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THE HINDU

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2019

INDIA'S NATIONAL NEWSPAPER SINCE 1878

DELHI
CITY EDITION
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Theresa May offers MPs a choice of ruling out a no-deal Brexit
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Mukesh Ambani is among top 10 richest individuals globally
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Kohli & Co. will look to share honours with Australia in T20I series
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NEARBY

Kejriwal govt. targets ₹60,000 crore spending

NEW DELHI

The Aam Aadmi Party government on Tuesday tabled a ₹60,000-crore expenditure budget for 2019-2020, making it the highest-ever for the Delhi government, with the education sector once again getting the highest share of funds.

DELHI METRO ▸ PAGE 1

Security tightened in sensitive areas of city

NEW DELHI

The Delhi Police has strengthened security in the city in the wake of the IAF air strike across the LoC at the Jaish-e-Mohammad camps in Pakistan. Patrolling and surveillance have been increased in sensitive areas. All vital installations in Delhi, including India Gate, Rashtrapati Bhavan and railway stations, have been put on high alert.

DELHI METRO ▸ PAGE 1

HC grants protection to runaway couple

NEW DELHI

The Delhi High Court has granted protection to a runaway couple, who married against the wishes of parents and apprehend danger to their lives. Justice Najmi Waziri said parents or relatives cannot interfere in the exercise of the constitutional right of a citizen to choose a life partner.

DELHI METRO ▸ PAGE 1

Bhagirath IAS Academy
UPSC at Pune
By : Ranjan Kolambe
7378 406 920 | 9970 298 197

OPPORTUNITIES ▸ PAGE 8
DELHI METRO ▸ 4 PAGES

India bombs Jaish camp in Pakistan's Balakot

- 12 IAF Mirage-2000 fighter jets unleash five one-tonne payloads
- 200-325 militants had moved there from the LoC after the Pulwama attack
- Government calls it "non-military, pre-emptive" operation
- Nation is in safe hands, PM Modi says at public rally in Rajasthan

SUHASINI HAIDAR
DINAKAR PERI
NEW DELHI

Twelve days after the Pulwama attack, the Indian Air Force bombed the Jaish-e-Mohammad's "biggest" terror training camp in Pakistan's Balakot early on Tuesday. The operation was carried out by 12 Mirage-2000 fighter jets, which unleashed five one-tonne bombs on the camp, based 70 km inside the Line of Control (LoC), in the Pakistani province of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.

Senior officials citing intelligence inputs said the JeM facility was particularly crowded with 200-325 militants as many had abandoned launch pads and training camps closer to the LoC after the Pulwama attack in the expectation that India would not target Balakot.

Major shift

The aerial attack on a target inside Pakistani territory marks a major shift in India's counter-terror responses, which have thus far been restricted to ground operations across the LoC in Pakistan-occupied Kashmir.

Defence officials said the Mirage fighters took off from the Gwalior airbase at approximately 3 a.m., backed by aircraft from other bases, including Sirsa, Bathinda and Agra. Announcing the strikes, the government said it was a "non-military, pre-emptive" counter-terror operation against imminent threats from the JeM.

"Credible intelligence was received that the JeM would attempt another suicide terror attack, and jihadis were being trained for this purpose. In the face of imminent danger, a pre-emptive strike became absolutely necessary," Foreign Secretary Vijay Gokhale said, adding that "a very large number of JeM terrorists, trainers, senior commanders and groups of jihadis, who were being trained for *fidayeen* action, were eliminated" in the operation.

The first word on the attacks came not from the government but from the Pakistani military spokesperson, who denied any "casualties or damage" from the operation.

At 5.42 (IST) on Tuesday, Major General Asif Ghafoor tweeted that IAF jets had violated the LoC and "released a payload (munitions) while escaping" after being confronted by Pakistani Air Force planes scrambled to repel the incursion. "It is India's turn now to wait for our response, it will come as a surprise," Major-General Ghafoor warned at a press conference later. Pakistan Prime Minister Imran Khan has convened a joint session of Parliament as well as a meeting of the nuclear command structure, National Command Authority (NCA), on Wednesday to discuss his country's response.

A few hours after the strike, Prime Minister Narendra Modi held a meeting of the Cabinet Committee on Security to review the operations, and later met all three service chiefs. While he did not mention the air strike publicly during the day, he later told a rally in Rajasthan's Churu that the nation is in "safe hands," paying tribute to Indian security forces.

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INDIA DOES NOT EXPECT ANY ESCALATION: SWARAJ ▸ PAGE 12
BALAKOT CAMP HAD OVER 200 TERRORISTS ▸ PAGE 13
PUSHING BOUNDARIES ▸ EDITORIAL

Behind terror lines

Mirage fighter jets struck a Jaish-e-Mohammad target inside Pakistan on Tuesday. The strike was carried out near Balakot town, some 60 km from the Line of Control, in the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province of Pakistan. Details of the attack:

Time and place of the attack

- Map marks Balakot where the Mirage-2000s struck around 3.40 a.m. on Tuesday. The entire mission lasted 1.5-2 hours
- Balakot was reportedly the largest JeM training facility which housed about 150 recruits
- After the Pulwama attack, several launch pads along the LoC were moved back and cadre moved to Balakot. Intelligence assessments put the number present there at 300
- However, there is no official response from the Indian government on the number of terrorists killed

A file picture of the JeM facility that was destroyed by Indian Air Force strikes in Balakot. ▪ ANI

TIMELINE

- 12 Mirage-2000s took off from the IAF's Gwalior airbase
- An Unmanned Aerial Vehicle was in the air for monitoring and assessment and the Israeli Phalcon and indigenous Netra early warning aircraft were deployed to monitor the mission
- An Il-78 mid-air refuelling tanker took off from Agra
- Foreign Secretary Vijay Gokhale said that the jets pounded a terror camp in Balakot, which had 5-6 barracks

Aircraft and ammunition used

Mirage-2000s — The fighter jets which carried out the attack

They were armed with SPICE 2000 and Crystal Maze-Mk2, also called AGM-142 Popeye, precision guided munitions from Israel

With standoff ranges of 60-100 km, the fighters could fire munitions from a considerable distance

Opposition hails IAF for precision strike

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

Congress president Rahul Gandhi on Tuesday took to Twitter to praise Indian Air Force (IAF) pilots soon after news broke of air strikes on terror camps across the LoC.

"I salute the pilots of the IAF," he tweeted, along with the Indian flag. He later spoke about the strikes at a public rally in Guwahati.

Responses from other Opposition leaders were nearly identical. While maintaining tactical silence on the role of the Narendra Modi government, all praised the IAF.

"IAF also means India's Amazing Fighters. Jai Hind," tweeted West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee.

Senior Congress leader Ahmed Patel's response was identical. "Well done Indian Airforce, the nation is proud of you!" said his tweet.

CPI national secretary D. Raja said, "The strikes prove the IAF's valour, capabilities and precision."

Former Defence Minister A.K. Antony said the IAF had restored the morale and prestige of the citizens. Pakistan should realise that if it encouraged terrorists, India would not take it lying down, he said.

OPPN. GAUGES IMPACT ▸ PAGE 12
BJP SPOKESPERSONS ASKED TO ADHERE TO GOVT. LINE ▸ PAGE 12

India gets support from Australia, France

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

India on Tuesday received support for its air strikes from several countries, including Australia and France.

"France recognises India's legitimacy to ensure its security against cross-border terrorism and asks Pakistan to put an end to operations of terrorist groups established on its territory," the spokesperson of the French Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs said in a statement.

The British government called on India and Pakistan to pursue diplomatic solutions. U.K. Foreign Secretary Jeremy Hunt held telephone conversations with External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj and Pakistan Foreign Minister Shah Mehmood Qureshi.

However, the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation condemned "the Indian incursion and aerial violation." The criticism comes four days ahead of Ms. Swaraj's speech at the OIC inaugural address in the UAE, which will be India's first appearance at the 57-nation grouping.

(*With PTI inputs*)

CHINA CAUTIOUS ▸ PAGE 13
RELATIVES OF PULWAMA VICTIMS HAIL STRIKE ▸ PAGE 13

Pakistan slams 'aggression', vows to hit back

MEHMAL SARFRAZ
LAHORE

Pakistan on Tuesday termed India's cross-border air strikes "uncalled for aggression" and vowed retaliation.

"India has committed uncalled for aggression to which Pakistan shall respond at the time and place of its choosing," Pakistan's National Security Committee (NSC) said in a statement.

Prime Minister Imran Khan convened an emergency meeting of the NSC hours after Indian aircraft carried out the strike. The meeting was attended by Defence Minister Pervez Khattak, Foreign Minister Shah Mehmood Qureshi, Finance Minister Asad Umar and the military top brass, including Chief of the Army Staff General Qamar Javed Bajwa.

The NSC called the Indian government's claims of targeting a militant camp in Balakot "self-serving, reckless and fictitious."

Mr. Qureshi also held a press conference, along with the Defence and Finance Ministers, in Islamabad. After reading out the NSC statement, Mr. Qureshi said the government would call a joint session of Parliament to discuss the issue. A three-member committee has been formed to take Parliament into confidence regarding the developing situation.

CONTINUED ON ▸ PAGE 12
HEAVY SHELLING ▸ PAGE 12

SC to hear Rafale review pleas in open court

Petitioners say ruling is erroneous

LEGAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

A Supreme Court Bench, led by Chief Justice of India Ranjan Gogoi, on Tuesday posted for open court hearing the review petitions filed against the December 14 judgment in the Rafale case.

"The prayer for open court hearing is allowed," the Bench, comprising Justices Sanjay Kishan Kaul and K.M. Joseph, said in its short order after considering the petitions by circulation in their chambers.

The date of hearing was not given.

Review of a Supreme Court order is a rare legal remedy. The court allows a review of its own judgment only in the face of any apparent error or if there is any violation of the principles of natural justice.

Review petitions are usually decided in chambers. Hence, the decision to hear the Rafale review petition in open court is uncommon. The open court hearing is to decide the question whether the Bench should admit the review.

Oral arguments will be addressed by the petitioners and countered by the government.

The review petitions – filed by former Union Ministers Yashwant Sinha and Arun Shourie, advocate Prashant Bhushan and Aam Aadmi Party MP Sanjay Singh – allege that the judgment is riddled with fault lines. They want the court to re-consider its "erroneous" judgment that relies on a "non-existent" CAG report to uphold the deal.

The petitions say the order, based on a "hypothetical" CAG report, is a "clerical or arithmetical slip."

The petitioners contend that the judgment, based on a hypothetical CAG report, is not merely a "clerical or arithmetical slip" but also a substantial error.

They want a "recall" of the verdict. The petitioners argue that the CAG is an independent constitutional body accountable only to Parliament.

'Claim untrue'

The petitions say the government's claim that the CAG's final report would be in a redacted form is simply untrue. In fact, the government cannot dictate to the CAG what should or should not be redacted. They also question the court's dismissal of lack of sovereign guarantee by the French government as a "minor deviation."

SC pitches for mediation in Ayodhya case

'Give it a try even if there is only 1% chance of success'

KRISHNADAS RAJAGOPAL
NEW DELHI

A five-judge Constitution Bench, led by Chief Justice of India Ranjan Gogoi, has proposed a court-monitored mediation process between the Hindu and Muslim parties litigating the Ayodhya dispute, asserting that both sides ought to give it a try even if there was only a "1% chance of success."

Adopting a two-pronged approach, the Bench on Tuesday pitched the healing touch that an out-of-court settlement could provide, even as it went ahead with the preparations to finally hear the Ayodhya title suit appeals that have been pending in the court for almost nine years. Justice S.A. Bobde explained that the mediation, if undertaken, would be confidential and court-monitored and would last eight weeks.

Observing that the dispute was "much more" than a mere property dispute and had dragged on for decades, the Bench said mediation might result in a permanent resolution.

The eight-week period is also the time given to the Muslim parties to examine the accuracy and relevance of the Uttar Pradesh government's official translation of thousands of pages of oral depositions and exhibits in the appeals.

Language barriers

If the Supreme Court's staffers were to translate the Ayodhya case documents:

- Total number of days for 8 translators to translate 11,479 pages of depositions and exhibits in Hindi to make the case ready for hearing - 120 days
- Seniors can translate up to 1,600 words a day. Junior translators can do 1,300 words a day. That is, 6 to 7 pages a day. If they work harder, they can do up to 12 pages a day

Total number of translators in the court: 8

Source: Secretary General's report in SC

Effective use of time

A shot at mediation under Section 89 of the Civil Procedure Code would hence be an "effective utilisation of time" during the interregnum, Chief Justice Gogoi observed. The court, however, deferred a decision on referring the dispute for 'mediation' to March 5. "We will pass orders then," Justice Gogoi observed.

The CJI also expressed the hope that mediation may help give a peaceful end to the volatile dispute between two faiths over the land where the Babri Masjid had once stood before it was demolished by kar sevaks on December 6, 1992.

CONTINUED ON ▸ PAGE 12

Assam to cut pay of staff who neglect parents

State government forms three-member commission to hear cases

RAHUL KARMAKAR
GUWAHATI

The Assam government on Tuesday formed a three-member commission for hearing cases under a pay-cut policy envisaged to make its employees take care of their dependent elderly parents and physically challenged siblings.

The three-member PRANAM (Parents Responsibility and Norms for Accountability and Monitoring) Commission is headed by Chief Commissioner V.B. Pyarelal. Former MLA Alaka Desai Sarma and social worker Jugabala Buragohain are the two Commissioners.

"We hope the policy acts as a deterrent for employees who have been ignoring their parents and physically challenged siblings," Chief Minister Sarbananda Sonowal said at a programme to announce the panel.

Assam Finance Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma had in 2017 said that such a law would be introduced to ensure parents are cared for.

Geriatric care was linked to the State government employees' pay from the 2018-2019 fiscal. The policy, enforced on October 2 last year, said an employee would be liable to part with 10-15% of his or her pay if found guilty of ignoring their dependent parents and physically challenged siblings.

The deducted money would then be transferred to the bank account of a parent or sibling.

"A few employees do turn a blind eye to the sufferings of their parents. The PRANAM Act was thus a welcome piece of law requiring a neglected parent to lodge a complaint in order to receive sustenance money from the pay of his or her ward. But a commission was needed to hear the cases and ensure no employee is punished arbitrarily," Basab Kalita, president of the Sadou Asom Karmachari Parishad, a State government employees' body, told *The Hindu*.

The Commission's job would be to weigh each complaint, hear both parties and decide whether or not an employee deserves to be penalised.

'Who will ensure security of nation, alliance or Modi?'

Shah says air strike has brought sense of peace

OMAR RASHID
LUCKNOW

Hailing the Narendra Modi government for the air strike on Balakot, BJP president Amit Shah on Tuesday said through the IAF operation and the surgical strike conducted earlier by the Army, the Prime Minister had sent "a message to the world" that Indian soldiers and the Modi government would "go to any extent" to safeguard the country.

Mr. Shah said the air force strike was carried out in "self-defence".

Addressing a chaupal meeting in Ghazipur, east Uttar Pradesh, the BJP chief asked people to decide who would best secure the nation and tackle "terrorism," the Opposition parties or Mr. Modi.

"Who can ensure security of the country? The people of the *gathbandhan* (alliance) or Modiji," Mr. Shah asked, taking a dig at the Opposition alliance. "Who can give a *mooh todh jawab* (fitting reply) to Pakistan? Who can wipe out terrorism," he asked.

Surgical strike

Mr. Shah said that in 2014, Mr. Modi had promised a "safe India". Referring to the "surgical strike" by the Army in 2016, Mr. Shah that while the operation was carried out in response to the Uri attack, the "air strike in PoK" was conducted in "self-defence".

After the Pulwama attack, Mr. Shah said there was a strong demand in the country that such a response should be given so that in future [they] will have to "think 10 times" before repeating anything like it.

Amit Shah

'Political will power'

He said that the air strike had brought a sense of peace to the people of the country.

Launching the BJP's Kamal Jyoti Sankalp campaign for the 2019 Lok Sabha elections, Mr. Shah while lauding and thanking the Air Force for the operation, also praised Mr. Modi for displaying the "political will power" to fight terrorism, which he said the PM was known the world over for.

Ghazipur is located on the eastern fringes of U.P. and is known to send a large number of its youth to the armed forces. Mr. Shah said he had decided to launch the campaign from Ghazipur as it was the land of Suheldev and Abdul Hamid.

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Delhi Government's concrete initiative to end the inhuman practice of sanitation workers entering sewers for cleaning

Sewers in narrow lanes also to be cleaned by machines now

"We will make Delhi the best city in the world"

- Arvind Kejriwal
Chief Minister, Delhi

Our brothers who clean sewers will get dignity and respect

No problem in cleaning sewers in narrow lanes with the introductions of these machines

Inauguration ceremony

On Thursday 28th February, 2019 at 11:00 A.M.

Venue: Dr. Bhimrao Ambedkar Stadium, Delhi Gate, New Delhi

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Department of Urban Development
Government of NCT of Delhi

दिल्ली सरकार
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DELHI Timings

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 27			
RISE	06:49	SET	18:19
RISE	01:23	SET	12:16
THURSDAY, FEB. 28			
RISE	06:48	SET	18:20
RISE	02:18	SET	13:02
FRIDAY, MAR. 01			
RISE	06:47	SET	18:21
RISE	03:10	SET	13:51

Delhi Weather	max	min
Delhi City	21	10
Safdarjang	21	10
Palam	22	11

Delhi Palam Today
21°C A cloudy and pleasasnt day is likely with moderate breeze. Rain is likely over many parts. Pollution to improve.

Delhi Palam Tomorrow
22°C Minimums to drop with moderate fog in the morning. Day will be dry and pleasant with partly cloudy sky.

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'Forged alliance with BSP to ensure Netaji's win in LS polls'

Mulayam Singh is reportedly 'displeased' with Akhilesh's decision on tie-up

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
LUCKNOW

Samajwadi Party president Akhilesh Yadav has said that he forged an alliance with the BSP so that his father Mulayam Singh can win with "record votes" from whichever seat in Uttar Pradesh he chooses to fight the Lok Sabha polls.

His comment came days after SP patriarch Mulayam Yadav – popularly known as Netaji – expressed "displeasure" over his son's decision to enter into a tie-up with the Mayawati-led Bahujan Samaj Party.

"I have made the alliance with the BSP so that Netaji can win with record votes in the State from wherever he contests the Lok Sabha polls," Mr. Yadav said.

Ms. Mayawati and Mr. Yadav had jointly announced the alliance in January, saying the BSP and the SP will contest 38 parliamentary seats each out of the 80 in Uttar Pradesh. However, when the parties released the list of seats shared between them, the SP got 37 seats and the BSP 38.

SP patriarch Mulayam Singh with party president Akhilesh Yadav in Lucknow. • FILE PHOTO

'With his blessings'

Asked about Mr. Mulayam Singh's statement last week in which he sought to know the basis for "giving away" 38 seats to the BSP, Mr. Yadav said, "When I was going to address a press conference to announce the alliance with the BSP, I had met Netaji and took his blessings. I had informed that in the alliance we will be getting half of the seats."

Following the seat-sharing announcement, the SP patriarch had said, "Now, we have only half the seats left. Our party was stronger."

On the distribution of tickets, Mr. Yadav said, "The seats which we are going to contest are final. Now, the list of party nominees will be finalised soon. We have already identified candidates. There is no problem in it."

When asked about reports of some SP members being disgruntled over not being considered for ticket, he said the party has been making preparations for the past one year on all seats and its leaders were asked to work on the ground in their respective areas and support whoever is given a ticket. "We all are united and contest with full force," the SP president said.

Several times, decisions in politics are taken keeping in mind equations.

"Our ticket selection was on for a year, and we got 40 applications, the maximum, from those interested to contest from Amroha, 32 applied for the Jaunpur seat. We will take a decision accordingly," he said. He said two seats – Raebareli and Amethi – have been left for the Congress and two for the RLD.

On the alliance's objective, Mr. Yadav said, "Our fight is to save the Constitution and fight those who have taken two oaths, one of government and the other of the RSS. Our goal is one – to remove the BJP and change the PM."

Cong. to go it alone in West Bengal

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
KOLKATA

Miffed at the "adamant" attitude of the CPI(M)-led Left Front, the Congress is likely to go it alone in West Bengal in the Lok Sabha polls. The party will take a final call on the matter at a meeting of its election committee to be held on Wednesday, party leaders said.

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Three killed on suspicion of witchcraft

STAFF REPORTER
BERHAMPUR

Three persons – a couple and 77-year-old woman – were allegedly killed on suspicion of witchcraft in the Gunupur police station area of Odisha's Rayagada district.

All the three – Gopal Sabar, his wife Laxmi Sabar and Jakili Sabar – residents of Ukumbaguda village, had been missing since February 23.

The couple's daughter, Sabita Sabar, had filed an FIR with the police saying that her parents and the aged woman were murdered by some villagers who accused them to be practitioners of witchcraft.

On receiving the information, a police team led by Gunupur Sub-Divisional Police Officer Rajkishor Dash reached the spot along with a scientific team and a sniffer dog. The police have detained four persons in connection with the incident.

Mr Dash said initial probe hints that the three were beaten to death and their bodies burnt on February 23 night. Their charred remains were thrown in a pond.

Sharp words exchanged during budget debate in Haryana

BJP accuses Cong. of 'burning Haryana'; charges baseless, says Cong.

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
CHANDIGARH

Exchange of sharp words on various issues between the Treasury benches and the Congress members in the Haryana Assembly marred the budget debate on Tuesday.

BJP MLA Aseem Goel started the debate and accused the Congress members of being responsible for "burning Haryana" during the violence which broke out during the Jat quota agitation in February 2016.

Agriculture Minister Om Prakash Dhankar, pointing towards the Congress benches, said, "Everyone knows who burnt Haryana."

During the argument, Congress MLAs, including Bhupinder Singh Hooda, Geeta Bhukkal, Raghubir Singh Kadian, Anand Singh Dangi, Karan Singh Dalal and Shakuntala Khatak, accused the BJP MLAs of levelling baseless charges.

CBI probe

"Let there be an investigation by the CBI into the allegations. It will find out who burnt Haryana," said Mr. Kadian.

The Congress and Indian National Lok Dal members also raised objections over the CAG report not being tabled in the House before the budget debate opened.

Mr. Kaidan said that as per the precedent, the CAG reports are tabled before the budget debate starts. "However, this year it has not been done," he said.

'No CAG report'

Parliamentary Affairs Minister Ram Bilas Sharma pointed out that the Opposition members had not checked their bags, which were given to them after the budget speech, to which Mr. Hooda replied athat they had checked the bag but the CAG report was not there.

Eight mini gun factories busted in Munger; 8 held

MUNGER

The police have busted eight illegal mini gun factories in Bihar's Munger district and arrested eight persons, a senior police officer said on Tuesday. A police team led by Mufassil police station SHO Sunil Kumar raided Tikarampur riverine and busted the factories on Monday night and arrested eight persons with arms and various equipment, SP Gaurav Mangla said. PTI

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Court work hit in Berhampur

STAFF REPORTER
BERHAMPUR

Court work in Odisha's Berhampur continues to be hindered on the last four days of every month as the Ganjam Bar Association members cease work on these days demanding establishment of permanent Bench of the Orissa High Court in the city for southern districts of the State.

The lawyers are also critical of the State government for not making public till now the report of the Justice C.R. Pal Commission.

The commission was set up by the State government in March 2008 to investigate and enquire into demands for permanent Benches of the Orissa HC in southern and western Odisha.

"The commission was to furnish its report in six months. But it took six years to complete the report, which was handed over to the State government in 2014. The report has not been made public yet," said GBA former general secretary Manoj Patnaik.

A permanent High Court Bench is a long standing demand of the GBA.

Government of India
Public Enterprises Selection Board
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in
NMDC Limited
Last date of receipt of applications in PESB is **by 15.00 hours on 04th April, 2019.**
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http://www.pesb.gov.in

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e-Tender Notice

Online tenders are invited from reputed manufacturers having adequate manufacturing capability & best testing facilities or their authorized dealers who are financially sound & from reputed & experienced suppliers/ firms authorized by such principal manufacturers for supply of the relevant materials confirming to standard specifications for the supply of under mentioned Electric Line Materials under **TRW (O&M)** Head for F.Y. 2018-19.
All online tenders should be submitted online on www.jharkhandtenders.gov.in

Group of NIT	Sl. No.	Name Of Material	Unit	Tender Qty.	Cost of BOQ (in Rs.)	Earnest Money (Rs.)	Remarks
339/PR/JBVNL/2018-19	1	H.T Brass Stud 1/2"	No.	1436	Rs. 1,475.00	Rs. 15,000.00	Manufacturers/ Authorized Dealers / Authorized Suppliers shall participate in this tender
	2	H.T Bushing 250 Amp	No.	1022			
	3	L.T. Brass Stud 1/2"	No.	1408			
	4	L.T.Brass Stud 3/4"	No.	156			
	5	L.T. Bushing 250 Amp	No.	511			
	6	L.T. Bushing 630 Amp	No.	621			
Group of NIT	Sl. No.	Name Of Material	Unit	Tender Qty.	Cost of BOQ (in Rs.)	EMD Amount including GST	Remarks
340/PR/JBVNL/2018-19	1	AI. HT Member	No.	2000	Rs. 2,950.00	Rs. 23,800.00	Manufacturers/ Authorized Dealers / Authorized Suppliers shall participate in this tender
	2	AI. Neutral Clamp	No.	100			
	3	A.D Varnish	Ltr.	49			
	4	Bakelite tube 3/8x1/2	Mtr.	1560			
	5	Bakelite tube 5/8	Mtr.	300			
	6	Cottan Tape 1"	Roll	400			
	7	Cotton Waste	Kg	305			
	8	Crape Paper	Kg	100			
	9	C.I Cap Size 3/4"	No.	100			
	10	C.I Cap Size 1"	No.	100			
	11	C.I Cap Size 1¼	No.	100			
	14	Empire Sleeving Size 4 M.M	Mtr.	500			
	15	Empire Sleeeving tube Size 6 M.M	Mtr.	500			
	16	HVSV Lamp	No.	5			
	17	Kraft Paper 2.5 Mil	Kg	300			
	18	Kraft Paper 4 Mil	Kg	300			
	19	M.S Nuts&Bolt Size 1½-5/8"	Kg	100			
	20	Ms Plug Size 3/4"	No.	200			
	21	Press Pham Paper 14 Mil	Kg	200			
	22	Press Board 1.M.M	Kg	1265.5			
	23	Press Board 2.M.M	Kg	698			
	24	Press Board 3. M.M	Kg	780			
	25	Rubberised Cork Strip 40X5 M.M	Mtr.	337			
	26	Rubberised Cork Strip 50X5 M.M	Mtr.	415			
	27	Rubberised Cork Washer Size 107X70X5 mm	No.s	3020			
	28	Rubberised Cork Washer 70X45X5 M.M	No.s	2856			
	29	R/C Washer 45X28X5 M.M	No.s	7000			
	30	R/C Washer 32X14X5 M.M	No.s	3488			
	31	R/C Sheet Size 3X2X6 M.M	Sheet	500			
	32	Red Oxide Paint	Ltr.	168			
	33	Silicagel Breather 63 KVA	No.	200			
	34	Webbing Cotton Tape 1. 1/4"	Roll	437			

IMPORTANT SCHEDULE OF DATES FOR ABOVE NIT's

1	**Availability of tender document on website**	**From 26/02/ 2019 to 15/03/ 2019 up to 18.00 Hrs.**
2	Date and time for submitting e-tender	**From 26/02/ 2019 to 15/03/ 2019 up to 18.00 Hrs.**
3	Last date and time of submission of original DD or hard copy of SSI/NSIC Reg. Certificate towards Cost of BOQ & EMD etc.	**16/03/ 2019 up to 17:00 Hrs.**
4	Date and time of opening of tender (Techno-Commercial Cover) i.e. Cover-I	**18/03/ 2019 at 11:00 Hrs.**

1- Guidelines for online submission of bids can be downloaded from the website http://jharkhandtenders.gov.in
2- Interested bidders can download the bid from the website http://jharkhandtenders.gov.in
3- Bidders have to submit their bids online in electronic format with digital Signature. Bids without digital signature will not be accepted. No proposal (bid) will be accepted in physical form.
4- Bidders must ensure that scanned copies of all necessary documents including copies of cost of BOQ & EMD have been attached with bid.
5- Bidders have to produce the original Demand Draft or SSI/NSIC registration certificate for relevant items towards **tender fee** & **EMD** as mentioned in NIT to the Accounts Officer, Electric Supply Area, Hazaribag **before the cutoff date & time as mentioned in the NIT failing which bid will not be accepted.** The details of cost of documents, EMD specified in the tender documents should be the same as submitted online (scanned copies) otherwise tender will summarily be rejected.
Tender Notice is also available on our website : www.juvnl.in
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SANJAY CHAUHAN (Advocate)
Ch. No. 500, Civil Wing, Tis Hazari Courts, Delhi

LEGAL NOTICE

In The Court of the IInd Addl. Senior Civil Judge, A.P. State:: Nellore
I.A.No.9/2014
O.S.No.272/2004
Penaka Vamsee, Rep. by. Power of Attorney Agent Penaka Bujji Reddy ... Petitioner/ Plaintiff
Vs
1. Director General Post offices, New Delhi
2. Chief Post Master General, Hyderabad
3. The Senior Superintedent of Post Office, Nellore ... Respondents/Defendants
Notice to 1st Respondent
Director General Post offices, having their office situated at Parliament House, New Delhi.
Where as the above named Petitioner filed the above Petition for Passing of final Decre in Terms of Preliminary Decree Dated 18-1-2011 and also to conduct enquiry regrading mesne protin over the Petition schedle property and the same in posted to 1-3-19 for your bojecton on that day, you are directed to presence before the Honable court through Personally or through Advocate and Sumbitt the objections if any failing which the matter will be decided exparte.
M.Raveendra Reddy, B.Sc., B.L., Advocate for the Petitioner/ Plaintiff, Nellore

PUBLIC NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE
Notice is hereby given to the Public that my client LIC Housing Finance Ltd had disbursed a Loan to Mr. Vipul Sharma, Mrs. Jisha Sharma, Mr. Vinay Sharma, Mr. Manav Gautam and Mrs. Madhu Sharma, against the mortgage of Plot No. L-2, TDI City, TDI Kundli, Distt. Sonepat, Haryana. It has come to the notice that the original Allotment Letter and Endorsement Receipts with TDI Customer ID-KR2-2489 have been misplaced. It is hereby appealed to the general public that whosoever finds any of the documents mentioned hereinabove may kindly return the same to the LIC Housing Finance Ltd, Area Office, Gurgaon or shall also inform the undersigned on Telephone No:- 011-24324137, 995368633 & 9811163363.
Karnail Singh, (Advocate) Ch. No.153, Saket Court Complex, New Delhi-110014.
9811163363 & 9953683363

PUBLIC NOTICE
This is to inform to all concern that Smt Manju Rani W/o A.P. Singh R/o C-101A, Sector-15, Noida who is the original allottee of property No. Flat No. 101A, Block-C, Sector-15, Noida (U.P.) had sold the said property on General power of attorney basis to the following person (s). General power of attorney was executed on in favour of Bal Kishan Verma S/o Sh. Babu Ram Verma R/o C-101A, Sector-15, Noida (U.P.) which is registered and the agreement to sell was not registered or not executed. Because the agreement to sell is not registered or no agreement to sell executed, so it is informed to all concern that the said property no.101A, Block-C, Sector-15, Noida (U.P) is going to be transferred in favour of Anita Verma W/o Bal Kishan Verma R/o C-101A, Sector-15, Noida (U.P.) Distt-GB Nagar (U.P.) if any one has/have any objection he/she may file his/her objection along with the sufficient proof in the Housing Department of the Noida Authority within 15 days from the date of publication of this notice.
Anita Verma

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Central Bank of India, Regional Office, Delhi
IMPORTANT NOTICE
Following Safe Deposit Locker holders are informed that the Management of our Bank has decided to shift few locker cabinets from these branches to other branches. Individual notices sent were returned undelivered. Therefore a final notice is given to those lockers holders to approach the branch in person or through written communication within 15 days of this notice.

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Prem Kishor & Juhi Mehra	Defence colony
Mr. Bhupinder Singh	Janpath
Mr. S.P.Tiwari & soni Tiwari	Janpath
Mr. Harish Chander Chhimwa & Pushplata	Janpath
Wg. Cdr.S.S.Thukral	Janpath
Mrs. Anuradha	Janpath
Mr. Harsinder Kaur	Janpath
K C Sachdeva	GK 2

By order of.
Sr. Regional Manager

NOTICE
A notice of intended marriage has been received from Mr. Mayank Kumar Sinha S/o Mr. Arun Kumar Sinha R/o A-28, Sector-27, Noida Distt. Gautam Budh Nagar and Ms Eileen Lucas Marcelo D/o Mr. Eduardo S. Marcelo R/o 33, Villarba St. Tinajeros, Malabon City-1470, Republice of the Philippines in the office of the undersigned, any person interested therein, may file objections to it on any day upto 08-03-2019 in the office of the undersigned.
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DEATH

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B. GOPALAKRISHNAN, FCA
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Deeply mourned by his wife, sons & family, daughters & family, relatives & well wishers.
Contact: Jayaram 9840501230

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IN BRIEF

3 arrested in Telangana NRI murder case

HYDERABAD

Three persons were arrested in connection with the murder of NRI businessman Chigurupati Jayaram. While two accused are relatives, the third used to work for prime accused Rakesh Reddy. Speaking to the media, Deputy Commissioner of Police A.R. Srinivas identified the three accused as Vislawath Vishal, Nenavath Nagesh and Lakshmireddy Subhash Reddy. Vishal and Nagesh are relatives and are rowdy-sheeters. Jayaram was found dead in his car on January 31.

Chennai-Mangaluru superfast mail derails

THRISSUR

Two coaches of the 12601 Chennai-Mangaluru superfast mail derailed as it was entering the Shoranur railway station on Tuesday morning. No one was injured in the accident. The parcel van and the coach next to the engine derailed. The electric posts near the rail line suffered damage. Rail traffic on the Shoranur-Thrissur route that was disrupted for over three hours finally resumed at 4 p.m.

Accused in solar scam moves Kerala High Court

KOCHI

A woman accused in the solar scam has approached the Kerala High Court seeking instructions to the Crime Branch to complete the investigation in a rape case filed by her against former Chief Minister Oommen Chandy and others. Though an FIR was filed on October 20, 2018, the Crime Branch did not arrest Mr. Chandy and Thomas Kuruvila of Kottayam and bring them before the law, she submitted.

Mudumalai forest fire controlled: official

Credits round-the-clock hard work by over 300 people, including locals and members of the public

V.S. PALANIAPPAN
COIMBATORE

The devastating fire that ravaged more than 90 hectares of forest land in the buffer and core zones of the Mudumalai Tiger Reserve (MTR) has been brought under control, said Deepak Srivastava, Chief Conservator of Forests-Coimbatore, holding additional charge as Field Director, MTR.

Talking to *The Hindu*, Mr. Srivastava said that 15 hectares destroyed by fire on the Bandipur (Karnataka) side of the MTR were in the core zone. Fire prevention lines had to be created as a counter mechanism in 30 hectares to stop the blaze from engulfing the entire core area in Mudumalai. Thus, the staff had saved the remaining 210 hectares, he said.

The fire that broke out on February 23 was almost brought under control on February 26 noon, he added, and it required round-the-clock hard work by more than 300 people, which included members of the public and drivers of vehicles in Mudumalai.

Off limits: The Mudumalai Tiger Reserve has been closed to tourists at Theppakadu, near Udhagamandalam in Tamil Nadu. ▪ M. SATHYAMOORTHY

Crucial zones

Saving the remaining and crucial core and buffer zones was made possible because the rank and file of the Forest Department – from rangers, guards and anti-poaching watchers to tribal plot watchers and rapid response teams – toiled hard.

Even villagers stepped in, carrying water in pots and cans.

In the Bandipur National Park (BNP), it was a crown fire that raged whereas it was just a ground fire in the MTR.

Dismissing reports, photographs and videographs on social media, Mr. Srivastava said that wildlife had taken shelter in safer areas and "not even a single wild animal has died in the MTR."

In the buffer zone, the fire destroyed nearly 50 acres in Bokkapuram and Singara.

The Forest Department had definite information that it was a man-made fire. Special teams were on the job to secure the miscreants. Deputy Director-Buffer Zone A. Pushpakaran has announced a cash reward of ₹10,000 for vital intelligence.

Deputy Director-core zone Shenbagapriya managed to prevent the fire from the BNP from spreading into the MTR, besides deploying her surplus strength in the buffer zone.

The Kerala Forest Department also provided manpower.

Mr. Srivastava told *The Hindu* on Tuesday that he had surveyed the affected areas fully. He said, "The fire is completely under control. In fact, teams are in a state of preparedness to prevent any jumping or spilling of the fire from the Bandipur side into Mudumalai."

Water was being poured on wooden logs so that even embers were extinguished completely.

Kerala joins hands with T.N., Karnataka

Officials of three States open a line of communication

E. M. MANOJ
KALPETTA

With the Wayanad forest turning into a virtual tinderbox, Forest Department officials in Kerala have joined hands with their Karnataka and Tamil Nadu counterparts to chalk out strategies to curb the forest fire.

B.N. Anjan Kumar, Chief Conservator of Forest, Wildlife, Palakkad, visited the Mudumalai and Bandipur tiger reserves along with senior personnel on Tuesday and interacted with officials in the neighbouring States on measures to be adopted to prevent the spread of the fire to adjacent forest zones.

"We have constituted a WhatsApp group of wildlife managers of the forest zones, exchanged mobile phone numbers of senior forest officials to send alerts on forest fire incidents and ensured mutual cooperation," Mr. Anjan Kumar told *The Hindu*.

According to officials, 119.77 hectares of forest cover in the district, including 51.1 hectares in the Wayanad Wildlife Sanctuary, 62 hectares in the South Wayanad forest division, and 6.67 hectares in the North Wayanad forest division, were destroyed in the fire that raged from February 21 to February 23. Wildlife managers suspect that the incidents were man-made as they were reported from 26 different sites almost simultaneously.

A section of the people at Vadakkanad under the sanctuary had threatened to set fire to the forests after the Forest Department failed to capture a habitual crop-raiding elephant that was posing a serious threat to their life and property.

Fire outbreaks in the tiger reserves have triggered a large-scale exodus of wild animals to the Wayanad sanctuary. Migration to the Wayanad sanctuary for fodder and water is a usual phenomenon at this time of the year, but the present exodus seems to be a massive one.

Over 15,000 acres ravaged in Bandipur

Satellite data show greater devastation

R. KRISHNA KUMAR
MYSURU

The immensity of the fire that has ravaged Bandipur is becoming clearer with satellite data analyses indicating that the extent of forests burnt could be over 15,000 acres.

Though the authorities had estimated the damage to be between 6,000 and 8,000 acres on Monday, a summary report by the National Remote Sensing Centre (NRSC), Hyderabad, released on Tuesday presented a grimmer picture.

The report said that 24.49 hectares were affected on February 23, 1,808.64 hectares on February 24, and 4,419.54 hectares on February 25. This translates to nearly 15,450 acres.

The NRSC report said that the assessment using Sentinel 2 satellite data was carried out based on the tone, texture, shape and association of the burnt patches.

P. Sridhar, head of the forest forces and Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, confirmed the data but said that of the total burnt area, a little over 1,300 acres were severely ravaged.

SIT probing Gauri case to look into Kalburgi murder

Dharwad HC Bench to monitor probe

LEGAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Tuesday ordered the transfer of the investigation into the murder of scholar and writer M.M. Kalburgi to the Special Investigation Team (SIT) probing the killing of journalist Gauri Lankesh.

A Bench, comprising Justices Rohinton F. Nariman and Vineet Saran, directed the Dharwad Bench of the Karnataka High Court to monitor the SIT investigation.

The Kalburgi death was earlier investigated by the Karnataka CID.

Initially, the court contemplated having the Bombay High Court monitor the Kalburgi case.

The Bombay High Court is currently monitoring the investigations into the murders of activists Narendra Dabholkar and Govind Pansare.

A line of argument had been raised before the Supreme Court that all the four cases were interlinked. "If four cases are linked to each other, they should have the same SIT and one High Court to monitor them," Justice Nariman suggested orally.

But Karnataka's Additional Advocate General Devadutt Kamat objected, submitting that there was a SIT already probing the Gauri case.

Wife's petition

"The Gauri Lankesh case is linked to the Kalburgi probe. There is no point giving the Kalburgi case now to the Maharashtra SIT," Mr. Kamat submitted,

M.M. Kalburgi was shot dead at his Dharwad residence on August 30, 2015.

to which the Bench agreed. The court is hearing a petition filed by Umadevi Kalburgi for a comprehensive, fair and co-ordinated probe into the brutal murders of her husband Kalburgi and Gauri, Dabholkar and Pansare.

Karnataka's stance

The Karnataka government has always maintained that the investigation of both the Kalburgi and Gauri murders should remain with the State.

Gauri was shot dead in broad daylight in front of her Bengaluru residence on September 5, 2017.

A Kendriya Sahitya Akademi awardee and anti-superstition activist, Kalburgi was shot dead at his Dharwad residence on August 30, 2015.

Ms. Umadevi believes that the very same shooters responsible for the murders of Pansare on February 16, 2015, in Kolhapur and Narendra Dabholkar on August 20, 2013, in Pune were behind the murder of her husband.

