

Prepare for IAS Interview
 with experts at



PROGRAMME HIGHLIGHTS

- Mock Interview by Eminent Civil Servants
- Discussion on Personal Profile and Detailed Application Form (DAF)
- One to One Discussion with the experts
- Video Recording of the Mock Interview

BOARD MEMBERS FOR MOCK INTERVIEW

S N Jha (IAS Retd., Former Chief Secretary, Bihar)	C N S Nair (IAS Retd., Former Secretary to Govt. of India)	A K Puri (IPS Retd., Former DGP, Himachal Pradesh)	A K Rastogi (IAS Retd., Former Secretary to Govt. of India)
Dr. Noor Mohammad (IAS Retd., Former Secretary, National Disaster Management Authority)	Arun Kumar Mago (IAS Retd., Former Chief Secretary, Maharashtra)	B L Vohra (IPS Retd., Former DGP, Tripura)	B S Lamba (IAS Retd., Former Indian Envoy to UNO)
G Subba Rao (IAS Retd., Former Chairman, Gujarat State Police Complaints Authority)	Vineet Ohri (IRS Retd., Former Chief Commissioner, Customs & Excise)	Prabhakar Mani Tripathi (Eminent Psychologist)	
Other distinguished Bureaucrats, Ex. Servicemen and Professors of JNU and Delhi University.			

UPSC MOCK INTERVIEW PROGRAMME

February 7th Onwards

Office: Apsara Arcade, Nr. Karol Bagh Metro Station Gate #7

For Free Registration SMS or WhatsApp <Mock_Name> to

9873643487

NEARBY



City's land pooling policy web portal launched

NEW DELHI
 Union Housing and Urban Affairs Minister Hardeep Singh Puri and Delhi Lieutenant-Governor Anil Baijal on Tuesday launched the web portal for the much-awaited land pooling policy, which aims to provide 17 lakh houses to around 76 lakh people in the Capital.

DELI METRO ▶ PAGE 1

One held for harassing Belgian tourist

NEW DELHI
 A 30-year-old man was arrested on Tuesday for his alleged involvement in harassing a Belgian woman who was visiting India in December and was compelled to return within 24 hours, the police said.

DELI METRO ▶ PAGE 1

Kartarpur corridor site plans shared with Pak.

NEW DELHI
 India has shared with Pakistan coordinates of the 'zero point' along the border in Punjab's Gurdaspur district where the 100-yard corridor, leading to the Kartarpur Sahib shrine, will be built. "The notification to acquire land for an integrated checkpost will be issued on Wednesday," said a senior Ministry of Home Affairs official.

NEWS ▶ PAGE 10



OPPORTUNITIES ▶ DELHI METRO
 PAGE 5

DELI METRO ▶ 6 PAGES

VHP puts off Ram temple agitation

NISTULA HEBBAR Bhopal

The Vishwa Hindu Parishad said here on Tuesday that it would hold off its agitation for the Ram temple until April, bringing an end to a churn within the Sangh Parivar and its political arm, the ruling BJP. VHP leaders also admitted that it did not want to embarrass the government.

DETAILS ON ▶ PAGE 10

Question, but don't arrest Kolkata police chief: SC to CBI

West Bengal Chief Minister calls off sit-in against BJP's 'political vendetta'



SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT NEW DELHI/KOLKATA

Rajeev connived with accused: CBI

Hours after the Supreme Court on Tuesday ordered Kolkata Police Commissioner Rajeev Kumar to make himself "available" to the CBI for questioning in the chit fund scam cases, West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee called off her dharna.

The court, however, barred the CBI from taking any coercive steps, including arrest, against Mr. Kumar.

Ms. Banerjee ended her nearly 48-hour dharna against the BJP's "political vendetta" in the presence of Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu, who said civil and police officers must report to the Chief Minister of a State.

Several other Opposition leaders have supported the Trinamool Congress leader.

In Delhi, Chief Justice of

A victory for Centre, says BJP

The BJP claimed victory for the Centre in its stand-off with the West Bengal government after the Supreme Court asked the Kolkata police chief to cooperate with the CBI in the probe into the chit fund scam cases. Union Minister Smriti Irani said: "With egg on her face, to celebrate it as a moral victory is a dichotomy available only to Mamata Banerjee's realm of politics." ▶ PAGE 11

India Ranjan Gogoi, heading a three-judge Bench, said, "We direct Rajeev Kumar to appear and make himself available to the CBI and faithfully co-operate with the CBI at all times..."

The court went the extra

mile to avoid any "unnecessary controversy" by scheduling the meeting between Mr. Kumar and the CBI at "neutral" Shillong in Meghalaya and not anywhere in West Bengal, least of all in politically charged Kolkata.

In the past few days, Ms. Banerjee spearheaded a protest, claiming that the attempted arrest of Mr. Kumar on the night of February 3 was an instance of the Narendra Modi government's high-handedness.

Notice issued

The court, however, issued notice on a contempt petition filed by the CBI against the Chief Secretary, the DGP and Mr. Kumar.

It asked them to file their replies by February 18. If found necessary, they would be informed by the court's Secretary-General to be present for the next hearing on February 20.

The case was taken up on a priority basis by the court on Tuesday.

CONTINUED ON ▶ PAGE 10
 KOLKATA DRAMA ENDS ▶ PAGE 11
 UNIFYING EPISODE ▶ EDITORIAL

NSA invoked against three men accused of cow slaughter in M.P.

ANUP DUTTA

about the slaughtering of a cow near Kharkhali village four days ago. When the police reached the spot, the accused fled. But the police team found the cow carcass," Khandwa SP Siddharth Bahuguna said.

Giving details, Moghat police station in-charge Mohan Singh said a police team reached the spot on Friday evening following a tip-off. However, taking advantage of the darkness, the accused fled leaving the carcass be-

hind, he said.

In the meantime, the police informed the district administration about the incident, which asked it to slap NSA against the accused.

On Monday, the police arrested Nadeem alias Raja and Shakeel from Pardesipura while the third accused, Azam, was arrested from Kharkhali. The three were produced before a local court, which sentenced them to jail under NSA and other relevant sections of the IPC.

DETAILS ON ▶ PAGE 10

SOD inside the cockpit because the buzzer was distracting.

"The SOD was heard asking information on the problem to cockpit crew while they were performing their duties in-flight and after landing as well," the report said.

According to the pilot in command, there was no information by Air Traffic Control about bird activity but the Air Traffic Information Services reported bird activity in its broadcast.

The report also mentioned that after the incident, while taxiing to the allocated stand for parking, the crew took a wrong turn and parked the aircraft in a flawed manner.

Pilots shut off wrong engine after bird hit: DGCA report

GoAir's Delhi-Mumbai flight on June 21, 2017, returned to the Capital, landing on second attempt

ADITYA ANAND
 MUMBAI
 The final investigation report of the Directorate General of Civil Aviation on a bird hit suffered by a Delhi-Mumbai GoAir flight on June 21, 2017, has revealed that the pilots shut off the wrong engine and flew the plane on the engine that had ingested the bird.

The report, made public on Tuesday, stated that after about three minutes the crew realised the mistake and tried to restart the other engine mid-air. They then declared an emergency and returned to Delhi, managing to land on a single engine on the second attempt.

CMYK



The report blamed the First Officer for "incorrect assessment".

A320 – encountered a bird strike on engine number 2. "Both crew noticed abnormal sound and vibrations but the pilot in command decided to continue the take-off probably wanting to investigate the problem after getting airborne. After the take-off, the situation was incorrectly assessed and engine number

1 (unaffected engine) was shut down. The aircraft was climbing with the single engine – engine 2 (affected engine), for over three minutes," the report said. It pinned the blame of the "incorrect assessment" on the First Officer.

As the aircraft stopped climbing at around 3,330 feet altitude, the crew realised their mistake and attempted to start engine number 1 but encountered start valve fault.

The investigation also re-

vealed that another pilot flying as Staff On Duty entered the cockpit after pressing the cockpit buzzer several times.

The pilot in command submitted that he allowed the

SOD inside the cockpit because the buzzer was distracting.

"The SOD was heard asking information on the problem to cockpit crew while they were performing their duties in-flight and after landing as well," the report said.

According to the pilot in command, there was no information by Air Traffic Control about bird activity but the Air Traffic Information Services reported bird activity in its broadcast.

The report also mentioned that after the incident, while taxiing to the allocated stand for parking, the crew took a wrong turn and parked the aircraft in a flawed manner.

Home Ministry is trying to 'destroy' NRC process, says SC

Centre wants armed police forces redeployed for poll work

KRISHNADAS RAJAGOPAL NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Tuesday lashed out at the Centre after Attorney-General K.K. Venugopal urged the court to allow the NRC work to be kept in abeyance during the Lok Sabha election, observing that the Ministry of Home Affairs had been attempting to undermine "the Assam NRC process from the very beginning."

The Bench of Chief Justice of India Ranjan Gogoi and Justice Rohinton Nariman reacted angrily after Mr. Venugopal sought to highlight the requirement for redeploying 167 companies of Central armed police forces, currently engaged in the NRC work, to other parts of the country during the general election.

Explaining that about 2,700 companies were needed to maintain law and order across the country, and given that the election was anticipated to be held in a

Central security forces are required to ensure overall security. We need to protect the borders also. Security of country is involved. This is a real problem

K.K. VENUGOPAL,
 Attorney-General

We have noticed this from the Ministry of Home Affairs – you do not want the NRC work to carry on at any cost. For that you are coming up with all kinds of excuses... All your efforts have been from the beginning to destroy the NRC process

RANJAN GOGOI,
 Chief Justice of India

you want the NRC work to go on, there are a thousand and one ways for the Government of India to do it... Do you want us to call the Union Home Secretary here?

"You have 3,000 companies of Central armed police forces... You need 2,700 companies for the election. The NRC work requires 167 companies. So what is the problem," he asked.

CONTINUED ON ▶ PAGE 10
 GOVT. COMMITTED TO NRC, SAYS RAJNATH SINGH ▶ PAGE 10

Bullet train gets green light via flamingo haven, national park

Environment Minister Harsh Vardhan-led panel gives nod

JACOB KOSHY

NEW DELHI

A committee, chaired by Union Environment Minister Harsh Vardhan, has accorded wildlife clearance to the Mumbai-Ahmedabad high-speed train corridor that encroaches upon a flamingo sanctuary and the Sanjay Gandhi National Park, home to leopards, in Mumbai.

The proposal involves diversion of 3.2756 hectares of forest land from the Thane

Creek Flamingo Wildlife Sanctuary and 97.5189 hectares of land close to the boundary of the forest's protected area.

The project for one of India's first 'bullet trains' was inaugurated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his Japanese counterpart Shinzo Abe in Ahmedabad in September, 2017. It is expected to be ready by 2022.

A wildlife clearance is a critical part of the forest

clearance process. A person privy to the process said forest clearance was not part of the original agenda of the meeting.

"In some cases, a file can come in through the intervention of the Chair [in this case, Mr. Vardhan]. This was one of those projects," said the person, who did not want to be identified.

A BULLET THAT TEARS INTO FOREST LAND ▶ PAGE 7



VISION IAS
INSPIRING INNOVATION

LIVE/ONLINE Classes Available
www.visionias.in

Foundation Course GENERAL STUDIES PRELIMS CUM MAINS 2019

DELHI Regular Batch 12 Feb 9 AM **Weekend Batch** 13 April **LUCKNOW** 12 March

Batches also @ HYDERABAD | JAIPUR | PUNE | AHMEDABAD

फाउंडेशन कोर्स सामान्य अध्ययन 2020

हिन्दी माध्यम में

DELHI 18 Feb **LUCKNOW** 9 April **Batches also @ JAIPUR | AHMEDABAD**

ALTERNATIVE CLASSROOM PROGRAMME GENERAL STUDIES Prelims and Mains 2021 and 2022

LIVE/ONLINE Classes Available Starts: 12 Feb | 9 AM

SELECTIONS IN CSE 2017 6 in Top 10 | 38 in Top 50

AIR 3 SACHIN GUPTA **AIR 4** ATUL PRAKASH **AIR 5** PRATHAM KAUSHIK **YOU CAN BE NEXT**

2nd Floor, Apsara Arcade, Near Metro Gate 6/1/8 B, Pusa Road, Karol Bagh
 DELHI • 635, Opp

In accordance with the SWAMINATHAN COMMISSION report

Delhi Government is going to raise the support price for farmers benefit



Arvind Kejriwal, Chief Minister, Delhi

Proposed Minimum Support Price (MSP) per Quintal

Wheat	Rs. 2616
Paddy	Rs. 2667

Wheat : Cost of Cultivation (per hectare)

INPUTS / PARTICULARS	QTY/No.	RATE (Rs.)	COST (Rs.)
Seed	100 kg	40/kg	4000/-
F.Y.M.	150 Qntl.	50/ Qntl.	7500/-
Urea	04 Bags	266/- per bag	1064/-
DAP	03 Bags	1450/- per bag	4350/-
Zinc Sulphate (21%)	12 kg.	42/kg.	504/-
M.O.P.	50 kg.	750/- per bag	750/-
Weedicide	2.5 ltr.	400/ltr.	1000/-
Pesticide	2.5 ltr.	400/ltr.	1000/-
Ploughing by Tractor	05 Nos.	1250/-	6250/-
(ii) Sowing	01 Nos.	1500/-	1500/-
Irrigation (tubewell)	05 Nos.	1300/-	6500/-
Harvesting	01 No.	6000/-	6000/-
Threshing	01 No.	5000/-	5000/-
Land Rent	----	----	15000/-
	Total	60418/-	

Paddy : Cost of Cultivation (per hectare)

INPUTS / PARTICULARS	Qty	RATE (Rs.)	COST (Rs.)
Seed	35 kg	70/kg	2450/-
F.Y.M	200 Qt.	50/Qt.	10000/-
Urea	4	266/ bag	1064/-
DAP	2	1450/ bag	2900/-
Potas	2	840/bag	1680/-
Zinc Sulphate (21%)	12	42 Kg	504/-
Pre showing irrigation ploughing (padding)	----	---	5000/-
Transplanting	15 Labour	Rs.538/day	8070/-
Irrigation	06	1300	7800/-
Weedicide	03 ltr	300/ltr	900/-
Pesticide	03 ltr	400/ltr	1200/-
Harvesting & Threshing	20 Labour	Rs.538/day	10760/-
Land Rent	-----	-----	15000/-
	Total	67328/-	

Wheat : Cost of wages (per hectare)

LABOURERS	UNIT	RATE (Rs.)	Cost (Rs.)
Pre-irrigation charges	02	Rs.538/day	1076/-
Sowing	01	Rs.538/day	538/-
Manure application	03	Rs.538/day	1614/-
Fertilizer top-dressing	04	Rs.538/day	2152/-
Chemical Spraying	04	Rs.538/day	2152/-
Irrigation (02 Labours)	10	Rs.538/day	5380/-
Threshing labour charges	04	Rs.538/day	2152/-
	Total	15064/-	

Paddy : Cost of wages (per hectare)

LABOURERS	UNIT	RATE (Rs.)	Cost (Rs.)
Pre-irrigation/Field preparation	02	Rs.538/day	1076/-
Manure application	03	Rs.538/day	1614/-
Fertilizer top-dressing	04	Rs.538/day	2152/-
Chemical Spraying	02	Rs.538/day	1076/-
Irrigation (02 Labours)	12	Rs.538/day	6456/-
Weeding	06	Rs.538/day	3228/-
	Total	15602/-	

Total cost of cultivation :Rs.60418 + Rs.15064 = Rs. 75482/-
Interest @ 8% per annum for 6 month = Rs. 3019/-
Total = Rs. 78501/-

Production/Yield per Hectare (in Quintal) = 45
Cost of production per Hectare (in Rupees) = 78501
Cost of Production (per Quintal in Rupees) = 1744

Proposed Minimum Support Price of Wheat:
Rs. 1744 (cultivation cost) + 872 (50% cultivation cost) = Rs. 2616

Total cost of cultivation :Rs.60418 + Rs.15064 = Rs. 82930/-
Interest @ 8% per annum for 6 month = Rs. 3317/-
Total = Rs. 86247/-

Production/Yield per Hectare (in Quintal) = 48.5
Cost of production per Hectare (in Rupees) = 86247
Cost of Production (per Quintal in Rupees) = 1778

Proposed Minimum Support Price of Paddy:
Rs. 1778 (cultivation cost) + 889 (50% cultivation cost) = Rs. 2667

Your suggestions are invited on this topic

E-mail us your suggestions at

kisansuggestions@gmail.com | Last Date: 12th February 2019
jdadev.delhi@nic.in

- Gopal Rai, Development Minister, Delhi

DELHI Timings	
WEDNESDAY, FEB. 06	
RISE 07:07 SET	18:04
RISE 08:03 SET	19:23
THURSDAY, FEB. 07	
RISE 07:06 SET	18:05
RISE 08:37 SET	20:15
FRIDAY, FEB. 08	
RISE 07:05 SET	18:06
RISE 09:11 SET	21:07

Delhi Weather max min
Delhi City 25 09
Safdarjung 25 09
Palam 25 10

Delhi Palam Today
26°C A windy and cloudy day is expected. Few spells of rain and thundershowers are likely.

Delhi Palam Tomorrow
19°C Significant fall in maximum is likely due to rain and gusty winds. Significant improvement is likely in pollution levels.

© Copyright Skymet Weather 2018 All rights reserved.

NGT imposes ₹25 lakh fine on U.P. govt.

STAFF REPORTER
NEW DELHI

The National Green Tribunal on Tuesday imposed a cost of ₹25 lakh on the Uttar Pradesh government for failing to stop dumping of sewage and untreated water in the Upper Ganga Canal.

Noting the State government's submission that a sewage treatment plant in Niwari will be installed within six months, a Bench headed by NGT Chairperson Justice Adarsh Kumar Goel also directed the Urban Development Ministry to deposit a performance guarantee of ₹35 lakh.

Progress report sought
“The Chief Secretary may furnish progress report to this Tribunal. Having regard to the serious implication on public health, the matter must be seen with due attention from the highest level of authorities instead of being left to the lowest level,” the Bench said. The directions came while the green panel was hearing a plea moved by local resident Vivek Tyagi, that alleged illegal construction of a drainage system by the Niwari Nagar Panchayat linking it to the Upper Ganga Canal.

Paper balls fly in U.P. budget session

Oppn. members create uproar as Governor lauds Adityanath govt. in his speech

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

LUCKNOW
Members of the Opposition parties hurled paper balls towards the podium and raised slogans as Uttar Pradesh Governor Ram Naik addressed a joint sitting of the State Legislature on the first day of the budget session on Tuesday.

In his about 55-minute speech, the Governor highlighted the welfare and development schemes of the State government, and also justified the renaming of Allahabad and Faizabad districts, saying, “My government has restored their cultural names”.

The Opposition members, including those from the Samajwadi Party, the Bahujan Samaj Party and the Congress, started raising slogans against the government and shouted “Rajyalap wapas jao (Governor go back)” as soon



SP leaders at Vidhan Sabha in Lucknow on Tuesday protesting against increasing cattle menace in the State. RAJEEV BHATT

as Mr. Naik began his speech.

CM condemns behaviour

The SP members hurled paper balls at the podium, but Mr. Naik continued to address the House with the staff using cardboard files to deflect them.

Speaking to reporters later, Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath condemned the behaviour of the Opposition leaders and termed it “unde-

mocratic” and “unparliamentary”. Such agitations lower their dignity. The SP crossed limits of hooliganism by hurling paper balls and targeting the Governor,” he said.

During the uproar, Subhash Pasi of the SP fell unconscious and was rushed to a hospital and then to the KGMC trauma centre. He suffered a brain haemorrhage, said a trauma centre doctor.

Invokes ESMA, bans strikes

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

LUCKNOW

The Uttar Pradesh government has invoked the Essential Services Maintenance Act banning strikes in all departments and corporations under it for a period of six months. A notification to this effect was issued by Chief Secretary Anup Chandra Pandey on Monday night. The move comes in the wake of a strike call given by some government organisations from February 6 demanding old pension scheme.

Help us get our share in river waters, Gehlot urges Centre

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

JAIPUR

Rajasthan has sought the Centre's intervention for getting its full share in the Yamuna and Narmada river waters, while pointing out that neighbouring Haryana was not releasing it from the Tajewala Headworks even after 24 years of the inter-State Yamuna water agree-

ment becoming operative.

Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot, who met Union Water Resources Minister Nitin Gadkari in New Delhi on Monday, said Rajasthan was getting only 40% of its allocated share in the Yamuna waters from Okhla head because of “illegal” drawing of water in Haryana and U.P.

He said the 1,000 cusecs

of water received from Gujarat in the Narmada project was insufficient for rabi crops in 2.4 lakh hectares of Jalore and Barmer districts.

Since the discontent among the farmers in the region was increasing, Mr. Gehlot requested the Union Minister to ensure that the State received its full share.



THREE REASONS TO SWITCH YOUR HOME LOAN TO SBI



ZERO PROCESSING FEE

NO HIDDEN CHARGES



SMS 'HOME' TO 567676 AND GET A CALL BACK.



most trusted since 2003

AN IDEA ISN'T BORN REVOLUTIONARY
THE TEAM BEHIND MAKES IT ONE.

IAS INTERVIEW GUIDANCE PROGRAMME (IGP) 2019

The objective of the IAS interview is to assess some qualities of candidate viz. balance of judgment, leadership, intellectual and moral integrity within 30 to 35 minutes. However, marks scored have a wide range: 130 to 225. Thus Interview has a great scoring potential. Even if someone's score in the Mains is near the cut-off, he can score very high in interview and be in the selection list. We cordially invite all aspirants for our IAS INTERVIEW GUIDANCE PROGRAMME 2019 as it follows one on one tailored approach for maximizing marks in personality test.

Mr. S.Y QURAISHI
Ex. Chief Election Commissioner

Mr. SHASHANK
Ex. Foreign Secretary

Mr. NOOR MOHAMMED
Retd. IAS
Ex. Election Commissioner
Ex. Vice Chancellor (AMU)

Mr. MANJEET SINGH
Retd. IAS
Ex. Secretary Finance, Home

Mr. VIBHUTI NARAIN RAI
Retd. IPS
Ex. DGP (UP)

Mr. S.K. MISRA
Retd. IRS, Ex. Member Revenue Board
Ex. Member CBEC

Mr. A.H.K GHOURI
Retd. IRS
Ex. Governance Advisor, British High Commission

COMMODORE C.UDAY BHASKAR
Retd. Commodore, Eminent Defence Expert

Prof. C.K. VARSHNEY
Ex. Dean School of Environmental Science (JNU)

Mr. T.H.K GHOURI
Retd. IRS
Ex. Chief Commissioner Custom & Excise

Mr. QURBAN ALI
Ex. Editor
Rajya Sabha TV

Prof. M.A. USMANI
Distinguished Professor

Prof. G. KUMAR
Distinguished Professor
Ex. UPSC Board Member

Mr. QAMAR AGHA
Widely Acclaimed Sr. Journalist

Mr. Q.H. KHAN
Managing Director
Dhyeya IAS

PRIOR REGISTRATION IS MANDATORY

Send your DAF to dhyeyaisonline@dhyeyias.com

25B, 2nd Floor, Metro Pillar No. 117, Pusa Road, Old Rajendra Nagar, New Delhi 635, Ground Floor, Main Road, Dr. Mukherjee Nagar, New Delhi

9205274744 / 9205274743

Suraksha bhi, Sammriddhi bhi

SHIRAM UNNATI FIXED DEPOSITS

INTEREST UP TO **9.25%*** P.A.

FD rating "FAAA/Stable" by CRISIL

Additional interest of 0.25% p.a. for Senior Citizens

Toll free no.: 1800 103 4959
Website: www.stfc.in
*For 5 year deposit

Corporate Identity Number (CIN): L6519TTN1979PLC00784.

OUR LONGEST WRITING PEN

Writes upto **10000 Meters***

₹ 20/- Per Pc.

Bachpan se Aaj Tak
Mera Dost | Mera Flair

SWISS TIP TECHNOLOGY

Flair® Writo-meter® Ball Pen

FLAIR WRITING INDUSTRIES LIMITED

022 4203 0405 • Email: flairindia@flairpens.com • www.flairworld.in

Connect with us at [Facebook](#) [Twitter](#) [Instagram](#) [YouTube](#) /flair2world

pierre cardin Reynolds HAUSER Germany Flair ZIG

ANIL NARULA'S IAS

FREE MOCK INTERVIEWS FOR IAS/HAS

- Both individual and panel mock interviews
- Questionnaire of expected questions based upon DAF
- Personality improvement tips.
- Detailed personalised discussions
- Interview in simulated conditions, camera recordings shall be available
- Special sessions for those who are not able to clear the interview hurdle even after 2 or 3 attempts

Mock Prelims Tests Starting from 11th Feb.

- Topic wise & full syllabus tests
- Discussion after tests
- More than 20 high quality mock tests

FREE 2 DEMO MOCK TESTS

FRESH BATCHES FOR GS for 2019 and 2020

Starting From 11th February 2019

SCO 306, 1st & 2nd Floor, Sector 38-D, Chandigarh

M: 86990 31339, 86993 31339 | www.anilnarulaiasstudy.com

We believe only in very high quality classroom coaching nothing else

NOTICE

UNIT RUN CANTEEN, WESTERN AIR COMMAND

SUBROTO PARK

Name of the post: Manager, Unit Run Canteen, HQ WAC

Eligibility Criteria: As mentioned below

Essential Qualifications

- (a) Should possess minimum of bachelor's degree preferably in Business related fields/finance.
- (b) Good working knowledge of computers-Windows and Microsoft Office applications especially MS Word, MS Excel, Power point.
- (c) Experience in the capacity of Manager/Supervisor in a large organisation/NPF.

Desired Qualifications

- (a) Bachelor/Master's degree in Business Administration or finance.
- (b) Should preferably be an Ex-serviceman.

Age Limit: Candidate should be in the age bracket of 54-58 years so as to render a minimum service of 2 years as Manager, considering the age of superannuation is fixed at 60 years, in accordance with QMG Branch (Army HQ) letter No. 96029/Q/DDGCS dated 11 Aug 14.

Only shortlisted candidate will be called for test/interview.

All Candidates need to produce the testimonials/experience certificates against the qualification / experiences stated by them at the time of interview.

Authorities reserve the right to withdraw the selection process at any stage without giving any reasons.

Candidate should send Resume /CV along with work experience (By Hand /Post) at following address.

Officer in Charge URC
C/O Accts Section
HQ WAC, IAF
Subroto park
New delhi-10

For Query Contact: 011-25687194/ Ext :7506

Last Date of Receipt of Application: 28 Feb 19

CLASSIFIEDS MART

TO ADVERTISE:

www.thehinduads.com

011-43579738 • 43579797

EDUCATIONAL

IAS

दीक्षांत

Education Centre

PCS

सामान्य अध्ययन

FREE COACHING & SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAMME for All

आर्थिक रूप से कमज़ोर वर्ग के छात्रों के लिए मुन्हरा अवसर

सामाजिक न्याय

by

Dr. S. S. Pandey

नये फाउंडेशन बैच हेतु

कक्षा प्रारंभ

आज
6 Feb. 6 pmAddress:
289, Dhaka Johar, Near Dushahara Ground
Dr. Mukherjee Nagar, Delhi-09
011-27608204, 9312511015, 8851301204ALL YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT
IAS & HOW TO CRACK IT

Contact For Free Counselling Session



G.S. / CSAT LAW POL. SCIENCE HISTORY

Personalized Coaching In Small Batches

Weekend Batches Available

NIRVANA IAS ACADEMY

www.nirvanaias.com

ROHINI : Near Rohini West Metro Station, Pillar No.42, Sec-7 Rohini, Delhi-85.

TILAK NAGAR : Near Tilak Nagar Metro Station Gate No.3 Delhi-18.

Ph: 011-47032447, 011-25121005, 9990471004, 9990471005

ALS Alternative Learning Systems IAS 2018 Results Total Selections 244+

HISTORY OPTIONAL BY HEMANT JHA

Batch Begins with OPEN WORKSHOP FEB 06 3:00pm

VENUE: 20 Pusa Road, Near Karol Bagh Metro Station, Opp. Metro Station Pillar No. 97, New Delhi-110005

KAROL BAGH 9999648884, 9717207093, 28751379

YOUR DESTINATION Dr. S.N. Chandak (Director) IAS PCS Upendra Anmol (Director)

उपेन्द्र अनमोल सर के नेतृत्व में भारत के ख्याति प्राप्त शिक्षकों के साथ

MEGA SEMINAR with Eminent Personalities

10 Feb. @ 11:30 am Batra Cinema

पाएं 1000 आर. बी. डी.

विज्ञान एवं प्रौद्योगिकी किताबों का उपहार

FREE बुक

प्राप्त करने के लिए आज ही

Youth Destination के

ऑफिस से टोकन प्राप्त करें।

OPEN TEST सुनहरा अवसर

जीतें 21 हजार 11 हजार 5 हजार

011-40198123, 9811334434, N-1, Dr. Mukherjee Nagar, Delhi-9

CLASIFIEDS MART

TO ADVERTISE:

www.thehinduads.com

011-43579738 • 43579797

EDUCATIONAL

Y.D. Misra's IAS

011-43045306, 8929430710, 8929630710

व्या आप जाने हैं?

PRELIM नहीं तो MAIN नहीं।

PRELIM परीक्षा में यदि सफल होना है तो

Y.D. MISRA'S IAS द्वारा आयोजित

5 TESTS + EXPLANATION के लिए

निःशुल्क ADMISSION ले।

Y.D. Misra द्वारा परीक्षार्थीयों के सहयोग से

पांच दिन में पांच भास का अध्ययन

टेस्ट में भाग लेने के लिए इच्छक परीक्षार्थी पंजीकरण करें।

ENQUIRY OFFICE : 625, First Floor, Main Road,

Near Aggarwal Sweet, Dr. Mukherjee Nagar, Delhi-09

सामाजिक न्याय

खंड से

Dr. S. S. Pandey

नये फाउंडेशन बैच हेतु

कक्षा प्रारंभ

आज 6 Feb. 6 pm

Address:

289, Dhaka Johar, Near Dushahara Ground

Dr. Mukherjee Nagar, Delhi-09

011-27608204, 9312511015, 8851301204

ALL YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT

IAS & HOW TO CRACK IT

Contact For Free Counselling Session

IAS GURUKUL

CHAHAL ACADEMY

OPT MORNING BATCH EVENING BATCH

PRELIMS MARATHON CLASS Duration-35 days with complete coverage

FREE ORIENTATION 10th Feb. (12 pm)

Fee-6500/- (Incl all taxes)

Empower IAS 011-49409261, 011-25713121

4C/17, Near Bikander Sweets, Old Rajinder Nagar Delhi-60

www.empowerias.com

LEGAL NOTICE

IN THE COURT OF THE CITY CIVIL JUDGE AT BANGALORE O.S. No. 2769/2017 (CCH-53)

Between M/s. ICICI Bank Ltd. Having Its Branch office at Mytree Centre No. 4, 101 Hosur Road Bonmanhalli Bangalore-560068

Represented by its Debt Manager Mr.Janardhan Adiga Plaintiff

And Mr. Dipak Singh Karki Defendant

Summons to the Defendant By way of Paper Publication

Mr. Dipak Singh Karki. S/o Mr. Laxman Singh Karki Aged about 35 Years

No. 14, 220, 2nd Cross, Sri Ramnagar, G.B. Palya, Behind Crystal Apartment, Bonmanhalli, Bangalore-560008.

And Also at: No. 220, Addi Mohalla, Madanpur, Kharda, Near Apollo Hospital, New Delhi-110056

Defendant

Whereas the ICICI Bank Ltd., has instituted a suit for recovery of money against you under Order VII, Rule 1 of CPC for recovery of Rs. 2,81,243.54/- (Rupees Two Lakhs Eighty One Thousand Two Hundred Forty Three Paise Fifty Four Only) together with costs, pendente lite and future interests @ 18% per annum. You are here by summoned in person or by a pleader at the city civil court hall No. 53 on 23.03.2019 at 11 a.m. to answer the claims and you are directed to produce on that day all the documents upon which you intend to rely in support of your defense.

Take notice in case on non appearance on the day above mentioned, the above suit will be heard and determined in your absence.

Given under my hand and seal of the court this 18.01.2019.

By Order of The Court Assistant Registrar City Civil Judge, Bangalore

(JATM PATIL) Advocate for Plaintiff, J.S. Advocates and Legal Consultants, No 56/1-1, Opp. to Corporation Bank, 4th Main, 18th Cross, Malleshwaram West, Bangalore-560055

BEST SCORING & SAFEST OPTIONAL

NEW BATCHES COMMENCE

18 FEB. INSIGHT

73, OLD RAJINDER NAGAR

011-45090051, 9818333201

EDUCATIONAL

Y.D. Misra's IAS

011-43045306, 8929430710, 8929630710

व्या आप जाने हैं?

PRELIM नहीं तो MAIN नहीं।

PRELIM परीक्षा में यदि सफल होना है तो

Y.D. MISRA'S IAS द्वारा आयोजित

5 TESTS + EXPLANATION के लिए

निःशुल्क ADMISSION ले।

Y.D. Misra द्वारा परीक्षार्थीयों के सहयोग से

पांच दिन में पांच भास का अध्ययन

टेस्ट में भाग लेने के लिए इच्छक परीक्षार्थी पंजीकरण करें।

ENQUIRY OFFICE : 625, First Floor, Main Road,

Near Aggarwal Sweet, Dr. Mukherjee Nagar, Delhi-09

सामाजिक न्याय

खंड से

Dr. S. S. Pandey

नये फाउंडेशन बैच हेतु

कक्षा प्रारंभ

आज 6 Feb. 6 pm

Address:

289, Dhaka Johar, Near Dushahara Ground

Dr. Mukherjee Nagar, Delhi-09

011-27608204, 9312511015, 8851301204

ALL YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT

IAS & HOW TO CRACK IT

Contact For Free Counselling Session

IAS GURUKUL

CHAHAL ACADEMY

OPT MORNING BATCH EVENING BATCH

PRELIMS MARATHON CLASS Duration-35 days with complete coverage

FREE ORIENTATION 10th Feb. (12 pm)

Fee-6500/- (Incl all taxes)

Empower IAS 011-49409261, 011-25713121

4C/17, Near Bikander Sweets, Old Rajinder Nagar Delhi-60

www.empowerias.com

LEGAL NOTICE

IN THE COURT OF THE CITY CIVIL JUDGE AT BANGALORE O.S. No. 2769/2017 (CCH-53)

Between M/s. ICICI Bank Ltd. Having Its Branch office at Mytree Centre No. 4, 101 Hosur Road Bonmanhalli Bangalore-560068

Represented by its Debt Manager Mr.Janardhan Adiga Plaintiff

And Mr. Dipak Singh Karki Defendant

Summons to the Defendant By way of Paper Publication

Mr. Dipak Singh Karki. S/o Mr. Laxman Singh Karki Aged about 35 Years

No. 14, 220, 2nd Cross, Sri Ramnagar, G.B. Palya, Behind Crystal Apartment, Bonmanhalli, Bangalore-560008.

