro was also modified.

The move assumes significance as concerns have been raised by certain quarters about the restrictive and discriminatory clauses being imposed against domestic manufacturers and suppliers in tender documents for public procurement.

The department had ear-

lier held a series of meetings with concerned departments and Ministries including Steel, Railways, Defence, Oil and Gas, Pharmaceutical, Electronics, Telecommunications, Heavy Industries, Textiles, Shipping and Power in this regard.

"Directions were given to ensure strict compliance of the order in letter and in spirit. All nodal ministries were directed to ensure notification of local content," the official added.

Under the Public Procurement Preference to Make in India Order, it was envisaged that all Central government departments, their attached or subordinate offices and autonomous bodies controlled by the Government of India should ensure purchase preference be given to domestic suppliers in government procurement.

Several departments and Ministries including pharmaceuticals and defence production have already identified several items that would have a minimum level of domestic content.

Call to reserve 21 seats in Assam for indigenous groups

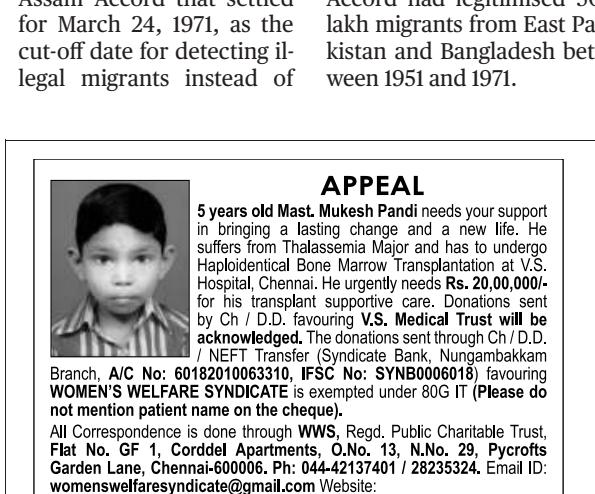
'Many were affected by Assam Accord'

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
GUWAHATI

A coordination committee of the indigenous groups in Assam has demanded the reservation of 21 "immigrants-controlled" Assembly seats for indigenous communities.

It also sought the formation of a Legislative Council to let numerically weaker communities be represented in the 126-member Assembly.

"Many indigenous groups have been affected by the Assam Accord that settled for March 24, 1971, as the cut-off date for detecting illegal migrants instead of



APPEAL

5 years old Mast. Mukesh Pandi needs your support in bringing a lasting change and a new life. He suffers from Thalassemia Major and has to undergo Haemopoietic Bone Marrow Transplantation at V.S. Hospital, Chennai. He urgently needs Rs. 20,00,000/- for his transplant supportive care. Donations sent through C/D.D. favouring V.S. Medical Trust will be acknowledged. The donations sent through C/D.D. / NEFT Transfer (Syndicate Bank, Nungambakkam Branch, A/C No. 60182010063310, IFSC No: SYNB0006018) favouring WOMEN'S WELFARE SYNDICATE is exempted under 80G IT (Please do not mention patient name on the cheque). All Correspondence is done through WWS, Regd. Public Charitable Trust, Flat No. GF_13, Cordell Apartments, O.N. No. 29, Pyrofts Garden Lane, Chennai-600006, Ph: 044-42137401 / 28235324, Email: womenwelfaresyndicate@gmail.com Website: www.womenwelfaresyndicate.org

WWS

M.P. returns over 25% of target under PMAY

Rural Development Minister calls State's decision an unprecedented situation

PRISCILLA JEBARAJ
NEW DELHI

Madhya Pradesh has surrendered more than a quarter of its allotted Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (Gramene) houses for this financial year, giving up 2.32 lakh out of a total 8.32 lakh houses.

This is the first time any State has done so, according to officials from the Union Rural Development Ministry, which administers the scheme.

The housing scheme aims to ensure that every rural Indian family has a *pucca* house with basic amenities by 2022. It was determined in February 2019 and Madhya Pradesh was allotted a total of 8.32 lakh houses under the Annual Action Plan approved by the Empowered Committee. However, on July 31, we got a letter from the MP government that they wished to surrender 2.32 lakh houses this year," a senior Rural Development Ministry official, who did not wish to be

named, told *The Hindu*. "The State indicated that it was not in a position to construct [the original target] this year."

"This is an unprecedented situation and it is not good for the State to reduce its target. At the end of the day, it delays housing for lakhs of its people," said another senior Ministry official, who also did not wish to be identified. "It seems that the Congress government's farm loan waiver scheme may be reducing the State's ability to meet its share for other schemes."

Under PMAY(G), each beneficiary is given a total of ₹1.2 lakh to construct a *pucca* home, with a hygienic

kitchen space. (The amount is ₹1.3 lakh for hilly States, difficult areas and tribal and backward districts which come under the Integrated Action Plan.) The cost is split in a 60:40 ratio between the State and Central governments in plain areas, and a 90:10 ratio in northeastern and Himalayan States. Thus, the State governments must bear a share of the cost of the flagship Central scheme.

In the last three financial years, Madhya Pradesh has been second only to West Bengal in the number of houses constructed under PMAY(G), completing more than 13 lakh houses since 2016, according to government data.

The Congress government has been slow to come on board with some other flagship schemes of the Central BJP-led government. Only 9,304 of MP's approximately 80 lakh farmers had received the first instalment of the ₹8,000 crore was set aside for the remaining farmers, he said.

Several bodies lie unclaimed on LoC

Army asks Pakistan to take back the corpses, but it denies any hand in the infiltration attempts

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

NEW DELHI

The Army has asked Pakistan to take back the bodies of its personnel retrieved in the Border Action Team (BAT) personnel lying in Indian territory, Army sources said on Sunday.

"The Pakistan Army was contacted by us on Saturday evening to get the bodies of its personnel retrieved in the Keran sector for last rites. It is yet to respond," an Army source said. The bodies are lying in the open, he added.

Except for sporadic small arms fire, the Line of Control (LoC) remained largely calm during the day. The Army said it had foiled a BAT attempt to infiltrate on Saturday and in the ensuing exchange of fire, inflicted heavy casualties on the team.

"The bodies of five to se-

ven possibly Pakistan regulars or Special Service Group commandos, along with maybe some terrorists, have been seen on our side of the LoC close to our posts," Army officials said. Many BAT members fled taking advantage of the bad weather, they said.

Army sources said there had been a spurt in infiltration attempts and BAT actions in the past few days. These had been foiled.

"There had been four or five infiltration attempts and three or four of them were by the BAT," one officer said.

Humanitarian offer
On the offer on the bodies, a senior Army source said, "It is unlikely that Pakistan will accept the humanitarian offer. It is not surprising because they had done the



A photograph provided by the Army of the body of a Pakistani soldier in the Keran sector. ■ SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

same with many of their fallen soldiers of the Northern Light Infantry in Kargil and hidden dozens of bodies and tents in Balakot. The list of denials is endless," the source said.

There was also heavy fir-

ing, including use of artillery, by the Pakistan Army during the infiltration and the BAT's attempts to provide cover, sources added.

This prompted the Army to use the heavy 155mm Bofors artillery guns briefly a few days ago.

"Bofors were used once a few days ago, but after that we didn't feel the need to use them again," another source said. They were used on the LoC after close to a decade-and-a-half.

Calibre escalation, or usage of heavier calibre weapons, does take place during such ceasefire violations, officials said. "Each side aims at ensuring its moral ascendancy and domination over the LoC," an official said but reiterated that the Army ensured that the targets were only military and the terro-

rists supported by the Pakistani Army.

Pakistan's denial

The Director-General of Pakistan's Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR) quickly denied any "cross LoC action by Pakistan", and called the possession of bodies by India as "mere propaganda".

"Such blatant lies/staged dramas are Indian disinformation manoeuvre to divert world attention from increased atrocities by Indian occupation forces inside Indian-occupied Jammu and Kashmir," he tweeted.

On Saturday, as heavy exchange of fire was under way, he alleged that the Indian Army had used cluster bombs along the LoC which was quickly denied by India as yet another of "Pakistan's lie, deceit and deception".

Regional conflict possible over Kashmir: Imran Khan

India used cluster bombs on civilians across LoC, he says

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

NEW DELHI

A regional conflict could erupt over Kashmir, Pakistan Prime Minister Imran Khan said on Sunday and urged for international intervention to stabilise the situation. Mr. Khan's warning came as India continued to boost military might in the State and ordered tourists and pilgrims from the rest of the country to leave.

"[U.S.] President Trump offered to mediate on Kashmir. This is the time to do so as situation deteriorates there and along the LoC [Line of Control] with new aggressive actions being taken by Indian occupation forces. This has the potential to blow up into a regional



It is time to resolve the Kashmir issue through a peaceful and just settlement

IMRAN KHAN
Pakistan Prime Minister

crisis," he said on social media.

Mr. Khan alleged that the Indian forces had used cluster bombs on civilian population across the LoC. He called upon the inter-

national community and the UN to take note of the Kashmir situation. A day earlier, Foreign Minister Shah Mahmood Qureshi had accused India of using cluster munitions.

On Sunday, in his social media messages on Kashmir, Mr. Khan said it was time to resolve the Kashmir issue through a "peaceful and just settlement".

His comments came even as reports came that the administration of Pakistan-occupied Kashmir had asked the civilian population to get armed.

Mr. Khan visited the U.S. last week when Mr. Trump said he was willing to mediate on the Kashmir dispute.

'Operation Bedlam' for tourism sector

Hotels are empty following the advisory

PEERZADA ASHIQ

SRINAGAR
Tourism has suffered a major jolt in Kashmir on Sunday. Against an average footfall of 3,000 tourists per day just the previous week, a trickle of 350 arrived in the Valley, despite the adverse advisory.

A Tourism Department official told *The Hindu* that most hotels in tourist hot-spots including Gulmarg and Pahalgam had been emptied following the advisory.

"Around 700 tourists are still in the Valley after helping around 90% tourists to leave Kashmir in the past two days. We expect 350 more to leave by Monday given their flight schedules. Thereafter 350 will be left. All arrangements have been made for those who want to leave the Valley safely," said a senior tourism official.

According to data, Kashmir witnessed a major drop in tourist arrivals after the Pulwama attack in February, which witnessed India and



Troubled times: Tourists wait for transport after checking out of houseboats at the Dal Lake in Srinagar following the advisory to pilgrims and tourists to leave Kashmir. ■ NISSAR AHMAD

Pakistan entering into a border duel.

Steady growth

However, April, May, June and July saw steady growing numbers, from 17,172 to 60,844 and 1,16,572 and around 2 lakh, respectively, official figures suggest.

Kashmir Chamber of Commerce and Industry general secretary Farooq Amin said the sudden advisory had proved "Operation Bedlam" for people and the State economy.

The change in policy has been evident from February 2019, he said.

"Since then tourism, horticulture and other sectors of our economy suffered tremendous losses due to the decision of the government to restrict movement of civilians on the only road link of Srinagar-Jammu. It has hit the final nail in the coffin now," Mr. Amin said.

ACB issues notice to Mufti; NIA detains Rashid

It is a concerted effort to browbeat leaders, says former CM

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

SRINAGAR

The Anti-Corruption Bureau (ACB) on Sunday served a notice on former Chief Minister and Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) president Mehbooba Mufti asking her "to explain her position before it regarding the illegal recruitments in the Jammu and Kashmir Bank". Meanwhile, the National Investigation Agency (NIA) detained Engineer Rashid, MLA.

During the course of investigation of case FIR No. 10/2019, it has surfaced that some appointments were made by the Chairman J&K Bank on references and recommendations of a few Ministers, the ACB notice said. "It may please be clarified whether such references had your endorsement, verbal or otherwise for appointments in J&K Bank," it added.

A PDP leader, confirming

Muzaffar Beigh, Farooq Abdullah and Mehbooba Mufti at an all-party meeting in Srinagar on Sunday. ■ NISSAR AHMAD

the letter, told *The Hindu* that the party "was expecting it since the PDP was at the forefront of unifying political parties in J&K".

Ms. Mehbooba in her tweet said: "Not surprised to receive a letter from the Anti-Corruption Bureau. Concurred efforts are being made to browbeat mainstream leaders & thwart potential efforts for a collective response. I am too small an entity vis-a-vis the cause that unites us today. Such tactics won't work."

In a separate development, Peoples United Front leader Shah Faesal said the NIA summoned Awami Ittehad party chief Engineer Rashid to Delhi. Er. Rashid's outspoken nature and unique stance on Kashmir seems to have rattled some interests in Delhi, Mr. Faesal said. He demanded that the NIA immediately conclude the investigations.

JKLF chief Yasin Malik is fine: Tihar jail

STAFF REPORTER

NEW DELHI

Countering fake news aired by a Pakistan-based news channel about death of Jammu and Kashmir Liberation Front chief Yasin Malik in Tihar Jail, the Director-General of Prison (Tihar) on Sunday denied any such incident.

Sandeep Goel, Director-General (Tihar), said the rumour about Malik, presently lodged in the Tihar prison, was totally incorrect. His health condition was normal and he was doing fine. He added that Malik had undergone a regular medical check-up and his reports were fine.

After the rumours of his death were circulated on social media, Mr. Goel found out about Malik's health from the jail superintendent and said every thing was fine.

On April 10, Malik was arrested in connection with a case related to the funding of terror and separatist groups in Jammu and Kashmir.

Railways to go easy on ticketless travel

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

NEW DELHI

The Railways have decided that ticket-checking will be lenient on trains leaving Jammu, Udhampur and Katra for the next 48 hours, sources said.

This will enable scores of passengers, especially Amarnath pilgrims, to leave Jammu and Kashmir even without holding reserved tickets, after the State administration's orders cancelling the pilgrimage.