हरियाणा सरकार

TENDER NOTICE

SR. NO.	NAME OF DEPARTMENT	NAME OF WORK/NOTICE/TENDER	OPENING DATE CLOSING DATE	AMOUNT/EMD in RS	WEBSITE OF THE DEPARTMENT	NODAL OFFICER
1	PWD B&R, JIND	WORK OF P.R./I.R.Q.P. FROM KM.125.920 TO 226.370 ON RAIMALIKPUR – NARNAUL – MOHINDERGARH-CHARKHI DADRI – BHIWANI – HANSI – BARWALA – TOHANA-JAKHAL ROAD NH-148B IN THE STATE OF HARYANA.	25.02.2019 06.03.2019	505.90 LACS	https://haryanaeprocurement.gov.in	01681-248559 senhjindpwd@gmail.com
2	PWD B&R, JHAJJAR	IMPROVEMENT OF DIVERSION ROAD JHAJJAR. + 1 OTHER WORK	23.02.2019 04.03.2019	388.24 LACS	https://haryanaeprocurement.gov.in	01251-252085
3	PWD B&R, NUH	SPECAIL REPAIR FOR PROVIDING IPB ON TAURA SARAI ROAD TO DINGANHERI KM 0 TO 0.22 + 7 OTHER WORKS	23.02.2019 05.03.2019	1007.45 LACS	https://haryanaeprocurement.gov.in	01267-271237
4	PWD B&R, AMBALA	CONSTRUCTION OF GOVERNMENT INDUSTRIAL TRAINING INSTITUTE (ITI) IN VILLAGE BAHLOLPUR IN KURUKSHETRA DISTRICT {CM ANNOUNCEMENT CODE NO.12583 DATED 29/05/2016}. + 1 OTHER WORK	23.02.2019 05.03.2019	1023.05 LACS	https://haryanaeprocurement.gov.in	9729077198 pwdeepd2kurukshetra@hry.nic.in
5	PWD B&R, AMBALA	SPECIAL REPAIR, WIDENING WITH HARD SHOULDERING AND STRENGTHENING OF 5 NOS. ROADS UNDER PROVINCIAL DIVN. NO.2, AMBALA CANTT (ROAD ID 249, 250, 262, 271 & 283) – REINVITED.	24.02.2019 05.03.2019	295.01 LACS	https://haryanaeprocurement.gov.in	9416895576 pwd-eepd2-ambala@hry.nic.in)
6	PWD B&R, KARNAL	RENOVATION IN SNCU WARD IN CIVIL HOSPITAL SEC-18 AT KAITHAL. + 1 OTHER WORK	23.02.2019 01.03.2019	4.73 LACS	https://haryanaeprocurement.gov.in	0184-2265696 pwd-eeed-karnal@hry.nic.in
7	PWD B&R, AMBALA	PROPOSED CONFERENCE HALL IN COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE AT AMBALA CANTT	22.02.2019 05.03.2019	3.22 LACS	https://haryanaeprocurement.gov.in	0171-2631396 Pwd-eepd2-ambala@hry.nic.in
8	PWD B&R, PANCHKULA	CONSTRUCTION OF GOVT. VETERINARY DISPENSARY AT VILLAGE-MANAK TABRA IN PANCHKULA DISTT	25.02.2019 05.03.2019	31.70 LACS	https://haryanaeprocurement.gov.in	pwd-eepd-panchkula@hry.nic.in
9	PWD B&R, AMBALA	PROVIDING 20MM THICK PREMIX CARPET ON JAIL CROSSING TO AMBALA CITY (KM 0.00 TO KM 1.430) (ROAD ID 226) IN AMBALA DISTRICT.	25.02.2019 06.03.2019	22.81 LACS	https://haryanaeprocurement.gov.in	9813137118 pwdeepd1ambala@hry.nic.in
10	PWD B&R, KURUKSHETRA	DEVELOPMENT OF GHAT ON SAROVER TIRATH AT VILLAGE GUMTHALA GARHU IN DISTRICT KURUKSHETRA {CM ANNOUNCEMENT CODE NO.20283 DATED 13.10.2017) (REINVITE)	25.02.2019 06.03.2019	70.53 LACS	https://haryanaeprocurement.gov.in	01744-238066
11	PWD B&R, KURUKSHETRA	CONSTRUCTION OF GHAT & PICTORIAL GALLERY FOR VISITORS AT VILLAGE BHOR SAIDAN TIRATH IN DISTRICT KURUKSHETRA (CM ANNOUNCEMENT CODE NO.20286 DATED 13.10.2017)	23.02.2019 04.03.2019	39.80 LACS	https://haryanaeprocurement.gov.in	01744-238066
12	PWD B&R, KURUKSHETRA	PROVIDING ROAD SAFETY FURNITURE ON VARIOUS ROADS UNDER PROVINCIAL DIVISION NO.1, PWD B&R, KURUKSHETRA	22.02.2019 02.03.2019	15 LACS	https://haryanaeprocurement.gov.in	01744-238066
13	PWD B&R, KURUKSHETRA	WIDENING OF ROAD FROM MORTHALI TO JURASI KALAN (ID 7834) UNDER PROVINCIAL DIVISION NO.1, PWD B&R, KURUKSHETRA (CM ANNOUNCEMNET CODE NO.23754 DATED 1.10.2018) (REINVITE) + 1 OTHER WORK	22.02.2019 02.03.2019	44.03 LACS	https://haryanaeprocurement.gov.in	01744-238066
14	PWD B&R, HISAR	CONSTRUCTION OF NEW BUS STAND AT BALASMAND IN DISTT. HISAR (PDG. E.I INTERNAL ONLY). + 3 OTHER WORKS	25.02.2019 04.03.2019	2000	https://haryanaeprocurement.gov.in	01662-225651 pwd-eeed-hissar@hry.nic.in
15	IRRIGATION & W/R DEPTT KAITHAL	WORK FOR REPAIR OF GHAT AT RD. 4000 OF SIWAN MINOR + 16 OTHER WORKS	CLOSING DATE 07.03.2019	14.71 LACS	http://etenders.hry.nic.in	01746-222384 xenktl@gmail.com
16	IRRIGATION & W/R DEPTT NARWANA	ESTIMATE FOR RECONSTRUCTION OF BRIDGE AT RD 4380 OF DHANOURI DISTY + 43 OTHER WORKS	CLOSING DATE 08.03.2019	4.28 CRORE	http://etenders.hry.nic.in	xenwsnwa@gmail.com
17	IRRIGATION & W/R DEPTT HISAR	REMODELING OF W/C OUTLET AT RD 4000/L BUDAK SUB MINOR + 2 OTHER WORKS	26.02.2019 06.03.2019	302.43 LACS	http://etenders.hry.nic.in	01662-235135 xenconst6hsr@gmail.com
18	PANCHAYATI RAJ, YAMUNA NAGAR	CONST. OF PANCHAYT GHAR IN VILLAGE KABULPUR BLOCK SARASWATI NAGAR, DISTT. YAMUNA NAGAR.	25.02.2019 11.03.2019	24.54 LACS	https://haryanaeprocurement.gov.in	01732-237833 prexeeng.ynr@hry.nic.in
19	PANCHAYATI RAJ, AMBALA	CONST. OF HALL AT OFFICE OF DISTT FISHERY OFFICER AMBALA, VIKAS VIHAR AMBALA CITY + 1 OTHER WORK	26.02.2019 05.03.2019	25.64 LACS	https://haryanaeprocurement.gov.in	0171-2551368 prexeeng.amb@hry.nic.in
20	PANCHAYATI RAJ, AMBALA	PDG. E.I. WORK IN VAYAMSHALA AT VILLAGE NIDANA DISTT. ROHTAK	25.02.2019	2.25 LACS	https://haryanaeprocurement.gov.in	
		+ 1 OTHER WORK	06.03.2019			94678-07024 ,0171-2550510 prexeengelec.amb@hry.nic.in
21	FOREST DEPTT, PANIPAT	CONSTRUCTION WORK OF MODERN NURSERY	22.02.2019 28.02.2019	1.17 LACS	https://haryanaeprocurement.gov.in	0180-2650331 dfopanipat04@yahoo.co.in
22	PUBLIC HEALTH ENGINEERING , AMBALA	PROVIDING AND INSTALLING 2 NOS. TUBEWELLS AGAINST FAILURE TUBEWELL AT VILLAGES GANAULI AND MANDLAI OF BLOCK RAIPURRANI, TEHSIL KALKA, DISTT. PANCHKULA AND 1 NO. ADDITIONAL TUBEWELL AT VILLAGE DERA OF TEHSIL NARAINGARH, DISTT. AMBALA (CONSTY. NARAINGARH).	25.02.2019 05.03.2019	11.25 LACS	https://phed.haryanaeprocurement.gov.in	0171-2631402 eemambala@phedharyana.gov.in
23	HSRLM GURURAM	PRINTING OF BOOKS ACCOUNTS (WITH MATERIAL)	22.02.2019 07.03.2019	7 LACS	www.gurugram.gov.in	9718317894 dpmhsrlmgrg@gmail.com
24	AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE DEPTT, PANCHKULA	TENDER FOR CONSTRUCTION OF PUMP HOUSES IN DIFFERENT DISTRICTS OF STATE	27.02.2019 12.03.2019	5 LACS	www.agriharyana.nic.in TENDER NO 01/JD STAT	9417040812

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

Prdh 75667

MADHYA PRADESH MADHYAM
40, Administrative Zone, Arera Hill, Bhopal-462011

EMPANELMENT OF AUDIO VISUAL PRODUCERS

Madhya Pradesh Madhyam, an autonomous organization under the Public Relations Department, Government of Madhya Pradesh, invites applications from audio visual producers for empanelment. Those who have professional qualifications and proven experience in the production of documentary films, short films, TV spots and jingles, can apply for empanelment.

1. Application forms along with guidelines/rules & regulations can be obtained from the office of Madhya Pradesh Madhyam during the office hours 10.30 A.M. to 5.30 P.M. on all working days up to March 11th, 2019 or downloaded from the official website of Madhya Pradesh Madhyam **www.mpmadhyam.in** (link - tender)
2. Application forms will be issued by Accounts Section on payment of Rs. 5000/- (non refundable) by cash or by demand draft. In case of downloaded form, it should be accompanied with demand draft of Rs. 5000/- (non refundable). Demand draft should be drawn in favour of Madhya Pradesh Madhyam, issued by any Nationalised Bank.
3. Last date of submission of application form is March 12th, 2019 till 16.30 hrs. at above address.
4. Application forms submitted without form fees & EMD in prescribed manner are liable to be rejected.
5. Managing Director of Madhya Pradesh Madhyam, reserves the right to accept or reject any or all applications, without assigning any reason thereof.

M.P. Madhyam/93293/2019 MANAGING DIRECTOR

EAST CENTRAL RAILWAY

CORRIGENDUM

Estimated cost for e-tender no. EL/36/open/2018-19 printed in original tender notice should be read as corrected below. **E-tender no. :** EL/36/Open/2018-19. **Name of Work :** Electrical work in connection with (A) SGRL-Provision of 100000 Gallons capacity RCC OH tank with pipe line at SGRL (B) Electrical work in connection with improvement of existing running room at DHN, GMO & BRWD including extension (C) Electrical work in connection with DHN - Construction of 150 badded barrack for RPSF Dhanbad. **Estimated cost as printed in tender notice :** ₹65,32,597.95, **Estimated cost of Tender as corrected :** ₹65,34,097.95, Other terms and conditions will remain unaltered.

Divl. Railway Manager (Elect.)/
PR/1722/DHN/C/20 ECR/Dhanbad

DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL-1, CHENNAI
6th Floor, Dewa Towers, 770-A, Anna Salai, Chennai-600 002

DEMAND NOTICE

(Under Rule 2 read with Rule 16 of the second schedule to the Income tax Act, 1961)

DRC No.30/2019 (O.A No.1/2012) Date: 18.02.2019

To

1. **M/s.Vantage Resorts & Clubs (P) Ltd.,** No.89, Santhome High Road, R.A.Puram, Chennai-600028.
2. **Mr.Manpreet Chadha,** S/o Charanjit Singh Chada, No.6, Green Park Main, New Delhi-106.
3. **Mrs.Nisha Kakumanu Chada,** W/o Manpreet Chada, No.6, Green Park Main, New Delhi-106.
4. **Mrs.T.S.Shanthi,** No.16/13, Krishnapuri 18th Street, R.A.Puram, Chennai-600028.
5. **Mr.Sarath Kakumanu,** S/o Late K.Subbiah, No.29, Bishop Garden, R.A.Puram, Chennai-600028.
6. **Mrs.Sheela K.Sarath,** No.29, Bishop Garden, R.A.Puram, Chennai-600028.
7. **M/s.Skyscape Properties (P) Ltd,** Rep. by its Managing Director, No.89, Santhome High Road, R.A.Puram, Chennai-600028.

Subject: Demand Notice in **DRC No.30/2019** in **O.A.No.1/2012** in the mater of **Andhra Bank,** Anna Nagar Branch, Chennai-600040 **V/s M/s.Vantage Resorts & Clubs (P) Ltd.,** Chennai-600028 **& others.**

Whereas a Recovery Certificate has been forwarded by the **Hon'ble Presiding Officer, Debts Recovery Tribunal-1, Chennai, vide DRC No.30/2019 dated 25.01.2019** under Section 19 (7 & 22) of the Recovery of Debts and Bankruptcy Act, 1993 (Act 51 of 1993) in terms of orders dated 31.08.2017 in O.A.No.1/2012 specifying that a sum of **Rs.3,63,64,311.30p** (Rupees three crores sixty three lakhs sixty four thousand three hundred eleven and paise thirty Only), is due, the details of which are given in the annexures enclosed, plus further interest and costs to be recovered from you, jointly and severally.

You are hereby directed, to pay the above said sum, jointly and severally within 15 days from the date of receipt of this notice, failing which recovery shall be effected in accordance with the provisions of Section 25 of the Recovery of Debts and Bankruptcy Act, 1993 read with the rules contained in Second Schedule to the Income Tax Act, 1961. The payment, as stated above, shall be made either to the Applicant Bank under intimation to the undersigned or before the undersigned to the credit of the above said DRC.

In addition to the sum aforesaid, you shall be liable, jointly and severally, for payment of such interest as is payable in terms of the final order passed by the Tribunal, all costs, charges and expenses incurred in respect of all proceedings taken for realizing the dues.

You are further put on notice that in terms of Rules 16 of the Recovery Rules, you/your representatives in interest shall not be competent to mortgage, charge, lease or otherwise deal **with any property belonging to you** except with the permission of the Recovery Officer.

(M.A.PRABAKARAN)
RECOVERY OFFICER

TO ADVERTISE PLEASE CONTACT

Mr. N SELVA KUMAR
PH: 98203 50726
selvakumar.n@thehindu.co.in

Mr. GAURAV SEHGAL
PH: 98110 06590
gaurav.sehgal@thehindu.co.in

THE HINDU

SPORTSTAR

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IN BRIEF

Kolkata metro services hit after spark in 3rd rail

KOLKATA

A spark in the third rail at Tollygunge station disrupted Kolkata metro railway services for over half an hour on Tuesday, an official said. The disruption happened at 2.21 p.m. when a spark was noticed in the third rail which carries electrical power to the trains. The snag was attended to and services were restored at 2.56 p.m. PTI

Tiger kills leopard in Phen Wildlife Sanctuary

MANDLA (M.P.)

A seven-month-old leopard was killed by a tiger in Phen Wildlife Sanctuary under the Kanha Tiger Reserve in Madhya Pradesh, an official said on Tuesday. A team of forest officials on Monday spotted pug marks of a tiger. "The pug marks led the team to a tiger which was seen with the carcass of a leopard," said KTR field director L. Krishnamurty. PTI

Armed men loot ₹2.5 lakh from petrol pump

AGARTALA

Armed men looted ₹2.5 lakh from a petrol pump in Tripura's Gomati district, the police said on Tuesday. "The miscreants wearing masks came on two motorbikes and entered the cash counter of the petrol pump on Monday night. They looted ₹2.5 lakh at gunpoint," officer-in-charge of R.K. Pur police station Nijarul Rehman said. PTI

Two killed in motorcycle accident in Jalaun

JALAUN (U.P.)

A couple was killed and another rider injured after their motorcycles collided near Paniyara Maniri village in U.P.'s Jalaun district, the police said on Tuesday. Vinay Narayan (40) and his wife Kiran (36) were killed while Chhedalal, who was on the other bike, was seriously injured in the accident. PTI

Speculation rife as 4 big leaders in Odisha yet to announce poll plans

Analysts keeping fingers crossed on the next move of Panda, Jena, Mohapatra, Ray

PRAFULLA DAS
BHUBANESWAR

Baijayant Panda

Srikant Jena

Bijoy Mohapatra

Dilip Ray

As the Lok Sabha and Assembly elections draw closer in Odisha, the fate of four prominent politicians of the State – Baijayant Panda, Srikant Jena, Bijoy Mohapatra and Dilip Ray – continues to hang in the balance.

Their being not affiliated to any political party at present gives rise to speculation in the Parliamentary and Assembly constituencies where they contested in 2014. Questions such as will they join any party, or contest the upcoming elections as independents, or maybe not enter the fray at all continue to be raised in public sphere.

Mr. Panda, who quit the ruling BJD in May last year – four months after he was suspended from the primary membership of the party for "anti-party" activities – continues to visit Kendrapara from where he was elected to the Lok Sabha in 2009 and 2014 elections.

Criticism continues

Although Mr. Panda continues to be critical of the State government on social media, he has not been able to make up his mind about joining any other party till date.

Political analysts are keeping their fingers crossed when it comes to predicting the next move of former Union Minister Srikant Jena. He has been critical of both the BJD and the Congress since he was expelled from the latter on January 19 on charges of anti-party activities.

Similar confusion persists about the political future of former Minister Bijoy Mohapatra and former Rourkela legislator Dilip Ray. Both of them quit the BJP on November 29 last year after they were sidelined by the party.

Speculation is rife that both Mr. Mohapatra and Mr. Ray, who played a key role in the formation of the BJD in 1997, may join the ruling party. But there is little sign of their making a return to the party so far.

Since hectic lobbying has already begun in the BJD, the Congress and the BJP by those aspiring for Lok Sabha and Assembly tickets, the fate of these four leaders may be decided when the nomination paper filing process begins.

Assam hooch tragedy toll mounts to 158

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
GUWAHATI

The death toll in the Assam hooch tragedy rose to 158 on Tuesday. More than 300 people are still receiving treatment at hospitals in Jorhat and Golaghat districts, a health department official said.

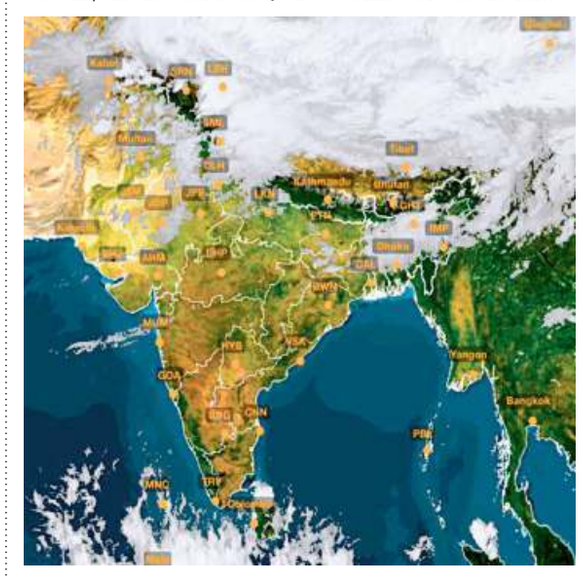
A man died during treatment at the Golaghat Civil Hospital, taking the toll in the district to 56. More than 50 people are still undergoing treatment in the hospital, the official said.

Seventy-eight people died during treatment at Jorhat Medical College Hospital while 20 were brought dead. As many as 260 are undergoing treatment, the official said. In Titabor subdivisional hospital of Jorhat district, four persons had died so far, he added.

Twenty-two people have been arrested in connection with the tragedy.

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 likely at isolated places over Assam and Meghalaya. Thunderstorm accompanied with hailstorm/gusty winds/lightning likely at isolated places over Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Haryana, Delhi, Uttar Pradesh, Sikkim, Jharkhand, Odisha and coastal Andhra Pradesh

CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN
Agartala	27	24.0	17.7
Ahmedabad	–	30.5	18.8
Aizawl	–	24.0	11.0
Allahabad	–	29.8	12.3
Bengaluru	–	34.5	20.8
Bhopal	–	30.4	12.9
Bhubaneswar	–	33.5	22.0
Chandigarh	–	22.8	9.6
Chennai	–	33.0	23.6
Coimbatore	–	37.2	22.0
Dehradun	–	18.9	8.1
Gangtok	5.9	14.2	6.5
Goa	–	32.3	20.3
Guwahati	–	29.6	13.0
Hubballi	–	33.0	21.0
Hyderabad	–	35.4	20.7
Imphal	–	21.0	11.0
Jaipur	–	–	14.6
Kochi	–	32.2	25.2
Kohima	–	23.0	6.6
Kolkata	4	25.1	20.1
Kozhikode	–	35.6	25.3
Kurnool	–	38.3	23.2
Lucknow	–	26.8	14.6
Madurai	–	37.4	23.3
Mangaluru	–	34.6	23.2
Mumbai	–	33.7	20.0
Mysuru	–	35.4	19.8
New Delhi	2.4	21.0	10.3
Patna	–	29.6	15.0
Port Blair	–	31.2	25.3
Puducherry	–	33.8	23.0
Pune	–	31.3	14.0
Raipur	–	32.7	20.7
Ranchi	–	28.2	16.8
Shillong	–	16.0	8.3
Shimla	–	10.7	2.0
Srinagar	–	7.7	0.6
Trivandrum	–	36.0	24.2
Tiruchi	–	37.3	23.2
Vijayawada	–	34.3	22.4
Visakhapatnam	–	31.5	25.5

(Rainfall data in mm; temperature in Celsius)

Pollutants in the air you are breathing — **Yesterday**

CITIES	SO_2	NO_2	CO	PM2.5	PM10	CODE
Ahmedabad	31	53	24	101	–	
Bengaluru	24	88	43	89	106	
Chennai	8	16	56	341	–	
Delhi	14	58	44	174	102	
Hyderabad	42	87	27	122	138	
Kolkata	7	76	24	152	106	
Lucknow	16	51	53	323	–	
Mumbai	11	34	78	52	115	
Pune	32	15	82	75	108	
Visakhapatnam	–	–	–	–	–	–

In observation made at 4.00 p.m., Muzaffarpur, Bihar recorded an overall air quality index (AQI) score of 302 indicating an unhealthy level of pollution. In contrast, Khanna, Punjab recorded a healthy AQI score of 48

Air Quality Code: Poor Moderate Good (Readings indicate average AQI)

SO_2: Sulphur Dioxide. Short-term exposure can harm the respiratory system, making breathing difficult. It can affect visibility by reacting with other air particles to form haze and stain culturally important objects such as statues and monuments.

NO_2: 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.

PM2.5 & 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

Gajapati's royal scion joins BJD

Her induction is likely to strengthen the party in Berhampur

STAFF REPORTER
BERHAMPUR

Kalyani Devi with Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik at his residence in Bhubaneswar on Tuesday. • BISWARANJAN ROUT

Kalyani Devi, scion of the erstwhile royal family of Paralakhemundi in Gajapati district of Odisha, joined the ruling Biju Janata Dal on Tuesday. She was inducted into the party at the residence of Chief Minister and BJD president Naveen Patnaik in Bhubaneswar.

Her joining the BJD will strengthen the party in Gajapati district and Berhampur parliamentary constituency, said sources. The BJD might consider fielding her as its candidate from Paralakhemundi Assembly seat or Berhampur parliamentary constituency, the sources said.

Ms. Devi is the daughter of former Congress MP from Berhampur, Gopinath Gajapati, who was a member of the ninth and 10th Lok Sabha. He later joined the BJD in 2009.

Her grandfather Krushna Chandra Gajapati (1892-1974) played a key role in the formation of Odisha State on linguistic basis and is revered throughout the State. He was the first prime minister of Odisha before Independence and a member of the Constituent Assembly of India. The present day Gajapati district, carved out of Ganjam district, is named after him.

"The family of Ms. Devi is well-known for its tradition of social service and her induction will surely strengthen the party organisation," said BJD's Gajapati district president Pradeep Nayak.

Nagaland Assembly rejects citizenship Bill

Passes resolution amid Oppn. walkout

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
KOHIMA

The Nagaland Assembly has passed a resolution rejecting the contentious Citizenship (Amendment) Bill, amid a walkout by 26 Opposition MLAs.

The resolution, passed on Monday, denounced the proposed Bill stating that it cannot be implemented in Nagaland as it will impact the "unique history and status of the Nagas under the Constitution". It was moved by Chief Minister Neiphiu Rio on Saturday.

Solidarity with States

The resolution also expressed solidarity with the States and communities of the Northeast in opposing the Bill, as it has the potential of "changing the demographic profile, which will be against the interest of indigenous tribes and can divest them of their constitutionally guaranteed political, cultural and economic rights".

The opposition MLAs, however, walked out of the Assembly, saying they would not support the resolution in its present form.

The Citizenship (Amendment) Bill, passed in Lok Sabha on January 8, seeks to provide citizenship to non-Muslims from Bangladesh, Pakistan and Afghanistan after six years of residence in India.

North Eastern Railway — **Open Tender Notice No. N/539/2/OT/18-19/56**

"Open Tenders" through Online (E-Tendering) are invited by Divisional Railway Manager (Signal & Telecomm)/Varanasi/N.E. Railway for and behalf of the President of India for the following works:

Tender Notice No. and Description of work	Details	
SN: 1, N/539/2/OT/18-19/56: **Name of work:** Signalling works in connection with Engineering works in the sections of SSE/Sig/CTC/Gorakhpur, SSE/Sig/Siwan & SSE/Sig/Chhapra of Varanasi Division.	Approx. Value	₹ 6462598.73
	Earnest Money	₹ 129300.00
	Cost of Tender Form	₹ 5000/-
	Completion period	270 Days

Tender Closing Date & Time : 01.04.2019 upto **15.00 Hrs.**

1. Tender online will be submitted up to **15.00** Hrs on date **01.04.2019,**
2. For full details and submission of bid kindly visit the official website of Indian Railways i.e. **www.ireps.gov.in.**

Divl. Rly. Manager (S&T)
CPRO/Sig-57 **N.E. Railway, Varanasi**

Railway Vig. Mobile Help Line No. 0551-155210 (Regarding corruption complaint)

Do not travel on roof top and foot board of train

HIMACHAL PRADESH STATE ELECTRONICS DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION LIMITED

1st&GroundFloor, I.T. Bhawan, Mehli, Shimla -171 013
Tel. No. 0177-2623259
2623513, 2626320, 2623513 2623043,
FAX:0177-2626320
Website :www.hpsedc.in

Tender No.:HPSEDC/CC/STUDENTS/LAPTOP/2K19- Date: 25-02-2019

e-TENDER NOTICE

e-Tenders are invited from eligible bidders for procurement of about 9700 laptops for meritorious students under "Srinivasa Ramajujan Student Digital Yojna" in Himachal Pradesh.

Last date for online e-bid submission is 16/03/2019 (upto11:30 AM) and shall be opened on the same day at 3:00PM. Detailed Tender Document containing Technical Specifications and Terms & Conditions are available on HPSEDC website www.hpsedc.in and https://hptenders.gov.in.

HP/ 0855/2018-2019 **General Manager (Technical)**

NORTH DELHI MUNICIPAL CORPORATION

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER (M-II) CLZ
2ND FLOOR 16-RAJPUR ROAD, DELHI

No. EE/M-II/CLZ/2018-2019/51 Dated:- 22.02.2019

Date of start for Sale of Tender Document 22.02.2019 at 17:00 PM
Last Date of Download of Tender Document 07.03.2019 upto 14:00 P.M.
Last Date of Bid Submission 08.03.2019 upto 12:00 P.M.
Opening of Financial Bid 08.03.2019 at 12:00 P.M.

FOR ONLINE TENDERING TIME TABLE PLEASE PEFER http://tenderwizard.com/NORTHDMCETENDER Sealed percentage rate for

Tenders are invited for the execution of the following works by the MCD from approved and eligible contractor on the website http://www.tenderwizard.com/NORTHDMCETENDER The registered contractors of MCD only are eligible to tender for the amount they have registered in their respective category subject to the conditions that they are neither black listed nor debarred at the time of purchase of tenders.

S.No.1 Name of work: Imp/Dev of Read from A-19 G.T.K. Road to A-219 S.S Rana Road in Ward No. 18N/CLZ. **Head of A/c:** XL-VII-S **Tender Amt.:** 3561591 **E/M:** 71200 **Time of Completion:** 5 Month **Rate hold good for:** 5 Month **T.Cost:**500. **S.No.1 Name of work:** Imp/Dev of open land near H.No. C-165 by pdg. RMC in Jahangirpuri Ward No. 21N/CLZ. **Head of A/c:** XL-VIII-S **Tender Amt.:** 2936368 **E/M:** 58700 **Time of Completion:** 5 Month **Rate hold good for:** 5 Month **T.Cost:** 500.

R.O No. 174/North DMC/18-19 **Executive Engineer (M-II)-CLZ**

NORTH EASTERN RAILWAY — **Tender Notice**

Dy. CME/Works for Chief Workshop Manager, N.E. Railway, Mechanical Workshop, Gorakhpur for and on behalf of President of India invites open tenders through on line (E-Tendering) for the following work:-

E-Tender Notice No. & Name of Work	Estimated Cost	Earnest Money
IREPS Tender No. 84-Testing Repairing and Fit "Testing, Repairing and Fitting of Steel Pipe at Mechanical Workshop, Gorakhpur."	₹ 49,17,600.00	₹ 98,400.00
	Cost of Tender Forms : ₹3,000.00	
	Period of Contract : 24 Months	

Last Date of tender submission : upto 15.15 hrs, Date- **26.03.2019**

● The details of above tender are also available on Indian Railway website **www.ireps.gov.in**.

CPRO/Mech-101 **Chief Workshop Manager, Gorakhpur**

About any passenger amenity complain SMS on Mobile No. 09794845955

"Never travel on roof and foot boards"

INDIAN RAILWAYS

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (RAILWAY BOARD)

No.2018/Track-III/MC/13 **New Delhi, dt. 26.02.2019**

E-GLOBAL TENDER No. TM 1817 for procurement of 104 (One hundred four only) Nos. of Rail Borne Maintenance Vehicles (RBMV) Machines.

1. Electronic bids are invited for and on behalf of the President of India for procurement of 104 (One hundred four only) nos. of Rail Borne Maintenance Vehicles (RBMV) Machines.
2. The interested tenderers are advised to visit the website **http://ireps.gov.in** for details, downloading of the tender documents and submission of their e-bids.

Dinesh Tripathi
604/19 **Director Track (MC) Railway Board.**

Serving Customers With A Smile

EAST DELHI MUNICIPAL CORPORATION

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER (PR)-I
Shahdara, South Zone, E-1/12, Krishna Nagar, Delhi-51
NIT No.: EE(Pr)-I/Sh.S/TC/2018-19/36 **Date: 22.02.19**

SHORT NOTICE INVITING TENDERS

Last date of purchase and Download tender Document : 28.02.19 at 10.00 A.M.
Last date of Bid Preparation and Hash Submission : 28.02.19 at 12.00 P.M.
Last date of Close for Bid : 28.02.19 at 12.00 P.M. to 03.00 P.M.
Last date of Re-encryption of online bid : 28.02.19 at 03.01 P.M. to 01.03.19 at 02.00 P.M.
Opening of Financial Bid : 01.03.19 at 02.10 P.M.
In the office of SE(Projcet) Shahdara South

S. No.	Name of Work	Head of account	Tender Amount	Earnest Money	Cost of Tender	Tender No.
1	Imp.Dev. of road from H. No. H-9 Gol Chakker to H. No. A-11 near road No. 57 Hansraj Marg Krishna Nagar, AC-60 Shahdara South Zone.	XL-VIII-S(i)	₹7690835/-	₹153900/-	₹1000/-	314145
2	Imp.Dev. of Maharaja Agarsen Marg from H. No. B-111 Parwana road to H. No. 9 Disuse Canal road in Radhey Shyam Park Extn. And road from H No. A-23 to H No. F-15, New Govind Pura by pdg. RMC in AC-60, Shahdara South Zone.	XL-VIII-S-iv	₹9028113/-	₹180600/-	₹1000/-	314146
3	Strengthening of road by pdg. Dense Carpeting from Indira Park to red light Vivek Vihar Phase-II AC-62 Shahdara South Zone.	XL-VIII- S-iv	₹7447788/-	₹149000/-	₹1000/-	314147
4	Imp.Dev. of road from Solanki Gas (H No. 668) to Lal Qrts (H No. B-7/1) and links in B Block Krishna Nagar by pdg. RMC AC-60 Shahdara South Zone.	XL-VIII- S-iv	₹11869889/-	₹237400/-	₹1500/-	314148
5	Imp.Dev. of road by pdg. RMC from Happy English School to H No12/24 to Geeta Colony Taj Enclave road AC-60 Shahdara South Zone.	XL-VIII- S-iv	₹13001834/-	₹260100/-	₹1500/-	314149
6	Imp. Dev. of road from H No.1/2 near Tanga Stand to Kachcha drain Geeta Colony AC-60 Shahdara South Zone.	XL-VIII- S-iv	₹14038014/-	₹280800/-	₹1500/-	314150
7	Strengthening of road by pdg. Dense Carpeting from H No. 4/2313 to H No. 83/5, Bihari Colony and links near H No. A-184, Triveni Apartment in Vivek Vihar AC-62, Shahdara South Zone.	XL-VIII- S-iv	₹12277900/-	₹245600/-	₹1500/-	314151
8	Imp. Dev. of road from H No. 6/263 to H No. 6/297, H No. 6/345 to H No.6/318, H No. 6/198 to H No.6/120 to 6 Block Geeta Colony and from H No. B-5/27 to B-5/19 in B Block Krishna by pdg. RMC AC-60 Shahdara South Zone.	XL-VIII- S-iv	₹18921630/-	₹378500/-	₹1500/-	314152
9	Imp. Dev. of road from H No. 11/70 to H No. 5/1/13, near Kachcha drain Geeta Colony AC-60 Shahdara South Zone.	XL-VIII- S-iv	₹20842612/-	₹416900/-	₹2000/-	314153
10	Imp. Dev. of various galis in Jitar Nagar, Baldev Park and Radhey Puri (near Jagaturi drain) AC-60 Shahdara South Zone.	XL-VIII- S-iv	₹21533990/-	₹430700/-	₹2000/-	314154

Note: For above all works **Time of Completion:** 4 Months and **Rates Hold good for:** 5 Months.

Note: Rates hold goods for valid from date of opening of financial bid or negotiation (if any), whichever is later.

Detailed NIT can be seen from the following website or from the office of the undersigned. **http://engineering.mcdetenders.com** (WAP & SMS enabled tenders portal).

RO. No. 182/DPI/East/2018-19 **Ex. Engineer (Pr)-I Shah. South**

EDMC's Citizen Helpline No.: 155303

UNIDENTIFIED DEAD BODY

General Public is hereby informed that one male person **Namely: Unknown, S/o: Unknown, R/o**: Unknown, **Age**: 35 yrs was found dead on 22.02.2019 at 10:07 a.m at area of P.S. M.S. Park, Delhi. In this regard a **DD No. 15A dated 22.02.2019** has been lodged at P.S. M.S. Park, Delhi. The description of the dead person is as under:- **Age:** 35 yrs., **Sex:** Male, **Height :** 5' 6", **Face:** Oval, **Complexion:** Wheatish, **Built:** Medium, **Wearing:** Blue & White T-Shirt , Black Jacket and Sky Blue Jeans. If any one having any information about this dead person please inform undersigned.

SHO
P.S. M. S. Park, Delhi
DP/944/SHD/19 **Ph.: 011-22599374, 7065036028**

ARMY PUBLIC SCHOOL
RIDGE ROAD, DHAULA KUAN, NEW DELHI-10

TENDER NOTICE

Sealed tenders are invited from leading firms with professional expertise in school catering services for Ridgewood Hostel of Army Public School, Dhaula Kuan.

Those with experience in providing services in public schools and having Registration No. EPF Code, ESI Code, Service Tax Code etc. may contact school office between **11 A.M** to **2 P.M** on any working day for collection of tender forms costing ₹500/-. Last date for submission of tender form is **08 Mar 2019.**

PRINCIPAL

CITY UNION BANK LTD.
Administrative Office : No. 24-B, Gandhi Nagar, Kumbakonam - 612 001.
Phone : 0435-2402322, 2401622 Fax : 0435-2431746

RE-TENDER-CUM-AUCTION SALE NOTICE UNDER SARFAESI ACT 2002

The following property/ies mortgaged to **City Union Bank Limited** will be sold in Tender-cum-Public Auction by the Authorised Officer of the Bank, under Rule 8 (6) & 9 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002, under the SARFAESI Act, 2002, for recovery of a sum of **Rs.9,64,71,042/- (Rupees Nine Crore Sixty Four Lakh Seventy One Thousand and Forty Two Only)** as on **07-06-2018** together with further interest to be charged from **08-06-2018** onwards and other expenses, any other dues to the Bank by the borrowers / guarantors **No.1) Mr. Sunil Aggarwal, S/o. Mr. Madan Mohan Goyal, No.48, Block - 1, EROS Garden, Charwood Village, Faridabad - 121 009. No.2) Mr. Sunil Singh, S/o. Mr. Sh Baya Singh, D-198, Sec.47, Noida, Goutam Buddha Nagar, U.P. - 201 301. No.3) M/s. M.G. Impex Private Limited, F-466, Sector 63, Noida, Uttar Pradesh - 201 301. No.4) Mrs. Seema Aggarwal, W/o. Mr. Sunil Aggarwal, No.48, Block - 1, EROS Garden, Charwood Village, Faridabad - 121 009. No.5) Mrs. Kusum Singh, W/o. Mr. Sunil Singh, D-198, Sec.47, Noida, Goutam Buddha Nagar, Noida, U.P. - 201 301.**

Immovable Property Mortgaged to our Bank
(Property Owned by Mr. Sunil Aggarwal, S/o. Mr. Madan Mohan Goyal)

Industrial lease hold rights Plot / Property No.224 (Two Hundred and Twenty Four), Block D, situated in Sector - 63 (Sixty Three), within Phase III in the layout of Noida District, Goutham Buddha Nagar, U.P. Land are admeasuring 1,800 (Eighteen Hundred) Square metres and having its industrial building covered area on all Floor is 794.15 Square metres and bounded as under: On the North by: Plot No.D-223, On the East by: 18 Mts. Wide Road, On the West by: Plot No.D-217, On the South by: Plot No.D-225.

Reserve Price: Rs.6,25,00,000/-
(Rupees Six Crore Twenty Five Lakh Only)

AUCTION DETAILS

Date of Tender-cum-Auction Sale	Venue
15-03-2019	**City Union Bank Ltd., Delhi Chandni Chowk Branch,** No.284-285, Fateh Puri, Chandni Chowk, Delhi - 110 006. Telephone No.011-23929803, Cell No.9350011163.

Terms and Conditions of Tender-cum-Auction Sale:

(1) The intending bidders should be present in person for the auction and participate personally and give a declaration in writing to the effect that he/she is bidding for himself/herself. **(2)** The intending bidders may obtain the Tender Forms from **The Manager, City Union Bank Limited, Delhi Chandni Chowk Branch, No.284-285, Fateh Puri, Chandni Chowk, Delhi - 110 006.** **(3)** The intending bidders should submit their bids only in the Tender Form prescribed in sealed envelopes addressed to **The Authorised Officer, City Union Bank Ltd.,** together with a Pay Order / Demand Draft for an EMD of **10%** of the Reserve Price, drawn in favour of **"City Union Bank Ltd.", on or before 12.00 Noon** on the date of Tender-cum-Auction Sale hereby notified. **(4)** For inspection of the property and other particulars, the intending purchaser may contact **Telephone No.011-23929803, Cell No.9350011163.** **(5)** The property/ies are sold on "As-is-where-is", "As-is-what-is" and "whatever-there is" basis. **(6)** The sealed tenders will be opened in the presence of the intending bidders at **1.00 p.m.** on the date of Tender-cum-Auction Sale hereby notified. Though in general the sale will be by way of closed tenders, the Authorised Officer may, at his sole discretion, conduct an Open Auction among the interested bidders who desire to quote a bid higher than the one received in the closed tender process, and in such an event, the sale shall be conferred on the person making highest bid. The sale, however, is subject to confirmation of City Union Bank Limited. **(7)** The successful bidder shall have to pay **25% (inclusive of EMD paid)** of the sale amount **immediately** on completion of sale and the balance amount of **75%** within **15 days** from the date of confirmation of sale, failing which the initial deposit of **25%** shall be forfeited. **(8)** The Sale Certificate will be issued by the Authorised Officer in favour of the successful purchaser only after receipt of the entire sale consideration within the time limit stipulated herein. **(9)** The successful purchaser shall bear the charges/fees payable for conveyance, such as stamp duty, registration fee etc., as applicable under law. **(10)** The successful bidder should pay the statutory dues (lawful house tax, electricity charges and other dues), TDS, GST if any, due to Government, Government Undertaking and local bodies. **(11)** The Authorised Officer shall have all the powers to accept or reject the bids or postpone or cancel the sale without assigning any reason whatsoever.

Place: Kumbakonam, Date: 25-02-2019 **Authorised Officer**

EASTERN RAILWAY

Following e-tender is invited online by the Divisional Railway Manager, Eastern Railway, Howrah from Tenderers having experience of similar nature of work and required financial capabilities including those registered with Irrigation/CPWD/SEB/MES or any public sector undertaking for the following work **under Sr. DEN/3/HWH. E-Tender No. 249_2018-19, dated 22.02.2019. Description of Work :** Hiring of 03 nos. non-AC road vehicle (Tata Sumo/Qualis or similar type] for the official use of AEN/BDC, AEN/KWAE and AEN/AZ for 24 months. **Approx. Cost :** ₹ 20,48,639.79. **Earnest Money :** ₹ 40,980/-. **Closing Date and Time of tender :** 19.03.2019 at 14:00 hrs. The details of tender are available at website **www.ireps.gov.in** No manual offer will be accepted.

Siddhartha HWH-286/2018-19

Tender Notices are also available at Website www.er.indianrailways.gov.in/www.ireps.gov.in

Office of The Chief Engineer M.P.P.W.D
Bridge Construction Zone Bhopal (M.P.)

Tender Notice

NIT No- 02/2018-19/C.E.(Bridge Zone.) **Date 21.02.2019**

Online Tender for mentioned below are being invited. The Tender have been uploaded on the mptenders. system of Public Works Department on the Portal www.mptenders.gov. in Tender details are as below:-

S. No.	Tender No.	District	Nature of work	Name of work	Call No.	Cost of Project (PAC (Rs. In lack)	Physical submission (Original) EMD & Other Document) at the office of as mentioned
1	2019_PWDRB_18281_1	Ratlam	Bridge Work	Construction Of Railway Over Bridge At L.C. No. 81 Subhash Nagar Phatak District Ratlam	9th	1491.31	Chief Engineer (Bridge Zone) PWD, Bhopal
				Total		1491.31	

The document can only be purchased online from the above website after making online payment. The last date & time for purchase of Document on line is Dated 11/03/2019 up to (17:30.) Detailed NIT and other details can be viewed on the above mentioned portal. Amendments to NIT, if any, would be published on website only, and not in newspaper.

The Original FDR & Other document will be received on Dated 12/03/2019 up to (17.30.) in the office mentioned.

Chief Engineer
MP, PWD
Bridge Construction Zone
Bhopal

G-24193/2019

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Congratulations Vikaspuri & Matiala!

Laying of sewer line in Ranhola Group of Colonies and Development Works in 16 Unauthorized Colonies of Vikaspuri starts

Laying of Foundation Stone ceremony

On Wednesday 27th February, 2019 at 5:00 P.M.

Venue: Ambedkar Place, Chhath Puja Ground,
Dass Garden, Baprola Vihar, Nale Wala Road, New Delhi

"We will make Delhi
the best city in the world"

- Arvind Kejriwal
Chief Minister, Delhi

दिल्ली सरकार
आप की सरकार

Urban Development Department Government of NCT of Delhi

Dip/Shabdarth/D/0276/18-19

A ND-NDE

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THE HINDU

OPPORTUNITIES

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WEDNESDAY • FEBRUARY 27, 2019

HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT • JOBS • TECHNOLOGY

The rising spirit of intrapreneurship

Drawing upon the top talent in different sections, companies now create special teams for bringing innovative ideas to life

LIFFY THOMAS

In 2015, online furniture store Pepperfry reduced the cost of delivering huge furniture items to customers, by replacing the services of third-party logistics services providers with those of its new entity, Pepkart Logistics. To give an idea of how big and nuanced this is, Pepkart Logistics has a fleet of 350 trucks, customised to deliver large-sized and heavy furniture.

This last-mile delivery model, which is the backbone of Pepperfry's large-items distribution system, was born out of the efforts of a four-member cross-functional team.

"Tiger Team", as it is called, is five years old. "The best part of this exercise is that we were allowed to challenge the way things were being done in the organisation," says Abhishek Das Gupta, who was just a year old in the company when he was picked to be a part of Tiger Team. Abhishek is now in his early 30s.

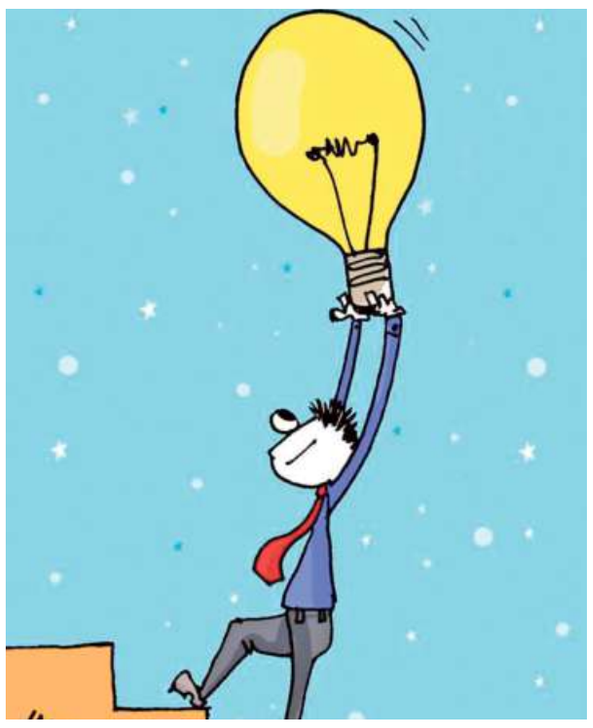

ILLUSTRATION: SREEJITH RAVIKUMAR

Until a few years ago, the spirit of innovation was viewed with admiration. And then, it became an essential aspect of product development. Teams were expected to be disruptive in their outlook and challenge the *status quo*. And, in some of these companies, these teams were "specially hand-crafted."

Welcome the intrapreneurs

There are now organisations that empower specially-created teams to function like intrapreneurs (in-house entrepreneurs). Not only are these teams permitted sufficient time to come up with disruptive ideas, but are also provided with funding to bring the best of those ideas to life.

Certain large organisations have enabled associates from various sections "to collaborate to create, fail and try again in a more experimental and creative environment" says Puja Kohli, founder, Unfold Consulting.

These corporate entrepreneurs need not always be the top talent and may not be known to all, but they have the ability to turn ideas into profitable businesses.

Start-up Lab, an initiative of Deutsche Post DHL Group, fosters "corporate entrepreneurship" by provided teams with a start-up environment, exposure to senior management, four months of funding and a provision to put ideas into practice. FMCG company Marico Limited has so far had three "Young Boards" – cross-functional teams of eight members each that have worked on business ideas, for 12 to 18 months.