And Also at: No. 220, Addi Mohalla, Madanpur, Kharda, Near Apollo Hospital, New Delhi-110056

Defendant

Whereas the ICICI Bank Ltd., has instituted a suit for recovery of money against you under Order VII, Rule 1 of CPC for recovery of Rs. 2,81,243.54/- (Rupees Two Lakhs Eighty One Thousand Two Hundred Forty Three Paise Fifty Four Only) together with costs, pendente lite and future interests @ 18% per annum. You are here by summoned in person or by a pleader at the city civil court hall No. 53 on 23.03.2019 at 11 a.m. to answer the claims and you are directed to produce on that day all the documents upon which you intend to rely in support

IN BRIEF



Court issues summons to Minister Sudhakaran

ALAPPUZHA
The judicial first class magistrate court, Ambalappuzha, on Tuesday issued summons to Public Works Minister G. Sudhakaran directing him to appear before the court on March 29. The court accepted a complaint filed by Usha Sali, a former member of the Minister's staff, alleging that Mr. Sudhakaran verbally insulted her and her family during a public function held at Thottappally on February 28, 2016.

Five injured in leopard attack in Andhra Pradesh

KAKINADA
A search operation was launched for the leopard that managed to escape after injuring five people at Ankampalem village of Atreyapuram mandal in East Godavari district, on Tuesday. The villagers alerted the forest and police officials. According to sources, the forest officials spotted the footprints of the animal. But, they were clueless if the animal has escaped to some island village or taken shelter in the horticulture gardens surrounding the village.

3 injured as gas-filled balloons burst in Mysuru

MYSURU
At least three persons were injured when a bunch of gas-filled balloons burst after they came in contact with flames from a sports torch at the inaugural function of the wrestling tournament organised as part of the Jathra Mahotsava at Suttur near here. According to sources in the mutt, which organises the event, the incident took place when the wind blew the balloons towards the flames of the torch. The burst of the balloons caused a commotion and injured a few.

Tharoor seeks law to undo SC verdict on Sabarimala temple

Cong. leader says it is hypocrisy to create stir when there is majority to pass a law

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

Congress leader Shashi Tharoor said on Tuesday that the Centre should initiate legislative process to protect the freedom of places of worship.

Mr. Tharoor, Member of Parliament from Thiruvananthapuram, raised the issue in the Lok Sabha during Zero Hour. He said only a law to undo the Supreme Court order on Sabarimala — allowing women of menstruating age to enter the temple — would pacify the protesters.

"I urge the government to come up with a legislative action to ensure and protect the freedom of religious places and worship in principle with constitutional values because we need to clar-

SIrresponsible parties have been trying to hijack protests by genuine believers in a bid to reap political dividends. They have been engaging in vandalism and violence not only disrupting the law and order in the State, but also disturbing the sanctity of the holy abode of Lord Ayyappa

— SHASHI THAROOR, Congress leader

ify the application of essential religious practices," he told the Lok Sabha.

Vandalism, violence

Without naming the BJP that has been at the forefront of the protests in Kerala, the Congress MP said protests of "genuine believers" had been hijacked for political gains. "Irresponsible parties

have been trying to hijack protests by genuine believers in a bid to reap political dividends. They have been engaging in vandalism and violence, not only disrupting the law and order in the State, but also disturbing the sanctity of the holy abode of Lord Ayyappa," he said.

"This problem can only be solved either through a

judicial process in the form of a review of the honourable Supreme Court's judgment or through a legislative action by Parliament. It is hypocrisy to create violence and protests when you have the majority to pass a law," Mr. Tharoor said.

Though the Congress had welcomed the Supreme Court ruling as a landmark judgment, the party has changed its position in the past few weeks.

Last month, at a public meeting with the Indian diaspora in Dubai, Congress president Rahul Gandhi too had changed his earlier position strongly supporting the top court's position.

"People should be allowed to decide on the issue," he said.

Court hearing to begin today

LEGAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

Chief Justice of India Ranjan Gogoi on Tuesday asked an advocate representing the petitioners in a contempt plea against Sabarimala chief priest to be present when a five-judge Constitution Bench hears 54 different review petitions against the court's Sabarimala judgment on February 6.

The petitions have sought a review of the September 28 verdict lifting the bar on women of menstrual age from undertaking the pilgrimage to the famed temple in Kerala. The Review Bench is led by Chief Justice Gogoi.

The Sabarimala case was earlier scheduled for January 22, but had to be can-



A view of Sabarimala Sannidhanam. ■ FILE PHOTO

celled as Justice Indu Malhotra was on medical leave. The September 28 judgment had declared the exclusion, solely based on the menstrual status of women, to be a smear on individual dignity. It said the bar amounted to "treating women as the children of a lesser God."

Justice Malhotra, in her dissent, had declared the

prohibition on women aged between 10 and 50 years to be an "essential practice."

The judge had held that imposing the court's morality on a religion would negate the freedom to practise religion according to one's faith and beliefs. Justice Malhotra's judgment has since then become a rallying point for the review petitioners.

Controversial speech: actor surrenders

STAFF REPORTER
KOLLAM

Actor Kollam Thulasi surrendered at the Chavara police station on Tuesday in connection with a case registered against him for making derogatory remarks about women. The Kerala High Court had dismissed his plea for anticipatory bail in January.

The actor had made the controversial speech at the Sabarimala Viswasi Samrakshana Jatha organised by the NDA to mark its protest against the entry of young women to the Sabarimala Ayyappa temple on October 12, 2018.

General elections: police of six States to work in tandem

Joint operation to tackle left wing extremism

STAFF REPORTER
CHITTOR

The inter-State coordination meeting of the police of Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Telangana, Odisha and Chhattisgarh has decided to launch a joint operation to tackle the threat of left wing extremism and curb the activities of ultras in view of the coming general elections.

Though the Congress had welcomed the Supreme Court ruling as a landmark



Team work: A.P. DGP R.P. Thakur speaking at the inter-State meeting in Tirupati on Tuesday. ■ K.V. POORNACHANDRA KUMAR

radha (A.P.) and Rajiv Trivedi (Telangana), Additional DGP R.P. Kochu (Odisha) and DIG P. Sundarrajan from Chhattisgarh.

Other aspects discussed included mobilisation of forces, intelligence sharing, focus on inter-State criminals and offenders, surveillance on flow of unaccounted cash, freebies, liquor, weapons in the States at the border check-posts.

Briefing the media, Mr. Thakur said it was decided to undertake joint operations against the left-wing extremists, apart from sharing intelligence network of the States, so that any kind of

Army's Rudra helicopter makes 'precautionary landing' on field

It was on a sortie as part of acceptance trials: Army sources

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU/NEW DELHI

Helicopter Rudra, belonging to the Army Aviation Corps, made a precautionary landing on an agriculture field on Bengaluru outskirts on Tuesday reportedly due to a technical snag, police said. There was no official information on the episode until going to the press.

The pilot is safe. Following an alert, a technical support team rushed to rectify the helicopter. The team flew it back by late evening to the Hindustan Aeronautics Limited's Helicopter Division, said a spokesperson of the defence PSU.

The spokesman for the HAL, which has developed Rudra, said, "According to



Safety first: Army helicopter at a field in Kanakapura taluk near Bengaluru on Tuesday. ■ SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

our information it was a precautionary landing."

The helicopter was on a sortie as part of acceptance trials, according to Army sources.

The incident occurred



"A right course never fails,
a true word never hurts in the end".

- Mahatma Gandhi

Dr. G. Parameshwara
Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister

KARNATAKA: In Crop Loan Waiver Process Heartfelt thanks to all the farmers for the co-operation



As per commitment of our Government to about 40 lakh Crop loanee farmers of both Commercial banks and co-operative banks, the crop loan waiver scheme is implemented to reach all eligible farmers

in this ...

36 Lakh farmers have submitted their Self declarations, in which

29 Lakh farmers have correctly submitted their Aadhar Card, Ration Card and Land Sy. No. and remaining

7 Lakh farmers are requested to give their correct Aadhar Card/Ration Card/Land Sy. No. in February 2019 itself for prompt waiver release

Rs. 1,900 crores released in 1st installment to

4 Lakh farmers towards crop loan waiver

All eligible farmers who submit their Aadhar Card, Ration Card and Land Sy. No. will get loan waiver 1st installment release within February 2019 for restructured, overdue and regular commercial bank loans

All eligible farmers in cooperative sector will get their loan waiver release in the very month when their loan repayment becomes due for repayment.



As is enshrined in our Constitution, to abide by the Constitution and respect its ideals and institutions, the National Flag and the National Anthem; is the fundamental duty of every citizen of the country.



For more details about Farmer's Loan waiver, please visit
Public Domain: clws.karnataka.gov.in

karnataka information
Dept. of Information and
Public Relations

IN BRIEF



Sitharaman visits late IAF pilot's home

DEHRADUN
Union Defence Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on Tuesday visited Squadron Leader Siddharth Negi's home here to condole his death. The IAF pilot died in a plane crash in Bengaluru last week. PTI

Modi may lay foundation stone for Patna Metro

PATNA
The foundation stone for the Patna Metro Rail project may be laid down here next month by Prime Minister Narendra Modi. State Minister Suresh Sharma said there was an in-principle agreement to get the foundation stone laid by Mr. Modi on March 3. PTI

'28 child homes in Odisha lack basic facilities'

NEW DELHI
28 child care homes in Odisha do not have basic facilities such as proper toilets, safe drinking water and in many of these homes the children are kept in "unhygienic conditions", says a report by National Commission for Protection of Child Rights. PTI

Temple case: amicus curiae to visit shrine

NEW DELHI
The Supreme Court on Tuesday asked senior advocate Ranjit Kumar, who is assisting it as an amicus curiae in a matter related to administration of Jagannath temple in Puri, to visit the shrine to assess the ground reality there. PTI

Policeman on leave shot at in M.P.'s Khandwa

KHANDWA
A sub-inspector was on Tuesday shot at by bike-borne persons in Khandwa district, a senior police officer said. S-I K.K. Agrawal was in Khandwa for his son's marriage when the incident took place. PTI

Mizoram BJP chief puts party unit on the line

John Hluna links its continuance to shelving Citizenship Bill

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
AIZAWL

People of Mizoram and their safety are of primary importance

JOHN V. HLUNA
Mizoram BJP chief

Mizoram BJP chief John V. Hluna on Tuesday threatened to dissolve the party's State unit if the national leadership goes ahead with the passage of the contentious Citizenship (Amendment) Bill, "harming the interests of Northeast people".

He stressed that people of Mizoram and their safety were of "primary importance".

"The BJP State unit was formed to safeguard the interests of the people of Mizoram. If the central leadership decides to legislate the proposed amendment, the State unit would have no option but to dissolve itself," Mr. Hluna told reporters here.

He said he had approached Prime Minister Na-

rendra Modi, Union Home Minister Rajnath Singh and other national leaders over the controversial Bill and appealed to the party's central leadership to revoke it.

Keep Northeast out'

He added that as an alternative, the State BJP unit also requested the national leaders that the Bill, if not revoked, should at least keep the Northeastern States out of its purview.

"We would be left with no choice but to dissolve the BJP State unit if our appeals are not taken into considera-

tion," Mr. Hluna said. Protests against the Bill have rocked the entire Northeast, including the Mizo National Front-ruled Mizoram.

Mass prayers

Meanwhile, an umbrella organisation of major churches has urged its members to organise mass prayers next week so that the controversial Citizenship (Amendment) Bill is defeated in Parliament.

In a statement on Tues-

day, the Mizoram Kohrhan Hruaitute Committee made the appeal to its 16 constituent churches to offer mass prayer during the night service on February 16 so that the Bill is not introduced in the Raja Sabha or, even if taken up, is not passed.

Maoists torch vehicles, machines in Odisha

Attack on road construction camp

STAFF REPORTER
BERHAMPUR

A group of Maoists set fire at a campsite of a road construction firm near Desughati on Belghar-Jhiripani road under Belghar police station limits in Odisha's Kandhamal district on Monday night. No one was injured in the incident.

According to sources, a group of 10 to 12 armed rebels reached the campsite on the Belghar-Jhiripani road late night on Monday. They threatened the workers at the spot not to intervene and torched the vehicles and machinery.

Operation intensified

Following the incident, anti-Maoist operation by the security forces has been stepped up in the area.

ing constructed in remote areas of Odisha were not meant to benefit the tribals, but to loot the natural resources.

He reiterated the demand of a fresh quota at a community meeting held in Ajmer on Tuesday.

"We want reservation. The Congress in its poll manifesto promised the same and now we are asking it to fulfil its promise which the government made in an official document, Mr. Bainsla

Assam district shuts down after arrests

Trio extorted in name of anti-Bill stir'

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
GUWAHATI

A district in eastern Assam shut down for 12 hours on Tuesday to protest against the arrest of three self-styled nationalist leaders for allegedly extorting money from a "non-local" trader in the name of agitation against Citizenship Bill.

The police in Sivasagar district had on Monday arrested Srinikhol Chaliba and Situ Baruah of an organisation called Bir Lachit Sena, Asom and Yunus Tamuli of All Assam Minority Students' Union for demanding "donation" from a Hindi-speaking trader.

The trio also allegedly led a group that attacked the trader's shop and forced him to apologise on video that was uploaded on social media.

"The shutdown was against a conspiracy by the

bahiragata (outsider) trading community and the local administration and to demand release of the three leaders," a protester said.

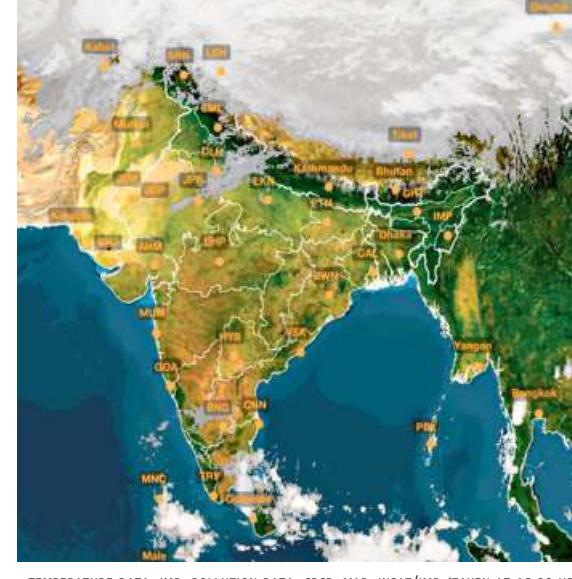
Shutdown criticised

The incident and the shutdown attracted criticism from across the State for undermining the anti-Citizenship Bill protests. "First demand donation, when confronted attack the shops, then drag owner to police thana, film forceful apology in release it in social media. When police crack, you call for Sibsagar (sic) bandh. These r lumpen, thugs, hooligans in d name of 'Jatiya Sangathan' (race-based organisations)," a tweet by television personality Mrinal Talukdar said.

"Ultimately chanda e laage (it all boils down to donation)," said another tweet by LuitTweets.

WEATHER WATCH

RAINFALL, TEMPERATURE & AIR QUALITY IN SELECT METROS YESTERDAY



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

Forecast for Wednesday: Heavy rain/snow like at isolated places over Jammu & Kashmir and Himachal Pradesh. Thunderstorm accompanied with hailstorm likely at isolated places over Jammu & Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Punjab, Haryana, Chandigarh, Delhi, north Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh

CITY RAIN MAX MIN CITY RAIN MAX MIN

CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN	CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN
Agartala	29.5	10.0	Kozhikode	34.0	24.2
Ahmedabad	32.1	15.9	Kurnool	34.1	18.2
Aizawl	29.6	9.6	Lucknow	22.8	9.6
Allahabad	27.3	10.5	Madurai	32.3	24.7
Bengaluru	30.0	18.7	Mangaluru	34.9	22.0
Bhopal	31.0	15.4	Mumbai	33.3	19.6
Bhubaneswar	31.6	13.8	Mysuru	31.6	19.8
Chandigarh	23.4	10.7	New Delhi	25.0	9.0
Chennai	30.2	24.5	Patna	24.8	8.5
Coimbatore	32.9	23.3	Port Blair	30.8	22.8
Dehradun	23.4	9.5	Puducherry	31.0	21.9
Gangtok	16.0	8.6	Pune	32.6	13.4
Goa	34.3	21.2	Raipur	31.0	15.7
Guwahati	28.0	12.0	Ranchi	28.0	11.7
Hubballi	32.0	19.0	Shillong	17.4	6.6
Hyderabad	30.9	16.9	Shimla	13.6	5.8
Imphal	25.2	4.0	Srinagar	10.1	0.2
Jaipur	—	—	Trivandrum	33.4	26.4
Kochi	31.6	25.6	Tiruchi	32.4	24.0
Kohima	19.2	6.2	Vijayawada	31.1	20.2
Kolkata	27.6	14.6	Visakhapatnam	30.7	20.9

(Rainfall data in mm; temperature in Celsius)

Pollutants in the air you are breathing Yesterday

CITIES	SO ₂	NO _x	CO	PM _{2.5}	PM ₁₀	CODE
Ahmedabad	81	138	27	283	—
Bengaluru	4	.54	83	75
Chennai	—	13	49	120	—
Delhi	45	162	90	433	435	—
Hyderabad	2.9	.98	35	150	120
Kolkata	25	101	31	365	294	—
Lucknow	10	51	80	365	—	—
Mumbai	25	—	82	113	166	—
Pune	45	22	59	156	125	—
Visakhapatnam	11	75	32	220	201	—

Air Quality Code: ■ Poor ■ Moderate ■ Good (Readings indicate average AQI) In observation made at 4.00 p.m., Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh recorded an overall air quality index (AQI) score of 429 indicating an unhealthy level of pollution. In contrast, Chikkaballapur, Karnataka recorded a healthy AQI score of 56.

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

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

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

Bainsla threatens to revive stir

For 5% quota for Gujjars and other communities

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
JAIPUR

Gujjar leader Kirori Singh Bainsla. • said.

Mr. Bainsla said he had earlier given a 20-day deadline ending on February 8 to the government.

The Gujjar leader said a meeting would be held at Malaria Dungar in Sawai Madhopur district where he

would announce the launch of the agitation if the government fails to fulfil the demand.

Highway blockade

He said highways and roads would be blocked as part of the agitation.

Mr. Bainsla has been demanding reservation for Gujjars, Raika-Barbi, Gadia Luhar, Banjara and Gadaria communities in State jobs and admission in educational institutions.

They are presently getting 1% reservation under the legal limit of 50% under the most backward category in addition to the reservation for Other Backward Classes.

THE HINDU

LET US KNOW YOU BETTER

Your feedback is valuable to us. Please scan the QR code or visit www.thehindu.com/feedback

You may call at toll free 1800 3000 1878 or write to us at customercare@thehindu.co.in



JHARKHAND URBAN INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT COMPANY LIMITED
(Govt. of Jharkhand Undertaking)
3rd FLOOR, PRAGATI SADAN, KUTCHERY ROAD,
RANCHI-834001, JHARKHAND.
CIN: U45200JH2013SC001752, e-mail id: juidcolimited@gmail.com

NIT No.: JUIDCO / PMAY / Vertical -III/2018/196

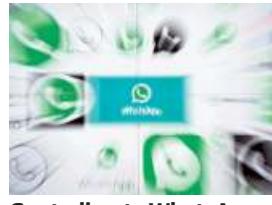
Tender ID:- 2018_UDD_35371_1

PR No: 199726

CORRIDGEON - 01

All bidders are hereby informed that CORRIDGEON 01 is made for tender of NIT Ref. No. JUIDCO / PMAY / Vertical -III/2018/196, PR No.- 199726 and Tender ID: 2018_UDD_35371_1 for the work of "Construction (including structural design) of 2020 Dwelling units in 101 Number of G+3 blocks at Kasid

IN BRIEF



Govt. directs WhatsApp to check fake news

NEW DELHI
The Centre has directed the messaging platform WhatsApp to come out with effective solutions that can bring in accountability and facilitate enforcement of law against dissemination of wrong information and fake news. PTI

Quakes jolt Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh

Srinagar/Shimla
A moderate intensity earthquake of magnitude 5.6 shook Kashmir on Tuesday. Also, two low-intensity quakes shook Himachal Pradesh's Chamba and Mandi districts the same day. PTI

Alert after Myanmar raid on extremist bases

GUWAHATI
Security forces have stepped up vigil along the 1,643 km border with Myanmar following a crackdown by its Army on extremist groups operating from its soil. The attention is mostly along the Arunachal Pradesh and Nagaland border.

No objection to banks selling Mallya's assets: ED

Mumbai
A day after United Kingdom's home secretary gave the go ahead to extraditing former liquor baron Dr Vijay Mallya to India, the Enforcement Directorate told a special PMLA court that it had no objection to the consortium of banks selling his assets.

'Ayushman Bharat world's largest health scheme'

Union Minister launches PM-JAY app

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

NEW DELHI
"Ayushman Bharat has stabilised as the largest health scheme in the world, benefiting over 10 lakh patients since its launch, and created an atmosphere of positivity," said Union Minister for Health and Family Welfare J. P. Nadda at the inauguration of the newly-constituted National Health Authority (NHA).

The minister, who also launched the Ayushman Bharat (PM-JAY) mobile app through a live demo, said that the States which had not opted for Ayushman Bharat were denying the poor the opportunity to be-

The Mumbai-Ahmedabad bullet train project is scheduled to be completed in three years

The project, estimated at ₹1.08 lakh crore out of which 80% is loan from Japan, is facing protests over land acquisition in Gujarat and Maharashtra

Most of the corridor will be elevated, except for a 21 km tunnel (7 km under sea) between Thane and Virar

A bullet that tears into forest land

The length across Maharashtra will be 156 km

Total length 508 km
Starts at Bandra Kurla Complex, Mumbai and terminates at Sabarmati in Gujarat

The length across Gujarat will be 348 km
The length across Dhadri & Nagar Haveli will be 4 km

The Land requirement for the project is 1,400 ha, of which 353 ha is in Maharashtra and the rest in Gujarat

In Maharashtra, it passes through 3 districts while in Gujarat, it is 8 districts

It involves diverting 32.7 ha of forestland and 77.3 ha of non-forestland from the Sanjay Gandhi National Park (in pic)

0.69 ha of forestland and 4.75 ha of non-forest land from Tungareshwar Wildlife Sanctuary will also be needed

It involves diverting 32.7 ha of forestland and 77.3 ha of non-forestland from the Sanjay Gandhi National Park (in pic)

0.69 ha of forestland and 4.75 ha of non-forest land from Tungareshwar Wildlife Sanctuary will also be needed

JACOB KOSHY
NEW DELHI

The Mumbai-Ahmedabad high speed bullet train corridor project was accorded wildlife clearance on January 10, according to records of the meeting of the committee chaired by Union Environment Minister Harsh Vardhan.

The Thane Creek Flamingo (TCF) Wildlife Sanctuary, which the project will eat into, came into being on August 2015 and the 1,690-hectare bird haven – 896 hectares of mangrove forests and 794 hectares of a water-body – is on the western bank of the creek. Apart from the creek, the project also involves diverting forestland and non-forestland from the Sanjay Gandhi National Park, which houses leopards and transfer of 0.6902 ha of forestland and 4.7567 ha of non-forest land from the Tungareshwar Wildlife Sanctuary.

The project also involves diversion of 3.2 ha of forest land from the Thane Creek Flamingo Wildlife Sanctuary and 97.5 ha of land from the outside of the boundary of protected area

The 1,690-ha flamingo haven – 896 ha of mangrove forests and 794 ha of a waterbody – is on the western bank of the creek, between the Airoli and the Vashi bridges connecting Mumbai and Navi Mumbai

It involves diverting 32.7 ha of forestland and 77.3 ha of non-forestland from the Sanjay Gandhi National Park (in pic)

0.69 ha of forestland and 4.75 ha of non-forest land from Tungareshwar Wildlife Sanctuary will also be needed

While according to clearance, the National Board of Wildlife – the apex body tasked with according permissions to allow forest land to be diverted for industrial development – has laid pre-conditions for the bullet train project. These include paying ₹10 crore (2% of 500 crore – the component of the project in Mumbai) for habitat improvement of the sanctuary, barricading the work site to ensure that no debris fall outside the project area and ...providing site and funds for penal plantation of at least 5 times the number of mangrove plants anticipated to be lost in this project."

Largely funded by a soft loan by Japan, the ₹1 trillion Mumbai-Ahmedabad bullet train project has a track-length of 508 km, and will originate at the Bandra Kurla Complex, Mumbai and terminate at the Sabarmati, in Gujarat.

The project is scheduled to be completed by 2022
It will have 12 stations

WITH INPUTS FROM MAHESH LANGA

Cessna aircraft on a training flight crashes into field in Pune

Pilot suffers minor fracture; DGCA to probe incident

ADITYA ANAND
MUMBAI

A Cessna 172 aircraft on a training flight crashed in an agricultural field at Indapur in Pune district of Maharashtra on Tuesday.

The four-seater single-engine aircraft was being flown by Siddharth Titus, 31.

According to officials of the district Collectorate, he suffered a fracture on his right hand and was taken to a nearby hospital.

Mr. Titus, a native of Kerala, grew up in Abu Dhabi.

The aircraft, which was on a "solo, cross country flight," is owned by Mumbai-



The wreckage of the 4-seater aircraft. ■ SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

based Carver Aviation, according to Directorate General of Civil Aviation records.

DGCA officials said an officer would visit Baramati to

probe the incident. Initial reports said the aircraft came nose down in an open area and ended up close to a road.

Camel finds home in Assam after long legal battle

RAHUL KARMAKAR
GUWAHATI

A camel rescued from smugglers on the Bangladesh border has found a home in eastern Assam's Sivasagar after a six-month legal battle for ownership between the State police and the authorities of the Assam

State Zoo. The camel, an adult male, left the zoo in Guwahati in a truck on Monday morning for an "animal home" in eastern Assam's Sivasagar district about 350 km away.

His companion was Samiran Hatimuria, who runs the home called Aranyam.

"The camel is a welcome addition to my family, whose members include emus, turkeys, guinea pigs, horses, 12 types of peafowls, five varieties of pigeons, and other animals. I hope the camel adapts to our 12-bigha home," Mr. Hatimuria, 32, told *The Hindu*

after reaching his village Taglungaon, about 3 km from Silvashgar town.

The police in western Assam's Goalpara district had in mid-2018 rescued the camel while the animal was allegedly being transported for smuggling into Bangladesh.

ADMISSION OPEN FOR 35TH BATCH PGDP 2019-2021
TWO - YEAR FULL TIME
POST GRADUATE DIPLOMA IN PACKAGING

Eligibility: Fresh Graduate in Engineering / Technology or Science (12th + 3 years degree - entire 5 years in science only), with Physics, Chemistry, Mathematics, Microbiology or Bio-Chemistry as the main subject or one of them as second subject in the 3 Years Degree or Agriculture / Pharma / Food Science / Polymer Science Degree of a AICTE / recognised University with minimum second class and maximum age 30 years as on 31/05/2019, age relaxation 3 years for OBC and 5 years for SC / ST.

Students awaiting the result may also apply.

Admission: Through Entrance Examination at Mumbai, Ahmedabad, Chennai, Hyderabad, Kolkata and Delhi. Application Forms available at all the centres of IIP

Last date for receiving filled application forms: 7th June, 2019

Entrance Exam : On 13th June, 2019

Hostel Facility: Separate Hostel accommodation for Boys and Girls is available at Mumbai only.

Job Prospects: Excellent, in Food, Pharma, Polymer including MNCS and other Companies in India and Overseas. Over 5,000 Alumni are working in Industries in India and Abroad.

Application form along with Prospectus can be obtained from any IIP Centre/ Website of Indian Institute of Packaging by paying Rs. 500/- only by cash or DD in favour of "Indian Institute of Packaging" payable respective Centres of IIP.

Candidates can visit IIP website and submit application form through online www.iip-in.com

Further details, please contact: HEAD OFFICE & IIP CENTRES

IIP CENTRES : NEW DELHI: Plot No. 21, Functional Industrial Estate, Patparganj, Opp. Patparganj Bus Stop, Delhi-110092. Tel : 011-22166703 - 05. Email : iipdelhi@iip-in.com. **KOLKATA:** Block CP, Sector V Salt Lake, Bidhan Nagar, Kolkata-700 091. Tel : 033 - 23670763, 23676016. Email : iipkolkata@iip-in.com. **HYDERABAD:** Lux-3, Industrial Centre, Sanath Nagar, Hyderabad - 500 018. Tel : 040 - 23814231. Email : iiphyd@iip-in.com. **CHENNAI:** Plot No. 169, Industrial Estate, Perungudi, Chennai - 600 096. Tel : 044-24961077 / 24961560. Email : iipchennai@iip-in.com. **AHMEDABAD:** 1st Floor, CFC Building, Apparel Park, GIDC, Khokhra, Ahmedabad 380021. Tel : +91-79-22930200 Email : iipahmedabad@iip-in.com.

HEAD OFFICE:

E-2, Road No. 8, MIDC Area, Andheri (E), Mumbai - 400 093. INDIA

Tel: 91-22-2821 9803 / 6751 / 9469, 28391506, 28239623, 2825 4631

Extn. 310, 311 & 305 Fax: 91-22- 28328178 / 2837 5302, Mob. 7045602461

Email: tneiip1@iip-in.com, onlinelpd@iip-in.com, rneiip@iip-in.com, Web: www.iip-in.com

AWARD OF DBT-RESEARCH ASSOCIATESHIP IN BIOTECHNOLOGY & LIFE SCIENCES FOR CANDIDATES OF NORTH - EAST REGION

Applications are invited from Indian Nationals of North-East Region for the award of "DBT-Research Associateship" for pursuing research in frontier areas of Biotechnology and Life Sciences. The Associateship is tenable in Research Institutions/Universities including non-profit R&D Institutions within India. The Associateships are awarded under a program sponsored by the Department of Biotechnology, Ministry of Science & Technology, Govt. of India.

A hard copy of the Application with necessary documents should be Speed-posted to: The National Program Coordinator, DBT-Research Associateship Program, Department of Molecular Reproduction, Development & Genetics, New Biological Sciences Building, Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore-560012

Write "Application for DBT-RA Fellowship (North-East)" on the envelope. Detailed information and relevant application format may be obtained from: <http://www.mrdg.iisc.ernet.in/>. The last date for receiving the completed application at Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore, is March 25, 2019.

NO.A-12026/8/2017-Estt. IV

Government of India

Ministry of Water Resources,

River Development & Ganga Rejuvenation

Filling up of one post of Member (Civil) (Group 'A' Non-Ministerial Engineering) in Pay Matrix Level-14 (Rs. 144200-218200) at Narmada Control Authority, Indore (M.P.) on deputation (including short-term contract) basis-regarding Narmada Control Authority (NCA) is a Body Corporate set up by the Central Government in exercise of the powers conferred by Section 6A of the Inter-State Water Disputes Act, 1956, for the purpose of securing compliance with the implementation of the decision and direction of the Narmada Water Disputes Tribunal. The Narmada Control Authority has its headquarter at Indore, Madhya Pradesh.

2. Applications are invited from eligible and suitable officers for filling up one post of Member (Civil) in Narmada Control Authority in the Pay Matrix Level-14 (Rs. 144200-218200) on deputation (including short-term contract) basis. Details of the post, eligibility conditions etc. is given in Annexure-II. The pay of the officer selected for appointment on deputation basis will be regulated in terms of DoP&T's O.M. No. 6/8/2009-Estt.(PayII) dated 17.06.2010.

3. Applications of only such officers/candidates will be considered as are routed through proper channel and are accompanied with (i) bio data (in triplicate) as in the proforma given in Annexure-II (ii) Attested photocopies of ACRs/APARs for the last five years (iii) Vigilance Clearance/ Integrity Certificate and (iv) statement giving details of major or minor penalties imposed on the officer, if any, during the last 10 years.

4. It is, therefore, requested that the applications of suitable and eligible officers and who can be spared immediately in the event of selection may be sent through proper channel to:- The Under Secretary (Estt.IV), Ministry of Water Resources, River Development & Ganga Rejuvenation, Shram Shakti Bhawan, Rafi Marg, New Delhi-110001 within a period of 60 days from the date of issue/publishing of this Advertisement in the Employment News.

5. Advance copies of applications or received after the prescribed period or not accompanied with the requisite information/documents are liable to be rejected.

(Arun Kumar)

Under Secretary to the Govt. of India

TRANSMISSION CORPORATION OF ANDHRA PRADESH LIMITED NOTIFICATION

RECRUITMENT FOR THE POST OF AEE (Electrical)
Applications are invited On-line through APTransco Website www.aptransco.gov.in and <http://aptransco.cgg.gov.in> from eligible candidates for filling up the posts of Assistant Executive Engineer (Electrical) (AE Redesignated as AEE) on regular basis in APTRANSco. Detailed notification with break-up of vacancies, Scale of Pay, Age, Community, Educational Qualifications, selection criteria and other instructions along with syllabus for the written examination may be viewed shortly at APTransco website (www.aptransco.gov.in).

Place: Vijayawada Date: 05.02.2019 R.O. No. 74/18 Sd/- CHIEF GENERAL MANAGER (HRD & Plg.)

GOVT FLYING TRAINING SCHOOL

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR, Govt.Flying Training School, Jakkur Aerodrome, Bangalore-560064
No: FTS/18/ADM/2018-19 Date: 31-01-2019

APPLICATION FOR THE POST OF CHIEF FLYING INSTRUCTOR.

Govt. Flying Training School invites applications for the following post on contract basis.

Applicants must submit their resume by e-mail or by post to the following address, Office of The Director, Govt. Flying Training School, Jakkur Aerodrome, Yelahanka Post, Bangalore-64. Ph No.: 080-23323251 email: gfts.kar@gmail.com Period: Two years.

Sd/- Director, Govt. Flying Training School, Jakkur, Bangalore.

AWARD OF DBT-RESEARCH ASSOCIATESHIP IN BIOTECHNOLOGY & LIFE SCIENCES

Applications are invited from Indian Nationals for the award of "DBT-Research Associateship" for pursuing research in frontier areas of Biotechnology and Life Sciences. The Associateship is tenable in Premier Research Institutions/Universities including non-profit R&D Institutions within India. The Associateships are awarded under a program sponsored by the Department of Biotechnology, Ministry of Science & Technology, Govt. of India.