This comes a day after the national transporter waived cancellation charges for all trains in the State.

India, Israel bond over Yeh dosti

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

NEW DELHI

Israel greeted India on Friendship Day with a Twitter message that featured popular Bollywood song *Yeh dosti* from the 1975 hit movie *Sholay*, drawing an equally warm response from Prime Minister Narendra Modi who said the bond between the two countries was "strong and eternal".

"Happy #FriendshipDay2019 India! May our ever strengthening friendship & growing partnership touch greater heights," the Israeli Embassy here tweeted on Sunday. Mr. Modi tweeted in Hebrew saying, the countries have proved their friendship over time.



Big seizure: Punjab police personnel unloading bags of suspected heroin from a truck in Amritsar in June. ■ AFP

Lens on Pak. cartels as drug seizures mount

'Money being used for terror activities'

DEVESHK PANDEY

NEW DELHI

The recent seizures of over 1,100 kg of heroin in the Indian subcontinent have left the investigating agencies worried about a spurt in the activities of Pakistan-based drug-trafficking syndicates in the region.

The seized heroin is suspected to be of Afghanistan origin. "Three routes are traditionally used for global distribution of Afghan heroin: the Balkans, Central Asian countries and the Indian subcontinent. Since 2015, there has been a decline in seizures on the Balkans and Central Asian routes. However, they have of late increased in the sub-continent," an enforcement agency official said.

The Coast Guard detected 200 kg of heroin on a Pakistan fishing vessel off Gujarat on May 21. Four Pakistan nationals were arrested.

On May 6, an Iranian boat, allegedly transporting narcotics, was seized by the Maldivian authorities west of the Baa atoll. In another

case, the Gujarat Anti-Terrorist Squad, together with the Coast Guard, seized 100 kg of heroin from an Iranian boat off Porbandar and arrested nine Iranian nationals in March. A probe revealed the consignment had been sent by Pakistan national Hamid Malek and loaded on the boat close to the Gwadar port. A follow-up by the ATS led to the arrest of an Afghan national at Lajpat Nagar in Delhi and another suspect in Kerala.

Inland seizures have also pointed to the role of Pakistan-based syndicates, the official said. A case in point is the seizure by the Customs at Attari in June of 532 kg of heroin. They had been declared as rock salt. The alleged kingpin, Tariq Ahmed Lone of Kupwara, was arrested, along with importer Gurpinder Singh. "The consignment was booked in the name of Global Vision Impex, a front for Pakistan's ISI in Lahore," the official said.

In several cases, agencies have come across evidence of drug money being used to fund terror activities.

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No: B1/DVS&WP/11/2019-20 Date: 01.08.2019
e-AUCTION NOTIFICATION

The Director, Karnataka Secondary Education Examination Board, hereby invites e-AUCTION bidding from eligible bidders for the sale and disposal of valued answer booklets, unused answer booklets, OMR formats, CNR formats, used envelopes and waste cloths in a single lot on 'As is where is basis' pertaining to SSCL 2019 as per KTPP Act-1999, through e-Procurement portal only. e-AUCTION documents may be downloaded from www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in and www.kseeb.kar.nic.in. e-AUCTION Commencement date is: 05.08.2019 and the last date for submission is: 05.09.2019 at 4.00 pm. Pre-bid meeting is on: 19.08.2019 at 11.30 am. Technical bid will be opened on 09.09.2019 at 11.30 am. Reserve price of this e-AUCTION is Rs.56,12,500/- The Earnest Money Deposit is Rs.2,80,625/- For more details contact board during office hours.

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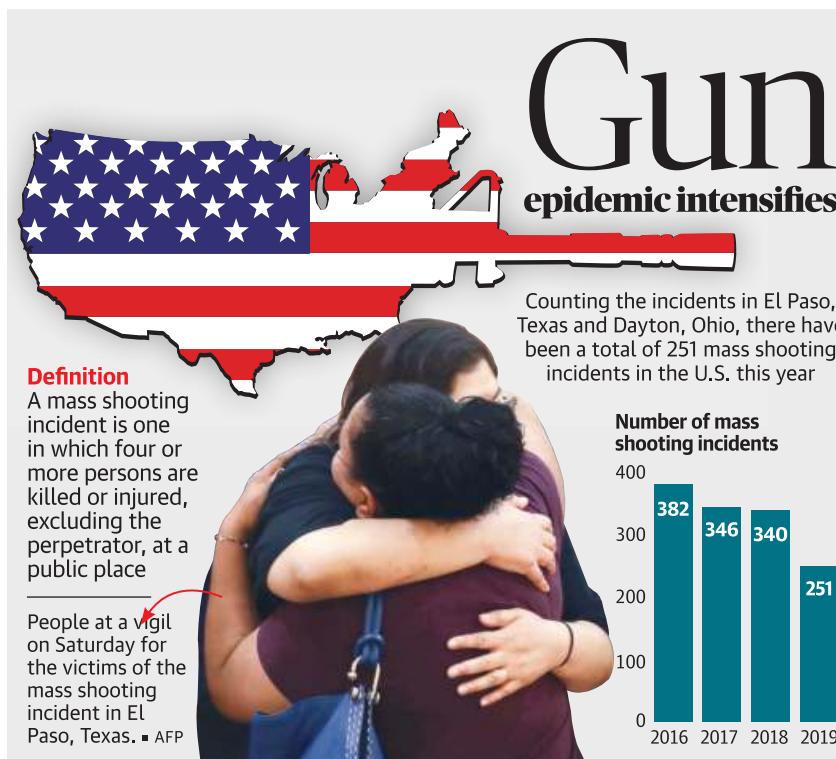
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Deadliest incidents (2019)

Two of the three deadliest incidents this year have happened in the last two days

Date	Location	Number of killed	Number of injured
Feb. 15	Aurora, Illinois	6	6
May 31	Virginia Beach, Virginia	13	5
July 28	Chippewa Falls, Wisconsin	6	2
August 3	El Paso, Texas	20	26
August 4	Dayton, Ohio	10	16

There are only 12 U.S. States which have not had a mass shooting incident this year

Deadliest incidents since 2013

Date	Location	Killed	Injured
Dec. 2, 2015	San Bernardino, California	16	19
June 12, 2016	Orlando, Florida	50	53
Oct. 1, 2017	Las Vegas, Nevada	59	441
Nov. 5, 2017	Sutherland Springs, Texas	27	20
Aug. 3, 2019	El Paso, Texas	20	26

Total no. of gun incidents (2019) *Children (0-11 years) killed or Injured

Incidents	Deaths	Injuries	
32,687	8,614	17,076	381*

Number of mass shooting incidents in 2019



Since 2013, there have been a total of 60 incidents when at least 10 people were killed

Studying shooter behaviour

The FBI in 2018 released a report on the behaviour of "active shooters". Its study was based on incidents that occurred in the 2000-2013 period and covered 63 shooters

Key findings

- Shooters took time to plan the attack. At least 77% of them spent a week or longer in planning and 46% spent a week or longer actually preparing for the attack
- In a majority of the cases (64%), at least one victim was actually targeted by the shooter
- 35% of them had adult criminal convictions prior to the incident

FBI study (%) | Age of shooter

12-17 years 13

18-29 years 25

30-39 years 9

40-49 years 29

50-59 years 13

60-69 years 9

63% of the shooters were between 18 and 49 years old

Race of shooter (%)

63 White

10 Asian

16 Black

6 Hispanic

3 West Asian

2 Native American

SOURCE: GUN VIOLENCE ARCHIVE, FBI | GRAPHIC: B. SRINIVASAN

Carnage unleashed in border city over fear of 'Hispanic invasion'

Gunman kills 20 people at a Walmart store in Texas while another murders nine, including his sister, in Ohio

REUTERS
EL PASO

Thirty people died and dozens were wounded in two mass shootings within just 13 hours of each other in the U.S., shocking the country and prompting calls from some politicians for tighter gun control.

The first massacre occurred on Saturday morning in the Hispanic border city of El Paso, where a gunman killed 20 people at a Walmart store before surrendering to police. Authorities investigating the motive behind the attack said they are treating it as a case of domestic terrorism.

Texas Governor Greg Abbott said the rampage appeared to be a hate crime, and police cited a "manifesto" they attributed to the suspect, a 21-year-old white man, as evidence that the at-



Cycle of violence: Bodies being removed from the scene of the mass shooting in Dayton, Ohio, on Sunday. ■ AP

from homegrown white nationalist terrorism," Mr. Buttigieg said in Las Vegas.

President Donald Trump branded the shooting "an act of cowardice," saying in a Twitter post, "I know that I stand with everyone to condemn today's hateful act. There are no reasons or excuses that will ever justify killing innocent people."

Pope Francis condemned the spate of attacks on "defenceless people" in the U.S.

'Hate crime'

In Texas, police and FBI investigators searched for clues as to what motivated the suspect, who is from Allen, a Dallas suburb some 1,046 km east of El Paso, which lies on Rio Grande across the U.S.-Mexico border from Ciudad Juarez.

A State prosecutor said they will seek death penalty

tack was racially motivated.

Across the country, a gunman opened fire in a downtown district of Dayton, Ohio, early on Sunday, killing nine people, including his sister, and wounding at least 26 others. The assailant was shot dead by police.

The El Paso shooting reverberated on the campaign trail for next year's U.S. pre-

sidential election, with several Democratic candidates calling for gun control.

At least two candidates, Mayor Pete Buttigieg of South Bend, Indiana, and El Paso native Beto O'Rourke, a former Congressman, drew connections to a resurgence in white nationalism and xenophobic politics in the U.S.

"America is under attack

for the suspect, Patrick Crusius, 21.

Police said the suspect opened fire with a rifle on shoppers, many of them bargain-hunting for school supplies, then surrendered to officers who confronted him outside the store.

In Dayton, Ohio, a gunman dressed in body armour opened fire in a downtown district, unleashing carnage that could have been much worse if not for the rapid intervention of police.

Officers on routine patrol nearby were on the scene in less than a minute and shot the attacker dead, likely preventing a much higher toll.

Assistant police chief Matt Carper named the gunman as Connor Betts, a 24-year-old white male from Bellbrook, Ohio, and said his sister Megan Betts, 22, was among those killed.

Police are questioning the suspect, Patrick Crusius, a 21-year-old white man from Allen, Texas, a 10-hour drive to the Walmart.

'Threat to white race'

The manifesto that may be linked to Crusius described an imminent attack and railed against immigrants, saying, "if we can get rid of enough people, then our way of life can be more sustainable."

The unsigned manifesto, titled "The Inconvenient Truth," draws direct inspiration from the mass murder of Muslims at two mosques in New Zealand in March that left 51 people dead.

In that attack, the alleged killer published a manifesto

online promoting a white supremacist theory called "the great replacement."

The theory argues that elites in Europe have been working to replace white Europeans with immigrants from the West Asia and North Africa.

The manifesto linked to the El Paso killing begins, "In general, I support the Christchurch shooter and his manifesto. This attack is a response to the Hispanic invasion of Texas."

The gunman who opened fire at a synagogue in Poway, near San Diego, in April, posted an anti-Semitic diatribe on 8chan, the same online message board where the El Paso document surfaced. NY TIMES

Manifesto appears online

Hate-filled screed draws inspiration from Christchurch attack

TIM ARANGO
NICHOLAS BOGEL-BURROUGHS
KATIE BENNER

Nineteen minutes before the first 911 call alerted authorities to a mass shooting at a Walmart in El Paso, Texas, a hate-filled, anti-immigrant manifesto appeared online.

It spoke of a "Hispanic invasion of Texas." It detailed a plan to separate America into territories by race. It warned that white people were being replaced by foreigners.

The authorities were scrutinising the 2,300-word screed and attempting to determine whether it was written by the same man who killed 20 people and injured more than two dozen others near the Mexican border.

The unsigned manifesto, titled "The Inconvenient Truth," draws direct inspiration from the mass murder of Muslims at two mosques in New Zealand in March that left 51 people dead.

In that attack, the alleged killer published a manifesto

31 dead after 3 ferries capsized in Philippines

REUTERS
MANILA

The death toll after three Philippines ferries capsized in bad weather rose to 31 on Sunday as rescuers found more bodies, a Coast Guard official said.

The motorised, wooden-hulled boats were carrying a total of 96 passengers and crew when harsh weather conditions caused the vessels to overturn off the central island of Guimaras and Iloilo provinces on Saturday.

The search continues for three more people still missing. Philippines Coast Guard spokesman Commander Armand Balilo said.

The rest of the crew members and passengers were rescued.

Sudan military, protesters sign deal for civilian rule

Elections to be held after joint council's rule for three years



China destabilising Indo-Pacific, says U.S.

SYDNEY

China is destabilising the Indo-Pacific, U.S. Defence Secretary Mark Esper said on Sunday, charging Beijing with predatory economics, intellectual property theft and "weaponising the global commons". REUTERS

U.S., Taliban push for peace on day 2 of talks

DOHA

The U.S. and the Taliban were thrashing out elements of a deal to bring a close to Afghanistan's 18-year conflict at the second day of renewed talks in Doha on Sunday. The talks, now in their eighth round, began on Saturday with no end date issued publicly. AFP



Gen. Mohammed Hamdan Dagalo, the deputy head of the military council, right, and protest leader Ahmad Rabie. ■ AP

months of mass protests against his three-decade-long autocratic rule. The protesters remained on the streets, demanding a rapid transition to a civilian authority.

They have been locked in tense negotiations with the military for weeks.

Gen. Mohammed Hamdan Dagalo, the deputy head of the military council, told a joint news conference that the deal has ended an era in Sudan's history "characterized by rivalry and fighting."