Amit Prakash, CHRO, Marico says the Young Board is made familiar with how the company board functions. Incentives or rewards are equally important while encouraging corporate entrepreneurs.

At the end of the programme, the members are rewarded with stock options, he adds.

To create an entrepreneurial environment, companies have to take a new look at their systems, structures and process.

"Create an ideas investment pool, that will keep drawing fresh ideas from employees," says Rajat Garg, leadership coach. It must be inclusive and invite ideas from across the company, he adds.

"Empower people to take decisions and then stand by them. The leadership must be ready to accept failures," he says.

Removing the barriers

For Unfold Consulting, which works with companies to help them identify, develop and retain intrapreneurs, silo-style of working is the main barrier to creating an entrepreneurial and agile environment in companies .

To address this, they work with the top leadership. Citing an example, Puja says organisations that are structured around hierarchical systems rather than networks struggle to leverage its intrapreneurship potential.

Line managers also play a crucial role. Adds Puja, "Intrapreneurs think outside the box, so the reporting manager should be the first role model for the individual. He should be able to break the barriers to pave way for innovation."

Workplace policies to be showcased

Avtar Group, along with Working Mother, is inviting nominations from companies for the fourth edition of the annual survey 'Best Companies for Women in India' (BCWI).

Besides the existing format, this year, through its Most Inclusive Companies in India (MICI) index, the study would showcase workplace policies and programmes that addressed various strands of inclusion, said a release. "It will focus on various strands of diversity such as People with Disabilities, LGBTQ, Generations and Culture, with a specific focus on language," said Saundarya Rajesh, founder-president Avtar Group, in a press release. A company that has operations in India and employs a minimum of 500 people (men, women and third gender included), can register. For details, visit www.avtarinc.com/bcwi.html

'The gig economy is expanding'

A recent study says 85% of the companies are open to hiring people on the basis of project-based contracts

In what can be seen as a sign that India is embracing the gig economy, 70% of the respondents (HR professionals) in a survey have said they hired a gig worker at least once or twice in 2018.

The survey shows that 85% of Indian corporate houses are hiring gig workers, while only 12 % of the MNCs do so.

Close to 13% of the respondents have done such hiring three to four times.

The white paper titled 'The Future of Work is Anywhere – Gig Workforce' by Noble House has found that 45% of the organisations hired a gig worker to supplement the skills of the existing workforce, and 39% to reduce cost.

What kind of work seems to offer a huge space for gig workers? More than 40% of the HR professionals say that gig workers contribute significantly towards providing advisory support to functional teams in an organisation and 26% of them use gig workers for designing policies and programmes. "Both of these have been traditionally considered difficult to hand over to outside consultants," the report pointed.

There is one clear inference from the data that has come in from over 800 HR professionals and independent consultants: The gig economy is expanding.

According to the people surveyed, a good number of the new workforce will be employed through gig networks in the coming three years.

Another 33% say that the percentage of workforce employed through gig will be between 10% and 20% and another 28% think it will be between 20% and 40%.

How often are gig workers hired? Around 38% of gig workers say they manage to generate three to five assignments in a year and another 34% claim that they manage to get one to two assignments. The work ranged from a duration of a few weeks to three months or more.

GENERAL

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY KARNATAKA
SURATHKAL, Mangaluru – 575 025, Karnataka, India.
Website: http://www.nitk.ac.in

No. 5214/NITK/Estt.-Advt.-II Round/2019/B1 Date: 11.02.2019

RECRUITMENT OF "MIS OFFICER" ON CONTRACT

Walk-in-Interview for the post of "MIS Officer" on contract basis for an initial period of eleven (11) months is scheduled to be held on **11th March, 2019 (Monday).**

For more details regarding the essential Qualifications, Technical Skills and Job Responsibilities etc., please visit Institute Website: **www.nitk.ac.in**

Sd/-
Registrar

SREE CHITRA TIRUNAL INSTITUTE FOR MEDICAL SCIENCES & TECHNOLOGY
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM - 695 011, KERALA, INDIA.
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IN BRIEF

Nirav Modi's assets worth ₹147 cr. attached

NEW DELHI

The Enforcement Directorate has attached assets worth ₹147.72 crore of fugitive diamond merchant Nirav Modi in the Punjab National Bank fraud case.

Have good relations with locals, CM tells police

AGARTALA

Tripura Chief Minister Biplab Kumar Deb directed all officers at the police station level to maintain a cordial relations with local population to yield positive results in matters of law and order. He regretted that his directive to organise interactive sessions with people at the grass roots had not yet been implemented.

Curfew eased in Arunachal capital

GUWAHATI

Curfew imposed in the Arunachal Pradesh capital Itanagar and Naharlagun town following the violence and arson over the issue of granting permanent resident certificates to six non-tribal groups was eased on Tuesday. Security forces, however, continued to patrol sensitive areas to check potential troublemakers.

Indigenous missile successfully test-fired

NEW DELHI

The indigenous Quick Reach Surface-to-Air missiles (QRSAM) developed by the DRDO was successfully test fired twice from the Integrated Test Range Chandipur, off the Odisha coast, on Tuesday. The two missiles were tested for different altitudes and conditions.

Parrikar discharged from hospital, hails IAF strike

PANAJI

Ailing Goa Chief Minister Manohar Parrikar was on Tuesday discharged from the State-run Goa Medical College & Hospital, where he was being treated since Saturday for complications arising from advanced pancreatic cancer. "I salute the #IAF for its daring operations. It is a testimony to its unparalleled strike capabilities," he tweeted.

No toilet at home for pad women of Oscar-winning film

Period. End of Sentence. brings well-earned recognition to brave women from Uttar Pradesh village who continue to face many challenges

HEMANI BHANDARI
KATHI KHERA

Rakhi, 22, Preeti, 21, Nishu, 19, Arshi, 18, Ruksana, 18, Sushma, 32, and Sneha, 22, manufacture sanitary napkins at a small set-up in sisters Rakhi and Preeti's house. A film based on them, *Period. End of Sentence.*, which deals with the stigma attached to menstruation, has won an Oscar award.

However, the two girls, part of the face of a revolution in Kathi Khera village, don't have a toilet at their house, locally known as 'Mohan ki Haveli' after their great-grandfather.

Not enough money

Ms. Rakhi and Ms. Preeti's father Vijender Tanwar, 55, is very proud of his daughters and greets visitors conveying wishes with a wide smile. He could not build a toilet because money is short. "The floor needs to be dug out and it demands money. The government gives money for building toilets but the Gram Pradhan dodges us," he said.

Ms. Rakhi said that everyone in her family used the makeshift toilet in the next street, as did many other residents of the village.

Many of the villagers don't have toilets in their house. When asked how they managed, women directed this reporter to makeshift open toilets in empty plots where they relieved themselves.

The discussion on the lack of toilets, however, took the backseat on Tuesday, as the women and the villagers celebrated the fame the award has brought. "*Kisiko pata bhi nahin hai ki* Ocsar (sic) *ka kya matlab hai... bas ye pata hai ki ye ek* award *hai* ('nobody knows what Oscar means... they just know it's an award')," said Ms. Preeti.

But this fame and happiness has come at a cost. Recalling the beginning of their journey, the women said they faced objections, were mocked at and made fun of, and had to lie and put up a fight to be able to run the manufacturing unit. "We told our mothers but to our fathers, we initially said that we were going to make diapers for children," said Ms. Rakhi.

The girls who run a sanitary pad manufacturing unit in a village in Uttar Pradesh. ▪ R.V. MOORTHY

The sisters recalled their grandfather objected strongly: "*Ye kaisa ganda kaam hai?* ('What kind of dirty work is this?')," but their grandmother took a stand for them and told him about her ordeal with using a cloth during her period. He eventually made peace with their project. The villagers also objected to "being so open about periods." "Initially, the women would shut doors on us and say that only we had the guts to talk about this, they didn't – spare us. The men would also make nasty statements behind our back," said Ms. Preeti.

The women remembered how, when the movie was being shot, they were hesitant to come in front of the camera, and how they were mocked: "We showed how we get rid of the used pads and bury them in the soil in the fields. It was embarrassing. People used to laugh. They would say that the foreigners were just fooling around with us."

Among them, Ms. Sushma, 32, perhaps struggled the most. She is married and belongs to a Scheduled Caste (SC). Her husband Satish runs a grocery store in the village. Ms. Sushma recalled how her husband told her to finish all chores and only then could she go to work. She was also told by her family to not sit, eat and drink with Gujjars and Muslims.

If two years ago, she was known as 'Satish *ki biwi*', now, it's the other way round. Nevertheless, on Tuesday morning, a neighbour taunted her, "You are all coming on TV but after all, you are earning ₹2,500 a month."

"But here, the seven of us live like a family. Caste and religion have no role to play. I don't think I can spend a day without Sushma *jiji*," said Ms. Rakhi as she clutched her hand.

Only one

Of the seven women, only Ms. Sushma dropped out of school because of menstruation because her school neither had a toilet nor a female teacher. "I was using cloth till two years ago," she said.

The manufacturing unit has given the women wings to 'Fly' – the brand . But they still don't feel "fully liberated". "Our life is still about work and home. We don't go to cities and are not allowed to do so alone. Things are changing slowly," said Ms. Preeti.

'What action can you take against political parties?'

HC poser to poll panel on parties flouting funding rules

STAFF REPORTER
NEW DELHI

The Delhi High Court on Tuesday sought the stand of the Election Commission of India (EC) on taking action against political parties, which do not comply with its instructions to disclose funding and expenditure details.

"You wrote to them, but they have not complied. What further? When compliance has not been done, tell us what you propose to do? What powers do you have? Your response indicates helplessness on your part," a Bench of Chief Justice Rajendra Menon and Justice V.K. Rao said.

The EC told the Bench that it has been consistently writing to the parties, which have not disclosed their expenditure.

The High Court directed the EC to file an affidavit indicating what powers or options it has to ensure implementation or enforcement of its guidelines regarding disclosure of expenditure by political parties and what steps it can take when there is violation of its norms.

The EC told the Bench that parties are not disclosing their expenditure.

The High Court was hearing a petition by NGO Association for Democratic Reforms (ADR) seeking implementation of the guidelines as well as the Law Commission's recommendation that a provision be enacted to monitor and regulate the expenditure by political parties during elections.

The NGO has alleged in its plea that since the present political system was being "funded through various illegal means and also by the people and corporate agencies with vested interests, it [political system] does not seem to be inclined to give effect to the recommendations of the Law Commission".

Senior advocate Arvind Nigam and advocate Abhimanue Shrestha, appearing for ADR, said the Supreme Court has held that the EC has the power to give effect to the law panel's recommendations.

Afghan held for trying to enter Israeli embassy in New Delhi

STAFF REPORTER
NEW DELHI

The Delhi police held a foreign national after he breached the high security gates of the Israeli Embassy premises located on Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam Road here on Tuesday.

Police said the security personnel at the Israeli Embassy held an Afghanistan national when he entered the high security premises. He was later handed over to the police.

Travel plans

"The man claimed to be a dentist who had come to visit India. He went to the embassy to inquire about his travel plan to visit Jerusalem. He has been brought to the Tughlak Road police station for questioning. We are verifying his credentials before initiating any legal action," said a police officer.

BJP-RSS subverting diverse cultures: Rahul

They have not spared a single State, he says in Guwahati

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
GUWAHATI

Congress president Rahul Gandhi on Tuesday lambasted the Bharatiya Janata Party and its ideological mentor Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh for "subverting cultures, languages and lifestyles" of the people of the Northeast.

Launching his party's Lok Sabha poll campaign at a rally in Guwahati, Mr. Gandhi also urged the people of Assam "not to forget the Congress" for stopping the BJP from pushing the "anti-Northeast" Citizenship (Amendment) Bill through in the Rajya Sabha.

The Congress president began by lauding the Indian Air Force for bombing a Jaish-e-Mohammed camp across the Line of Control, paying homage to the CRPF men killed by a suicide bomber in Pulwama on February 14 and remembering the tea estate workers who died in eastern Assam after consuming spurious liquor.

Rahul Gandhi

'Ideology of hate'

"On the one hand you have the ideology of hatred and violence espoused by BJP-RSS and (Prime Minister) Narendra Modi and on the other you have the Congress ideology of love and brotherhood in the country. Arunachal Pradesh burnt because of the ideology of hate," he said.

"The BJP and the RSS have not spared a single State from its agenda of ending India's diversity. They are assaulting the history, languages and cultures of the Northeast for imposing the ones they believe in," Mr. Gandhi said.

Mr.Gandhi said his party would protect the "language and cultures" and promised the people to return whatever the "Modi government has snatched from you" - from the special status of Assam and North East Industrial Policy to jobs and self-respect. He assured that Assam would become the hub of technical education if the Congress is voted back to power.

Declaring 5 year I-T returns a must for poll candidates

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

The Central government on Tuesday issued a notification making it mandatory for candidates to declare total income as shown in their Income-Tax Returns (ITR) for the last five years, and that of their spouses, dependents and the Hindu Undivided Family (HUF), as recommended by the Election Commission.

The notification states that changes have been made to the Form-26 affidavit, which is submitted with the nomination paper, in consultation with the Election Commission. From now on, candidates will also have to provide their Permanent Account Number (PAN).

Details to be shared should also include the interest in or ownership of offshore assets, including all deposits or investments in foreign banks and any other body or institution abroad, and details of all assets and liabilities in foreign countries, held by the candidates, their spouses, dependents and HUFs.

The Commission had suggested the changes following a recent meeting with the Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) on various issues, including the recommendation for making public the income verification report of the candidates. After the ITR papers become part of the affidavit, the information will be in the public domain.

WHO, Ministry conclave on yoga benchmark

STAFF REPORTER
NEW DELHI

The Ministry of AYUSH and World Health Organisation (WHO) are jointly organising a three-day conclave for reviewing the WHO document "Benchmarks for Training in Yoga" beginning Tuesday.

WHO is developing the yoga document as part of its global strategy to strengthen the quality, safety and efficacy of traditional and complementary medicine.

The development of this benchmark document is included in the project collaboration agreement signed between WHO and Ministry of AYUSH on cooperation in the field of traditional and complementary medicine under WHO strategy covering the period 2014-2023.

"A total of 16 yoga experts would be reviewing the draft document. Out of 16 experts, 11 international experts are from USA, UK, Canada, Brazil, Saudi Arabia, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Japan, Australia and Malaysia. There would be four session on all three days. All the technical sessions would be coordinated by the experts from WHO Secretariat," noted a release issued by the AYUSH Ministry.

This benchmarks document will be used in evaluating Yoga therapy, identifying trends in utilization, developing payment structures for service models, establishing regulatory framework for Yoga practice, the release said.

Assamese *Gully Boy* to release ahead of polls

Filmmaker waited a year with the 'political musical' for the general election

RAHUL KARMAKAR
GUWAHATI

Shankar Borua completed his rap-based "political musical" a month before *Gully Boy*'s shooting ended in April 2018. But he waited almost a year for the right time – ahead of the upcoming Lok Sabha polls – for the release of his anti-establishment film.

The maverick filmmaker, who believes in swimming against the popular-taste tide, is not sure if *Rongeen* ('Colourful'), his fourth feature film, is technically a forerunner of Zoya Akhtar's cult film inspired by Black American protest songs.

A still from *Rongeen*. ▪ SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

"*Rongeen* should be the first Indian film powered by political rap music, unlike the Bollywood blockbuster that is personal and aspirational," Mr. Borua said.

There are other differences, too: *Gully Boy* has an urban setting while *Rongeen* has a rural backdrop; the former is a big budget movie while the latter was made on a shoe-string budget with contribution from 25 people who have been credited as producers.

"Besides, I don't think any filmmaker has waited for almost a year to release a film. Our film was cleared by the Censor Board in July 2018. But since the story is that of revenge through the ballot box, we decided to release it before the general elections, likely within two months," Mr. Borua, who has a Ph.D. in Mass Communication from the U.S., said.

The 115-minute *Rongeen*, whose teaser was uploaded on YouTube, hits the theatres on March 15.

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EMPLOYMENT NOTIFICATION
I. Roc.No.C1/21/CfAR/SVIMS/2018, Dated : 09-02-19
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Applications are invited from the eligible candidates for the following posts:

Sl. No.	NAME OF THE POST	NUMBER OF POSTS	ROSTER POINTS
01	Research Scientist / Faculty	03	OC(W)-1, SC(W)-1, OC-1

NOTE : Last Date for receipt of applications for the above posts : 20-03-2019
II. Roc.No.C1/29/SVIMS/2018, Dated : 11-01-19
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02	Finance Controller	01	OC (on contract)

NOTE : Last date for receipt of applications for the above posts from sl.no. 01 & 02 : 20-03-2019.
For further details such as Age, Qualifications, Experience, Pay and other terms and conditions, please visit SVIMS., website http://svimstpt.ap.nic.in . The eligible candidates may download the applications from the above website.

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3	Manager(Finance)	12	01
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5	Senior Finance Officer	11	01
6	Senior Purchase Officer	11	01
7	Finance Officer	10	03
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Corrigendum-I Dt:25/02/2019
to PQ Notice No: CMG/C/V 1887046 Dated: 04.01.2019
On behalf of President of India, 'Group Director, Construction & Maintenance Group, SDSC SHAR' invites applications from bidders for Pre-qualification for the following composite work for construction on item rate tender (Instead of EPC mode notified on 04/01/2019)
Name of work: Infrastructure for Setting up of New Launching Station for Small Satellite Launch Vehicles - Construction and Commissioning in Item Rate mode (Civil, PH, Electrical, Air-Conditioning, Mechanical and Allied Works)

PQ Notice No.	CMG/C/V 1887046, dated:04.01.2019
Estimated Cost	₹ 400 Crores (Tentative Project Cost)
Period of Completion	10 Months
Cost of PQ document	₹ 1,000/- for issue in person (plus ₹ 500.00 by post)
Period during which PQ document can be downloaded on websites / obtained from the office of GD CMG, SDSC SHAR	From 26/02/2019 to 04/03/2019 at 14:30Hrs
Last date and time for receipt of filled up PQ documents.	05/03/2019 upto 14:30 hrs
Due date and time of opening of PQ	05/03/2019 at 15:00 hrs

Tenderers who have already participated may please refer detailed NIT
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Pushing boundaries

The air strikes have delivered a clear, robust message; the follow-up must be restrained

The Indian Air Force's strike on a Jaish-e-Mohammad terror training camp in Pakistan's Balakot delivers a robust but calibrated message. The latter is manifest in New Delhi's diplomatic utterances. While the strikes followed the Pulwama attack by a couple of weeks, Foreign Secretary Vijay Gokhale referred to the action as a "non-military pre-emptive strike". The phrase indicates the action was based on an assessment of an imminent threat, and had ensured that Pakistan's military personnel and infrastructure were not targeted, and civilian casualties were actively avoided. In effect, New Delhi's line is that the operation was an intelligence-driven counter-terror strike rather than escalatory military aggression. The government said all other options had been exhausted in making Islamabad keep its commitments since 2004 on curbing the activities of groups like the JeM. There is no denying that the decision to send Mirage jets across the Line of Control (LoC) to fire missiles 70 km inside Pakistan represents a major shift. During the Kargil war in 1999, Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee had drawn a red line over the IAF crossing the LoC, to avoid international recrimination. This strike was carried out in Pakistani territory, not in Pakistan-occupied Kashmir, the theatre for retaliatory action in the past. It is still to be determined how far the JeM has been set back, but the strikes mark a new chapter with New Delhi's willingness to push the war against terror into Pakistan territory. The government has judged, perhaps correctly, that global opinion has shifted and there is little tolerance today for terror groups that continue to find shelter on Pakistan soil. Significantly, with the exception of the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation, there has been no global criticism of India's statement on the strikes, and most have just counselled restraint to both countries.

In Pakistan, Prime Minister Imran Khan has called for a joint session of Parliament and for its diplomats to raise the matter at international fora. He has convened a meeting of the National Command Authority that oversees Pakistan's nuclear policy. However, Pakistan's options are limited. It could continue to deny that the Indian strike caused any damage on the ground, and obviate the need for retaliatory strikes; or it could escalate the situation with a military response. It could also make a break from its past, and begin to shut down the terror camps on its soil, which would win friends internationally and ensure peace in the region. The Modi government would do well to continue the restrained approach it has adopted after the latest operation, and avoid the triumphalism that clouded the 'surgical strikes' of September 2016. With a response to Pulwama duly executed, it must reach out to residents of J&K who have borne the brunt of the jingoism unleashed after Pulwama. In the long term, building strong counter-terror defences, partnering with its own citizens to gather intelligence, and creating deterrents will be key.

Decolonising Chagos

Britain must honour the ICJ opinion on returning the islands to Mauritius

The stunning opinion of the International Court of Justice in The Hague, that Britain's continued administration of the Chagos archipelago is unlawful, is a landmark in the effort to decolonise the Indian Ocean and return the islands to Mauritius. Britain's reaction, however, was predictable and disappointing. It said the ICJ's is an advisory opinion it will examine, and stressed the security significance of the islands. Since the late-1960s, the U.S. has maintained a military base on one of them, Diego Garcia. In 2016, Britain extended the lease to the U.S. till 2036 even as it said it would return the islands to Mauritius when no longer needed for defence purposes. Mauritius has made it clear that it does not intend to jeopardise the future of the military base. The agreement to allow Britain to administer the Chagos islands came in 1965, three years before Mauritius gained independence. Mauritius says Britain had made it a pre-condition for independence. This was endorsed by the ICJ, which noted that given the imbalance between the two, the agreement did not amount to "freely expressed and genuine will". It is a damning assessment of colonial legacies and the attempt by former colonial powers to justify or ignore the indefensible on the basis of 'agreements'.

Britain has tried to block Mauritius's claim to the islands at every stage, first by attempting to defeat a UN General Assembly vote in 2017 calling on the ICJ to deliver its opinion. When it lost this, London questioned the court's jurisdiction and Mauritius's version of how the deal had been thrashed out. However, Mauritius has had many countries on its side, including India. In written and oral submissions before the court, India has insisted that historical facts were not with Britain's interpretation and that its continued administration of the islands meant the process of decolonisation had not been completed. In an ideal world, Britain would be compelled to hand the islands to Mauritius. However, as the opinion against the construction of the separation wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory in 2003 demonstrates, ICJ advisories are not always acted on. At the very least, Britain should show it respects the court's view and Mauritius's sovereignty, and make significant concessions – starting with matters ranging from fishing rights to compensation for the Chagossians, who have suffered through all of this. The ICJ 'opinion' draws the line on what is expected from Britain for it to be a global nation in tune with the new world order. It announces that the world has moved on from passive acceptance of the injustices of empire.

The new order in West Asia

How Saudi Arabia, Iran and Turkey are competing for influence

STANLY JOHNY

When protests erupted on Arab streets in late 2010 and in 2011, felling deeply entrenched dictators such as Zine El Abidine Ben Ali of Tunisia and Hosni Mubarak of Egypt, it was certain that the changes in government would alter the regional dynamics as well. Many thought the old order rooted in "stability" (read: the decades-long unperturbed rule of single families or dictators) would be swept away by emerging democracies. Eight years later, it is evident that the Arab world has changed, but not in the way many had predicted. The structures of the old Arab world have been either destroyed or shaken, but without fundamentally altering the domestic politics in Arab countries.

The backdrop of history

There have been multiple power centres in the Arab region, at least since the second half of the 19th century when the Ottoman Sultans shifted their focus from the East to the West. The waning influence of the Ottomans in the Arab region created a vacuum which was filled by emerging regional leaders such as Muhammad Ali of Egypt, the Hashemites in central Arabia and the Mediterranean region, and the Al-Saud family in the Arabian peninsula. In post-war West Asia, Egypt remained the most influential Arab country. The Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan maintained its influence in the Mediterranean region, while Saudi Arabia was confined to the Arabian peninsula. When Egypt and Jordan were in relative decline, particularly after the 1967 war with Israel, Iraq rose under the leadership of the Baathists. Saddam Hussein, who became Iraq's President in 1979, was eager to don the mantle of Gamal Abdel Nasser, the former Egyptian leader who called for pan Arabism. Hussein launched a war with revolutionary Iran in 1980 on behalf of most Arab countries. Though there were deep divisions between these countries, one point of convergence was "stability". Neither the monarchs nor the dictators in the Arab world wanted any threats to their grip on power.

This order started to age much before the Arab protests. Hussein broke a taboo of non-aggression between Arab countries when he invaded Kuwait in 1990. And the 2003 American invasion of Iraq toppled him and buried his regime. The Arab protests expedited the changes that were already under way. Egypt went through a long period of instability starting 2011. First, a revolution brought down Mr. Mubarak and took the Muslim Brotherhood to power. And then a counter-revolution by military leader Abdel Fattah el-Sisi took the country back to square one. In the process, Egypt was beaten badly: the government lost moral authority; its regional standing weakened; and with economic problems mounting, a desperate Mr. Sisi went to the Gulf monarchs for help.

The reign of the Saudis

Saudi Arabia was generous in helping the Sisi regime. The Saudis were initially shocked by the fall of Mr. Mubarak, a trusted ally, and

REUTERS

the rise to power of the Brothers, Islamist republicans and sworn enemies of the Kingdom. Both the Saudis and the United Arab Emirates wanted to get rid of Egypt's elected government of President Mohamed Morsi, a Muslim Brother. They backed the 2013 counter-revolution and helped Mr. Sisi tighten his grip on power with aid. In the event, what we have now is a weaker Egypt ruled by a military dictator who's increasingly dependent on the Saudi-UAE axis.

In the Arab world, Saudi Arabia doesn't face a real challenge to its leadership now. The Saudis have been eager to take this leadership position. They organised a massive Arab summit in May 2017 in Riyadh which was also attended by U.S. President Donald Trump. The U.S. and the Arab nations also announced plans to create a Middle East Strategic Alliance, also referred to as the Arab NATO, which is a transnational Arab security entity under Saudi leadership. The common enemy of this bloc is Saudi Arabia's main geopolitical and ideological rival in the region, Iran.

Riyadh has been aggressive in taking on Iran in recent years, be it the anti-Iran campaign it is spearheading globally (in the U.S., Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman compared the Iranian regime to Hitler's Nazi rule), the increasingly high military spend, or the desire to take on Iran's proxies (interference in Lebanon's politics or the war on Yemen). Within the Arab world, Saudi Arabia has made it clear that it will not allow alternative power centres to rise, and never from its backyard. The decision to blockade Qatar, the tiny Gulf country that has disagreements with Saudi Arabia's foreign policy, could be seen against this backdrop. Besides Saudi Arabia and the UAE, Egypt had also joined the blockade, showing how dependent Cairo is on the Gulf axis. There are no doubts here: Saudi Arabia wants a united Arab front under its leadership that will contain Iran and maximise the Kingdom's interests in West Asia and North Africa.

Multipolar region

In relative terms, Riyadh has consolidated its position among the Arab countries. But its quest to become a major regional power faces serious challenges. The problem begins with its own inexperience. Saudi Arabia has never been an effective executioner of big ideas. All these years it lay low, either behind other regional powers or under the wings of the U.S. Now, as it has started taking a leadership position, its policies have gone awry. The Qatar blockade is not reaching anywhere and the war in Yemen has been catastrophic. Besides, the assassination of journalist Jamal Khashoggi inside Saudi Arabia's Istanbul consulate has been a public relations disaster.

Second, Iran is hardly a pushover. Ever since the Islamic Revolution of 1979, Iranians have lived under threats and with a huge sense of insecurity, which prompted them to create networks of influence across the region. Despite forging strong alliances and having a far stronger economy, Saudi Arabia has been unable to contain Iran's influence. And it may not be able to do so in the future either, unless the Americans are ready for another major war in the region.

Third, there is a third pole in today's West Asia: Recep Tayyip Erdogan's Turkey. Turkey's 'Arab Spring' bet may not have paid off as the political Islamist parties, which are aligned to the ruling Justice and Development Party, failed to consolidate power in the rebellion-hit countries, except Tunisia. However, Turkey, which retreated from West Asia in the second half of the 19th century, is now shifting it focus back from Europe to the region. It is a major defence and economic partner of Qatar, and has a strong presence in Syria through its proxies. Turkey also used the Khashoggi murder to turn up heat on Saudi Arabia internationally. While Turkey is not aligned with Iran either, it has shown willingness to cooperate with the Iranians on matters of mutual interest – such as the Kurdistan issue and the Syrian conflict – while its ties with Saudi Arabia have steadily deteriorated.

West Asia's Muslim landscape is now multipolar: Saudi Arabia, as the leader of the Arab world, is trying to expand its influence across the region; Iran is continuing to resist what it sees as attempts to scuttle its natural rise; and Turkey is returning to a shaken region to re-establish its lost glory. This multi-directional competition, if not confrontation, will shape West Asian geopolitics in the coming years.

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Smart farming in a warm world

Investment and policy reform are needed on priority to help farmers cope with climate change

FEROZE VARUN GANDHI

Over the last decade, many of Bundelkhand's villages have faced significant depopulation. Famous of late for farmer protests, the region, which occupies parts of Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh, has been adversely impacted by climate change. It was once blessed with over 800-900 mm rainfall annually, but over the last seven years, it has seen this halved, with rainy days reported to be down to just 24 on average in the monsoon period. With rains patchy, crop failures become common. There is hardly any greenery in many villages, making it difficult for farmers to even maintain cattle. Adaptation is hard, with farmers varying and mixing crops across seasons, along with heavy investments in borewells, tractors and threshers. While the national media may wonder about hailstones in Noida, such weather has been destroying crop in recent years, with the *arhar* crop failing completely in 2015. Farmers are increasingly abandoning their lands and heading to nearby towns to find work as labourers.

India is fortunate to have the monsoon, but it is also uniquely vulnerable to rising temperatures, with the country ranked 14th on the Global Climate Risk Index 2019. The country has over 120 million hectares suffering from some form of degradation. This has consequences, especially for marginal farmers. According to one estimate, they may face a 24-58% decline in household income and 12-33% rise in household poverty through exacerbated droughts. With rain-fed agriculture practised in over 67% of our total crop area, weather variability can lead to heavy costs, especially for coarse grains (which are mostly grown in rain-fed areas). A predicted 70% decline in summer rains by 2050 would devastate Indian agriculture. Within 80 years, our kharif season could face a significant rise in average temperatures (0.7-3.3°C) with rainfall concomitantly impacted, and potentially leading to a 22% decline in wheat yield in the rabi season, while rice yield could decline by 15%.

Some solutions

There are simple solutions to mitigate this. Promotion of conservation farming and dryland agriculture, with each village provided with timely rainfall forecasts, along with weather-based forewarnings regarding crop pests and epidemics in various seasons, is necessary. Our agricultural research programmes need to refocus on dryland research, with adoption of drought-tolerant breeds that could reduce production risks by up to 50%. A mandate to change planting dates, particularly for wheat, should be considered, which could reduce climate change induced damage by 60-75%, by one estimate. There needs to be an increase in insurance coverage and supply of credit. Insurance coverage should be expanded to cover all crops, while interest rates need to be subsidised, through government support and an expanded Rural Insurance Development Fund. The recently announced basic income policy by the government is a welcome step as well.

AFP

A push for actual on-ground implementation of compensatory afforestation is required. India is estimated to have lost over 26 million hectares of forest land and 20 million hectares of grasslands/shrublands between 1880 and 2013. Even now, urbanisation means that India consumes about 135 hectares of forest land a day. Meanwhile, insufficient coordination between the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) and the State Pollution Control Boards (SPCBs) has led to institutional apathy towards alarming air pollution levels in the metros. India hosts over 172 globally threatened species, primarily in reserve forests where they have little meaningful protection against wildlife crime and forest protection, given limited budgets for anti-poaching. Many State CAMPA (Compensatory Afforestation Fund Management and Planning Authority) hardly meet, while State-level forest departments routinely lack suitable record keeping, particularly on assessment and realisation of dues on compensatory afforestation activities and catchment area treatment.

Refreshing the IFS

The Indian Forest Service would also benefit from restructuring, in order to make it equivalent to the police and the army, albeit in the environmental domain. State-of-the-art training to its personnel must be provided, and specialisation should be encouraged in wildlife, tourism and protection for new recruits. Deputations from other services will no longer do; this needs to remain a specialised service. Wildlife heritage towns should be given more attention – cities like Sawai Madhopur, Bharatpur, Chikmagalur and Jabalpur, which are adjacent to national parks and sanctuaries, need to be converted into green smart cities with upgraded waste recycling processes. The Van Dhan Yojana, as adopted by the State government in Rajasthan, can be scaled up towards building a green mission to save our non-protected forests (outside the existing national parks and sanctuaries). Wildlife tourism must also be encouraged, particularly through public-private partnerships, to help increase conserved areas while making a difference to backward districts.

The impact of climate change will affect India's food security, while reducing fodder supplies for our livestock. Prudent investments and policy reform can help make India resilient to climate change. Any adaptation to ongoing climate change will require that climate justice. This is not a blame game – this can be induced by expansion of joint research and development partnerships (like the U.S.-China Clean Energy Research Center), pairing India's emerging smart cities with green cities in the West. India needs to decarbonise, there is no doubt about that. But the West needs to pay its bills too.

Feroze Varun Gandhi is a Member of Parliament, representing the Sultanpur constituency for the BJP

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.

War memorial

The Modi government deserves credit for opening a war memorial ("Modi opens war memorial, hits out at Congress on Rafale", Feb. 26). This is a wonderful tribute to all the soldiers who have sacrificed their lives for the nation. However, it is disappointing that the Prime Minister used such a sombre occasion to attack his political rivals. The defence forces are above politics and they should not be dragged into political slugfests.

VIDHYA B. RAGUNATH,
Thanjavur

IAF strikes

The Indian Air Force strikes are timely and welcome ("IAF strikes on JeM camp in Balakot; Country is in safe hands, says PM Modi", Feb. 26, online). India is no sitting duck. This attack, reminiscent of the surgical strikes of 2016, shows the Modi government's zero tolerance for terrorism. The message is loud and clear: violence and diplomacy cannot go hand in hand. This also comes as a timely reminder to the Pakistani establishment to shun state-sponsored terrorism. It is heartening that the entire Opposition has supported the strikes.

B. SURESH KUMAR,
Coimbatore

It is great that the operation was a success and there were no casualties on the Indian side. The intelligence wing deserves praise for furnishing the necessary inputs to ensure a successful strike of this nature. Now, India has to take all the precautionary steps to face a counter-attack from Pakistan.

S.V. VENKATAKRISHNAN,
Bengaluru

With the general election round the corner, we need greater security, not only along the border but throughout the country. For this to happen, political parties need to exercise restraint. They should not make statements that give the impression that we are a divided nation.

V. SUBRAMANIAN,
Chennai

The surgical strikes of 2016 did not result in any let-up in militancy in Kashmir, and the situation in the State only continued to deteriorate. After Tuesday's strikes one can only hope that the situation won't go out of control if Pakistan strikes back. The NDA's so-called muscular policy towards tackling militancy in Kashmir has resulted in an increase in deaths of security forces and in cross-border intrusions. It is high time the Modi government changes its Kashmir policy. India must do what it can to win the hearts and minds of Kashmiris.

M.P. MURALIDHARAN,
Bengaluru

Derogatory remark

West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee's remark is derogatory and unbecoming for someone of her stature ("PM knew about attack, says Mamata", Feb. 26). Politics seems to be at its ugliest in West Bengal.

N. VISVESWARAN,
Chennai

A new Magazine

I am a senior citizen who has been reading *The Hindu* for more than seven decades. I thank you for the refreshed Magazine supplement, which gives enough reading material to last through the week.

G. JAYARAMAN,
Bengaluru

Menstruation talk

It's great that the Academy Awards have recognised a sensitive subject in India and awarded a documentary film on the same ("Period. It's time to carry an Oscar", Feb. 26). While we must credit Guneet Monga and others involved in the film for a well-made documentary on a taboo topic, credit must also go to the makers of the Akshay Kumar-starrer *Pad Man*. It helps when actors promote such causes.

J.P. REDDY,
Nalgonda

The government should show this documentary in regional languages in rural and urban schools throughout the country and create awareness on menstruation and hygiene. At this time, we should laud the Telangana government which provides health and hygiene kits to girls to deter them from dropping out of school. The rest of the States can take a leaf out of Telangana's book. What we must also talk about now is the importance of proper toilets for schoolgirls, which are absent in many places.

P.S.V. PRASAD BABU,
Bhadrachalam

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THE WEDNESDAY INTERVIEW | SHEILA DIKSHIT

'Congress in U.P. seems to be charged up after Priyanka's entry'

The former Chief Minister of Delhi on alliance formation and the AAP government in Delhi

AMIT BARUAH & JAIDEEP DEO BHANJ

Sheila Dikshit, three-time Chief Minister of Delhi and a veteran Congress leader, is back in the hurly-burly of Delhi's politics as the head of the Delhi Pradesh Congress Committee. In this interview, Ms. Dikshit speaks of the Congress's preparation for the general election, the party's relationship with the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP), and what she thinks will be the best solution for the division of powers between the Centre and the Delhi government. Excerpts:

SANDEEP SAXENA

How do you see the general election unfolding for the Congress?

■ I am very optimistic about our prospects. I feel this because I meet many common people and they speak about their disappointment with the current government [at the Centre] and want a change. Quite obviously, the change, if it has to come about, must come from a party that has a history of governing the country. Whatever is there in the country today it not because of the current government, it's because of the work the Congress did and what it laid out for the future; everything has been done by the Congress. The Congress stands a very good chance and I get the feeling that people are missing the presence of the Congress.

Would you say that alliances are key to the outcome of the election? And how is the Congress faring nationally when it comes to building alliances?

■ I wouldn't say that they [alliances] would be key. I wouldn't use the word key, but yes, wherever they are required, they will be adopted. But I don't think they will be across the country. It will be State by State. Like we already have an alliance in Tamil Nadu. So, wherever the powers-that-be on both sides think it's necessary, it will happen.

Many political pundits and psephologists believe that this election will be won and lost in north India, especially the 80 Lok Sabha seats in Uttar Pradesh. Would you concur with such a view?

■ Yes, because the north has got the largest chunk of seats. There is no denying that. This has always been so. I don't see any reason why it should not be so now.

The BJP alone won 192 of the 226 seats in the north in 2014.

■ I would say that we will perform well, but I am not able to tell you the numbers because things are beginning to change and the election has not even been announced yet.

But everyone seems to be campaigning already.

■ That is bound to happen since elections are imminent. But the number of seats we get will depend on the candidates who are chosen by the party and by [other parties] as well. Many candidates who are with the BJP now have lost a lot of their colour, their attraction. I will be in a better position to answer your question when we come closer to the elections and the candidates are chosen. For instance, there are rumours in Delhi that they [the BJP] are changing all of them [seven sitting MPs].

In 2017, you were actively involved with the Uttar Pradesh Assembly election campaign and the Congress had an alliance with the Samajwadi Party (SP). But this time, the Congress and the SP-Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP) combine have failed to strike an alliance. Why?

■ One of the reasons is that the Congress has sent Priyanka [Gandhi Vadra] and Jyotiraditya [Scindia] and divided U.P. into two parts – eastern and western – which they have been made in charge of. I think that is a great feeling of comfort for people in U.P. How this evolves eventually, time will tell.

How do you see Priyanka Gandhi Vadra's entry into politics, and how will it make a difference to the Congress?

■ Well, Congressmen are very happy that she has finally joined, and with her going to U.P., the Congress in U.P. seems to be very charged up and we hope that the results will come. It is too early to pass a judgment on what difference it has made. Let's wait for a while and see.

> **In the case of Delhi, you are working in a situation where whichever is the government at the Centre, you need to work together with them instead of having differences all the time.**

If the objective of the Opposition is to defeat the BJP, then the absence of an alliance between the Congress and the SP-BSP will divide the anti-BJP vote in U.P.

■ But it depends on whether the non-BJP vote wants to come together.

What is your sense on an alliance in Delhi? Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal has said publicly that it was the Congress which did not want an alliance in Delhi. Have you engaged in any talks with the AAP?

■ No, they have never spoken to me. That's what surprises me – you are speaking on your own without having spoken to me or my party.

Mr. Kejriwal says that the BJP will win all seven seats in Delhi if there is no alliance between the Congress and the AAP.

■ I won't be as pessimistic as he is; certainly not.

The AAP came to power in Delhi on an anti-Congress platform. Is that what is holding back a possible alliance?

■ You all see it as an anti-Congress platform. I look at it the other way round. I say we lost [in Delhi] because of the false promises that were made to the people [by AAP]. The people got carried away. Of course, there was a sense of fatigue with the same government coming back three times. But there was also a false sense of 'you'll get free water, you'll get free electricity'. I personally feel that we probably didn't understand fully this danger, but finally when we got to understand, it was too late.

There is a history of the Congress supporting the AAP after the Assembly elections. Do you see any possibility of such a tie-up?

■ Not now, we will be contesting all seven seats.

We have seen all the battles that the AAP has fought with the Centre and vice versa, and we have seen activist Lieutenant Governors. How was it during your tenure as Chief Minister when you had to deal with an NDA government at the Centre?

■ When you come to govern, you do so in the interest of the city or the State you govern. In the case of Delhi, the Constitution is very different as Delhi is also the capital and you are working in a situation where whichever is the government at the Centre, you need to work together with them instead of having differences all the time. Because, if you were to have differences, eventually it is the Centre that will win, so why do that? You have been selected by the people of Delhi to make Delhi a much better place, and with all humility, I must say that Delhi did become a much better place during the 15 years that the Congress was in power and we were there for 15 years only because of this reason.

What do you think of what Mr. Kejriwal is proposing regarding the full statehood demand for Delhi – that the New Delhi Municipal Council area continues to be under the control of the Centre but the rest of the State gets full statehood?

■ It is for Parliament to decide such constitutional changes. The change has to come from Parliament. Unless that happens, how do you propose to do it? They ought to know one thing: that you need to learn to work under the circumstances that are there and you can't be making excuses that this is not right or that is not right. What is the guarantee that if you change it, you are going to be the best government?

Since you have been Chief Minister for 15 years, what according to you should be a practical solution for the division of powers?

■ All parties contest elections to come to power and if you are coming to power, you must accept the constitutional position. How can you suddenly say that the constitutional position is wrong? We also wanted to change the constitutional position and even put it in our manifesto but our own Congress government and the Atal Bihari Vajpayee government did not accept the demand. The ball was in the court of the Central government and we did not get it for the reason that Delhi occupies a special place as the capital city.

During NDA-I, if you wanted something done, how did you go about it? Did you approach the then Prime Minister directly?

■ I was always in touch with Mr. Vajpayee and he was very kind. I was also in touch with Ministers looking after urban affairs and it was never a relationship that did not understand the other's point of view. They very often did not give in, but they were never impolite or dismissive.

How do you assess the prospects of the Congress in Delhi?

■ I am hoping to get, and I am working to get, all seven seats.

What is the formula you are going to use to select candidates?

■ You will get to know soon.

Do you plan to contest this election yourself?

■ No.

If you are not going to contest, what is your role going to be in Delhi?

■ You don't have to contest to play a role. I will work for the party with great love and affection.

We see a lot of full-page advertisements by the AAP in the newspapers promoting the work that they have done. What do you think of this advertising blitzkrieg? Does the Congress have any strategy to counter it?

■ The government can spend money on whatever they want. But the question that arises out of this is, why are they spending so much money on this? Are there not better things to spend money on, like development and repairing roads in Delhi which are in a big mess? Are these advertisements really necessary, and how are they helping the growth of Delhi?

There is a sense sometimes that the Congress overprojects its own strength. You need the nuts and bolts to deliver as far as politics is concerned. Do you think the organisational strength is in place for the Congress?

■ Of course it is there and there are Congress workers looking at all aspects. The Congress has always been in tune with the times and has adopted new systems and new ways of doing things. I don't think we are lagging behind in any way.

SINGLE FILE

Illuminating Asia's future

Seoul embraces relations with New Delhi solely based on India's inherent appeal and worth

SOURABH GUPTA

PTI

On February 22, a day after South Korean President Moon Jae-in welcomed him as his first state guest of 2019, Prime Minister Narendra Modi was conferred the Seoul Peace Prize in the South Korean capital. Mr. Modi is a conservative, nationalist leader and Mr. Moon is a liberal-minded leader and a former human rights lawyer. Yet, similar to the *taegeuk* (yin-yang) at the centre of South Korea's national flag, the two leaders, like their respective nations' national identities and foreign relations, complement each other.