A hard copy of the Application with necessary documents should be Speed-posted to: The National Program Coordinator, DBT-Research Associateship Program, Department of Molecular Reproduction, Development & Genetics, New Biological Sciences Building, Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore-560012

Write "Application for DBT



Unifying episode

The Supreme Court has defused the situation, but concerns remain over stand-off in Kolkata

In its ostensibly even-handed intervention in the stand-off between the Central and West Bengal governments over the manner of investigation of the Saradha Chit Fund case, the Supreme Court has de-escalated political tensions, at least for now. The decision allowed both sides in the face-off to claim "moral victory" – even if it was West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee who was forced to climb down from the aggressive posture she took in denying the Central Bureau of Investigation room to question Kolkata Police Commissioner Rajeev Kumar. However, while ordering him to cooperate with the CBI in "neutral" Shillong, the Court restrained the CBI from taking any coercive action against Mr. Kumar. The Police Commissioner and his Special Investigation Team investigating the chit fund case had been served a number of notices to appear before the CBI before it sent a team to his house in Kolkata. While Ms. Banerjee may have reason to believe that the timing of the CBI's operation was politically motivated, her government's response – manhandling and detaining the CBI officials – was shocking and inexcusable. In the polarised political atmosphere, her belligerence unexpectedly secured the backing of a large number of Opposition parties, and even had the Congress rally around her during an impromptu sit-in protest. However, in attempting to obstruct the CBI action in a court-ordered investigation, Ms. Banerjee once again demonstrated that she is prone to taking arguments over administrative procedures to the streets. A decade ago, she burnished her credentials as the Opposition leader who would dethrone the Left Front combine in West Bengal with her agitation over the Singur land acquisition. But her attempt now to bring the State, where she heads the government, to a grinding halt speaks poorly of her political maturity. Ms. Banerjee is free to read political motives into the actions of a Central agency – but she must conduct that fight politically and by heeding her responsibilities as a Chief Minister. To hold a dharna in aid of an officer who is required for questioning does her no credit.

There are bound to be questions whether this matter should have been escalated to such an unpleasant level. The CBI says there was no proper response to the earlier summonses it sent to the Police Commissioner, and alleges that he could have destroyed evidence that was initially gathered by the Special Investigation Team that he had supervised in the initial stage of the probe. But it is doubtful whether descending on a senior officer's residence on a Sunday evening with a large team of officers was the right course of action for the CBI, as it was liable to be interpreted as a high-handed attempt to browbeat and embarrass the State government. The only way the CBI can escape this impression is by showing that it was justified in demanding the questioning of Mr. Kumar and establishing proof of its suspicions about his role in covering up the scam.

Timely review

The very idea of an 'angel tax' on start-ups must be reconsidered

Start-ups troubled by the so-called angel tax may soon receive some concession from the government. On Monday, the Centre set up a five-member working committee to look into revising the norms of the angel tax imposed on start-ups. The tax, which was first introduced in 2012 to curb money-laundering through the sale of shares of private unlisted companies at bloated prices, has caused a lot of anguish among start-up investors in the country. Start-up owners have complained that income tax officials have asked many start-ups to cough up money when they try to attract capital into their entities by issuing new shares. For its part, the IT department fears that start-ups may be used as convenient tools to launder illegally acquired money, so a tax on investments beyond a certain threshold is necessary to deter such shady operations. But while the intent of such an angel tax may be justifiable, the arbitrary nature of it means the cost of unintended consequences could be larger than the supposed benefits. In trying to curb money-laundering, Section 56(2)(vi) of the Indian Income Tax Act, 1961 gives income tax officials a free hand to harass even genuine start-ups looking to raise investments for their growth. Under the Act, the IT department is free to arbitrarily decide the fair value of a company's share and tax start-ups if the price at which their new shares are sold to investors is higher than the fair value of these shares. The broad-brush tax on all investments means an unnecessary cost is imposed on the wider start-up community simply because of the lack of better means at the government's disposal to tackle black money.

The committee set up by the government will, among other things, consider raising the threshold beyond which new investments into start-ups will be taxed. It is expected that start-ups with aggregate paid-up share capital and share premium of less than ₹25 crore, against the previous threshold of only ₹10 crore, will not be taxed while attracting new investment. This would definitely make life easier to a certain extent for angel investors and start-ups. But it will not address the real problem with the angel tax, which has to do with the unbridled power that it vests in the hands of the income tax authorities. Investors, foreign or domestic, may become wary of investing in new ideas when they are taxed while risking money on untested ventures. So the government should look to withdraw the angel tax and focus instead on building the capability to better identify and rein in illegal wealth. Otherwise it risks killing the nascent start-up ecosystem in the country.

Cracks in the framework

With the systematic weakening of institutions, the government risks pushing all resistance to the streets



NEERA CHANDHOKE

The Government of India has reportedly suppressed its own data on current employment, or rather job loss, in the country. It has, thereby, compromised the autonomy and the standing of the National Statistical Commission. This is the latest instalment in the rather sordid story of institutional decay in India, overseen by the leaders of the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP). This is not to suggest that previous governments did not undermine institutions. The internal Emergency imposed on the country from 1975 to 1977 initiated the process. The government tried to tame bureaucrats as well as the highest court in the land. Postings and appointments were manipulated to suit the ruling dispensation. The BJP government has, however, earned the dubious distinction of sabotaging the autonomy of several political institutions in rapid succession.

Necessary checks

Institutional decay occasions worry because it affects ordinary citizens in disastrous ways. All governments, even those which have been democratically elected, betray an inexorable will to power. Expectedly, expansion of government power violates constitutional rights to freedom, equality and justice. The only way citizens can be protected against any arbitrary and unlawful exercise of power is by limiting the power of government. Liberal democrats, always sceptical of state power, have tried to contain dramatic surges of pow-

er by charting out of constitutions and institutional design. Institutions, as the embodiment of formal and informal rules, assure citizens that the government exercises power according to some norms that enable as well as regulate state capacity.

This makes for good political sense when we remember that most human activity is structured by systems of rules – take the intricate and rule-bound game of chess or cricket. Relationships, households, the economy, society, the games we play and do not play take place and develop within the framework of rules. Human beings are social, but we cannot be social unless we know what is expected of us, and what we should do or not do. Without rules that govern relationships – for example, the norm that friendship is based on trust – we will not know what is worthwhile and what is not, what is preferable and what should be avoided, and what is appropriate and what is expedient.

The Canadian political philosopher Charles Taylor has argued in his famous work, *Sources of the Self* (1989), that institutions embody 'strong evaluations'. We learn to discriminate between right and wrong, better and worse, and higher and lower. These evaluations are not judged subjectively by our own desires or impulses. Institutions, which stand independently of us, give us standards that allow us to evaluate. Following Taylor, we can rightly wonder why political power should be exercised, implemented and executed without rules. Assertions of political power adversely affect our interests and our projects. We should be in a position to judge when this power is exercised fairly or unfairly. Rules in a democracy assure us that justice is synonymous with fairness.



Moreover, rules make our worlds predictable. We know what the boundaries of the freedom of expression are, we know that if the police arrests us tomorrow, we have the right to appoint a lawyer and appeal to the judiciary. Without institutions and rules our life would be chancy, unpredictable and fickle. We would inhabit a space empty of certainties, expectations, aspirations and evaluations.

Rules, not whims

In a democracy, individuals are governed by institutions, and not by men. If we do not live in an institutional universe, we will be at the mercy of capricious individuals. Democrats would rather be administered by a system of rules we can scrutinise and evaluate. Of course, rules can be, and are, unfair. But at least we can struggle against rules. We do not have to commit murders to get the ruling dispensation out of power. We might have to carry out a thousand peaceful demonstrations, approach the courts, lobby our legislative representatives, engage in civil disobedience, or withhold our vote. In a world stamped by the decline of institutions and the exercise of arbitrary power, the only way to dislodge a government is through violence.

The present government has tampered with institutions by ap-

pointing its own people to positions of authority, and by using the Enforcement Directorate, Income Tax authorities, the Central Bureau of Investigation and the police as bulldozers to flatten out any site of opposition. In civil society, human rights organisations have been pulverised by blockage of funds, raids and arrests. The shameful way in which human rights activists have been incarcerated without a shred of evidence testifies to the subversion of the rule of law. The ultimate aim of government action is to dismantle institutions, and the delicate relationship of checks and balances among them. This bodes ill for democracy.

The development contravenes the spirit of the freedom struggle. As far back as the 1928 Motilal Nehru constitutional draft, the leadership of the national movement opted for constitutionalism to abridge unpredictable use of power, and grant basic rights to citizens. On November 4, 1948, B.R. Ambedkar, responding to criticism of the draft Constitution in the Constituent Assembly, clarified that the Constitution provided but a framework for future governments. But: "If things go wrong under the new Constitution, the reason will not be that we have a bad constitution. What we will have to say is that Man was vile." The Indian Constitution established major political institutions, Parliament, executive and the judiciary, laid out the relationship between them, provided for judicial review, and codified political and civil rights. The constitutional framework does not provide thick or substantive conceptions of how we shall think, and in what we shall believe. It provides us with a thin framework that guarantees constitutional morality, or respect for the Constitution as the basis of

political life. Today the ruling party wants to legislate a thick conception of the good. We are instructed to worship the nation, respect the cow, glorify the coercive arm of the state, and listen on bended knees to leaders. Frankly the discourse is reminiscent of the naïve, and often crude, nationalist scripts authored and acted out by the film star Manoj Kumar in the 1960s. We can avoid watching his films without fear of harassment, but we cannot defy the government without being abused and subjected to violence of the pen and tongue.

Upending the balance

The government arrests civil society activists who engage with policy, and vigilante groups attack individuals who dare transport cattle, legitimately, from one part of India to another. Immediately the sympathies of the police and magistrates, some sections of the media and public opinion swing towards the perpetrator, not the victim. The leaders of our ruling dispensation seem to have no respect for the rule of law, nor for the rules that regulate speech in public spaces.

Ultimately institutionalised power that is subject to regulation, and that can withstand the scrutiny of the political public, is meant to protect citizens. Unfortunately, in the India of today institutions are used to protect the ruling class, and its sins of omission and commission. The people who rule us should know that when the relationship between citizens and the state is governed not by institutions but by individuals, politics takes to the streets. And then a thousand revolts happen. We pay heavily for institutional decline.

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

A series of unfortunate missteps

Fixing the federal fallout of the Kerala flood relief funding row requires care



T.P. SREENIVASAN

The differences between the Kerala and Central governments over the denial of external assistance to rebuild the State after the devastating floods of August last year surfaced again last month, in the Kerala Governor's policy speech in the Assembly as well as the statements of a Kerala Minister at the Pravasi Bharatiya Divas in Varanasi. Governor Justice P. Sathasivam had said that the Kerala government had requested the Centre to enhance its borrowing limit to mobilise additional resources for rebuilding the flood-hit State. "We are still awaiting a favourable response from the Central government in this regard," he added. Minister K.T. Jaleel, who represented Kerala at the conclave, complained that he was not allowed to raise the issue there. The bitterness over the flood money still persists.

Competitive federalism, in the context of interaction with foreign countries, promoted by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, has proved to be a double-edged sword. Kerala Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan now stands accused of violating rules regarding the seeking of foreign assistance. He remains unclear on how to make up for the shortfall, of several crores. The Central government is unable to provide the funds while Kerala has been stopped in its tracks from

seeking resources from abroad, either from the Kerala diaspora or from friendly foreign governments.

The present situation is a result of a series of errors of judgment and misunderstandings on both sides. Mutual political suspicion and a lack of appreciation of the complexities of the international situation have brought about a confrontation. The Chief Minister may have even made diplomatic and tactical misjudgments.

Diplomatic trajectory

India had no qualms about receiving foreign assistance for disaster management till 2004. But when India's aspiration for permanent membership of the UN Security Council met with strong resistance, New Delhi hit upon the idea of forcing a vote in the General Assembly. The game plan was to secure a two-thirds majority and then attempt to embarrass the permanent members into supporting the expansion of the Security Council. The two false presumptions were that India would win the required number of votes and that the Security Council would waltz under pressure from the General Assembly. In fact, many Assembly members were opposed to the veto even for the existing permanent members and had no interest in creating more permanent members with veto. India thought that it could win over the other countries if it was seen to be helping them in emergencies rather than seeking such assistance for itself.

The tsunami of 2004 and the threat of piracy in the Indian Ocean provided India an opportunity to test its new posture. Everybody was grateful, but it made no difference to India's claim to permanent membership. There were other factors too which militated against India's claim. The Modi government decided, however, to lay down the rules regarding foreign assistance in order to bring some clarity to the situation.



The rules, which were framed in 2016, clarified that India would not solicit any assistance but would receive relief assistance, even as cash, from individuals, charitable institutions and foundations. If cash were to be offered bilaterally by foreign governments, the matter would be considered on a case-by-case basis. Even before the extent of the damage was fully known, I had urged the Central government in early August 2018 to make a suitable amendment to the rule as the damage in Kerala was beyond the capacity to handle it. Needless to say, nobody responded at that stage.

The UAE's offer

The saga of the offer by the United Arab Emirates (UAE) began well when the Prime Minister was informed by the UAE authorities that relief assistance was being put together as a special gesture, which

the Prime Minister reciprocated with a warm reply of gratitude. But the Kerala Chief Minister's announcement that the UAE would provide ₹700 crore, made on the same day as the Central government's announcement of a provision of ₹500 crore, opened a Pandora's box. It appeared as though the UAE was more generous than New Delhi was to Kerala and that the Central government was not empathetic to Kerala's plight because of political considerations. Moreover, the source of the information was supposed to have been an Indian businessman in the UAE. An embarrassed UAE government then asked its Ambassador in New Delhi to deny that there was any specific offer of ₹700 crore.

An immediate consequence was a reluctance by other governments to make any offer of bilateral assistance. No one could answer the question whether any offer from other governments would be accepted. When the Thai Ambassador in Delhi was stopped from being at a ceremony to hand over relief goods to an Indian official, the world was convinced that India would not accept resources. The issue was politicised as one between the Bharatiya Janata Party and the ruling CPI(M) in Kerala.

It was against this backdrop that Kerala put forward an unwise proposal to despatch its Ministers abroad to collect donations. This was unacceptable in the context of the policy that had crystallised after the floods in Kerala and the Central Government having refused permission for Ministers other than the Chief Minister to travel to countries. Apart from the

ignominy of soliciting donations, there was a clear likelihood of receiving very little by way of cash donations. The possibility of loans from the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank became distant as the Centre refused to raise the limits on loans from these global organisations that a State government could take. The emergence of the Sabarimala crisis further eroded the credibility of the State Government and much of the empathy over the flood damage was also lost.

The Prime Minister had always maintained that marshalling of resources is the responsibility of the Union government according to the Constitution. Now the only option before Kerala is to demand more funding from the Centre to make up the shortfall. Undoubtedly, the situation is a tragedy of errors caused by an inadequate familiarity with decision making and the complexity of international relations.

India is a federal state, but unitary in nature when it comes to national security and foreign policy. Individual States may have some advantages in dealing with some countries in their neighbourhood, but they will do well not to transgress the thin line when it comes to managing international relations. Now it will take longer for trust to be established to have competitive federalism work again.

T.P. Sreenivasan, a former diplomat, is Chairman, Academic Council and Director, NSS Academy of Civil Services. He is also Director General, Kerala International Centre, Thiruvananthapuram

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.

Stand-off in Kolkata

It is a moot question whether West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee can save the country and the Constitution by preventing a constitutionally established Central agency from doing its duty (Page 1, "Opposition leaders call on Mamata, back her protest", February 5). Ms. Banerjee has been elected by the people of West Bengal to govern the State and not to sit in dharna in the heart of Kolkata. If she thinks that her police chief, who is allegedly involved in a major scam, is above board, then she must fight it out not in the streets but in the

country's top court. The blank endorsement to her stir from political figures who themselves were/are associated with major scams would lend credence to the BJP's line that the political parties supporting Ms. Banerjee are an alliance of the corrupt. Ms. Banerjee must ask her police chief to face the investigation until her innocence is proved. KANGAYAM R. NARASIMHAN, Chennai

■ The timing of the CBI's action certainly leads to the perception that all this has been planned with the general election in view. The Central government's anti-

corruption stance is flawed as there seems to be no action being taken against those associated with the ruling party and who face allegations of corruption. In Tamil Nadu, the BJP is seen to be supporting a party perceived to be corrupt. If the Prime Minister wants to prove that he is serious about going after the corrupt, he must demonstrate that it is being done without any political bias. S. BALA, Coimbatore

A distressing cycle

It is disheartening to note the difficulties being faced by those left out of the draft National Register of Citizens

in trying to prove their citizenship (Editorial page, "A national register of exclusion", February 5). Although the exercise is an essential part of the commitment to the people of Assam, as a part of the Assam Accord, it merits a more humane approach. The account amply illustrates how the marginalised are left to fend for themselves amid bureaucratic inefficiencies and procedural complexities. It is imperative that there be course corrections; otherwise the exercise runs the risk of fuelling a parallel movement against the state by those being victimised now. And if this happens, it would only heighten unrest

in the already disturbed Northeast.

YOGESH AGGARWAL, New Delhi

Fighting cancer

One needs to express deep appreciation to cancer survivors, those who are bravely fighting the disease and also the medical fraternity. It is a combination of medicine, the fighting spirit and the never-say-die attitude which will aid them in recovery. It was Norman Cousins who said, "Drugs are not always necessary. Belief in recovery always is." The answer to cancer is: Never give up, fight back. Greater awareness and early interventions are much needed to tackle the disease (Chennai, "Media should improve public understanding of cancer: N. Ram", February 5).

T.S. KARTHIK, Chennai

MORE LETTERS ONLINE:
www.hindu.com/opinion/letters/

CORRECTIONS & CLARIFICATIONS:

"India rises to No. 2", said a Sports page (Feb. 5, 2019) heading. It was erroneous because India was already at No. 2 in the ODI ranking. To say that it rose to No. 2 is wrong. It would have been appropriate to say "India remains at No. 2."

The Readers' Editor's office can be contacted by Telephone: +91-44-28418297/28576300; E-mail: readerseditor@thehindu.co.in

THE WEDNESDAY INTERVIEW | RUCHIR SHARMA

'The 2019 election is going to be all about alliances'

The global investor on the coming general election, the anti-incumbency trend and why he thinks the Indian state is socialist

NISTULA HEBBAR

In his latest book, 'Democracy on the Road: A 25 Year Journey Through India', investor Ruchir Sharma has catalogued the 27 national and State elections that he has tracked over a quarter of a century in his personal capacity. Mr Sharma, who is the head of emerging markets and chief global strategist at Morgan Stanley Investment Management, discusses the 2019 general election, explains why India has the highest anti-incumbency rate among major democracies and why it can never be a China on economic reforms. Excerpts:

There is a thread running through your book about India's "deep distaste for incumbents". Do you mean Indians instinctively throw out governments, whatever their record?

■ The word anti-incumbency was coined in India. When I write for *The New York Times* or such publications, and I use the phrase, they don't know what I'm talking about because the phrase was coined here. That's because India has the highest rate of anti-incumbency among major democracies in the world. In the U.S. and the U.K., most incumbents tend to get re-elected. In the U.S., for example, two-thirds of Presidents and Governors who stand get re-elected; in India, two-thirds lose their elections. That's what the data say.

There are two or three reasons why this happens. The foremost is that the state in India is broken. Politicians want to do stuff and promise stuff, but the state is just broken and cannot deliver. It just falls through the cracks. For example, yesterday, I was in Bijnor [Uttar Pradesh], and before the District Magistrate's office, a big protest broke out by sugar cane farmers over the question of dues. The whole issue is that you can keep announcing things, like minimum support price, but the moment you take your payment slip

to the Food Corporation of India, they give you the run-around. The mechanism is so broken that your daily interaction with the government is very frustrating and possibly the only thing you can do is vote people out. Secondly, it doesn't take much to vote people out because of the fragmented polity. In most States in India, you can win most seats by securing 30% of the vote share, so then just a 3-4% vote swing is enough to change the fortunes of a government, or if the Opposition comes together, it can change things. These are factors that distinguish India from other countries.

There have been many instances of governments being voted back. How do you explain that?

■ Again, there are a couple of things. There was a period of time, between 2005 and 2010, when a lot of incumbents won elections in India. A couple of things happened in that period. One, the economy was booming and inflation was fairly low, and two, because the economy was booming there was a lot of welfare that could be done, as governments were able to spend on these programmes. This really helped those governments come back to power.

Having said that, one of the more insightful statements which I have repeated



twice in the book is by a Mangalore MLA, U.T. Khader, who said that winning elections in India is like fighting a battery of six tests with a minimum passing mark on each. You can't rely on just one factor – if you don't do enough welfarism, you will lose; you have to get the caste arithmetic and religious politics right; or some huge allegation of corruption hits you. In American politics, there is a far more obvious connection between economics and politics. That argument appears simplistic in the Indian context.

You say that India's national elections are a series of State elections. Can you explain?

■ That's what happened in 2004, in 2009, and, in fact, in most non-wave elections, unlike the 1984-85 Rajiv Gandhi wave and the mini wave, mainly in north India,

for Narendra Modi in 2014. In Delhi and Mumbai, we are preoccupied by questions like, "If Modi doesn't return in 2019, then who comes in his place?" But it doesn't work that way in the rest of India. We are a truly parliamentary system. One bit of data that I keep quoting is that in 2004, the gap between Atal Bihari Vajpayee's popularity and that of Sonia Gandhi's was much larger than the current one between Modi and Rahul Gandhi, and yet because she was able to stitch good alliances,

the Congress was able to win. Even this election, it's going to go State by State.

Coming to political personalities, you say that Bahujan Samaj Party chief Mayawati hasn't been able to accrue much influence outside Uttar Pradesh or grow beyond it.

■ It's amazing to me how no regional leader has been able to grow nationally, and with Mayawati, you would have thought with a large Dalit population across the country, she would have become a pan-Indian presence. But the fact remains that Dalits are not a monolithic bloc of votes. The one State where I remember people telling me that Mayawati could have a big influence was Maharashtra, and yet she is a complete non-entity there. Being a prime ministerial candidate is a different matter and

it's a two-hour-long meeting in which he spoke for an hour and 59 minutes. He didn't want to engage much despite the fact

more a negotiation based on how many seats she gets, but her case proves to me that India is truly a 'continent' of 29 States and it is almost impossible for a leader who is strong in one State to replicate it everywhere else.

A part of your interest in politics was also to see whether there would be a leader who could push economic reforms. In the book, you come to the conclusion that the Indian DNA is statist and socialist.

■ In this country, there is no constituency for privatisation today. Is there any scenario in which you think that any big push for privatisation will be launched after the 2019 polls? I don't think so.

There was some chance in 2002, there was some chance with Modi in 2014. To me that is the evidence – that what I said about statism stands.

The good thing in India is that the private sector is so vibrant because of some liberalisation in the past that it can carry the can, but that is also why India can never grow like China. In the early years of its development, China had no welfare state; it spent entirely on roads and infrastructure. The Indian polity will not allow that.

Coming to political personalities, you say that Bahujan Samaj Party chief Mayawati hasn't been able to accrue much influence outside Uttar Pradesh or grow beyond it.

■ It's amazing to me how no regional leader has been able to grow nationally, and with Mayawati, you would have thought with a large Dalit population across the country, she would have become a pan-Indian presence. But the fact remains that Dalits are not a monolithic bloc of votes. The one State where I remember people telling me that Mayawati could have a big influence was Maharashtra, and yet she is a complete non-entity there. Being a prime ministerial candidate is a different matter and

it's a two-hour-long meeting in which he spoke for an hour and 59 minutes. He didn't want to engage much despite the fact

You have described several tense meetings of your travel group with Prime Minister Modi and BJP president Amit Shah. Why is that?

■ They have a belief that the entire media is 'liberal' and out to get them. It's a different situation from, say, 15 years ago, when the word liberal was not used so pejoratively. They really believe that the media is out to get them and it colours that interaction.

But a lot of it also informs a narrative of Modi versus all, and if not Mr. Modi, then anarchy. How well do you think that will work in 2019?

■ Rajiv Gandhi tried something similar in 1989 and that didn't work so well. It may work with some sections of the people, especially the middle class, but at the broader level people vote for the party they want to and not see what's going to happen after the election.

In your view, what will be the overarching issue informing the 2019 election? Will it be jobs, rural distress, Ram Mandir, or Mr. Modi's own version of Hindutva?

■ This election is going to be all about alliances. Narendra Modi's support base is still strong, there could be a little in and out on that, and he could still get 31% of the vote share, but the seats this time could be way less than the 9 to 1 ratio, which was the highest vote-to-seat conversion ratio in the entire electoral history of India.

In how many States the Opposition will be able to put up good alliances will determine the course of this election.

that he had just entered politics and it was a roomful of fairly experienced political watchers. The unfavourable impression was of being spoken down to. Over the years we found that he was much more interested in engaging and listening. We don't know how much of that is change and how much is based on feedback. There is, of course, no doubt that he has improved a lot as a campaigner from 2007.

What about Priyanka Gandhi Vadra and her formal entry into the Congress? Will she be able to make a critical difference to the Congress's fortunes?

■ I think the days are gone when you could just land and your charisma would work. That India is not there anymore. You also know how

The idea of building the Congress based on just Priyanka Gandhi Vadra's charisma... that concept no longer exists.

deeply entrenched caste equations in Uttar Pradesh are. To disturb them at this stage will be a very difficult thing to do. If I were to be asked on how she can make the biggest difference, it would be to get her to focus on one thing. Let's say she manages to be the combined Opposition candidate from Varanasi against Modi. Then you can focus that energy on one thing, but the idea of building the Congress so that it's a serious contender by April 2019 based on just charisma... that concept no longer exists.

Through your many years of covering polls, you have met several political leaders – right from the time they were introduced to politics to when they were more mature in politics. What are the changes in Rahul Gandhi from when you met him in 2007 to now?

■ In 2007, it was a two-hour-long meeting in which he spoke for an hour and 59 minutes. He didn't want to engage much despite the fact

that he had just entered politics and it was a roomful of fairly experienced political watchers. The unfavourable impression was of being spoken down to. Over the years we found that he was much more interested in engaging and listening. We don't know how much of that is change and how much is based on feedback. There is, of course, no doubt that he has improved a lot as a campaigner from 2007.

Israel rejects Nasser's plan

Israel last night [Feb. 4] flatly rejected the ideas of President Nasser for a solution of the West Asia conflict as "a plan for liquidating Israel in two stages." The first official reaction to President Nasser's interview with 'Newsweek' magazine this week came in a statement from the Israeli Foreign Minister, Mr Abba Eban, who said: "The solution put forward by Nasser is this – first, Israel is to withdraw to the previous armistice lines with the Egyptian troops and Air Force reoccupying Sinai. Then, with Egyptian support, the so-called 'resistance fighters' will move to liberate their homeland." Eban said the continued presence of Israel at Sharm el Sheikh, at the southern tip of Sinai, was necessary to ensure Israel free access to the sea. Mr. Eban said Israel would be to guarded against any further closure by President Nasser of the Straits of Tiran at the entrance of the Gulf of Aqaba which leads to the Israeli port of Eilat.

FIFTY YEARS AGO FEBRUARY 6, 1969

Israel rejects Nasser's plan

Israel last night [Feb. 4] flatly rejected the ideas of President Nasser for a solution of the West Asia conflict as "a plan for liquidating Israel in two stages." The first official reaction to President Nasser's interview with 'Newsweek' magazine this week came in a statement from the Israeli Foreign Minister, Mr Abba Eban, who said: "The solution put forward by Nasser is this – first, Israel is to withdraw to the previous armistice lines with the Egyptian troops and Air Force reoccupying Sinai. Then, with Egyptian support, the so-called 'resistance fighters' will move to liberate their homeland." Eban said the continued presence of Israel at Sharm el Sheikh, at the southern tip of Sinai, was necessary to ensure Israel free access to the sea. Mr. Eban said Israel would be to guarded against any further closure by President Nasser of the Straits of Tiran at the entrance of the Gulf of Aqaba which leads to the Israeli port of Eilat.

A HUNDRED YEARS AGO FEBRUARY 6, 1919

The Coercion Bills. The Country's Protest.

Reports have been received of a number of public meetings from all parts of the country protesting against the introduction of Rowlett Bills in the Imperial Legislative Council. [At the Imperial Council in New Delhi on February 5] - Notice of the following further amendments to the Rowlett Bills has been given in addition to the one already given by Mr. Patel. Mr. Surendra Nath Banerjee will move that in the motion for referring the Bill to a select committee for the words "on or before the 6th of March 1919", the words "within six weeks after the passing in Parliament of the Reform Bill to be introduced to give effect to the Montagu-Chelmsford report", be substituted. Mr. K.K. Chanda will move that the motion for referring the Bill to a select committee do stand over till the Simla Session of the Council. He will also move that the Select Committee do report to the Council during the Simla Session. [At the Bombay Congress Committee] - The Council of the Bombay Provincial Congress Committee have passed a resolution emphatically protesting against the introduction of the Criminal Law Amendment Bills which propose to give unheard of powers of most dangerous description involving unwarrantable and unnecessary interference with the people's fundamental rights.

CONCEPTUAL Napoleon complex

PSYCHOLOGY

Also known as the short man syndrome, this refers to the controversial idea that short people suffer from a sort of inferiority complex that causes them to compensate for their short stature through other means of aggressive behaviour. The Napoleon complex is named after French emperor Napoleon Bonaparte who, according to some, is believed to have adopted an attitude of dominance in order to compensate for his short physical stature.

MORE ON THE WEB

Watch: All you need to know about ISRO's GSAT-31

<http://bit.ly/GSAT31>



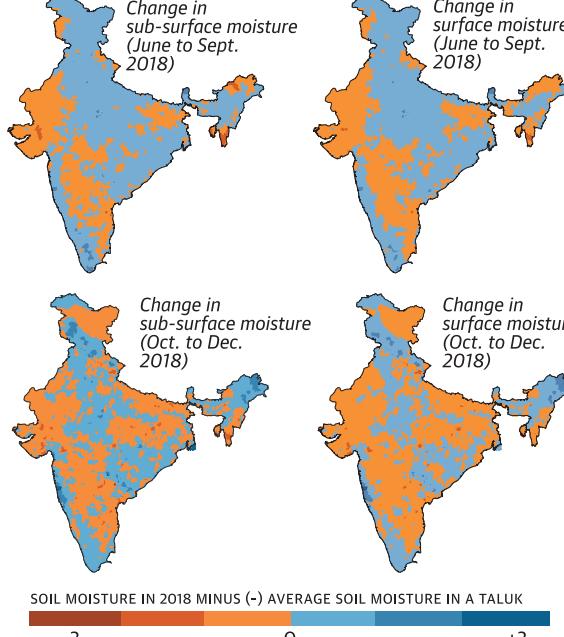
DATA POINT

Dry run

Severe shortage of rain in 2018* reduced the soil moisture in Gujarat, Maharashtra, Bihar, Andhra Pradesh, Rajasthan & Karnataka, leading to an agrarian drought. By Vignesh Radhakrishnan

On the surface of it

The maps depict the change in soil moisture in 2018 compared to the long period average (LPA) in 4,300 blocks across all districts in the country. Blocks in brown had lower moisture in 2018 than the average. The darker the brown, the higher the loss in moisture. Areas in blue had higher moisture in 2018 than the average. The lack of surface moisture hinders seed germination after planting and the lack of sub-surface moisture deters the growth of a crop



Quantifying the loss

| The higher the share of blocks with inferior soil moisture in a State, the more severe the farm distress. The table shows the % of blocks in each State which had lower soil moisture in 2018 compared to the LPA. This figure is given for States where the distress is significant. For example, in Gujarat, 81% of the blocks had lower sub-surface soil moisture than the LPA in 2018 in the June to September period. The corresponding figure for surface moisture was 88%.

State	June to Sept.		Oct. to Dec.	
	Sub-surface	Surface	Sub-surface	Surface
Mizoram	88	88	88	88
Tripura	81	94	81	69
Gujarat	81	88	75	78
Bihar	68	70	79	83
Arunachal	50	69	13	19
Maharashtra	48	59	57	64
A.P.	48	57	65	71
Rajasthan	44	45	56	67
Karnataka	43	45	56	66
Manipur	39	45	35	45
J & K	36	43	43	21
Jharkhand	35	45	71	74
Chhattisgarh	27	29	32	43
W.B.	27	30	54	65
M.P.	19	18	50	57

Most blocks in Gujarat, Bihar, Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, Rajasthan and Karnataka had inferior soil moisture levels during the Kharif season in 2018. This worsened in most of these States during the Rabi season. Most blocks in Jharkhand, West Bengal and M.P. had decent moisture during the Kharif season, but the situation worsened during the Rabi season

FROM PAGE ONE

'Question, don't arrest police commissioner'

Attorney-General K.K. Venugopal, for the CBI, informed the court that Mr. Kumar was the 'functional head' of the Special Investigation Team (SIT) formed by the West Bengal government which investigated the chit fund cases, including the multi-crore Saradha and Rose Valley scams, before they were transferred by the Supreme Court to the CBI on May 9, 2014.

Mr. Venugopal said powerful persons in politics and the police were linked to the chit fund scams.

'Doctored' documents

"We found that some of the documents handed over to the CBI by Mr. Kumar were doctored. They were not all there. We summoned him, but he did not come. We wrote to the DGP, there was no response. The cell phone of Mr. Sujit Sen (main accused in Saradha scam) was returned to him by the SIT. Call records were not complete. Discrepancies were seen in the number of calls. Information on who called and whom are missing... The call records were doctored," Mr. Venugopal submitted. Reacting to this,

Chief Justice Gogoi observed orally that "there should be no difficulty for the Kolkata Police Commissioner to co-operate."

"Yes, that is all we want," Mr. Venugopal said.

He said the CBI has also filed a contempt petition. The charges made in it are "far more serious."

Pushing for the court to take immediate cognisance, Mr. Venugopal described how the CBI officers were "pushed around, bundled into a bus and illegally confined in a police station for hours. The Joint Director's house was laid siege to."

"On whose orders were the police acting? Who is behind all this," the Attorney-General asked.

Solicitor-General Tushar Mehta said CBI officers have been harassed by the local police ever since they took over the probe. He said the Calcutta High Court had not given Mr. Kumar any protection. Senior advocate A.M. Singhvi countered that an attempt was under way to humiliate Mr. Kumar. The 'secret operation' happened on the last day in office of interim CBI Director, he alleged.

SC says MHA trying to 'destroy NRC process'

Asserting that the Central forces were also required to ensure overall security, Mr. Venugopal said, "We need to protect the borders also. The security of the country is involved. This is a real problem." He added that the government was prepared to file an affidavit to this effect.

"Is it too much to ask for the polls and the NRC work to go on simultaneously and peacefully?" Justice Gogoi responded. To which, Mr. Venugopal quipped, "Is it such a change to ask for two weeks?"

The Home Ministry, which had initially sought a three-week suspension of the NRC work from the last date of filing of nominations to the date of polling, had subsequently curtailed its

plea to two weeks. The Bench, however, remained unmoved.

"At this stage, we are not inclined to pass any orders," the court observed, signalling it stands firm by its earlier direction to ensure that the NRC work is completed by July 31.

The Bench directed that an "adequate number" of the State government officials - Assam State NRC Coordinator Prateek Hajela had indicated a number of 3,457 - be kept free for the NRC work. It also requested the Election Commission of India to examine the scope for exempting officers of the ranks of District Magistrates and Additional District Magistrates from any transfer likely to be made in view of the election.

Ms. Vadra was allotted a room next to her brother and party chief's room at the Congress headquarters where the staff was seen putting up the nameplate of newly appointed general secretaries ahead of a meeting of the party's top leadership on Thursday to review the 2019 poll preparedness.

Another meeting

While Mr. Scindia will formally take charge on Wednesday, it is not clear if Ms. Vadra would also do so. As *The Hindu* reported on Monday morning, she is scheduled to attend the meeting of all general secretaries and in-charges of various States to plan the strategy for the

Lok Sabha election due in April-May.