Iran seizes third foreign tanker in Gulf

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
TEHRAN

Iran has seized a foreign tanker in the Gulf, State media said on Sunday, in what would be the third such seizure in a month amid heightened tensions with the United States.

The Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps "seized this ship around Farsi Island which was carrying around 700,000 litres of smuggled fuel", said a Guards statement quoted by the official news agency IRNA.

Seven foreign crew were arrested in the operation, said Fars news agency.

The Guards had earlier captured Panama-flagged MT Riah and British-flagged Stena Impero.

Riot police fired tear gas at

Hong Kong protesters

China warns it will not sit by idly



Protesters focus laser beam on riot police during the protest in Hong Kong. ■ AP

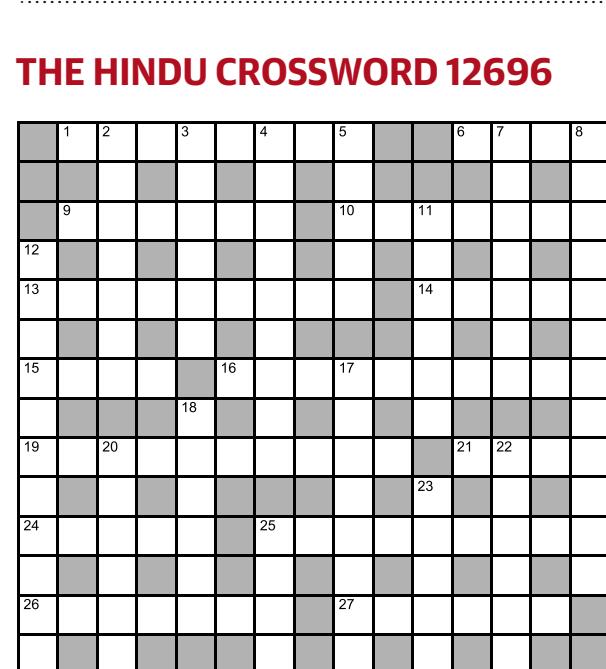
Causeway Bay.

The latest unrest came as China's official Xinhua news agency published a commentary saying "ugly forces" were threatening the country's "bottom line".

The clashes were short-lived as protesters rushed into the subway and moved to a new location – the bustling shopping district of Sheung Wan.

The Central government will not sit by idly and let this situation continue," the agency wrote.

THE HINDU CROSSWORD 12696



ACROSS

- As danger develops, half of them go back to the French officer (8)
- Blackleg in second taxi (4)
- Upset, I'm leaving the other woman in tension (6)
- French city's capacity to bond (7)
- Smart Ali's driving away scaremongers (9)

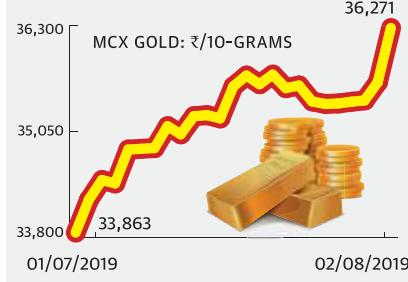
SET BY Gridman

- Parts of circuits get rupees cast around crazy stories (9)
- Roof features women mentioned (5)
- US coin and a very old coin from Cuba (7)
- Where a gentleman keeps something close to his heart (6,6)
- Correspondent's payment – nothing coming up for a long period! (6)
- Mean Indian sect member one day gets debt notices (12)
- Contrived U-turn Lana pulled off (9)
- Reportedly anticipates head count (6)
- One whose relation will be revealing (8)
- One in a race went without complaint (7)
- Cheerless? Not right! Mother's given to reverie (6)

TECH TRAIL: PRECIOUS METALS

Gold and silver largely range-bound in July

Yellow gets peppy



B. KRISHNAKUMAR

After a strong uptrend in June, the prices of gold and silver in the international market remained largely range-bound in July. Though the precious metals managed to eke out marginal gains on a month-on-month basis, the strength in the U.S. dollar arrested the scope for significant gains.

Come gold futures edged up 1.7% in July to settle at \$1,437.8 an ounce. Silver, on the other hand, recorded a more robust gain of 7.5% in July, to close at \$16.4 an ounce. While the expectations of an interest rate cut in the U.S. was the primary driving force of the rally in precious metals in June, the announcement of the rate cut triggered a cool-off in gold and silver prices.

Gold slipped to a two-week low on August 1, a day after the U.S. Federal Reserve cut interest rates for the first time in a decade. Precious metals staged a modest recovery on August 1 after the U.S. President said he would impose an additional 10% tariff on \$300 billion worth of Chinese imports on September 1.

In the domestic market, the price of gold futures at MCX gained about 3% in July to close at ₹35,419 per 10 grams. MCX silver futures settled at ₹41,227 per kilogramme by the end of July. The short-term outlook for international prices of gold and silver hinges on what the price does over the next few days. Come gold has a support zone at ₹1,400-1,410 and resistance at ₹1,460-1,470 an ounce. A breakout through either of these levels is likely to trigger a move in the direction of the breakout.

A move past the resistance at ₹1,470 would impart a positive trend and could push gold price to the immediate target of ₹1,495-1,505 an ounce. A breach of the support at ₹1,410 could impart short-term weakness and trigger a slide to ₹1,370-1,380 range. The short-term outlook for silver is slightly negative. A fall to the immediate target of ₹15.5-₹15.75 appears likely.

The negative view for silver would be invalidated if the price moves past the resistance at ₹16.9. A breakout past ₹17 would help the price move towards the major target of ₹17.8-18. Until ₹16.9 is not taken out, there would be a case for a slide to ₹15.75.

Domestically, the outlook for gold is positive while silver is likely to remain range bound. The gold price at MCX is likely to rise to the immediate target of ₹36,800-37,000 per 10-grams. A fall below ₹35,500-33,800 zone would invalidate the short-term positive outlook for gold.

Silver price at the MCX achieved the target of ₹40,500 mentioned in the previous column. After touching a high of ₹41,825, silver price has eased a bit recently. MCX silver is likely to cool off to ₹39,600-39,800 range in the short-term. A breakout past the immediate resistance at ₹41,900 would be a sign of strength and push the price to ₹42,800-43,000. Until ₹41,900 is taken out, MCX silver is likely to remain subdued in the short-term.

To summarise, the short-term outlook for precious metals is not too bullish. Range-bound action can persist until there is fresh breakout above resistance levels. The medium-term however remains positive.

(The author is a Chennai based analyst / trader. The views and opinions featured in this column is based on the analysis of short-term price movements in gold and silver futures at COMEX and Multi Commodity Exchange of India. This is not meant to be trading or investment advice.)

Study the plan before going abroad for studies

Covering medical expenses is a good enough reason to buy student travel cover in India



ASK US

VIDYA BALA
K. NITYA KALYANI

Q. I had been investing via SIP since November 2018. The duration of my investment is one year. What should I do with my capital when the duration gets completed so that I can earn or save more?

VAIBHAV

A. We suppose you are viewing your systematic investment plans (SIPs) in mutual funds (MFs) like FDs (fixed deposits). In FDs there is a capital component and there is interest. The capital will remain fixed and your interest will accrue based on the fixed rate promised. However, with MFs, even the capital may fall when the market falls. This is because MF performance is linked to the stock or debt market. However, in the long term, you can expect return on capital, which is called capital gains.

Unlike FDs that have a fixed tenure, SIPs do not mandate a fixed tenure. You may choose SIPs for any time frame. The important thing is for you to

choose the goal for which you are investing through a SIP and keep your SIP running until you are closer to your goal. For example, if you are running this SIP for retirement, then continue running it until six months to one year ahead of your goal and then shift the money to safer avenues.

Do an annual review of the performance of the funds and make sure you are invested with steady performers. Do not worry much about short-term falls in your fund. SIPs, especially in equity funds, need at least a 3-5 year time frame to average your costs (that is buying through ups and downs in the market) and deliver returns. Do not enter SIPs in equity funds with a time frame of less than five years of holding.

Now, to answer your question, unless you need the money for a specific purpose, continue with your SIPs, make sure you have invested in the right funds.

Increase your savings over time. Else, stop the SIP and start investing in another fund. If you are savvy, choose your funds; else take the help of a financial advisor, outside of your bank relationship manager.

Q. I'm 24 years old. I am working in a company. I get ₹60,000 a month in my home town. Naturally, this obviates my rental expense. I want to invest in real estate to increase my passive income. Please advise.

YASH TIWARI

A. Our suggestion would be that you save to build wealth for long term and not lock yourself at this juncture into paying EMIs.

About a third of your income will go away even if you have to repay a ₹20-lakh loan in 10 years. Also, when you are talking



TARUN MATHUR

There was a time when only a few students could make their way to international universities for higher studies. However, this has changed drastically in the last few years with a significant increase in the number of Indian students enrolled in foreign universities.

As per a recent Reserve Bank of India (RBI) report, the total expenditure on tuition and hostel fees by Indian students studying abroad has gone up by 44% from \$1.9 billion in 2013-14 to about \$2.8 billion in 2017-18. Moreover, it is estimated that by the year 2024, approximately 4 lakh Indian students will enrol themselves in foreign universities. The U.S., Canada and the U.K. remain preferred destinations for Indians studying abroad, followed by Singapore, China, Australia and other European countries like Germany and France.

While planning to go abroad for higher studies, there is a plethora of arrangements that you need to make prior to your departure.

From making financial arrangements to booking flights and packing the right stuff, there are numerous things that you need to take care of. And while preparing for all other important things, it is quite possible that you may miss out on one of the most important details while travelling to study

Make your choice

A price comparison of top insurers offering travel insurance to a 20-year-old student travelling to the U.S. for a 1-year university programme

Insurer	Plan Name	Premium(₹)
Religare Insurance Company	Student Explore Super	₹32,048
Reliance General Insurance	Student Platinum	₹33,765
HDFC General Insurance	Platinum	₹39,901
Apollo Munich Health Insurance	Educate Platinum	₹58,915

*SOURCE: WWW.POLICYBAZAAR.COM

such a scenario in mind, it is very important to invest in the right insurance cover to enjoy overall protection.

Other risks

Apart from providing comprehensive coverage against medical emergencies, student travel insurance also covers you against other possible incidents like study interruption, sponsor protection, university insolventy, loss of laptop/tablet, loss of baggage, passport and important documents. While buying student travel insurance, it is important to consider some crucial aspects. One, ensure that your student travel insurance adheres to your university-issued guidelines.

If a student's travel insurance plan's coverage is not in line with the university issued guidelines, they have every right to decline the student's insurance waiver benefit or even cancel the admission. Most universities in the U.S. and Canada demand that international students insure themselves in a plan that covers all expenses related to pre-existing diseases,

drug addiction, pregnancy and mental illness, without any sub-limits. Additionally, some of the universities even insist on international students taking travel insurance from insurers in their home countries. It is better for Indian students travelling abroad to buy insurance from India as policies offered by Indian insurers are way cheaper and offer better benefits.

As per industry experts, for students travelling to a foreign land for higher studies, the minimum sum insured must be between ₹250,000 and ₹500,000. However, it is always advised to check university guidelines before buying a policy. The premiums for different policies vary across insurers. For a 20-year-old student travelling to the U.S. for a 1-year programme, the average premium for a ₹500,000 sum-insured policy is about ₹35,000.

While buying student travel insurance policy, do compare different plans offered by various insurers, on the website of insurance aggregators. This will help you choose a plan that caters to specific needs and requirements and make the policy much more comprehensive by attaching required add-ons.

Also, ensure your insurer not only covers you for on-campus incidents, but also provides adequate coverage for incidents taking place outside the campus.

(The author is chief business officer, general insurance, Policybazaar.com)

This would be when your son is 16 to 20 years of age, in your case.

These policies would include a life cover for the parent/s so that the child is financially secure should the unfortunate happen before the maturity of the policy. A premium waiver would also be available from then until the maturity date. At that point, the lump sum or income stream will materialise as planned which can be used for college admissions and related expenses.

All these are insurance plus investment plans, so a part of your premium goes towards a life cover and a part towards investment for a return.

If it is an endowment or money-back plan, usually the returns are modest but secure and the investment plan is internal to the life insurance company. The quantum of these returns may or may not be defined.

In a ULIP policy, the investments made using your funds are transparent and you have a certain flexibility in choosing the risk level you are comfortable with. However, you bear the entire risk of the investment and the maturity value depends on the capital market situation on the maturity date.

(Vidya Bala is a personal finance research expert and K. Nitya Kalyani is a business journalist specialising in insurance and corporate history)



planning to take health insurance. Please suggest a suitable health insurance policy and the premium to be paid monthly. I am prepared to pay ₹1,000 every month towards such insurance.

J. SHIVAKUMAR

A. Central government employees have the Central Government Health Scheme (CGHS) that bears certain defined medical expenses, mostly in government health care facilities and to a certain extent, at private sector facilities.

If you buy a separate health insurance policy you can claim under it in case of hospitalisation in a non-CGHS facility. For expenses over and above what the policy covers, you can approach CGHS. After your retirement, too, you can maintain your CGHS cover by making the requisite payments for coverage.

A basic hospitalisation policy to suit your budget premium would bring you a coverage of only ₹3 lakh or less, depending on your health status. You may be better off with a top-up or super top-up policy with a threshold designed to suit the limits of your CGHS entitlement level and this policy would cost relatively less by way of premium.

You can check various permutations and combinations for coverage, threshold and premium on insurance company websites which usually have a premium calculator.

Insurance for your family should also be a factor of the extent of CGHS coverage available to them.

If they are not sufficiently covered, then please take a basic hospitalisation policy for them, or else, top-up/super top-up



Readers can send in queries on personal finance and investing to moneywise@thehindu.co.in. Our experts who write on personal finance will answer these queries. Moneywise will not give specific recommendations for investment in a particular mutual fund scheme, share or fixed deposit.