The striking historical characteristic of Korea is the homogeneity of its people and its continuous history, until recently, as a unified political entity. The same term, *Han minjok*, is used to denote both the Korean race and the Korean nation. Riven by subnational loyalties, India is anything but homogenous. Yet India too has exuded unity since time immemorial, which is renewed daily in the hearts and minds of its citizens. South Korea's national identity and nationalism were forged, respectively, by the collapse of Chinese universalism at the turn of the first millennium and, again, in the early 20th century. India was never part of the Chinese world order. Yet both nations were, in the evocative words of Rabindranath Tagore, "lamp bearers" in their modern histories, joined in the struggle against colonialism and determined to re-illuminate the East.

Korea's foreign relations with China were steadied once its Yalu River frontier was confirmed in the late 14th century. That frontier was as porous as India's Himalayan frontier is impassable. Yet both frontiers were breached by revolutionary communists in the aftermath of the founding of the People's Republic, with profound geopolitical consequences that linger to this day.

The long history of Korea's foreign relations with China also lends an important insight into its modern-day strategic conduct: essential to its preservation as an independent state on imperial China's periphery was an immutable policy of non-involvement in the power politics or international relations of its continental-sized neighbour.

Seoul today, alone among its Indo-Pacific peers, embraces relations with New Delhi solely based on India's inherent appeal and worth. India is not a hedge or a foil to be deployed against a rising China. This opens up, rather than limits, the space for bilateral cooperation, including on sensitive defence matters.

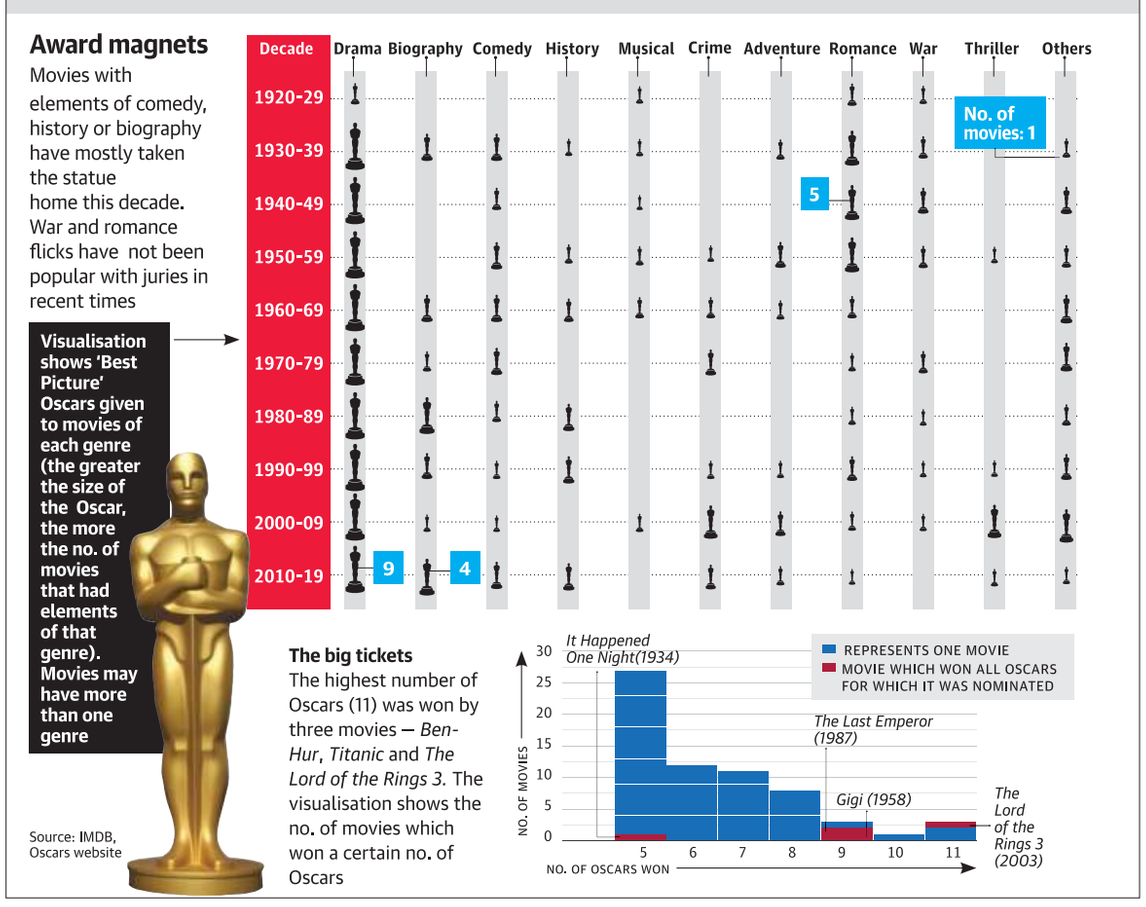
India and South Korea view each other today as special strategic partners. As they re-illuminate the eastern sky, they must also help forge a 21st century model of Asian international relations – one that is keyed to regional tradition and historical circumstance, imbued with an ethos of equality and consensus, and which resiles from doctrines that are zero-sum in character.

The writer is a Senior Fellow at the Institute for China-America Studies in Washington, D.C.

DATA POINT

Oscar's favourites

Movies with elements of drama have been evergreen favourites for 'Best Picture' among juries of the Academy Awards. Only four movies have won all the awards for which they were nominated. By **Varun B. Krishnan**



FROM The Hindu. ARCHIVES

FIFTY YEARS AGO FEBRUARY 27, 1969

Indian-made rocket launched

The first Indian-made Centaure rocket was successfully launched from the Thumba equatorial rocket station at 3-30 p.m. to-day [February 26] to the great jubilation of a large number of scientists. Dr. Vikram Sarabhai, Chairman of the Atomic Energy Commission and Indian National Committee for Space Research, described the flight of the two-stage sounding rocket as "very satisfactory" and as having gone off "completely according to plan." Hailing it as a "momentous event", he said: "We are now on the path to long-range development of superior rockets, which will take us to our goal of satellite launching in five years." He said today's flight was "steady and powerful", the separation took place flawlessly and the telemetry signals were "top class".

A HUNDRED YEARS AGO FEBRUARY 27, 1919

Indians in South Africa.

With reference to a telegram recently received by Mr. M.K. Gandhi and other leaders in India from Mr. Aswat, Chairman of the Transvaal British Indian Association, Johannesburg, in which he complained that laws affecting Indian community were being rigorously enforced with the object of European competitors. Mr. M. K. Gandhi has [as reported from Bombay] addressed the following letter to the press: The cable received by from Mr. Aswat, Chairman, Transvaal British Indian Association, shows that the revival of Satyagraha, with all the attendant suffering, is imminent in South Africa unless the danger that threatens to overwhelm Indians of Transvaal is averted by prompt and effective action by the Government of India and if necessary by the public also. The situation warrants a repetition of Lord Hardinge's action and immediate despatch to South Africa of a mission consisting of, say a distinguished civilian and an equally distinguished Indian publicist.

CONCEPTUAL

Hamilton's rule

BIOLOGY

This refers to a biological rule that determines when an animal will engage in altruistic behaviour that seemingly does not improve its own well-being. Hamilton's rule, named after the English evolutionary biologist W.D. Hamilton, states that an animal will engage in altruistic behaviour only when the indirect benefits that it derives from such behaviour are greater than the direct reproductive cost that it incurs. When an animal shares common genes with another animal that is in need of help, for instance, it is likely to exhibit altruism. This has led many biologists to believe that altruism could simply be selfish behaviour at the gene level.

MORE ON THE WEB

Video: What next after IAF strike in Balakot

http://bit.ly/IAFBalakot

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FROM PAGE ONE

India bombs Jaish camp in Pakistan's Balakot

Later in the day, External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj met with foreign diplomats. She also spoke to Foreign Ministers of the U.S., China, Singapore, Bangladesh and Afghanistan, and briefed them about the operation.

Sources present at the briefing of diplomats told *The Hindu* that Ms. Swaraj stressed the point that India had only conducted a counter-terror strike on a training camp in Pakistan, and did not wish to "escalate" the situation further.

Pak. slams 'aggression', vows to respond

He said local and foreign journalists would be taken to the site of the attack [this visit was later postponed "due to bad weather"] "so that the media personnel can decide for themselves about the veracity of Indian claims". Mr. Qureshi added that the Prime Minister and the Foreign Office were also reaching out to international leaders.

Nuclear body meet

Prime Minister Khan has called a meeting of the National Command Authority (NCA) – Pakistan's nuclear body – on Wednesday.

Following the ministers' press conference, Director General, Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR), Major General Asif Ghafoor also addressed the media in Islamabad. He denied Indian claims and challenged Indian jets to come and spend 21 minutes in Pakistani airspace. "I said that we will surprise you. Wait for that surprise. I said that our response will be different. The response will come differently. We are a democracy. You have proved that you are not a democracy," said Gen. Ghafoor. In a reference to Wednesday's NCA meeting, he told reporters: "I hope you know what NCA means and what it does."

Opposition parties and their leadership have closed ranks behind the government. Leader of Opposition Shahbaz Sharif warned the Indian leadership to come to its senses and not to mistake Pakistan's stance of restraint for weakness.

Maryam Nawaz tweeted that when she met her father, former Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif in jail, "he was deeply concerned over & strongly condemned the Indian aircraft intrusion across LOC".

Bilawal Bhutto-Zardari, Chairman of Pakistan People's Party (PPP), said while the whole nation will stand united with whatever decision is taken, it is important for Pakistan to be cautious. "We don't want to play into [Narendra] Modi's hands. Proponents of peace on both sides of the border must join in calling for cooler heads to prevail. The innocent people of India and Pakistan will be the collateral damage to any misadventure," he said.

Despite this solidarity, former Foreign Minister Khawaja Asif criticised the government for not coming to the National Assembly to discuss the current crisis. He tweeted that at a time when the NA session was in progress, the government preferred to speak to the media and in effect bypassed Parliament by not giving it its due respect.

Give mediation another chance in Ayodhya: SC

The Muslim parties, led by senior advocates Rajeev Dhavan and Dushyant Dave, said while the mediation route had been tried before, their side was in "broad agreement" for giving the process another opportunity.

However, the U.P. government and senior advocate C.S. Vaidyanathan, who represents the deity Ram Lalla, both disagreed with the court's suggestion on mediation.

'Failed attempt'

"Mediation has been tried before by Shankaracharya and Sri Sri Ravi Shankar... but all that has been of no use," Mr. Vaidyanathan insisted.

"But we are the court," said Justice Gogoi. "This will be monitored by the Supreme Court," he added.

DMK requests Congress to give DMDK a seat

High command may not oblige as there are too many contestants for nine seats

B. KOLAPPAN
CHENNAI:

The DMK has requested its primary ally Congress to give up a Lok Sabha seat from its quota of 10 in case the DMDK led by actor Vijayakant agrees to join the alliance for the Lok Sabha elections.

The ruling AIADMK has been holding talks with the DMDK for the past few days but without success.

"A few days ago the DMK leadership conveyed the message to us through Rajya Sabha MP Kanimozhi. We have also informed our Delhi high command about the request," said a senior Tamil Nadu Congress Committee (TNCC) leader requesting anonymity.

A senior DMK leader told *The Hindu* that there was much progress in the talks held with the DMDK after party leader M.K.Stalin called on Mr. Vijayakant last week.

"However, nothing has been finalised so far," he said.

The TNCC leader explained that the Congress might not be in a position to give up a seat since the high command was of the opinion that the seats allotted to it were not adequate.

"We have too many contestants for the nine seats in Tamil Nadu (besides the lone Puducherry seat)," said the Congress leader.

In the dark

Asked how many seats the actor-turned-politician demanded from the DMK-Congress alliance, he said the Congress leadership was totally in the dark about the dealings. The Congress leaders were too busy to turn their attention to Tamil Nadu for now.

"P Chidambaram is busy with preparing the election manifesto and Rahul Gandhi is visiting Gujarat along with K.C. Venugopal. Mukul Wasnik and Ahmed Patel are making preparations for the working committee meeting in Gujarat," he said.

Meanwhile, the DMK on Tuesday allotted one seat to Kongunadu Makkal Desiya Katchi headed by R Easwaran.

It will contest on the DMK's 'Rising Sun' symbol.

India does not expect any escalation: Swaraj

Leaders of political parties advise restraint on Articles 35A, 370

SOBHANA K. NAIR
SANDEEP PHUKAN
NEW DELHI

The Opposition parties asked pointed questions of the government at a briefing of all political parties on Tuesday morning's air strikes on terror camps in Pakistan, and requested it to ensure that passions were not whipped up on contentious issues such as Articles 35A and 370 of the Constitution.

The meeting, chaired by External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj, was attended by Home Minister Rajnath Singh and Finance Minister Arun Jaitley. India's High Commissioner to Pakistan Ajay Bisaria and Foreign Secretary Vijay Gokhale were present. Defence Minister Nirmala Sitharaman and the Chief of the Air Staff, B.S. Dhanoa, were not present.

Ms. Swaraj circulated the Foreign Secretary's earlier statement, and reasserted that it was a "non-military strike on terror targets" and India did not expect any military escalation.

The Opposition parties asked Mr. Bisaria on the likely Pakistani response. "He told us that Pakistan was initially in denial, but they will try to be belligerent. He informed that tomorrow [Wednesday] a meeting of Pakistan's nuclear command has been called, and claimed that it is only a "sabre-rattling" measure for the international and domestic audience," a senior Opposition leader said. The Opposition questioned the government on why Air Force and Army officials were not present. They pointed out that the briefing after the surgical strikes had high-ranking Air Force and Army officials who gave specific information about the location of the strikes using maps.

CPI(M) general secretary Sitaram Yechury, according to sources, asked the government to specify which "Balakot" was struck. There are two locations, one in Pakistan-occupied Kashmir and another in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.

The Home Minister said the site hit was in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, and the jets entered nearly 80 miles (128 km) inside Pakistan air space across the Line of Control.

Parties doubtful

The Opposition parties questioned this claim. "It sounds very unrealistic that they entered so many miles inside, but the government did not respond to our question," a senior Opposition leader said.

Former J&K Chief Minister Omar Abdullah flagged the "panic" in the Kashmir Valley and the apprehension of a possible war. He said people were stocking up on food items and there was a fuel shortage. He urged the government to relocate the people on the LoC who could be impacted in case of any retaliatory action by Pakistan. Mr. Abdullah said the terror attack by JeM was to ensure that Kashmir did not vote with the rest of the nation and therefore the government should not fall into this trap.

Spreading the word: Congress leader Ghulam Nabi Azad and Home Minister Rajnath Singh at an all-party meeting chaired by External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj in New Delhi on Tuesday. ▪PTI

Gujarat cancels leave of police personnel

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
AHMEDABAD

High alert was sounded across Gujarat on Tuesday after India successfully carried out a "non-military pre-emptive" strike targeting a training camp of the Jaish-e-Mohammad (JeM) at Balakot in Pakistan.

"Gujarat is a border State and we are on high alert. We have put all the police personnel on duty and their holidays have been cancelled," Chief Minister Vijay Rupani said after a function in the Saurashtra region.

Director General of Police Shivanand Jha issued high alert across the border districts of Kutch, Banaskantha and Patan even as all District Superintendents of Police and Range Inspector Generals of Police were asked to remain stationed at their respective headquarters.

"Coastal districts have also been put on high alert," Mr. Jha stated, adding that security had been beefed up across the State.

Gujarat shares a long international land and coastal border with Pakistan. The State is seeking to prevent any infiltration attempts, especially through border districts of Kutch, Banaskantha and Patan.

Meanwhile, a suspected drone was reportedly shot down by the Air Force at Kutch. However, there was no official word regarding the incident.

On high alert

Barriers up: BSF personnel at the Wagah border, about 35 km from Amritsar, on Tuesday. ▪AFP

BJP spokespersons stress pre-emptive focus of strikes

Party MPs briefed, told to stick to government line

NISTULA HEBBAR
NEW DELHI

As news of the air strikes by India at the terror camps in Pakistan started trickling in, spokespersons of the BJP were asked to strictly adhere to the government's line that they were pre-emptive in nature to neutralise terrorists.

BJP spokespersons, after a meeting of the Cabinet Committee on Security, were briefed by Finance Minister Arun Jaitley and Defence Minister Nirmala Sitharaman about this being a pre-emptive strike.

Party chief Amit Shah tweeted his reactions by 1.30 p.m., congratulating the armed forces, adding that "today's action further demonstrates that India is safe and secure under the strong and decisive leadership of Prime Minister Modi."

Party general secretary Ram Madhav too issued a statement echoing the same sentiment, that the nation acted on security impulses rather than revenge.

"Country is in safe hands. The willpower of the Prime Minister has led to the action today. We had political leadership in the Prime Minister which decided this time to act. We acted in a responsible manner, protected India's interest and ensured we didn't violate international norms," he said.

Sources in the party said the briefing that spokespersons received included explanations on why Balakot was chosen.

The RSS, in its statement, however, did mention Tuesday's action as part of a payback. The organisation's second-in-command, Suresh "Bhaiyyaji" Joshi, said: "The whole nation was upset and angry in the wake of the terror attack by the 'Jaish-e-Mohammad' in Pulwama. Today, the Indian Air Force demolished JeM's Pakistan-based bases by specifically targeting them. This was translating into action the feelings of millions of Indians."

'Modi was busy tracking air strike'

PM waited till all pilots returned home

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI

Prime Minister Narendra Modi was up all night as he monitored the IAF operation to destroy a Jaish-e-Mohammed terror camp in Pakistan, relaxing only after all the pilots returned safely home, government sources said on Tuesday.

"The Prime Minister did not sleep a wink all night and remained closely involved in the operations," said a source close to Mr. Modi, speaking on condition of anonymity.

After congratulating all those involved in the operation around 4.30 a.m., he got busy with his next day's schedule, including the meeting of the Cabinet Committee on Security at his residence around 10 a.m.

He had been in touch with Defence Minister Nirmala Sitharaman, National Security Adviser Ajit Doval and the Chief of the Air Staff, B.S. Dhanoa, before, during and after the operation, the source said.

Opposition adds air strike to meet agenda

Left parties to attend the meeting

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

Even as Opposition parties lauded the role of the Indian Air Force in the Balakot strike on Tuesday, its political impact has given them cause for concern.

The agenda of the Opposition meeting here on Wednesday was changed to discuss the Pulwama attack and the air strikes. Earlier, the meeting was meant to discuss a common minimum programme. The Left parties, which were planning to skip the meeting, will now be attending.

"For all those looking at today's air strikes through a political/electoral prism, it might be worth remembering that PM Vajpayee went to the 1999 election with nuclear tests AND victory in Kargil under his belt & still only returned to power with a coalition," tweeted former Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister Omar Abdullah.

Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal, who had announced a fast from March 1 for full statehood for Delhi, called off his plan. "We all stand as one nation today," he said.

Government's power became visible today, says Modi

'Country is in safe hands, our sole aim is to serve people'

MOHAMMED IQBAL
JAIPUR

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Tuesday said the country was in "safe hands" and he would not let the nation bow down. "Today is a day to pay tributes to our bravehearts... Nothing is above our country," he said.

Mr. Modi's remarks came during his address at an election rally in Churu, 200 km from here, shortly after the IAF conducted air strikes in Pakistan.

Mr. Modi said the country was progressing with the sentiments of "Jai Jawan, Jai Kisan, Jai Vigyan" and the government was working with the "sole objective" of serving the people.

Though Mr. Modi avoided making a direct reference to air strikes, he gave enough hints that he was seeking voters' support for the formation of a "strong government" at the Centre this year. "Your votes in 2014 helped form a strong dispensation in Delhi. Its power was visible today," he said.

This was Mr. Modi's second rally organised within three days in Rajasthan as part of his Lok Sabha election campaign. He recited a Hindi poem, *Saugandh Mujhe Is Mitti Ki* (I swear by my land), written by lyricist Prasoon Joshi for BJP's election campaign in 2014, as people cheered and clapped.

He attacked the Congress government in the State, saying that it was stopping the benefits under the Centre's schemes from reaching the farmers and poor patients.

Shot in the arm: Prime Minister Narendra Modi addressing an election rally at Churu in Rajasthan on Tuesday. ▪PTI

NIA raids houses of 7 separatists

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
SRINAGAR

The J&K government appealed for calm on Tuesday amid a general alert in the wake of the Indian Air Force's strikes at a Jaish training camp in Pakistan.

Separately, the National Investigation Agency (NIA) searched the residences of seven separatist leaders in Srinagar. The NIA's searches, which commenced on Tuesday morning, were simultaneously conducted at the houses of Hurriyat chairman Mirwaiz Umar Farooq, JKLF chief Yasin Malik, Tehreek-e-Hurriyat leader Ashraf Sehrai, Shabir Shah, Masarat Aalam Butt, Syed Naseem Geelani (son of Syed Ali Shah Geelani) and Zaffar Akbar Bhat. "The NIA teams recovered incriminating documents, including property papers. Electronic devices, including laptops, were also seized," the NIA said.

The NIA said letterheads of different terrorist organisations were also found.

Army destroys five Pak. posts along the LoC

Inflicts a 'number of casualties'

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
JAMMU

The Indian Army destroyed five Pakistani posts along the Line of Control in Jammu and Kashmir on Tuesday night, in retaliation to firing from across the border, resulting in a "number of casualties" to Pakistani troops, a defence official said.

From 6.30 pm onwards, the Pakistani Army began ceasefire violation by shelling with heavy calibre weaponry along the LoC, he said. The troops were also seen firing mortars and missiles from civilian houses, using villagers as human shields.

However, the Indian Army targeted the Pakistani posts away from civilian areas, the official said, adding that this resulted in a "number of casualties" to Pakistani soldiers. In the exchange of fire, five soldiers of the Indian Army suffered minor injuries.

APPEAL

Name of Patient: **Diksha Hotchandani, 23 years.** Hospital Name: Christian Medical College. Diagnosis: Relapsed Acute Myeloid Leukemia. This is a type of blood cancer at present she is planned to be treated with Flag-IDA Chemotherapy followed by allogeneic stem cell transplantation with a HLA matched sibling donor. The estimated cost of Chemotherapy followed by allogeneic transplant will come to approximately **Rs. 26,00,000/-**

We request Kind Hearted Philanthropists to save her. Kindly send donation by Ch/D.D/M.O favouring Save Poor Lives A/c Diksha Hotchandani S/B Account No.20000913487, State Bank of India, Raja Annamalaipuram Branch, IFSC Code: SBIN0001855, which is exempted under 80G of I.T. Act.

Contact: SAVE POOR LIVES REGISTERED PUBLIC CHARITABLE TRUST, (ADMIN DIVISION) Flat No.A4, Ceebros Garden, Ground Floor, Old No.76 Kamarajar Salai, Raja Annamalaipuram, Chennai - 600 028. **Ph: 044-42044165, Mobile: 9884607377, Email: savepoorlives@gmail.com, Our website: www.savepoorlives.com**

Donation sent to various Hospitals in January 2019 for 8 patients Rs. 3,70,619/-

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When 12 warplanes locked on to the target

The pre-dawn raid across the border saw IAF deploy precision bombs

DINAKAR PERI
NEW DELHI

In the early hours of Tuesday, 12 Mirage-2000 combat jets of the Indian Air Force, armed with Israeli precision guided munitions, took off from their Gwalior airbase on a crucial mission, cloaked in secrecy.

The multirole fighter aircraft flew over Himachal Pradesh and Kashmir before crossing into Pakistani airspace and striking the largest training camp of the Jaish-e-Mohammad (JeM) in Balakot.

"The terror launch pads along the LoC were moved deep inside after the Pulwama attack," a senior defence official said, speaking on condition of anonymity. "The camp in Balakot, which was targeted, is JeM's major training camp. It's in proper Pakistan itself, close to Abbottabad that became infamous because of Osama bin Laden."

> **The terror launch pads along the LoC were moved deep inside after the Pulwama attack**
> SENIOR DEFENCE OFFICIAL

Balakot is about 60 km aerial distance from the LoC, in the Mansehra district of Pakistan's Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province, and is about two hours' drive from Abbottabad.

India's Foreign Secretary Vijay Gokhale on Tuesday termed the operation a "preemptive strike" that had become absolutely necessary after credible intelligence had pointed to the JeM planning more terror attacks across various parts of the country.

"Twelve Mirage-2000 jets from Gwalior were involved in the strike and they carried SPICE 2000 and Crystal Maze Mk2, also called AGM-142 Popeye PGMs," an IAF source confirmed.

SPICE stands for 'Smart, Precise Impact and Cost-Effective,' a kit which converts a conventional bomb into a smart munition. It is manufactured by Rafael of Israel. The '2000' refers to a bomb of 2,000 pounds (about 1,000 kg).

Out of harm's way

The precision guided munitions (PGMs) enable the aircraft to release them from stand-off distances while staying away from harm's way and the munitions glide to the target once launched. Defence sources said five 1,000 kg PGMs were dropped in the strike, which occurred around 3.40 a.m. on Tuesday.

The IAF also deployed the Israeli Phalcon and indigenous Netra early warning aircraft to monitor the mission – to direct the aircraft as well as to keep an eye out for Pakistani F-16s that might be deployed to counter them – and a Heron long range UAV that was used for monitoring and assessment. Sukhoi Su-30MKIs fighter jets were also airborne and standing by.

The Mirage jets flew directly from their home base in Gwalior at the time of the mission to the target area and back.

"Everything was carried on as usual in the run-up to it to maintain secrecy," a defence official said.

The Mirage planes used the Israeli Litening targeting pods to mark the targets and the PGMs were launched from a safe distance.

Another source said the initial Battle Damage Assessment (BDA) was that the hit was 100%, and that all aircraft had returned safely. Further details from the assessment are awaited.

The use of air power is significant as it is the first time since the 1971 war that the IAF crossed over and struck inside Pakistani territory.

Even during the Kargil conflict, the IAF was under strict instructions to not cross the LoC.

Comparison between 2016 and 2019 Indian responses

	2016 SURGICAL STRIKE	2019 AIR STRIKE
Reason	Uri terror attack in which 19 soldiers were killed	Pulwama terror attack in which 40 CRPF personnel were killed
Modus operandi	Four terrorists sneaked into Army base	Suicide bomber rammed convoy with a car laden with explosives
Claimed by	Jaish-e-Mohammad	Jaish-e-Mohammad
Response time	11 days	12 days
Type of response	Ground-based surgical strike	Aerial precision strike
Resource used	Army para special forces	Mirage-2000 fighters
Announced by	DGMO Lt. Gen. Ranbir Singh	Foreign Secretary Vijay Gokhale
Target area	Pakistan-occupied Kashmir	Pakistan
Target	Terrorist launch pads along LoC	Terrorist training camp
Pak. response	Total denial	Confirmed ingress, but denied damage
Indian statement	"Based on very credible and specific information ... that some terrorist teams had positioned themselves at launch pads along the LoC... the Indian Army conducted surgical strikes"	"Credible intelligence ..that JeM was attempting .. suicide terror attack[s]... In the face of imminent danger, a preemptive strike became absolutely necessary... India struck the biggest training camp of JeM in Balakot"

Pulwama victims' kin hail air strikes

Say it will alleviate some of their pain

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE
LUCKNOW

Families of the Central Reserve Police Force personnel killed in the Pulwama attack hailed the strikes by Indian Air Force fighter jets in Pakistan, and said some of their pain had gone with this action.

Rajwanti from Unnao said the "attack ordered by Prime Minister [Narendra] Modi on terror camps is one which brings some solace to heart-broken mothers."

Ashe, mother of Ajit Singh, said the offensive should not stop with the killing of some militants.

Terrorism had to be wiped off completely from the neighbourhood, she said.

Meena, wife of Ajit Kumar Azad, said India should launch a bigger attack and that she would rest in peace only when the Pakistan government admitted killing of thousands of people.

"I am sure that given a chance by the Prime Minister, the Army will avenge the blood of their brothers," she said.

The family of Ramesh Yadav said there could not have been better news for them as they had just performed the "terahnvi sanskaar" of the martyr.

Cautious China urges India, Pak. to improve ties

Delhi should have tapped international cooperation avoided unilateral action, says spokesperson

ATUL ANEJA
BEIJING

China on Tuesday has responded cautiously to Indian air strikes across the Line of Control (LoC), criticising New Delhi for taking unilateral action but urging both India and Pakistan to improve ties.

Asked to comment on India's assertion that it had targeted terrorist camps and not Pakistani military sites, Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesperson Lu Kang said New Delhi should have avoided unilateral action, and instead dealt with the situation through "international cooperation".

"As for India's claims on taking action against terrorism, fighting terrorism is a global practice. It needs to be dealt with by international cooperation. And India needs to create a favourable condition internationally for that," Mr. Lu said.

China has repeatedly placed a "technical hold" on designating Masood Azhar, head of the Jaish-e-Mohammad (JeM) – a UN designated terror group based in Pakistan – as an international terrorist by the 1267 committee of the UN Security Council, as demanded by India and other Permanent members of the Council. The JeM has claimed responsibility for the February 14 attack on a paramilitary convoy that killed 40 troops.

Lu Kang

But instead of singling out India for steps to defuse the crisis, Mr. Lu advocated that the onus was on both New Delhi and Islamabad to cultivate a "sound relationship".

"We have taken note of relevant reports. I want to say that India and Pakistan are important countries. A sound relationship and cooperation serves the interests of peace and stability in South Asia. Both parties (should) remain restrained and do more to improve bilateral relations," he said.

Call for dialogue

Chinese news agency Xinhua reported that on Monday, Chinese Foreign Minister and State Councillor Wang Yi called upon India and Pakistan to ease tensions arising from the Pulwama attack "through dialogue as soon as possible and avoid an escalation of the situation". He urged both sides to collaborate on fighting terrorism and jointly safeguard the security and stability of South Asia.

The Chinese Foreign Minister advocated a bilateral engagement during a telephonic conversation with his Pakistani counterpart, Shah Mahmood Qureshi.

China is expected to further elaborate on its stance on Wednesday, when Mr. Wang meets External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj on the sidelines of the Foreign Ministerial meeting of Russia-India-China (RIC) in Wuzhen in East China.

Russia, led by Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov, is also expected to weigh in on the post-Pulwama situation between India and Pakistan.

False claim on air strikes, says SP leader

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
GONDA

A former U.P. Minister and senior Samajwadi Party leader has called the air strikes by the Indian Air Force on a Jaish camp inside Pakistan "false."

"BJP leaders are liars. Is the surgical strike anything new? TV channels were airing it today. This (that an air strike will happen) was known for 10 days," Samajwadi Party leader Vinod Kumar told party workers here on Tuesday.

"It was known that they (the government) have colluded with Pakistan and decided to drop a couple of bombs on an abandoned house," he claimed.

Balakot camp had over 200 terrorists, says official

The facility was headed by JeM chief Masood Azhar's brother-in-law Yusuf Azhar, says Foreign Secretary Vijay Gokhale

VIJAITA SINGH
NEW DELHI

The Balakot camp run by the terrorist outfit Jaish-e-Mohammad (JeM) that was hit by the Indian Air Force in the early hours of Tuesday "housed more than 200 terrorists", a senior government official said.

The camp was headed by Jaish chief Masood Azhar's brother-in-law Yusuf Azhar, Foreign Secretary Vijay Gokhale said. It is located around 200 km from Islamabad on a hilltop in a forest far from the civilian area in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.

On the banks of the Kunhar river, the camp offered the possibility of aquatic training to terrorists. Trainers at the camp were "ex-Army personnel", the official said. The camp was initially used as a training camp by the Harkat-ul-Mujahideen (HuM), another terrorist outfit active in Jammu and Kashmir and supported by Pakistan.

A former Intelligence official told *The Hindu* that Yusuf Azhar, alias Mohammad Salim, alias Ustad Ghouri, was a Hindu who converted to Islam and married Azhar's sister.

'Family enterprise'

He was one of the main conspirators involved in the hijacking of the Indian Airlines flight IC 814 to Kandahar in 1999. The JeM chief was released by India in exchange for the hijacked passengers. His name was on a list of 20 fugitives handed over by India to Pakistan in 2002. In 2000, the Interpol on the basis of a request by the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) opened a red corner notice against Yusuf Azhar. The notice said that his place of birth was in Karachi, Pakistan and he was fluent in "Urdu and Hindi", He is wanted in India for "hijacking, murder and kidnapping". The ex-official said the JeM was run like a "family enterprise".

Powder keg: The ammunition dump in the Balakot camp of the JeM targeted by the IAF on Tuesday and, right, a file photo of Yusuf Azhar. ▪ ANI

"After Azhar, his brothers, Rauf and Ibrahim, are the most important functionaries. The next in line is Yusuf. While the main recruiter continues to be Masood Azhar, Yusuf's job is to mainly train recruits. Masood likes to remain in the background post-2001 Parliament attack," he said.

"The precision hit was conducted on a vast, advanced training camp. It was an important training centre for the JeM and other terror organisations. It had several structures to accommodate terrorist trainees and facilities to train them and was used for battle inoculation," he said.

Masood Azhar and other terrorist leaders had delivered "inspirational" lectures on several occasions.

"The terrorists were imparted the advanced *Daura e Khaas* training in weapons, explosives and field tactics, tactics for attacking the convoys of security forces, planting and making IEDs, preparations for suicide bombing, rigging vehicles for suicide attacks and survival tactics in high altitudes and extreme-stress situations.

The JeM specialises in *fidayeen* actions and gives immense importance to religious indoctrination and ideological brainwashing," the ex-official said.

For JeM, Balakot was a 'safe' camp

Militants shifted there from LoC areas

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI

Hundreds of Jaish-e-Mohammad *fidayeen* and their trainers were shifted from Pakistan-occupied Kashmir to a well-equipped resort-style camp in a hilltop forest in Balakot after the Pulwama attack, providing Indian forces with "a sitting duck target" when they carried out the air strike early on Tuesday, sources said.

Everyone at the camp was sleeping and Pakistani defence establishment had no clue that the attack was coming so deep into their country because they had expected a surgical strike on camps closer to the Line of Control, said the sources.

However, India had received intelligence that JeM had shifted many in-training terrorists and hardcore operatives, along with their trainers, to the Balakot camp, which has facilities for 500 to 700 people along with cooks and cleaners, and even includes a swimming pool.

Fighters and other aircraft took off from several air bases in Western and Central commands at about the same time, leaving Pakistani defence officials confused on the target, the sources said. A small group broke away and headed to Balakot where "the sleeping terrorists were sitting ducks," said the source.

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ELSEWHERE

Israel ex-Minister gets 11 years for spying for Iran

TEHRAN

Israeli ex-Minister Gonen Segev was sentenced to 11 years in prison on Tuesday for spying for his country's main enemy Iran after a plea bargain in the case, the prosecutor said. He had agreed to a plea bargain on charges of espionage and transfer of information to the enemy. AFP

Incumbent Buhari extends election lead

ABUJA

Nigeria's incumbent President Muhammadu Buhari extended his early election lead on Tuesday based on official results from a third of the country's districts as the death toll from sporadic poll-related violence rose to 47.

Provisional results showed Mr. Buhari on course to taking a commanding lead over his main rival Atiku Abubakar. REUTERS

Trump, Kim arrive for summit

Formal talks, with focus on denuclearisation, will take place on Thursday

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
HANOI

North Korean leader Kim Jong-un and U.S. President Donald Trump arrived in Hanoi on Tuesday, ahead of a second summit closely watched for concrete steps to dismantle Pyongyang's nuclear programme.

The two leaders are expected to have an informal dinner on Wednesday before more formal talks on Thursday.

'Act wise'

Mr. Trump made no comment to reporters on his aircraft but had previously tweeted his hopes for a "very productive" meeting, reiterating that North Korea could enjoy economic riches if it gave up its nuclear weapons. "With complete Denuclearisation, North Korea will rapidly become an Economic Powerhouse," tweeted Mr. Trump. "Without it, just more of the same." "Chairman Kim will make a wise decision!"

Touching down: U.S. President Donald Trump arriving at the Noi Bai Airport in Hanoi and North Korean leader Kim Jong-un at the Dong Dang railway station on Tuesday. AFP

Relations between the two mercurial leaders have undergone a dramatic turnaround, from flinging personal insults and threats of destruction to Mr. Trump declaring he had fallen "in love" with Mr. Kim through an exchange of letters.

Mr. Trump appeared to lower U.S. demands for Pyongyang in the run-up to the summit, repeatedly saying there was no rush to rid the North of its arsenal as long as missile and nuclear tests stopped. "I don't want to rush anybody. I just don't want testing. As long as there's no testing, we're happy," Mr. Trump said at the weekend. He also hinted more summits could follow the Hanoi meeting, reducing expectations of a dramatic breakthrough in the Vietnamese capital.

4,000-km journey

In contrast to Mr. Trump's direct route, Mr. Kim embarked on a two-and-a-half day, 4,000 km odyssey through China by train. He was greeted at the normally sleepy Vietnamese border station of Dong Dang early on Tuesday by a military guard of honour. He was greeted in Hanoi by cheering crowds and after a few hours' rest at his hotel, made a 50-minute jaunt to the North Korean Embassy.

Diplomatic progress since Singapore has stalled over the definition of denuclearisation, with Stephen Biegun, the U.S. special representative for North Korea, admitting that there was no "shared agreement" of what that means.

May offers MPs a choice of ruling out a no-deal Brexit

Move comes after Labour backed a second referendum

VIDYA RAM
LONDON

The campaigns to delay, modify – or even halt – the British government's interpretation of Brexit gained a boost, as Prime Minister Theresa May said she could offer MPs a choice of ruling out a no-deal exit, or a time limited-delay to Brexit.

The move comes a day after the Labour Party said it would support the holding of a second referendum if the government failed to back its alternative vision of Brexit.

The developments come as Britain prepares to leave the EU in just over a month's time, so far without a withdrawal agreement amenable to both sides, and as the Prime Minister prepares to put the terms of leaving the EU to MPs in a meaningful vote on March 12, just 17 days before Britain is due to leave.

March 12 vote

Should her deal not be agreed to on March 12, Ms. May has pledged to offer MPs votes on the next two days, firstly (on March 13) on ruling out a no-deal exit, and secondly (on March 14) on requesting an extension to the Article 50 negotiation process. "So the U.K. will only leave without a deal on March 29 if there is explicit consent in this House for that outcome," Ms. May told a heated session of the House of Commons on Tuesday.

She added that she did not want Article 50 extended, and would not revoke Article 50. She also warned against anything but a short delay, noting that if it went beyond June, Britain would have to take part in European Parliamentary elections (or else face a 'sharper cliff edge' exit a few months down the road).

Britain's Prime Minister Theresa May. AFP

'Cynical manoeuvring'

Opposition MPs warned against according too much significance to the Prime Minister's plan. "No one should fall for this," said the leader of the Scottish National Party, Nicola Sturgeon, insisting her moves were part of "cynical manoeuvring to try and bully MPs into accepting her bad deal".

Labour also accused the government of attempting to run down the clock. A no-deal exit was still on the table, insisted Anna Soubry, a former Conservative MP who left the party last week to join an independent group of former Conservative and Labour MPs.

They are urging MPs across the political spectrum to back an amendment on Wednesday that would legally require the government to offer MPs the option of extending the Brexit process beyond March if they didn't agree to Ms. May's deal on March 12.

The new Labour line on a second referendum marks a significant shift in the position of the party's leadership and particularly of Jeremy Corbyn, who have long maintained that the party has a responsibility to deliver on Brexit and what people voted for in 2016, and highlights the strong pressure mounted in recent weeks on the party's top brass, both from within and outside the shadow Cabinet.

Remain option

Senior party leaders on Tuesday clarified that Labour would be pushing for a remain option and a "credible" Brexit plan to be offered to voters in any referendum.

While some of the nine Labour MPs who left the party last week cited the party's Brexit strategy as one of their reasons for doing so, other senior figures had begun to express concerns that unless Labour backed a second referendum, it would continue to lose public support as well as more MPs.

The decision followed meetings held by the party in Brussels and Madrid with senior officials. Mr. Corbyn said while the party would first introduce an amendment on its version of Brexit – which involves customs union membership and alignment with the EU single market – it would also back an amendment from a Labour and Conservative MP to rule out a no-deal Brexit.

While the development is significant, the Labour move does not decisively clear the way for a second referendum. The party will only support a second referendum if it fails to gain backing for its version of Brexit, but this could spur Conservative opponents to Ms. May to back her deal.

Javad Zarif resigns as Iran's Foreign Minister

However, moderate lawmakers write to President Rouhani asking him not to accept the resignation

REUTERS
DUBAI/GENEVA

Iranian President Hassan Rouhani held back from accepting the resignation of his Foreign Minister on Tuesday, standing by a moderate ally long targeted by hardliners in internal factional struggles over a 2015 nuclear deal with the West. The Minister, Mohammed Javad Zarif, gave no reason for his decision to quit when he announced it on Instagram on Monday.

But his move thrust the schism between Iran's hardliners and moderates into the open, effectively challenging Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei to pick a side.

Criticism of nuclear deal

An ally of Mr. Zarif said his resignation was motivated by criticism of the nuclear accord, under increasingly intense fire in Iran since the U.S. abandoned it last year.

"There were closed-door meetings every week, where top officials were bombarding him with questions about the deal and what will happen next and so on," a Zarif ally said on condition of anonymity. "He and his boss (Rouhani) were under a huge amount of pressure."

Mohammad Javad Zarif. REUTERS

Despite announcing his resignation, Mr. Zarif had not officially tendered it to Mr. Rouhani by Tuesday afternoon and the President had not accepted it. Iran's Foreign Ministry reiterated that Mr. Rouhani had not accepted Mr. Zarif's resignation, rejecting reports.

Lawmakers representing the majority moderate faction sent Mr. Rouhani a letter asking him to keep Mr. Zarif on, IRNA reported.

Mr. Rouhani's Chief of Staff Mahmoud Vaezi said Mr. Rouhani stood by Mr. Zarif. The President's praise was "a clear sign of the satisfaction of the representative of the people of Iran about the wise and effective positions and work of Dr. Zarif," Mr. Vaezi wrote on Instagram. Lawmaker Ali Motahari, like other politicians from both camps, said Mr. Rouhani was unlikely to accept Mr. Zarif's decision since no one else could fill the demanding post. The schism between hardliners and moderates over the nuclear deal shows the tension in Iran between the two factions.

Mr. Zarif was quoted as condemning "factional fighting" in a newspaper interview published on Tuesday – suggesting political tensions may have played a part in his decision.

Australian Cardinal found guilty of child sex abuse

George Pell convicted on five charges

REUTERS
MELBOURNE/VATICAN CITY

An Australian court has found Cardinal George Pell, one of the highest ranking Vatican officials and a former top adviser to Pope Francis, guilty on five charges of child sexual offences committed more than two decades ago against 13-year-old boys.

The verdict was made public on Tuesday following the lifting of a court suppression order on the trial, after a second abuse case against Cardinal Pell – the most senior Catholic clergyman worldwide to be convicted for child sex offences – was dropped by the prosecution.

Cardinal Pell's lawyers have said they will appeal the verdict, which embarrassed the Vatican because it became public just two days after a major conference on preventing sex abuse. He had pleaded not guilty to all five charges. In the Vatican's first response, spokesman Alessandro Gisotti told reporters the conviction was "painful" for many but that the Cardinal had proclaimed his innocence and had the right to "defend himself until last level" of judicial process.

A jury in the Country Court of Victoria in Melbourne found Cardinal Pell guilty on December 11 following a four-week trial.

He was convicted of five sexual offences committed against the 13-year-old choir boys 22 years earlier in the priests' sacristy of St Patrick's Cathedral in Melbourne, where Cardinal Pell was Archbishop. One of the two victims died in 2014.

No backdoors in 5G technology, says Huawei

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
BARCELONA

Huawei's chairman said on Tuesday that the United States has "no evidence" that its equipment to build next-generation 5G wireless networks could be used as a vehicle for Chinese spy operations.

In a keynote address at the mobile industry's biggest annual global event in Barcelona, Guo Ping reiterated his company's position that there are no "backdoors" in its technology that could allow Beijing to spy on countries. U.S. President Donald Trump's administration has in recent months ramped up efforts to block Huawei, the leader in 5G, by urging allies to avoid the Chinese powerhouse, claiming that national security interests are at stake.

Russian choir performs satirical song about 'nuking the U.S.'

The song was written in the 1980s to mock the Cold War arms race

ASSOCIATED PRESS
MOSCOW

A choir in the Russian city of St. Petersburg has drawn criticism for performing a satirical song about firing a missile on the United States from a Soviet nuclear submarine.

The video of the Saturday performance by the St. Petersburg Concert Choir was published over the weekend but only gained attention on Tuesday.

'For three rubles'

The choir promptly turned off the option of comments on its social media page after it was inundated with indignant remarks. The song, popular in the 1980s, jokes about Soviet troops being willing to fire a missile on the U.S. "for three rubles".