A trip to U.P. and an official presence on social media platforms are next on the cards but there was no official word on whether or not, the Gandhis would be visiting Kumbh at Prayagraj (erstwhile Allahabad).

On January 23, the Congress made a surprise an-

nouncement to formally induct Ms. Vadra into the party by splitting UP into two regions and giving her charge of the east.

The announcement was seen as a move to enthuse the Congress cadres in UP, where 80 seats are at stake, after the Bahujan Samaj Par-

ty and the Samajwadi Party left out the party in a pre-poll alliance.

Until now, Ms. Vadra's involvement with the party was limited to campaigning in Rae Bareli and Amethi Lok Sabha constituencies represented by her mother Sonia and Rahul.

Though she campaigned in the 2017 Assembly poll for the Congress-SP alliance, it didn't fare well as the BJP swept the election.

The Congress chief has also called a meeting of State chiefs and Congress Legislative Party (CLP) leaders on Saturday in the national capital to review preparedness.

Ahead of these meetings, Mr. Gandhi effected a series of organisational changes in State units by constituting coordination committees, manifesto, publicity and election management committees.

Among the States where these new committees were announced included Tamil Nadu, Puducherry, Himachal Pradesh, Gujarat, Manipur and Punjab.

Stressing on the need for cohesion between government, industry, the research and development (R&D) establishment and the academia, the minister said it was imperative for these entities to come together in order to "evolve Indian technologies for Indian requirements".

No Chinese encirclement, says V.K. Singh

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

NEW DELHI

Rejecting the idea of a Chinese encirclement of India under the so-called "String of pearls strategy", Minister of State for External Affairs Gen V.K. Singh (retd) called 2018 a landmark year in bilateral relationships with Prime Minister Narendra Modi deciding to hold the Wuhan summit without any agenda.

"If we are friendly with Kazakhstan, Russia, Japan, Laos, Vietnam, Myanmar and Tajikistan, does China call it 'string of pearls'? I don't think so. Each country creates its own relationships, for its own benefits. Some of them result in good influences, some of them may not result in good influences," Gen. Singh said on Tuesday speaking at the launch of a book *Sino-Indian Equation: Competition + Cooperation - Confrontation* authored by Brigadier (Dr.) Rajeev Bhutiani (retd).

"I don't think we are surrounded," he further stated, giving instances of the different nature of relationships India and China had with various countries.

On the Wuhan summit, Mr. Singh said the aim was simple, "to achieve a personal relationship, to achieve an understanding of what each one thinks, what are the red lines, what are not the red lines, what is it that we can push and what is it that we cannot push."

Yogi Adityanath at the rally in Purulia district of West Bengal. ■PTI

Accusing West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee of trying to save a "corrupt officer", Mr. Adityanath, who held a public rally in West Bengal's Purulia district, said when the Supreme Court had ordered a CBI investigation into the chit fund scam, the BJP government was not in power at the Centre.

Yogi Adityanath at the rally in Purulia district of West Bengal. ■PTI

Yogi Adityanath at the rally in Purulia district of West Bengal. ■PTI

Yogi Adityanath at the rally in Purulia district of West Bengal. ■PTI

Yogi Adityanath at the rally in Purulia district of West Bengal. ■PTI

Yogi Adityanath at the rally in Purulia district of West Bengal. ■PTI

Yogi Adityanath at the rally in Purulia district of West Bengal. ■PTI

Yogi Adityanath at the rally in Purulia district of West Bengal. ■PTI

Yogi Adityanath at the rally in Purulia district of West Bengal. ■PTI

Yogi Adityanath at the rally in Purulia district of West Bengal. ■PTI

Yogi Adityanath at the rally in Purulia district of West Bengal. ■PTI

Yogi Adityanath at the rally in Purulia district of West Bengal. ■PTI

Yogi Adityanath at the rally in Purulia district of West Bengal. ■PTI

Yogi Adityanath at the rally in Purulia district of West Bengal. ■PTI

Yogi Adityanath at the rally in Purulia district of West Bengal. ■PTI

Yogi Adityanath at the rally in Purulia district of West Bengal. ■PTI

Yogi Adityanath at the rally in Purulia district of West Bengal. ■PTI

Yogi Adityanath at the rally in Purulia district of West Bengal. ■PTI

Yogi Adityanath at the rally in Purulia district of West Bengal. ■PTI

Yogi Adityanath at the rally in Purulia district of West Bengal. ■PTI

Yogi Adityanath at the rally in Purulia district of West Bengal. ■PTI

Yogi Adityanath at the rally in Purulia district of West Bengal. ■PTI

Yogi Adityanath at the rally in Purulia district of West Bengal. ■PTI

Yogi Adityanath at the rally in Purulia district of West Bengal. ■PTI

Yogi Adityanath at the rally in Purulia district of West Bengal. ■PTI

Yogi Adityanath at the rally in Purulia district of West Bengal. ■PTI

Yogi Adityanath at the rally in Purulia district of West Bengal. ■PTI

Yogi Adityanath at the rally in Purulia district of West Bengal. ■PTI

Yogi Adityanath at the rally in Purulia district of West Bengal. ■PTI

Yogi Adityanath at the rally in Purulia district of West Bengal. ■PTI

Yogi Adityanath at the rally in Purulia district of West Bengal. ■PTI

Yogi Adityanath at the rally in Purulia district of West Bengal. ■PTI

Yogi Adityanath at the rally in Purulia district of West Bengal. ■PTI

Yogi Adityanath at the rally in Purulia district of West Bengal. ■PTI

Yogi Adityanath at the rally in Purulia district of West Bengal. ■PTI

Yogi Adityanath at the rally in Purulia district of West Bengal. ■PTI

Yogi Adityanath at the rally in Purulia district of West Bengal. ■PTI

Yogi Adityanath at the rally in Purulia district of West Bengal. ■PTI

Yogi Adityanath at the rally in Purulia district of West Bengal. ■PTI

Yogi Adityanath at the rally in Purulia district of West Bengal. ■PTI

Yogi Adityanath at the rally in Purulia district of West Bengal. ■PTI

Yogi Adityanath at the rally in Purulia district of West Bengal. ■PTI

Yogi Adityanath at the rally in Purulia district of West Bengal. ■PTI

Yogi Adityanath at the rally in Purulia district of West Bengal. ■PTI

Yogi Adityanath at the rally in Purulia district of West Bengal. ■PTI

Yogi Adityanath at the rally in Purulia district of West Bengal. ■PTI

Yogi Adityanath at the rally in Purulia district of West Bengal. ■PTI

Yogi Adityanath at the rally in Purulia district of West Bengal. ■PTI

Yogi Adityanath at the rally in Purulia district of West Bengal. ■PTI

Yogi Adityanath at the rally in Purulia district of West Bengal. ■PTI

Yogi Adityanath at the rally in Purulia district of West Bengal. ■PTI

Yogi Adityanath at the rally in Purulia district of West Bengal. ■PTI

Yogi Adityanath at the rally in Purulia district of West Bengal. ■PTI

Yogi Adityanath at the rally in Purulia district of West Bengal. ■PTI

Yogi Adityanath at the rally in Purulia district of West Bengal. ■PTI

Yogi Adityanath at the rally in Purulia district of West Bengal. ■PTI

Yogi Adityanath at the rally in Purulia district of West Bengal. ■PTI

Yogi Adityanath at the rally in Purulia district of West Bengal. ■PTI

Yogi Adityanath at the rally in Purulia district of West Bengal. ■PTI

Yogi Adityanath at the rally in Purulia district of West Bengal. ■PTI

Yogi Adityanath at the rally in Purulia district of West Bengal. ■PTI

Yogi Adityanath at the rally in Purulia district of West Bengal. ■PTI

Yogi Adityanath at the rally in Purulia district of West Bengal. ■PTI

Yogi Adityanath at the rally in Purulia district of West Bengal. ■PTI

Yogi Adityanath at the rally in Purulia district of West Bengal. ■PTI

Yogi Adityanath at the rally in Purulia district of West Bengal. ■PTI

Yogi Adityanath at the rally in Purulia district of West Bengal. ■PTI

Yogi Adityanath at the rally in Purulia district of West Bengal. ■PTI

Yogi Adityanath at the rally in Purulia district of West Bengal. ■PTI

Yogi Adityanath at the rally in Purulia district of West Bengal. ■PTI

Yogi Adityanath at the rally in Purulia district of West Bengal. ■PTI

Yogi Adityanath at the rally in Purulia district of West Bengal. ■PTI

Yogi Adityanath at the rally in Purulia district of West Bengal. ■PTI

Yogi Adityanath at the rally in Purulia district of West Bengal. ■PTI

Yogi Adityanath at the rally in Purulia district of West Bengal. ■PTI

Yogi Adityanath at the rally in Purulia district of West Bengal. ■PTI

Yogi Adityanath at the rally in Purulia district of West Bengal. ■PTI

Yogi Adityanath at the rally in Purulia district of West Bengal. ■PTI

Yogi Adityanath at the rally in Purulia district of West Bengal. ■PTI

Yogi Adityanath at the rally in Purulia district of West Bengal. ■PTI

Yogi Adityanath at the rally in Purulia district of West Bengal. ■PTI

Yogi Adityanath at the rally in Purulia district of West Bengal. ■PTI

Yogi Adityanath at the rally in Purulia district of West Bengal. ■PTI

Yogi Adityanath at the rally in Purulia district of West Bengal. ■PTI

Yogi Adityanath at the



Mamata should explain why her police prevented CBI sleuths from meeting Police Commissioner Rajeev Kumar on Sunday. They after all wanted only to question him and not arrest him

SUSHIL KUMAR MODI
Bihar Deputy Chief Minister

It is with the help of the ruling government that people were looted in the chit fund scam. This Police Commissioner is Mamata's servant. He will do whatever she says

ADHIR RANJAN CHOWDHURY
Congress MP

Today, all BJP leaders are saying that a band of thieves have joined hands to form the federal front. I request Modiji, Arun Jaitleyji, Amit Shahji and Ravi Shankar Prasadji to please sign an affidavit stating that you will not seek help from any of the 23 Opposition parties to form a government

TEJASHWI YADAV
RJD leader



Mamata wants to hog limelight: Jaitley

NEW DELHI
Union Minister Arun Jaitley on Tuesday hit out at West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee for her dharna over the CBI vs State police tussle. In a blog post titled "The Kleptocrats Club", he alleged that her actions were aimed at hogging the limelight by projecting herself as the nucleus of a united Opposition. "Can New India be ever run by this Kleptocrats Club," he asked, adding that the Opposition was only capable of such "acrobatics". ANI



GUWAHATI
Assam Finance Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma on Tuesday described as frivolous the allegation by West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee that he was involved in the Saradha chit fund scam, even as the State Youth Congress staged a protest in front of the CBI office here, seeking his arrest. The Minister said he had offered full cooperation in the case as a witness.

Kolkata drama ends, sets shrill tone for poll battle

Opposition to take the fight to Delhi



Pivotal role: N. Chandrababu Naidu urged Mamata Banerjee to call off her stir. ■ ASHOK NATH DEY

for democracy and victory

of Constitution. So let us finish it because the court gave a positive judgment," Ms. Banerjee said. Both Mr. Naidu and she announced that the protest would continue in Delhi in the coming week.

"Only [Prime Minister Narendra] Modi and [BJP president Amit] Shah are clean, we are all corrupt. Are we all corrupt," Mr. Naidu asked. "I

had never seen such a Prime Minister in the past. Even the Emergency was better than this."

"This was a dharna to save India, save the Constitution, save the federal set-up and we held a protest under the banner of Save India... Though I started it, others also came out in support. I cannot take a decision without consulting other political parties," Ms. Banerjee said.

Earlier in the day, she welcomed the Supreme Court intervention restraining the CBI from taking any coercive steps against Mr. Kumar.

"It's a moral victory for the people of the Bengal. It's

a moral victory for the people of the country," she said.

Centre's directive

Even as she withdrew her protest, Ms. Banerjee was furious over a communication from the Union Home Ministry asking her government to initiate disciplinary proceedings against the Police Commissioner on the allegation that he joined the protests.

She said Mr. Kumar never joined the dharna. "Have you seen him on the dais in the

three days," she said.



In the eye of a storm: Kolkata Police Commissioner Rajeev Kumar near the venue of Mamata Banerjee's sit-in. ■ PTI

Police officer connived with scam accused, CBI tells SC

Says he was prima facie involved in criminal activities

LEGAL CORRESPONDENT

NEW DELHI

Kolkata Police Commissioner Rajeev Kumar actively connived with the accused persons, including senior politicians and police officers, in the multi-crore Saradha and Rose Valley chit fund scams to suppress, doctor, tamper with and destroy crucial material evidence, the CBI said in an affidavit submitted in the Supreme Court on Tuesday.

The Saradha and Rose Valley companies were "flourishing" when Mr. Kumar was the Commissioner of Police at Bidhan Nagar Police Commissionerate from 2012 to 2015, the agency said.

Mr. Kumar was the functional head of the Special Investigation Team which probed the scams before the Supreme Court handed over the investigation to the CBI in May 2014.

The agency said Mr. Kumar, as SIT head, was *prima facie* involved in criminal activities, which were offences under the Prevention of Corruption Act and the Indian Penal Code.

ta records while handing them over to the CBI on June 28, last year.

Twice summoned

He was summoned twice in October 2017 and once in July 2018. He had never bothered to come. Repeated communications sent to the West Bengal DGP to urge Mr. Kumar to join the investigation was neither properly answered or even ignored.

The agency accused Mr. Kumar of even suppressing the fact that an FIR had been registered against Rose Valley.

Restraint on dadagiri: BJP



Fire of protest: BJP activists burn effigies of Mamata Banerjee, Rahul Gandhi and Tejashwi Yadav in Patna. ■ PTI

+ Trinamool government has become a symbol of goondaism'

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

NEW DELHI

The BJP claimed victory for the Centre in its stand-off with the West Bengal government after the Supreme Court asked Kolkata police chief Rajeev Kumar to cooperate with the CBI in the Saradha scam investigation.

At a press conference here, Union Textiles Minister Smriti Irani said: "With egg on her face, to celebrate it as a moral victory is a dichotomy available only to [Chief Minister] Mamata Banerjee's realm of politics."

Ms. Irani said the court ensured a free and fair investigation, and put a constitutional restraint on *didi ki dadagiri* (Ms. Banerjee's intimidatory tactics).

"The order should be a matter of introspection and concern for Ms. Banerjee,"

Ms. Irani said, alleging that the Trinamool Congress government had become a symbol of anarchy and "goondaism".

She questioned the support extended by Opposition parties to the Chief Minister, and said the venue of Ms. Banerjee's protest was a victory for her. Ms. Irani said the CBI had never said in its communication to Mr. Kumar that it wanted to arrest him. "Why is she hellbent on political histrionics," Ms. Irani asked.

Ms. Banerjee has been on a sit-in since Sunday night against the CBI's attempt to question Mr. Kumar.

ing in Shillong indicates that it does not expect fairness in West Bengal," she said.

Responding to Ms. Banerjee's claim that the bar on arrest of Mr. Kumar was a victory for her, Ms. Irani said the CBI had never said in its communication to Mr. Kumar that it wanted to arrest him. "Why is she hellbent on political histrionics," Ms. Irani asked.

Ms. Banerjee has been on a sit-in since Sunday night against the CBI's attempt to question Mr. Kumar.

Trinamool, BJP exposed, says Yechury

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

NEW DELHI

The CPI(M) on Tuesday said the Supreme Court court order on the issue of the CBI investigation had shown the BJP and the Trinamool Congress in a poor light.

"Both corrupt parties, the TMC and the BJP get put in their place by the Supreme Court," CPI(M) general secretary Sitaram Yechury tweeted. "Must investigate the top leadership of the TMC too, of loot. Why did the BJP wait for 5 years to investigate? To pull corrupt members into its own fold?" he wrote on his Twitter timeline.

At a press conference, Mr. Yechury asserted that the issue could not be treated now as an infringement on Centre-State relations. The CBI's action was based on the Supreme Court's directions.

ing in Shillong indicates that it does not expect fairness in West Bengal," she said.

Responding to Ms. Banerjee's claim that the bar on arrest of Mr. Kumar was a victory for her, Ms. Irani said the CBI had never said in its communication to Mr. Kumar that it wanted to arrest him. "Why is she hellbent on political histrionics," Ms. Irani asked.

Ms. Banerjee has been on a sit-in since Sunday night against the CBI's attempt to question Mr. Kumar.

Ms. Banerjee has been on a sit-in since Sunday night against the CBI's attempt to question Mr. Kumar.

At a press conference, Mr. Yechury asserted that the issue could not be treated now as an infringement on Centre-State relations. The CBI's action was based on the Supreme Court's directions.

At a press conference, Mr. Yechury asserted that the issue could not be treated now as an infringement on Centre-State relations. The CBI's action was based on the Supreme Court's directions.

At a press conference, Mr. Yechury asserted that the issue could not be treated now as an infringement on Centre-State relations. The CBI's action was based on the Supreme Court's directions.

At a press conference, Mr. Yechury asserted that the issue could not be treated now as an infringement on Centre-State relations. The CBI's action was based on the Supreme Court's directions.

At a press conference, Mr. Yechury asserted that the issue could not be treated now as an infringement on Centre-State relations. The CBI's action was based on the Supreme Court's directions.

At a press conference, Mr. Yechury asserted that the issue could not be treated now as an infringement on Centre-State relations. The CBI's action was based on the Supreme Court's directions.

At a press conference, Mr. Yechury asserted that the issue could not be treated now as an infringement on Centre-State relations. The CBI's action was based on the Supreme Court's directions.

At a press conference, Mr. Yechury asserted that the issue could not be treated now as an infringement on Centre-State relations. The CBI's action was based on the Supreme Court's directions.

At a press conference, Mr. Yechury asserted that the issue could not be treated now as an infringement on Centre-State relations. The CBI's action was based on the Supreme Court's directions.

At a press conference, Mr. Yechury asserted that the issue could not be treated now as an infringement on Centre-State relations. The CBI's action was based on the Supreme Court's directions.

At a press conference, Mr. Yechury asserted that the issue could not be treated now as an infringement on Centre-State relations. The CBI's action was based on the Supreme Court's directions.

At a press conference, Mr. Yechury asserted that the issue could not be treated now as an infringement on Centre-State relations. The CBI's action was based on the Supreme Court's directions.

At a press conference, Mr. Yechury asserted that the issue could not be treated now as an infringement on Centre-State relations. The CBI's action was based on the Supreme Court's directions.

At a press conference, Mr. Yechury asserted that the issue could not be treated now as an infringement on Centre-State relations. The CBI's action was based on the Supreme Court's directions.

At a press conference, Mr. Yechury asserted that the issue could not be treated now as an infringement on Centre-State relations. The CBI's action was based on the Supreme Court's directions.

At a press conference, Mr. Yechury asserted that the issue could not be treated now as an infringement on Centre-State relations. The CBI's action was based on the Supreme Court's directions.

At a press conference, Mr. Yechury asserted that the issue could not be treated now as an infringement on Centre-State relations. The CBI's action was based on the Supreme Court's directions.

At a press conference, Mr. Yechury asserted that the issue could not be treated now as an infringement on Centre-State relations. The CBI's action was based on the Supreme Court's directions.

At a press conference, Mr. Yechury asserted that the issue could not be treated now as an infringement on Centre-State relations. The CBI's action was based on the Supreme Court's directions.

At a press conference, Mr. Yechury asserted that the issue could not be treated now as an infringement on Centre-State relations. The CBI's action was based on the Supreme Court's directions.

At a press conference, Mr. Yechury asserted that the issue could not be treated now as an infringement on Centre-State relations. The CBI's action was based on the Supreme Court's directions.

At a press conference, Mr. Yechury asserted that the issue could not be treated now as an infringement on Centre-State relations. The CBI's action was based on the Supreme Court's directions.

At a press conference, Mr. Yechury asserted that the issue could not be treated now as an infringement on Centre-State relations. The CBI's action was based on the Supreme Court's directions.

At a press conference, Mr. Yechury asserted that the issue could not be treated now as an infringement on Centre-State relations. The CBI's action was based on the Supreme Court's directions.

At a press conference, Mr. Yechury asserted that the issue could not be treated now as an infringement on Centre-State relations. The CBI's action was based on the Supreme Court's directions.

At a press conference, Mr. Yechury asserted that the issue could not be treated now as an infringement on Centre-State relations. The CBI's action was based on the Supreme Court's directions.

At a press conference, Mr. Yechury asserted that the issue could not be treated now as an infringement on Centre-State relations. The CBI's action was based on the Supreme Court's directions.

At a press conference, Mr. Yechury asserted that the issue could not be treated now as an infringement on Centre-State relations. The CBI's action was based on the Supreme Court's directions.

At a press conference, Mr. Yechury asserted that the issue could not be treated now as an infringement on Centre-State relations. The CBI's action was based on the Supreme Court's directions.

At a press conference, Mr. Yechury asserted that the issue could not be treated now as an infringement on Centre-State relations. The CBI's action was based on the Supreme Court's directions.

At a press conference, Mr. Yechury asserted that the issue could not be treated now as an infringement on Centre-State relations. The CBI's action was based on the Supreme Court's directions.

At a press conference, Mr. Yechury asserted that the issue could not be treated now as an infringement on Centre-State relations. The CBI's action was based on the Supreme Court's directions.

At a press conference, Mr. Yechury asserted that the issue could not be treated now as an infringement on Centre-State relations. The CBI's action was based on the Supreme Court's directions.

At a press conference, Mr. Yechury asserted that the issue could not be treated now as an infringement on Centre-State relations. The CBI's action was based on the Supreme Court's directions.

At a press conference, Mr. Yechury asserted that the issue could not be treated now as an infringement on Centre-State relations. The CBI's action was based on the Supreme Court's directions.

At a press conference, Mr. Yechury asserted that the issue could not be treated now as an infringement on Centre-State relations. The CBI's action was based on the Supreme Court's directions.

At a press conference, Mr. Yechury asserted that the issue could not be treated now as an infringement on Centre-State relations. The CBI's action was based on the Supreme Court's directions.

At a press conference, Mr. Yechury asserted that the issue could not be treated now as an infringement on Centre-State relations. The CBI's action was based on the Supreme Court's directions.

At a press conference, Mr. Yechury asserted that the issue could not be treated now as an infringement on Centre-State relations. The CBI's action was based on the Supreme Court's directions.

At a press conference, Mr. Yechury asserted that the issue could not be treated now as an infringement on Centre-State relations. The CBI's action was based on the Supreme Court's directions.

At a press conference, Mr. Yechury asserted that the issue could not be treated now as an infringement on Centre-State relations. The CBI's action was based on the Supreme Court's directions.

At a press conference, Mr. Yechury asserted that the issue could not be treated now as an infringement on Centre-State relations. The CBI's action was based on the Supreme Court's directions.

At a press conference, Mr. Yechury asserted that the issue could not be treated now as an infringement on Centre-State relations. The CBI's action was based on the Supreme Court's directions.

<p

Trump's inaugural panel subpoenaed

Federal prosecutors seek documents related to all of the committee's donors and guests

MAGGIE HABERMAN
BEN PROTESS
WASHINGTON

Escalating one of the investigations into President Donald Trump's inaugural committee, federal prosecutors ordered Monday that its officials turn over documents about donors, finances and activities, according to two people familiar with the inquiry.

The subpoena seeks documents related to all of the committee's donors and guests; any benefits handed out, including tickets and photo opportunities with the President; federal disclosure filings; vendors; contracts; and more, one of the people said.

The new requests expand an investigation prosecutors opened late last year amid a flurry of scrutiny of the inaugural committee. And they showed that the investigations surrounding Mr. Trump, once centred on potential ties to Russia during the 2016 presidential election, have spread far beyond the special counsel's office to



Two years ago: Donald Trump after being sworn in as the President of the United States on January 20, 2017. ■ AFP

include virtually all aspects of his adult life: his business, his campaign, his inauguration and his presidency.

In the subpoena, investigators also showed interest in whether any foreigners illegally donated to the committee, as well as whether committee staff members knew that such donations were illegal, asking for documents laying out legal requirements for donations.

Federal law prohibits foreign contributions to federal cam-

paigns, political action committees and inaugural funds.

Election fraud

Prosecutors also requested all documents related to vendors and contractors with the inaugural committee, which raised a record \$107 million and spent lavishly.

People familiar with the subpoena said prosecutors are interested in potential money laundering as well as election fraud, though it is possible that the prosecutors

do not suspect the inaugural committee of such violations.

The prosecutors cited those crimes in the subpoena simply as justification for their demand for documents, those people said.

Only one individual was named as part of the subpoena's demand for documents: Imaad Zubari, a former fundraiser for President Barack Obama and Hillary Clinton who was seeking inroads with Mr. Trump, and whose company, Avenue Ventures, gave \$900,000 to the inaugural committee. The subpoena also seeks documents related to his company.

A spokesman, Steve Rabowitz, said Mr. Zubari was unaware of having been named in the subpoena, and noted that he gave "generously and directly" to the inaugural committee, along with many others who donated more.

Another entity that the subpoena seeks documents on is Stripe, which created technology to help process credit card transactions. Ac-

cording to published reports, the company counts Josh Kushner, the brother of Mr. Trump's son-in-law, Jared Kushner, among its investors. Josh Kushner is not named in the subpoena, and a spokesman for him declined to comment.

A spokesman for the inaugural committee said it was still reviewing the subpoena and intended to cooperate with the investigation.

A spokesman for the U.S. attorney's office in Manhattan declined to comment. ABC first reported that a subpoena was in the works. Prosecutors in Manhattan have pursued the possibility that the inaugural committee made false statements to the Federal Election Commission, according to people familiar with the matter. It can be a crime to knowingly make false or fraudulent statements to a federal agency.

The committee disclosed a list of its donors to the commission, and the prosecutors are examining whether that list is complete and accurate, the person said. ■ NY TIMES

IS seeking comeback

Despite U.S. President Donald Trump's claim that the so-called Islamic State has been defeated, the militant group remains a threat around the world



1 Syria and Iraq: After losing virtually all of its former territory in Iraq and Syria, the IS has turned to insurgency tactics, with more than 1,200 attacks launched in the first 10 months of 2018

The group is estimated to have up to 30,000 fighters scattered across West Asia and North Africa. Its leader Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi (in photo) and several top deputies are believed to be alive

2 Afghanistan: The IS has a cell in eastern Afghanistan, which conducts attacks on security forces and civilians

The UN says civilian casualties reached a record high in the first half of 2018, with 52% attributed to the IS

3 Egypt: The Sinai-based affiliate of the IS is capable of mounting major attacks, such as the 2015 bombing of a Russian plane that killed 224 people

4 Libya: Affiliate is active in southern desert, tied to terror attacks in Berlin in 2016 and Manchester in 2017. The group is bolstered by foreign volunteers who left Syria and Iraq

5 The Philippines: Muslim insurgents in the Mindanao region have pledged allegiance to the IS, which claimed responsibility for the January 27, 2019 bombing of the Jolo island cathedral

6 Sahel: The Islamic State in Greater Sahara has staged attacks in Mali, Niger and Burkina Faso. It's also suspected of the 2017

ambush in Niger which killed four U.S. and four Nigerian soldiers

7 Yemen: Affiliate has attacked both sides fighting the civil war—the Saudi-led coalition backs the government and the Shia Houthi rebels

8 Others: Allied group Boko Haram in Nigeria, less active affiliates in Saudi Arabia, Algeria and Russia's Caucasus region



Fatal fire: Flames rising out of an apartment block on Erlanger street in Paris on Tuesday. ■ AFP

10 dead in Paris building blaze, arson suspected

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
PARIS

At least 10 people died and 30 were injured in an overnight blaze at an apartment block in Paris that the police suspect was deliberately started by a female resident, officials said on Tuesday.

The fire on the upper floors of the building in rue Erlanger in the upmarket 16th district of southwest Paris is the most deadly in the capital since 2005.

Dramatic video footage from the scene showed flames leaping out of top floor windows and firemen climbing narrow ladders to

rescue terrified residents, some dressed only in pyjamas, from the top of the eight-storey block. It took about 200 firefighters, backed by 100 fire engines, almost five hours to bring the fire under control.

"One person who lives in the building has been arrested. She's a 40-year-old woman who has prior psychological problems," Paris prosecutor Remy Heitz said at the scene. An investigation has been opened into the criminal charge of causing death by arson amid fears that the toll could climb further.

Indian diplomats are engaged with the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), the Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) and the State Department, sources familiar with the events told *The Hindu*. Consular access, resolution of

the conditions of incarceration (such as availability of vegetarian food for those with dietary restrictions) and providing detainees with support in terms of accessing legal support are some of the issues being discussed.

The Indian Embassy and consulates are also working with community associations and have set up a hotline, which had received approximately 300 calls (by Monday evening) from students and relatives of those detained, the source said.

Aware of crime'

The Indian side is trying to impress upon the U.S. authorities the need to distinguish between those who organised and facilitated the Farmington racket [eight individuals of Indian origin have been charged in this regard] and those who might have been duped and therefore "victims" of it, sources said.

The U.S. government is currently of the view that all "students" were aware that the law was being broken.

"Instances of fraud schemes are rare, unfortunate aberrations in the proud history of educational exchange between the U.S. and India. All participants in this scheme knew that the University of Farmington had no instructors or classes (neither online nor in-person) and were aware they were committing a crime in an attempt to fraudulently remain in the U.S.," a State Department spokesperson said on Monday.

There is a concern that the sting operation, which some have said is tantamount to entrapment [the government inducement of a crime and the defendant not being predisposed to engaging in criminal conduct] will damage the U.S.'s attractiveness as a destination for higher education for Indian students.

Trump to deliver State of Union speech

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
WASHINGTON

President Donald Trump promises a shift to sunny optimism in the State of the Union speech but with his congressional Democratic nemesis seated right behind him, will he be able to resist throwing his usual thunderbolts?

The annual presidential speech to Congress is typically a ritualistic set piece, bloated by lofty rhetoric and endless ovations. The White House is flagging an "optimistic," "unifying," even "visionary" speech to mark this presidency's midway point. In an excerpt released on Friday, Mr. Trump predicts Republicans and Democrats can "break decades of political stalemate."

But the mood in Washington is as hostile as it has been for years following the confrontation between Mr. Trump and the Democratic-led House of Representatives over his demand for funding for a U.S.-Mexico border wall.

Russia to develop new missile systems by 2021

Move comes after key treaty pullout

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
MOSCOW

Russia's Defence Minister Sergei Shoigu on Tuesday said the country must develop new types of missile systems in the next two years. "During 2019-2020 we have to develop a land-based version of the seaborne Kalibr system equipped with a long-range cruise missile which showed good results in Syria," he told Defence officials.

At a meeting with officials on Tuesday, Mr. Shoigu said Russia should develop two new missile systems in the next two years. "During 2019-2020 we have to develop a land-based version of the seaborne Kalibr system equipped with a long-range cruise missile which showed good results in Syria," he told Defence officials.

"Over the same period we will also have to create a land-based missile system with a long-range hypersonic missile," he said.

The Defence Minister said the plans had been approved by Mr. Putin.

The INF agreement forbids ground-launched, short- and intermediate-range missiles, but not those launched from the air or sea – which Russia already has.

Taliban demands new Afghan Constitution

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
KABUL

The Taliban demanded a new Constitution for Afghanistan and promised an "inclusive Islamic system" to govern the war-torn country at a rare gathering with senior Afghan politicians in Russia on Tuesday that excluded the Kabul government.

"The Kabul government Constitution is invalid. It has been imported from the West and is an obstacle to peace," Sher Mohammad Abbas Stanikzai, who headed the Taliban delegation, said at a central Moscow hotel.

The manifesto, outlined in Moscow, comes a week after the Taliban held unprecedented six-day talks with U.S. negotiators in Doha about ending the 17-year war. The Moscow meeting – the Taliban's most significant

contact with Afghan politicians in recent memory – saw the insurgents praying together with sworn enemies, including former President Hamid Karzai, as they discussed their vision for the future.

"The Kabul government Constitution is invalid. It has been imported from the West and is an obstacle to peace," Sher Mohammad Abbas Stanikzai, who headed the Taliban delegation, said at a central Moscow hotel.

The manifesto, outlined in Moscow, comes a week after the Taliban held unprecedented six-day talks with U.S. negotiators in Doha about ending the 17-year war. The Moscow meeting – the Taliban's most significant

ODISHA CONSTRUCTION CORPORATION LIMITED

(A Govt. of Odisha Undertaking)
UNIT-VIII, BHUBANESWAR
e-mail: theoccltd@odishaconstruction.com
GSTIN - 21AACO2571K2ZM

e-Procurement Notice No. 18/OCCL/2018-19 (on-line)

Type of Work :- Earthwork

Total No of Works :- 01 (One) No.

Period of completion :- 02 calendar months.

Procurement Officer	Bid Identification No.	Amount put to Tender (in Rs.)	Bid Security (in Rs.)	Availability of Tender (On-line)	Submission of Tender (On-line)
Managing Director, OCC Ltd., Bhubaneswar	OCCL-KGP/01/2018-19	1,06,44,160.35	1,06,500.00	06.02.2019, 10.00 AM to 20.02.2019, 5.00 PM	06.02.2019, 10.00 AM to 20.02.2019, 5.00 PM

Date of opening of the Bid: 22.02.2019, 11.30 AM

Further detail can be seen from the Govt. website (www.tendersodisha.gov.in)

34120/11/0027/1819 Managing Director

DELHI JAL BOARD: GOVT. OF NCT OF DELHI
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER (OEE) DR-II
DELHI GATE STP PHASE-II, OPPOSITE DELHI
SECRETARIAT IP ESTATE, NEW DELHI-110002
E-mail: eecdr2@gmail.com

Short NIT No. 03(2018-19) EEC(DR) II
Tender ID-2019_DJB_167264_1

Issued BY,P.R.O.(WATER)
Advt. No.J.S.V.762/2018-19

(R.G.Saraswat)
Executive Engineer (C)DR-II

KERALA WATER AUTHORITY

e-Tender Notice Tender No. 09/2018-19/KWA/PHC/05/TVM(RT2)

Amrut Water Supply - Supply and Installation of Flow meters in the trunk lines and inlet/outlet of the Service reservoirs of TWSS - Phase-1. Last date for submitting Tender: 05-03-2019, 11:00 am

EMD : Rs. 2,00,000/- FORM PRICE : Rs. 10,000/-

Phone : 04712322303, Website : www.kwa.kerala.gov.in, Superintending Engineer www.etenders.kerala.gov.in KWA-JB-GL-6-623-2018-19 PH Circle, Thiruvananthapuram



राष्ट्रीय इस्पात निगम लिमिटेड
RAJASTHRIYA ISPAT NIGAM LIMITED

(A Government of India Enterprise)

VISAKHAPATNAM STEEL PLANT

PROJECTS CONTRACTS DEPARTMENT

OPEN TENDER NOTIFICATION RxNo.280000510Dt:01.02.2019

WORK: Upgradation of Electrics of 12.5Tx21M Span EOT Interbay Cranes-06 nos. in CCC of SMS-1 (Specn. No.VSP/DEE-SMS-064). Contact: Sri. M.K. Srivastava, Mgr(PC) Cell: 9701348090-0891-2578277

♦ Submission deadline & time: 01.03.2019 upto 15.00 hrs.