LOOSE CHANGE

RAVIKANTH



"...and go easy on the chillies; you will be adding GST to the bill anyway..."

Life insurance term plan premium

Male: 30 Years, Sum Insured- Rs.1 crore, Cover upto- 70 Years

Insurance company	Plan name	Maximum cover	Annual premium (Rs.) (Male)	Annual premium (Rs.) (Female)
ICICI Prudential Life	iProtect Smart	99 Years	12,502	11,028
HDFC Life	Click2Protect 3D Plus	99 Years	12,478	11,004
Max Life	Online Term Plus	85 Years	10,148	7,670
Aegon Life	iTerm	100 Years	8,331	6,861
TATA AIA Life	Sampoorna Raksha	100 Years	9,912	9,086
PNB MetLife	Mera Term Plan	99 Years	10,146	8,675
Kotak Life	Kotak e-Term Plan	75 Years	9,558	8,260
Aditya Birla Capital	Ultima Term	85 Years	10,270	8,733
Edelweiss Tokio	Zindagi+	80 Years	9,206	7,522
Exide Life	Smart Term Plan	75 Years	8,572*	7,346*
India First Life	e-Term Plan	80 Years	8,260	7,080
Aviva Life	iTerm Smart	80 Years	9,007	7,741
DHFL Pramerica Life	Flexi e-Term	75 Years	9,403	8,026
Future Generali Total				
Insurance Solutions	Flexi Online Term	75 Years	9,427	8,184
Bharti Axa Life	Flexi Term	85 Years	9,440	8,260
Canara HSBC OBC Life	iSelect	80 Years	9,491	8,022
Reliance Nippon Life	Digi-Term	80 Years	11,012	8,719
IDBI Federal Life	iSurance Flexi Term	80 Years	12,402	10,136
Bajaj Allianz Life	eTouch Online Term	75 Years	14,067	10,896
SBI Life Insurance	eShield	80 Years	15,070	12,898

*Exide coverage upto 60 yrs for age 30 years

Health insurance premium

Insurer name

Insurer name	Key features	Plan names	Premium(Rs.)

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■ BENGALURU OOTA COMPANY



Food for thought Marwai Ajadina (clam suka) from the Bengaluru Oota Company, wedding spreads by Sanjay Vazirani, and (below) Khambata's sa khoo



Feasts of fancy

KRUTIKA BEHRAWALA



In February, chef Nishant Choubey showcased his signature menu at a Marwari wedding in Kochi. Instead of a buffet, it was a sit-down dinner featuring modernist vegetarian small plates, like Camel Milk Tofu with Plum Sauce and Wasabi Mushrooms with Mango and Gongura Leaves. And instead of service staff, the food was served on a conveyor belt. "It didn't feel like a wedding. The set-up resembled a pop-up restaurant," says Choubey, corporate chef for Seinan Group, who has curated meals for the Ambanis, Adanis and other bigwigs.

The quintessential wedding feast has undergone a sea change in the last decade. Buffets crammed with generic multi-cuisine stalls and live pasta stations are being replaced by refined sit-

Flying buffets to authentic Peruvian and Konkani fare, a look at what's trending on modern wedding menus

down dinners featuring three- or five-course menus. The concepts of grazing tables and flying buffets are also finding takers. In the former, guests mingle over arrangements of appetisers and cheeses, while in the latter, pre-plated food is offered at their seats. "It reduces wastage, offers a chance to present the food beautifully, and helps guests avoid long queues," says Sahiba Puri, co-owner of XO Catering by Design, a popular outdoor catering outfit based in Delhi with high-profile clients such as Shahid Kapoor.

Korea to Konkan
For many, less is more. "Instead of multiple cuisines, we stick to a couple but offer more variety," says Sanjay Vazirani, Chairman and MD, Foodlink Services Pvt Ltd, which prepared the wedding feast of Ranveer Singh and Deepika Padukone.

Today, an Asian menu is more likely



to feature modern Malay and Thai flavours (rather than just Chinese and Thai curries). For instance, Mumbai restaurateur Farrokh Khambata's edamame and water chestnut *sa khoo* is a contemporary vegetarian take on the royal art of making rice flour dumplings with pork. Also, with Indian globetrotters deve-

loping discerning palates, lesser-known international cuisines, like Korean and Peruvian, are gaining attention. On Khambata's banquet menus, you'll find *chaufa* (a Peruvian take of the fried rice) and Peruvian-style skewers.

Of 'flying' menus
Hyper-regional cuisine is another trend. The Singh-Padukone wedding menu included Konkani, Sindhi and Gujarati dishes. "To maintain the authenticity of the food items, 4,000 kilos of ingredients were carried from India to Italy," shares Vazirani.

While staples like *dal makhani* and *biryani* are still part of wedding menus, there's a lot more attention being paid to preparation. "Today, clients can tell if a North Indian chef has cooked a dish from South India. A few months ago, we did a wedding menu for a Punjabi couple who wanted to add a few Konkani dishes. So we roped in home cooks from Konkan to make dishes like Malvani Mutton Curry and Kaju Chi Aamti," says Harmeet Singh, partner at Mumbai-based The Mini Punjab Group.

White truffles, anyone?

Exotic ingredients from across the world – Gruyère from Switzerland, white asparagus from Germany – are also making their way into Indian weddings. "Clients care about the quality and

provenance of what's on their plate," says Khambata, whose team has procured the rare white truffle. During his research trips across Europe, the restaurateur had gone on a foraging trip in Piedmont with a local truffle hunter and his dog, so "when a client requested white truffles recently, our local suppliers in Italy sourced it from the him".

Closer home, just as organic, farm-to-table meals with seasonal produce are becoming popular in restaurants, they're also finding their way on to wedding menus. These include foxtail millets, *kulith* (horse gram), camel milk from Rajasthan, and leafy greens from farming initiatives. Goodie bags with items such as organic honey and artisanal teas are also replacing *mithais*.

Hello, detox bars

"There's a lot of innovation in bar tending, too – from Gin & Tonic and DIY mimosa bars to a detox bar to take care of the next day's hangovers," says Kunal Rai, VP of Tamarind Global Weddings. And, of course, the wedding cake is changing, too. "Instead of elaborate cakes with gold detailing, couples are choosing options in pastel colours. They are also more open to experimenting with flavours like passion fruit, lavender and Earl Grey," says Rachel Goenka, CEO of The Chocolate Spoon Company. "Naked cakes with butter cream instead of fondant, and real flowers, are likely to become more popular by next year."

Lesser-known international cuisines, like Korean and Peruvian, are gaining attention now

FARROKH KHAMBATA, FOUNDER-CEO OF CATERING & ALLIED

DOWN MEMORY LANE

What's in a NAME?

Some history, some folklore, but lots of heart, is how our city came to be called Delhi



R. V. SMITH

The controversy over the name of the Capital has erupted again with BJP leader Vijay Goel making the demand that it should be renamed Dilli. He has a point, because in local parlance it has always been Dilli.

When Lord Hardinge as Vice-roy presided over the building of New Delhi on Raisina Hill he went through several names and eventually decided on Delhi. For Mirza Ghalib it was Dilli, that which allures the heart. But he lived at a time when there was no name-changing spree.

According to the book *Delhi and Its Neighbourhood*, brought out by the Archaeological Survey of India, historian Y.D. Sharma says, "The first medieval city of Delhi founded by the Tomars was called Dhilli or Dhillika, although among the known records the name Dhillika occurs for the first time in the inscription of 1170 from Bijolia, District Udaipur, which mentions the capture of Delhi by the Chahamanas. The Palam Baoli inscription of 1276 written in the time of Balban calls it Dhilli and the country in which it lies as Hariyanaka. But an inscription of the reign of Mohd Thughak (1328) refers to the city

as Dhillika... It is also called Dhilli, Dihli and Dhilli in old records, some of which refer to it as Dehali, meaning threshold of the country, though other prefer Dilli, the heart of Hindustan."

The *Gazetteer of the Delhi District of 1883-84* says that "tradition" attributes the foundation of the city to Raja Dillipa, the ancestor of the Pandava brothers. During the 3rd or 4th century A.D. the famous iron pillar of Raja Dhava was erected. The *Gazetteer* says, "Other traditions, concur in connecting the erection of the pillar with Bilam Deo, or Anang Pal, founder of the Tomara (Tunwar) dynasty, who flourished in the eighth century."

He is said to have been assured by a learned Brahman that as the foot of the pillar had been driven so deep into the ground that it rested on the head of Vasuki, King of the Serpents, who supports the earth, it was now immovable, and that dominion would remain in his family as long as the pillar stood. The Raja, doubting the truth of the Brahman's statement, ordered the pillar to be dug up. The foot of it was found wet with blood, said to be that of the Serpent King. The iron pillar was again raised; but owing to the King's former incredulity, every plan now failed in fixing it firmly, and in spite of all his efforts it still remained loose (dhila) in the ground, and this, according to these traditions, is said to have been the origin of the name Dhili.

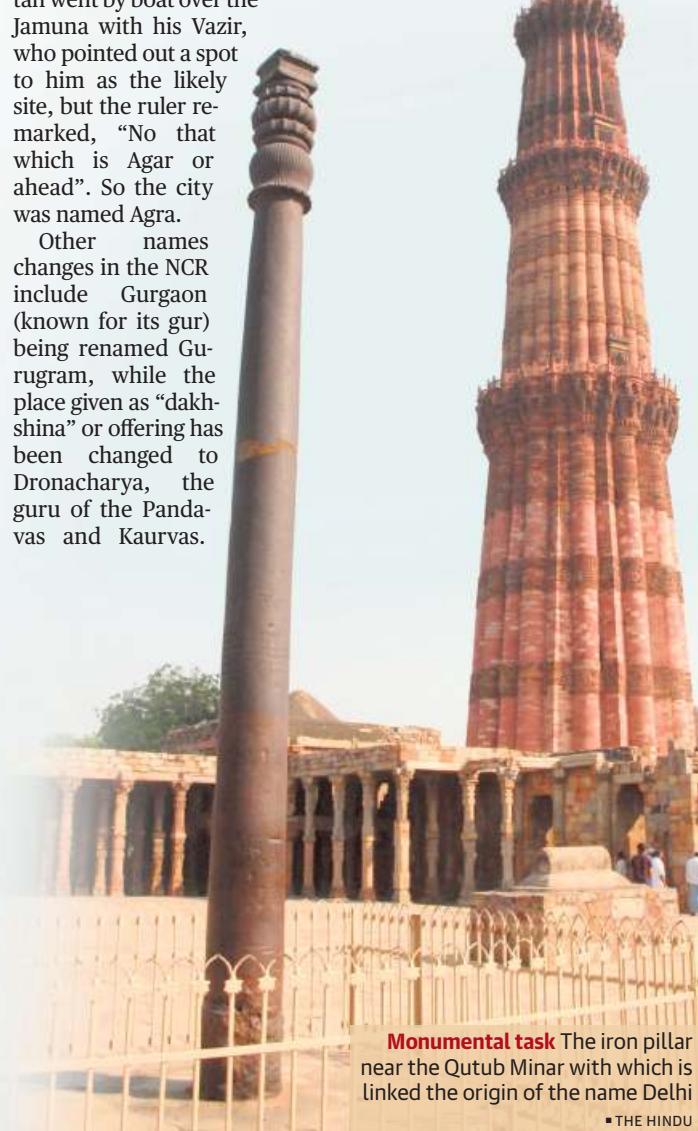
During the course of its long

history the city has undoubtedly been known by various names. In one place Gen Cunningham, the renowned archaeologist, found it written as Dillipur. Delhi has been compared to the eternal city of Athens of Pericles but nobody has ever suggested that it be renamed after that famous icon of Greece's golden age. So the old name stays.

Delhi's twin city, Agra, was founded by Akbar so demands were made to rename it as Akbarabad, the old name for it. But other records say that the city was founded by Nizam Khan Sikandar Lodhi.

The story goes that while looking for the site of a new city in preference to Delhi, the Sultan went by boat over the Jamuna with his Vazir, who pointed out a spot to him as the likely site, but the ruler remarked, "No that which is Agar or ahead". So the city was named Agra.

Other names changes in the NCR include Gurgaon (known for its gur) being renamed Gurugram, while the place given as "dakhshina" or offering has been changed to Dronacharya, the guru of the Pandavas and Kaurvas.



Monumental task The iron pillar near the Qutub Minar with which is linked the origin of the name Delhi

■ THE HINDU

Room with a view

Artisan Lab is a store that marries retail and food, with each complementing the other

SUNALINI MATHEW

You'll need to go around the building, into a lane behind the Forest Essentials in GK 1 N block market, to reach the entrance to Artisan Lab. Its dusty pink staircase, green palms, and timber balustrade hold promise. The first floor is home accessories, while the second has an extension of that (with some clothing), along with a cafe.

Noor and Neimat Sethi studied design (in New York) and hospitality (in Switzerland), respectively, working abroad and then returning home to start their own business. It's taken the sisters a year and a half to plan things, and their project is now 'live'.

The aesthetic is hand-crafted products in varied materials, from glass and brass to leather and jute. If you spot little bits of acrylic, they're nuances in design. There are a few statement pieces, like a brass side-board with malachite accents in the door knobs, a coffee table in resin with bone inlay, a leather desk with a hair-on-hide chair. It's a good place to pick up a gift (prices start ₹380, though it's reasonable to expect a ₹1,500-2,000 purchase for one). You can mix and match a set of bowls with a cheese platter, or a large lazy-Susan server with linen napkins. Most things are sourced from India, with a few from South-East Asia (check out the jute throws). They have their own label too that does floor coverings in leather, cushions, table linens and more.