The choir said in a statement on Tuesday that it performs a variety of songs authentic to the time they were written, and that it refuses to "rewrite lyrics for the sake of political correctness".

Politically incorrect: The performance took place amid the charged rhetoric after U.S. pullout from a treaty. WWW.PHILHARMONIA.SPB.RU

St. Isaac's Cathedral, which hosted the concert, told that the song was not on the pre-approved programme and was performed as an encore, and that the cathedral does not approve of it. The cathedral's spokesman said although the song is a satirical one "it would be better to refrain from performing it".

The song, written by Andrei Kozlovsky in the 1980s as political satire of the arms race between the U.S. and the Soviet Union, goes: "Forgive us, America, fair America, but 500 years ago they discovered you for nothing."

The choir's performance happened amid the highly charged rhetoric in Russia following the U.S. decision to withdraw from a key security treaty with Russia.

KERALA WATER AUTHORITY
e- TENDER NOTICE

Tender No : 35/2018-19/KWA/PHC/D4/TVM. AMRUT - Supplying and erection of pumpsets, transformer and; electrical accessories in the Karimanal Pumping Station (Block.J). EMD : Rs. 50000/-. Form Price : Rs. 5000/- .Last Date for submitting Tender : 18-03-2019, 03:00:pm.

Sd/- Superintending Engineer PH Circle, Thiruvananthapuram

Website : www.kwa.kerala.gov.in /www.etenders.kerala.gov.in
Phone : 04712322303 KWA-JB-GL-6-700-2018-19

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Phone : 044-22354415/16/18, 22354430
E-mail ID : purchase.cont@tnpl.co.in

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

Tender No.	Material Description	Due date
181913 007193	Supply of soft bound notebooks made of TNPL Paper	06.03.19

Terms & conditions, Qty., Tender Fee, EMD are available in the tender documents at our websites: www.tnpl.com / www.tenders.tn.gov.in

DIPR/1344/Tender/2019 *TNPL - Maker of bagasse based eco-friendly Paper*

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Email: mcctly@gmail.com, Web: www.mcc.kerala.gov.in

E-TENDER NOTICE

Competitive e-Tenders (Two cover systems) are invited from established manufacturers/ authorized suppliers through www.etenders.kerala.gov.in for the supply of the following items in Malabar Cancer Centre, Thalassery.

Item Details	Tender ID
ANTICANCER DRUGS Ref. No: MCC/Pur1/ANTICANCER/54/AP/19	2019_MCC_270072_1
IV FLUIDS Ref. No: MCC/Pur1/ IVFluids/61/AP/19	2019_MCC_270121_1
NUTRIENTS & FOOD SUPPLIMENTS Ref. No: MCC/Pur1/Nutrients/55/AP/19	2019_MCC_270099_1
GLOBAL E-TENDER (Re-tender)	
PET-CT MACHINE Ref No:1172/NM-PETCT/P2/18-19/MCC	2018_MCC_252447_2

For details visit www.etenders.kerala.gov.in or contact our Purchase Division.
21/02/2019 (Sd/-) DIRECTOR

NLC India Limited
'Navratna' - Government of India Enterprise
Regd. Office : First Floor, No.8, Mayor Sathyamurthy Road, FSD, Egmore Complex of Food Corporation of India, Chetpet, Chennai - 600 031.
Corp. Office : Block-1, Neyveli-607 801, Cuddalore District, Tamil Nadu.
CIN No.: L93090TN1956GOI003507, Website: www.nlcindia.com
CREATING WEALTH FOR WELLBEING

NOTICE INVITING TENDERS FOR SUPPLIES (e-Tender Notices Sl.No.1 to 4)

Sl.No. Tender Ref./Scope of supplies & Qty. Reqd.

1. UNIT : M.M.COMPLEX : ENQ / 18-19 / 004713 / MM02(07) dt.23.02.2019: (Rate Contract) 10 Types of Idlers. Due date of opening: 25.03.2019

2. ENQ / 18-19 / 004741 / MM22(01) dt.25.02.2019: Electronification control panels with components for-online monitoring and control of GWC system -1 Set. Due date of opening: 18.03.2019

3. ENQ/18-19/004685/MM03(06) dt.21.02.2019: Transmission Assembly for BEML BP 100 Pipelayers. Due date of opening: 21.03.2019

4. ENQ / 18-19 / 004737 / MM03(06) dt.23.02.2019: Pumps for Russian Pipelayers - 2 items. Due date of opening: 25.03.2019

CORRIGENDUM (INTERNATIONAL COMPETITIVE BIDDING)

UNIT: CORPORATE OFFICE / CONTRACTS DIVISION: Super Critical NLC Talabira Thermal Power Project (NTTPP-3x800MW-Phase-I) Located near Tareikela and Kumbhari villages in Jharsuguda district in Odisha, India-Tenders Inviting Expression of Interest for:

Sl.No.1: CO CONTS / 0019G / NTTPP / PH-1 / NTT-1 / SG / 2018 Dt: 12.07.2018. Supply of installation of "STEAM GENERATOR & AUXILIARIES (NTT-1) PACKAGE" and

Sl.No.2: CO CONTS / 0020G / NTTPP / PH-1 / NTT-2 / STG / 2018 Dt: 12.07.2018: Supply and installation of "STEAM TURBINE GENERATOR & AUXILIARIES PACKAGE (NTT-2)"

For Sl.No: 1 & 2: The detailed Notice including Modified Qualifying Requirements, Terms & Conditions are posted in our Website: www.nlcindia.com and CPPP website: www.eprocure.gov.in The Rescheduled dates are as follows:

Sl. No.	Start date of Downloading	Last date & Time for submission of EOI Documents (IST)	Date & Time of EOI Bid Opening (IST)
1.	01.03.2019	23.04.2019 up to 14.30 Hrs.	23.04.2019 at 15.00 Hrs.
2.	02.03.2019	24.04.2019 up to 14.30 Hrs.	24.04.2019 at 15.00 Hrs.

FOR e-TENDER DOCUMENTS/DETAILS/CORRIGENDUM VISIT: www.nlcindia.com
PUBLIC SECTOR IS YOURS : HELP IT TO HELP YOU

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF ELECTORAL OFFICER ANDHRA PRADESH
5th Building, Secretariat, Velagapudi

ADVERTISEMENT NO:96/Elecs.D1/2019 DATED:25.02.2019

"Tenders calling for live Web casting of Poll event from the Polling Stations, Stationery and Voting Compartments for A.P. Legislative Assembly and General Elections, 2019."

Time Schedule of Tender Relative Events: Bid calling date: 28-02-2019. Bid closing date / time: 06-03-2019 at 3.30 PM. Tender inviting Authority, Designation and Address: The Chief Electoral Officer, General Administration (Elections) Department, Ground Floor, Building No.5, A.P. Secretariat, Amaravathi-522238. Contact No: 863-2445360. For further details please visit www.ceoandhra.nic.in and www.aperpocurement.gov.in

DIPR 792PP/CL, Dt.25-02-2019 CHIEF ELECTORAL OFFICER ANDHRA PRADESH

DIRECTORATE OF AYUSH
(Ayurveda, Yoga & Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha & Homoeopathy)
Department of Health & Family Welfare, Govt. of Odisha
Heads of Department Building, 3rd Floor, (Annex building), Unit-5, Bhubaneswar-751001
Tel: 0674-2394577, FAX: 0674-2391180, Email: director-ayush.od@gov.in, Website:www.ayushodisha.nic.in

NOTICE INVITING BID (TENDER)

Bid Ref. No. : 2486 / DAYUSH Date:25.02.2019

Sub : Notice inviting tender from M/s Indian Medicines Pharmaceutical Corporation Ltd.,(A Central Public Sector Undertaking), Public Sector Undertakings, Pharmacies under State Government and Co-operatives for supply of **Homoeopathic drugs** to Government Homoeopathic Dispensaries/ Homoeopathic Hospitals / Co-located AYUSH Clinics(Hom) in PHCs & CHCs of the State..

Director, AYUSH-cum-Mission Director, National AYUSH Mission (NAM), Odisha, Bhubaneswar on behalf of Health & Family Welfare Department, Govt. of Odisha invites sealed tender from M/s Indian Medicines Pharmaceutical Corporation Ltd.(A Central Public Sector Undertaking), Public Sector Undertaking firms, Pharmacies under State Government and Co-operatives for supply of Homoeopathic drugs for Government Homoeopathic Dispensaries/ Homoeopathic Hospitals / Co-located AYUSH Clinics(Hom) in PHCs & CHCs of the State. The details of tender particulars are as under :

Sl.	Particulars	Date and time
1.	Cost of tender document and mode of payment.	Rs.5,000/- (Rupees Five Thousand) only in shape of D.D / B.C in favour of the Director AYUSH-Cum-M.D NAM, Odisha, Bhubaneswar, Payable at Bhubaneswar.
2.	Date & time of release of bid in the web site of the Directorate	26.02.2019
3.	Date & time of Pre-bid meeting	08.03.2019 at 11.30 A.M Venue : Conference Hall, Directorate of AYUSH, Odisha, Bhubaneswar
4.	Last date and time for submission of Tender Document & mode of submission of tender document	23.03.2019 by 5.00 P.M The tender document to be submitted through Registered Post / Speed Post / Courier to Director of AYUSH-Cum-M.D NAM, Heads of Department Building, 3rdFloor,(Annex building), Unit-5, Odisha, Bhubaneswar-751001
5.	Date & time of the opening of the Technical bid of the tender	Dt.26.03.2019 at 11.30 A.M
6.	Date & time for opening of Price Bid of tender	To be informed in due course to the qualified bidders who will be qualified in the Technical bid

The detailed of bid documents with all information relating to the instructions to the bidder, conditions of contract, schedule of requirement, specification and allied technical details such as price schedule, contract forms and other terms and conditions of the tender is available in the **websites**: **www.ayushodisha.nic.in**

The Tender Inviting Authority reserves the right to accept / reject any or all the bids without assigning any reason thereof.

932-E: 10056/11/0012/1819 Director AYUSH-Cum-Mission Director, NAM, Odisha

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MARKET WATCH

	26-02-2019	% CHANGE
Sensex	35,974	-0.66
US Dollar	71.07	-0.14
Gold	34,530	-0.17
Brent oil	65.29	0.21

NIFTY 50

	PRICE	CHANGE
Adani Ports	323.50	-1.05
Asian Paints	1402.00	3.75
Axis Bank	710.15	6.45
Bajaj Auto	2859.30	11.75
Bajaj Finserv	6452.65	119.10
Bajaj Finance	2657.75	0.00
Bharti Airtel	315.45	-1.80
BPCL	336.65	0.60
Cipla	550.40	2.10
Coal India	220.15	5.80
Dr Reddys Lab	2647.80	-19.10
Eicher Motors	20620.00	-84.80
GAIL (India)	333.45	5.65
Grasim Ind	781.00	2.35
HCL Tech	1058.85	-23.40
HDFC	1853.65	-40.85
HDFC Bank	2110.65	-14.75
Hero MotoCorp	2689.05	-23.45
Hindalco	196.50	0.00
HPCL	225.85	-2.30
Hind Unilever	1772.25	2.10
Indiabulls HFL	659.25	-19.55
ICICI Bank	348.20	-7.40
IndusInd Bank	1478.10	-13.10
Bharti Infratel	308.00	4.05
Infosys	742.50	-12.40
Indian OilCorp	142.25	3.65
ITC	275.50	-1.20
JSW Steel	284.50	-3.30
Kotak Bank	1236.15	-4.80
L&T	1265.85	-10.00
M&M	651.30	0.60
Maurti Suzuki	6904.30	-20.60
NTPC	140.55	0.20
ONGC	147.50	-0.25
PowerGrid Corp	181.20	-0.75
Reliance Ind	1220.25	-12.05
State Bank	266.35	-3.80
Sun Pharma	435.75	-0.35
Tata Motors	182.65	6.90
Tata Steel	503.60	-1.50
TCS	2038.70	53.55
Tech Mahindra	833.30	2.65
Titan	1038.35	-4.65
UltraTech Cement	3788.55	71.95
UPL	855.05	7.40
Vedanta	169.70	-1.55
Wipro	387.65	2.25
YES Bank	229.50	0.40
Zee Entertainment	469.20	24.05

EXCHANGE RATES

Indicative direct rates in rupees a unit except yen at 4 p.m. on February 26

CURRENCY	TT BUY	TT SELL
US Dollar	70.86	71.18
Euro	80.53	80.89
British Pound	93.69	94.12
Japanese Yen (100)	63.92	64.21
Chinese Yuan	10.59	10.64
Swiss Franc	70.78	71.11
Singapore Dollar	52.51	52.75
Canadian Dollar	53.61	53.86
Malaysian Ringitt	17.40	17.52

Source:Indian Bank

BULLION RATES CHENNAI

February 26 rates in rupees with previous rates in parentheses

Retail Silver (1g)	43.4	(43.7)
22 ct gold (1 g)	3182	(3187)

IN BRIEF

Max India divests entire 51% stake in Max Bupa

NEW DELHI

Max India on Tuesday said it had sold its entire 51% stake in Max Bupa Health Insurance Co. Ltd. (Max Bupa) to True North Fund VI LLP for over ₹510 crore. The transaction values Max Bupa at an enterprise value of ₹1,001 crore. Max India said the consideration will be received at the time of completion of the proposed transaction. PTI

RBI takes 3 banks off prompt corrective action framework

'Allahabad, Corporation banks received capital, Dhanlaxmi not breaching norms'

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
MUMBAI

Three more banks – Allahabad Bank and Corporation Bank, from the public sector, and Dhanlaxmi Bank from the private sector – are now out of the Reserve Bank of India's (RBI) prompt and corrective action (PCA) framework.

Earlier, such restrictions were taken off Bank of India, Oriental Bank of Commerce and Bank of Maharashtra.

Third eye: RBI will continuously monitor the performance of these banks under various parameters. ▪ V.V. KRISHNAN

Six more under PCA

There are another six banks that are still under PCA framework.

While lifting the restrictions on the State-run lenders, RBI said the Board for Financial Supervision (BFS) reviewed the performance of the banks under PCA and noted that these two banks had received capital infusion from the government.

"This has shored up their capital funds and also increased their loan loss provision to ensure that the PCA parameters were complied with," RBI said.

Allahabad Bank and Corporation Bank had received capital of ₹6,896 crore and ₹9,086 crore respectively.

Capital adequacy ratio

As on December 31, Allahabad Bank had a capital adequacy ratio of 10.42% and net NPA ratio of 7.7%, while Corporation Bank's CAR was at 11.12% and net NPA 11.47%.

"The two banks have also made the necessary disclosures to the stock exchange that post infusion of capital, the CRAR, CET1, Net NPA and leverage ratios are no longer in breach of the PCA thresholds," RBI said.

According to norms, PCA framework gets triggered when a bank breaches one of the three risk thresholds. Crossing 6% net NPA is one of them.

RBI also decided to take Dhanlaxmi Bank out of PCA , as the bank was found not to be breaching any of the risk thresholds of the framework.

"RBI will continuously monitor the performance of these banks under various parameters," the banking regulator added.

'First phase of resolution for IL&FS in next few months'

50% of infrastructure firm's assets put on the block: Srinivas

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

The first phase of resolution for the IL&FS Group are expected to happen in the next few months, Corporate Affairs Secretary Injeti Srinivas said. He added that 50% of the group's assets had been put on the block.

"I think a lot of headway is being made," Mr. Srinivas said on the sidelines of a CII conference on the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code. "In the next few months, the first phase of resolution should be completed," he added. Mr. Srinivas said that about 50% of the ailing group's assets were already on the block and that 100 of the group companies that would need a risk-based classification would be categorised as high-risk or medium-risk companies.

Injeti Srinivas

The Corporate Affairs Secretary also said that the Supreme Court had clarified all grey areas pertaining to Section 29A of the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, which dealt with barring defaulting promoters or their relatives from bidding for assets.

The apprehension was that this would bar a successful businessperson from bidding for an asset just because of familial relations.

"The SC has endorsed 29A and one or two issues which were there. It has resolved by saying that the related parties will have to have one additional test of having a business relationship," Mr. Srinivas said. "So, merely because two persons are brothers or relatives you can't be disqualified unless there is a business link between the two. That was one grey area, but the Supreme Court has rectified that."

IBC most effective

Mr. Srinivas said that the IBC was the most effective such legislation in the history of India, which was evident from the 'impressive' recovery rate and shortened resolution time. He said that about ₹3 lakh crore had been recovered under the IBC in the last two years.

Fiscal deficit in Jan. at 121.5% of full-year target

Compares with 113.7% a year earlier

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

Fiscal deficit widened in January to ₹7.7 lakh crore, or 121.5% of the Budget Estimates for the full year, official data released on Tuesday showed.

The fiscal deficit stood at ₹7 lakh crore in the April-December 2018 period, which was 112.4% of the full year target. Last year, the fiscal deficit in the April to January period was at 113.7% of the full year target.

The fiscal deficit figure works out to 5.5% of GDP for the year as per the first advance estimate released by the government in January, the latest data available. Finance Minister Piyush Goyal had in the Budget 2019-20 said that the fiscal deficit would come to 3.4% of GDP in 2018-19, marginally higher than the targeted 3.3%.

Piyush Goyal

Total receipts

The government's total receipts were at ₹12.30 lakh crore in the April to January period, which is 67.5% of the target for the year. This figure was 71.7% of the budget estimate during the same period in the previous year.

Within this, the government's total tax receipts stood at ₹10.2 lakh crore in the April to January period or 68.7% of the budgeted target for the full year, with just two months left in the financial year.

The total expenditure during the period was ₹20 lakh crore, which is 81.5% of the budgeted target for the full year.

SEBI junks registration pleas of 2 more commodity brokers

Flags Anand Rathi, Geofin Comtrade's role in NSEL scam

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
MUMBAI

The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has rejected the application of registration for commodity broking licence from Anand Rathi Commodities and Geofin Comtrade for their alleged role in the ₹5,600-crore settlement scam at the National Spot Exchange Ltd. (NSEL) that came out in the open in July 2013.

According to the capital markets regulator, the entities are not 'fit and proper' to function in the commodity segment for their alleged role in facilitating so-called paired contracts for their clients on NSEL, which was forced to suspend trading in all contracts in August 2013 due to the absence of the underlying commodities to settle the contracts.

The regulator also directed the two entities to allow all existing clients to move to other brokerages within 45 days. Incidentally, the latest set of orders comes close on the heels of the watchdog taking a similar stance against the applications for a commodity broking licence by Motilal Oswal Commodities Broker and India Infoline Commodities.

Collusion with exchange

As per the SEBI probe, large brokerages colluded with the spot exchange for marketing of paired contracts, wherein clients were assured fixed returns ranging between 13% and 16% per annum.

While nearly six years has passed since the NSEL scam came to light, the matter has been in the news recently with 63 Moons Technologies, formerly known as Financial Technologies India Ltd. (FTIL), initiating the process to file suits for damages, claiming ₹10,000 crore against former finance minister P. Chidambaram and senior bureaucrats K.P. Krishnan and Ramesh Abhishek for alleged abuse of their powers and mala fide actions against the company.

63 Moons is the parent entity of NSEL and was the subject of probes by various regulatory and investigative agencies.

In a statement to the stock exchanges, Geojit Financial Services clarified that Geofin Comtrade neither is nor was its subsidiary or associate or group company. On the BSE, shares of Geojit Financial Services declined 2.49% to close at ₹35.30.

Adani wins bid for Guwahati airport too

Quotes highest per-passenger fee

JAGRITI CHANDRA
NEW DELHI

Adani Enterprises Ltd. on Tuesday made the highest bid for the Guwahati airport, thus becoming a claimant for all the six airports offered by the Airports Authority of India (AAI) for operations, management and development for a period of 50 years.

The decision on awarding the airports would be taken by the Union Cabinet, a senior AAI official has said.

Cabinet note

The AAI has shared the results of the bidding procedure with the Ministry of Civil Aviation, a senior government official said on the condition of anonymity. Next, the Ministry would move a Cabinet note.

On Monday, the AAI opened financial bids for Jaipur, Ahmedabad, Lucknow, Mangaluru and Thiruvananthpuram airports and Adani Enterprises Ltd. emerged as the winner with the highest quotes for per-passenger fee payable to the AAI. The bids for Guwahati airport were opened to Tuesday due to an interim order from Gauhati High Court.

Gautam Adani

The entity quoted ₹160 as its per passenger fee payable to AAI. The second highest bid was ₹155 from the National Investment and Infrastructure Fund/ Zurich Airport International AG.

The per passenger fee for domestic passengers is the sole criteria for selecting the winning bidder.

'Global, national AAA ratings not comparable'

CRAs serve different investors: Crisil

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
MUMBAI

In the wake of criticism that Indian credit rating agencies (CRAs) are liberal in assigning AAA ratings, rating agency Crisil Ltd. said global and Indian AAA ratings were not comparable.

"Comparing the 276 AAA ratings that Indian CRAs have assigned with nine by S&P Global Ratings or 53 by Moody's is erroneous. It tantamount to equating differing scales such as Celsius and Fahrenheit," Crisil said.

"By construct, credit ratings can have – and do have – different scales. That's because they are relative assessments of credit risk. And the relative benchmarking can be national, global or regional," it added.

If the 32,500 rated Indian firms were to be assessed on the global scale, their ratings will be boxed into a far more narrow-bound between BBB and D on the global scale, because India's sovereign rating (in the BBB category) will usually serve as a ceiling. A national rating scale affords granular benchmarking of domestic issuers on a 20-point scale (AAA to D) and the sovereign, which has the flexibility to print local currency, is pegged at AAA on this scale.

Sensex drops 500 points over Indo-Pak. tensions, recovers later

Buying by institutional investors helps index stem losses

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
MUMBAI

The equity markets lost heavy ground in the first hour of the trading session on Tuesday over reports of strikes by the Indian Air Force but managed to pare the losses as the session progressed.

The benchmark Sensex lost almost 500 points to touch a low of 35,714.16 during the morning session before closing at 35,973.71, down 239.67 points or 0.66%. Market participants attributed the ensuing rise on buying activity in select index constituents by long-term institutional investors like mutual funds and insurance companies. Meanwhile, the broader Nifty ended the day at 10,835.30, down 44.80 points or 0.41%.

The overall market breadth, however, was quite weak with more than 1,600 stocks ending in the red as against 915 gainers on BSE.

Interestingly, most market participants believe that while the markets dipped on concerns of escalation of tensions between India and Pakistan, the attacks were unlikely to have a long-term negative impact on equities.

"While the initial response of the financial market has been negative, we believe such attacks are unlikely to have any material impact on the markets," said Soumya Kanti Ghosh, group chief economic adviser, State Bank of India, while highlighting the markets gained ground post both Kargil War and Uri strikes.

Vinay Khattar, head–Edelweiss Investment Research, said while Tuesday's events could have a sentimental impact on the markets, the real impact in economic terms would be quite contained as India continues to enjoy a stronger footing financially.

Mukesh Ambani is first Indian in top 10 rich list

Net worth estimated at $54 billion; Amazon's Jeff Bezos retains top slot with $ 147 billion

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
MUMBAI

Indian's richest individual Mukesh Ambani, CMD of Reliance Industries, figures in the top 10 richest individuals globally as per the 'Loong Palace Hurun Global Rich List 2019. Coming in at position eight globally, he is the first Indian to achieve this position as also the only Asian in this year's list.

His net worth is estimated at $54 billion (₹3,83,700 crore). Mr. Ambani's net worth increased 20% in a year. As per the report, Mukesh Ambani added $30 billion in the last seven years, and his brother Anil Ambani lost $5 billion (from $7 billion seven years back) and came in at $1.9 billion this year.

Whiff of money: A total of 2,470 individuals figured in the list whose wealth accounted for 12% of global GDP. ▪ REUTERS

S.P. Hinduja whose ranking is 40 globally and number two in India, has estimated wealth of $21 billion (₹1,50,500 crore), as per the list. Azim Premji, at position 57 globally and third-richest in India, is followed by Cyrus Poonawalla and Laxmi Mittal who are globally ranked 100 and 112 respectively. Globally ranked 129 Uday Kotak is India's sixth-richest, followed by Gautam Adani seventh richest in India while his ranking globally is 157. Sun Pharma's Dilip Shanghvi is eighth-richest in India and is followed by Cyrus and Shapoor Mistry.

Jeff Bezos of Amazon, with net worth of $147 billion (₹10,44,000 crore) retained the top slot for the second year running. In one year, he added $24 billion (₹171,500 crore) to his fortune. For the first time, Cyrus Poonawalla of Serum Institute has broken into the global top 100 with a net worth of $13 billion (₹89,800 crore).

A total of 2,470 individuals figured in the list with total wealth of $49.5 trillion – or 12% of global GDP. Of them, 658 are from China, 584 from the U.S. and 117 are from Germany. A record 430 billionaires dropped off the list in 2019, of whom 52 are from India. "Since 2012, this is the first time that India has slipped to fifth rank in the List. An underperforming rupee and lacklustre stock market resulted in India losing one third of the list," said Anas Rahman Junaid, MD & chief researcher, Hurun Report India.

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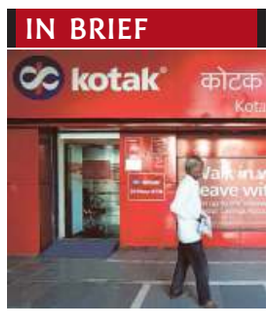
IN BRIEF



Foreign holding limit in KMB rises to 45%

NEW DELHI

Kotak Mahindra Bank (KMB) on Tuesday said its board has approved a proposal to increase foreign shareholding limit to 45% from the existing 43%. "The board of directors of the bank has today approved an increase in ceiling on the total shareholding of foreign institutional investors/ foreign portfolio investors from the current limit of 43% to 45% with immediate effect," the bank said. PTI

Insolvency case against Hotel Leelaventure

NEW DELHI

Hotel Leeleventure said on Tuesday that JM Financial Asset Reconstruction Company (JMFARC) has filed an insolvency petition with the Mumbai bench of National Company Law Tribunal against the firm. The application has been filed under Section 7 of the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code,Hotel Leelaventure said in a filing. "The company is continuing to engage with prospective investors for a resolution," it added. PTI

Tata Steel board okays plan to raise ₹5,000 cr.

NEW DELHI

Tata Steel on Tuesday said its board has approved plans to raise ₹4,000 crore through issuance of non-convertible debentures (NCDs) on a private placement basis. In addition, the board also approved a greenshoe option of ₹1,000 crore, the company said in a regulatory filing. The securities would be "unsecured, redeemable, rated, listed, non-convertible debentures (NCDs)" to be issued on a private placement basis, it said. PTI

Groupe PSA to launch Citroën cars in India

French major signs JV with CK Birla Group, says product meets future norms, customer expectations

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
MUMBAI

French auto major Groupe PSA said it planned to introduce Citroën brand in the Indian market as the range meets future industry norms and customer expectations.

The firm, which had signed a joint venture agreement with the CK Birla Group that once sold Ambassador cars in India, said the vehicles would be produced in Tamil Nadu. The first vehicle under the brand would be launched before the end of 2021, the company said.

During the presentation of FY2018 financial results and the second phase of its strategic plan, Carlos Tavares, chairman of the managing board, Groupe PSA, confirmed the group's ambition to conquer new markets and announced that the Citroën brand had been chosen for the Indian market.

Driving into India: The group's ambition is to conquer new markets, says Carlos Tavares. ▪ AFP

Citroën has been a popular brand since 1919 and in 2018, the group sold 1.05 million vehicles of the brand in more than 90 markets.

The India project was announced as part of the 'Push to Pass' plan and launched at the beginning of 2017 with the signing of two joint venture agreements with the CK Birla Group.

The group's aim is to "be Indian in India," to manufacture vehicles and power trains in Tamil Nadu and to bring state-of-the-art technology for an eco-friendly new product range.

Making power trains

"This project means to be fully integrated in India with a comprehensive eco-system including local production of vehicles and power trains, distribution of vehicles and services as well as procurements for the whole group," said Emmanuel Delay, executive VP, head of India-Pacific region in a statement.

"Today's milestone represents a significant step to meet customers' expectation in India soon," he said.

"We are very proud to launch Citroën in India. Building on the brand's success in Europe with five consecutive years of growth, I am convinced that Citroën's selling proposition of unique styling, eco-friendly and comfortable cars at the heart of the market has all the potential to satisfy Indian customers," said Linda Jackson, CEO, Citroën.

"Announcement of Citroën brand for our vehicle JV in India, soon after the inauguration of the powe rtrain JV greenfield facility at Hosur in late 2018, is a major milestone for the long term partnership of PSA Groupe and CK Birla Group," said C.K. Birla, chairman, CK Birla Group of Companies.

"It is truly an exciting brand for the Indian consumers seeking international eco-friendly products designed for and made in India with unique styling and comfort," Mr. Birla said.

Cement dearer by ₹17 a bag in February 2019

Prices highest in the south: Kotak arm

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
CHENNAI

All India cement prices have increased by ₹17 a bag during February 2019.

The price increases were mostly led by the southern and western regions, according to a report by Kotak Institutional Equities.

"Prices in the south are now the highest among all regions despite lowest regional capacity utilisation," the firm said in the report.

Cement prices in the southern region increased by ₹40 a bag to ₹357. In the western region, it went up by ₹14 to ₹316. "Prices increased in south and west after a continuous slide since May 2018," it said.

Prices increased in the northern and central regions by ₹4-6 a bag but declined by ₹5 a bag in the east. "Based on price trends for February, we estimate the fourth quarter realisations for cement companies to increase by 2-3% quarter-on-quarter," the report said.

"Low industry utilisation and large capacity additions over the next 2-3 years will cap overall profitability for cement companies," Kotak said in the report.

MRF Chennai plant workers call off strike

Staff of Royal Enfield back at work too

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
CHENNAI

The labour strike at the Thiruvotriyur plant of tyre major MRF Ltd. has been called off. The firm announced this in a regulatory filing with the stock exchanges. The strike began on February 9.

The management of MRF, it may be mentioned, had declared the strike illegal and alleged that it had not been served any strike notice by the workmen. Unilateral installation of CCTVs at several points within the factory premises seemed to have triggered the unrest, resulting in the industrial action.

Enfield stir

Separately, Royal Enfield (a division of Eicher Motors) has informed the stock exchanges that "the entire workforce at Royal Enfield's Oragadam facility is reporting to work effective February 23, leading to resumption of normal manufacturing operations.

All three plants of the company are now fully operational."

The striking workers at Oragadam were demanding recognition of an external union leader, among other things.

"The demands were considered unreasonable by the management. The company remains deeply committed to the welfare of its workforce across all levels," Royal Enfield had said in a filing.

Airline caterer TajSATS gets new identity

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
MUMBAI

Indian Hotels Company Ltd. (IHCL) of the Tata Group has unveiled a new visual brand identity for TajSATS, which controls about 45% of the airline catering business in India.

The launch of the new identity is a part of the ongoing evolution of TajSATS, the company said.

"TajSATS is currently the market leader in airline catering and we look forward to strengthening this further by unlocking its potential in non-aviation businesses as well. The new identity is a bold re-imagination of brand TajSATS," said Puneet Chhatwal, MD and CEO, IHCL and chairman, TajSATS.

'Organised retail in India may double by 2021'

Expanding Internet coverage, rise of e-commerce to be growth drivers: report

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
MUMBAI

Strong macroeconomic factors coupled with robust demographics and Internet penetration will fuel the growth of the retail market in India, which is third largest in Asia and fourth-largest globally after U.S., China and Japan.

According to a latest joint report by Deloitte and the Retailers Association of India (RAI), as Internet penetration increases in the country and more international retailers start operating in India, the share of organised retail market would increase from about 12% in 2017 to about 22-25% by 2021, which would partly also be driven by the growth of e-commerce market from $24 billion in 2017 to $84 billion in 2021. The report pegs the growth in e-commerce market to factors like growing Internet penetration and increased usage of smartphones among others.

Booming market: India's consumption may increase to ₹330 trillion in 2028, says Abheek Singhi. ▪ V.V. KRISHNAN

M-commerce sales

"The number of online shoppers would increase from the current 15% of the online population to 50% by 2026," stated the report while adding that smartphone users are expected to increase from 260 million in 2016 to around 450 million by 2021 that is also likely to drive the m-commerce sales from $10.5 billion in 2016 to $38 billion in 2020.

The retail market is expected to grow from $795 billion in 2017 to $1.2 trillion by 2021, as per the report.

Meanwhile, a joint report by RAI and the Boston Consulting Group (BCG) highlighted the fact that India's consumption has been growing at a steady pace of 13% over the last decade to ₹110 trillion in 2018, accounting for 59.3% share of GDP of India, higher than the emerging market average.

"India's consumption has grown at 13% in the last decade and is likely to continue to grow at 12% over the next 10 years – from ₹33 trillion in 2008 to ₹330 trillion in 2028. But the drivers of the future are going to be different than in the past," said Abheek Singhi, senior partner and Asia-Pacific lead, consumer practice, BCG India.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA, DEPARTMENT OF SPACE
SATISH DHAWAN SPACE CENTRE SHAR, CONSTRUCTION & MAINTENANCE GROUP
SRIHARIKOTA-524124.

NO:CMG/TG/BT, VISITORS complex **Corrigendum-I** Dt:25/02/2019

Sub: Black Topping of Approach road from Gate-I to Visitors Complex at SDSC SHAR.- Reg;
Ref: Tender Notice No: CMG/C/B 1887058 dt:11/02/2019.
Please note the following change in the Notice Inviting Tender (NIT) for the subject work.

Sl. No.	Description	Read for	Read As
1	Period of Completion	1 Month(s)	2 Month(s)
2	Period during which the tender documents can be requested	From:14/02/2019,10:00Hrs To: 20/02/2019,14:00Hrs	Extended upto: 01/03/2019
3	Last date and time for uploading of tenders	22/02/2019,14:30 Hrs	Extended upto: 05/03/2019

All other terms & conditions of tender remain unaltered. This corrigendum also forms a part of the tender document.

Group Director, CMG

TNPL TAMILNADU NEWSPRINT AND PAPERS LIMITED
KAGITHAPURAM – 639 136, KARUR DIST. TAMIL NADU
Phone : 04324-277001 (10 lines) E-mail ID : tech_services@tnpl.co.in

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

Tender No.	Material Description	Due date
181913 007144	Horticulture works such as Weeding, Clipping, Lawn Mowing in TNPL Colony.	15.03.19
181913 007145	Collection, Shifting & Dumping of various sludges generated at ETP & Bio Methanation Plants.	15.03.19
181913 007146	Finishing of cut sheets packing and labelling at pasaban cutter.	16.03.19
181913 007147	Operation and Maintenance of fly ash handling systems of Power Boiler # 1 to 7.	16.03.19

Terms & conditions, Qty., Tender Fee, EMD etc., are available in the tender documents at our websites: **www.tnpl.com / www.tenders.tn.gov.in**

DIPR/1343/Tender/2019 *TNPL - Maker of bagasse based eco-friendly Paper*

ICMR-VECTOR CONTROL RESEARCH CENTRE
Medical Complex, Indira Nagar, Puducherry - 605006.
Phone No: 0413-2272396, 2272397, Fax No.2272041
E-mail: vcrc@vsnl.com Website: www.vcrc.res.in

ADVERTISEMENT No. 01/ICMR-VCRC/2018-19

Applications are invited **upto 01.04.2019** to fill up the following posts at ICMR-Vector Control Research Centre (ICMR-VCRC), Puducherry:

1. **PERSONAL ASSISTANT - 1 Post**
2. **ASSISTANT - 1 Post**
3. **UPPER DIVISION CLERK - 6 Posts**
4. **STENOGRAPHER - 1 Post**
5. **LOWER DIVISION CLERK - 1 Post**

For Educational qualification and other information, please visit the Centre's website **www.vcrc.res.in.** Application forms can be downloaded from the website **www.vcrc.res.in** and sent with required copies of certificates to the Director, ICMR-VCRC, Puducherry.

DIRECTOR

DIRECTORATE OF AYUSH
(Ayurveda, Yoga & Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha & Homoeopathy)
Department of Health & Family Welfare, Govt. of Odisha
Heads of Department Building, 3rd Floor, (Annex building), Unit-5, Bhubaneswar-751001
Tel: 0674-2394577, FAX:0674-2391180, Email: director-ayush.od@gov.in, Website:www.ayushodisha.nic.in

NOTICE INVITING BID (TENDER)

Bid Ref. No. : 2490 / DAYUSH Date:25.02.2019

Sub : Notice inviting tender from M/s Indian Medicines Pharmaceutical Corporation Ltd.,(A Central Public Sector Undertaking), Public Sector Undertakings, Pharmacies under State Government and Co-operatives for supply of **Unani drugs/medicine** to Government Unani Dispensaries/Co-located Unani Clinics in PHCs & CHCs of the State..

Director, AYUSH-cum-Mission Director-National AYUSH Mission (NAM), Odisha, Bhubaneswar on behalf of Health & Family Welfare Department, Govt. of Odisha invites sealed tender from M/s Indian Medicines Pharmaceutical Corporation Ltd.(A Central Public Sector Undertaking), Public Sector Undertaking firms, Pharmacies under State Government and Co-operatives for supply of Unani drugs/medicines for Government Unani Dispensaries/Co-located Unani Clinics in PHCs & CHCs of the State. The details of tender particulars are as under:

Sl.	Particulars	Date and time
1.	Cost of tender document and mode of payment.	**Rs.5,000/-** (Rupees Five Thousand) only in shape of D.D / B.C in favour of the Director AYUSH-Cum-M.D NAM, Odisha, Bhubaneswar, Payable at Bhubaneswar.
2.	Date & time of release of bid in the web site of the Directorate	**26.02.2019**
3.	Date & time of Pre-bid meeting	**11.03.2019 at 11.30 A.M** Venue : Conference Hall, Directorate of AYUSH, Odisha, Bhubaneswar
4.	Last date and time for submission of Tender Document & mode of submission of tender document	**27.03.2019 by 5 P.M** The tender document to be submitted through **Registered Post / Speed Post / Courier** to Director of AYUSH - cum - M.D NAM, Heads of Department Building, 3rdFloor,(Annex building), Unit-5, Odisha, Bhubaneswar-751001
5.	Date & time of the opening of the Technical bid of the tender	**Dt.28.03.2019 at 11.30 A.M**
6.	Date & time for opening of Price Bid of tender	To be informed in due course to the qualified bidders who will be qualified in the Technical bid

The detailed of bid documents with all information relating to the instructions to the bidder, conditions of contract, schedule of requirement, specification and allied technical details such as price schedule, contract forms and other terms and conditions of the tender is available in the **websites**: **www.ayushodisha.nic.in**

The Tender Inviting Authority reserves the right to accept / reject any or all the bids without assigning any reason thereof.

931-E:
10056/11/0011/1819 **Director AYUSH- Cum -Mission Director, NAM, Odisha**

DIRECTORATE OF AYUSH
(Ayurveda, Yoga & Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha & Homoeopathy)
Department of Health & Family Welfare, Govt. of Odisha
Heads of Department Building, 3rd Floor, (Annex building), Unit-5, Bhubaneswar-751001
Tel: 0674-2394577, FAX:0674-2391180, Email: director-ayush.od@gov.in, Website:www.ayushodisha.nic.in

NOTICE INVITING BID (TENDER)

Bid Ref. No. : 2482 / DAYUSH Date:25.02.2019

Sub : Notice inviting tender from M/s Indian Medicines Pharmaceutical Corporation Ltd.,(A Central Public Sector Undertaking), Public Sector Undertakings, Pharmacies under State Government and Co-operatives for supply of Ayurvedic drugs / medicine to Government Ayurvedic Dispensaries / Ayurvedic Hospitals / Co-located Ayurvedic Clinics in PHCs & CHCs of the State..

Director, AYUSH- cum -Mission Director-National AYUSH Mission (NAM), Odisha, Bhubaneswar on behalf of Health & Family Welfare Department, Govt. of Odisha invites sealed tender from M/s Indian Medicines Pharmaceutical Corporation Ltd. (IMPCL), Public Sector Undertaking firms, Pharmacies under State Government and Co-operatives for supply of Ayurvedic drugs / medicines for Government Ayurvedic Dispensaries / Ayurvedic Hospitals / Co-located AYUSH Clinics (Ay) in PHCs & CHCs of the State. The details of tender particulars are as under:

Sl.	Particulars	Date and time
1.	Cost of tender document and mode of payment.	**Rs. 5,000/-** (Rupees Five Thousand) only in shape of D.D / B.C in favour of the Director AYUSH - cum - M.D NAM, Odisha, Bhubaneswar, Payable at Bhubaneswar.
2.	Date & time of release of bid in the web site of the Directorate	**26.02.2019**
3.	Date & time of Pre-bid meeting	**Dt. 07.03.2019 by 11.30 A.M** Place: Conference Hall, Directorate, AYUSH, Odisha, Bhubaneswar
4.	Last date and time for receipt of Tender Document & mode of submission of tender document	**By 20.03.2019 at 5 P.M** The tender document to be submitted only through **Registered Post / Speed Post / Courier** to Director, AYUSH- cum -M.D NAM, Odisha,Heads of Department Building, 3rdFloor,(Annex building), Unit-5, Odisha, Bhubaneswar-751001
5.	Date & time of the opening of the Technical bid of the tender	**Dt.25.03.2019 at 11 A.M** Place- Conference Hall, Directorate, AYUSH , Odisha, Bhubaneswar
6.	Date & time for opening of Price Bid of tender	To be informed in due course to the bidders who will be qualified in the Technical bid

The detailed of bid documents with all information relating to the instructions to the bidders, conditions of contract, schedule of requirement, specification and allied technical details such as price schedule, contract forms and other terms and conditions of the tender is available in the websites: **www.ayushodisha.nic.in**

The Tender Inviting Authority reserves the right to accept / reject any or all the bids without assigning any reason thereof.

933-E:
10056/11/0013/1819 **Director AYUSH- Cum -Mission Director, NAM, Odisha**

HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE DEPARTMENT
ENGINEERING WING
Office of the Chief Engineer, 1st Floor, PHI Building, Seshadri Road, Bengaluru - 560 001
Telephone No. 080-22274892 E-mail: cekhsdrp@gmail.com

No: HFWD/EW/CE/TA-1&3/AE-1,5&6/TND/2018-19/3731 Date: 25-02-2019

TENDER NOTIFICATION

The Chief Engineer, HFWD, Engineering Wing, Bengaluru invites tender from eligible Class-I contractors and above registered in KPWD in two cover system in e-procurement for the following works.

Sl No.	Description of Works	Estimated Cost (Rs. Lakhs)	Earnest Money Deposit (Rs. Lakhs)	Stipulated Period for Completion (including monsoon)
1	Construction of Trauma Care Centre in the premises of District Hospital Tumkur under Smart City.	3420.00	34.20	15 Months
2	Construction of Super Specialty Hospital at District Hospital premises Vijayapura - Phase II.	2000.00	20.00	12 Months
3	1) Construction of PG Boys Hostel Building & 2) Renovation of Auditorium in the premises of KIMS Hubballi.	1496.00	14.96	12 Months
4	Construction of PG Girls Hostel Building in the premises of KIMS Hubballi.	913.00	13.70	10 Months
5	Construction of Nurse Quarters in the premises of Rajiv Gandhi Super Specialty Hospital at Raichur in Raichur District.	830.31	12.50	10 Months

CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

1) Last Date for Receipt of Tenders**: 25-04-2019 upto 16.00 Hrs.**
2) Date of Opening of Tenders (Technical Bids): **27-04-2019 at 16.00 Hrs.**

The tender details can be downloaded from the e-Procurement platform. Tenders shall be submitted electronically at **www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in** and **Earnest Money Deposit** and Tender Processing Fee shall also be paid electronically. Interested eligible contractors shall register on the e-procurement platform to participate in this tender.

NOTE: 1) All the rights are reserved by the under signed for postponement or cancellation of entire tender process, rejection of bids/ individual bid etc., without assigning any reason. 2) Henceforth, any changes in the schedule / contents will not be published through news papers and further changes will be updated only on e-procurement portal.

Sd/- Chief Engineer
HFWD, Engineering Wing, Bengaluru

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Another humdinger likely as Men in Blue look to get even

Hosts will have to put up a better batting performance in what may be a high-scoring match

AUS IN INDIA

SHREEDUTTA CHIDANANDA
BENGALURU

Losing a close game is never a pleasant feeling – Virat Kohli had a face like thunder after Australia scrambled two off the final ball in Visakhapatnam – but India should not be overly worried by a single T20 defeat.

The home side nearly defended a low total when all seemed lost, and should derive confidence from the manner in which it strangled Australia as the tension rose. The teams served up a thriller on the weekend and more drama is expected when they meet at the M. Chinnaswamy Stadium for Wednesday's second T20.