♦ Bid Opening date & time: 01.03.2019 after 15.30 hrs. GM(PC)

For more details & corrigendum please visit regularly www.vizagsteel.com, <http://www.eprocure.gov.in/epublish>



NMDC Limited

(A GOVERNMENT OF INDIA ENTERPRISE)

Khanj Bhavan, 103-311A, Castle Hills, Masab Tank Hyderabad-500028

Ph: 091-40-2353813 to 2353821 Ext: 228-249-234, 23538710

MARKET WATCH

	05-02-2019	% CHANGE
Sensex	36,617	0.09
US Dollar	71.57	0.32
Gold	34,475	0.07
Brent oil	62.39	0.85

NIFTY 50

	PRICE	CHANGE
Anadip Ports	339.80	-4.15
Asian Paints	1450.35	4.00
Axisc Bank	729.50	9.00
Bajaj Auto	2710.65	68.15
Bajaj Finance	6017.10	7.90
Bharti Airtel	308.20	1.65
BPLC	337.95	-0.60
Cipla	508.00	-1.60
Coal India	2816.40	-5.70
Dr Reddy's Lab	2821.45	-8.25
Eicher Motors	20479.65	351.35
GAIL (India)	332.10	2.35
Grasim Ind	703.95	-2.80
HCL Tech.	1047.75	2.95
HDPC	1981.40	2.90
HDPC Bank	2114.05	9.15
Hero MotoCorp	2854.55	74.40
Hindalco	204.75	0.55
HPLC	225.15	-1.35
Hind Unilever	1821.45	18.85
Indiabulls HFL	645.40	-5.35
ICICI Bank	352.65	-1.90
IndusInd Bank	1541.75	37.10
Bharti Infratech	288.90	-6.15
Infosys	754.85	-1.05
Indian Oil Corp	132.75	-2.15
ITC	274.15	-2.95
JSW Steel	273.55	0.05
Kotak Bank	1279.15	6.95
L&T	1304.60	-2.80
M&M	684.90	10.45
Maurit Suzuki	7093.60	105.40
NTPC	138.05	0.80
ONGC	142.95	-3.30
PowerGrid Corp	186.10	1.50
Reliance Ind	1291.55	0.65
State Bank	284.65	0.70
Sun Pharma	409.90	-4.90
Tata Motors	175.80	-4.45
Tata Steel	464.70	-11.35
TCS	2044.55	-5.70
Tech Mahindra	751.00	1.85
Titan	1066.70	40.95
UltraTech Cement	3461.75	14.25
UPL	795.95	25.05
Vedanta	162.60	1.25
Wipro	368.45	-2.80
YES Bank	176.10	-3.70
Zee Entertainment	365.35	17.60

Govt. subsidy spend on the rise again

May constitute 9.83% of overall total expenditure in 2019-20; LPG dole takes the major chunk

TCA SHARAD RAGHAVAN

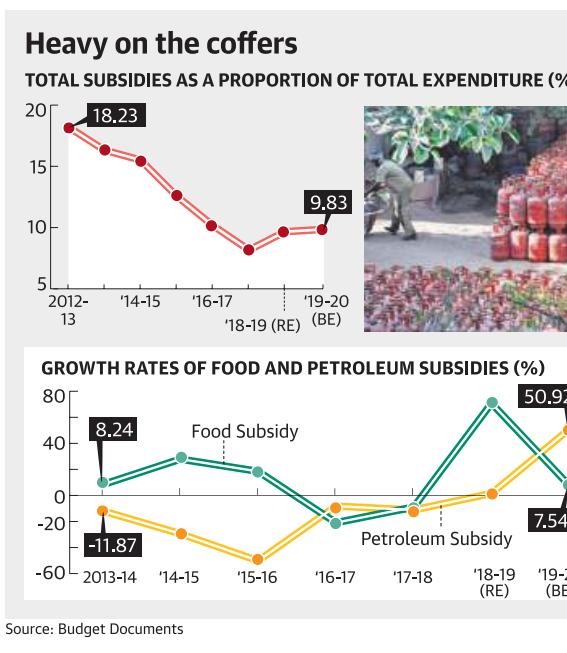
NEW DELHI

Rising LPG prices and higher subscribers have resulted in the government's subsidy expenditure over the last two years reversing a declining trend established in the previous six years, an analysis of Budget documents by *The Hindu* shows.

The data show that the government's total expenditure on subsidies is expected to make up 9.83% of its total expenditure overall in 2019-20, according to the Budget estimate for the year, up from the 9.65% in the revised estimate for 2018-19. This increase might not seem significant by itself, but it becomes noteworthy when viewed against the backdrop of a consistent annual fall from 18.2% in 2012-13 to 8.15% in 2017-18.

Sharp rise

A deeper dive into the data shows that the reason for this reversal is the sharp rise in food and petroleum subsidies over the last two budgets of 2018-19 and 2019-20.



Food subsidies increased to ₹1,71,298 crore in 2018-19, up a whopping 70.8% over its allocation in the previous year. Similarly, petroleum subsidies have been budgeted to increase a significant 50.9% in 2019-20 to ₹37,478 crore.

While the increase in the food subsidy allocation is a

reflection of the increase in the Minimum Support Prices hiked across the board, the reason behind the increase in the petroleum subsidy has to do in particular with the government's focus on LPG as a source of cleaner cooking fuel. "The reason for the increase in the petroleum

subsidy is because of an increased allocation for the Direct Benefit Transfer scheme for LPG," a petroleum ministry spokesperson told *The Hindu*.

"LPG prices have been rising, and the number of subscribers has been increasing, so the subsidy amount will naturally increase." According to data with the Indian Oil Corporation, subsidised LPG prices in Delhi have risen from ₹399.26 per 14.2 kg cylinder in June 2011 to ₹500.9 per cylinder in December 2018.

The price of an unsubsidised cylinder was ₹809.50 in December, which means the subsidy was ₹308 a cylinder. And the Centre subsidises 12 cylinders a year per customer.

The government has two major schemes in the LPG sector: PAHAL scheme, the first, involves direct cash transfers to LPG consumers for 12 numbers of 14.2 kg cylinders per year. The second scheme, the Ujjwala Yojana, seeks to give free LPG connections to poor house-

holds. In terms of consumption, data with the Petroleum Planning and Analysis Cell show that LPG consumption has grown in tandem with the launch of the PAHAL scheme. While LPG consumption grew 1.6% and 4.4% in 2012-13 and 2013-14, respectively, the growth averaged 9.4% in the years since the scheme was launched in 2013.

Budget provisions have grown in consonance with this growth rate, with the government providing a huge ₹29,500 crore for the Direct Benefit Transfer scheme, up from ₹16,477.13 crore in 2017-18. Interestingly, the allocations for Ujjwala Yojana have fallen nearly 15% in 2019-20 compared to the previous year.

"If the trend of rising subsidy prices continues into the future, then it could certainly be a matter of concern when it comes to the government's fiscal consolidation plans," D.K. Srivastava, chief policy advisor at EY India said.

On PNB's asset quality,

Scam-hit PNB's Q3 net rises 7.12% to ₹246.51 cr.

Lower provisions for bad loans cited

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

NEW DELHI

Punjab National Bank (PNB) Tuesday posted 7.12% increase in net profit at ₹246.51 crore for its third quarter ended December 31, 2018, driven by lower provisioning for bad loans.

PNB, which was involved in a ₹14,356-crore scam by Nirav Modi, had reported net profit of ₹230.11 crore for the corresponding quarter a year ago.

The bank's total income fell by 2.64% to ₹4,854.24 crore for the quarter under review from ₹5,257.5 crore in the year-ago quarter.

PNB managing director and CEO Sunil Mehta said the company's financial numbers are back in black.

"We have honoured all our commitments. Our bank, as on date, has provided all for that incident [Nirav Modi fraud]. We suffered because of the one-off incident which has now been absorbed by the bank," Mr. Mehta said.



Sunil Mehta

the bank said its gross non-performing assets (NPAs) as a percentage to total advances rose to 16.33% from 12.11% in the year-ago period.

Its net NPAs, however, came down to 8.22% from 8.90% at the end of December 2017, PNB said in a BSE filing.

Total provisions, excluding for income tax, made during the third quarter of the current financial year were ₹2,753.84 crore as against ₹4,466.68 crore in the year-ago period.

HPCL Q3 net falls 87% on crude price volatility

Profit takes a hit on inventory losses

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

MUMBAI

Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited (HPCL) reported an 87% dip in its December quarter net profit to ₹248 crore on account of inventory losses due to crude price volatility. The fall in profits were reported despite 22% growth in sales to ₹76,884 crore during October-December 2018.

Gross refining margins fell to \$3.72 per barrel as

compared to \$ 9.04 per barrel in the corresponding previous period primarily due to higher inventory losses, higher fuel and loss impact which were partially offset by improved product cracks, said a company statement.

The domestic sales of petroleum products during the quarter increased to 9.4 million tonnes, a growth of 2.5% over the corresponding quarter of previous year.

However, Reid & Taylor Employees Association has

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

MUMBAI

The Mumbai bench of the National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT) on Tuesday ordered liquidation of the bankrupt Reid & Taylor following the bidder's failure to meet eligibility criteria.

However, it asked the Resolution Professional(RP) to ensure that the brand is sold as a going concern and protect the interest of the workers.

However, Reid & Taylor Employees Association has

decided to challenge the liquidation order at the appellate tribunal NCLAT.

"We feel the order to dismiss the expression of interest presented by India Gas, which was fronting our bid – was manipulated by Finquest Financial – the largest creditor to the company, and we have decided to challenge the same at the NCLAT by Friday," association spokesman Vivek Pandit told PTI.

The move came after the representatives of India Gas failed to satisfy the mandatory networth of ₹50 crore and other bona fides, even though it was ready to make the ₹2 crore non-refundable earnest money deposit.

The Nitin Kalsiwal-run company owed over ₹4,100 crore to the lenders.

While dismissing the bid by the Delhi-based India Gas today, a bench of Bhaskara Pantula Mohan and V Nallapenapathy, said the representative of the bidder was also unable to prove its bona fide at the NCLAT.

E-com share to rise sixfold in 10 years: Iyer

'Consumers prefer digital retail'

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

MUMBAI

Share of e-commerce is set to rise from 2% to 12% in next 10 years despite the growth in brick and mortar retail, said Krish Iyer, president & CEO Walmart India.

Speaking at the India Food Forum 2019, Mr. Iyer said that the gap between physical and digital needs to be bridged as the consumer was going digital in terms of experience.

sight at Walmart, Mr. Iyer said that by enriching customer experience, consumers started buying stuff worth ₹180 over omni-channel instead of buying stuff worth ₹100 from the store itself. This ratio later changed to ₹70 in store compared to ₹110 on the digital platform.

Ajay Macaden, ED, Nielsen, said that increased smartphone penetration had led to consumers opting for omni-channel platforms.

INTERVIEW | ATANU CHAKRABORTY

'Liquidity crisis hit disinvestment in what could've been a productive quarter'

We have to complete only about 40% of the transactions in the remaining period

TCA SHARAD RAGHAVAN
The liquidity crisis in the third quarter of the year had a detrimental impact on what would have otherwise been a very productive period for disinvestment, Department of Investment and Public Asset Management Secretary Atanu Chakrabarty said in an interview. Excerpts:

The government has only achieved about ₹35,000 crore of the ₹80,000-crore disinvestment target set for the current fiscal. Do you feel confident the target will be achieved, and if so, how?

What happens is that we only report those numbers where finally money flows in. Each transaction takes a fair amount of time to complete. While some transactions may have started, regulatory requirements result in others taking time. By the end of the year, it tends to get back-ended rather than front-ended.

What happened this year was that there were two circumstances which further pushed it back. One was that, last year, the achievement was very substantial, which dried up the pipeline. Secondly, in the third quarter, which is a very productive quarter, the liquidity crisis hit. From December 15 to January 15, nothing much anyway happens because most of the FIIs are closed during that time, so market operations are generally low.

However, as far as completing transactions is concerned, we have to complete only about 40% of the transactions during the remaining period. The rest are actually completed and money is

flowing in. We have the timelines available, and actually it is more of a follow-up job at this stage than of creating any new transactions. One or two transactions could be new. Three to four transactions will hit the market. The rest are complete and the money is coming in.

Strategic disinvestment has not taken off as much as the government would have liked. Why is that

IN BRIEF



RBI slaps penalty on Syndicate, Axis Bank

MUMBAI The Reserve Bank of India has slapped a ₹1-crore penalty on Syndicate Bank and ₹20 lakh on Axis Bank for violating norms. The penalty on Syndicate Bank is due to non-compliance with the directions regarding frauds and risk management systems. Axis Bank was fined for contravention of the directions on detection and impounding of counterfeit notes and installation of note sorting machines, the central bank said.

Tube Investments Q3 net profit grows twofold

CHENNAI Tube Investments of India Ltd. (formerly known as TI Financial Holdings Ltd.) has more than doubled its standalone net profit for the third quarter ended December 2018 to ₹77 crore from ₹35 crore in the corresponding year-earlier period aided by dividend income of ₹29 crore from Shanti Gears Ltd. The total revenue from operations grew by 15% to ₹1,341 crore from ₹1,163 crore.

RBI monetary policy statement at 11.45 a.m. The RBI will announce its monetary policy statement at 11.45 a.m. on Thursday, instead of 2.30 p.m. "The Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) will meet during February 5 to 7, 2019 for the sixth bi-monthly monetary policy statement for 2018-19. The resolution of the MPC will be placed on the website at 11.45 a.m. on February 7, 2019," RBI said. This will be RBI's first monetary policy under Governor Shaktikanta Das.

Indivior loses plea against DRL in U.S. court

U.K. firm denied rehearing in case related to Dr. Reddy's launching a generic version of Suboxone

N.RAVI KUMAR
HYDERABAD

Pharma major Dr. Reddy's Laboratories received a shot in the arm in its legal battle to resume launch of a generic version of Indivior's opioid dependence treatment drug Suboxone with the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit (CAFC) turning down the British drug maker's plea for rehearing.

The CAFC has "denied Indivior's motion for rehearing en banc following the court's ruling vacating the preliminary injunction (PI) granted against Dr. Reddy's Laboratories based on U.S. Patent No.9,931,305."

Stating this, Indivior, in a filing to the London Stock Exchange, on Tuesday, said the CAFC would be issuing the mandate on February 11.



Big boost: Post court's mandate, DRL can sell, offer to sell, or import generic version of Suboxone. • GETTY IMAGES/ISTOCK

The CAFC had, in November, vacated a District Court's PI that prohibited Dr. Reddy's from selling the generic version of Suboxone (buprenorphine and naloxone) sublingual film. It, ho-

wever, did not issue the mandate, which is a formal filing that returned the case to the District Court for action consistent with the CAFC ruling. This meant Dr. Reddy's had to wait for resuming the "at-

risk" launch of the generic Suboxone.

On Tuesday, Indivior said once the court issued the mandate, Dr. Reddy's would no longer be prevented from selling, offering to sell, or importing its generic product. In addition to Dr. Reddy's, Indivior also expected Alvogen Pine Brook LLC to launch its generic in the U.S.

The launch in the U.S. of a generic product that could be directly substituted by a pharmacist for the branded product without consultation with the patient would result in the branded incumbent (in this case Suboxone) losing up to 80% of its market share within a matter of months, Indivior said.

Dr. Reddy's shares gained 3.07% or ₹84.05 apiece on Tuesday to close at

₹2,826.25. Till late evening, the company did not issue a statement.

DRL bets big

Suboxone is one of the products the Hyderabad-headquartered firm is betting big. The chief operating officer Erez Israeli had, in fact, expected the court decision to come by February-end.

Indivior said it intended to file an emergency motion with the CAFC to stay issuance of the mandate pending. Shaun Thaxter, CEO, said: "The company faces a major disruption in the immediate future from a potential material and rapid loss of market share by our Suboxone film product to generic buprenorphine/naloxone sublingual film competition."

Moody's downgrades Bharti Airtel's rating

'Uncertainty over telcos' profitability'

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

Moody's Investors Service on Tuesday downgraded Bharti Airtel's rating on uncertainty over improvement in the telecom operator's revenue and profitability amid the intense competition in the Indian market.

The agency, which had in November placed Airtel's rating under review for downgrade, has downgraded the company's rating from Baa3 to Ba1, which is a non-investment grade rating. It added that the ratings outlook was negative.

"Moody's has downgraded to Ba1 from Baa3, the senior unsecured rating for Bharti Airtel Ltd. [Bharti] as well as the backed senior unsecured notes issued by Bharti's wholly owned subsidiary, Bharti Airtel Int'l (Netherlands) B.V.," it said in a statement.



and support greater financial flexibility," Ms. DiChiara, who is also Moody's lead analyst for Bharti, added.

The agency said that the rating outlook could be stabilised if Bharti strengthens its credit profile with stabilisation of its core Indian mobile and non-mobile services.

Businesses strong

In its response to the stock exchanges, Bharti Airtel said, "Bharti Airtel and its businesses continue to be diversified and strong. While Africa and non-mobile businesses in India exhibit healthy momentum, the continuing trend of robust growth in data volumes in India and also the imminent recovery in voice tariffs will further help overall business, going forward."

It said that the company's focus was to maintain an optimum capital structure at all times and enhance financial strength. The company's capital structure has already benefited from the recent equity infusions in the Africa business as well as in India DTH business, totalling to \$1.7 billion.

"We continue to explore other equity driven initiatives, including a planned listing of African operations and also any tower stake sale post the merger of Infratel and Indus," the company said.

Higher provisioning drags Apollo Tyres Q3 net

IL&FS deposit of ₹200 cr. written off

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
CHENNAI

Apollo Tyres Ltd.'s standalone net profit for the third quarter ended December 2018 dipped by 39.7% largely due to provision made towards inter-corporate deposit with IL&FS Financial Services Ltd.

The net profit slid to ₹123 crore from ₹203.98 crore in the corresponding year-earlier period mainly due to the provisioning of ₹60 crore for a regulatory filing.

Apollo Tyres held an unsecured, short term inter-corporate deposit of ₹200 crore with IL&FS. The said deposit was due for maturity on October 22, 2018. However, IL&FS defaulted on its repayment and Apollo

Tyres had to make a provision in the last two quarters totalling ₹100 crore.

The interest accrued and due on this investment of ₹8 crore till October 22, 2018, has not been recorded. The firm will continue to monitor the developments and take appropriate legal action, said Apollo Tyres in a regulatory filing.

The revenue from operations during the quarter rose 16.15% to ₹3,060.26 from ₹2,634.62 crore.

During the quarter, total expenses rose 20.57% to ₹2,924.96 crore with raw material costs accounting for over 32% of the total spending. Raw material expenditure rose 25.8% to ₹1,979 crore.

Tech Mahindra net rises 27.5% on digital business growth

Company sees 15% jump in revenue to ₹8,944 crore

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
MUMBAI

Software services exporter Tech Mahindra Limited on Tuesday reported a better than expected 27.5% growth in December quarter net profit to ₹1,203 crore, boosted by better growth in digital business.

The growth in profit was reported on a 15% jump in revenue to ₹8,944 crore.

The mid-tier software firm reported a 36.2% jump in its EBITDA during the quarter to ₹1,723 crore as the company's EBITDA margins during the quarter improved by 300 basis points (bps) to 19.3%. Commenting on the results, MD & CEO C.P. Gurnani said, "This is a milestone quarter for Tech Mahindra with \$5 billion annual revenue run rate in sight. The current quarter has been impressive on all fronts, delivering steady growth in enterprise and

communications business along with margin expansion."

Earnings per share

Tech Mahindra's earnings per share (EPS) during the quarter stood at ₹13.55. In dollar terms, the company's topline grew at 4.6% to 1.26 billion and the bottomline grew at 16.4% to \$171 million. Manoj Bhat, CFO, Tech Mahindra said, "We continue to improve on our operating metrics across most of our business lines. We have clocked yet another strong quarter in terms of revenue growth, continued EBITDA margin improvement, cash flow and robust deal wins."

C.P. Gurnani

nani said, "This is a milestone quarter for Tech Mahindra with \$5 billion annual revenue run rate in sight. The current quarter has been impressive on all fronts, delivering steady growth in enterprise and

OBITUARY & REMEMBRANCE

BIRTHDAY REMEMBRANCE

BIRTHDAY REMEMBRANCE



ANTHONY SILVEIRA
DGM (Retd)
Indian Overseas Bank

BORN: 06.02.1928 DIED: 10.04.2008

"There is place in our hearts set aside for you, to be loved and remembered all our lives through."

GEETA P SHETTI
GM (Retd), Indian Overseas Bank
Flat 1203, Shanti Kamal, B Wing,
Dr Babasaheb Ambedkar Road,
Chinchpokli East, Mumbai-400012
Mobile: 07715043211

DEATH

SITHANVAZOOR SAROJA RAMAMOORTHY (78) died on 04-02-2019. Dassera on 10-02-2019 at Sri Ramam. Ct. 89037-16434

For enquiries on announcements in this section, please contact our office at the following number between 10a.m. and 8p.m.

New Delhi : 011- 43579797

Rate for New Delhi:

(Minimum Rs. 290/- 2 Lines

Extra Line - Rs. 145/-)

(B/W Display): Rs.50/ Per Sq.cm

(Clr Display) : Rs.60/ Per Sq.cm

Log on to

www.thehinduads.com

For Placing Advertisements

Online

In memory of your loved ones

To dedicate a space in this section, Please contact:

011-43579797

from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. &

For Placing Advertisements

Online log on to

www.thehinduads.com

DONATE EYES-GIFT SIGHT

PRDH-75240

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION KINDLY VISIT : www.haryanaeprocurement.gov.in or www.etenders.hry.nic.in



India eyes maiden T20 series win in NZ

Pant back in the mix for Men in Blue; Kiwis keen to bounce back from the ODI debacle

INDIA IN NZ

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
WELLINGTON

The Indians have hit the homestretch of a memorable three-month tour and the rampant team will be fancying another series win when they clash with under-pressure host New Zealand in the opening T20 International here on Wednesday.

While regular skipper Virat Kohli is getting the much-needed rest, the Rohit Sharma-led squad will be hoping it has enough left in the tank to record a maiden T20 series win in New Zealand, following a record 4-1 result in ODIs and a historic tour of Australia.

World Cup spots

The preceding ODI series solved a part of the puzzle as India looks to finalise its 15 for the World Cup. But there are still a few spots up for grabs and the T20 series can help the team management zero in on the squad for the mega event to be held during May-July in England.

Young wicketkeeper-batsman Rishabh Pant, who was not part of the ODIs, returns hungrier. Veteran M.S. Dhoni is back in the T20 mix after being omitted from the series against Australia last year and his performance will also be keenly followed. He last played a T20 in July.

The series is also an opportunity for Dinesh Karthik, who has done well as a finisher but is still not a sure starter in the eleven. Ambati Rayudu grabbed his chance with a match-winning 90 in the fifth ODI, probably



On a high: India, fresh from a triumphant ODI campaign, will look to sustain the momentum in the T20Is. ■ AFP

enough to seal a place in the middle-order.

In the absence of seniors like Jasprit Bumrah, Mohammad Siraj and Khaleel Ahmed have not made much of an impact.

New Zealand will be desperate to turn things around after a 1-4 drubbing. It does hold an upper hand over India in the shortest format. It beat India 2-0 in the 2008-09

dya and Siddharth Kaul.

In the absence of seniors like Jasprit Bumrah, Mohammad Siraj and Khaleel Ahmed have not made much of an impact.

New Zealand will be desperate to turn things around after a 1-4 drubbing. It does hold an upper hand over India in the shortest format. It beat India 2-0 in the 2008-09

Stat attack

In New Zealand

Bilateral series

In New Zealand

Feb. 25, 2009 Christchurch, Wellington, Lost by 7 wkts, Lost by 5 wkts

In India

Sept. 11, 2012 Chennai, NZ won by 1 run#

Nov. 1, 2017 New Delhi, India won by 53 runs

Nov. 4, 2017 Rajkot NZ won by 40 runs

Nov. 7, 2017 Thiruvananthapuram India won by 6 runs

India in T20Is

New Zealand

Feb. 25, 2009 Christchurch, Wellington, Lost by 7 wkts, Lost by 5 wkts

Sept. 11, 2012 Chennai, NZ won by 1 run#

Nov. 1, 2017 New Delhi, India won by 53 runs

Nov. 4, 2017 Rajkot NZ won by 40 runs

Nov. 7, 2017 Thiruvananthapuram India won by 6 runs

Feb. 25, 2009 Christchurch, Wellington, Lost by 7 wkts, Lost by 5 wkts

Sept. 11, 2012 Chennai, NZ won by 1 run#

Nov. 1, 2017 New Delhi, India won by 53 runs

Nov. 4, 2017 Rajkot NZ won by 40 runs

Nov. 7, 2017 Thiruvananthapuram India won by 6 runs

Feb. 25, 2009 Christchurch, Wellington, Lost by 7 wkts, Lost by 5 wkts

Sept. 11, 2012 Chennai, NZ won by 1 run#

Nov. 1, 2017 New Delhi, India won by 53 runs

Nov. 4, 2017 Rajkot NZ won by 40 runs

Nov. 7, 2017 Thiruvananthapuram India won by 6 runs

Feb. 25, 2009 Christchurch, Wellington, Lost by 7 wkts, Lost by 5 wkts

Sept. 11, 2012 Chennai, NZ won by 1 run#

Nov. 1, 2017 New Delhi, India won by 53 runs

Nov. 4, 2017 Rajkot NZ won by 40 runs

Nov. 7, 2017 Thiruvananthapuram India won by 6 runs

Feb. 25, 2009 Christchurch, Wellington, Lost by 7 wkts, Lost by 5 wkts

Sept. 11, 2012 Chennai, NZ won by 1 run#

Nov. 1, 2017 New Delhi, India won by 53 runs

Nov. 4, 2017 Rajkot NZ won by 40 runs

Nov. 7, 2017 Thiruvananthapuram India won by 6 runs

Feb. 25, 2009 Christchurch, Wellington, Lost by 7 wkts, Lost by 5 wkts

Sept. 11, 2012 Chennai, NZ won by 1 run#

Nov. 1, 2017 New Delhi, India won by 53 runs

Nov. 4, 2017 Rajkot NZ won by 40 runs

Nov. 7, 2017 Thiruvananthapuram India won by 6 runs

Feb. 25, 2009 Christchurch, Wellington, Lost by 7 wkts, Lost by 5 wkts

Sept. 11, 2012 Chennai, NZ won by 1 run#

Nov. 1, 2017 New Delhi, India won by 53 runs

Nov. 4, 2017 Rajkot NZ won by 40 runs

Nov. 7, 2017 Thiruvananthapuram India won by 6 runs

Feb. 25, 2009 Christchurch, Wellington, Lost by 7 wkts, Lost by 5 wkts

Sept. 11, 2012 Chennai, NZ won by 1 run#

Nov. 1, 2017 New Delhi, India won by 53 runs

Nov. 4, 2017 Rajkot NZ won by 40 runs

Nov. 7, 2017 Thiruvananthapuram India won by 6 runs

Feb. 25, 2009 Christchurch, Wellington, Lost by 7 wkts, Lost by 5 wkts

Sept. 11, 2012 Chennai, NZ won by 1 run#

Nov. 1, 2017 New Delhi, India won by 53 runs

Nov. 4, 2017 Rajkot NZ won by 40 runs

Nov. 7, 2017 Thiruvananthapuram India won by 6 runs

Feb. 25, 2009 Christchurch, Wellington, Lost by 7 wkts, Lost by 5 wkts

Sept. 11, 2012 Chennai, NZ won by 1 run#

Nov. 1, 2017 New Delhi, India won by 53 runs

Nov. 4, 2017 Rajkot NZ won by 40 runs

Nov. 7, 2017 Thiruvananthapuram India won by 6 runs

Feb. 25, 2009 Christchurch, Wellington, Lost by 7 wkts, Lost by 5 wkts

Sept. 11, 2012 Chennai, NZ won by 1 run#

Nov. 1, 2017 New Delhi, India won by 53 runs

Nov. 4, 2017 Rajkot NZ won by 40 runs

Nov. 7, 2017 Thiruvananthapuram India won by 6 runs

Feb. 25, 2009 Christchurch, Wellington, Lost by 7 wkts, Lost by 5 wkts

Sept. 11, 2012 Chennai, NZ won by 1 run#

Nov. 1, 2017 New Delhi, India won by 53 runs

Nov. 4, 2017 Rajkot NZ won by 40 runs

Nov. 7, 2017 Thiruvananthapuram India won by 6 runs

Feb. 25, 2009 Christchurch, Wellington, Lost by 7 wkts, Lost by 5 wkts

Sept. 11, 2012 Chennai, NZ won by 1 run#

Nov. 1, 2017 New Delhi, India won by 53 runs

Nov. 4, 2017 Rajkot NZ won by 40 runs

Nov. 7, 2017 Thiruvananthapuram India won by 6 runs

Feb. 25, 2009 Christchurch, Wellington, Lost by 7 wkts, Lost by 5 wkts

Sept. 11, 2012 Chennai, NZ won by 1 run#

Nov. 1, 2017 New Delhi, India won by 53 runs

Nov. 4, 2017 Rajkot NZ won by 40 runs

Nov. 7, 2017 Thiruvananthapuram India won by 6 runs

Feb. 25, 2009 Christchurch, Wellington, Lost by 7 wkts, Lost by 5 wkts

Sept. 11, 2012 Chennai, NZ won by 1 run#

Nov. 1, 2017 New Delhi, India won by 53 runs

Nov. 4, 2017 Rajkot NZ won by 40 runs

Nov. 7, 2017 Thiruvananthapuram India won by 6 runs

Feb. 25, 2009 Christchurch, Wellington, Lost by 7 wkts, Lost by 5 wkts

Sept. 11, 2012 Chennai, NZ won by 1 run#

Nov. 1, 2017 New Delhi, India won by 53 runs

Nov. 4, 2017 Rajkot NZ won by 40 runs

Nov. 7, 2017 Thiruvananthapuram India won by 6 runs

Feb. 25, 2009 Christchurch, Wellington, Lost by 7 wkts, Lost by 5 wkts

Sept. 11, 2012 Chennai, NZ won by 1 run#

Nov. 1, 2017 New Delhi, India won by 53 runs

Nov. 4, 2017 Rajkot NZ won by 40 runs

Nov. 7, 2017 Thiruvananthapuram India won by 6 runs

Feb. 25, 2009 Christchurch, Wellington, Lost by 7 wkts, Lost by 5 wkts

Sept. 11, 2012 Chennai, NZ won by 1 run#

Nov. 1, 2017 New Delhi, India won by 53 runs

Nov. 4, 2017 Rajkot NZ won by 40 runs

Nov. 7, 2017 Thiruvananthapuram India won by 6 runs

Feb. 25, 2009 Christchurch, Wellington, Lost by 7 wkts, Lost by 5 wkts

Sept. 11, 2012 Chennai, NZ won by 1 run#

Nov. 1, 2017 New Delhi, India won by 53 runs

Nov. 4, 2017 Rajkot NZ won by 40 runs

Nov. 7, 2017 Thiruvananthapuram India won by 6 runs

Feb. 25, 2009 Christchurch, Wellington, Lost by 7 wkts, Lost by 5 wkts

Sept. 11, 2012 Chennai, NZ

TV PICKS

New Zealand v India: 1st T20I, Star Sports 1 (SD & HD), 8.30 a.m. & 12.30 p.m.

South Africa v Pakistan: 2rd T20I, Sony Six (SD & HD), 9.30 p.m.

Ranji Trophy: Star Sports 2 (SD & HD), 9.15 a.m.

ISL: Star Sports 1 (SD & HD), 7.15 p.m.

Pro Volleyball League: Sony Ten 3 & Six (SD & HD), 6.45 p.m.

NBA: Sony ESPN (SD & HD), 6.30 a.m. & 9 a.m.

IN BRIEF



Kraigg Brathwaite to lead in Holder's place

DUBAI Opener Kraigg Brathwaite is set to lead West Indies in the third and final Test against England at the Darren Sammy National cricket stadium in St. Lucia, beginning on February 9. The 26-year-old will be the stand-in captain in the absence of Jason Holder, who will serve a one-match suspension following his second minor over-rate offence in the second Test at Barbados. ANI



Mourinho accepts one-year jail sentence

MADRID Portuguese football coach Jose Mourinho has accepted a one-year jail sentence he won't have to serve and a fine of close to €2 million for tax fraud as part of a deal with prosecutors revealed on Tuesday. The 56-year-old is accused of committing tax fraud in 2011 and 2012 when he coached Spanish giants Real Madrid. AFP



Pistons bounce back with win over Nuggets

LOS ANGELES Andre Drummond scored a season-high 27 points as the Detroit Pistons rebounded from a crushing defeat with a 129-103 NBA victory over the Denver Nuggets on Monday. The Pistons were coming off a devastating loss to the Los Angeles Clippers on Saturday in which Detroit surrendered a 23-point third-quarter lead. Drummond's sparkling effort included 12 rebounds, three assists and three blocked shots. Stanley Johnson scored 21 points and Blake Griffin added 17.

The results: Brooklyn 94 lost to Milwaukee 113; Sacramento 127 bt San Antonio 112; Phoenix 110 lost to Houston 118; New Orleans 107 lost to Indiana 109; Detroit 129 bt Denver 103; Washington 129 lost to Atlanta 137. AFP

Ton-up Snell, resolute lower-order lift Saurashtra

Vidarbha manages a slender five-run lead as the game heads towards an exciting finish

RANJI FINAL

AMOL KARHADKAR
NAGPUR

Living up to its billing as a clash between equals, the Ranji Trophy final is poised for an exciting finish after a topsy-turvy third day's play at the Vidarbha Cricket Association Stadium.

The day started with Vidarbha dismissing opener Snell Patel soon after he got to his hundred. The Saurashtra tail then staged a fight-back just like Vidarbha's

and even threatened to earn the innings lead. But after gaining a slim five-run advantage, Vidarbha lost both openers before Ganesh Unadkat and Chetan Sakariya that added 60 in 117 minutes – fell agonisingly short of the magic mark of 312.

Returning the favour
If the final three Vidarbha wickets had frustrated Saurashtra for the second day's entire first session, it was the turn of Saurashtra's lower order to return the favour. The last five wickets – especially



Agile: Wasim Jaffer takes a fine reflex catch to dismiss Dharmendrasinh Jadeja. • VIVEK BENDRE

the 10th-wicket partnership between captain Jaydev Unadkat and Chetan Sakariya that added 60 in 117 minutes

– fell agonisingly short of the magic mark of 312.

But considering the match is set to produce a result, the 176 added by those five wickets would be worth their weight in gold as they brought Saurashtra back.

When Snell was caught behind off Umesh Yadav, who had given the opener and the other overnight bat-

sman Prerak Mankad body blows in plenty, Saurashtra was 184 for seven in the first hour.