The idea is for a visitor to "slow down", browse through cushions, hurricane lanterns, platters, terrariums, and more,

order a coffee, maybe get some cake. "The other day a lady came in and said she wanted the wall painting (a part of the décor in the store) to be replicated in her house, and she also wanted the jhoola," says Noor, who takes on home styling and interior-design projects as well. Other times, especially over a weekend, people may just come in just for the food. The women are there, helping you with ordering or picking up an accessory.

A late breakfast with the truffle scrambled eggs on toast with coffee is a good start to a weekend. Breads are baked in-house, and the thick wedge of sourdough, with just the right hydration and sourness, is a Saturday-morning wake-up. I did the wild mushroom risotto, for an umami hit. It's not overbearingly cheesy, and Neimat says she goes by

'Friends of the Earth' philosophy that uses balance in cooking, so nothing in nature (like meat or dairy) is over-used.

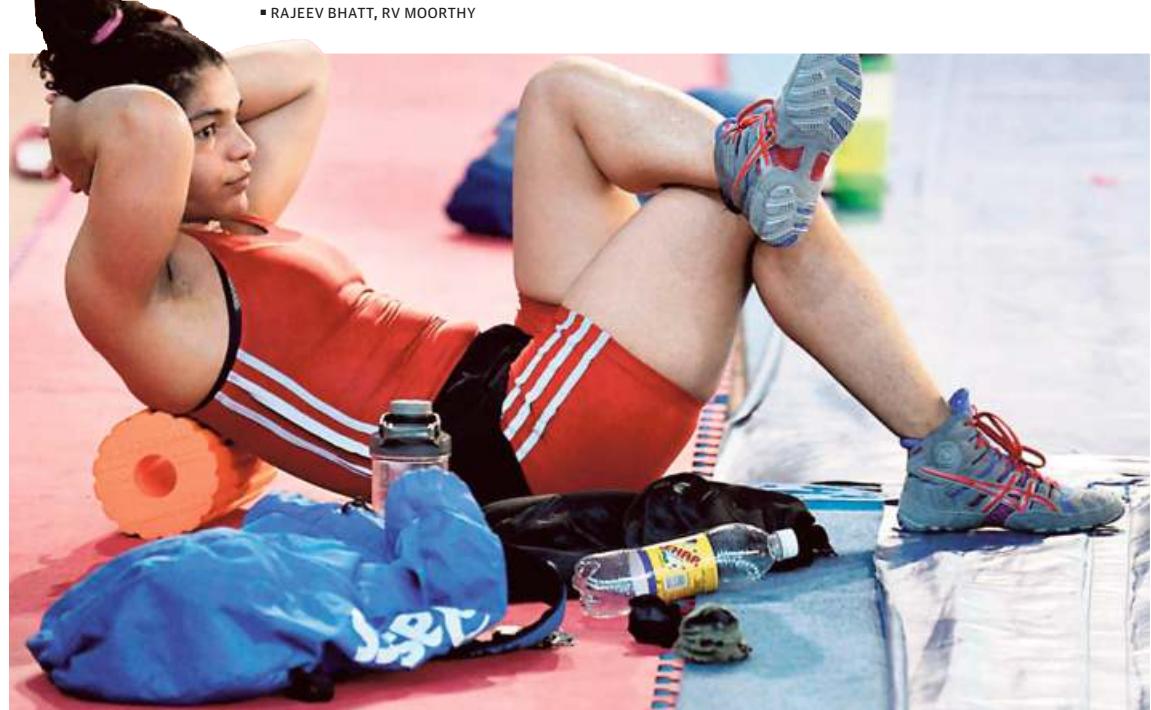
If you're stopping by for an evening snack, do the Gambas Pil (prawns cooked in rosemary and chilli olive oil on a baguette). You're good for dinner, because portions are generous, especially the desserts. Absolutely do the Pastel Del Tres Leches (a butter sponge soaked in three types of milk). While the menu has cues about gluten-free, vegan, vegetarian, the team is happy to tweak orders, and they're one of the few places that does gluten-free bread. They'll soon have keto bread and will be retailing their flavoured olive oils and breads.

N18, Greater Kailash 1 Market; 10 a.m. to 8:30 p.m.; ₹1,500 for a meal for two



Striking a balance Artisan Lab has ambience as well as ambrosia ■ SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Mat matters (Clockwise from below) Sakshi Malik at the National Camp for Women Wrestling in Lucknow in 2018; receiving the Khel Ratna from then President Pranab Mukherjee in 2016
▪ RAJEEV BHATT, RV MOORTHY



and that God has given me so much already, that if I just kept at it, better things will come to me. Basically, I just remind myself of the strong moments during weak times, and that keeps me going.

What's your diet plan like?

● Our diet schedule changes through the year. As we draw closer to a competition, we need to lose a lot of weight. Meaning, we switch over to salads and boiled vegetables. But if a competition is still a way off, we eat ghee, doodh, dahi, and proper maa ke haath ka khaana (home food).

Recently, top sportspersons like Novak Djokovic have said that their performance has gotten better since they went gluten-free and vegan. And what's your take on eliminating certain foods to be healthier?

● I used to think about this a lot – I won't win because I'm a vegetarian, or if I eat eggs, I'll do better. And then I heard that Sushil pehelwan and Yogeshwar pehelwan [2012 London Olympics silver medallist Sushil Kumar, and bronze medallist Yogeshwar Dutt] won medals despite being vegetarians – and I didn't win despite having started on eggs, etc. And then of course, there are four-time Olympic medal winners from other countries who don't eat a meal without some meat or the other. All of this is just personal preference. You can be strong regardless.

There's a lot of learning now about how mental and physical fitness feed into one another.

● Yes, that's quite important. In a lot of sports, it's important to be mentally fit. You can be super fit, but if your mind isn't working at its ideal, then you can't perform. Like, in our game, we need to be able to make decisions by the second – should I play on the defence, or attack. So it's definitely important.

How do you train to be mentally tough?

● Well, often times I watch a lot of motivational videos and speeches, and then I visualise what I really want and pump myself to be positive. And then I think also of how far I've come, and that gives me a lot of energy to work harder and perform better.

Are there days when you're low and demotivated?

● So many times. In every sportsperson's life there are lots of ups and downs. Like how during the Asian Games, I almost reached the finals, but lost out because of just three seconds. I was so low then. But I just told myself I need to work harder,

SEE IT, CONQUER IT

Visualising is also a bit of a misnomer. For athletes with good kinesthetic awareness, it's not only about seeing things [like winning] in mind, but it's also about remembering the feel of the muscles and grip in a certain technique. Otherwise, it becomes close to daydreaming. In that sense, visualisation is a focussing tool, which improves concentration.

– Vaibhav Agashe, Delhi-based sports psychologist

Your father-in-law is your coach, your husband Satyawart Kadian is also a wrestler. What's a dinner-table conversation like at home?

● Well, first of all, no one really talks so much or so casually with my father-in-law at home. He looks strict. I mostly only talk to him when I'm on the mat. He teaches me what I need to learn.

At home, it's like a little shy and a little respect. I don't really sit in front of him and do bakwas. I mean we are normal, but we talk only on the mat.

But with my husband, it's really nice. And it's even nicer that he's also a wrestler, an Arjuna Awardee, so there's a lot of understanding between us. Haar jeet pe samajh paaten hain. (We understand each other's wins and losses.)

Is there a healthy sense of competitiveness between you two?

● I mean, that's natural. He lost in the World Championship trials, and I felt pretty bad about it. But he said to me, "Everyone from the same home can't have it all; it's okay, if not me, you go. You'll do well."

Q&A

My son has chosen maths in Class XI, but is not faring well, despite tuition.

How can I get him to change subjects?

■ Mathematics is one subject that usually has students either loving it or being terrified of it. Having said that, tuition which may involve repetition of current topics or concepts, may not necessarily fix any gaps in learning that could



have occurred in his earlier years. Mathematics depends greatly on the concepts mastered earlier, and therefore an effective strategy to help him will be to understand the mastery level of his skills for all previously-learnt concepts and then systematically addressing them. Unless your son wishes to choose another subject, it would be wise as a parent to play a supportive role, by helping him and supporting him through his choices.

I caught my kid brother watching porn. What should I do?

■ If he is a teenager, have a friendly chat with him and also let him know healthy limits in the use of the Internet and about internet safety. Don't limit it to your interaction involving porn. If your brother is younger, it will be wise to speak to your parents. Suggest that a desktop be placed in the living room, for common use, rather than in a bedroom.

How should I talk to my daughter about losing weight?

■ A fit lifestyle is often just modelled behaviour. Unless your daughter has the opportunity to observe all the adults at home making healthier choices, including diet and exercise, just talking about it will not help. Join her for small walks initially, and let her enjoy the bonding and the conversation that goes along with it. Slowly, you can include sport as part of the process. Help her become a part of small cooking projects, where she can make interesting and healthy recipes along with you. Your approach needs to be supportive, to help her develop health and fitness, and not just losing weight.

Arti C Rajaratnam is a Salem-based consultant psychologist at Million Smiles, and is specialised in childhood and adolescent mental health with close to two decades of experience, working closely with parents, teachers and students

Nothing in this column is intended to be, and is not, a substitute for professional medical advice, diagnosis or treatment. Please seek independent advice from a licensed practitioner if you have questions regarding a medical condition. Email us at mp.health@thehindu.co.in

'I visualise what I really want'

Sakshi Malik, who recently qualified for the World Wrestling Championships 2019, and has signed a partnership with ASICS, talks about how mental and physical fitness go hand-in-hand

VANGMAYI PARAKALA

Sakshi Malik walks into the ASICS store at the Mall of India in Noida, carrying herself with her trademark quiet-but-smiling no-nonsense sensitivity. The brand has just signed on the 26-year-old, India's first woman wrestler to win an Olympic medal (and only the fourth Indian female Olympic medallist) as one of their eight athletes.

Fresh off her qualification for the World Wrestling Championships 2019, which will be held in Kazakhstan in September, Malik talks about how she keeps her mental fitness on track with the physical, and what life is like living in a family of wrestlers.

Edited excerpts:

Being a wrestler isn't considered a usual professional choice. When did you know you wanted to be one?

● I was always interested in sport;

even in my school days, I'd participate in whatever sports activity was being arranged. I used to get excited when we'd hear the names of sportspersons winning something. Olympic medal winners, especially.

But once, when I was about 12, I went over to a stadium near my house which had an athletics meet, with gymnastics and wrestling events, going on. I didn't even know it was called wrestling then, but I was so drawn to it! I told my parents immediately that this is what I wanted to do. And I've never looked back.

You're one of India's few women sport icons right now. What is the sort of message you want to give girls about fitness?

● First of all, regardless of whether or not you're a sportsperson, you need to be fit. When I started out in sport, we didn't have too many girls who'd take it on as a career. After my win in the Olympics, and other me-

dals too, so many girls have started getting into sport, and are also thinking more about staying fit. It makes them ready to face any problem. Fitness is necessary for everyone.

It's not new that we deal with body image issues. Women are too thin, too fat, too tall, too muscular – anything can be a problem. Women are also commonly asked to avoid weight training because they might bulk up and look 'masculine'. Have you ever encountered such issues when you started out?

● No, this has never happened with me. But it's so wrong to assume that lean women with perfect figures, who don't do any physical activity or aren't into some sport, have no health issues in their lives. There are so many of us wrestler girls, many heavyweight wrestler girls too – they don't have any such [misplaced societal body image issues]. Some of them are married and happy too. We are doing such great work, bringing back medals for the country – everything else is irrelevant.

What's your daily normal fitness schedule like?

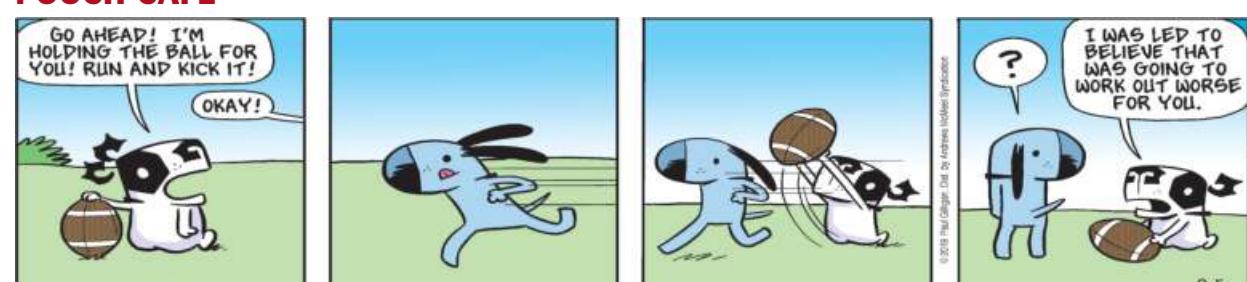
● We train twice a day – a little late on the days we get on the mat, around 7 am. Ground sessions, it's like 5 am or 6 am. Some days we start with yoga first. Then there's training for two-three hours. Same in the evening. During the day, it's complete rest.