For Australia, this is a chance to notch up a first T20I series win – insofar as these things matter – on Indian soil. India, for its part, has only once lost a T20I series (of more than one match) at home, to South Africa back in 2015. If Kohli's men are to avoid a second series loss, they will need to turn in an improved batting performance.

The pitch in Visakhapatnam was not conducive to shot-making and both Kohli and K.L. Rahul fell trying to force the pace (while the chasing side did not need to take such risks), but Krunal Pandya and Rishabh Pant could have made better decisions.

"It was a great bowling effort," Pandya said here on Tuesday. "Everyone chipped in and it was great that we almost defended 126. But it's just that, when we come to the batting we have to be more cautious."

India rested Shikhar Dhawan, in whose absence Rahul opened the innings, to good effect. He could return to the team, and it remains to be seen if Kohli will choose to rotate out another key player ahead of the ODI series.

Also, the absence of an all-rounder meant that Umesh Yadav was forced to bat as high as eight; Vijay Shankar, who was omitted in Visakhapatnam, is an option. The pitch is unlikely to be as slow and low as Sunday's surface, with the KSCA believing that this will be a high-scoring fixture. Debutant Mayank Markande was one of three spinners India fielded in the first T20; it is unlikely there will be much turn on offer here. Siddharth Kaul played no part in Visakhapatnam and it would not be too much of a surprise if he replaced Jasprit Bumrah or Umesh here.

On Sunday, Australia chose to open with Marcus Stoinis and D'Arcy Short, picking them from the several different combinations that could have been fielded.

'BT' Stoinis

Stoinis, who Kohli labelled the "biggest threat" to India, has promptly been nicknamed 'BT' by his teammates. The all-rounder was run-out for one in inexplicable fashion but, at a venue that is soon to be his home ground in the IPL, Stoinis will hope to demonstrate what he is capable of.

Australia has options on the bench in Alex Carey, Nathan Lyon, Usman Khawaja and the vegan fast bowler Kane Richardson (for whom Kohli arranged peanut butter during their time at RCB).

Aaron Finch and Justin Langer have the luxury of choice as they chase their second victory of the tour. It would be a great way to enter the ODI series.

The teams (from): India: Virat Kohli (Capt.), Rohit Sharma, K.L. Rahul, Shikhar Dhawan, Rishabh Pant, Dinesh Karthik, M.S. Dhoni, Krunal Pandya, Vijay Shankar, Yuzvendra Chahal, Jasprit Bumrah, Umesh Yadav, Sidharth Kaul, and Mayank Markande.

Australia: Aaron Finch (Capt.), Pat Cummins, Alex Carey, Jason Behrendorff, Nathan Coulter-Nile, Peter Handscomb, Usman Khawaja, Nathan Lyon, Glenn Maxwell, Jhye Richardson, Kane Richardson, D'Arcy Short, Marcus Stoinis, Ashton Turner, and Adam Zampa.

Match begins at 7 p.m.

No big deal! Virat Kohli, seen with Jasprit Bumrah and Yuzvendra Chahal, can draw confidence from the manner in which his bowlers put pressure on the Australian batsmen during the chase in Visakhapatnam. ▪K. MURALI KUMAR

Aussies have eyes on 'huge result'

Need to play really well as India will fight back: Cummins

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

Fast bowler Pat Cummins believes that winning the two-match T20 series against India would be a "huge result" for Australia. "It hasn't happened for a while, especially overseas, especially in a place like India, which is so foreign to Australian conditions," Cummins said here ahead of the second T20.

The fightback

"[Winning] against one of the best sides in the world would be a huge result for us. We thought we had the game sewn up (in Visakhapatnam) and like all the really good sides they just fought their way back.

"We know tomorrow night we have to play really well. They're going to come back. But to be one up in an away series – we haven't been in this position for a while, so it's great."

Cummins played a vital role in Australia's victory in the first T20I, first taking one for 19 from his four overs and then stunning India with his final-over batting heroics.

"Sometimes when you need a big over, like 14, you become quite relaxed, the pressure's off a bit," he said. "I knew that the outfield was really fast, so I wanted to try and hit the ball on the ground. A couple came off our bats, which was good, and we just ran hard and it worked out in the end."

Cummins was asked how he had managed to hold his nerve in that last over.

"Off the field, you're terribly nervous watching people go about their business, but once you're out on the field, you know you're in control," he said.

"I'm more relaxed when I'm out there in the moment than I am off the field. Sometimes when the game feels like it's almost lost, that's when you feel like you can relax and you've got nothing to lose."

The batsmen may have had complaints but Cummins was delighted with the conditions in Visakhapatnam.

Loving it

"I love it. In T20s, you normally prepare for death bowling – yorkers, slower balls, outsmarting batsmen – whereas on a wicket like that, bowling good balls was going to be enough. The ball was swinging at the end and I loved it," he said. India will hope he does not find the M. Chinnaswamy Stadium too much to his liking.

The target: Australia skipper Aaron Finch will be aiming for a sweep in the T20I series. ▪K. MURALI KUMAR

'I deserve chances more consistently in ODIs'

Rahane says he has always put the team first; hopeful of making the WC squad

AMOL KARHADKAR
INDORE

He has scored eight fifties and a hundred in the 16 ODI innings in the last two years, including a player-of-the-series performance in West Indies in 2017.

Still, Ajinkya Rahane, the Test vice-captain, has not been considered for an ODI since February 2018. While he is optimistic about his World Cup chances, Rahane claims he "deserves" a fair run in one-dayers.

Excerpts

Do you think it's time you expressed yourself more aggressively?

As a batsman, I am aggressive but by nature, I am quite shy. I prefer to let my bat speak but sometimes it's important to speak the truth. I have always believed the team comes first and respected the management and the selectors' decision. I will continue to do that.

But in the end, it is important that your performance is recognised.

The point is that if as a player I have always played for the team, then I deserve chances more consistently. That's the least I am asking.

Do you feel let down sometimes that you haven't got that consistent run in ODIs?

If I feel let down, my mindset will turn negative and so, I don't really think that way. I leave that decision to the selectors because they are the best judges.

I also believe that my performances were really good. If you see the last three-four series, my average was around 45 to 50. After I was dropped, I went back to domestic cricket and feel I have done reasonably well.

Do you think the uncertainty with white-ball cricket has unsettled your performance?

Frankly, I have never thought about my personal achievements. I did well as an opener against West Indies and Australia but in South Africa, the management thought I would be suitable at No. 4.

I said "whatever you prefer" because the team wanted it. But every individual needs confidence and positive vibes like "yes, you are there and you are doing it for the team". I think everyone knows that if someone is backing you, the player gets the confidence to play fearless and positive cricket.

Chief selector M.S.K. Prasad recently said you are still part of World Cup plans. What are the signals you are getting?

It feels good that I am being considered. But at the same time, you need to get a chance.

Playing the World Cup is a dream every cricketer cherishes. I do respect the selectors and team management's performances and I think I deserve a chance.

Are you still hopeful or is time running out?

I am very much hopeful. Like I said, I keep negative thoughts away and you never know, things can change any time.

It's important to believe in yourself and keep good people around you rather than those who will say *"yaar, yeh tere saath ki kyon ho raha hai* (why is this happening with you, pal)".

I keep my distance from such people and am comfortable with a closed group of four or five people who have believed in me all along.

Positive outlook: Ajinkya Rahane is optimistic of getting a look-in for the World Cup. ▪SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Tax sops deadlock set to continue

ICC MEETING

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI

Tax exemptions for future global events, broadcasting rights for the World Test Championship and capping participation in private T20 leagues are among the issues that will come up for discussion at the ICC quarterly meeting starting in Dubai on Wednesday.

One of the key issues will be tax exemption sought by the ICC for future global events in India like the 2021 Champions Trophy and the 2023 World Cup.

However, as per present rules, it is highly unlikely that the ICC will get any exemption and the deadlock is expected to continue.

"The ICC wants tax exemption as they want to spend that money for development of the game in new areas," said a BCCI official. "That's fine but there needs to be a discussion on that," he added.

Jayasuriya banned for two years by ICC

Sri Lankan great admits to two breaches of Anti-Corruption Code

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
DUBAI

Sri Lankan cricket legend Sanath Jayasuriya has been banned from all cricket for two years after admitting two breaches of the International Cricket Council (ICC) Anti-Corruption Code, the sport's governing body announced on Tuesday.

The 49-year-old – regarded as one of the greatest One Day International batsmen of all time and pivotal in winning the 1996 World Cup – accepted the punishment.

"This conviction under the Code demonstrates the importance of participants in cricket cooperating with investigations," said Alex Marshall, ICC general manager of the Anti-Corruption Unit in a statement.

"Compelling participants to cooperate under the Code is a vital weapon in our efforts to rid our sport of corruptors. These rules are essential to maintain the integrity of our sport."

Sanath Jayasuriya. ▪GARETH COPLEY/GETTY IMAGES

Jayasuriya was charged in October after failing to provide his mobile phones to the ACU.

Jayasuriya in a statement said he had pleaded guilty to the charges expecting a mitigated punishment.

"Consequent to correspondence between the ICC ACU officials and my lawyers we agreed to a sanction of a period of ineligibility of two years, which period is to take effect from the 15th of October 2018," Jayasuriya said.

What makes cricketing sense may not be desirable politically

Tokenism has the advantage of making a point without the pressure of having to follow through with it

BETWEEN WICKETS

SURESH MENON

Tokenism as a policy has the advantage of making a point without the pressure of having to follow through with it. The Board of Control for Cricket in India, run by a Committee of Administrators who have discovered that the less they do, the more power they wield over a longer period, had to make a point in the aftermath of the Pulwama massacre.

The choices

It had four choices. Withdraw from the World Cup. Ensure Pakistan withdraw. Convince the other teams to withdraw. Refuse to play the preliminary match against Pakistan, and hope they wouldn't have to meet them later. The first was plain silly, for why should India punish themselves? The second and third were unworkable. That left the fourth. But the BCCI was not willing to take a call so many weeks before the June 16 match. Its remit was to appear tough and concerned without rocking the World Cup boat too much.

In recent years, the BCCI's approach could be summed up thus: speak softly, and carry a big cheque. Sometimes it didn't speak softly, but the big cheque was usually effective.

Its letter to the International Cricket Council made no mention of Pakistan. Like experienced politicians, the BCCI acted one way to please its home constituency as it were, while simultaneously telling the international body not to worry too much about boycotts.

Sporting boycotts are not unusual. The Olympics have been boycotted by both the US and the then Soviet Union for political reasons. Did it change policy significantly? Doubtful. But the sporting isolation of South Africa is acknowledged to have played a role in the dismantling of apartheid.

Only the terminally naive believe that sport and politics do not mix. Sport is often politics by other means, as the Olympics have shown, as have World Cups in other sports.

Still, the decision not to play Pakistan is not the BCCI's to make, nor the CoA's. It is the Government of India's. At the 2003 World Cup, England boycotted their match against Zimbabwe protesting against Robert Mugabe's rule there; "player safety" was cited. It helped Zimbabwe advance to the Super Six – two points ahead of England!

The argument being made by some former players that India should boycott the Pakistan match since they have beaten them at every World Cup makes little sense. If anything, that is a call for playing Pakistan based on past record! Former skipper Sourav Ganguly has suggested that we should stop focusing so much on the two points against Pakistan and concentrate instead on winning the World Cup. But what if the two are related?

India have refused to play Pakistan in bilateral series, and banned their players from the IPL. Attempts to get the two countries to play at a neutral venue have also been rejected by India. At the last World Cup in England 20 years ago, the neighbours played a match in Manchester while the Kargil war was on. Three soldiers from India and six from Pakistan were killed on the day.

In its letter to the ICC, the BCCI has urged the cricketing community "to sever ties with countries from which terrorism emanates." It is a noble sentiment but of little practical value. Depending on the definition and reach of "terrorism", it will affect more countries than Pakistan. But that is an issue that need not detain us here.

The principle

Is there a principle involved in all this? In 1974, India reached the final of the Davis Cup for the first time, but withdrew since they had to meet South Africa. That was a principled stand against apartheid. If India are to take a stand against Pakistan and its export of terror, they should not play in any tournament which involves Pakistan. The solution is not that simple, however. Isolating Pakistan might end their cricket, but it is doubtful if it will end their terrorism.

If India pull out of the league tie and then run into Pakistan in the semifinals or final, will the government have the strength of conviction to withdraw from these matches too, and allow the neighbours to win the World Cup by default? Even if it is not publicised, a decision will have to be taken before the team leaves for England.

At an India-Pakistan match, players become diplomats overnight, insisting that it is only about the cricket while knowing that this isn't so. This has been cricket's burden – to stand for something beyond itself. Politicians haven't been able to solve the issues involved. It is unfair to expect sportsmen to do so by proxy.

In the ideal world, India would play Pakistan at the World Cup, just like the US played Iran at the 1998 football World Cup when they had no diplomatic relations. There are justifications for both playing and not playing, but what makes cricketing sense might not be desirable politically and vice versa. A hundred days is a long time in sports however, and an even longer time in politics.

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TV PICKS

NBA: Sony ESPN (SD & HD), 6.30 a.m.
Syed Mushtaq Ali T20: Star Sports 2 (SD & HD), 9 a.m. & 1.30 p.m.
Dubai Open: Sony ESPN (SD & HD), 3.30 p.m. & 8.30 p.m.
India vs Australia: 2nd T20I, Star Sports 1 (SD & HD), 7 p.m.
West Indies vs England: 4th ODI, Sony Six (SD & HD), 7 p.m.
ISL: Star Sports 2 (SD & HD), 7.30 p.m.
Premier League: Star Sports 1 & 2, SS Select 1& 2 (SD & HD), 1 a.m. (Thursday)
New Zealand vs Bangladesh: 1st Test, SS Select 2 (SD & HD), 3.30 a.m. (Thursday)

IN BRIEF

Kepa Arrizabalaga fined for defying Sarri

LONDON

Chelsea goalkeeper Kepa Arrizabalaga has been fined a week's wages by the club after defying manager Maurizio Sarri and refusing to be substituted during the League Cup final on Sunday. "Although there was a misunderstanding, on reflection, I made a big mistake with how I handled the situation," Kepa said in a statement on Chelsea's website. AFP

Olivier joins Yorkshire, shocks CSA

JOHANNESBURG

Cricket South Africa expressed disappointment on Tuesday at fast bowler Duanne Olivier's decision to sign a three-year contract with English county Yorkshire which will rule him out of international cricket. Cricket South Africa chief executive Thabang Moroe said Olivier had rejected a two-year contract with CSA. Coach Ottis Gibson said he was also disappointed that Olivier had opted to play in England. AFP

Harden's 30-point streak ends

LOS ANGELES

James Harden missed all 10 three pointers, snapping his 32-game streak as Houston Rockets defeated Atlanta Hawks 119-111 on Monday.
Other results: Warriors 121 bt Hornets 110; Trailblazers 123 bt Cavaliers 110; Pistons 113 bt Pacers 109; Nets 101 bt Spurs 85; Suns 124 bt Heat 121; Bucks 117 bt Bulls 106; Grizzlies 110 bt Lakers 105; Timberwolves 112 bt Kings 105; 76ers 111 bt Pelicans 110; Clippers 121 bt Mavericks 112. AFP

Reitz wins face-off of champions

Anish Bhanwala's fifth spot some consolation on a fruitless day for India

SHOOTING WC

KAMESH SRINIVASAN
NEW DELHI

Reigning Olympic champion Christian Reitz of Germany beat reigning World champion Lin Junmin of China 35-31in a spectacular men's 25m rapid fire pistol in the shooting World Cup, at the Dr. Karni Singh Range, Tughlakabad, on Tuesday.

With no Olympic quota places on offer in the event, there was some compensation for the host, as Anish Bhanwala made the final with an impressive 588 out of 600 in qualification.

Just can't believe it! Nina Christen of Switzerland, centre, celebrates her 50m rifle 3-position gold. Shi Mengyao of China, left, and Yelizaveta Korol of Kazakhstan are also seen. • AP

Class act

A former World champion, Reitz was a class act with breathtaking rounds of 3, 5, 4, 4, 4, 5, 5 and 5 that brought the roof down in the final. Lin Junmin, the qualification topper with 592 had already won the Olympic quota place at the World Championship.

The 16-year-old Anish, the Commonwealth Games champion and junior World Champion in standard pistol, was overtaken in the highly competitive field, even though he did well to win the tie-shoot 4-3 to avoid the sixth spot against Clement Bessaguet of France.

The packed stands expected a medal from Anish.

The young man kindled hopes by shooting a perfect 5 in the third series, after 3s in the first two series of the final.

Anish was unable to sustain his good work and rounds of 1 and 2 saw him lose his way.

Manu, Heena miss out

It was a brave effort by Anish, on a day when Manu Bhaker shot 573 and missed the final by one point in women's air pistol. Olympian and former World record holder Heena Sidhu also grappled with her form and could muster only 571, while first time entrant Anuradha managed to shoot 572.

There was a slender hope for the host in women's 50m rifle 3-position, but Gaayathri Nithyanandam (563) and Sunidhi Chauhan (1156) were not at their best.

The results: Men: 25m rapid fire pistol: 1. Chistian Reitz (Ger) 35 (588); 2. Lin Junmin (Chn) 31 (592); 3. Kim Junhong (Kor) 22 (589); 5. Anish Bhanwala 14 (588); 11. Adarsh Singh 581; 12. Arpit Goel 580. **MQS:** Gurpreet Singh 576; Bhavesh Shekhawat 567.
Women: 10m air pistol: 1. Veronika Major (Hun) 245.1 (575); 2. Chia Ying Wu (Tpe) 238.4 (582); 3. Kim Bomi (Kor) 218.3 (579); 14. Manu Bhaker 573; 22. Anuradha 571; 25. Heena Sidhu 571. **MQS:** P. Shri Nivetha 568; Shweta Singh 565.
50m rifle 3-position: 1. Nina Christen (Sui) 457.1 (1178); 2. Shi Mengyao (Chn) 456.6 (1172); 3. Yelizaveta Korol (Kaz) 445.7 (1171); 36. Gaayathri NIthyanandam 1163; 49. Sunidhi Chauhan 1156.

'Angry Farmer' is making it count now

David Gilbert says he now is no longer casual about his snooker

STAN RAYAN
KOCHI

A few years ago, David Gilbert appeared to have lost his way in life. He was very talented in snooker but his casual attitude let him down.

"I felt that snooker was not relevant to me then, I'd turn up and play but I wasn't really there. I wasn't playing really well, I wasn't practising. As long as I had enough money in my pocket for a pint of beer and a pack of cigarettes, I was happy," said Gilbert, the World No. 16 from England, in a chat with *The Hindu* here on Tuesday.

"There were many bad decisions and I was off the rails for a bit of time."

He was into potato farming for around six years and played in tournaments now and then.

David Gilbert. • STAN RAYAN

And then it all changed after a close friend advised him about the value of life.

"He really helped me, sadly, he passed away five years ago, he had cancer," said Gilbert.

"And then I met my wife, Abi, she was also a big factor for the big change in me."

Gilbert, known as the 'Angry Farmer' in world snooker, is now playing the best snooker of his life.

Late last year, the 37-year-old led 9-5 against World champion Mark Williams, before losing the World Open final 9-10 in China and early this month, he finished runner-up to World No. 7 Kyren Wilson after a dramatic German Masters final.

This season has been a wonderful one for Gilbert.

Early this year, he got snooker's maximum break, the 147, in a Championship League match, it was the sport's official 147th 147.

Now the Englishman feels he is very close to his maiden world-ranking title.

"This season has been my best, I've won a few games which I wouldn't have won in the past."

Interesting mix at Indian Open

STAN RAYAN
KOCHI

The Indian Open, now in its fifth year, begins at the Grand Hyatt, Bolghatty Island, on Wednesday.

Scotland's John Higgins, the defending champion here, England's Stuart Bingham, Thailand's Thepchaiya Un-Noon and some wide-eyed Indian boys are in the fray in the five-day event which carries nearly ₹3 crore in prize money. This time the event has six of the world's top 15 in the fray. The six Indians in the fray, all amateurs, have been given wild cards in the 64-draw event. Matches begin at 11 a.m. and will be telecast on Sony network.

Queen Bee continues to buzz

Paralysed after a collision, Vogel has refused to give up

P.K. AJITH KUMAR
KOZHIKODE

Kristina Vogel is standing for the German elections in May. The two-time Olympic gold-medal winning cyclist will have to campaign from her wheelchair, though.

A devastating collision with a Dutch cyclist at the Cottbus velodrome in Germany last June has left her paralysed; she had suffered severe injuries to her spinal chord. That signalled the end of her journey on the track.

Before long, however, she has embarked upon a new journey in life. After spending a few weeks at the hospital, she returned to public life.

In December, Vogel was received warmly by spectators when she attended the Berlin six-day cycling event. A week earlier, she had come second – to tennis star Angelique Kerber – in the race for Germany's Sportswoman of the Year award.

A few days ago, she was in Monte Carlo for the Laureus Sports Awards. As fellow-cyclist Chris Hoy said, in an interaction with the media, she remained very the Queen Bee; people wanted to talk to her, and she obliged, with her radiant smile.

"She was the Queen Bee on the cycling circuit," Hoy said. "I found that she was the Queen Bee at the rehabilitation centre in Berlin."

Any sport is good

Vogel was embarrassed a little by the tribute from the Scotsman, who also suggested she take up archery as a competitive sport. "I haven't thought about it seriously yet," said the 28-year-old. "I am doing archery because it helps me physically; any sport is good for me now."

> **To people who are in a state like that of mine, I would like to say that they should accept the condition as fast as that they could**

Looking back at her great career, which saw her triumphing at the World championship nine times, Vogel said she was proud about her Olympic medals.

"There are so many memories about my medals at Olympic Games in London and Rio," she said.

"As the World champion, you have to defend your title every time, but when you win an Olympic gold, it is for ever."

As for life after the accident, she said there was still a lot of fire in her.

"To people who are in a state like that of mine, I would like to say that they should accept the condition as fast as that they could," she said. "And I never say never."

(The writer was in Monte Carlo recently at the invitation of Laureus).

Battling on: Kristina Vogel says she is proud of her Olympic performance. • P.K. AJITH KUMAR

Manishi spins a web around the South African batsmen

Indian colts restrict the visitors to a modest total of 152 before making 112 for two in reply on day one

A. VINOD
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

It was India all the way as it moved into a position of comfort on the opening day of the second four-day match against South Africa under-19 at the Sports Hub, Kariyavattom, on Tuesday.

Having won the first game last week within three days, India's dominance was pronounced as it contained the rival to a modest 152 in 54.4 overs and then quickly moved within 40 runs of gaining the lead, finishing the day at 112 for two in 34.5 overs.

It did seem initially as if South Africa U-19 had won a good toss. Its openers Ruan Tremblanche and Thamsanqa Kumalo weathered the Indian pace attack reasonably well before the slide came about when spin was introduced by Indian skipper Suraj Ahuja.

Wickets fell at regular intervals as Hrithik Shokeen and Manishi took control.

Only Tremblanche, who compiled a pleasing 51, and Bryce Parsons, coming up with a stroke-filled 64, stood up to the Indian bowling. Manishi, with his variations, proved instrumental in the downfall of the visitors with a fine five for 58 off 17.4 overs. India, in reply, started off badly losing Divyaansh Saxena rather cheaply, but was driven out of trouble by Yashasvi Bhupendra Jaiswal, who came good at the right moment.

He tore into the South African attack with a masterly unbeaten 81 and was also engaged in a pleasing 102-run partnership with Vathsal Govind. the latter's dismissal brought down the curtains on the day's play.

The scores:

South Africa U-19 152 in 54.5 overs (Bryce Parsons 64, Ruan Tremblanche 51, Manishi five for 58) vs India U-19 112 for two in 34.5 overs (Yashasvi Bhupendra Jaiswal 81 n.o.).

Wrecker-in-chief: Manishi, with his variations, proved instrumental in the downfall of the visitors. • SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Jeevan-Purav pair advances

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
DUBAI

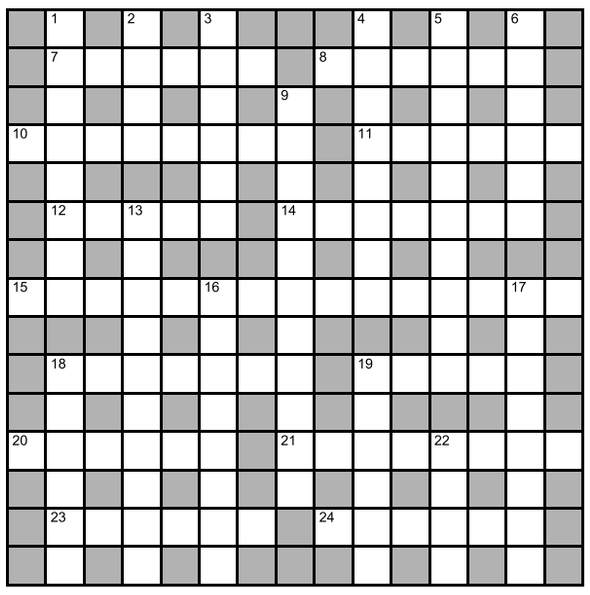
Qualifiers Jeevan Nedunchezhiyan and Purav Raja, after a 6-0 drubbing in the first set, rallied to beat Henri Kontinen (Finland) and John Peers (Australia) 0-6, 6-4, [10-8] in the first round of the Dubai Championships on Tuesday.

In a match that lasted a little over an hour, Jeevan and Purav saved eight of the 11 break points they faced before winning in the super tie-breaker.

In singles, top seed Kei Nishikori dispatched 'tricky' opponent Benoit Paire 6-4, 6-3 on his Dubai debut.

THE HINDU CROSSWORD 12560

(set by xChequer)



ACROSS

7 Acts dramatically turning wise to methods employed (6)

8 Somewhat hard to interrupt critic (6)

10 Anchorage declared a city (4,4)

11 Buffet's show so lacking in direction (6)

12 Cheerful one in rave (5)

14 Protester's heartless joy on damage (7)

15 According to society, on having patronage stripped, an undesirable? (7,3,5)

18 Unfrozen reserve available (3-4)

19 Restricted access keeping goods concealed (5)

20 Pressure cooker at India's borders creating fear (6)

21 Member of Parliament engaged in propagating Tamil medium as National language (3,5)

23 Deer in retreat after camera turns, leaving blurred impression (6)

24 Having invested at last, you succeeded with mere hunch (6)

DOWN

1 Root bearing tree's core supply (8)

2 Order alcoholic drinks back in bar (4)

3 Meal's over each time having eaten for example (6)

4 Absolutely reliable accountant working to save the big house (4-4)

5 Chat, here windbag extremely relaxed! (4,3,3)

6 Inquiry to find missing person, one in flight leaving trail (6)

9 Spanish bayonet men dead, seal building (5,6)

13 Unopened new snack bar loaded counter with sauce (6,4)

16 Raising capital in Romania? Millions to join forces as a rule (8)

17 Most certainly mean round old men (3,5)

18 Mine host primarily around to welcome United in Bury (6)

19 Trail behind wood cleared in valley (6)

22 A peculiar plant (4)

SUDOKU

7				3	2	8		9
					7		5	
	9					3		
					4			
4	2		7		1		6	5
			2					
		1					3	
	5		1					
6		7	8	9				2

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★☆

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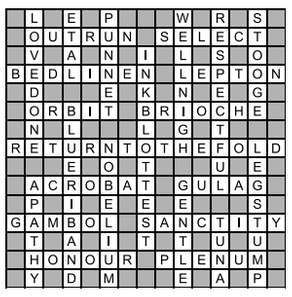
Solution to puzzle 12559



Solution to yesterday's Sudoku

4	2	7	1	6	3	5	9	8
9	3	5	4	2	8	1	7	6
8	1	6	5	7	9	2	4	3
6	7	4	3	9	1	8	5	2
3	5	1	2	8	4	7	6	9
2	9	8	7	5	6	4	3	1
5	6	9	8	1	7	3	2	4
7	8	3	9	4	2	6	1	5
1	4	2	6	3	5	9	8	7

FAITH

His unique qualities

Visishtadvaita stresses the importance of Lord Narayana's auspicious form – His divyamangala vigraha. Focus on His divyamangala vigraha helps us to control our indriyas. From this it follows that if we feast our eyes on His archa (idol) form, then we will achieve control over our indriyas and acquire atma jnana. His divyamangala vigraha has both Asrayatva (comprehended by us and therefore registering in our minds) and shubhatva (capacity to destroy sins). This is the uniqueness of His form. Even those who are unable to completely comprehend the Lord's infinite auspicious qualities are drawn to His divine form. This divine form consecrated in archa (idol) form in temples, with proper mantras recited at the time of installation, is to be worshipped. His archa form shows both His Supremacy and His approachability, said V.S. Karunakarachariar in a discourse.

It is because of the significance of the Lord's form that Ramanujacharya spoke first of His divine and auspicious form before he spoke of His auspicious qualities. The Lord takes many forms of His own will. In the Vishnu Purana, Akrura says that Krishna's face, with lotus eyes, gets rid of sins. Akrura is anxious to see this liberating face of the Lord. Valmiki says that Rama, with His form and with His many good qualities like generosity, captures the eyes and hearts of everyone. So, from the works of sages Parasara and Valmiki, we see that it is His form that has the qualities of Asrayatva and shubhatva.

The Lord's divyAtma swarUpa has shubhatva, but not Asrayatva. Through Sastras we learn about those who have been liberated and are in Sri Vaikuntha. But such knowledge will not liberate us. It is a special quality of the Lord's divine form that it is both easily grasped and also liberates.

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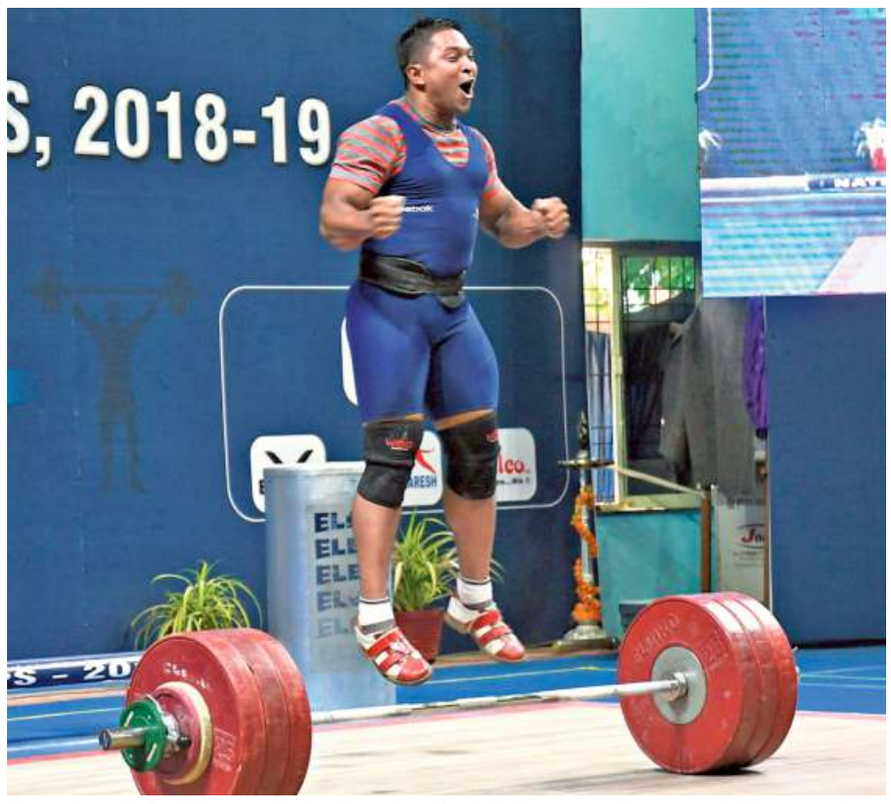
Ravi lights up the day

Purnima Pandey lifts women's +87kg title



Great show: K. Ravi Kumar, who had been battling injuries, was well prepared this year and took the gold. • C.V. SUBRAHMANYAM

Y.B. SARANGI
VISAKHAPATNAM

Old warhorse K. Ravi Kumar, a 2010 Delhi Commonwealth Games gold medallist in 69kg, gave a sensational performance to claim a National title after eight years on Tuesday.

Ravi, who had also gathered a silver in 77kg in 2014 Commonwealth Games, totalled 342kg to take the men's 89kg crown amidst stiff challenge from the Railways duo of Harshad Wadekar (337kg) and R.V. Rahul (329kg) – the 2018 Commonwealth Games 85kg gold medal winner who is nursing an injury – in the National weightlifting championships at the Railway Indoor Sports Enclave here.

The 30-year-old, who had been battling injuries and had managed a bronze medal in the last edition, was well prepared this year. Ravi, who began with 145kg and bettered it to 150kg, shared the first place for snatch with Wadekar even after faltering in his attempt to lift 154kg.

The former Armyman, now employed as a Deputy Superintendent of Police in Odisha, began with the highest weight, 185kg, in clean and jerk but fell short while trying 192kg in his second effort.

After Wadekar secured a slender two kg lead by hoisting 187kg in his penultimate attempt, Ravi achieved 192kg to quell the Railway competitor's challenge and jump for joy.

"This is a great comeback for me. I want to win some international medals in the coming years," said Ravi, a hugely popular figure among fellow lifters.

Purnima Pandey of Uttar Pradesh lifted the women's +87kg title with an aggregate of 210kg, including 94kg in snatch.

Purnima enjoyed her luck as Railways lifter Monika, who did 96kg in snatch, could not fight for the top spot due to her three 'no lifts' in clean and jerk.

The results:

Men: 89kg: 1. K. Ravi Kumar (Odi) snatch 150kg, clean and jerk 192kg, total 342kg; 2. Harshad Wadekar (RSPB) 150kg, 187kg, 337kg; 3. R.V. Rahul (RSPB) 142kg, 187kg, 329kg.

Women: 87kg: 1. P. Anuradha (TN) 102kg, 126kg, 228kg; 2. Srishti Singh (RSPB) 102kg, 120kg, 222kg; 3. Usha B.N. (Kar) 95kg, 120kg, 215kg.

+87kg: 1. Purnima Pandey (UP) 94kg, 122kg, 216kg; 2. K. Siromani (AP) 91kg, 110kg, 201kg; 3. Pardeep Kaur (Pun) 84kg, 110kg, 194kg.

Hockey Series Finals in jeopardy

Crucial event for India in Olympic qualification year

UTHRA GANESAN
NEW DELHI

As tensions escalate with Pakistan and future international sporting events in India come under a cloud, the biggest and most immediate casualty in an Olympic qualification year is likely to be the Hockey Series Finals in June, one of the qualifying events for the Tokyo Olympics.

The top two teams from that event will advance to a 14-team, double-headed play-offs with seven qualifying for the 2020 Games, making it crucial for India to host and participate in the eight-team June 6-16 competition.

The issue flared up after the International Olympic Council (IOC) directed all future international competitions and talks of hosting others in India be suspended in the light of recent visa issues for Pakistani athletes.

Last year a Kosovan boxer, Donjeta Sadiku, along with her two coaches, was denied participation during the AIBA World women's championships.

Far-reaching effects

In a communication to Union Sports Minister Rajyavardhan Singh Rathore the Olympic Council of Asia (OCA) chief, Sheikh Ahmad Al-Fahad Al-Sabah, had warned the incident could have far-reaching effects and India was likely to miss out on hosting major Games.

While Hockey India officials refused to comment on the issue, the FIH (International Hockey Federation) remained non-committal on India's hosting rights but did admit it was engaging with the IOC for details.

Taken note

"We have taken good note of and totally respect the decision of the IOC taken in full compliance with the principles of the Olympic Charter.

"We will engage with the IOC to understand and get clarity on the concrete implications of this decision. Only then will we be able to provide any further comments on FIH events planned in India or for which India is bidding," FIH CEO Thierry Weil told *The Hindu*.

Sources, however, said FIH president Narinder Batra was working behind the scenes to ensure there would be no fall-out, especially given the fact that the teams scheduled to participate in the Bhubaneswar tournament are unlikely to face any issues.

All eyes on Jinson Johnson

Indian Grand Prix athletics today

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

Asian Games winner Jinson Johnson would be expected to prove his credentials as he headlines the second leg of the Indian Grand Prix athletics at the Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium here on Wednesday.

Johnson has been part of the national camp ahead of the calendar's maiden outing this year, his first competition since the Jakarta Asian Games in August last. Tajinder Pal Singh Toor, who qualified for the Asian Championships in the first leg three days back, has decided to skip the event.

Quartermiler Hima Das, expected to participate in the event, has been training abroad and has to appear for her exams, ruling her out.

Johnson, in fact, is likely to have an easy outing in the absence of any strong competition in the 1500m. Barring the absence of Hima, however, the women's 400m is expected to see a full-strength field with Jisna Mathew, M.R. Poovamma, Anu Raghavan and V.K. Vismaya, all having entered their participation.

More than winning, the big names would be looking to get a decent timing ahead of the Federation Cup next month.

While some rustiness is expected in the season-opener, a quick run here for the Asian meet would give them enough time to prepare without worrying about qualifications.

Also hoping to do better than her 100m performance from the first leg would be Dutee Chand, this time in the 200m, with Soniya Baishya her only close competition.

No Harbhajan and Yuvraj for Punjab

It is learnt that they left for personal commitment overseas

AMOL KARHADKAR
INDORE

Punjab, which has struggled to open its account, is set to be without the services of Yuvraj Singh and Harbhajan Singh for the remainder of the Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy.

It is understood that Yuvraj and Harbhajan left for an overseas personal commitment after the team's demoralising eight-wicket loss to Saurashtra on Sunday. Punjab coach Harvinder Singh hoped that "at least Yuvraj would be back for the last game" on March 2, adding that uncapped Rohan Marwaha has joined the team ahead of its training on Tuesday.

No impact

Neither Harbhajan nor Yuvraj have had an impact in the first three games. Leading the team, Harbhajan returned went wicketless in all three games, conceding 75 runs in seven overs. All-rounder Yuvraj failed to fire on both the fronts, scoring just 47 off 50 balls in three innings and ending with cumulative figures of 5-0-44-0.

To add to Punjab's woes, promising youngster Shubman Gill missed Tuesday's training due to ill-health.

INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB)
NATIONAL COMPETITIVE BIDDING THROUGH E-PROCUREMENT
IDENTIFICATION NO. RWS&S DIVN., PURI - 99 OF 2018-19
(06752) 251276, Fax :- (06752) 251276; E-mail:- eerwss_puri@nic.in
1838-O: 2nd Corrigendum
The following changes are to be considered for the Bid Identification No.eerwsspuri-99/2018-19
1. Availability online for bidding up to 17.00 hours of 06.03.2019.
2. Last date & time of seeking tender clarification: up to 17.00 hours of 02.03.2019.
3. Date & time of opening of bids is 07.03.2019 at 11:00 Hours in the office of the Executive Engineer, R.W.S & S Division, Puri.
All other terms and conditions remain unaltered
25017/11/0141/1819 Sd/- Executive Engineer, RWS&S Division, Puri

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9446011266 trng@calicut.nielit.in 9446711666

भारत सरकार / GOVERNMENT OF INDIA, अंतरिक्ष विभाग / DEPARTMENT OF SPACE
द्रव नोदन प्रणाली केंद्र / LIQUID PROPULSION SYSTEMS CENTRE
वलियमला पीओ, तिरुवनंतपुरम/ VALIAMALA. P.O., THIRUVANANTHAPURAM - 695 547
विज्ञा. सं. एलपीएससी/पीटी/विज्ञा./76/2019 दि. 27.02.2019 / ADVT.NO.LPSC/PT/ADVT/76/2019 DTD.27.02.2019
भारत के राष्ट्रपति के लिए तथा उनकी ओर से, निम्नलिखित कार्य के लिए वरि. प्रधान, क्रय व भंडार, एलपीएससी, तिरुवनंतपुरम मोहरबंद निविदाएं आमंत्रित करते हैं। / For & on behalf of the President of India, Sr. Head Purchase & Stores, LPSC, Thiruvananthapuram invites Sealed Tenders for the following:

सं / No.	निविदा सं / Tender No.	विवरण/Description	मात्रा/ Qty.	निविदा शुल्क / Tender Fee (Rs.)
1.	LPSC/LVF/2019E03296	Columbium Alloy Sheet	3 items	NA
2.	LPSC/LVF/2019E03187	AISI 304Rods	4 Items	NA
3.	LPSC/LVF/2019E03214	Cryo Fracture Testing Machine	1 No.	NA
4.	LPSC/LVF/2019E02950	Automated 3D Magnetic Field Mapping System	1 No.	NA

क्रम सं / Sl. Nos.	निविदा प्राप्ति की नियत तिथि / बोली प्रस्तुती तिथि / Due date of receipt of Tenders / Bid Submission Date	निविदा खोलने की तिथि / Tender Opening Date
1-4	08.04.2019 at 16.00 Hrs	12.04.2019 at 10.30 Hrs

निविदा दस्तावेज़ों की विस्तृत जानकारी 1-4 के लिए हमारे ई-प्राप्ण पोर्टल https://eprocure.isro.gov.in पर उपलब्ध हैं। / Detailed Tender documents for Sl. No.1-4 are available in our e-procurement portal at https://eprocure.isro.gov.in
हस्ताक्षरित / Sd/-
27.02.2019 वरि. प्रधान, क्रय व भंडार / Sr. Head, Purchase & Stores

Mushtaq Ali: Wednesday's fixtures

Group A (Mulapadu): Jharkhand vs Nagaland; Kerala vs J&K; Delhi vs Andhra.
Group B (Surat): Meghalaya vs Vidarbha; Tamil Nadu vs Himachal; Gujarat vs Bihar.
Group C (Indore): Railways vs Mumbai; Madhya Pradesh vs Goa; Punjab vs Sikkim.
Group D (Cuttack): Assam vs Odisha; Chhattisgarh vs Karnataka; Haryana vs Mizoram; Bengal vs Arunachal Pradesh.
Group E (New Delhi): Hyderabad vs Tripura; Maharashtra vs Uttarakhand; Baroda vs Pondiherry; Services vs Uttar Pradesh.

Orban denies Hoffenheim

REUTERS
BERLIN

RB Leipzig stayed on course to finish in the Bundesliga top four and earn a place in the Champions League next season after a late equaliser from left-back Willi Orban earned it a 1-1 home draw with Hoffenheim on Monday.

The results:

La Liga: Girona 0 drew with Real Sociedad 0.

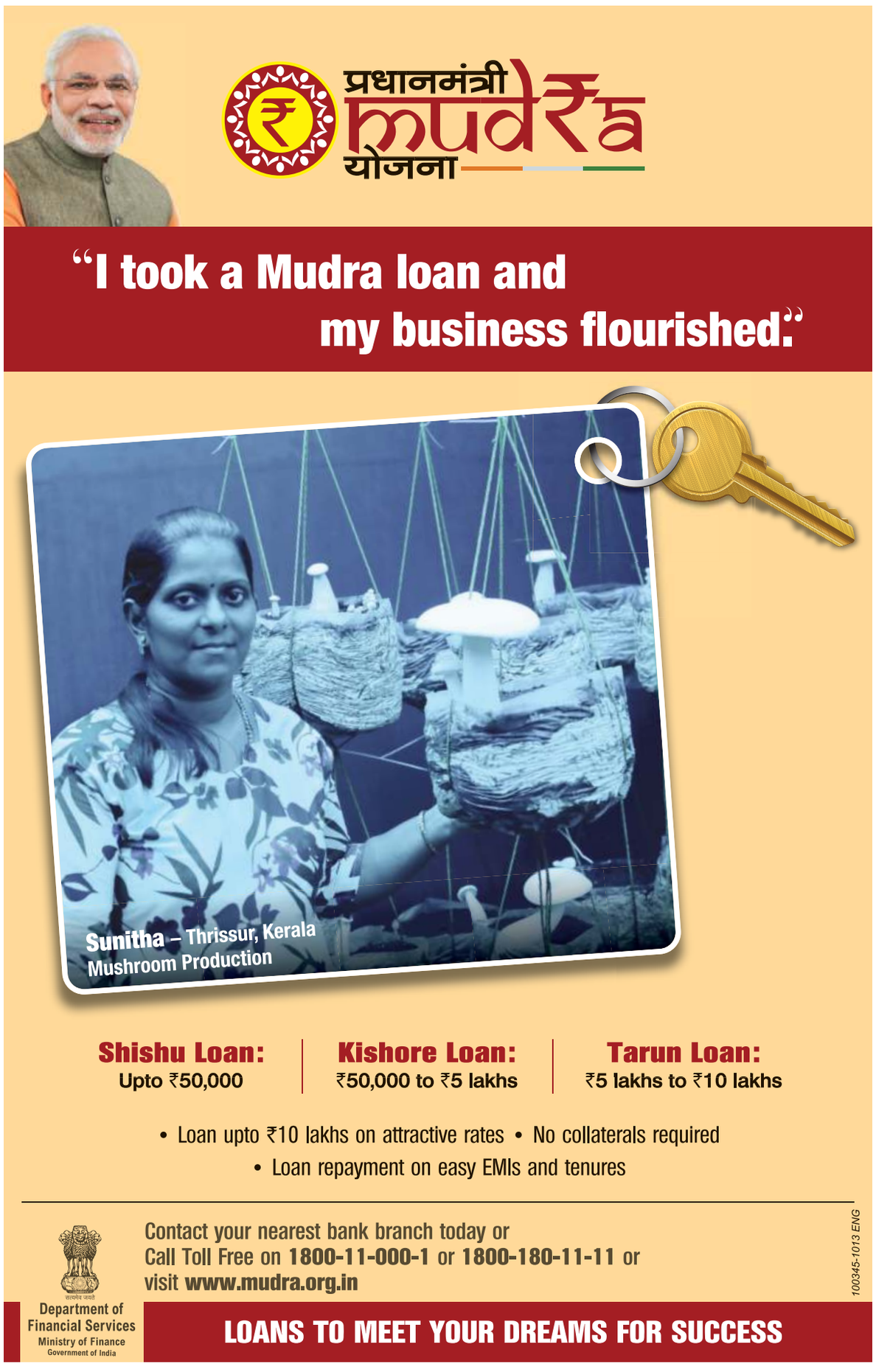
Bundesliga: Leipzig 1 (Orban 89) drew with Hoffenheim 1 (Kramaric 22).