But Unadkat made his first telling contribution of the season with the willow – lofting and sweeping the spinners with panache – and the last three batsmen stood up with him to give themselves some hope with the ball.

They were fortunate that the generally safe hands of Jaffer failed to pouch Kamlesh Makvana on nine (194

for seven) and a half-chance when Sakariya hadn't opened his account (248 for nine).

Repair work
Makvana and Dharmendrasinh Jadeja started the repair work with a valuable 38-run partnership. Left-hander Dharmendrasinh drove with flair, while Makvana negotiated the spinners, even employing an upper-cut against Umesh for a one-bounced four.

Stat attack

Snell Patel became the fourth wicket-keeper-opener to score a hundred in a Ranji final. His predecessors – Vinayak Samant (2008-09), Sameer Dighe (1994-95) and Madhav Mantri (1951-52) – did it for Mumbai

1 Aditya Sarvate's five-wicket haul took his season's tally to 49, equalling the record of offie Akshay Wakhare (2015-16) for most wickets in a season for Vidarbha

confidence from the fight-back, Dharmendrasinh ensured the game was in the balance, first uprooting the leg-stump exposed by Faiz Fazal and then deceiving Sanjay in flight.

The scores:

Vidarbha – 1st innings: 312.

Saurashtra – 1st innings: Harvik Desai lbw b Sarvate 10, Snell Patel c Wadkar b Umesh 102, Vishvaraj Singh Jadeja lbw b Sarvate 18, Cheteshwar Pujara c Jaffer b Sarvate 1, Arpit Vasavada c Jaffer b Wakhare 13, Sheldon Jackson c Wadkar b Wakhare 9, Prerak Mankad lbw b Sarvate 21, Kamlesh Makvana c Jaffer b Wakhare 27, Dharmendrasinh Jadeja c Jaffer b Sarvate 23, Jaydev Unadkat c Sanjay b Wakhare 46, Chetan Sakariya (not out) 28; Extras (b-5, lb-4): 9; Total (in 117 overs): 307.

Fall of wickets: 1-18, 2-79, 3-81, 4-115, 5-131, 6-173, 7-184, 8-222, 9-247.

Vidarbha bowling: Gurbani 8-3-13-0, Umesh 29-7-59-1, Sarvate 40-12-98-5, Karnewar 20-7-48-0, Wakhare 20-1-80-4.

Vidarbha – 2nd innings: Faiz Fazal b D. Jadeja 10, R. Sanjay st sub (Barot) b Dharmendrasinh 16, Ganesh Satish (batting) 24, Wasim Jaffer (batting) 5; Total (for two wkts. in 31 overs): 55.

Fall of wickets: 1-16, 2-45.

Saurashtra bowling: Unadkat 8-3-7-0, Sakariya 6-2, 10-0, Makvana 8-3-10-0, Dharmendrasinh 11-0-36-2.

Paes and Paire in last eight

SPORTS BUREAU

MONTEPELLIER (FRANCE)

Leander Paes and France's Benoit Paire cruised into the doubles quarterfinals of the € 586,140 ATP Tour event here.

The results: Doubles: First round: € 586,140 ATP, Montpellier: Benoit Paire (Fra) & Leander Paes bt Jonathan Eysseric & Gilles Simon (Fra) 6-4, 6-2.

\$15,000 ITF men, Sharm El Sheikh: Daniel Kossek & Maciej Smola (Pol) bt Rishab Agarwal & V.M. Ranjeet 7-6 (4), 6-4; Patrik Rikl & Jan Satal (Cze) bt Aaron Schmid (Sui) & Aryan Goaves 7-6(10), 6-1.

Lajong upsets Churchill

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

SHILLONG
Shillong Lajong scored an upset 3-2 win over second-placed Churchill Brothers in a crucial 12th round match of the I-League here on Tuesday.

The results: Shillong Lajong 3 (Samuel Kynshi 36, 45, Naorem Mahesh Singh 83) bt Churchill Brothers 2 (Willis Plaza 53, Anthony Wolfe 71).

Indian Arrows 2 (Rohit Das 38, Rahim Ali 47) bt Minerava Punjab 1 (Moinuddin 68).

Jerome inspires Calicut Heroes

Comes good in decider to take match away from U Mumba

PRO VOLLEYBALL

STAN RAYAN
KOCHI

A super serve, four solid smashes and a very effective block!

Captain Jerome Vinith was all fire and fury in the decider as he inspired Calicut Heroes to a dramatic 3-2 victory over U Mumba Volley in the RuPay Pro Volleyball League at the Rajiv Gandhi indoor stadium here on Tuesday night.

It was the Heroes' second straight win and U Mumba's second loss from as many matches.

Eight of Jerome's 14 points in the match came from the fifth set alone.

"It was a do-or-die set, I wanted to take it with confidence," said Jerome after the thriller.

Jerome began the fifth with an ace, a 'super serve' which brought two points and a little later, he gave his team a super point with his stunning smash from the left flank. And with A. Karthik uncorking a super serve, the Heroes led 11-6 in the decider which made life easy for them in the end.

U Mumba was quick to grab the opportunity and with captain Deepesh Kumar, Tomislav Coskovic and Shubham producing some fine attack, Mumba levelled the match 2-2. That set also exposed the weakness in the Heroes' first pass.

Ajithlal was at his best in court spikes to Vipul Kumar's fine setting.

But with U Mumba winning super points twice, when Jerome was blocked and a little later with Shubham Chaudhary's smash, the match turned around sharply.

U Mumba was quick to grab the opportunity and with captain Deepesh Kumar, Tomislav Coskovic and Shubham producing some fine attack, Mumba levelled the match 2-2. That set also exposed the weakness in the Heroes' first pass.

Ajithlal was at his best in

the first and fourth sets while American Paul Lotman had 10 points.

The Heroes started the match strongly and had a 6-4 lead in the second set but U Mumba bounced back. U Mumba's left-handed setter Prasanth Sahara also impressed with his serves which rattled the Heroes. But it all came together nicely for the Heroes in the end.

The result: Calicut Heroes bt U Mumba Volley 15-10, 15-12, 15-13, 15-14, 15-9.

Wednesday's match: Kochi Blue Spikers v Ahmedabad Defenders (7 p.m.).

Jerome Vinith, left, was all fire and fury in taking Calicut Heroes over the line. • H. VIBHU



Bilting smashes: Jerome Vinith, left, was all fire and fury in taking Calicut Heroes over the line. • H. VIBHU

Liverpool slips up again

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE

LONDON

Liverpool wasted another chance to extend its lead at the top of the Premier League as Jurgen Klopp's men were punished in a 1-1 draw at West Ham on Monday.

The result: West Ham 1 (Antonio 28) drew with Liverpool 1 (Mane 22).

JV between FIFA, Qatar

SPORTS BUREAU

CHENNAI

FIFA and Qatar announced on Tuesday a joint venture to deliver the 2022 World Cup, which will be held for the first time in the Middle East. Earlier, the host nations solely had organisational duties.

From the 2026 tournament in the North American continent, FIFA will alone be responsible for holding the event with no involvement from the three host nations.

FIFA secretary general Fatma Samoura, who is part of the nine-member management board that met for the first time in Doha on Tuesday, said the new approach was undertaken in an effort to avoid inefficiencies and to deliver the best possible tournament for the fans, players and officials.

CHALLENGER

S. DIPAK RAGAV
CHENNAI

One of India's most improved player from 2018, Sasi Kumar Mukund, who was also in the Davis Cup reserves last week, played a near-perfect match on Tuesday to post an easy 6-3, 6-1 win over Sebastian Fanselow of Germany in the second round of the men's singles at the ATP Chennai Open challenger tournament at the SDAT tennis stadium here on Tuesday.

The 22-year-old began by easily holding serve before putting pressure on Fanselow's serve and quickly had four break points in the second game of the match, though he was could not capitalise on them. The Indian came up with some deep returns that pegged the German to the baseline and induced errors regularly.

In the fourth game of the first set, Sasi Kumar broke the German to love taking a 4-2 lead. Serving for the set, the Indian had a small scare facing break point once but saved it with an ace and then produced a beautiful backhand down the line winner to clinch it 6-3.

One-way traffic

The German's service games were poor – he served eight double faults in the match.

The match slipped away him in the opening game of the second set when he served two double faults and was broken. It was one-way traffic from there on with Sasi Kumar breaking him thrice in the set, winning 10 of the last 11 points to seal the match.

Speaking after the match, Mukund said, "I was happy with the way I played today. I was anticipating a much tougher match as he has played in a couple of quarterfinals before coming here. "I was coming from grass and I arrived here really late so I wasn't expecting too much from my game today, but I am happy it came off well."

The two other Indians in the singles main draw did not have a great day with Manish Sureshkumar losing to Brydan Klein 6-2, 6-3 in the first round, while Sumit Nagal lost to Duckhee Lee 6-3, 6-4 in the second round.

The results:

Second round: Mohamed Safwat (Egypt) bt Andrea Pellegrino (Ita) 6-3, 7-5; Sasi Kumar Mukund bt Sebastian Fanselow (Ger) 6-3, 6-1; Duckhee Lee (Kor) bt Sumit Nagal 6-3, 6-4; Andrew Harris (Aus) bt Tsung-Hua Yang (Tpe) 6-2, 6-1; Alejandro Davidovich Fokina (Esp) bt Renato Tokuda (Jpn) 3-6, 6-2, 6-3; Nicola Kuhn (Esp) bt Antoine Escoffier (Fra) 4-6, 7-6 (5), 4-0 (retd.)

First round: Luke Saville (Aus) bt Mozez Echagui (Tun) 7-6, 6-1; Brydan Klein (GBR) bt Manish Sureshkumar 6-2, 6-3; Alexander Zhurbin (Rus) bt Ricardo Ojeda Lara (Esp) 6-2, 6-4; Colm Altmiran (USA) bt Kaito Uesugi (Jpn) 1-6, 6-3, 7-6(8); Ian Gakhov (Rus) bt Dayne Kelly (Aus) 7-6, 6-3.

FAITH

Karma and vasanas

All beings have a past that has a bearing on the present and the present determines the future. The seventh chapter of the Bhagavata Purana deals with how the vasanas as well as the tendencies produced by karma influence the course of each one's life, pointed out Sri Ramanujam in a discourse. Each new life is thus not projected on a clean slate. The case of the prime devotees Jaya and

IN BRIEF



Neymar celebrates birthday in style

Neymar celebrated his 27th birthday with a glittering party in Paris on Monday evening joined by family, Paris Saint-Germain teammates and a smattering of celebrities. The world's most expensive footballer, nursing a right foot injury, greeted his guests leaning on distinctive red crutches in keeping with the colour theme for the 'Nuit Rouge (Red Night)': AFP

Deschamps and Vonn to attend Laureus awards

MONACO World Cup-winning France football team's former captain and current manager Didier Deschamps and the recently retired Lindsey Vonn, the greatest women's skier of all time, will be attending the Laureus World Sports Academy here later this month. The prominent Laureus Academy members who have already confirmed are Franz Beckenbauer, Boris Becker, Sergey Bubka, Cafu, Nadia Comaneci, Dawn Fraser, Cathy Freeman, Edwin Moses, Alessandro del Piero, and Steve Waugh among others. PTI

Atletico's Isacio Calleja passes away

MADRID Isacio Calleja who won two league titles with Atletico Madrid and the 1964 European championships with Spain died on Monday aged 82, his former club announced. Born in 1936 Calleja joined Atletico in 1958 and the defender remained with the club until his retirement after 425 matches later in 1972. "Today is a sad day for the rojiblanco. Atletico Madrid is in mourning after the death of our ex player Isacio Calleja" the club announced on their website. AFP

Gukesh has a tete-a-tete with Anand

Discusses all things chess with the senior pro

S. PRASANNA VENKATESAN CHENNAI

World's second and India's youngest Grandmaster D. Gukesh (12) met, interacted and traded moves on the chessboard with former World champion and Grandmaster Viswanathan Anand at the latter's residence here on Tuesday.

The soft-spoken, to-the-point Gukesh said he was "happy" to meet Anand and that he had intended to discuss "some openings" and some games he had "problem with".

Anand said: "He has just come back from Gibraltar (Tradewise Gibraltar chess festival). So, we had a look at some games that he played



Meeting of like minds: Anand was left impressed with D. Gukesh, after the latter landed at his place. ■ M. KARUNAKARAN

there. "Also, well, one thing leads to another. You discuss a game, then you just

start discussing some other tournament where something happened, and it just

goes on. Like, we ended up seeing some games from the Isle of Man last year, and so

on. "And there are some lines he wanted to check. So, I've also been pulling out my notes and looking at some stuff.

"Generally, we're looking at the position and trying to judge it. I guess this is what a normal training session should look like."

According to Gukesh's father Rajinikanth, his son had played a lot last year without losing too many points across tournaments. Grandmaster B. Adhiban had expressed his amazement at this ability.

Reacting to this, Anand said, "It shows a lot of consistency. And I think it's a healthy trait to have. I've seen as well that his level of

chess is quite stable. It doesn't fluctuate quite hugely. That's good."

Asked if Gukesh playing a lot is a cause for concern, Anand said: "It's not a concern, many of his peers play as much as he does. But it's not a bad idea at some point for him to take a rest."

On what he makes of Gukesh the person, Anand said, "Well, basically, he's a Grandmaster and he's understanding. I don't have to explain stuff very much. We're mostly on the same page on many things."

"But he's very quiet. He's, you know, obviously one of these 'My chess will do the talking for me' kind."

India bids for next hockey World Cup

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA LAUSANNE

India is among six countries that have presented bids to host the next edition of the hockey World Cup, the International Hockey Federation (FIH) announced on Tuesday.

India has proposed conducting the event for either men or women in the January 13 to 29 (2023) window.

CLTA inks deal with CAM

CHANDIGARH: The Chandigarh Lawn Tennis Association (CLTA) signed a deal with Club Atletico Montemar (CAM), Spain, for a five-year period, to ensure high standard of training for its trainees.

The protocol, signed by CLTA president Jai Singh Gill and the Founder-Director of CAM, Joaquin Perez Roman, at the CLTA Complex on Tuesday, would help the trainees get two weeks of training every season from the visiting experts.

The coach and trainer who visit the CLTA from Spain will try to upgrade training facilities and provide the latest skills. Four trainees of the CLTA's rural scheme CHART will also visit Spain for two to three weeks to learn international techniques.

Double for Vivaan

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT JAIPUR

Vivaan Kapoor was in irresistible form as he won both the men's and junior honours in trap in the second National shotgun selection trial at the OASIS range on Tuesday.

Vivaan beat former world champion Manavjit Singh Sandhu 44-42 in the men's final, after having qualified in the fourth place with a total of 110.

Prithviraj Tondaiman shot 121 in qualification, the same as Manavjit Sandhu, and pipped the latter 22-21 in the shoot-off to get the No.1 spot.

Asian Games silver medallist Lakshay Sheoran and the former national champion Anirudh Singh shot 116 and missed the final by one point, along with Rayyan Rizvi.

Olympian Kynan Chenai and the Khelo India Youth Games champion Manavadiya Rathore shot 115.

Vivaan Kapoor beat Ma-

When Safwat wasn't even ready!

S. DIPAK RAGAV CHENNAI

An interesting story in the world of tennis last year was when India's Prajesh Gunneswaran missed an opportunity to make his debut at the French Open despite getting in as a lucky loser since he had entered into another tournament in Italy by then.

The Indian was the eighth lucky loser to get into the main draw but the seventh one who got in too has an equally interesting tale.

Egypt's Mohamed Safwat couldn't have been happier when Victor Troicki pulled out of the match against Grigor Dimitrov and handed Safwat his Grand Slam debut, though it was not the player he expected to pull out.

Short notice

Unfortunately for the Egyptian, he came to know about it only 30 minutes before the match.

Safwat is here at the ATP Chennai Open Challenger

where he won his second-round match on Tuesday.

"Yeah, it was tough, was about 25 minutes. There was a rumour that (Nick) Kyrgios would pull out."

"And I was just there to sign-in. I had a warm-up but no clothes, had nothing ready."

"Because Troicki was there and I saw him the night before and he was warming up I guess."

"Even Dimitrov knew about it only 20 minutes before," Safwat recalled about his Grand Slam debut.

Incidentally, it was Kyrgios' pull out that handed Prajesh his chance but instead, Argentina's Marco Trungotelli was the beneficiary, making a 10-hour drive from Barcelona to Paris that had the tennis fans hooked whether he would reach on time to take on Bernard Tomic.

Speaking about the match against Dimitrov, Safwat said, "It was very quick. I needed to adapt quickly but



Mohamed Safwat. ■ FILE PHOTO

it took me a while, a set and 1-4, to get used to."

"After the medical timeout, I cooled down and it was better."

On Tuesday, he had no such issues despite landing in the city only early on Monday after playing in a Challenger event there and posted a straight-sets win over Italian Andrea Pellegrino.

He will take on Sasi Kumar Mukund in the third round.

Punjab in last eight

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA GWALIOR

Defending champion Punjab and Mumbai entered the quarterfinals of the ninth men's senior National hockey championship (Division-A) here on Tuesday. Punjab was held to a 3-3 draw by Services Sports Control Board (SSCB), while Mumbai secured a 3-1 win against Chandigarh in another Pool A match.

Karnataka rallied past Odisha 3-2.

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF ELECTRONICS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY, CALICUT

NIT Campus Post, Calicut, Kerala- 673601

ADMISSION for PG/ADVANCED DIPLOMA AND CERTIFICATE PROGRAMMES

For details see <http://nielit.gov.in/calicut/content/course-calendar>

9446011266 trng@calicut.nielit.in 9446711666

FRONTLINE
SNOOPING STATE

READING FRONTLINE IS A REWARDING EXPERIENCE

Gift for 6 Months Subscription (Option available)

Gift for 1 Year Subscription (Option available)

Gift for 2 Years Subscription (Option available)

Wildcraft Sling Bag

Wildcraft Laptop Bag

Wildcraft Trolley Bag

Subscribe Now!

THE HINDU GROUP

Cover price ₹100			
Periodicity	No. of Issues	Rate @ Cover Price(Rs.)	Free Gift
6 months	13	1300	A. Wildcraft Sling Bag (or) B. Philips Power Bank
1 Year	26	2600	A. Wildcraft Laptop Bag (or) B. AT Back Pack
2 Years	52	5200	A. Wildcraft Trolley Bag (or) B. AT Duffle Bag
Overseas	26	7400 (110 USD)	NA

To subscribe online, visit www.thehindugroup.in/subscribe.

SUBSCRIPTION ORDER FORM

New Subscription Renewal (Subscription No.)
For subscription, please fill the form, sign and send it to Circulation Department, The Hindu, Kasturi Buildings, 859 & 860, Anna Salai, Chennai – 600 002. E-mail: customercare@thehindu.co.in Toll-Free No.: 1800 3000 1878

Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____

Pin: _____ District: _____ State: _____

Landline: _____ Mobile: _____ e-mail: _____

I am remitting ₹ _____ for 6 months for 1 Year for 2 Years A (or) B

Gift Selected: For 6 months A (or) B | For 1 Year A (or) B | For 2 Years A (or) B

By DD/Cheque Number - in favour of THG Publishing Private Limited., (Add ₹10 for non-Chennai cheque)

DD/Cheque Number: _____ Amount: ₹ _____ Date: _____

Bank: _____ Branch: _____

Signature with date: _____



SPORTSTAR

MISSION: NOT IMPOSSIBLE

Subscribe Now!

Gift for 6 Months Subscription (Option available)

Gift for 1 Year Subscription (Option available)

Gift for 2 Years Subscription (Option available)

Philips Power Bank

American Tourister Back Pack

Adidas Gym Bag

THE HINDU GROUP

Cover price ₹75			
Periodicity	No. of Issues	Rate @ Cover Price(Rs.)	Free Gift
6 months	13	975	A. Wildcraft Sling Bag (or) B. Philips Power Bank
1 Year	26	1950	A. Wildcraft Laptop Bag (or) B. AT Back Pack
2 Years	52	3900	A. Wildcraft Duffle Bag (or) B. Adidas Gym Bag
Overseas	26	5800 (90 USD)	NA

To subscribe online, visit www.thehindugroup.in/subscribe.

SUBSCRIPTION ORDER FORM

New Subscription Renewal (Subscription No.)
For subscription, please fill the form, sign and send it to Circulation Department, The Hindu, Kasturi Buildings, 859 & 860, Anna Salai, Chennai – 600 002. E-mail: customercare@thehindu.co.in Toll-Free No.: 1800 3000 1878

Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____

Pin: _____ District: _____ State: _____

Landline: _____ Mobile: _____ e-mail: _____

I am remitting ₹ _____ for 6 months for 1 Year for 2 Years A (or) B

Gift Selected: For 6 months A (or) B | For 1 Year A (or) B | For 2 Years A (or) B

By DD/Cheque Number - in favour of THG Publishing Private Limited., (Add ₹10 for non-Chennai cheque)

DD/Cheque Number: _____ Amount: ₹ _____ Date: _____

Bank: _____ Branch: _____

This dinosaur used spiny backbone for defence

Bajadasaurus pronospinax lived 140 mn years ago

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
BUENOS AIRES

A herbivorous dinosaur that fended off predators with a row of spines running along its back and lived 140 million years ago has been found in Argentine Patagonia.

The discovery of the new species of dicraeosauridae, christened *Bajadasaurus pronospinax*, was revealed in scientific journal *Nature*.

A reproduction of its spiny neck was exhibited in the Cultural Science Centre in Buenos Aires.



Defence mechanism: Replicas of *Bajadasaurus pronospinax* at the Cultural Science Centre in Buenos Aires. ■ AFP

"We believe that the long and sharp spines – very long and thin – of *Bajadasaurus* and *Amargasaurus cazaui* (another dicraeosauridae) must have been to deter predators," said Pablo Gallina,

an assistant researcher at Maimonides University.

"We think that had they been just bare bone structures or covered only by skin, they could have been easily broken or fractured

with a blow or when being attacked by other animals," he added.

"These spines must have been covered by a keratin sheath similar to what happens in the horns of many mammals."

Bajadasaurus was a quadruped and part of the wider Sauropod family that lived from the late Triassic period (around 230 million years ago) until the end of the late Cretaceous (70 million years ago).

Amargasaurus cazaui lived in the South American continent around 15 million years after *Bajadasaurus* and both species were found in the Neuquen province.



PRESENTATION OF THE SANGEET NATAK AKADEMI AWARDS 2017 BY SHRI RAM NATH KOVIND HON'BLE PRESIDENT OF INDIA

WEDNESDAY, 6 FEBRUARY 2019

MUSIC
LALITH J. RAO: Hindustani Vocal Music
UMAKANT & RAMAKANT GUNDECHA (Gundecha Brothers – Joint Award): Hindustani Vocal Music
YOGESH SAMSI: Hindustani Instrumental Music – Tabla
RAJENDRA PRASANNA: Hindustani Instrumental – Shehnai/Flute
M.S. SHEELA: Carnatic Vocal Music
SUMA SUDHINDRA: Carnatic Instrumental Music – Veena
TIRUVARUR VAIDYANATHAN: Carnatic Instrumental Music – Mridangam
SHASHANK SUBRAMANYAM: Carnatic Instrumental Music – Flute
MADHURANI: Other Major Traditions of Music – Sugam Sangeet
HAIMANTI SUKLA: Other Major Traditions of Music – Sugam Sangeet
GURNAM SINGH: Other Major Traditions of Music – Gurbani

DANCE
RAMA VAIDYANATHAN: Bharatanatyam
SHOBHA KOSER: Kathak

ENTRY STRICTLY BY INVITATION

Festival of Performing Arts

featuring the recipients of Sangeet Natak Akademi Awards 2017

6 – 10 February 2019, Delhi

WEDNESDAY 6 FEBRUARY

Meghdoot Theatre-III, 3.00 p.m.
ASHIT DESAI: Lec-dem (Music for Dance)
Meghdoot Theatre-I, 4.00 p.m.
PARVATHY BAUL: Folk Music (Baul), West Bengal
JAGANNATH BAYAN: Traditional Music – Khol, Assam
K.C. RUNREMSANGI: Folk Music, Mizoram
Piya Nisail (play in Bhojpuri Hindi) featuring RAMCHANDRA MANJHI, Bhikhari Thakur Rangmandal, Chhapra

Meghdoot Theatre-III, 6.30 p.m.

UMAKANT & RAMAKANT GUNDECHA: Hindustani Vocal
SHASHANK SUBRAMANYAM: Carnatic Flute
YOGESH SAMSI: Tabla

THURSDAY 7 FEBRUARY

Meghdoot Theatre-III, 11.00 a.m.
SANDHYA PURECHA: Lec-dem on 'Shastra & Sampradaya – Then & Now'
Meghdoot Theatre-III, 4.00 p.m.

ANWAR KHAN MANGANIYAR: Folk Music, Rajasthan
RAMKRISHNA TALUKDAR: Sattriya
JANMAJOY SAIBABU: Chhau
Meghdoot Theatre-III, 6.00 p.m.

RAJENDRA PRASANNA: Shehnai/Flute
SUMA SUDHINDRA: Carnatic Veena
TIRUVARUR VAIDYANATHAN: Mridangam
HAIMANTI SUKLA: Sugam Sangeet

Meghdoot Theatre-I, 6.30 p.m.

Rashomon (play in Hindi), dir. AVtar Sahni, Actor's Repertory Theatre, Delhi
FRIDAY 8 FEBRUARY

Meghdoot Theatre-III, 3.00 p.m.
SUDIP GUPTA: Puppetry

ALL ARE WELCOME.

Live webcast: <http://sangeetnatak.gov.in/sna/webcast.php>

Seating on first-come, first-served basis. Gates will close after the seats are full.

Enq: 23387246 / 47 / 48

Programme subject to change.

Facebook lets senders undo sent messages

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
SAN FRANCISCO

Facebook on Tuesday added a Messenger feature for anyone who has fired off a comment they regretted – a way to take it back.

Messenger users will now have a 10-minute window after sending a message to undo it, leaving behind a note telling everyone in a conversation that the remark was removed, according to the social network.

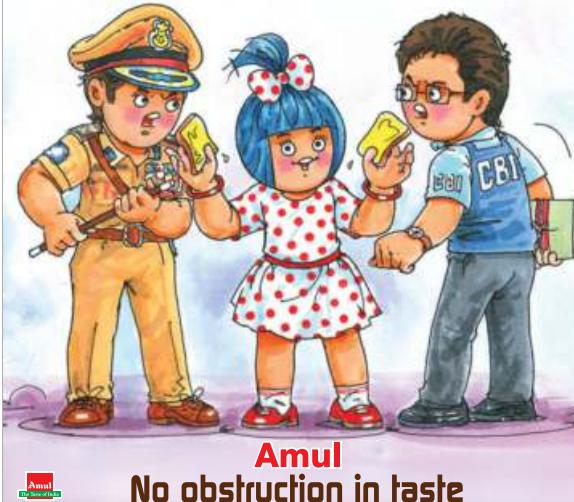
"Have you ever accidentally sent a message to the wrong group of friends, mis-typed something, or simply wanted to remove a message in a chat?" Facebook asked rhetorically.

"You're not the only one! Starting today, we are launching a feature where you can easily remove your message on Messenger."

The feature is used by over a billion people.

Last year, it was revealed that Facebook co-founder Mark Zuckerberg was apparently able to remove his sent messages, which caused pressure to make the feature available to all.

Who'll score this Bengoal?



daCunha/AB/540

IN BRIEF



Fighting fish is Thailand's national aquatic animal

BANGKOK The Siamese fighting fish was on Tuesday named Thailand's national aquatic animal.

Known in the West as a betta fish, the underwater brawler is popular in aquariums for its iridescent body and many-hued tail. The government cited its historical and cultural significance as reasons behind the move. AFP



Trail runner fights off, kills mountain lion in U.S.

LOS ANGELES A trail runner attacked by a mountain lion in a park in Colorado managed to fight off and kill the wild cat with his bare hands, park officials said. The jogger suffered serious but non-life threatening injuries and was hospitalised. AFP

Women's brains are on average about three years younger: study

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
WASHINGTON

Women tend to outlive men and stay mentally sharp longer, and a new study out could explain why: female brains appear on average about three years younger.

The study enrolled 121 women and 84 men, who underwent PET scans to measure brain metabolism, or the flow of oxygen and glucose in their brains.

Role of glucose

Like other organs in the body, the brain uses sugar as fuel. But just how it metabolises glucose can reveal a lot about the brain's metabolic age.

Subjects ranged from their 20s to 80s, and across those age spans, women's brains appeared metabolically younger than men's, said the findings in the *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, a peer-reviewed U.S. journal.

A machine-learned algo-



Brain metabolism of 84 men and 121 women was studied. ■ GETTY IMAGES/ISTOCKPHOTO

rithm showed that women's brains were on average about 3.8 years younger than their chronological ages.

And when compared to men, male brains were about two 2.4 years older than their true ages.

Late adulthood

"It's not that men's brains age faster," said senior author Manu Goyal, assistant professor of radiology at Washington University

School of Medicine, St. Louis.

"They start adulthood about three years older than women, and that persists throughout life," said Mr. Goyal. But why?

One theory is that hormones might begin shaping brain metabolism at a young age, setting females on a pattern that is more youthful throughout their lives, compared to men.

Scientists hope to find out if metabolic differences in the brain may play a protective role for women, who tend to score better than men on cognitive tests of reason, memory and problem solving in old age.

It "could mean that the reason women don't experience as much cognitive decline in later years is because their brains are effectively younger," said Goyal.

More work is underway to confirm and better understand the implications of the research.

App lets dog lovers swipe right for perfect pet match

Plans to include cats and other animals

ASSOCIATED PRESS
VILNIUS, LITHUANIA

If the pooch melts your heart, swipe right.

Animal lovers in Lithuania have created a mobile application inspired by the popular dating app Tinder to match up dogs in local shelters with new owners.

Called GetPet, the app was launched last month and is getting hundreds of new users daily and already has made a few matches. It joins a growing market of apps for people looking to adopt a pet, including PawLikeMe and BarkBuddy.

"It is like Tinder, but with dogs," said Vaidas Gecevicius, one of app's creators. "You can arrange a meeting with the dog a date."

Gecevicius said the idea came to creators when they saw a stray dog on the street through the window during a computer workshop.

The app only features dogs for now but the plan is to eventually include cats and other animals.

Two friends, Emily and Elena, recently met Piff, a black-and-gray mongrel via the app. They took him for a walk in a park and said they would return soon to take him home.

But there are limits to the



Ruta Buisaita playing with her new pet dog Cipe. ■ AP

Tinder comparison. It's a one-sided situation and the dogs don't get to have a swiping experience. If you swipe left, another dog profile appears.

Scientists in Belgium now believe that a wide range of gut bacteria can produce chemicals that significantly impact the brain, including several microorganisms linked – positively or negatively – to mental health.

The experiment, known as the Flemish Gut Flora Project, examined depression data and stool samples from more than 1,000 people. People with depression had consistently low levels of bacteria – *Coprococcus* and *Dialister* – whether they took antidepressants or not.

"The notion that micro-

Study links depression to digestive bacteria

It could pave the way for new treatments

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
PARIS

Bacteria in the gut may affect our mental well-being and could be linked to depression, said a study published in the journal *Nature Microbiology* on Monday.

The World Health Organization says an estimated 300 million people suffer from depression, and there are known links between a patient's physical and mental health.

Scientists in Belgium now believe that a wide range of gut bacteria can produce chemicals that significantly impact the brain, including several microorganisms linked – positively or negatively – to mental health.

The experiment, known as the Flemish Gut Flora Project, examined depression data and stool samples from more than 1,000 people. People with depression had consistently low levels of bacteria – *Coprococcus* and *Dialister* – whether they took antidepressants or not.

Mr. Raes said his team's research could pave the way for new, smarter treatments for the illness. After studying the genomes of over 500 types of gut bacteria, they found that several of them produced neuroactive compounds linked to a variety of mental processes.



WHO says an estimated 300 million people suffer from depression.

bial metabolites can interact with our brain – and thus behaviour and feelings – is intriguing," said lead researcher Jeroen Raes, of KU Leuven University.

Mr. Raes stressed, however, that while the study showed a link between gut bacteria and an individual's mental well-being, that didn't mean that one thing directly caused the other.

Mr. Raes said his team's research could pave the way for new, smarter treatments for the illness. After studying the genomes of over 500 types of gut bacteria, they found that several of them produced neuroactive compounds linked to a variety of mental processes.

Students in U.K. to learn mindfulness

Experts to teach relaxation, breathing exercises and ways to regulate emotions

ILIANA MAGRA
LONDON

Schools in England are preparing to include mindfulness as a subject in its curriculum. In up to 370 English schools, students will start to practice mindfulness as part of a study to improve mental health, the government said.

They will work with mental health experts to learn relaxation techniques, breathing exercises and other methods to "help them regulate their emotions," the government said in a news release announcing the



the modern world has brought new pressures for children," Damian Hinds, the British education secretary, said in a statement.

"Children will start to be introduced gradually to issues around mental health, well-being and happiness right from the start of primary school," he added.

Recently, a survey found that 1 in 8 children in England between the ages of 5 and 19 suffered from at least one mental disorder at the time of their assessment in 2017. NY TIMES

CM YK

**Aadhaar biometrics**

We do not collect biometric information suitable for forensic purposes, UIDAI tells Delhi HC Page 2

**Yamuna pollution**

Remove bunds that are blocking the flow of clean water into the Yamuna, HC tells Haryana Page 3

**Doorstep delivery**

Imran Hussain asks Centre to consider coupling ePoS public distribution system with doorstep delivery Page 4

**On the road again**

The third-generation Maruti Suzuki WagonR feels alert and light on its feet Page 6

IN BRIEF**'Nothing in Budget 2019 for education, jobs'**

NEW DELHI
Ahead of a rally on Thursday, its organisers on Tuesday alleged that there was nothing in the Budget 2019 for the youth. The students and leaders also hit out at BJP leader Arun Jaitley for being oblivious about students' protest across the country.

CITY ▶ PAGE 2

MCG drive against encroachments ends

GURUGRAM
The five-day special drive by the Municipal Corporation of Gurugram against unauthorised construction, illegal colonisation and encroachment across its 35 wards ended here on Tuesday.

CITY ▶ PAGE 3

Air quality of Delhi-NCR		
Delhi	382	Gurugram 236
Ghaziabad	429	Faridabad -
Noida	377	Greater Noida 351
Good 0-50	3	Satisfactory 51-100
Poor 101-200	3	Moderate 201-300
Poor 301-400	3	Severe >401
AIR QUALITY INDEX AT 4 P.M. YESTERDAY (AVERAGE OF PAST 24 HOURS) SOURCE: CPCB		

Correction

In the report headlined 'Proposal for AIIMS in Haryana welcomed' that appeared on February 2, there was a mention of President Ram Nath Kovind addressing a joint session of Parliament. It should have been Pranab Mukherjee. The error is regretted.

Capital takes a step towards building organised housing

Land pooling policy web portal launched; pressure on illegal colonies to be eased

SHINJINI GHOSH

NEW DELHI

Union Housing and Urban Affairs Minister Hardeep Puri and Delhi Lieutenant-Governor Anil Baijal on Tuesday launched the web portal for the much-awaited land pooling policy, which aims to provide 17 lakh houses to around 76 lakh people in the Capital.