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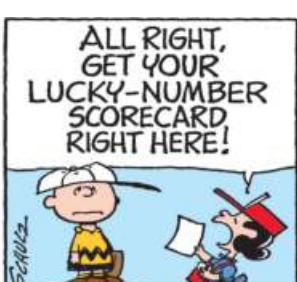
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– Vaibhav Agashe, Delhi-based sports psychologist

POOCH CAFE



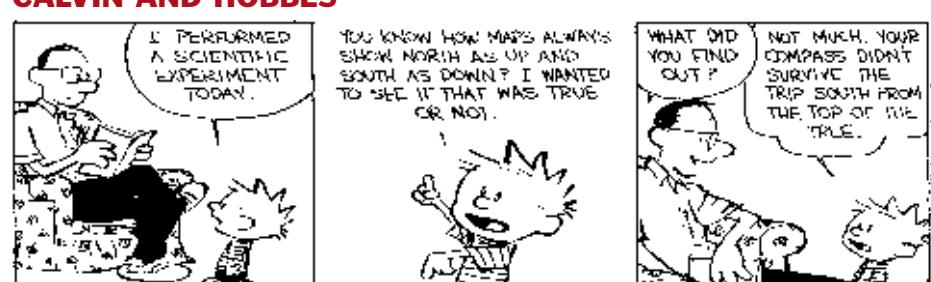
PEANUTS



HAGAR THE HORRIBLE



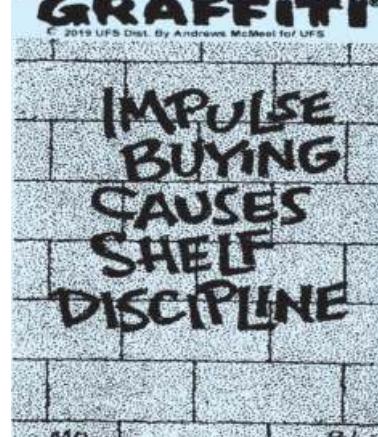
CALVIN AND HOBBES



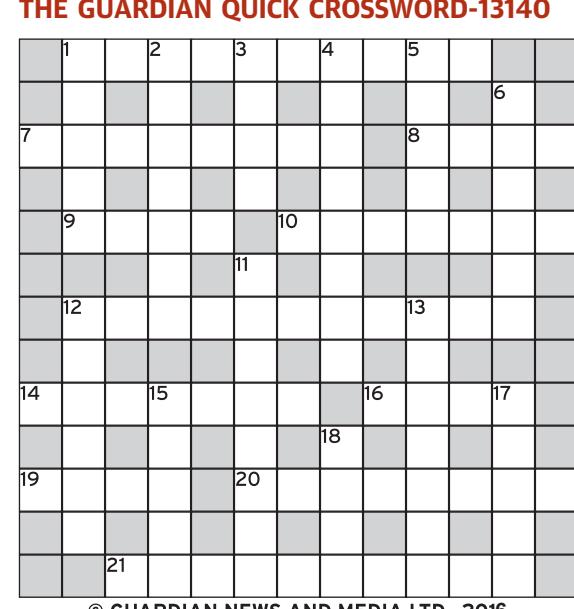
TIGER



GRAFFITI



THE GUARDIAN QUICK CROSSWORD-13140

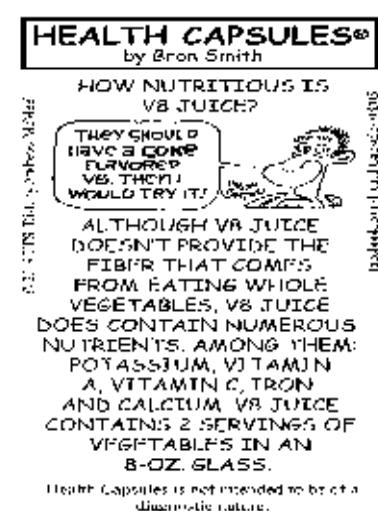
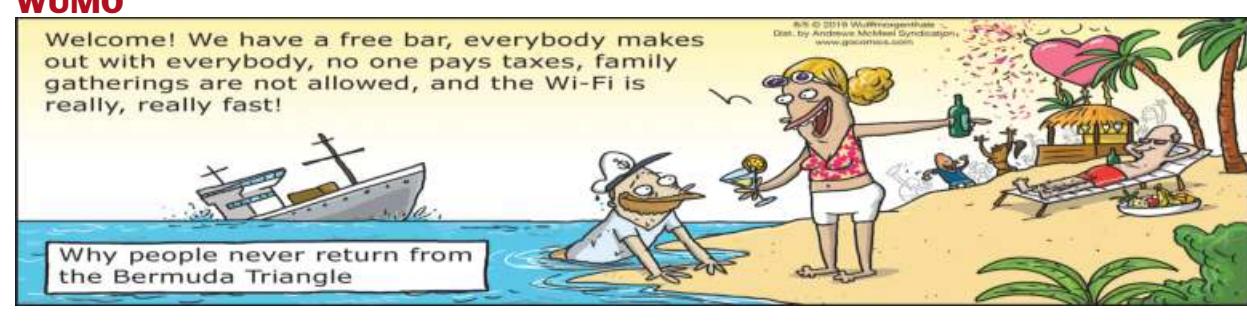


enough (5)
6 More eager (6)
11 Passage (8)
12 Out of the country (6)
13 Unlucky – he slaps (anag) (7)
15 Outdated (5)
17 Poor (5)
18 Plinth (4)

Solution will appear in The Hindu dated August 6, 2019.

Solution No. 13139

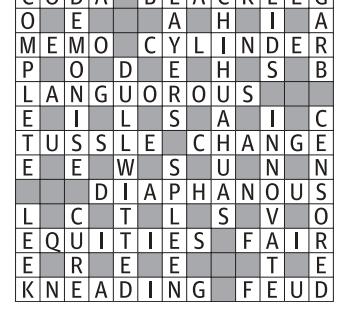
WUMO



PEARLS BEFORE SWINE



- Across
1 Shortcoming (10)
7 The First State (to ratify the US constitution) (8)
8 Sly look (4)
9 Unpleasantly moist (4)
10 Losing one's hair (7)
12 In unison (3,8)
14 Curtains (7)
■ Down
1 Great fear (5)
2 Facelcloth (7)
3 Applaud (4)
4 Loftily (8)
5 Managed well



Rohit and Krunal's exploits fashion India's series victory



The propeller: Rohit Sharma's innings took the Men in Blue to a match-winning total. ■ AFP

The opener provides the fireworks while the all-rounder chips in with vital runs and wickets

INDIA IN WI

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA LAUDERHILL (USA)

Rohit Sharma's sublime innings and Krunal Pandya's all-round show powered India to a series-clinching 22-run win over West Indies in the rain-affected second T20I here on Sunday.

Batting first, India scored 167 for five and then had West Indies reeling at 98 for four in the 16th over when lightning and thundershowers struck. The Duckworth-Lewis par score at that point was 120, leaving India winner by 22 runs.

Final flourish

Rohit top-scored with 67 off 51 balls before Krunal (20 off 13 balls) and Ravindra Jadeja propped up the innings, smashing 20 runs in the final over bowled by Keemo Paul.

Krunal hit the first two balls of the 20th over for sixes before Jadeja smashed another.

During the course of his innings, Rohit became T20I's most prolific six-hitter, going past Chris Gayle's record of 105. He struck six fours and three sixes in this match.

India was off to a quick start, crossing 50 in the seventh over with Rohit doing the bulk of the scoring. The

Next match

■ August 6, third T20I, Providence, 8 p.m. IST

India vice-captain found the gaps with ease, clipping Paul off his pads for a six over deep midwicket. The highest scorer in the World Cup then swept him for a four as the Indians upped the tempo.

Paul gave West Indies the breakthrough when he bowled Shikhar Dhawan. India was 67 for one in the eighth over at that stage.

Breaking free

Two quiet overs followed as India skipper Virat Kohli joined Rohit. The latter broke the shackles with a six over deep midwicket off Sunil Narine and brought up his 17th T20 half-century with a single to long-off.

Kohli, at the other end, hit a six off left-arm spinner Khari Pierre to get going. Rohit then smashed Carlos Brathwaite for a six and four as India's 100 came up in the 13th over.

It took a fine catch from Shimron Hetmyer to bring an end to Rohit's stay. The Indian opener departed in the 14th over.

Rishabh Pant (5) perished quickly, top-edging Thomas into the hands of Kieron Pollard at third man.

laid at third man.

Sheldon Cottrell then took the prize scalp of Kohli, sending the middle-stump cartwheeling with a perfectly-executed yorker and performing his trademark salute.

In reply, West Indies was off to a disastrous start with both openers Evin Lewis and Sunil Narine back in the hut with just eight on the board in the third over.

Rovman Powell and Nicholas Pooran lifted the team with a 76-run stand for the third wicket before Krunal again got into the act, removing both batsmen in the space of three balls in the 14th over. Just as things were getting tougher for the hosts came the showers followed by lightning.

SCOREBOARD INDIA VS WEST INDIES, SECOND T20 INTERNATIONAL

STAT SPHERE

1 Rohit has the most runs in T20Is (2422 from 96 games) followed by Kohli (2310/69). He also has the highest number of centuries (4).

1 Rohit (107) has overtaken Gayle (105) to top the list of six-hitters in T20Is. Guptill is third with 103.

1 Kohli (8416) leads the list of Indian batsmen with the most runs in T20 cricket, surpassing Raina (8392). Rohit (8291) is third.

100 Match referee Jeff Crowe becomes the first to officiate in a century of T20Is, edging past Ranjan Madugalle (99). Chris Broad, with 92, is third.

■ India ends its winless streak of three T20I series dating back to November 2018



Smith proves unstoppable again

THE ASHES

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
BIRMINGHAM

Steve Smith hit his second century of his comeback Test on Sunday as Australia set England a daunting 398 to win the Ashes opener at Edgbaston.

Ashes-holder Australia, bidding to win its first Test series away to England in 18 years, made 487 for seven declared in its second innings as it capitalised on the absence from the home side's attack of the injured James Anderson.

That left England needing 398 for victory – the most it has made in the fourth innings to win a Test was 332 for seven against Australia at Melbourne back in 1928/29.

Australia captain Tim Paine's declaration late on the fourth day left England with an awkward seven overs to bat before stumps.

Rory Burns, fresh from his maiden Test century in the first innings, and Surrey teammate Jason Roy saw England to 13 for no loss at the close.

Smith made 142 following his 144 in the first innings of the match – the former Australia captain's first Test



Extra special! Steve Smith marked his return to Tests with another memorable knock. ■ AFP

SCOREBOARD

Australia – 1st innings: 284.

England – 1st innings: 374.

Australia – 2nd innings: Cameron Bancroft c Buttler b Moeen 7, David Warner c Bairstow b Broad 8, Usman Khawaja c Bairstow b Stokes 40, Steve Smith c Bairstow b Woakes 12, Travis Head c Bairstow b Stokes 51, Mathew Wade c Denly b Stokes 110, Tim Paine b Moeen 34, James Pattinson (not out) 47, Pat Cummins (not out) 26; Extras (b-1, lb-2, nb-6, w-3): 22; Total (for seven wkts. decl. in 112 overs): 487.

Fall of wickets: 1-13, 2-27, 3-75,

4-205, 5-331, 6-407, 7-409.

England bowling: Broad 22-2-

91-1, Woakes 13-1-46-1, Moeen 29-1-130-2, Root 12-1-50-0,

Stokes 22-5-85-3, Denly 14-1-72 0.

England – 2nd innings: Rory Burns (batting) 7, Jason Roy (batting) 6; Total (for no loss in seven overs): 13.

Australia bowling: Siddle 2-0-

4-0, Lyon 3-0-7-0, Pattinson 2-

1-2-0.

On the double

List of Australian players who have scored centuries in both innings of an Ashes Test

Warren Bardsley	136 and 130	The Oval, 1909
Arthur Morris	122 and 124 not out	Adelaide, 1946/47
Steve Waugh	108 and 116	Manchester, 1997
Matthew Hayden	197 and 103	Brisbane, 2002/03
Steve Smith	144 and 142	Birmingham, 2019

The move to have Satwik play at the front paid off

V.V. SUBRAHMANYAM HYDERABAD

India's leading men's combination of Satwikairaj Rankirreddy and Chirag Shetty served a reminder that they were not far behind when it comes to winning a Super Series title.

It was the Malaysian doubles coach Tan Kim Her, who left this March even though his contract was to end only after the 2020 Tokyo Olympics, who made Satwik and Chirag join forces five years ago.

New coach Dwi Kristianan's move to have the 18-year-old Satwik on the front-court, given his ability to come up with stunning smashes, proved a game-changer.

It wasn't easy for the duo to play back-to-back marathons on matches and sustain peak

form. Satwik even braved a niggle in shoulder to play on.

"It's the biggest title we have won so far in our career. Right now, I am out of words after playing in a final and beating the current World champions. I am extremely happy," Chirag said.

"I think it is refreshing to see the doubles pair win a major title."

"The few questions often

The Satwik-Chirag file

Satwik | Age: 18 Born: Amarapuram, Andhra Pradesh

Chirag | Age: 22 Born: Mumbai

NOTABLE RESULTS (MEN'S DOUBLES):

2018 French Open (Super 750): Semifinal

2018 Fuzhou China Open (Super 750): Quarterfinal

2018 Commonwealth Games: Silver

2019 Indonesia Open (Super 1000): Round-of-16

2019 Japan Open (Super 750): Quarterfinal



Pioneers: Chirag, left, and Satwik have gone where no other Indian combo has. ■ AFP

Sathiyan powers Dabang into the last four

Mavericks staring at elimination after the big loss to the Delhi side

UTT

RAKESH RAO
NEW DELHI

In its battle for survival, Kolkata's RP-SG Mavericks was expected to give it all. But contrary to expectations, it was defending champion Dabang Delhi that played its heart out for a convincing 10-5 win and ensured a place in the last-four of Ultimate Table Tennis League here on Sunday.

The result catapulted Delhi to the top of the table where it joined U Mumba with 33 points from four outings and left Mavericks (26) staring at elimination in the six-team league.



Touch and go! Szocs and Sathiyan won a tight contest against Duda and Manika. ■ COURTESY UTT

Like Sathiyan, his teammate, the 63rd ranked Jon Persson, added three points

at the expense of an inconsistent Sanil Shetty and gave Dabang a winning lead.