Rajeshwari, Kynan lose

SPORTS BUREAU
DOHA

Rajeshwari Kumari and Kynan Chenai shot 133 in mixed trap and lost the shoot-off for the final 2-3 to the eventual silver medallist Iran in the Qatar Open shotgun championship.

The results: Mixed trap: 1. Australia (Michael Coles, Laetisha Scanlan) 35 (138); 2. Iran (Seyed Babak Yeganeh Rohollani, Shiva Farahpour Bidgoli) 34 (133)3; 3. France (Sebastien Guerrero, Melanie Couzy) 28 (135); 7. India (Kynan Chenai, Rajeshwari Kumari) 133(2).



DELHI JAL BOARD: GOVT. OF NCT OF DELHI
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER (PROJECT) W-III
ROOM NO. 402: VARUNALAYA PHASE-I: KAROL BAGH, NEW DELHI-5
Press N.I.T. NO. 10 (2018-19) Tender ID: 2019_DJB_169562_1

Name of work	Construction of 52.25 MLD Booster Pumping Station at Jhandewalan (Central Delhi) (Re-Invite)
	Pat-A: Civil Works (Including Shifting of DJB Pipe Lines)
	Part B : E&M Works
	Part-C : Operation & Maintenance for two years including one year DLP
Tender Amount (Rs.)	
Part-A : Civil Works (Including Shifting of DJB Pipe Lines)	Rs. 4,20,05,636/- on percentage rate basis.
Part-B : E&M Works	Item Rate
Part-C : Operation & Maintenance for two years including one year DLP	LUMP SUM Cost basis
Date of release of tender in e-procurement solution	22-02-2019
Date of pre-Bid Meeting	05-03-3019 (3:00 PM)
Last date and time for receipt of tender through e-procurement solution	04-04-2019 (3:05 PM)

Further details in this regards can be seen at https://govtprocurement.delhi.govt.in
Executive Engineer (E&M)-I
Executive Engineer (Project) W-III
ISSUED BY P.R.O. (WATER)
Advt. No. J.S.V. 879/2018-19

AHMEDABAD MUNICIPAL CORPORATION
HOUSING PROJECT
e-TENDER NOTICE
Ahmedabad Municipal Corporation invites Expression of Interest (EOI) from the experienced and financially sound Developers / Contractors meeting the qualification criteria mentioned in the tender documents for The Development of Integrated Group Housing Facility on **Public Private Partnership (PPP) / Turn Key Basis under** "Gujarat Government's In-situ Slum Rehabilitation & Redevelopment-2013 Policy" & Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojna - Urban (PMAY-U).

Phase-4				
Project	Estimated Project Cost (Rs)	EMD (Rs)	Tender Fee (Rs)	Project Duration
Package - 1	12,84,00,000	12,84,000	18,000	24
Package - 2	10,14,00,000	10,14,000	18,000	18
Package - 3	6,30,00,000	6,30,000	18,000	18
Package - 4	5,34,00,000	5,34,000	18,000	18
Package - 5	41,22,00,000	41,22,000	18,000	30
Package - 6	21,54,00,000	21,54,000	18,000	24
Package - 7	10,86,00,000	10,86,000	18,000	18
Package - 8	10,92,00,000	10,92,000	18,000	18
Package - 9	23,40,00,000	23,40,000	18,000	24
Package - 10	10,50,00,000	10,50,000	18,000	18
Package - 11	5,46,00,000	5,46,000	18,000	18
Package - 12	2,58,00,000	2,58,000	18,000	18
Package - 13	13,80,00,000	13,80,000	18,000	24
Package - 14	14,28,00,000	14,28,000	18,000	24

The EOI documents will be available online at https://amc.nprocure.com from Dt: 27/02/2019 to Dt: 28/03/2019 up to 18:00 hrs. The non-refundable Tender Fees mentioned in table above shall have to be paid in the form of DD, drawn in favor of "Municipal Commissioner" Ahmedabad. The EOI shall be submitted to Assistant, Manager (Project) / PWA Office, 2nd Floor, C-Wing, old Building, Ahmedabad Municipal Corporation, Sardar Patel Bhavan, Danapith, Ahmedabad, 380001. Last Date of submitting of tenders online is Dt. 28/03/2019 up to 18:00 hrs. The physical documents shall be submitted by RPAD or Speed Post or courier or by hand delivery only on or before Dt. 29/03/2019 upto 17:00 hrs. Technical bid opening will be on Dt: 30/03/2019 at 12:00 hrs. at O/o Assistant Manager (Project), PWA Office. Pre-Bid meeting will be held on Dt: 05/03/2019 at 12:00 Hrs at O/o Additional City Engineer, Housing Project 5th Floor, New Building, Ahmedabad Municipal Corporation, Danapith, Ahmedabad, 380001. Any change / correction / corrigendum/minutes of pre-bid meeting in respect of above work shall be placed online. Contractors are requested to see the website before submission of their tenders. Municipal commissioner reserves the right to accept or reject any or all tenders without assigning any reason thereof. This Tender Notice Shall form a part of contract document.
Ahmedabad Municipal Corporation
For Any AMC Complain Please Dial : 155303

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IN BRIEF

Nooyi joins Amazon's board of directors

WASHINGTON

India-born Indra Nooyi, PepsiCo's former CEO, has joined Amazon's board of directors. Early this month, Starbucks executive Rosalind Brewer joined the board. "We're thrilled to have elected two new members to our Board of Directors this month. Welcome, Roz Brewer and Indra Nooyi," Amazon announced. PTI

Heptathlete Swapna Barman to get a biopic

KOLKATA

Filmmaker Srijit Mukherji is set to make a biopic on Swapna Barman, the heptathlete who did the nation proud by taking the gold at the 2018 Asian Games. Actor Sohini Sarkar has been roped in to play the role of Barman in the yet-to-be-titled film. PTI

How split-sex insects and birds are helping science

Researchers say that the study of gynandromorphs could offer clues as to why some human diseases strike one gender more than the other

KAREN WEINTRAUB

All serious butterfly collectors remember their first gynandromorph: a butterfly with a colour and pattern that are distinctly male on one wing and female on the other.

Seeing one sparks wonder and curiosity. For biologist Nipam H. Patel, the sighting offered a possible answer to a question he had been pondering for years: During embryonic and larval development, how do cells know where to stop and where to go?

He was sure that the delicate black outlines between male and female regions appearing on one wing – but not the other – identified a key facet of animal development. "It immediately struck me that this was telling me something interesting about how the wing was being made," said Mr. Patel, a biologist who now heads the Marine Biological Laboratory, a research institute in Massachusetts, affiliated with the University of Chicago, in the U.S.

The patterning on the gynandromorph's wing shows that the body uses signalling centres to control where cells go during development and what tissues they become in creatures as diverse as butterflies and people, Mr. Patel said.

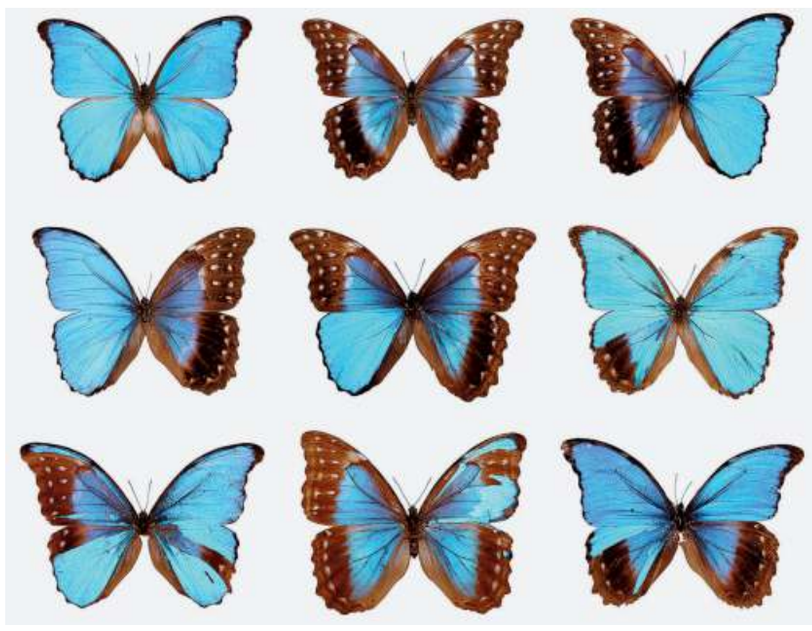
Gynandromorph butterflies and other half-male, half-female creatures, particularly birds, have fascinated both scientists and amateurs for centuries.

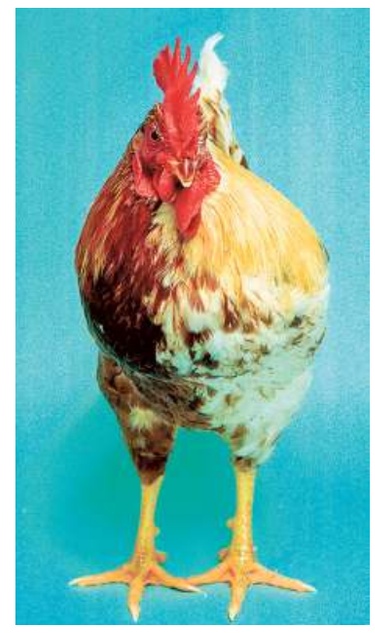
Scientists say these instances of split-sex animals and insects could offer clues to why some human diseases strike one sex more than the other.

Researchers thought they had figured out the genetics of birds and bees, but gynandromorphs suggest that there is more to learn, said Jennifer Marshall Graves, a distinguished professor at La Trobe University in Melbourne, Australia.

Mammals have X and Y chromosomes, birds and insects have Z and W, and some reptiles can change their sex depending on temperature, or a combination of temperature and sex chromosomes, she said.

It was believed that the sex of a bird was determined by a protein made by the DMRT1 gene, which would reach all the cells of the bird through the bloodstream, Ms. Graves said. But for two sides of the bird to share the same bloodstream but not the same sex, there must be more to the story.





Mysteries of nature: Blue morpho butterflies (top left, a male blue morpho butterfly and top middle, a female; the others are gynandromorphic). On the right is a split-sex chicken. ▪ NYT/NIPAM PATEL/MICHAEL CLINTON/ROSLIN INSTITUTE AT THE UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH

Role of hormones

Hormones cannot be the sole drivers of sex either, but they most likely play some role, said Arthur Arnold, a distinguished research professor at the University of California, Los Angeles.

How gynandromorphs are born at all still remains a mystery. For birds, the most likely explanation is that a female makes an unusual double-nucleus egg cell, one with a Z chromosome and one with a W chromosome, and each is fertilized by a Z sperm, making some cells ZZ and others ZW in the same individual, Mr. Arnold said.

The same process is very unlikely to happen in mammals, he said. Female mammals naturally have two of the same sex chromosomes, and the instant a mammalian egg and sperm fuse, "dramatic changes prevent the entry of a second sperm."

Gynandromorphs occur naturally, usually resulting from a random genetic error, Mr. Patel said.

Mr. Arnold said his research on sex genes has implications for treating human diseases that seem to vary by gender. His UCLA collaborator, Rhonda Voskuhl, has found, for instance, that in multiple sclerosis, a genetically female mouse with two X chromosomes fares worse than a mouse with an X and a Y, even if they have the same hormones. Understanding why females fare worse could help explain MS in people, where there is also a gender difference, with women accounting for three times as many cases as men.

Obesity, metabolic syndrome, autoimmune disease, Alzheimer's, even ageing differs by sex, Mr. Arnold noted. Twenty years ago, he said, scientists did not think that sex chromosomes played any role in causing sex differences in these diseases. "But now we know it makes a difference in mice, so we can say: Where does it make a difference in humans?" he said. NY TIMES

Markers of a bygone era: The Bayon temple, part of the Angkor complex in northwestern Cambodia. ▪ AFP

'Angkor did not suffer a sudden collapse'

Study says city's decline was gradual

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
WASHINGTON

Angkor, the ancient capital of the Khmer empire, appears to have suffered a gradual decline rather than a catastrophic collapse, according to a study published on Monday.

Archaeologists and historians have long sought to explain the 15th-century abandonment of Angkor, with many attributing it to the 1431 invasion by Thai forces from Ayutthaya.

"The historical record is effectively blank for the 15th century at Angkor," said Dan Penny, a member of a team of Australian and Cambodian archaeologists and geographers who took part in the study published in the *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*.

Sediment cores tested

"We don't have a written record that tells us why they left or when or how," said Mr. Penny, of the School of Geosciences at the University of Sydney. "Everything that survived is carved on stone."

For the study, the team examined 70-cm sediment cores taken from a moat that surrounded Angkor Thom, the capital of the Khmer empire. Mr. Penny said the cores serve as a "natural history book recording changes in land use, and climate, and in vegetation, year after year."

Where humans live, they leave traces through fire, soil erosion through agriculture and disturbed vegetation. When they leave, conditions change.

In the first decades of the 14th century, Mr. Penny said you start to see a decline in land use, wood burning, destabilised vegetation and a reduction in soil erosion.

By the end of the 14th century, "the southern moat of Angkor Thom was overgrown with vegetation, and management, by implication, had ceased," the authors said in the study.

Sara Danius quits Swedish Academy

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
STOCKHOLM

Sara Danius resigned on Tuesday from the Swedish Academy that selects the Nobel Prize in Literature, almost a year after she was forced out as permanent secretary by a #MeToo scandal.

The Swedish academician's resignation is the latest development in a scandal that emerged from the #MeToo movement to halt sexual abuse, and forced the Academy to postpone awarding the literature prize in 2018.

"I have decided to give up my seat... It has been an honour," Ms. Danius, 56, said, without giving a reason for her decision.

In April 2018, Danius was forced to step down as the Academy's permanent secretary, the first woman to hold that position, amid a scandal sparked by Jean-Claude Arnault, an influential figure on Stockholm's cultural scene.

Sara Danius

He was convicted of raping a young woman in October and December 2011 and the academy was caught up in the scandal because Arnault was married to one of its members, Katarina Frostenson.

HIMUDA, DIVISION PARWANOO, DISTRICT SOLAN (H.P.)

हिमुडा मंडल परवाणू जिला सोलन हि.प्र. (Ph. No. 01792-232359)

(Head Office :-NigamVihar, Shimla-171002, Cont. No. 0177-2623790)
www.himuda.hp.gov.in
Email id: Parwanoo Office: xenhimuda.parwanoo@gmail.com

(A state Government Undertaking) **e-Procurement Notice**

INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB)

1. The **Executive Engineer, HIMUDA,Division Parwanoo, H.P** on behalf of Chairman ,HIMUDA invite online bids on item rate, in electronic tendering system, in **Two Cover System** for the under mentioned works from the eligible and approved contractors/Firms/companies enlisted with the similar Government Agencies of the State or neighbouring State of Punjab, Haryana and U.T Chandigarh shall be eligible for participation in the tendering process of HIMUDA. However, the successful bidders must get registered in HIMUDA, in appropriate class before signing the contract (All conditions as per enlistment rules of HIMUDA 2018) who have sufficient/ requisite experience in the execution of similar nature of work.

Sr. No.	Name of Work	Estimated Cost	EMD	Time Period	Cost of Tender
1.	Providing, Electrical & Mechanical, Installation, Testing & Commissioning and Operation & Maintenance of 1 No. Microbial additive based Sewerage Treatment Plant (STP) of 70 KL per day capacity at Khadeen (Parwanoo) District Solan (H.P).	Rs. 23,04,075/-	Rs.42,100/-	One Year	Rs.1500/-

2. Availability of Bid Document and mode of submission: The Bid document is available online and bid should be submitted in online mode on website https://hptenders.gov.in.
Bidder would be required to register in the web-site which is free of cost. For submission of bids, the bidder is required to have Digital Signature Certificate (DSC) from one of the authorized Certifying Authorities (CA). "Aspiring bidders who have not obtained the user ID and password for participating in e-tendering in HIMUDA may obtain the same from the website: https://hptenders.gov.in. Digital signature certificate is mandatory to participate in the e-tendering. Bidders already possessing the digital signature issued from authorized CAs can use the same in this tender.

1. Key Dates:-

1.	Date of Online Publication	28.02.2019 1600 Hrs.
2.	Document Download Start and End Date	01.03.2019 1030 Hrs up to 14.03.2019 1600 Hrs
3.	Bid Submission Start and End Date	01.03.2019 1030 Hrs up to 14.03.2019 1600 Hrs
4.	Physical Submission of EMD , Cost of Tender and other technical / eligibility Documents	15.03.2019 up to 1030Hrs
5.	Date of Technical Bid opening, Evaluation of Technical Bid followed by opening of Financial Bid.	18.03.2019 1100 Hrs.

****Terms and Conditions****

1. As part of technical bid, the bidder needs to upload the distributorship agreement/authorisation certificate issued to them by the manufacturers of OS1/Envirosense/Ecologbacterial culture duly signed and stamped by the manufacturer. If bidder is a manufacturer, he needs to upload an undertaking/affidavit stating that they are the manufacturers of OS1/Envirosense/Ecolog bacterial culture.
2. Bidders also need to upload manufacturer verified (signed & stamped) Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS) duly signed and stamped by the manufacturer of OS1/Envirosense/Ecolog bacterial culture.
3. Bacterial Culture Concentrate specifications required:
a) Strains: Lactobacillus, Yeast, Photosynthetic Bacteria
b) pH: Less than 4
c) Appearance & Odor: Brown Liquid, Sweet fermented smell
4 . Tender will only be issued/ Received to Specilised RMS/ Agencies who have completed
(I) Three works of similar nature each costing 40% of the tendered amount within the last seven years.
(ii) Two works of similar nature each costing 60% of the tendered amount within the last seven years.
OR
5. One work similar nature cost 80% of the tendered amount within the last seven years ending last day of month previous to the one in which the tenders are invited a/w the documents.
6 The daily dosing i/c all required material complete in all respect of the culture will be done by the Agency/ Film. Nothing will be paid extra within stipulated period by the Deptt.
7. There should be no sludge deposite in the treated water tank annerobic treatment.
8 Firm will bge responsible for watch & Ward of the S.T.P.
9. Contract Period can be increased or decreased.
10. Energy & Water Charges will be born by the Deptt.
11. The firm shall provide required skilled/ unskilled Labour for smooth functioning of S.T.P.
11. The Firm shall be responsible for Workmen compensation of workers deputed at site of work for any casuality and he should abide the Labour Laws of the state and shall be solely responsible for its violation.
12 No T & P shall be provided by the deptt. For Operation & maintenance Purpose.
13. The Firm will not be allowed to sublet the work after award of work failing which the agreement shall be terminated immediately and security deposited will be forfeited.

PARTICULAR SPECIFICATIONS FOR SEWAGE TREATMENT PLANT

1.0 GENERAL
1.1 Kitchen water shall first flow into standard size primary grease trap with baffles to trap free floating oil & grease from the kitchen water to prevent the O&G from entering the STP. The outlet shall then enter the sewage line.
1.2 Raw sewage shall first flow into the Bar screen chamber where floating matter / coarse material (cloth, plastic, poly bags, other inorganics) shall be intercepted by the bar screen.
1.3 Sewage shall be collected in an equalization tank after passing through fine bar screen & oil/Grease trap chamber and then sewage shall be pumped to secondary grease chamber. Prescribed quantity of specially blended probiotic bacterial whose metabolic properties are suitable for the technology shall be inoculated at the beginning of the STP to give sufficient time for microbial activity to take place in various chambers.
1.4 Sewage shall be retained in the fermentative reactor for required no. of hours to ensure i) Sedimentation of heavy density solids at the bottom and ii) Stabilization & digestion of settled sludge by microbial action. The retention shall be designed as per the metabolic properties of probiotic bacteria being inoculated to ensure stage of "Autolysis" for digestion of secondary sludge and to control sludge bulking. No daily/weekly/monthly sludge disposal shall be required.
1.5 Effluent from the fermentative reactor shall be pumped onto the Advanced-Eco Reactors (AER 1 & AER 2) where degradation process shall be driven by natural principles. The AER reactor is an engineered eco-system which consists of specially cultured organic media which decomposes the organic matter and the waste water trickles down the various layers.
1.6 The effluent shall be then pumped through mechanical filtration shall comprise of activated carbon filter to reduce the presence of suspended solids in the water and to remove odor & color present in the waste water. This shall be sized to accommodate 100% of the effluent discharge flow rate and shall achieve the performance as outlined and described in Design Criteria.
1.6.1 Ozonation shall be provided in the last tank for disinfection and further reduction of BOD/COD as per designed outlet parameter.

2.0 DESIGN BASIS
2.1 STP Technology : Microbial additive based STP
2.2 Influent
a) pH : 6 to 8.5
b) BOD 5 days @ 200C : upto 200-250 mg/l
c) Suspended solids (SS) : upto 200 mg/l
d) Oil & grease : upto 10 mg/l
e) COD : upto 450 mg/l
2.3 Effluent (Final) – **To meet norms as per latest MOEF notification dated 13.10.2017**
a) BOD 5 days @ 200C : less than 20 mg/l (designed to meet less than 10 mg/l)
b) Fecal Coliform : less than 1000 (MPN/100)
c) Total Suspended Solids : less than 50mg/l
d) pH : 6.5 – 9.0
2.4 The plant should be able to operate efficiently at 10% of design flow and should be suitable for low/peak flow.
2.5 The STP should be able to operate in continuous, batch or intermittent mode as required.
2.6 There should be no daily/weekly/monthly sludge handling.
2.7 The plant should not create any noise, with no nuisance of fly or mosquito.
2.8 STP to be operated in auto mode with supervision by operator once-twice daily.
2.9 The plant should work without the use of any mechanical aeration of any type.
2.10 The plant should be eco friendly.
2.11 Water recovery rate should be 90% of the sewage.
2.12 Plant should not generate foul odor during the treatment process
2.13 No chemicals should be used in the process except chlorination for disinfection

3.0 SCOPE OF WORK FOR STP
The Scope of work to be provided by the bidder is as follows:
3.1 Design & Engineering of the proposed process with process guarantee and detailed engineering with construction design & drawings for Microbial additive based Anaerobic technology including preparation of detailed drawings of civil works, piping, electrical & instrumentation and other items of work required for the plant.
3.2 Supply of all equipments and materials required including its transportation to project site.
3.3 Erection of equipment auxiliaries likes piping, electrical, instrumentation, etc.
3.4 Commissioning of the plant including training to owner's operators.

4.0 SPECIAL ELIGIBILITY CONDITION
Bidders should have completion certificates based on SMART technology.

5.0 TESTING
4.1 The treated water should be get tested for the following parameters by the bidder from NABL certified laboratory and the report confirming that the parameters are within the limit, as mentioned in the documents, should be submitted before seeking completion of the plant.
a. pH
b. BOD
c. Suspended Solids
d. Total Fecal Choliform

6.0 CONTROL PHILOSOPHY
5.1 The treatment plant should have automatic operation of pumps depending upon the level in the respective sump with provision of manual operation/override. Control Panel Automation should be as per the specifications of approved STP Technology providers

7.0 ASSOCIATED CIVIL & OTHER WORK FOR STP
6.1 Detail Anaeerobic STP drawings from approved STP technology provider indicating the sizes shall be submitted to engineer-in-charge prior to procure/erection
6.2 Provision of River Gravels as per size suggested by the STP technology provider
6.3 Raw sewage up to Bar screen chamber.
6.4 Further disposal/transfer of treated water.
6.5 Water at one point in plant area.
6.6 Power connection at STP Panel.
6.7 Foundations for Pumps, pipes, pvc tanks etc.
6.8 All Civil works.
6.9 Approach road to the STP area.

LIST OF PREFERRED MAKES OF MATERIALS
LIST OF ACCETABLE/APPROVED MAKES FOR STP (Electrical and mechanical)

S. No	Material	Approved Make
1.	Microbial Additive based STP	Organic Solutions / Environment Technologies & Systems / Ecologic Waste Solutions
2.	Pumps	Kirloskar/Wilo/Kishor/Crompton
3.	Probiotic Microorganisms	OS1/Envirosense/Ecolog
4.	Power Cable	Polycab/Havels/L&T
5.	STP Control Panel	Fabricated. Automation as per approved technology provider's specifications.
6.	Switchgear & Accessories	ABB/Siemens/Schneider/L&T
7.	PVC Pipes	Astral/Prince/Supreme ISI Marked
8.	Activated Carbon Filter	MS IS 2062 grade material fabricated
9.	Organic AER Media	Organic Solution/Environment Technologies and Systems/ Ecologic Waste Solutions
10.	Valves	Sant/ Zoloto/Audco
11.	Chlorination System	Edose/Idose/Acquanomics

4. TENDER DETAILS:-
The Tender Documents shall be uploaded online in two Covers:
4.1. Cover-1: shall contain scanned copies of all "**Technical Documents/ Eligibility Information".**
4.2. Cover-2: shall contain "**BOQ/Financial Bid"**, where contractor will quote his offer for each item.
4.3. Cover-1, i.e. "**Technical Documents /Eligibility Criteria**" Shall be opened first and the **cover-2**, i.e. "Financial bid" of only those contractors shall be opened who fulfill the eligibility criteria and have uploaded the required documents in support of the same in **cover-1 Scanned copies to be uploaded)** as detailed below:-
i. Earnest money in the shape of NSC/Saving account on any of the Post Offices in Himachal Pradesh/Time Deposit Receipt of any nationalized bank, duly pledged in the name of **Executive Engineer HIMUDA, Division Parwanoo OR certificate of exemption of Earnest Money Deposit (As per notification issued by HIMUDA).**
ii. Cost of tender Form in the shape of demand draft of Rs. **5000/-** only (Non refundable) drawn in favour of **Executive Engineer, HIMUDA, Division Parwanoo**.
iii. Certificate of registration with HPPWD/HIMUDA & I&PH in appropriate class.
iv. Central Goods Service Tax/State Goods Service Tax as applicable or any other taxes shall be payable by the contractor himself and HIMUDA will not entertain any claim what so ever in this respect CGST/SGST shall be deducted as per Government notification.
v. Other necessary documents like Income Tax, PAN No. & GST, EPP No. etc.

Note:- The statements showing the value of existing commitments and on-going works as well as the stipulated period of completion remaining for each of the works listed should be countersigned by the engineer-in-charge, not below the rank of an Executive Engineer or equivalent. Bid capacity duly assessed in the formula mentioned above should be certified by the registered/empanelled Charted Accountant.

5. **SUBMISSION OF ORIGINAL DOCUMENTS:** The bidders are required to submit (a) original demand draft towards the cost of bid document and (b) original bid security/Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) and other Technical/eligibility Documents in **HIMUDA,Division Parwanoo, H.P** as specified in Key dates , failing which the bids will be declared non-responsive.

6. **BID OPENING DETAILS:** The technical bids shall be opened on **18.03.2019, 1100** HRS in the office **Executive Engineer HIMUDA,Division Parwanoo, H.P** by the authorised officer. In their interest the tenderer are advised to be present along with original documents at the time of opening of tenders. If the office happens to be closed on the date of opening of the bids as specified, the bids will be opened on the next working day at the same time and venue.
7. The bids for the work shall remain valid for acceptance for a period not less than **120 days** after the deadline date for bid opening.
8. Other details can be seen in the bidding documents (Form-6 &8). The officer inviting tender shall not be held liable for any delays due to system failure beyond its control. Even though the system will attempt to notify the bidders of any bid updates. The Department shall not be liable for any information not received by the bidder. It is the bidders' responsibility to verify the website for the latest information related to the tender/corrigendum etc., which shall be inserted in the website only.
9. No tender shall be accepted in physical form.
10. The contractor has to submit the detail of machinery & equipments required for the execution of work lying with him.
11. The acceptance of a tender will rest with the undersigned, who does not bind himself to accept the lowest tender and reserves to himself the authority to reject any or all of the tenders received without the assignment of reason. All tenders in which any of the prescribed conditions are not fulfilled or are incomplete in any respect are liable to be rejected.
12. **A contractor enlisted in a particular class shall be eligible to tender for his own class and one step below.**

www.himuda.hp.gov.in
Ph. No. 01792-232359

Sd/-
(Er. Rajesh Thakur).
Executive Engineer,
HIMUDA Division, Parwanoo.

HP / 0092/2018-2019

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THE HINDU

WEDNESDAY • FEBRUARY 27, 2019

DELHI METRO

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Patients' rights

Demanding the need to regulate rates in private hospitals, over 100 patients hold protests Page 2

Driver dies in accident

DTC bus, dumper truck collide at ITO, killing one and injuring 15 others on Tuesday morning Page 3

Space jam

Dhan Mill a bit of an oasis; it's dusty but calm...there's a foundation, which supports start-ups Page 4

A twist in taste

The new menu at Farzi Café keeps to its DNA, while offering a new set of palate-pleasers Page 4

IN BRIEF

MBBS exam: plea in HC questions bar on disabled

NEW DELHI

The Delhi HC on Tuesday sought a response from the Centre and MCI on a petition challenging a notification, which barred more than 80% differently abled persons from taking admission in undergraduate medical education programmes. An HC Bench declined to stay the notification saying that no affected persons have moved the court challenging it.

CITY ▸ PAGE 2

Sexual assault: court denies bail over crass plea

GURUGRAM

A local court here has turned down the anticipatory bail plea of three journalists accused in a sexual assault case for referring to the complainant, a woman scribe with an English daily, as "no babe in the woods" in their submission, besides taking into account the seriousness of the allegations.

CITY ▸ PAGE 3

Air quality of Delhi-NCR

Delhi	116	Gurugram	79
Ghaziabad	-	Faridabad	90
Noida	101	Greater Noida	99

Good 0-50 | Satisfactory 51-100 | Moderate 101-200 | Poor 201-300 | Very poor 301-400 | Severe >401

AIR QUALITY INDEX AT 4 P.M. YESTERDAY (AVERAGE OF PAST 24 HOURS) | SOURCE: CPCB

In its last budget, Kejriwal govt targets ₹60,000 crore spending

Highest-ever budget for the Capital; education gets maximum share again

DAMINI NATH
NEW DELHI

In the last full budget of this term, the Aam Aadmi Party government on Tuesday tabled a ₹60,000 crore expenditure budget for 2019-2020, making it the highest-ever for the Delhi government, with the education sector once again getting the highest share of funds.

Presenting the budget for 2019-2020 and the Revised Budget Estimates (RBE) for 2018-19, Deputy Chief Minister and Finance Minister Manish Sisodia said he was proposing a budget of ₹60,000 crore "which is almost double the amount of expenditure of ₹30,940 crore in 2014-15".

70-point manifesto

Listing out some of the promises AAP had made in its 70-point manifesto ahead of the 2015 Delhi Assembly elections, Mr. Sisodia said the government had been successful in delivering on most of the promises, while some would be completed in the coming year.

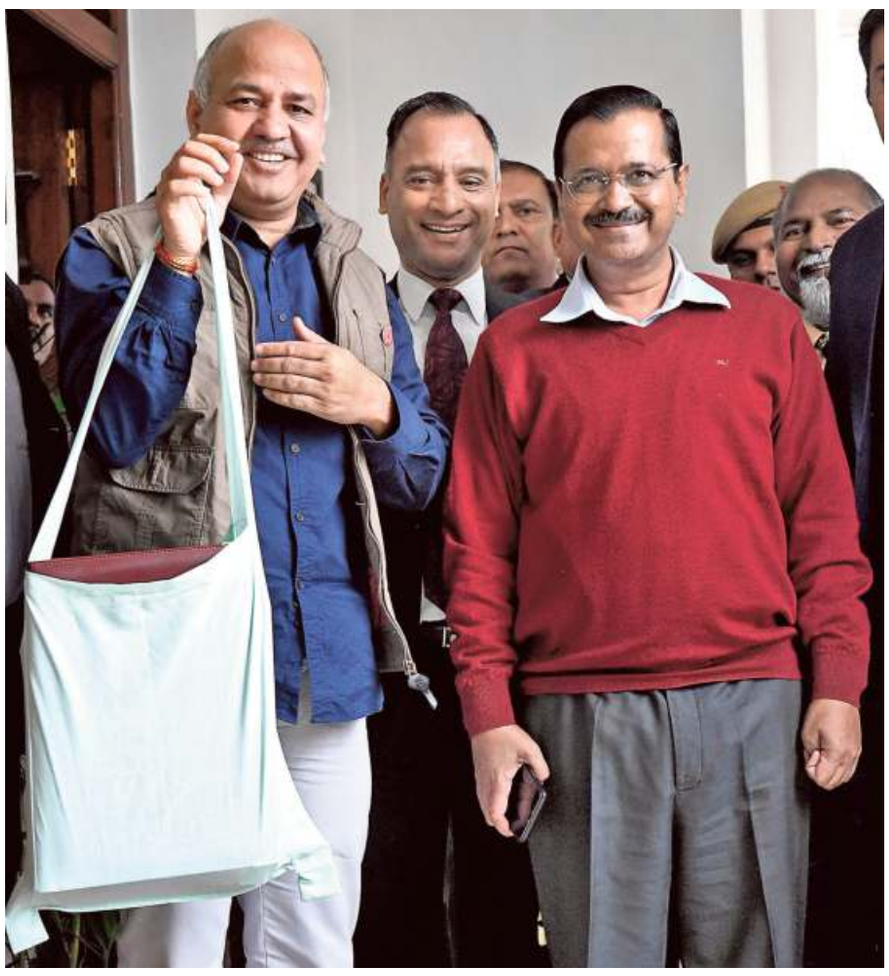
Referring to the Central Reserve Police Force personnel killed in the Pulwama terrorist attack on February 14, Mr. Sisodia said the "Budget of our government is to fulfil the dreams of those who were martyred".

Earlier in the proceedings, Speaker Ram Niwas Goel led the House in giving a standing ovation to the Indian Air Force for its strike on terror camps in Pakistan on Tuesday morning in retaliation for the Pulwama attack. Reading out the RBE for 2018-19, Mr. Sisodia said the government had revised the expenditure from the estimate of ₹53,000 crore to ₹50,200 crore. For 2019-2020, the ₹60,000 crore estimate would include ₹15,601 crore for education.

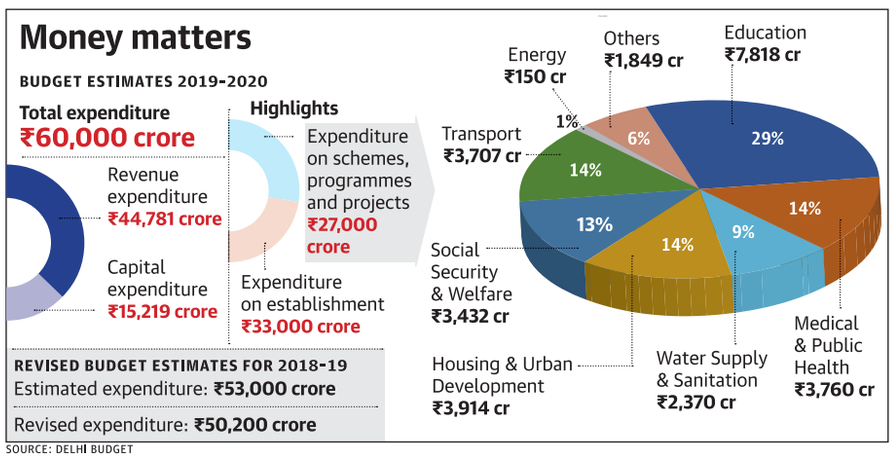
At 26% of the total budget, the education sector remained the AAP government's priority.

Apart from education, the transport sector was a priority for the government, with Mr. Sisodia saying the allocation for transport had been doubled to ₹1,809 crore for 2019-2020. Later, speaking at a press conference, Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal said a total of 4,000 buses would be procured by the end of 2019-20.

The budget included ₹100 crore for giving farmers higher minimum support price for crops according to the recommendations of the Swaminathan Commission, a first for any State government in the country, Mr. Sisodia said.



Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal and his deputy Manish Sisodia on their way to present the budget on Tuesday. ▪ SANDEEP SAXENA



SOURCE: DELHI BUDGET

> When we gave water and power subsidy five years ago, people said we would ruin finances of the government. But today the budget has doubled....
>
> ARVIND KEJRIWAL
> Chief Minister

sodia said.

For the water sector, the government proposed ₹100 crore for the improvement of groundwater levels through rejuvenation programmes.

Mr. Kejriwal, who is also the chairperson of the Delhi Jal Board, said the storage of monsoon excess along the Yamuna floodplains would enable Delhi to have enough water to meet demand. For the environment sector, the government would change the rules for compensatory plantation, Mr. Sisodia said.

"The government is planning to bring an important plan under which removal of only maximum 20% of the total trees required for implementation of the project will be allowed. Remaining 80% of trees will be made mandatory for transplant by modern technology," he said in his budget speech.

'Ready to teach Oppn'

With the water and power subsidy set to continue for a fifth year, Mr. Kejriwal said, "When five years ago we gave water and power subsidy, people used to say we will have ruin the finances of the government. But today the budget has doubled...One thing is clear that the AAP knows how to run a government. If BJP and Congress want to learn, we are ready to teach."

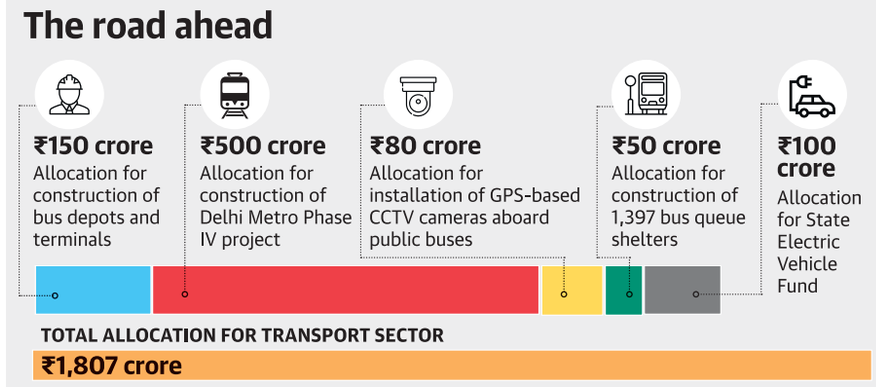
'Half-truths'

Reacting to the budget, Leader of Opposition Vijender Gupta said it was "a bundle of false statements and half-truths" and based on "distorted financial interpretation of ground realities."

"It [the budget] has brought immense disappointment to Delhiites as it hid more than it has revealed. The government did its best to hide its misgovernance, failure to implement major schemes according to pre-set timelines during the financial year 2018-19," Mr. Gupta alleged.

Budget for transport 'doubled', ₹100 crore for e-vehicle policy

Sisodia proposes outlay of ₹1,807 crore for various projects



SOURCE: DELHI BUDGET

STAFF REPORTER
NEW DELHI

The Delhi budget for the upcoming fiscal includes an allocation of ₹100 crore for the implementation of its e-vehicle policy as part of the State Electric Vehicle Fund.

Presenting the budget, Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia proposed an outlay of ₹1,807 crore for implementation of various schemes, programmes and projects of the Transport Department in 2019-20.

"This allocation is almost double the revised estimate of 2018-19," Mr. Sisodia, who also holds the finance portfolio, said.

Battery electric vehicles

He said vehicles contribute to approximately 40% emission of PM 2.5 in the Capital.

To resolve the problem, the government has formulated a draft electric vehicle policy to promote the use of battery electric vehicles (BEV) in Delhi, he said.

"Under this policy, our efforts are to have 25% of BEVs among newly registered vehicles by 2024. I am proposing ₹100 crore for constituting the State Electric Vehicle Fund in 2019-20," he said.

The Delhi government has also earmarked ₹50 crore from the fund of environment compensation charge for the State Electric Vehicle Fund, he said.

4,000 new buses

Mr. Sisodia said the government was endeavouring to strengthen the public transport system by inducting 4,000 new buses, including 1000 e-buses, under the Delhi Transport Corporation (DTC) and the cluster scheme run by the Delhi Integrated Multi Modal System.

The process to procure 1,000 low-floor AC electric buses has started, he added.

"I am happy to inform that these buses will be operational in different phases from the next financial year," he said.

At the moment, the DTC runs 3,882 buses on 557 routes carrying about 31 lakh passengers per day. Over 12 lakh passengers used 1,789 cluster buses daily. The budget also allocated ₹150 crore for construction of bus depots and terminals and ₹50 crore for 1397 new bus queue shelters in Delhi.

In addition, the Delhi Metro's Phase IV was allocated ₹500 crore as part of the Capital's share.

₹650 crore for Wi-Fi, CCTV projects

Both initiatives were among AAP's main election promises

STAFF REPORTER
NEW DELHI

The Aam Aadmi Party government allocated ₹650 crore in the 2019-20 budget for providing Wi-Fi services and installation of CCTV cameras in the Capital.

Both initiatives were among the main poll promises made by the party in its manifesto.

The government announced it will start its 'ambitious' Wi-Fi project from next year with Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal saying ₹150 crore has been allocated for it.

"We have allocated ₹150 crore for Wi-Fi. We were exploring models and trying to bring something new. Now, Delhi will have hotspots at various places. We hope that the project will materialise this time," the Chief Minister said.

Meanwhile, AAP, which had promised the installation of 2,000 CCTV cameras in each Assembly constituency, said an equal number of these would be added to existing ones in the coming fiscal.

The government said 2,000 CCTV cameras will be added in the coming fiscal. ▪ FILE PHOTO: SUSHIL KUMAR VERMA

"The work regarding installation of CCTV cameras in Delhi has been started and ₹500 crore has been proposed in budget 2019-20 for installation of approximately 1.4 lakh CCTV cameras [2,000 per assembly constituency]," said Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia.

L-G blamed for delay

Also the Finance Minister, Mr. Sisodia alleged that there was unnecessary interference of Lieutenant-Governor, which led to the delay in the work on CCTV cameras.

"Last year, I had announced the installation of CCTV cameras in all government schools for the safety of children. Due to the unnecessary interference of the L-G, there was some delay in these works. Yet I am happy to inform the House that this work has commenced now," he said.

At a press conference, Mr. Kejriwal said the file on CCTV cameras was only approved after Mr. Sisodia carried out a 10-day fast.

"For the last three years, the L-G and his officers have not allowed us to work. Our file on CCTV project was only cleared after Mr. Sisodia entered L-G's office and did a hunger strike for 10 days," he said.

CM postpones fast 'in view of Indo-Pak situation'

STAFF REPORTER
NEW DELHI

Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal on Tuesday said he would postpone his indefinite hunger strike that was to start from Friday due to the "prevailing Indo-Pak situation".

The Aam Aadmi Party national convener had announced on February 23 in the Delhi Assembly that he would embark on an indefinite hunger strike in support of the demand for statehood for Delhi.

However, after the Indian Air Force carried out a strike in Pakistan on Tuesday, Mr. Kejriwal said he would postpone his protest.

"In view of prevailing Indo Pak situation, I am postponing my upwas for full statehood of Delhi. We all stand as one nation today. [sic]," he tweeted.