Speaking at the launch, Mr. Puri said that with applications to the land pooling policy now open, the pressure on unauthorised colonies in the Capital would be eased.

Parcels of land

"Vigorous urbanisation in Delhi has created a huge pressure on land. The entire idea about land pooling is that small pieces of land will be aggregated into large parcels of land, where subsequently development work will be carried out. With the policy, people will be able to shift from unauthorised to organised and predictable housing," said Mr. Puri.

The Minister added that with respect to regularisation of unauthorised colonies, the Delhi government has "not been on board".

The web portal will be open for a period of six months to ensure maximum participation and pooling in the identified sectors, said officials of the Delhi Development Authority (DDA).



(From left) Union Urban Affairs Minister Hardeep Puri, Delhi L-G Anil Baijal and DDA Vice-Chairman Tarun Kapoor at the launch of the web portal for the land pooling policy in the Capital on Tuesday. ■ SANDEEP SAXENA

Making room

■ Landowners with a minimum of two hectares land will be eligible to participate in the policy

■ Web portal will be open for six months

■ The policy offers a floor area ratio (FAR) of 200. This was decided keeping in mind the availability of resources like water

■ Five zones demarcated, including 109 sectors

■ Policy aims to provide 17 lakh houses for 76 lakh people

■ Farmers/landowners/consortiums will be responsible for the pooling process and development while the DDA will develop common facilities and infrastructure

SOURCE: DELHI DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

"The web-enabled interface is for inviting 'Expression of Willingness' for participation where stakeholders may come forward to register on the website. On successful registration, an acknowledgement receipt will be issued. However, this registration shall not be treated as certification by the DDA of any kind and will not entitle to any verification of the registered land parcel on the said land," explained a DDA official.

Stating that the policy is "an idea whose time has come", Mr. Baijal said, "This is an alternative method of development through public-private development as opposed to one where large-scale land is acquired by the DDA and then developed. This is something that we have been waiting for a long time in Delhi, the seeds of which were sown in the Master Plan for Delhi-2021."

Landowners with a minimum of two hectares land

■ The entire idea of land pooling is that small pieces of land will be aggregated into large parcels of land, where subsequently development work will be carried out

HARDEEP PURI

Union Minister

will be eligible to participate in the policy. A particular parcel of land will be developed only when 70% of contiguous land is accumulated, states the policy.

Help desks to be set up
DDA Vice-Chairman Tarun Kapoor said that help desks will be set up at various centres to facilitate interested stakeholders in applying to the policy.

The policy is applicable in the urbanisable areas of urban extensions of the Capital, comprising 95 villages. These have been divided into five zones that include 109 sectors, said a DDA official.

"The entire pooling policy is participatory in nature. The entire process of pooling and development shall be taken up by farmers, developer entities and consortiums shall be involved to participate in all aspects. The DDA will act as a facilitator and planner and help develop common facilities and infrastructure," the official said.

Student arrested for sharing fake poll schedule notification online

Accused held in Ranchi, released on bail; probe under way

STAFF REPORTER

NEW DELHI

circulated on social media and other online platforms.

A youth was arrested for allegedly sharing a fake schedule of general election 2019 on his website, the Delhi police said on Tuesday.

He was subsequently released on bail. A senior police officer said the accused has been identified as Gomunt Kumar, a resident of Ranchi.

During investigation, the police traced a website named www.mytechbuzz.in where the notification was published.

The police said that they are yet to investigate whether the accused was the source of the fake notification. "His claims are being verified and teams are working to get to the source of the fake notification," the officer said.

WhatsApp group

"Technical investigation was conducted and the administrator of the website was identified as Gomunt Kumar. A team was sent to Ranchi after which the arrest was

Alka Lamba's future within AAP unclear

MLA refutes suspension rumours

STAFF REPORTER

NEW DELHI



Not only I but other MLAs too need no reason to quit the party, there are many such reasons which exist despite which other MLAs like myself continue to remain a part of the party [sic.]

ALKA LAMBA

AAP MLA from Chandni Chowk

One held for harassing Belgian tourist

STAFF REPORTER

NEW DELHI

A 30-year-old man was arrested on Tuesday for his alleged involvement in harassing a Belgian woman who was visiting India in December and was compelled to return within 24 hours, the police said.

Deputy Commissioner of Police (New Delhi) Madhur Verma said the accused identified as Imran Latha, hailing from Srinagar, is a resident of Vinod Nagar. "He speaks fluent English and owns a travel agent shop in NDMC market in Connaught Place's Outer Circle. He was the one who, along with his brother, interacted with the Belgian national and cheated her by selling a package for a cheap hotel and made her believe that her earlier booking had been cancelled because of protests," Mr. Verma said.

The officer said that he is being interrogated to ascertain the identity of other touts who brought her to the shop in an autorickshaw and then took her to the hotel where they had booked her stay.

The woman had landed in Delhi on December 6 and returned next day after allegedly being terrified by her experience in the Capital. Upon her return to Europe, she wrote to the Belgian Embassy who further wrote to the Ministry of External Affairs. The Ministry shared the information with Delhi Police.

Civil society group sets agenda for Lok Sabha elections

Invites political parties for discussion; Congress, RJD and NCP agree to participate

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

NEW DELHI

As political parties prepare their election manifestos and promises, a group of civil society leaders and concerned citizens on Tuesday released a document, *Reclaiming the Republic*, which they hope will shape the political agenda in the run up to the Lok Sabha polls.

The comprehensive list includes judicial and electoral reforms, repeal of laws which threaten personal liberties, enactment of a Media Freedom Bill, higher crop prices and loan waivers for farmers, universal pensions, expansion of the rural jobs scheme, and the rehaul of the public education and health systems among others. The group does not sup-



(From left) Economist and political commentator Prabhat Patnaik with Justice (retd) A.P. Shah and lawyer Prashant Bhushan in the Capital on Tuesday. ■ SHIV KUMAR PUSHPAKAR

port universal basic income or cash transfer schemes.

Urgent reforms

The group has invited political parties to discuss the document on Friday. The Congress, Rashtriya Janata Dal, and Nationalist Congress

Party have so far agreed to participate.

"We see the forthcoming Lok Sabha election as an opportunity to retrieve and, indeed, reclaim from manipulation and subversion, our legacy of the Republic. The situation today calls for urgent reforms in law, policies and institutions," said the group, which is chaired by former Chief Justice of the Delhi High Court A.P. Shah.

Other members include Supreme Court lawyer Prashant Bhushan, Swaraj India president Yogendra Yadav, economists Prabhat Patnaik and Jayati Ghosh, activists and former bureaucrat Harsh Mander, Public Health Foundation of India president K. Srinath Reddy and former West Bengal Governor Gopalkrishna Gandhi.

Challenging the ruling NDA government with undermining the Constitution - a liberal manifesto unlike any other - and stifling dissent, former Chief Justice of the Delhi High Court A.P. Shah said that the group's suggestions were aimed at protecting constitutional safeguards, and starting the conversation on the practical policies needed to fulfil the promise of India's foundational document.

"In election season, public discourse is often reduced to mudslinging and seat share calculations," said Swaraj India president Yogendra Yadav. "At a time when the very foundation of our democracy is threatened, we want a discussion of actual issues and policies," he said. Experts in 11 subcommittees drafted the group's tasks, some of which come with detailed timelines for implementation, an approximation of costs involved and suggestions to raise resources.

tions were aimed at protecting constitutional safeguards, and starting the conversation on the practical policies needed to fulfil the promise of India's foundational document.

"In election season, public discourse is often reduced to mudslinging and seat share calculations," said Swaraj India president Yogendra Yadav. "At a time when the very foundation of our democracy is threatened, we want a discussion of actual issues and policies," he said. Experts in 11 subcommittees drafted the group's tasks, some of which come with detailed timelines for implementation, an approximation of costs involved and suggestions to raise resources.

Meanwhile, Ms. Lamba took to Twitter to state, "Not only I but other MLAs too need no reason to quit the party, there are many such reasons which exist despite which other MLAs like myself continue to remain a part of the party [sic.]

AP spokesperson Saubhag Bharadwaj said, "There is no suspension which has been ordered."

Son returns home after 20 years to collect memories of a family that could never reunite

Amit Khaneja, a New York-based doctor whose parents were found murdered in their south Delhi flat, says his family members had planned a reunion in New York this April

SAURABH TRivedi

NEW DELHI

When neurologist Amit Khaneja returned to Delhi after 20 years, following the murder of his elderly parents in East of Kailash last month, he had a trove of memories to collect and recollect. There were so many wishes that remained unfulfilled, plans that never materialised and regrets that will haunt him forever.

Dr. Khaneja, who is settled in New York, said he took a special permission from the Delhi police to visit the flat (number 349) where his parents - Virendra Khaneja and Sarla - stayed on the ninth floor of Mount Kailash apartment in south Delhi. It is the same house where the bodies of his parents were found on

January 26, almost eight days after they were murdered.

As the 45-year-old roundabout the clock while speaking to *The Hindu*, he said his father was a brave man who survived two Indo-Pak wars but was killed by a domestic help he trusted.

"My father was a war veteran and he had fought 1965 and 1971 India-Pakistan wars. After 1971, he took premature retirement from the post of Army Captain and joined Procter & Gamble as a manager. He retired from the job in 2000 as a senior manager. I still remember he used to show us his pictures in uniform," said Dr. Khaneja.

He clicked those pictures and many others to take



(Left) A family photo: V.K. Khaneja and Sarla Khaneja (seated), Amit Khaneja (standing left) and Sumit Khaneja; the elderly couple on one of their trips to the US. ■ SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT



(Left) A family photo: V.K. Khaneja and Sarla Khaneja (seated), Amit Khaneja (standing left) and Sumit Khaneja; the elderly couple on one of their trips to the US. ■ SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

back with him to the US. "I visited the flat just to recollect the memories of my parents and younger brother. I clicked a few pictures to take them with me to New York.

talk regularly with my parents over the phone. My mother was very active on Facebook Messenger and talked to my daughter frequently," said Dr. Khaneja.

Now divorced, Dr. Khaneja lives with his only daughter in the United States. While his busy schedule prevented him from coming to India all these years, his parents

I visited the flat just to recollect the memories of my parents and younger brother. I clicked a few pictures to take them with me to New York

IN BRIEF



Minister meets farmers to discuss MSP for crops

NEW DELHI
Development and Irrigation Minister Gopal Rai on Tuesday held a meeting with farmers in outer Delhi's Narela for devising a mechanism to implement MSP for crops on the basis of recommendations of the Swaminathan Committee Report. The official statement said, the meeting was attended by senior government officers, farm experts and farmers from nearby villages. PTI

Digitised over 8,000 diplomas since 2014: JNU

NEW DELHI
JNU on Tuesday said since 2014, it has digitised 8,482 diplomas, degrees and certificates of BA, MA, MPhil and PhD students across all Schools and Special Centres and uploaded it to National Academic Depository. It said that all uploaded degrees in the NAD depository have photographs and other relevant details of students inscribed on it. STAFF REPORTER

₹1,100 cr not sufficient: North, East bodies to HC

NEW DELHI
The municipal corporations of north and east Delhi told the Delhi High Court on Tuesday that over ₹1,100 crore released to them by the AAP government was inadequate and not in accordance with the Fifth Delhi Finance Commission (DFC) recommendations. PTI

Our biometric information not suitable for forensic use: UIDAI

Using the data for identification of bodies may not be technologically feasible, it tells HC

SOIBAM ROCKY SINGH
NEW DELHI

The Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) on Tuesday told the Delhi High Court that it does not collect biometric information suitable for forensic purposes and hence Aadhaar cannot be used for identification of bodies.

In an affidavit, the UIDAI submitted it does not collect biometric information such as iris scan and fingerprints, based on technologies, standards or procedures that are suitable for forensic purposes.

"Therefore using the biometric data for identification of dead bodies may not be technologically feasible," it said.

Activist's plea

The response came on social activist and advocate Amit Sahni's plea seeking to



use UIDAI data to identify dead bodies, the same way it is being used to trace missing persons.

Advocate Sahni referred to recent news reports, in which the UIDAI has claimed to have traced over 500 children using Aadhaar biometrics.

Taking note of Advocate Sahni's submission, a Bench of Chief Justice Raja Menon and Justice

V.K. Rao asked the UIDAI to come up with an additional answer on the issue.

SC verdict

In its written submission, the UIDAI has also stated that Aadhaar data cannot be legally utilised in the manner Advocate Sahni is asking it to be used for. It referred to a Supreme Court verdict which ruled that no core biometrics information could be used for any other purpose than that permitted in the Aadhaar Act.

The UIDAI added, "The Aadhaar technology only permits biometric authentication which are done on a 1:1 basis for which it is necessary to have the Aadhaar number of the individual."

"Therefore, I:N search if an unidentified body [with no Aadhaar number, no demographic details, and only

partial or latent biometrics], as requested by the petitioner, is beyond the mandate and scope of UIDAI and technologically unfeasible," it added.

Delivery of subsidies

Additionally, the UIDAI argued that the object of Aadhaar is for targeted delivery of services and subsidies and "no Aadhaar data can be shared by any individual or entity with any individual or entity without the consent of resident for that particular purpose."

Advocate Sahni sought a direction to the authorities, saying usage of the Aadhaar information would not only reduce manpower, expenditure and burden on the state in disposing of the unidentified bodies but the bodies could also be handed over to the families in a short span of time.

Budget 2019 silent on education, jobs, minimum wages: students

Statement comes ahead of Young India Adhikar March

STAFF REPORTER

NEW DELHI

Students leaders, who are organising the Young India Adhikar March on February 7, said on Tuesday that there was nothing in Budget 2019 for the youth and hit out at BJP leader Arun Jaitley for being oblivious about student protests across the country.



(From right) JNUSU president N. Sai Balaji, Samajwadi Yuva Sabha national president Vikas Yadav and Swaraj India leader Anupam on Tuesday. ■ SHIV KUMAR PUSHPAKAR

sident N. Sai Balaji said: "Modi will come to the youth for one more chance but this time we will not give him a chance as he has ruined our future. Through our unity we are going to ensure that unemployment was at an all-time high, saying that "there would be great social unrest" if the data was true.

"It is shameful that Mr. Jaitley is oblivious about youth protests all across the country. Our protest will make him regret his words," said AISA national president Sucheta De said:

Mr. Jaitley had comment-

AUD students demand gender-neutral washrooms

STAFF REPORTER

NEW DELHI

The Ambedkar University Delhi Queer Collective on Tuesday submitted a proposal to the Pro-Vice-Chancellor of the university to integrate gender-neutral washrooms on its campus at Kashmere Gate.

The members said that the absence of gender-neutral infrastructure amounts to discrimination against trans, gender non-conforming and non-binary individuals, which goes against the anti-sexual harassment policy of the university.

In the proposal, the students wrote "...the introduction of gender-neutral washrooms shall affirm the ownership of trans, gender non-conforming and non-binary students, faculty and non-teaching staff by creating a safe space, free of bullying, harassment, and institutional discrimination."

Eradicate shame, silence about periods: Sisodia

STAFF REPORTER

NEW DELHI

Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia on Tuesday asked school students to become brand ambassadors for menstrual hygiene to eradicate the "shame and silence about periods".

He flagged off an initiative – Pad Yatra – on Menstrual Hygiene Day (February 5) at Connaught Place.

The rally was followed by a "Period Fest", which was attended by a large number of students and teachers from over 60 schools in the Capital. The participants

went around busy marketplaces, holding placards with slogans to encourage people to talk about menstrual hygiene. Visitors to the festival not only learnt about different period management options but also how to consult doctors from Delhi Medical Association about woman's health, sexual and reproductive health.

Experts also answered queries related to Polycystic Ovarian Disease. Students contributed to spreading awareness by painting and organising skits.

AAP legislators discuss CCTV network

Govt hopes to instal roughly 1.4 lakh cameras across city by 2020

JATIN ANAND

NEW DELHI

Aam Aadmi Party legislators on Tuesday met at Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal's residence to discuss the way forward to fulfill the party's poll promise of creating a network of CCTV surveillance work of CCTV surveillance across the Capital.

"Today all the AAP legislators are meeting to plan how to carry forward the work related to the installation of CCTVs according to the wishes of citizens. AAP legislators will seek opinion on this by meeting with the people in bylanes and neighbourhoods [sic.]," AAP spokesperson Saurabh Bharadwaj said.

The GB, in addition to the local MLA, will have representatives from a State-owned company, which is executing the project, the PWD, the local police and the local community.

Government sources said tended to ensure that the entire network of 1.4 lakh cameras would be in place by February 2020.

Mr. Bharadwaj told *The Hindu* that the meetings would seek suggestions on where to instal CCTV cameras, that would need to be ratified by the five-member General Body.

"The network already has 300 CCTV cameras installed as a pilot project at Mr. Kejriwal's constituency of New Delhi and the entire project will be completed by February, 2020," Mr. Bharadwaj said.

The GB, in addition to the local MLA, will have representatives from a State-owned company, which is executing the project, the PWD, the local police and the local community.

Government sources said

Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL), a State-owned company, had recently "expressed its readiness" to begin executing the project, which entails the installation of 2,000 CCTV cameras in each of the 70 Assembly Constituencies in Delhi.

'Self-rule'

In another tweet, the Greater Kailash MLA argued that with locals deciding where these cameras would be installed was evidence of "Swaraj" (self-rule) followed by another tweet in which he stated that the step would go a long way in combating petty crime. "Incidents of snatching and harassment of women have increased. With CCTV cameras, we will be able to exercise control and the police will also get assistance," he added.

BJP seeks White Paper on govt schools

STAFF REPORTER

NEW DELHI

The Delhi BJP on Tuesday demanded that the AAP government come out with a White Paper on the current status of education in its schools, alleging a "number of contradictions between its tall claims" and realities.

The LoP Vijender Gupta alleged, "Lakhs of its students" had been denied readmission. He added that the government claims to have embarked upon the construction of 20,748 classrooms, which was "questionable when 25,000 posts of teachers are lying vacant".

he said, adding that it also spent ₹17.50 lakh on constructing classrooms and ₹2.50 lakhs on furniture.

On the one hand, the number of students is declining while on the other, classrooms are being built in a "hurried manner", said Mr. Gupta, adding that the government needs to explain its decisions.

The LoP also asked where were the 500 schools promised in AAP manifesto. No survey "has ever been carried out" by the Kejriwal-led government to ascertain whether new schools or classrooms were needed, he added.

TENDER NOTICE							
SR. NO.	NAME OF BOARD/CORP./AUTH	NAME OF WORK NOTICE TENDER	OPENING DATE	CLOSING DATE (TIME)	AMOUNT / END (APPROX.) IN RUPEES	WEBSITE OF THE BOARD CORP./AUTH	NODAL OFFICER/CONTACT DETAILS/EMAIL
1	CAD DIVISION KARNAL	LINING OF WATERCOURSES 23 NOS. NEW/BALANCE WORK	11.02.2019 18.02.2019	NIT PUBLISHED ONLINE	01842271054 Tender No: CADA_karnal_01_2019	http://etenders.hry.nic.in	xenkarna@cad@gmail.com
2	MUNICIPAL COMMITTEE TAURU	BEAUTIFICATION OF MUNICIPAL PARK HORTICULTURE & LIGHTING WORK + 15 OTHER WORKS	18.02.2019	4.44 LACS	01267-282298 secymtauru@gmail.com	http://etenders.hry.nic.in	Tender No: 2019_HRY_74964_1 TO 16
3	MUNICIPAL CORPORATION HISAR	CONST OF IRB STREET OP SHARMA TO VERMA HOUSE SHIV COLONY AND USHA GOSWAMI SCHOOL TO VITOM KIRANA STORE SHASTRI NAGAR AZAD NAGAR HISAR + 4 OTHER WORKS	20.02.2019	1.71 CRORE	01626-237884 xenmchisar@gmail.com	mcisar.haryanaeprocurement.gov.in	Tender No: 110343 & Others
4	MUNICIPAL COMMITTEE LADWA	PROVIDING AND FIXING OF GRILLS OF AMBEDKAR CHOWK LADWA +12 OTHER WORKS	04.02.2019 09.02.2019	2.68 LACS	01627-282298 secymc.ladwa@yahoo.com	dipadvt@gmail.com	Tender No: MCL 2019 FEB 001 to 013
5	MUNICIPAL COUNCIL REWARI	REFURBISHMENT OF EXISTING SHELTERS FOR URBAN HOMELESS FAMILIES/PERSONS AT RED CROSS REWARI + 1 OTHER WORK	07.02.2019	8.55 LACS	015483676 secymc.revari@gmail.com	https://etenders.hry.nic.in	Tender No: 2018_HRY_72301_5 & 6
6	MUNICIPAL CORPORATION YAMUNANAGAR-JAGADHRI	IMPROVEMENT OF STREET LIGHT WIRING IN WARD NO 1 TO 7 + 2 OTHER WORKS	02.02.2019 08.02.2019	144.19 LACS	01628-237884 Assistant Engineer	https://haryanaeprocurement.gov.in	
7	MUNICIPAL CORPORATION YAMUNANAGAR-JAGADHRI	SUPPLY,INSTALLATION TESTING AND COMMISSIONING OF SILENT D.G SET 45 KVA IN OFFICE BUILDING + 1 OTHER WORK	01.02.2019 12.02.2019	9.12 LACS	01628-237884 Assistant Engineer	https://haryanaeprocurement.gov.in	
8	MUNICIPAL CORPORATION YAMUNANAGAR-JAGADHRI	CONSTRUCTION OF BERM FROM BUDIYA CHOWK TO SHARMA TENT + 14 OTHER WORKS	01.02.2019 15.02.2019	3.54 CRORE	018656867 xen.mcyr@gmail.com	https://mcynr.haryanaeprocurement.gov.in	Tender No: 114717 to 114746
9	MUNICIPAL COUNCIL BAHADURGARH	SPL REPAIR WITH (MASTIC PROVISION) OF BARAHI ROAD IN WARD NO.21	11.02.2019 11.02.2019	59.73 LACS	0162679801 mcgarh@gmail.com	etenders.hry.nic.in	Tender No: 958
10	MUNICIPAL COMMITTEE BAWAL	PROVIDING OF 1 NO.MAHINDRA,AC BOLERO JEEP WHITE COLOUR, DIESEL VARIANT WITH DRIVER ON HIRE BASIS INCLUDING FUEL WEAR AND TEAR AND MAINTENANCE COMPLETE IN ALL RESPECT	01.02.2019 07.02.2019	EMD-50000	0162784888 secy.mc.bawal@gmail.com	http://etenders.hry.nic.in	Tender No: 2019_HRY_74818_1
11	MUNICIPAL COMMITTEE BAWAL	CONSTRUCTION OF SHOPPING COMPLEX BAWAL REWARI	04.02.2019 18.02.2019	11.72 CRORE	0162784888 secy.mc.bawal@gmail.com	http://etenders.hry.nic.in	Tender No: 2019_HRY_74975_1
12	MUNICIPAL COMMITTEE SAMPLA	S/I/T/C OF INSULATED CONDUCTOR AND LED STREET LIGHTS WITH OTHER ACCESSORIES FROM POLYTECHNIC ROAD TO BERI CHOWK + 4 OTHER WORKS	07.02.2019	75 LACS	0172-2744951 dpr@chd.nic.in	www.etenders.hry.nic.in	
13	MUNICIPAL COMMITTEE SHAHABAD	16 DEVELOPMENT WORKS WITHIN THE LIMI OF MC SHAHABAD	06.02.2019 12.02.2019	562.20 LACS	0162784888 secymc.shahabad@hry.nic.in	https://etenders.hry.nic.in	Tender No: E/2/2019
14	UHBVN	65 AH (12V) UPS BATTERIES FOR UPS AS PER TECH, SPECIFICATION AT ANNEXURE-A TO SCHEDULE-D (PART-I)	01.02.2019 12.02.2019	81.89 LACS	0162784888 cgmmuhbv@gmail.com	haryanaeprocurement.gov.in	NIT:245/UH/MM/XEN/P-II/MM, 01.02.2019
15	HVPNL	DISPOSAL OF MALBA AT 220KV SUB-STATION,SECTOR-65,GURUGRAM	02.02.2019	51100 GEN25600 REG SOC	0172-237824 		

IN BRIEF



32 gold bars worth nearly ₹2 crore found at IGI

NEW DELHI
An unclaimed bag lying in the international arrival terminal of the IGI Airport here triggered a security alarm leading to recovery of 32 gold bars worth ₹1.78 crore, officials said on Tuesday. The bag was spotted in a luggage trolley by CISF security personnel on Monday. PTI

Drunk cop arrested, suspended for ruckus

NEW DELHI
Delhi Police Head Constable Mukesh Kumar, posted in Rohini district, was arrested by Bihar's Supaul police for allegedly creating ruckus after getting drunk. He had gone with SI S. Dutt to conduct a raid. The team allegedly did not inform the local police before conducting the raid. The two officers were detained before Mr. Kumar was arrested and suspended. STAFF REPORTER

DELHI TODAY

Music: A concert of sublime Portuguese Fado by vocalist Carolina. Accompanied by Oliveira Pereira (Portuguese Guitar), Bernardo Viana (Flute de Fado - Fado Guitar), André Moreira (Bass Guitar) at IHC, 7 p.m.
Exhibition: 'A Wired Ecology' solo show by Jayashree Chakravarty at Akar Prakar. First Floor, D-43 Defence Colony, 11 a.m. - 7 p.m.
Exhibition: "Scripted in Time - II", an exhibition of photographs and resin sculptures by artist Rameshwar Broota at Shridharan Gallery, Triveni Kala Sangam, 205, Tansen Marg, 11 a.m. - 8 p.m.
Exhibition: "Rerouted Realities", a solo art show by Santosh Kumar Das curated by Kathryn Myers at 1AQ, Qutab Minar Roundabout, Mehrauli Road, 11 a.m. - 7 p.m.
Exhibition: "Kitaab", a solo art show of three-dimensional installation paintings by Sumit Mishra at AIFACS, 1 Rafi Marg, 11 a.m. - 7 p.m. (Mail your listings for this column at cityeditor@thehindu.co.in)

HC asks Haryana to remove bunds blocking flow of water into Yamuna

Haryana govt says Delhi is the largest contributor to pollution in the Yamuna

STAFF REPORTER
NEW DELHI

The Delhi High Court on Tuesday asked Haryana to remove the bunds that were blocking the flow of clean water into the Yamuna and was leading to an increase in pollution levels in the Capital's water supply.

A Bench of Chief Justice Rajendra Menon and Justice V.K. Rao gave the direction after the Haryana government said in an affidavit that it would remove the bunds.

Denying the Delhi government's allegations that due to the bunds the water supply of the Capital was getting more polluted, the Haryana government has said that those were put up in DD-8 canal to ensure that pollu-

tion from it does not flow into the Yamuna.

Haryana said that of the 1,000-million-gallons-per-day (MGD) water requirement of the Capital, 500 MGD good-quality raw water is supplied by it through canals and 440 MGD is sourced from the Ganga and tube-wells. Only the remaining 60 MGD water, which is sourced directly from the Yamuna, would contain high levels of ammonia, Haryana said, adding that Delhi was the largest contributor to pollution in the Yamuna.

The Delhi Jal Board (DJB), represented by senior advocate Dayan Krishnan and advocate Sumeet Pushkarna, told the High Court that they need to go through the affi-

davit and sought time to respond to it.

The court then posted the case for further hearing on March 13.

Additionally, Haryana claimed that the raw water supply from it to Delhi never gets affected or reduced even in the lean season.

It further said that Delhi should take urgent steps to reduce its losses which are alleged to be 10% during treatment and 30% post treatment.

‘Criminal wastage’

Haryana has contended that some losses during treatment are inevitable, “but losses to the extent as projected by the DJB are unpar-able and can even be

termed as criminal wastage of precious raw water.”

The DJB had claimed that if urgent steps are not taken to remove the bunds then it would adversely affect the water supply to central Delhi, including the Lutyens zone. It had claimed that the DD-8 channel which supplies additional water to the Yamuna to dilute its pollution levels has been blocked by Haryana and therefore, the water being received at Wazirabad was unusable for treatment as it had high levels of ammonia.

The application was moved by the DJB in a petition filed in public interest by lawyer S.B. Tripathi, seeking sufficient water supply for Delhi.

Special MCG drive against encroachments ends

Initiative aimed at clearing backlog of complaints, says civic body Commissioner

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
GURUGRAM

The special drive being carried out on Tuesday.

• SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

The MCG demolition squads knocked down unauthorised shops on Sheetla Mata Road, Krishna Colony, Nathurpur, Civil Lines Road, Sector 5, Badshahpur village, Gadoli Khurd and the neighbouring areas were removed on the final day.

loud and clear. It was conveyed to all and sundry in five days,” said Mr. Yadav.

Mr. Yadav said he had been directing his staff, including the Joint Commissioners, to initiate regular action against such illegal activities since he took over the charge in March last year, but was not satisfied with their performance.

“I, therefore, chalked out a comprehensive five-day-long programme myself and directed the staff to carry it out. With the backlog now cleared, they have been told to come out with innovative ideas to deal with the situation in the future,” said Mr. Yadav.

Illegal construction in violation of building by-laws, colonies being developed in violation of the law, encroachment on footpaths and any encroachment by shopkeepers on the road were the main targets.

Mr. Yadav said the MCG also took action in the areas falling under the jurisdiction of the Haryana Sahari Vikas Pradhikaran and Department of Town and Country Planning. He added that all agencies should come forward to take action against unauthorised construction and encroachment. He said that the consolidated figures on the action were being compiled and shared soon.

NORTHERN RAILWAY

E-Tender Notice

Sr. Divisional Mechanical Engineer, Northern Railway, DEMU-Shed Shakurbasti: for and on behalf of President of India, invites E-Tender for the under noted work.
Tender No.: 28.5.564.DSL.SSB(R) **Name of work:** Provision for commissioning of Eco-friendly/crubs Battery Section, acid resistant cribs and one side chequered cribs i.e. non-toxic & non-phenoilic at DEMU-Sheet - Shakurbasti. **Approximate cost :** ₹ 58,94,382/- including GST@18% (Forty Seven Lacs Seventy Four Thousand only). **Ernest money :** ₹1,17,900/- (Note: It should be in the form of net banking or gateway only. Note: FDR not be accepted as EMD for tender invited on IREPS as per Railway Board letter no. 2015/CR-IC/T/5/1 dated 31.08.2016) **Completion period of the work :** 06 months **Cost of tender document :** ₹5,900/- with GST @18% (Note: It should be in the form of net banking or gateway only. Note : FDR not be accepted as EMD for tender invited on IREPS as per Railway Board letter no. 2015/CR-IC/T/5/1 dated 31.08.2016) **Date and time for submission of tender and opening of tender :** Upto 15:00 hrs. on 01.03.2019 Opening of Tender at 15:00 hrs. **Particulars notice board location complete details of tender can be seen :** Above tender is available on IREPS site i.e. www.ireps.gov.in **No.:** 28.5.564.DSL.SSB(R) **Dt.:** 02.02.2019 **326/19**

Serving Customers With A Smile

Sanjay Gandhi Post Graduate Institute of Medical Sciences

Raebareli Road, Lucknow - 226014 (U.P.) India
Phones : 0522-2668004-8, 2668700-800-900, Fax: 91-0522-2668017, 2668078

NOTICE INVITING E-TENDER (NIT)

Sanjay Gandhi Post Graduate Institute of Medical Sciences (SGPGIMS), Lucknow invites e-tenders in two parts (Technical Bid and Financial Bid) for ‘Empanelment of Chartered Accountant’

E-tender document in this regard shall be available on the website 'www.etender.up.nic.in' from 05.02.2019 to 28.02.2019 (Upto 5:00 P.M.). In addition, this NIT shall also be available for information only on the website of the Institute "www.spggi.ac.in"

Advt. No.: I/92/Contract/2018-19

DIRECTOR

JHARKHAND URBAN INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT COMPANY LIMITED

(Govt. of Jharkhand Undertaking)
3rd floor, Pragati Sadan, Kutchery Road, Ranchi-834001, Jharkhand. Ph No.: +91-651-2225878, CIN: U45200JH2013SCGC001752, e-mail Id:juidcolimted@gmail.com, pdt.juidco@gmail.com

NIT No: JUIDCO/PMAY/Vertical-III/2019/208 Date: 04/02/2019

e-procurement (Tender Notice)

1. (a) Name of the work Construction (including structural design) of 665 dwelling units in 19 number of G+ 6 blocks (19 blocks with 35 dwelling units each) at Mohanpur, Deoghar under Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (Urban) (Package -E)

(b) Scope of Work Scope of work include Architectural Planning & Design, Engineering Procurement, preparation of detailed structural design & drawing: project execution & construction, after obtaining approval from municipal bodies including water supply and sanitation, sewer network, electricity work, storm water harvesting, landscaping, barbed wire fencing, street lighting, construction of internal roads and parking area of Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana at Mohanpur, Deoghar on EPC cum Turnkey basis.

2. Mode of Bid Submission e-tendering (<http://jharkhandtenders.gov.in>)

3. Estimated Cost (Rs.) Rs.56,97,30,555/- (Rupees Fifty Six Crore Ninety Seven Lakh Thirty Thousand Five Hundred Fifty Five only).

4. Tender Fee and Bid Security Tender document fee: Rs.25,000/- (Rupees Twenty- Five Thousand only [Non-Refundable]) Bid Security: Rs. 56,98,000/- (Rupees Fifty Six Lakh Ninety Eight Thousand only).

5. Date / Time of Publication of Tender on Website 04.02.2019 17:00 Hrs

6. Last date of submission of pre-bid queries 11.02.2019 12:00 Hrs

7. Date of Pre-bid meeting 11.02.2019 17:00 Hrs

8. Last Date / Time of Bid Submission 25.02.2019 17:00 Hrs

9. Submission of Tender Fee & EMD 26.02.2019 17:30 Hrs

10. Date of Bid Opening 26.02.2019 17:30 Hrs

11. Bid Submission Address Jharkhand Urban Infrastructure Development Company Limited, 3rdFloor, PragatiSadan, Kutchery Road, Ranchi - 834001

12. Helpline No. of e-Procurement Cell +91 651 2225878

Note: Only e-Tenders shall be accepted. Further details are available on Jharkhand Government e-procurement website and can be seen on the website <http://jharkhandtenders.gov.in>

Sd/- Project Director (Technical) JUIDCO Limited, Ranchi

P.R.20187 Urban Development and Housing(18-19):D

Khattar urges Kejriwal to ensure no untreated effluent is released into river

Says over 60 drains outfall into Yamuna stretch in Delhi

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
GURUGRAM

Mr. Kejriwal, Mr. Khattar drew attention to the problem of severe pollution entering the Yamuna during its course through Delhi.

He said that Yamuna river travels a stretch of around 52 km in the NCT of Delhi. During this course, more than 60 drains, having partially treated or untreated effluents of industrial or domestic sources, outfall into it.

This causes severe pollution of the river before it enters again in Haryana, he added.