With Dabang leading 9-3 before the final singles, Mavericks' left-hander Matilda Ekholm, ranked 23, staved off an upbeat Bernadette Szocs 2-1 and reduced the margin of defeat. But that was hardly a consolation for a team staring at elimination.

The results:

Dabang Delhi bt RP-SG Mavericks (Kolkata) 10-5 (Krittika Singh Roy lost to Manika Batra 11-9, 8-11, 9-11; G. Sathiyan bt Benedikt Duda 11-9, 11-7, 11-6; Sathiyan & Bernadette Szocs bt Duda & Manika 11-10, 5-11, 11-8; Jon Persson bt Sanil Shetty 11-6, 11-10, 11-8; Szocs lost to Matilda Ekholm 8-11, 8-11, 11-5).

Monday's fixture: Goa Challengers v U Mumba (7 p.m.).

raised about the general standard of doubles game in India may have been answered with this performance," chief national coach P. Gopi Chand told *The Hindu*.

"The best part is they are young and have many weapons in their armoury. We always believed that they had the potential and this win could not have come at a better time."

"The few questions often

Hamilton's tactical acumen to the fore



Whoop of joy: Hamilton's record seventh win in Hungary is applauded by Verstappen, left, and Vettel. ■ AFP

HUNGARIAN GP

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
HUNGARORING

Lewis Hamilton regained his momentum in the drivers' World championship with a memorable strategic victory on Sunday when he overcame young rival Max Verstappen to triumph in a tense and thrilling Hungarian Grand Prix.

Hamilton started third on the grid in his Mercedes and, after stalking the 21-year-old Dutch tyro for most of a fascinating tactical contest, finally swept into the lead on lap 67 of a stirring 70 laps.

Hamilton's record seventh win in Hungary and 81st of his career wrecked Red Bull's hopes of turning Verstappen's maiden pole position into victory and increased his lead in the title race to 62 points before the sport's European summer break.

Four-time champion Sebastian Vettel was third for Ferrari ahead of teammate

Charles Leclerc, Carlos Sainz of McLaren and Pierre Gasly in the second Red Bull. Kimi Raikkonen was seventh for Alfa Romeo ahead of Hamilton's Mercedes teammate Valtteri Bottas, who had been forced into an early pit-stop after a first lap incident.

THE RESULTS

1. Lewis Hamilton (Mercedes) 1h 35min 03.796sec, 2. Max Verstappen (Red Bull) at 17.796sec, 3. Sebastian Vettel (Ferrari) 1:01.433, 4. Charles Leclerc (Ferrari) 1:05.250, 5. Carlos Sainz Jr (McLaren) 1 lap, 6. Pierre Gasly (Red Bull) 1 lap, 7. Kimi Raikkonen (Alfa Romeo) 1 lap, 8. Valtteri Bottas (Mercedes) 1 lap, 9. Lando Norris (McLaren) 1 lap, 10. Alexander Albon (Toro Rosso) 1 lap, 11. Sergio Perez (Racing Point) 1 lap, 12. Nico Hulkenberg (Renault) 1 lap, 13. Kevin Magnussen (Haas) 1 lap, 14. Daniel Ricciardo (Renault) 1 lap, 15. Daniil Kvyat (Toro Rosso) 2 laps, 16. George Russell (Williams) 2 laps, 17. Lance Stroll (Racing Point-Mercedes) 2 laps, 18. Antonio Giovinazzi (Alfa Romeo) 2 laps, 19. Robert Kubica (Williams) 3 laps.

Desperate measures



Gotcha: Tamil Thalaivas trap Haryana Steelers raider Vikas Khandola on way to a 35-28 victory in the Pro Kabaddi League in Patna on Sunday. In the other match, Puneri Paltan beat Patna Pirates 41-20. ■ RANJEET KUMAR

TV PICKS

UTT: Star Sports 1 & SS Select 1 (SD&HD), 7.10 p.m.
PKL: Star Sports 2 (SD&HD), 7.15 p.m. & 8.30 p.m.
TNPL: Star Sports 3, 7.10 p.m.
The Ashes: Sony Six (SD&HD), 3.30 p.m.
Rogers Cup tennis: Sony ESPN (SD&HD), 9.30 p.m.

IN BRIEF



Mick Schumacher, the 20-year-old son of seven-time World champion Michael Schumacher, on Sunday claimed his first Formula Two victory ahead of the Hungarian Grand Prix. The German driver won the 28-lap 'sprint' race for Prema Racing after starting from pole. Schumacher finished 1.5 seconds ahead of Honda-backed Nobuharu Matsushita of Carlin. AFP



Alex Marquez made the most of pole position to dominate Sunday's Czech Moto2 Grand Prix to register his fifth win of the season. The Kalex rider, brother to MotoGP champion Marc Marquez, heads the championship standings on 161 points, 33 clear of Swiss teammate Thomas Luthi. Luthi had to retire after a fall 16 laps from the end. Marquez crossed the line over three seconds up on Italy's Fabio Di Giannantonio with Enea Bastianini in third. In Moto3, Aron Canet won his second race of the season to retake the championship lead. AFP



Honda's Marc Marquez claimed his 50th career race win at the Czech MotoGP on Sunday after the race had been delayed by 45 minutes due to rain. Spain's defending champion beat Ducati's Italian Andrea Dovizioso by 2.4sec to extend his advantage at the top of the riders' standings with his sixth triumph of the season. Australian Jack Miller was third in the race cut by one lap due to the weather. Earlier, Marquez's 58th pole position took him equal with Mick Doohan of Australia. AFP



Top seed and World No. 4 Dominic Thiem captured his 14th career title and first on home ground on Saturday with a 7-6(0)-6, 1-wt over Spain's Albert Ramos-Vinolas in the final of the Kitzbuhel clay court tournament. It was Thiem's third title of 2019 after a maiden Masters win at Indian Wells and in Barcelona on the eve of Roland Garros where he eventually went on to finish runner-up to Rafael Nadal for a second successive year. AFP

Bharat women win, men lose

CHENNAI: Though Bharat lost to Korea 7-0 in the men's category, beat Malaysia 4-0 in the women's section on day one of the Special Olympics International football championship here on Sunday. **The results:** Men: Austria bt Myanmar 1-0; Malaysia bt Bangladesh 2-0; Korea bt Bharat 7-0. Women: Bharat bt Malaysia 4-0; Russia bt Maldives 6-0; Indonesia bt Bangladesh 2-1; Philippines bt UAE 4-0.

No stopping Rajiv Sethu

Anish Shetty and Venkatesan achieve a double

MOTORSPORTS

SPORTS REPORTER
CHENNAI

Rajiv Sethu (Idemitsu Honda Ten10 Racing) scrambled to his fourth win in a row in the Pro-Stock 165cc class on the final day of the third round of the MRF MMSC FMSCI Indian National motorcycle racing championship at the MMRD on Sunday.

Bengaluru-based Anish Shetty (Idemitsu Honda Ten10 Racing) and Chennai's L Venkatesan (Moto Maniac Racing) achieved a double each in the Pro-Stock 201-300cc and Novice (Stock 165cc).

Ryhana Bee (Sparks Racing), also from Chennai, took the honours in the girls'

Novice (Stock 165cc); Race-2 (6 laps): 1. L. Venkatesan (Moto Maniac Racing) 13:13.563; 2. V. Lokesh (Speedup Racing) 13:14.839; 3. Annish Samson (Speedup Racing) 13:21.887.

Girls (Stock 165cc, 5 laps): 1. Ryhana Bee (Sparks Racing) 11:09.174; 2. Alisha Abdullah (Alisha Racing) 11:12.948; Nivedha Jessica (Pvt.) 11:32.874.

Ryhana Bee, winner of girls' race. ■ SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT



Victorious: Bengaluru-based Anish Shetty was in complete control in the Pro-Stock 201-300cc. ■ SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

PTF chief allays Indian fears

Says tie will be held in a safe and secure environment

DAVIS CUP

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI

Seeking to allay fears on the Indian team's security during the Davis Cup tie, Pakistan Tennis Federation president Salim Saifullah Khan assured that the contest will be held in safe and secure environment, promising "impressive hospitality" to the visitors.

The PTF chief also said it plans to invite India's Prime Minister Narendra Modi to watch the contest, scheduled for September 14-15, and promised memorable

hospitality to the visiting team and fans.

"We are eagerly waiting for the Indian team. There will be good arrangements for Indian fans and players. We will host the tie in a very safe and secure atmosphere," Salim Saifullah told PTI in an exclusive interview.

Lot of excitement

There is a lot of excitement in Pakistan for this tie. Everyone is happy. It's better if we spray tennis balls at each other and not bombs. I am confident that the Indian team will be impressed with Pakistan's hospitality."

An Indian tennis team is set to travel to Pakistan for the first time in 55 years. The last time Pakistan hosted India was way back in 1964 when the visitors won 4-0 in Lahore.

When reminded that there are apprehensions regarding players' safety in Pakistan, Salim assured that nothing untoward will happen.

"The ITF consultants were here for three days and they inspected everything.

"All the set up will be declared a red zone. I am sure nothing untoward will happen," he said.

Sowjanya, Sravya lose final

INDIANS ABROAD

SPORTS BUREAU
TABARKA (TUNISIA)

The fine run of Sowjanya Bavisetti and Sravya Shivani came to an end as they were beaten 6-2, 6-2 by the Dutch pair of Eva Vedder and Stephanie Judith Visscher in the doubles final of the \$15,000 ITF women's tennis tournament. **The results:** \$15,000 ITF women, Tabarka, Tunisia: Final: Eva Vedder & Stephanie Judith Visscher (Ned) bt Sowjanya Bavisetti & Sravya Shivani Chilakalapudi 6-2, 6-2.

CSA shows Gibson & crew the door

Creates director of cricket post, a la football manager

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
JOHANNESBURG

Ottis Gibson and his entire South Africa coaching team and management staff have lost their jobs, Cricket South Africa (CSA) announced on Sunday.

The decision, taken during a board meeting last week, follows a disastrous South African World Cup campaign in which the Proteas finished seventh of the 10 teams.

The clean-out comes shortly before a tour of India next month during which South Africa will play their first three Tests in the new World Test Championship.

In a statement, CSA said a football-style team manager would be appointed, who would take charge of all aspects of the national team,

including the appointment of coaching staff, the captain or captains and medical and administrative personnel. The team manager will report directly to a director of cricket, a new position.

Former South Africa player Corrie van Zyl, currently in charge of cricket pathways at CSA, will be acting Director of Cricket until a full-time appointment is made.

The statement said van Zyl and CSA chief executive Thabang Moroe would appoint an interim management team for the tour of India as well as an interim selection panel and captain.

Faf du Plessis was on Saturday night named South African Cricketer-of-the-Year and it would be a surprise if he was replaced.

In principal approval for 22nd race from the next year

Mercedes boss says teams have agreed to expand the calendar

FORMULA ONE

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
BUDAPEST

Formula One teams have given their approval in principle to an expanded 22-race calendar next year without any allowance for an additional power-unit, Mercedes team boss Toto Wolff has said.

Speaking after a teams' meeting with F1 chief executive Chase Carey at the Hungarian Grand Prix, Wolff was quoted on Sunday saying the 22-race plan with no extra engines – and therefore costs for the smaller customer teams – was supported.

"In a nutshell, we basically agreed to have a 22nd race," said Wolff, as quoted by Autosport (www.autosport.com).

"We've got to let Liberty do their business and their business is to grow F1.

"If they are able to attract promoters, we've got to support them so, we shouldn't change the technical regulations because we have an extra race. That was the debate we had."

No extra components

Wolff added that an increase to the duration of the season and number of races should not be interpreted as a chance for more components to be used on the cars.

"It shouldn't be seen as an opportunity to increase the number of components, but equally we've got to protect our people and all of us because it could get to a point where it's not manageable any more with one single crew."

"That becomes a factor that needs a solution."

Support from the Catalan government for the continuation of the Spanish Grand



Toto Wolff. ■ LARS BARON/GETTY IMAGES

kends in a calendar due to a return of the Dutch Grand Prix and a Vietnam Grand Prix for the first time.

Wolff also said Mercedes was not considering promoting impressive young British rookie George Russell from Williams to the main factory team alongside Lewis Hamilton next season.

He has made clear that current driver Valterri Bottas is under consideration to retain his seat, but that a final choice between him and highly-reserved reserve driver Esteban Ocon is due to be made during the sport's European summer break this August.

Russell on Saturday outperformed his Williams teammate Robert Kubica by 1.3 seconds to take 15th place on the grid, the team's best effort this year.

"I think you've got to consider that these guys come

into F1 at a very young age," said Wolff. "And, yes, there are exceptions to the norm, such as Max Verstappen."

Learn from mistakes He said the 21-year-old Dutch tyro, who will start Sunday's Hungarian Grand Prix from his maiden pole position, had benefited from being allowed to learn and make mistakes at both Toro Rosso and Red Bull.

"You're not given the possibility to do that in a Mercedes because you're being put in a car that is able to win races and championships, in a high-pressure environment."

He said that putting Russell alongside "the best driver of his generation who has been with us for seven years", referring to Hamilton, could go terribly wrong for him. "And I wouldn't want to burn George."

Three cheers for Vinesh

The wrestler bags her third consecutive gold

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI

Vinesh Phogat. ■ FILE PHOTO

who is also involved with Olympic Gold Quest, congratulated Vinesh on her success.

"Congrats @Phogat Vinesh as she wins the gold medal beating the local girl 3-2 in the final of the Poland Open."

This is Vinesh's 3rd consecutive gold in 53kgs after Spain and Turkey. Well done @Media_SAI, #TOPS and #WFI. We are proud to support this champion Vinesh @OGQ_India," Rasquinha, who heads the Olympic Gold Quest as its CEO, wrote on his twitter page.

India beats Bolivia in COTIF Cup

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI

The Indian women's senior national team defeated Bolivia 3-1 in its second match of the COTIF Cup football tournament in Spain.

A Ratanbala Devi brace and a Bala Devi goal led the Indian women to a comfortable win over the South American side.

After the 2-0 defeat to Spanish club side Villareal CF, the Indian women conceded an early goal in the second minute when Sweetie Devi put the ball into her own net to give Bolivia the advantage.

The lead for Bolivia was, however, short-lived. In the fifth minute, Bala Devi collected the ball around the opponent's penalty area and fired in a volley into the back of the net to restore parity.

Ratanbala Devi gave India the lead in the 36th minute when she headed home by connecting a cross from the left flank.

Shortly after, Ratanbala Devi got her second goal to extend India's lead to 3-1.

Tetra Rama has an edge over his rivals

HYDERABAD: Tetra Rama, who is in fine nick, has an edge over his rivals in the K. Mahipathi Rao Memorial Golconda Juvenile Million (1,400m), the chief event of the races to be held here on Monday (August 5).

There will be no false rails.

KALAMARI'S PLATE (Div. IV, 1,200m), 4-y-o & over, rated 20 to 45 (Cat. III), 1-30 p.m.: 1. Amazing Script (Surya Prakash) 60, 2. Guiding Force (A. P. Trevor) 56, 5. Man Apart (P. Trevor) 56, 4. Holy Heater (R. S. Jodha) 55, 5. Khan Sahib (R. A. A. Vikrant) 55, 6. Farmville (C. P. Abopanna) 55, 8. Handsome Duo (T. J. Ajeeth Kumar) 52 and 9. Dance All Night (A. P. Trevor) 51.

The clean-out comes shortly before a tour of India next month during which South Africa will play their first three Tests in the new World Test Championship.

In a statement, CSA said a

including the appointment of coaching staff, the captain or captains and medical and administrative personnel. The team manager will report directly to a director of cricket, a new position.

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"We've got to let Liberty do their business and their business is to grow F1.

Smile (2) Nakhat Singh 51.

PLATTS TOUR, 3-y-o & over, rated 20 to 45 (Cat. III), 2-30 p.m.: 1. Deepak Singh 56, 4. Barat Syera (Yoga Prakash) 56, 5. Francis Bacon (Neeraj) 56, 6. Gazebo (Harrick Asif) 56, 7. Health Happiness (Deepak Singh) 56, 8. Monte Rei (P. S. Kumar) 56, 9. Rishabh Asif (A. P. Trevor) 56, 10. Artistry (R. N. Darshan) 54.5, 11. British Empire (D. A. Akshay Kumar) 54.5, 12. Miss Marvelous (R. Unmesh) 54.5.

FRANCIS BACON, 2-y-o & over, rated 20 to 45 (Cat. III), 2-30 p.m.: 1. Deepak Singh 56, 2. Barat Syera (Yoga Prakash) 56, 3. Francis Bacon (Neeraj) 56, 4. Gazebo (Harrick Asif) 56, 5. Artistry (R. N. Darshan) 54.5, 6. British Empire (D. A. Akshay Kumar) 54.5, 7. Health Happiness (Deepak Singh) 56, 8. Monte Rei (P. S. Kumar) 56, 9. Rishabh Asif (A. P. Trevor) 56, 10. Artistry (R. N. Darshan) 54.5, 11. British Empire (D. A. Akshay Kumar) 54.5, 12. Miss Marvelous (R. Unmesh) 54.5.

DELPHINA, 3-y-o & over, rated 20 to 45 (Cat. III), 2-30 p.m.: 1. Deepak Singh 56, 2. Barat Syera (Yoga Prakash) 56, 3. Francis Bacon (Neeraj) 56, 4. G

IN BRIEF



Green extends Warriors stay till 2024

SAN FRANCISCO Three-time NBA champion Draymond Green has agreed to a four-year maximum contract extension with Golden State Warriors, linking him to the club until mid-2024. The 29-year-old power forward, an emotional leader as well as a versatile playmaker, was set to become a free agent next July but will stay with Warriors. Green's remaining contract now goes for five years and pays \$118 million. He has won the NBA crown in 2015, 2017 and 2018. NBA Defensive Player-of-the-Year 2017, Green has been on the All-Defensive first or second team for five consecutive seasons. AFP



AC Milan snaps up Africa Cup star Bennacer

ROME AC Milan on Sunday announced the signing of French-born Algerian midfielder Ismael Bennacer, named Player-of-the-Tournament at the recently concluded Africa Cup of Nations. Bennacer, who played for the French under-18 and -19 teams before switching to Algeria in 2016, joins the Milan club from fellow Serie A side Empoli on a five-year contract. He has won 16 caps for Algeria, including seven at the Africa Cup of Nations in Egypt, where his team beat Senegal in the final. AFP

Annu, Shweta ready to make it count in Rio

Second Olympic quota place to be won

SHOOTING

KAMESH SRINIVASAN
NEW DELHI

Two of the best women pistol shooters in the country, Annu Raj Singh and Shweta Singh, will compete in the last World Cup of the season in Rio de Janeiro aspiring to win the second Olympic quota for Tokyo 2020, in air pistol.

The 32-year-old Shweta, who works with ONGC, has competed in five World Championships, and three Asian Games.

She did win the Asian Games individual bronze in Incheon, 2014.

Returning was tough

"I am happy to make the main team for the last World Cup of the season. Returning to the team was tough because of various reasons.

"It was hard to spare time

for training (following marriage and the birth of a child). But, my husband supports me and takes care of our child."

"I worked full force, covering all training needs and made the World Championship team last year," recalled Shweta.

Huge payments

"I used my savings for participating in open tournaments abroad for more exposure and paid hefty fees to mental and physical trainers. I trusted my abilities and worked hard."

"I was missing selection to the national team by 0.1 point or one point. I am happy that the hard work is paying off," said Shweta.

Unlike Shweta, Annu Raj, who is with Air India, has been in the 25m sports pistol team, having represented the country in the London Olympics by virtue of silver

"I don't think making the team in itself is noteworthy. It is just the first step."

"I don't think much about quota, etc. It would be nice to get it. It is more about being able to follow the process," said Annu.

"The knowledge available for young shooters, along with funding for the junior programme, is helping them get there faster (among the elite)."

"For them, transition is the key. Earlier, we would learn from our seniors. Now, the juniors motivate me to give my best," said Annu.

in the World Cup in Fort Benning when she had shot an impressive qualification score of 389.

The last time Annu made the National team in air pistol in a World Cup was in 2015. The 35-year-old Annu will be competing in the 60-shot air pistol for the first time in a global competition.

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United's pre-season run continues

James fetches shoot-out win over AC Milan

FOOTBALL

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
CARDIFF

Daniel James converted the winning penalty in a shoot-out to give Manchester United victory over AC Milan on Saturday and six wins in as many pre-season matches.

The 21-year-old Wales international, who signed from second tier Swansea in the close season, sealed victory after David de Gea had saved a spot-kick from Daniel Maldini, son of Milan and Italy legend Paolo.

United's 5-4 victory – its other five victories included beating Tottenham Hotspur and Inter Milan – in the shoot-out came after the match ended 2-2 but was not enough for it to win the International Champions Cup with the honours going to Portuguese side Benfica instead.

"It's amazing. Today was a difficult test but it showed the spirit to come from behind," James told MUTV. "To score that last penalty, especially here in Cardiff, is very special."

The English side's triumph came despite the absence of Belgium striker Romelu Lukaku, who is 18 minutes remaining.



Decisive moment: Daniel James scores the winning penalty. ■ AFP

Dortmund wins German Supercup

Alcacer, Sancho deny Bayern a third triumph

IANS
DORTMUND

Borussia Dortmund stunned Bayern Munich 2-0 in the German Supercup final on the strength of goals by Paco Alcacer and Jadon Sancho.

The win on Saturday ended a streak of three straight victories for Bayern in this annual match, which pits the winners of the previous season's Bundesliga and German Cup titles.

The duel was electric from the start, more than might be expected in the first days of August, reports Efe news.

Dortmund had more opportunities in an evenly contested first half, with Bayern superstar Robert Lewandowski unable to assert his presence in the centre of the



Best of the best: Borussia Dortmund celebrates the German Supercup victory. ■ AP

field. Thomas Muller finally got off a shot for the Bavarian giants in the 19th minute, but it sailed over the crossbar. Dortmund, meanwhile, test-

ed Bayern goalkeeper Manuel Neuer, who managed to keep the game scoreless with a foot save of a shot by Raphael Guerreiro.

The evenness of the match unravelled as soon as the second half began. Just three minutes had passed when Thiago lost control of the ball and Bayern paid the price.

Sancho made a speedy counterattack down the side, booted the ball across to where Alcacer took control straight in front of the net and drilled it past Neuer in the 48th minute.

Bayern tried to battle back, but Marwin Hitz made an outstanding save to deny a shot by Kingsley Coman; Joshua Kimmich then made a strong run but sent his shot off target.

Those missed chances proved costly when Sancho intercepted a pass by Jerome Boateng, raced down the field and beat Neuer with a crossing shot to give Dortmund an insurance goal in the 69th minute.

Man U faces uncertain future

Can Solskjaer make the Red Devils contenders again?

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
LONDON

Manchester United has missed out on the top four in four of the six seasons since Alex Ferguson stepped down and fans are coming to terms with its current status as Premier League also-rans.

Here, AFP Sport looks at whether Ole Gunnar Solskjaer can make United a contender again for the first time since its last Premier League title in 2012-13 or whether it is facing another season of turmoil and pain.

What to expect

It is difficult to know what to expect from Solskjaer's United, which enjoyed a purple patch after the Norwegian replaced Jose Mourinho but slumped alarmingly towards the end of last season.

At one stage it looked likely to finish in the top four but there was the suspicion it was getting the rub of the green and so it proved.

Its campaign ended with a whimper as it drew 1-1 at relegated Huddersfield and it was beaten 2-0 at home on the final day by Cardiff, which was also heading out of the Premier League.

A gap of 32 points to champion Manchester City was embarrassing and many questioned whether the club had been too hasty in appointing the relatively inexperienced Solskjaer to the full-time manager's post.

United will not have Champions League football to paper over the cracks during the coming season, with Thursday nights in the Europa League ringing in the calendar instead.

The club has had a positive pre-season but there are still lingering issues that need to be addressed – Paul Pogba's future is still in doubt and Solskjaer has to wrestle with the conundrum of an under-performing Alexis Sanchez.

United had problems at both ends of the pitch last season – scoring 30 goals fewer than City in the Pre-



Troubled times: With a question mark still hanging over Paul Pogba continuing at Manchester United, Solskjaer has a tough task at hand to rebuild the team. ■ REUTERS

on the flanks.

United has also been linked with a swoop for Juventus forward Paulo Dybala, but the Argentine is said to be unsure about joining a team outside the Champions League.

Romelu Lukaku could be on the way out of Old Trafford, with Juventus and Inter Milan both keen on the Belgian striker according to reports.

Key man

This is the season when Marcus Rashford will have to step up and show emphatically that he deserves to wear the number 10 shirt at Manchester United.

Still only 21, Rashford scored 17 goals in 54 appearances last season for club and country but will have to boost those numbers if he is to be the undisputed leader of United's attack.

Rashford signed a new four-year deal to remain at Old Trafford last month, saying it was a "privilege" every time he wore the shirt.

He has scored some sublime goals for the club but with a shortage of goal threat from elsewhere, Solskjaer will want to see him take his tally to 20-plus goals this season and become more of a poacher.

Guardiola places a premium on Premier League

Is averse to gambling all on the Champions League

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
LONDON

Pep Guardiola has dominated English football in his time at Manchester City, winning five of the six domestic trophies in the last two seasons, and once again is putting Premier League glory at the top of his list of ambitions for the new season.

Liverpool won its sixth European Cup with victory over Tottenham in May, and while Guardiola does want to conquer Europe with City, he prefers the sustained excellence that a successful league campaign brings over the vagaries of the post-Christmas knockout rounds.

The 48-year-old Spaniard has won eight titles in 10 seasons as a manager and he is now aiming to repeat the three straight league title wins he had at German giant Bayern Munich with City.

"I want to be happy for 11 months and the Premier League makes me happy. Every game when we win, I am happy and I go to a restaurant feeling better."

"Why am I going to wait until February for seven games and put everything on black? From my point of view, that is too risky."

Guardiola, whose side was knocked out of the Champions League by Liverpool and Spurs in the past two seasons, said the title meant everything to him.

"To maintain the health and focus of the team, the

most important thing is the Premier League," he said.

"It is the standout competition because it is every weekend. In the Champions League, many things can happen in one or two games."

"We will be closer to achieving in Europe when we have more Premier League titles. That is a nice process and the right process to do at Manchester City."

"If I could have one thing this season, right now, it



Pep Guardiola. ■ REUTERS

would definitely be the title."

The discussion has been had all summer about whose achievements were greater last season, Liverpool's Champions League glory or City winning the three domestic trophies – Liverpool pushing City all the way in the Premier League title race – in England plus the Community Shield.

"That is impossible. I am not going to say that the ten guys nominated don't deserve it, but I am a bit surprised we had no one because our players were incredible."

"For example I don't think any player made a better season than Bernardo Silva, who also won the Nations League with Portugal."

Guardiola had to acknowledge that success in Europe is the only remedy to resolving the conundrum.

"These awards are normally when you win the Champions League or are in the latter stages," he said.

"The other competitions do not count. So if we win the Champions League, our players will be there."

"I cannot imagine Real Ma-

drid or Barcelona winning four titles in one season and not having a single player there," he said.

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