Mr. Khattar highlighted that Bio-chemical Oxygen Demand (BOD) in the river at Faridabad's Basantpur vil-

lage during July-December, 2018, has ranged from 45-46 mg per litre against the permissible limit of 3 mg per litre. The BOD in Gurugram canal, the only major source of irrigation water for the Mewat, ranged from 32-45 mg per litre during the same period.

He urged his Delhi counterpart Arvind Kejriwal to look into the matter personally and to direct all departments concerned to ensure that no untreated or partially treated effluent is released into the Yamuna or the Gurugram canal.

In a letter addressed to

Businessman found dead in city

Police, family members do no suspect foul play

STAFF REPORTER
NEW DELHI

A 74-year-old businessman was found dead at his residence in south-east Delhi's Sundar Nagar on Tuesday morning, the police said.

No note, left behind by the deceased, has been recovered so far.

DCP (South-East) Chinmoy Biswas said that the deceased owned a drycleaning business, which was currently being run by his son.

The police received a call

from his temple. His licensed revolver was also there, the officer said.

The family said that the man had been suffering from a cough-related issue for the last six years and was upset because of the same.

The police or the family members do not suspect any foul play,” Mr. Biswas said.

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

Govt. of Jharkhand
Planning-cum-Finance Department, Nepal House, PO-Hinoo, Ranchi-2
Greater Ranchi Development Agency Limited

Notice Inviting Applications for the Post of General Manager(Administration) & Company Secretary on Contractual basis.

Employment Notice No.-01/2019

The Greater Ranchi Development Agency Limited, a State Government Undertaking invites applications for the post of General Manager(Administration) & Company Secretary on contractual basis to strengthen the Company by introducing professionalism and swiftness in its operation and activities.

Sl. No.	Post	No. of Post	Qualification and Experience	Approximate fixed remuneration including all allowances (In Rs.)
1.	General Manager (Administration)	1	1. MBA (HR)/PG Diploma in HR/Personnel Management + Industrial Law 2. 10 Years' experience .	88,595/-
2.	Company Secretary	1	1. Essential Qualification : Associated Member of the Institute of Company Secretaries of India. 2. Desirable Qualification : Should be Diploma or Certificate-holder in Management from reputed Institute/University. 3. 05 Years' experience .	45,860/-

THE CONDITIONS OF CONTRACT ARE AS FOLLOWS:

- (1) The Post advertised above shall be filled up only on the basis of contracts.
- (2) Engagement in the Company on contract shall be for a period of five years initially one year extendable every year subject to satisfactory performance.
- (3) The remuneration shown above is inclusive of all allowances such as Medical, Transport, HRA and DA, etc. except annual increment in the emoluments as per rules.
- (4) The contract shall be effective from the date of actual contractual engagement.
- (5) The selection will be on the basis of interview.
- (6) An application fee of ₹1000/- from General Candidates and ₹500/- from SC/ST is payable for the above post by Demand Draft drawn in favour of Greater Ranchi Development Agency Ltd., payable at Ranchi at any scheduled Bank.
- (7) Interested candidates of State / Central Government / Public Sector Undertaking have to get their applications forwarded through Proper Channel or submit a 'No Objection Certificate' from their employer at the time of interview failing which the Company shall not interview the candidate.
- (8) The Contract shall not confer any right or claim of extension/absorption in the Company.
- (9) Willing candidate must submit their CV along with self-attested copies of Testimonials, Certificates, Credentials, two pp size photos - one to be affixed on the top of the application and other with the application and one self-addressed 6x3 envelope with Postal Stamp of ₹50/- pasted on the top of the envelop, followed by ORIGINAL to be produced at the time of interview, failing which candidates will not be interviewed.

IN BRIEF

**DUTA demands removal of V-C over 'inaction'**

NEW DELHI
The Delhi University Teachers' Association marched from Mandi House to Parliament Street on Tuesday and demanded the removal of the varsity's vice-chancellor over his alleged inaction on important issues in the varsity. PTI

Two dead, one injured in truck collision

GREATER NOIDA
A truck driver and his helper died after the truck in which they were travelling rammed into another from behind on the Eastern Peripheral Expressway on Monday. The police suspect that low visibility may have led to the collision. Another man, who was accompanying the two deceased, is in critical condition. STAFF REPORTER

Boy's body found under flyover in Ghaziabad**PRESS TRUST OF INDIA**

GAZIABAD
The body of a 12-year-old boy, who had gone missing for a day after being scolded over studies by his mother, was found on Tuesday under a flyover here, the police said.

The body of the boy, a Class III student, was found lying in a pool of blood. He was identified on the basis of his school uniform and other belongings.

The police are yet to ascertain the cause of death.

A post-mortem report is awaited and the medical status of injuries will confirm reason of death, said the police said.

Suicide prevention helpline: Sanjivani, Society for Mental Health, Telephone: 011-4076 9002, Monday-Saturday, 10 am-7.30 pm

Implement ePoS-enabled doorstep delivery of ration'

Hussain tells Centre; seeks Food Commissioner's transfer for not following orders

STAFF REPORTER

NEW DELHI

Food and Civil Supplies Minister Imran Hussain has asked the Centre to consider coupling the electronic Point of Sale-enabled (ePoS) public distribution system with doorstep delivery, and implement it across the country.

He also complained against the Delhi Food Commissioner and sought his transfer.

'Serious irregularities'

Mr. Hussain said a trial run of the ePoS system during January-March 2018 had exposed several "serious irregularities and shortcomings" such as ration on fake cards, biometric authentication fail-



India."

Mr. Hussain said that technology-led reforms were the way forward but not rectifying the "loopholes" that have been noticed in the course of implementation of the ePoS system would defeat the efforts at checking pilferage in the public distribution system.

Meanwhile, seeking the transfer of the Food Commissioner, the Minister alleged that the Delhi government had suspended ePoS through its order on February 20, 2018, in view of "deficiencies in it, but the officer did not stop ration distribution through it".

He also claimed that doorstep delivery of ration, lure and multiple OTPs generated for fraudulent pilferage of ration.

In a letter to Union Minister of Consumer Affairs Ram Vilas Paswan on Monday, Mr. Hussain wrote: "May I, therefore, request you to consider implementing ePoS-enabled doorstep delivery of ration throughout

which was approved by the Delhi government, was not implemented by the official.

Doorstep delivery

"The Cabinet had decided to implement doorstep delivery of ration system. However, despite the Cabinet decision and a number of directions, the Food and Civil Supplies Department Commissioner has deliberately not taken any steps to implement it," Mr. Hussain said.

He also urged the Union Minister to ask Lieutenant-Governor Anil Baijal to issue direction to ensure expeditious investigation of cases involving corrupt practices in the public distribution system.

SDMC protests harassment of officials

Accuses members of Delhi Assembly's Petitions Committee

STAFF REPORTER

NEW DELHI

The Standing Committee of the South Delhi Municipal Corporation has passed a resolution condemning the 'abuse' faced by its officials at the hands of the members of the Delhi Assembly's Petitions Committee.

Introducing the resolution, Standing Committee chairperson Shikha Rai said that Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) MLAs were hurting the morale of officials and stopping them from doing

their work. She added that the officials were being made to work beyond their ambit.

Pass resolution

While moving the resolution, an official complained that he had even been called to the residence of a committee member and then abused.

The Opposition AAP councillor registered his dissent and stated that the corporation's officials were insulted by the Standing

Committee members. Ms. Rai retorted that AAP had a habit of treating officials badly: "You did the same thing with the Chief Secretary."

Leader of the House, Kamaljeet Sherawat, said that the resolution was the corporation's way of standing up for their officials.

The House also demanded that, henceforth, presence of SDMC officials by the Assembly committee would have to be requested in writing.

Ruckus at EDMC House meeting

Three AAP councillors suspended for disrupting proceedings

STAFF REPORTER

NEW DELHI

A House meeting of the East Delhi Municipal Corporation on Tuesday witnessed a ruckus after three councillors of the Aam Aadmi Party were suspended by Mayor Bipin Bihari Singh for disrupting proceedings.

Rekha Tyagi, one of the suspended councillors, said that AAP was demanding

that BJP councillor Romesh Gupta be suspended over allegedly making derogatory remarks towards a Muslim councillor at a meeting on Monday.

Following the suspension, the session erupted in chaos with members of both parties shouting and hurling invectives at each other. One AAP councillor was also caught on video trying to use

a broken mike as a whip.

The Mayor called the police to have the suspended councillors removed from the premises. A corporation official, however, alleged that the police personnel did not follow the order. Later, BJP councillors, including the Mayor, held a demonstration in front of the office of DCP East for not taken action on their complaints.

60-year-old held for rape

STAFF REPORTER

GREATER NOIDA

A 60-year-old man was arrested on Tuesday for allegedly raping a woman in Dankaur, Greater Noida.

The police said that the 50-year-old victim is a widow and was psychologically unstable. The accused allegedly took her into a nearby forest area where he raped her.

Bystanders, who heard the woman screaming, called the cops.

The officer added that the accused has been booked under Section 376 (rape) of the Indian Penal Code, based on the complaint by the victim's son.

Man held for attempting to rape one-year-old girl

Accused caught by victim's family

STAFF REPORTER

NEW DELHI

He also allegedly stuffed a cloth in her mouth to prevent her from shouting.

Found in room

"Meanwhile, the girl's family started to worry about her and started to look for the accused. They found him in the room while he was trying to force himself upon the girl. The man was caught before he could do any harm," the officer claimed.

The girl's family along with locals thrashed the accused before calling the police who reached the spot and arrested him.

"On Monday night, he went to her house and lured her into coming with him on the pretext of giving her toffees. He took her to a room where he used to prepare food for the eatery," the officer said.

The accused allegedly undressed the minor and tied her hands with a cloth.

Court upholds 30-month jail term in accident case

One person had died in 2003 incident

NIRNIMESH KUMAR

NEW DELHI

A Delhi court has maintained a two-and-a-half years simple imprisonment to a driver of a three-wheeler for killing a cycle-rickshaw passenger in a road accident in Gulabi Bagh in 2003.

The accused, Gajraj, had hit the rickshaw from behind when the rickshaw puller was taking the passenger from Sabzi Mandi to Baraf Khana.

Both the rickshaw puller and the passenger fell down. The passenger sustained fatal injuries and was rushed to a hospital where he died after three-four days.

The accused had fled, but was later arrested.

The accused appealed in the court of Special Judge

Sanjay Khanagwala against a trial court judgment, arguing that he had been falsely implicated in the case as the cause of the death of the victim was not the accident since he had died three-four days later.

Dismissing the accused's appeal, the judge said: "It is established that appellant was driving the offending vehicle in rash and negligent manner thereby he hit the rickshaw as a result of which deceased fell down from the rickshaw and expired after 3-4 days due to the impact of accident.

Similarly, the rickshaw puller sustained grievous injuries. Accordingly, the trial court had rightly convicted him for the commission of the offence under Section 279/338/304-A IPC."

The open grave, alongside the body of an elderly woman, was discovered around 5 a.m. The body was found to be of 75-year-old Rahisan, who had died on February 3, and was buried on Monday.

UP village tense after miscreants dig up body

STAFF REPORTER

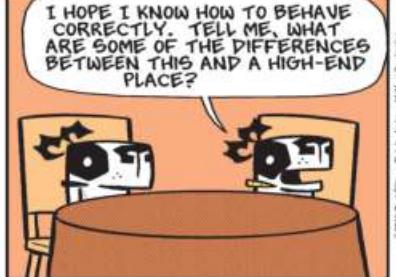
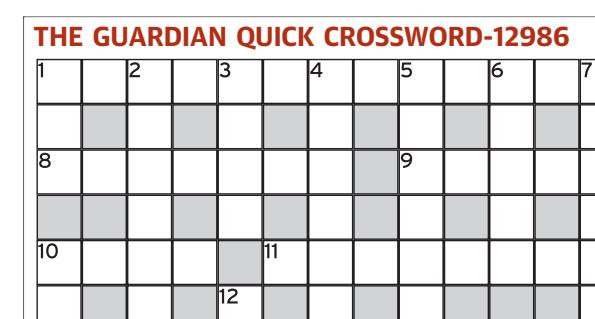
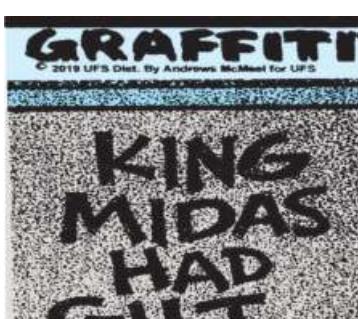
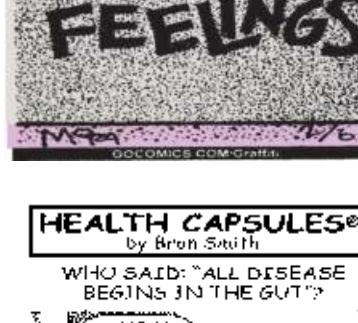
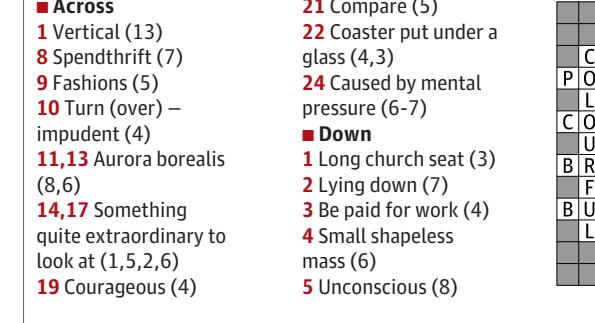
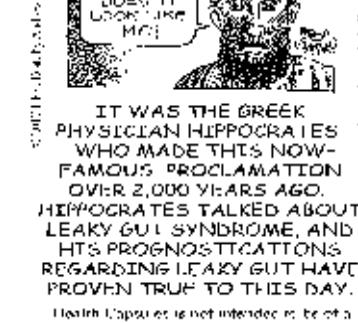
GREATER NOIDA

The discovery of an open grave and a body that had allegedly been dug up created tension in Uncha Hamirpur village here on Monday.

The incident triggered a protest after rumours that the body had been defiled.

Police teams had to be called in to control the situation. The local administration later sealed the grave, and the police lodged an FIR against unidentified men.

"It appears that some anti-social elements are responsible. We have lodged a case against unidentified persons under Section 297 (trespassing on burial places) of the IPC," said Vineet Jaiswal, SP (Rural).

POOCH CAFE**PEANUTS****HAGAR THE HORRIBLE****CALVIN AND HOBBES****TIGER****WUMO****PEARLS BEFORE SWINE**

IS THE MOVIE DIRTY? WHAT'S THE PROBLEM?
GOSH, A DINNER WITH REAL PAINES IN THE CONVERSATION CAN YOU IMAGINE?

Solution will appear in Delhi Metro dated February 7, 2019.
Solution No. 12985

THE GUARDIAN QUICK CROSSWORD-12986						
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8					9	
10					11	
					12	
13				14		15
					16	
17	18				19	
20					21	
21					22	
					23	
24						

6 Get stuck (5)	7 Vibrated sympathetically (9)	10 Legends (4,5)	12 Art prints (8)	15 Eyelet (7)	16 Engineless aircraft (6)	18 Hell's Angel? (5)	20 Little William (4)	23 Small amount (3)
-----------------	--------------------------------	------------------	-------------------	---------------	----------------------------	----------------------	-----------------------	---------------------

CM YK

OPPORTUNITIES

HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT • JOBS • TECHNOLOGY

Help from 'corporate alumni'

Here are a few examples of how organisations can benefit from groups consisting of its former employees

LIFFY THOMAS

The National Mineral Development Corporation (NMDC) extended the reach of its 60th anniversary celebrations by including its retirees in the exercise in a manner they can never forget. They were featured in a documentary that would serve as a permanent digital history of the people that had served the organisation.

More than that, the voices of these retirees were being recorded for current and future workforces, helping them to gain a sense of NMDC's culture.

"Not many of the present generation are aware of the working conditions in the iron-ore mines at Kirandul then. This documentary will be an eye-opener to them," says M.P.J. Pillai, general secretary of the Kerala chapter of NMDC Retired Employees' Association, which gathered retirees from various pockets of the State for the filming of the documentary.

The retired workforce of an organisation is a resource, a fact that is beginning to dawn on corporates. In many cases, retiree groups function much like school or college alumni networks, and show an interest in the development of the organisation they have left.

In fact, in corporate circles, a new term is gaining currency – "corporate alumni", which refers to former employees of an organisation.

Corporate alumni can serve as unpaid brand ambassadors, are capable of providing inputs that will help the management to a better understanding of current critical issues and



there is also the possibility that some of them could be "rehired" for specific projects.

Post-retirement, Mohan Verghese Cherian, former general manager, HR – Southern Sector, ONGC, is serving the organisation as a trainer.

He says, "An organisation's former employees can serve as its talent as well as corporate brand. That is, if they come back with new skill sets and experiences that are beneficial to the company," he adds.

Rehiring

Last year, when the Indian Railway realised it would take time to hire and train new staff for certain posi-

C The retired workforce of an organisation is a resource, a fact that is beginning to dawn on corporates. In many cases, retiree groups function much like school or college alumni networks, and show an interest in the development of the organisation they have left

tions, it invited its retired employees to apply for them.

The management of the State Bank of India is said to maintain close ties with its Pensioners' Association.

"We often get circulars

from the management asking for retired auditors and vigilance officers to pitch in, on a temporary basis.

Retirees up to the age of 70 are considered for such work," says a member of the State Bank of India Pensioners' Association (Chennai Circle).

A majority of the PSU banks, he says, are facing a shortage of middle- and senior-level employees, so the services of retired employees are much sought-after.

"We also publish the requirements in our newsletter," he adds.

The Chennai chapter of ONGC Retired Employees' Association maintains three WhatsApp groups where they post such job offers from the company.

Many companies invest in an interactive platform to

re-engage with ex-employees.

"HP Alumni" is open to all those employees who have left HPCL, on superannuation or otherwise.

According to the website, people "can use this platform for interaction with erstwhile colleagues to re-establish any broken links and also to keep abreast of the developments in HPCL."

Networking

An effective "corporate alumni network" offers huge benefits to both the organisation and former employees.

"We have a data base of 700 former employees from Chennai and its outskirts. We are usually in touch

with the management.

Recently, they carried an announcement seeking that retired hands join them as consultants in certain technical departments. We publicise such requirements at our meetings," says P.O. Reddy, president of the Association.

At ONGC, Mohan Verghese Cherian says, the company started a 'Knowledge Management Portal' where anybody including those who are going to retire can present knowledge they have gained at work with their details.

He says, "A progressive organisation does not allow a good employee to leave." Even after retirement.

Greater automation makes for more jobs, says survey

PTI

Despite increasing adoption of automation, 76% of the employers in India plan to increase or maintain their headcount, while the global figure stands at 87%, says a report.

According to a ManpowerGroup report, companies that digitise grow, and this growth is producing more jobs.

Organisations that are already automating tasks and effecting greater digital transformation are most con-

fident of increasing their headcount, says the report. ManpowerGroup surveyed 19,000 employers in 44 countries on the impact of automation on job growth in the next two years.

The report further notes that the global talent short-

ages are at a 12-year high and new skills are appearing as quickly as the old skills disappear.

Accordingly, upskilling is on the rise; 84% of companies plan to upskill their workforce by 2020, up from just 21% in 2011, says the report.

GENERAL



CITY UNION BANK

WE ARE LOOKING FOR ASSISTANT GENERAL MANAGERS/ REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT MANAGERS/ BRANCH MANAGERS/DEPUTY MANAGERS/ASSISTANT MANAGERS/ ASSOCIATES

City Union Bank, a leading Private Sector Bank in the country with more than 115 years of History and having 600 plus branches all over India and rendering trusted service, invites applications from experienced bankers from all over India for the following positions with a proven track record who share our zeal and passion for excellence:

- Assistant General Managers
 - Chief Managers / Regional Development Managers
 - Branch Managers / Deputy Managers in Junior / Middle / Senior Management Cadre
 - Assistant Managers / Legal Officers / Legal Managers
 - Associates / Senior Associates (Sales & Operations)
 - Various roles on Contract
- For more details, please visit our Bank's website: <https://www.cityunionbank.com/web-page/careers>

APPLICATIONS THROUGH ONLINE MODE ALONE WILL BE CONSIDERED.



TOLLYGUNGE CLUB LTD.

Tollygunge Club Ltd. is an iconic institution and one of the most reputed composite clubs in the country. Located at Kolkata, it offers a wide range of sporting activities, which includes a unique combination of Equestrian and Golfing facilities of the highest standard. We are looking for a

DEPUTY CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Candidates who wish to apply, please visit Career Opportunities at www.careers@tollygungeclub.org for details of the role and candidate profile.

If you find the opportunity exciting and you are confident of making a difference to Tollygunge Club Ltd., please mail your application to the mail id careers@tollygungeclub.org within the next 15 days. Applications must be addressed to the Managing Member & CEO.

CHENNAI METRO RAIL LIMITED

(A Joint Venture of Govt. of India and Govt. of Tamil Nadu) Admin Building, CMRL Depot, Poonamallee High Road, Kovambedu, Chennai - 600107.

Phone: 044 - 2379 2000 Fax : 044 - 2379 2200

WALK-IN-INTERVIEW

EMPLOYMENT NOTICE NO.CMRL/HR/01/2019

Chennai Metro Rail Limited entrusted with the implementation of Chennai Metro Rail Project requires efficient and Competent persons for the under mentioned post on contract for a period of two years. The engagement on contract will not entitle anyone to claim for any regular employment in CMRL.

Post Code	Name of the Post	Consolidated Pay (per month)	No. of Post	Maximum Age Limit (Yrs)	Minimum Experience (Yrs)
01	Assistant Chief Controller	Rs.70,000 to Rs.90,000/-	3	45	10 years

Note: Age, qualification & experience stipulated above should be as on 06.02.2019. Age may be relaxed for deserving and experienced candidates. Apart from the consolidated pay, benefits like Medical, Accident Insurance and Increment will be extended.

For details regarding qualification, experience, general conditions, application format etc., please visit our website [https://chennaimetrorail.org](http://chennaimetrorail.org)

Persons with requisite experience and qualification alone need to appear for walk-in-interview on 09.03.2019, 09:00 hrs at the above mentioned address.

Registration of candidates will commence from 09:00 hrs on 09.03.2019 and close at 13:00 hrs.

Chief General Manager (HR).

DIPR/123/DISPLAY/2019



TMB-one of the leading Private Sector Banks invites applications for the post of

• Assistant General Manager (Alternative Delivery Channel)

• Chief Manager (Chief Security Officer)

Specialised Officers for

• Security Officer

• Chartered Accountant

• Agricultural Officer

• Law Officer

Last Date for filing application : 16.02.2019

For more details and filing application, Please log on to www.tmb.in

General Manager (HRD)



AAI CARGO LOGISTICS & ALLIED SERVICES COMPANY LTD.

(An AAI Subsidiary)

CIN : U74990DL2016G01304348

AAICLAS has been set up as a fully owned cargo subsidiary of Airports Authority of India, for development and operation of air cargo and related logistics business at its airports as well as potential overseas business opportunities. The company aims to emerge as one of the leading integrated Cargo logistics in the country to drive its business:

REQUIRES CHIEF MANAGER (COMMERCIAL) & CHIEF MANAGER (MARKETING)

For further details regarding position, salary structure, qualification, age, date & venue, selection process etc. candidates may see the detailed advertisement on AAICLAS website: www.aaiclas-ecom.org under "CAREER" section.

N-196/2018-19

Now, IELTS test can be taken on the computer

British Council says it is not going to replace the paper-based version of the examination

International English Language Testing System (IELTS), the English language test for work, study and migration, can now be taken on computer.

According to a press release from the British Council, the computer-delivered IELTS is now available in New Delhi and the first test will be held on February 9.

The release said that IELTS on a computer would not replace paper-based IELTS but rather offer a choice in delivery and more availability. Candidates could also get their results faster, with results typically available between five to seven calendar days after the test had been completed, it added. The test content, timing, fee and structure remained the

same in both options. The speaking test would continue to be face-to-face.

Test takers who chose the option of computer-delivered IELTS could access support materials, the release said.

IELTS is the most widely used test of English for migration to Australia, Canada, New Zealand and the United Kingdom. It is recognised by more than 10,000 universities, schools, employers and immigration bodies, including all universities in Australia and the United Kingdom and many of the leading institutions in the United States, the release added.

For details, visit takeitels.britishcouncil.org/ielts-on-computer

Winners of business idea get resources to work on it



The winning duo. PHOTO: SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Winners of PepsiCo 'Change the Game', an exercise to attract talent and empower youth, have got an opportunity to join the company as management trainees.

Tushar Vishnoi and Utkarsh Garg from the Institute of Management Technology, Ghaziabad were declared winners of the India challenge. According to a press release, they receive a grant of US\$ 100,000 to execute their plastic waste management idea.

The press release said that the campus challenge, in its third year, invited youth to share innovative business ideas for sustainable plastic packaging and recycling, in line with the company's Performance with Purpose vision.

More than 10,000 students from top B-schools in India took part in the challenge, it added.

ENGG./PRODN./TECH.

JSR Infra Developers Pvt. Ltd. (Reputed Infra Company in Chennai)

REQUIRED FOR URGENT RECRUITMENT THE FOLLOWING

A. KEY PROFESSIONALS

Designation	No.	Designation	No.
Project Manager (Project Structures)	2	Manager/Assistant Manager (Quantity Survey)	6
DPM (HW) DPM (Structures)	4	Manager/Assistant Manager (Survey)	12
Manager/Ast.Mgr (Materials)	6	Mech. In-charge Crusher In-charge	2
Manager/Asst.Mgr (Planning)	6	Plant In-charge	2

B. OTHERS: DESIGN/SITE ENGRS., STORES, PROCUREMENT AND ACTS STAFF FOR OUR SITES. For details regarding position, qualification, experience, interview, etc., candidates may see the detailed advt. on www.jsrinfra.com under career section.

BHARAT HEAVY ELECTRICALS LIMITED (A GOVERNMENT OF INDIA UNDERTAKING) POWER SECTOR - SOUTHERN REGION NO 690, ANNA SALAI, EVR PERIYAR BUILDING, NANDANAM CHENNAI-600035, TAMIL NADU.</

6 WHEELS



On the road again

The third-generation Maruti Suzuki WagonR feels alert and light on its feet

SHAPUR KOTWAL

This third-generation Maruti Suzuki WagonR is here: lighter, more efficient, spacious and, with its new 1.2-litre petrol engine option, more powerful too. The car retains the tall-boy proportions of its predecessors, but also looks like a more substantial car, and that is because it is. It is marginally longer, but significantly wider and has a broader footprint as well. It also has a bit more style to it. There is a more rounded-off nose, it is not absolutely slab-sided any more and the Honda CR-V-like tail-lights look neat too.

The black plaque that runs from the C-pillar to the tail gives the Wagon R a floating-roof look. Nice. The pull-type door handles aren't very premium, however, and you will have to look into Maruti's expansive accessories list for alloy wheels.

It is about practicality

Then again, the WagonR is not about looks but about practicality. And this is an area the car aces. Ingress-egress is convenient, and you get a great view out of the cabin. There is a surprising amount of room in the back and boot capacity has doubled to 341 litres.

The WagonR has also taken a step up in perceived quality. The two-tone black-and-beige theme works well, the touchscreen infotainment system makes the cabin look contemporary, and the new instrument cluster, on higher variants, features an integrated digital tachometer, lifts the quality quotient even further.

What does take time to get used to is the dashboard design. The fascia is slab-like and the centre console is placed at a jaunty angle. The fixed front headrests restrict frontal visibility for rear seat occupants, while the fixed rear headrests are insufficient for even an average adult.

The touchscreen infotainment



SPECIFICATIONS

ENGINE	1197cc, 4-cyl, naturally aspirated, DOHC
MAX POWER (HP @ RPM)	83hp at 6000rpm
MAX TORQUE (NM @ RPM)	114Nm at 4200rpm
GEARBOX	5-speed manual/5-speed AMT
WEIGHT (KG)	835kg/845kg
LENGTH (MM)	3655mm
WIDTH (MM)	1620mm
HEIGHT (MM)	1675mm
WHEELBASE (MM)	2435mm
BOOT CAPACITY (LTS)	340 litres



system – a 7.0-inch unit with Maruti's latest Smartplay Studio interface – is a first for the WagonR. It comes bundled with Android Auto and Apple CarPlay connectivity.

Among the other firsts on the



WagonR are steering-mounted buttons for the infotainment system, while a driver's side airbag (dual airbags on top-spec versions), rear parking sensors and anti-lock brakes are standard

across the range, in line with upcoming safety requirements.

Over to the mechanicals. The old WagonR's 68hp, 1.0-litre three-cylinder K10 unit has been carried over and tweaked for more economy. The WagonR is also available with Suzuki's larger 1.2-litre, four-cylinder K12 engine. Fuel economy hasn't been side-lined on the 1.2 either. Its ARAI-tested 21.5kpl is among the best in segment. Both engines are available with five-speed manual and AMT gearboxes. The engine has added a whole new dimension of performance to the lightweight WagonR.

It doesn't feel lifeless

Compared to the modest responses of the old WagonR's 1.0 engine, the new WagonR's 1.2 feels alert and light on its feet. It picks up speed effortlessly and makes for a very pleasant drive. You can feel the added pulling power. Our preliminary performance figures show the WagonR 1.2 is significantly quicker through the gears

than the Hyundai Santro, Tata Tiago and Maruti's own Celerio.

The engine likes to be revved, and performance gets stronger and stronger as you go up the powerband. On the flip side, the WagonR does get noisy when you extend it. We wish the manual gearbox was a bit better, too. It's light and easy for the most part but, occasionally, you also need that second push to slot gears in.

Urban buyers will take keenly to the 5-speed AMT automatic version. What's nice is how responsive the gearbox is to manual inputs. Unfortunately, you'll need to make judicious use of the hand-brake on hill starts.

While stability has improved at high speeds, the WagonR still doesn't take readily to direction changes. Frankly, it is a city car. Low-speed ride quality is good.

While the WagonR 1.0's prices start at ₹4.19 lakh, the WagonR 1.2's prices start at ₹4.89 lakh (both ex-showroom, Delhi). The difference between the same trim of both engine versions stands at ₹20,000 only.

Remember, this is not a car to buy if you enjoy driving. What the WagonR does is retain its original formula of an incredibly functional budget car.

AUTO SNIPPETS



Bajaj reveals new brand identity

Bajaj has revealed its new brand identity, 'The World's Favourite Indian', to reflect its robust sales in both domestic and export markets. This also makes its dramatic transition from a domestic scooter-maker to a global motorcycle powerhouse in just 17 years. Building on its 'Hamara Bajaj' roots of providing trusted and reliable mobility solutions, the company has significantly invested in technology and innovation in order to design motorcycles that are today sold in India and across 70 countries.



Mahindra Thar to get new diesel engine

Mahindra has been at work developing the next-gen Thar with a launch expected sometime in 2020. Apart from being underpinned by a new platform and receiving a new body shell, the next-gen Thar is also set to feature a new engine. The new vehicle will be powered by Mahindra's new BS-VI-compliant, 2.0-litre diesel engine. Power and torque will see a big jump from the current 105hp/247Nm figures. Expect the new Thar to make 140hp and upwards of 300Nm torque.



Facelifted Baleno launched

Maruti Suzuki has launched the facelifted Baleno in India, with prices starting from ₹5.45 lakh and going up to ₹8.77 lakh (ex-showroom, Delhi). The hike in prices ranges from ₹7,000, to ₹21,000 for the petrol- and diesel-manual variants, and between ₹30,000 to ₹44,000 for the petrol-CVT variants. The Baleno facelift sports a more aggressive front end, with a new front bumper, a 3D design for the grille and LED projector headlights with DRLs (now standard from the Delta variant). The Baleno also gets dual-tone 16-inch alloy wheels, but that's about it in terms of exterior changes.



The Beetle toy car

Think twice before you dismiss the Siku Volkswagen The Beetle as just another toy car. It is designed to closely resemble the real thing. Siku is a German die-cast toy manufacturer, and their creation, the Siku VW The Beetle, available in a range of vibrant colours, comes with doors that open. The car has original rubber track tyres and individually-integrated front and rear headlights. The car is meant for children aged three and above, and is said to develop children's imagination. This is a part of the Siku Super series that also has buses and trains. The car is priced at ₹299 and is available at all toy stores.

MY FIRST WHEELS

'Love bloomed on the Lambretta'

Playback singer SP Balasubrahmanyam recalls riding a Raleigh cycle to college, and later becoming a car-enthusiast

My first set of wheels was the tricycle I rode as a kid during evening playtime. In my hometown, Nellore, tricycles were also rented out, just like bicycles, for one anna per hour. I still have a picture of me on it.

Later, during my pre-university course in Tirupati, I used to

envy my roommate who had a Hummer cycle. But I always dreamt of a green Raleigh that came with a dynamo. Priced at ₹265 then, it was a big amount for my father, who was a Harikatha artiste. He offered to buy me a Hind instead, at ₹80. He finally bought me the Raleigh on hire-purchase.

It was such a great feeling to ride it. It looked very English and the ride was butter-smooth. The faster I pedalled, the brighter the lamp glowed and there was this fascination with the dynamo. Most cycles came with kerosene lamps those days and this was something cool and modern. My days as a bachelor were spent on the Raleigh and my college-mates would compete to get a ride on it. I kept it in immaculate condition till 1977, when one fine morning a tailor who worked at home in Madras disappeared with it.

My first bike was a chocolate-and-beige Lambretta scooter I bought from a friend who worked as a poster designer. It cost ₹3,200, which was



quite expensive for me, considering that I was given ₹300 for a song back then. My love bloomed on the Lambretta. Savitri and I went on dates on the scooter; we loved the ride. It was on the Lambretta that we eloped and got married.

As I made a career in music and saved some money, I bought a car in 1970. It was a 1963 Fiat, priced at ₹10,300. However, I learnt driving on the Ambassador that my producer's friends had. Going out in the Fiat was a pleasure, but I would park the car at Hotel Palmgrove and take an auto further to Mount Road. I felt intimidated to drive in the traffic on Gemini flyover and Mount Road, in Chennai.

The second car I had was an Ambassador that plunged into a river

near Vellore, when (composer) Ilaiyaraaja, a few other musicians and I were travelling from Pollachi to Madras. Luckily, all of us escaped unscathed and we even performed a show there.

I've always had a thing for imported cars. Later, I added a Toyota, Morris Oxford, Morris Minor and a Volkswagen regular coupé to the list of cars I owned. Actor Sivaji Ganesan was so smitten by my Morris Minor that he was after me to sell it to him. He would pull my leg saying he would one day sneak the car out from the garage.

As I changed cars, I also grew passionate about driving. I even drove a bus in *Ullaasam* (1999) and rode a Bajaj Chetak in *Keladi Kanmani* (1990). Now, I own a Mercedes-Benz S 400 and an E 200. However, my dream is to buy the Fiat used by Mohammed Rafi. I am his greatest fan and as a family friend, each time I visit his house, I keep asking his daughters for the car. (As told to A Shrikumar)