In another tweet, he said: "I salute the bravery of Indian Air Force pilots who have made us proud by striking terror targets in Pakistan [sic]."

Border, high footfall areas in city on high alert

Following Indian Air Force's air strikes at Jaish's terror camps across the LoC

STAFF REPORTER
NEW DELHI

The Delhi Police has stepped up the security in border areas in the wake of the Indian Air Force's (IAF) air strikes across the Line of Control (LoC) at the Jaish-e-Mohammad (JeM) terror camps in Pakistan.

Delhi Police Commissioner Amulya Patnaik held a meeting on Tuesday where he instructed all police officers to be vigilant in their respective districts.

Mr. Patnaik also took updates on the preparations for the upcoming general elections.

Vital installations like India Gate under cop scanner.

"We are keeping a check on various suspicious activities here. Patrolling has been increased all over the city. Random checks of vehicles have been ordered, especially in border areas. We are working in coordination with both Uttar Pradesh and Haryana police to share any information at the earliest," said a police officer.

Police personnel have been deployed in plain clothes to gather information and keep an eye on anti-social elements. Patrolling and surveillance have been increased in sensitive areas. All vital installations in Delhi, including the India Gate, Rashtrapati Bhavan and railway stations have been put on high alert.

Besides SWAT teams, the Delhi Police is working in close coordination with the intelligence agencies and armed forces to overcome any untoward incident.

The Railway Protection Force (RPF) has been ordered to be vigilant and increase patrolling on railway tracks.

Word to residents

The police said they have sensitised people about threat in high footfall areas.

"We request citizens to immediately contact us if they notice any suspicious activity," the officer said.

The police heads of adjoining States have also been asked to deploy extra staff at border areas.

High Court grants protection to runaway couple

Asks them to get mediclaim; man told to deposit ₹3,000 per month in her account

STAFF REPORTER
NEW DELHI

The Delhi High Court has granted protection to a runaway couple, who married against the wishes of parents and apprehend danger to their lives.

Justice Najmi Waziri said parents or relatives cannot interfere in the exercise of the constitutional right of a citizen to choose a life partner.

The High Court also asked the couple to take a joint mediclaim policy of ₹5 lakh as a precautionary step.

It remarked that the man has undertaken to create an equal share for his wife in all assets, which he inherits or would acquire in future.

Parents or relatives cannot interfere in the exercise of the constitutional right to choose partner, says HC

"Petitioner no. 2 [husband] undertakes to subscribe to a mediclaim policy of ₹5 lakh for himself and his wife-petitioner no 1. The policy shall be kept alive at least for the duration of the marriage," the court said.

It was hearing the plea of the couple, whose marriage did not find favour with the woman's parents, due to which they apprehended threat to their life and liberty at the hands of their families.

The woman had also intimated the police in her home in Gujarat, and in Delhi that she got married to the man of her free volition and no action should be taken against him on anyone's complaint.

The court was assured by the prosecutor that the matter would be looked into and the woman's father would be sensitised about the couple's rights and the imperative to maintain peace.

Notice to her father

The court also issued a notice to the woman's father and posted the case for further hearing on March 20. It also directed the Delhi Police to be in touch with the couple and access their safety and security on a weekly basis.

It asked the man to deposit at least ₹3,000 per month in his wife's bank account in the form of a fixed deposit and she would be able to withdraw it after six months.

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Ward-level panels for solid waste management

STAFF REPORTER
NEW DELHI

The North Delhi Municipal Corporation Mayor Adesh Gupta on Tuesday announced setting up of ward level 'Safai Nigrani Samitis' to help implement solid waste management by-laws.

The ward level committees will comprise members of resident welfare associations, market association, Delhi Development Authority, Public Works Department, and representatives from each department of the corporation at zonal level, the civic body said in a statement. Councillors of the area will be the 'ex-officio' chairperson of the committee. These committees will be responsible for creating and implementing ward level 'Swachhata Plans.'

The Mayor made the announcement at a workshop organised to encourage citizens to undertake municipal solid waste management at source. The workshop was inaugurated by Union Minister Harsh Vardhan and attended by senior officials of the corporation.

Different aspects of segregation of municipal solid waste at source were illustrated in association with Urja (United Residents Joint Action), a resident welfare umbrella group. In a tweet, Urja termed it "an excellent step towards building political, official and public participation in SWM."

Education remains top priority, gets 26% share of total budget

Over ₹15,000 crore allocated; two universities on the anvil

STAFF REPORTER
NEW DELHI

Education continued to be the top priority for the Delhi government with the sector receiving the highest share of ₹15,601 crore, which is 26% of the total budget allocation for 2019-20.

In his budget speech, Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia proposed a host of new schemes and initiatives that included setting up of two new universities.

The University of Applied Sciences will have programmes for vocational education of 3 to 12 months, modular programme in various trades, certificate courses of 1 to 2 years, diploma, degree, postgraduate, M. Phil and Ph.D courses. A Teachers' Training University, the Minister said will focus on promoting excellence in teacher education.

The government has proposed a Digital Learning Scheme to be launched for Class XI and Class XII students studying in Rajkiya Pratibha Vikas Vidyalaya (RPVVs) and School of Excellence under which computer tablets will be provided to them at a cost of ₹9 crore.

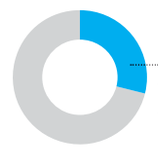
As an incentive, those who secure above 80% marks in Class X board examination, will be provided with computer tablets under the Pratibha Fellowship Scheme, said Mr. Sisodia. Under the same scheme, excellence in art and culture will also be encouraged via a cash incentive of ₹5,000 and ₹10,000 will be given to the students of government and government-aided schools for the purchase of equipment/apparel, he added.

What is in store?

- **₹5 to 7 lakh** per school to strengthen school management committees
- **Digital Learning Scheme** Computer tablets for Class XI and Class XII students of Rajkiya Pratibha Vikas Vidyalaya (RPVVs) and School of Excellence

Computer tablets for students who secure **80%** or more marks in Class X board examination

Total amount allocated for education **₹15,601 crore**



It is the highest share — **26%** — of the total budget allocation in 2019-20

Two new universities proposed
- University of Applied Sciences
- Teachers' Training University

FILE PHOTO

- **Scholarship** **₹2,500** per student per annum for Class VII to XII for those who secure above **80%** marks

₹500 per student per annum for Class I to VIII and **₹1,000** annually for Class IX to XII EWS students from Muslim and Buddhist communities

- **₹42 crore has been kept as entrepreneurship seed money** Every school student will be given **₹1,000** per annum and **₹5,000** annually will be given to students of higher and technical education to develop their business plans and implement them

Scholarship scheme

Under the Chief Minister Scholarship Scheme, the government has announced an annual scholarship of ₹2,500 to government school students who score 80% and above in Classes VII to XII .

For economically backward students belonging to Muslim and Buddhist communities, the rate of scholarship has been increased to ₹500 per student per annum for Classes I to VIII and ₹1,000 for Class IX to Class XII against the previous rates of ₹300 to ₹ 600.

> **Those who secure above 80% marks in Class X board examination will be provided with computer tablets under the Pratibha Fellowship Scheme**
>
> MANISH SISODIA
> Deputy CM

Mr. Sisodia also announced an amount of ₹5 to ₹7 lakh per school for strengthening the school management committees (SMC) working under the chairmanship of principals so that the basic needs of the school such as maintenance, resources for sports and arts, resource teachers and guest teachers in case of shortage of teachers, can be met from this fund.

Corresponding with the launch of its Entrepreneurship Curriculum in Delhi schools, the government has earmarked ₹42 crore for entrepreneurship seed money. Under this, every school student will be given a sum of ₹1,000 per annum and ₹5,000 for students of higher and technical education.

The Minister said that to make Delhi a start-up hub and to encourage students studying in universities and colleges for new innovations, 11 incubation centres have been set up. To help children from the business community learn management skills for furtherance of their respective family business, the government said that it will introduce an MBA in Family Business in Delhi Technological University.

Health sector gets ₹7,485 crore as share to boost facilities

₹588 crore sanctioned for building and re-modelling of hospitals

STAFF REPORTER
NEW DELHI

The Delhi government on Tuesday allocated ₹7,485 crore for the health sector in its 2019-20 budget with Rs 588 crore being proposed for construction of new hospitals and re-modelling of existing ones. This includes revenue budget of ₹6,462 crore and capital budget of ₹1,023 crore.

An amount of ₹3,737 crore is earmarked for implementation of various schemes, programmes and projects under the health sector. This is an up from an outlay of ₹6729 crore in 2018-19 which included ₹3259 crore earmarked for implementation of various schemes, programmes and projects under the sector.

Deputy CM Manish Sisodia presented the budget and noted that the proposed outlay of ₹3,737 crore in 2019-20 for various projects is 45.07% higher than the revised estimate of ₹2,576 crore in 2018-19.

An amount of ₹3,737 crore is earmarked for implementation of various schemes and projects. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Action on defaulters

Mr. Sisodia added that the Drugs Control Department has adopted a "zero-tolerance" approach towards pharmaceutical drug abuse and taken stringent action against defaulters. "The department has cancelled or suspended 386 drug licenses of manufacturing units and sales premises till December 2018, who were found violating norms," he said.

The government noted that 189 Aam Aadmi Mohalla Clinics have been set up and 333 more such clinics will be set up by the end of June 2019. "Our target is to set up 1,000 mohalla clinics. Similarly, 25 polyclinics are in operation and 94 more dispensaries are being re-modelled to start polyclinics to provide specialised healthcare to citizens. An outlay of ₹375 crore is proposed for mohalla clinics and polyclinics in the current budget," Mr. Sisodoa said.

Enhancing bed strength

"To enhance the total bed strength from 10,000 beds to 20,000 in hospitals, the work on construction of a 600-bed hospital at Ambedkar Nagar and an 800-bed hospital at Burari, will be completed shortly. The construction of a 1,241-bed hospital at Dwarka is at an advance stage," according to the budget.

Projects for re-modelling of existing hospitals - RTRM Hospital, Acharya Shree Bhikshu Hospital, Deep Chand Bandhu Hospital, Bhagwan Mahavir Hospital, Sanjay Gandhi Hospital, Dr Baba Sahib Ambedkar Hospital and Guru Govind Singh Hospital, and other facilities, at a cost of ₹963 crore have been sanctioned, Mr. Sisodia pointed out.

The Deputy CM observed that good samaritans who help road traffic accident victims to reach hospitals for medical care are given a financial incentive of ₹2,000 along with a certificate of appreciation. He said an outlay of ₹2 crore is proposed for this scheme in 2019-20.

Under the scheme of conducting high-end radiology test -- MRI, CT Scan and ultrasound -- at private centres, an outlay of ₹49 crore is proposed in 2019-20, the budget said.

Suggestions of valuation panel passed

STAFF REPORTER
NEW DELHI

Recommendations of the third municipal valuation committee report was passed by the South Delhi Municipal Corporation's house meeting on Tuesday, seven years since it was first tabled.

The recommendations accepted by the corporation are expected to increase the revenue from property tax by up to ₹80 crore, a senior corporation official said. They deal with altering the valuation of a property based on which the annual property tax rate is calculated.

The value of a property is based on rate per square metre, age factor, occupancy, total covered area, use factor, and structure. The value assigned to these 'factors' have been changed according to recommendations of the committee.

The report was first submitted in April 2011. The issue of non-implementation of the report was raised at multiple meetings .

New welfare schemes announced in budget

Beneficiaries include disabled and SCs

STAFF REPORTER
NEW DELHI

Welfare schemes for persons with disabilities, Scheduled Castes and advocates find place in the Budget announcement by Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia on Tuesday.

Mr Sisodia announced a fixed deposit scheme for the disabled, along the lines of the Delhi government's Ladli scheme, at each stage of their educational attainment. A financial assistance scheme for the marriage of daughters of differently-abled will also be launched this year, he said.

The Deputy CM also proposed an initiative to extend incentives and concessions to students with 'locomotor disabilities' in the form of discount in price of scooters and motorised tricycles. Besides this, an 'institute of rehabilitation and allied services for persons with disabilities' will be set up. A programme for skill development and rehabilitation of beggars, persons with disabilities and economically weaker sections will be started. The government also increased the allocation for the "Jai Bhim Mukhyamantri PratibhaVikas Yojna" from ₹24 crore to ₹40 crore this year. Under the scheme, coaching is provided to students belonging to the SC community to help them clear competitive examinations.

Aid for higher education

Mr. Sisodia also proposed a new scheme for providing financial assistance to SC students for pursuing higher studies, under which ₹5 crore has been allocated. The government will also be launching a scheme to provide remedial coaching to SC, ST and OBC students studying in Classes IX and X.

The government has also proposed a social security scheme for advocates called Chief Minister Advocates Welfare Scheme for which a sum of ₹50 crore has been allocated.

"This fund will be utilised for insurance, scholarship and other measures for needy advocates and their kin," Mr. Sisodia said.

73% hike in allocation of funds to roads and bridges

₹1,900 crore sanctioned for series of infrastructure projects

STAFF REPORTER
NEW DELHI

In a major fillip to the infrastructure projects in the Capital, the Aam Aadmi Party government has proposed ₹1,900 crore as budget allocation for roads and bridges, a 73% hike from the previous Budget.

Presenting the Budget, Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia also announced a sum of ₹308 crore for street-scaping six Public Works Department (PWD) stretches in 2019-20.

₹800 crore have been sanctioned for 'Mukhyamantri Sadak Yojana' for development of roads. FILE PHOTO

Host of projects

A number of projects have been proposed in the Budget estimates for strengthening road infrastructure besides completion of the ongoing projects, the Deputy CM said. He added that ₹800 crore have been earmarked for the 'Mukhyamantri Sadak Yojana' for development of roads that lie neglected as no agency takes ownership for the maintenance.

Giving more details of the projects, Mr. Sisosida said a four-lane road of 25 km along the banks of Najafgarh drain from Dhansa Regulator to Dwarka Mor will be constructed at a cost of ₹500 crore. Bridges on NH-10 at Rampura, Tri Nagar and Karampura will be widened at a cost of ₹86 crore. Construction of flyovers at Shastri Park intersection and Seelampur has been going on and is likely to be over in 18 months with ₹303 crore having been sanctioned for it. An underpass at Ashram Chowk will come up at a cost of ₹78 crore to decongest the busy intersection.

Footover bridges

The budget also allocated ₹29.40 crore for construction of six footover bridges at Metcalf House, Yusuf Sarai, Africa Avenue, Aali Mod, Mathura Road, Harkesh Nagar and near Oberoi Hotel.

Congress terms budget an 'election lollipop'

BJP leaders call it 'direction-less'

STAFF REPORTER
NEW DELHI

The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) and the Opposition Congress attacked the Delhi government's final Budget on various accounts here on Tuesday.

While BJP Delhi chief Manoj Tiwari accused Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal of "still making promises" in his last Budget, the Congress called the Budget an "election lollipop" and had nothing but big promises without mentioning how it will be implemented.

No new project

"Budget has totally disappointed the people. Even in his last Budget, he is still making promises. He has not announced any new project or new plan at the ground level. This is a disappointing and direction-less Budget," Mr. Tiwari said.

Leader of Opposition in the Delhi Assembly Vijender Gupta alleged that the Delhi government could not spend 62% of the allocated budget on the schemes till December last year.

DPCC spokespersons Ramakant Goswami and Jitender Kumar Kochar in a statement said "The Budget will give nothing to the people of Delhi as the government is using the opportunity to make hollow promises. Though the Budget allocation has been pegged at ₹60,000 crore, it has not been made public as to how many crores have been squandered on advertisements and how much would be spend in the coming months as the Lok Sabha elections are round the corner."

The Delhi Congress said common people are unlikely to benefit from schemes in the Budget as the schemes and promises of the AAP government will only remain on paper.

"Reading the schemes aloud without fulfilling any of them will give no relief to the people of Delhi, who are already saddled by myriad problems, particularly the poor, the middle class, Dalits and the downtrodden," the Congress spokespersons said.

Many join hands to launch campaign for patients' rights

Stage protest at Jantar Mantar demanding regulation of hospital rates, end to exploitative practices

STAFF REPORTER
NEW DELHI

Demanding regulation of rates in private hospitals, over hundred patients, their family members and health activists from six major networks gathered at Jantar Mantar to stage a protest on Tuesday. They voiced in unison for implementation of National Human Rights Commission's Charter for patient rights.

'Medical victims' and activists from Delhi and several other States demanded that malpractices, gross overcharging and violation of patients' rights in private hospitals must be brought to an end. The protest was organised by Jan Swasthya Abhiyan, All India Patients Rights Group, Mahila Pragati Manch, People for Better Treatment, National Campaign for Right to Public Health and Delhi Network of Positive People (DNP+).

People protest at Jantar Mantar on Tuesday against overcharging by hospitals. ANUJ ARORA

The group has pledged to launch a nationwide campaign to uphold patients' rights and stop exploitative practices in private hospitals. Women from low income communities, people living with HIV, health professionals and activists from Delhi, Maharashtra, Gujarat, Odisha, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh and other States participated in the protest and formed a human chain to uphold patients' rights and end malpractices in private hospitals.

List of demands

The protesters demanded "immediate implementation of NHRC's charter for patient rights by Union Health Ministry, regulation of rates in private hospitals - care in private hospitals to be made affordable and creation of a patient-friendly grievance redressal mechanism to deal with complaints in private hospitals."

At the demonstration, victims of medical malpractices narrated their harrowing experiences . Deepa from Jan Swasthya Abhiyan, demanded that the charter of patients rights must now be implemented.

MBBS exam: plea in HC questions bar on disabled

Court seeks response of Centre, Medical Council on plea

STAFF REPORTER
NEW DELHI

The Delhi High Court on Tuesday sought response from the Centre and Medical Council of India (MCI) on a petition challenging a notification which barred more than 80% of disabled persons from taking admission in undergraduate medical education programmes.

A Bench of Chief Justice Rajendra Menon and Justice V. Kameswar Rao, however, declined to stay the notification saying that no affected persons have moved the court challenging it.

The High Court was hearing a petition filed by one Satendra Singh.

The petitioner said "Respondents by way of debarring PwBD (persons with benchmark disability) of more than 80% from taking admission in graduate medical education programme have violated Article 14 and Article 21 of the Constitution of India".

> **Respondents by way of debarring PwBD of more than 80% from taking admission in graduate medical education programme have violated Article 14 and Article 21 of the Constitution**
>
> PETITIONER

The petition further said that it also violates various Sections of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (RPWD) Act - 2016 and more specifically Section 3, Section 6 and Section 7. The petitioner has argued that the notification not only attacked the dignity of persons with benchmark disability but also failed to apply the principal of equal opportunity.

The petitioner has argued that the Central government and the MCI have failed to state the legitimate aim which they seek to achieve by making persons having more than 80% disability ineligible from taking MBBS exam.

The court has listed the case for further hearing on April 4.

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HC initiates PIL on Karol Bagh hotel fire

STAFF REPORTER
NEW DELHI

The Delhi High Court on Tuesday initiated a public interest litigation (PIL) to look into the recent fire at a hotel in Karol Bagh that claimed 17 lives.

A Bench of Chief Justice Rajendra Menon and Justice V.K. Rao issued notice to the Delhi government, police, fire department, North Delhi Municipal Corporation and Hotel Arpit Palace, where the incident occurred, and sought their replies on whether the establishment in question was functioning in violation of licensing norms.

The High Court decided to take up the issue as a PIL after it received a letter from Tushar Sahdev and Raman Kalra, who had claimed that the hotel was not complying with the Supreme Court directions to have more than one exit and entry point.

They have contended in their letter that there was only one entry/exit point.

They also said that the hotel was located on a narrow road, which is against the requirements in the city's masterplan.

Sexual assault case: court denies bail to 3 scribes over crass plea

Had referred to complainant, also a journalist, as 'no babe in the woods'

ASHOK KUMAR
GURUGRAM

A local court here has turned down the anticipatory bail plea of three journalists accused in a sexual assault case for referring to the complainant, a woman scribe with an English daily, as "no babe in the woods" in their submission, besides taking into account the seriousness of the allegations.

Additional Sessions Judge Suruchi Atreja, in a nine-page order, said that taking into account the seriousness of the allegations of sexual harassment alleged by the complainant and in view of the derogatory words used by accused Rashpal Bhardwaj, a resident of Himachal Pradesh, the court did not see it appropriate to grant the extraordinary concession of bail to the accused.

'Scandalous complaint'

Rashpal, a former colleague of the complainant, had in his submission before the court seeking anticipatory bail said the complainant was no "babe in the woods"

> **All the stories of the complainant are based on plagiarism, cut-copy-paste [job] and press releases lifted from the public relations wings of several corporates**
>
> SUBMISSION BY ACCUSED

and had filed a 'scandalous' complaint against him in an attempt to "cut her nose to spite her face".

Achlendra Katiyar and Shahnawaz Alam, both working as bureau chiefs with different Hindi dailies, are the two other journalists that have been denied bail.

Saying that nothing in the order be construed as an expression of opinion on the merit of the case, the court, in its order on February 22, said that documents furnished on record showed that the matter required investigation regarding the allegations levelled against the accused.

The three had moved separate bail pleas under Section 438 of the Criminal Procedure Code earlier this month.

The complainant had in a FIR on February 8 accused Rashpal of repeatedly making sexual advances at her for over two years and conspiring with the journalists of three different publications, including Rao Jaswant Singh, working with another English daily, to post defamatory and explicit messages on social networking platforms to harm her reputation.

Rashpal, in his defence, claimed that he had performed his duty with honesty and sincerity and the allegations levelled against him were false and levelled to settle scores with him. He further said the complainant created a fake account to post tweets against him and malign him.

"All the stories of the complainant were based on plagiarism, cut-copy-paste (job) and press releases lifted from the public relations wings of several corporates and it is on account of the complainant told not to do so... she felt aggrieved and has registered the present complaint," said Rashpal in his submission to the court. He denied having ever touched the complainant inappropriately and said that her complaint amounted to libel and defamation.

Rasphal was terminated from his job on November 13, 2018, for misconduct in a separate case. Achlendra and Shahnawaz submitted that the allegations against them were false and no such incident of sexual harassment was done by them.

The duo said they were not even employed in the office of the complainant and had no direct dealing with her, adding that it was an internal matter of the complainant and her colleague.

The two said they were ready to join the investigation and in such circumstances, when the allegations against them were false and they had not indulged in any harassment and criminal intimidation, they should be released on bail.

One dead, 15 injured as bus, dumper truck collide at ITO

Seven people critical; traffic lights were on 'blinker mode'

STAFF REPORTER
NEW DELHI

A 38-year-old driver of a dumper truck was killed and 15 others injured when a low-floor DTC bus and the heavy vehicle collided at the ITO crossing in central Delhi on Tuesday.

The police said the injured dumper driver was rushed to a hospital where he succumbed to injuries.

Out of the 15 bus passengers that were injured, seven were grievously hurt and are undergoing treatment at LNJP Hospital.

An eyewitness said that due to the impact of the collision, the bus veered off track and rammed the railings of a median divider before crashing into an electricity pole.

Both the vehicles were being driven recklessly, said the eyewitness.

A PCR call was received around 3.15 a.m. regarding an accident at ITO red-light, said the police. A dumper coming from Ring Road and a DTC bus (route no. 740) collided at the ITO crossing when the traffic signal was on blinker mode.

The police received a call about the incident around 3.15 a.m. on Tuesday. • SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

The bus was going from Anand Vihar to Uttam Nagar when the accident happened, said the police.

'Had two children'

"The deceased driver was Karan Singh, from Bilaspur in Himanchal Pradesh. He is survived by his wife and two kids. He was on the way back to Rama Road after unloading goods he was carrying in the dumper. It seems that he lost his way and instead of staying on the Ring Road, he moved towards Laxmi Nagar and the collision took place when he was taking a turn at the ITO crossing," said a police officer.

It took around 30 minutes to pull out Karan from the vehicle, said the police. The body has been shifted to the mortuary; the family have been informed about the incident, said a police officer.

"A case under relevant sections of the IPC has been registered at IP Estate police station. We have obtained CCTV footage from the junction for investigation," said a police officer.

DELHI TODAY

February 27:

Book Launch and Talk: Release of the book "China at a Turning Point: Perspectives after the 19th Party Congress", edited by Prof. Manoranjan Mohanty, followed by a discussion. Panelists: Prof. Patricia Uberoi, Chairperson & Honorary Fellow, ICS; Amb. Kishan S. Rana, Emeritus Fellow, ICS and Dr. Govind Kelkar, Adjunct Fellow, ICS. Chair: Amb. Ashok K. Kantha is the Director, ICS at Seminar Rooms II & III, Kamaladevi Complex, India International Centre, 6 p.m.

Music: Santoor recital by Setsuo Miyashita , accompanied by Asim Ali Khan on tabla. Followed by a tabla recital by Zuheb Khan, accompanied by Aman Khan on sarangi at Amaltas Hall, India Habitat Centre (IHC), 7 p.m.

Exhibition: "The Hypostatic Transformation" group show of artworks at Gallery Nature Morte, A-1, Neeti Bagh, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.

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

Chautala case: ED officials summoned

Court seeks clarification on probe into money laundering

NIRNIMESH KUMAR
NEW DELHI

A Delhi court has summoned three senior officials of the Enforcement Directorate to explain different aspects of the probe into money laundering charges against former Haryana Chief Minister O.P Chautala.

The case is an offshoot of a disproportionate assets case against the former CM.

Special Judge Kamini Lau summoned the officials when the prosecution failed to answer certain queries made by her.

"I have given my careful consideration to the rival contentions. However, when asked for details on generation of proceeds of crime, structuring, layering and projection of the alleged proceeds as legal, the Special PP and the investigating officer are unable to satisfy the court," Ms. Lau said.

Senior officers

"This being the background, the senior officers who were involved in preparation of the complaint, forwarding the same and presently involved in further investigations i.e. Rajeshwar Singh (the then Assistant Director, now Joint Director); D.D. Negi (Assistant Director) (as reflected from the complaint); and D.S. Siddhu (Joint Director), who I am informed is presently handling further investigations, be called to assist the court," the Judge said.

The Judge asked these officers to inform the court the manner in which the proceeds of crime were generated and the evidence relating to structuring and layering.

Women's safety priority for new Gurugram top cop

Ensuring justice for weaker sections of society a 'sacred duty': Muhammad Akil

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
GURUGRAM

Reducing crimes against women and maintaining smooth traffic will be the top priorities for Muhammad Akil, who took over as Gurugram's new Commissioner of Police on Tuesday.

Ensuring justice for weaker sections of society and the elderly is the "sacred" duty of the police, he said.

Mr. Akil, former Additional Director General of Police (Law and Order), said the number of deaths in road accidents had gone down in Haryana in 2018 compared to a year earlier, but traffic remained a big challenge in the Millennium City.

Traffic issues

He said that analysis of traffic in Gurugram showed that motorcyclists were most likely to break traffic rules leading to injuries to themselves and others. Mr. Akil also said the police would try to ensure that traffic in the city was smooth as per the capacity of the roads.

In light of the upcoming general election, a crackdown would be ordered on liquor and narcotics smugglers, said Mr. Akil.

Another priority of the police would be to arrest proclaimed offenders and notorious gangsters.

Mr. Akil added that he would ensure that no one took advantage of the frailty of the elderly and those belonging to the weaker sections of society

Mr. Akil took charge of office from his predecessor K.K. Rao, who has been posted as Inspector General of Police (Recruitment Training Center), Bhondsi.

Mr. Rao is credited with crackdown on prostitution rackets in pubs and spa centres on the Mehrauli-Gurugram Road, besides action against fake call centres.

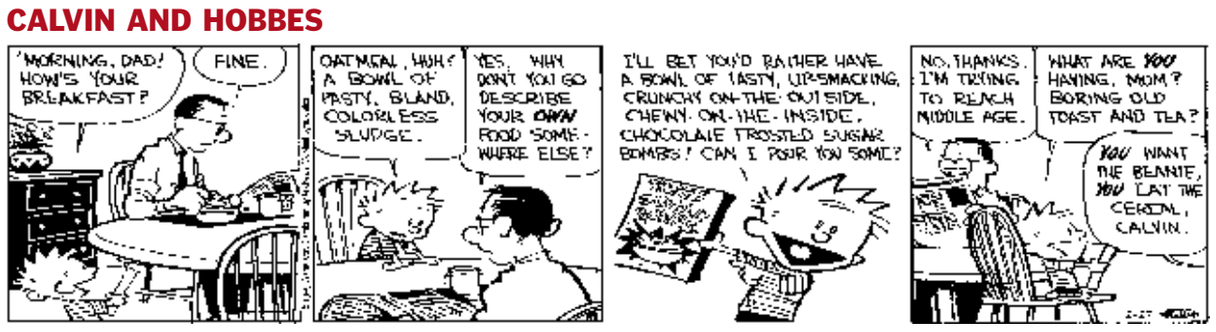
During Mr. Rao's tenure, many cyber theft cases were solved and more than 200 people were arrested for ATM thefts, online scams and harassing people on social media. He increased police presence on the roads and directed all station house officers to identify crime-prone spots.

POOCH CAFE

PEANUTS

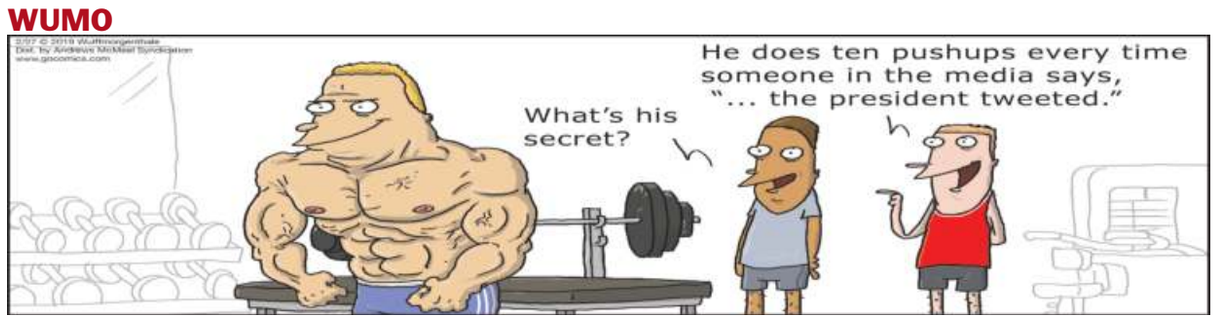
HAGAR THE HORRIBLE

CALVIN AND HOBBES



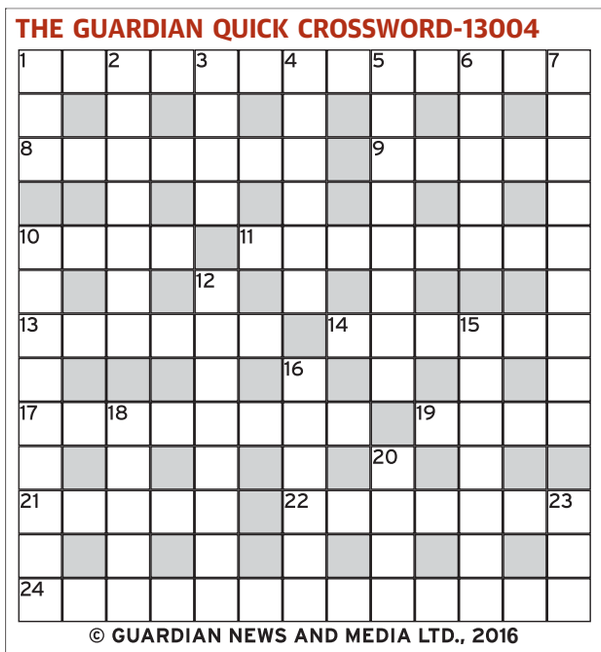
TIGER

WUMO



PEARLS BEFORE SWINE

THE GUARDIAN QUICK CROSSWORD-13004



Across
1 Fellow soldier (7-2-4)
8 Hereditary knight (7)
9 Book for someone swearing? (5)
10 Chain armour (4)
11 Sheets and pillowcases (8)
13 Nakedness (6)
14 Counter-factual (6)
17 Leading (8)
19 Feeble (4)
21 Heraldic black (5)
22 Knoll (7)
24 Ostensibly (2,3,4,2,2)

Down
1 Hazelnut (3)
2 Not single (7)
3 Stuart queen (4)
4 Word indicating the following alternatives (6)
5 Taking small bites (8)
6 Christmas card bird (5)
7 Author of The Grapes of Wrath (9)
10 Pre-election policy declaration (9)
12 Disorderly rush (8)
15 Utter fluently (4,3)
16 Volcanic island near Naples (6)
18 Automaton (5)
20 Unrestrained joy (4)
23 Equipment (3)

Solution will appear in MetroPlus dated February 28, 2019.

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MAPPING CPB

From Senate House on Marina Beach to Cholamandal Artists' Village on ECR, the second edition of Chennai Photo Biennale aims to bring art to the people. Navigate the month-long event, that starts today and ends on March 24, with this handy guide that covers the highlights

:: TEAM WEEKEND

PV Subramanian

The ace photographer will talk about the importance of creativity in the art form and why going beyond technicalities is crucial. He will discuss the various genres in photography and how to master your craft. On March 23, from 11 am to 2 pm, at Goethe-Institut.

Angela Grauerholz

Born in Hamburg, Germany, Grauerholz has lived and worked in Montréal since 1976. She will discuss the inspiration for her work, and the difficult transformation from analogue to digital medium. On February 24, from 3.30 pm to 4.15 pm, at Goethe-Institut.

Peter Pfrunder

The director and curator of the Swiss Foundation for Photography will talk about his publications and photobooks. On March 9, from 6 pm to 8 pm, at Novotel Chennai Chamiers Road.

G Venket Ram

The man behind popular brand campaigns — for the likes of Ponds, Cadbury's, Coca Cola and Airtel — talks creative and commercial sustainability in the art world and how to evolve as a commercial artist, while maintaining your style and ethics. On March 15, from 5 pm to 6 pm, at Phoenix MarketCity.

GOVERNMENT MUSEUM

Stories of the Ocean, as captured by 25 students who attended an advanced CPB workshop on visual storytelling, will be showcased under the sprawling trees — all photos have been shot on an iPhone XR! Archana Hande's work, *The Golden Feral Trail*, and Manjunath Kamath's trippy digital imagery can also be seen here. And if you're visiting on March 16 and 17, pick up some merchandise and photo books.

Pantheon Road, Egmore
Monday to Sunday, 10 am to 5 pm

GOVERNMENT COLLEGE OF FINE ARTS

FESTIVAL HQ

This is where a majority of the action is happening, with over five galleries spread across the campus. You can also catch a glimpse of student work. The highlight here is the Photo Kadai, featuring photobooks like *Seeking Moksha* by Nishant Shukla and *Soul of the Nilgiris* by Ramya Reddy, and mugs with cartoonist Biswajit Balasubramanian's artwork.

EVR Road, Periyamet,
Monday to Saturday, 10.30 am to 6.30 pm

ART HOUZ

There is a lot of cinema at this venue: Dayanita Singh's collaboration with choreographer Mark Morris, featuring a charming collection of photos of Bollywood's *Masterji*, Saroj Khan; Amshu Chukki's tour of abandoned film sets; Raskolnikov's *First Day First Show* series, and Karthik Subramanian's work that studies the representation of Jayalalithaa.

123, Sterling Road, Seetha Nagar, Nungambakkam
Monday to Sunday, 11 am to 7 pm

SENATE HOUSE

This iconic Chennai venue plays host to *A Photogenic Line*, a 100-ft sequence of images taken from *The Hindu*'s photo archives, put together by CAMP, a collaborative studio. As artist and CAMP co-founder Ashok Sukumaran says, the installation "rides upon the courage and labour of press photographers across India".

University of Madras, Triplicane
Monday to Saturday, 10 am to 6 pm

MADRAS LITERARY SOCIETY

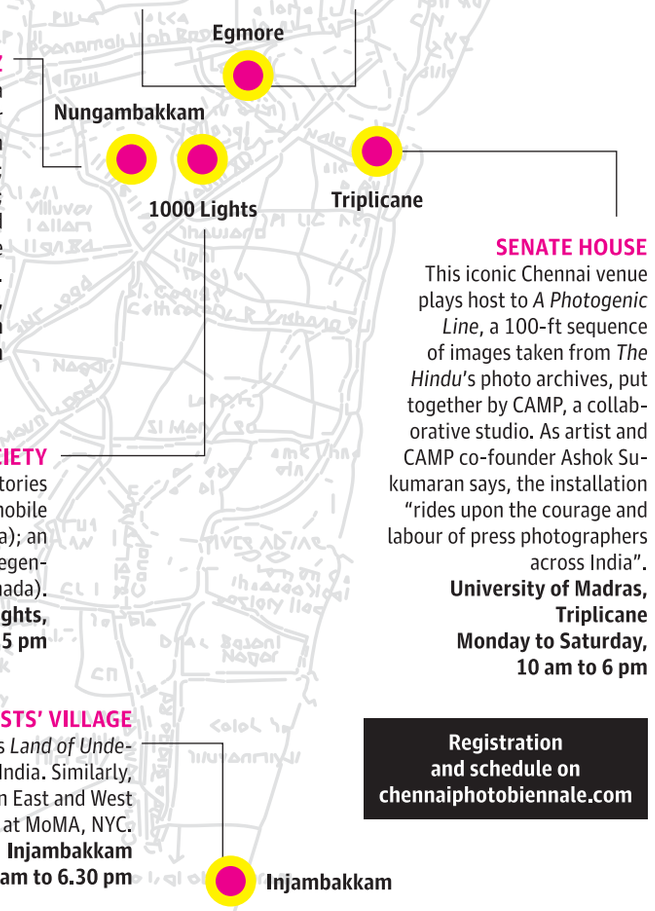
This venue puts the focus on international artists. Explore photo stories of a horse caretaker named Ridwan Sururi who uses his horse as a mobile library for kids in remote Central Java by Putu Sayoga (Indonesia); an archive of disappearing images by Liz Fernando (Germany), and the regenerative aspects of loss by Angela Grauerholz (Canada).

DPI Campus, College Road, Thousand Lights,
Monday to Saturday, 9 am to 5 pm

CHOLAMANDAL ARTISTS' VILLAGE

If you're driving down ECR, pop into this venue to see Munem Wasif's *Land of Undefined Territory*, shot in the border regions between Bangladesh and India. Similarly, Kader Attia's video projection explores the tenuous history between East and West through images from museums — this work has also been exhibited at MoMA, NYC.

Injambakkam
Monday to Sunday, 9.30 am to 6.30 pm



Registration and schedule on chennaiphotobiennale.com

OH SNAP!

These MRTS stations provide large-format canvases to showcase student talent from across the country. From Monday to Sunday, 8 am to 6 pm.

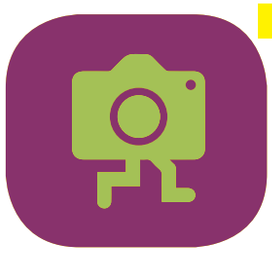
CHINTADRIPET
It's all about the environment for the students of Srishti School of Art, Design and Technology. They will be showcasing two collections: *Forget Gold: Invest in Water* and *Portrait of Erosion*.

KASTURI BAI NAGAR
The Peninsular Coast by NID captures the essence of our coastal towns, community life, ports, water systems and more, displayed in three sections: the Coromandel coast, Kerala's shores and the historic Gujarat coastline.

THIRUVANMIYUR
Unfamiliar tasks, daring adventures and quirky displays define the experimental display by NIFT's young designers. Unsuspecting Chennaiites get a makeover in the series, *Fashion League of Extravagant Chennaite*.

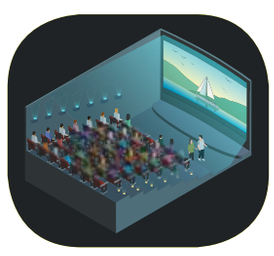
WORKSHOPS

Learn how to make the most of your smartphone camera as Amar Ramesh teaches you composition and lighting (₹1,000 on March 22). CPB founder Varun Gupta will lead a free workshop on digital archiving through hardware storage as well as cloud-based options (on March 9). Register on chennaiphotobiennale.com.



PHOTOWALKS

Don't miss the Colonial Madras Photo Walk (on March 10). Hosted in partnership with Storytrails, CPB photographers will meet you with handy tips at each venue. There's also a guided photo tour of Parrys (March 24) led by Ramesh Raja, where you can capture the essence of the flower *bazaars*. Priced at ₹200.



FILM SCREENINGS

Highlights of these free screenings include last year's Belgian documentary about Harry Gruyaert, whose Catholic father forbade him to become a photographer because he thought it sinful. Closer to home, there is the 2014 film, *Mundasupatti*, about a village that believes cameras are bad luck.

MADHUR TANKHA

A twist in taste

The new menu at Farzi Café keeps to its DNA, while offering a new set of palate-pleasers that bring together India and the world

Fusion on the table: (Clockwise from top) Edamame hummus with Kori roti, assorted poppadums; interiors of the eatery ▪ SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Farzi Café, as regulars know, is not about over-the-top interiors; it is instead about the food that always surprises. The all-wood look and feel is a sort of neutral backdrop against which the food appears: for starters, a shot of mishti doi topped with strawberry jelly. It's just enough to get the mouth watering. It looks solid – well, wobbly, but take into your mouth, and it sort of explodes.

I'm in Cyber Hub, Gurugram, but Farzi also has outlets in Connaught Place and Aerocity in Delhi, besides in Mumbai, Bengaluru, Hyderabad, Pune, Chandigarh, Jaipur, and Lucknow. They opened in London in 2018. My eyes go straight to the Tandoori New Zealand Lamb Chops (the meat is imported) and the Amritsari Fish 'N' Chips. As usual, Zorawar Kalra has us intrigued, mixing a little bit of this with a little bit of that, really understanding fusion without it being contrived or silly.

Next up, Rock Shrimp that sounded like we'd have to hammer through a hard exterior. But when the dish came to the table it was a dainty little thing, as close in flavour to a fresh-off-the-boat catch.

The avocado chaat was refreshing, a sort of bridge between the still-cool Delhi afternoon and the hot summer months that lie ahead. You could almost see the chef scooping it out, chopping up some green chillies, throwing on the sev and mint chutney – a take on aloo chaat, just fresher, with buttery chunks to sink the teeth into. The dish, 'imported' from the menu at Farzi Café, London, sources its fruit from either Thailand, or Australia, sometimes even South America.

Edamame hummus, in its green avatar, gives good old chickpea hummus a run for its money.It's surprising how the garlic and olive oil work just as well. It's a smart choice, given it's Delhi's current Japanese fix. Farzi serves it with wafer-thin Kori roti, a snack made using boiled rice paste.

The Corporate Executive Chef, Saurabh Udinia says they were experimenting with dishes in Farzi in Bengaluru. "I went on a food hunt in rural Karnataka. I discovered Kori roti there and was convinced it would work," says Udinia.

After all this, the chicken wings seemed a but tame. It wasn't, flavoured as it was by Thalassery pepper (from Kerala) used in the marination. The curry leaves toned down the hot hit. To round it all off, there was Paniyaram, except here they were steamed into rice-batter 'bowls' with quail's eggs within.

The concept of Farzi Café is to play around with different ingredients from across the world but keep the basic flavours of Indian cuisine intact. The imported ingredients only enhance its deep Indian roots.

Meal for two: ₹2,000; Ground floor, Cyber Hub, 7-8, DLF Cyber City, Gurugram, Haryana; Time: 12 noon to 12 midnight

PLACES

Space jam

The Common Room is a free-to-go space that hopes to help start-ups build brands, not just products or services

Dhan Mill a bit of an oasis in Delhi's Okhla; it's still dusty, but at least it's calm. And there's a foundation which supports start-ups to get the India edge.

Why are we here?

The Common Room stands tall: High ceilings with a glass frontage that lets the winter sunlight into the horizontal strip of a café with a counter and some seating, all rattan and wood. Go deeper into the 5,000-square-foot space, down the long corridor flanked by three meeting rooms (and aircraft strip lighting!), and you'll open into a space with gallery-style seating. The mismatched furniture in the library somehow pulls together quite well, and you see more glass and lots of brass accents in the walls (imagine a wooden wall with brass 'grouting').

TMI?

That's because V Sunil, co-founder of Motherland, the brand that builds brands, does the details himself, spending weekends going to Sharma Farms for furniture and HP Singh for fabric. Split ACs are 'shielded' with rattan screens and sleek, long door handles are positioned lower than usual for effect and more practical use. Forest-green floors (concrete with a colour mixed in, much like the red oxide flooring in Southern India) covers the area that was once a mill. "All the materials are local, and we had three carpenters do the whole thing," says Sunil.

So what is it?

No, it's not an English pub, sadly; nor is it a co-working space, thankfully, but you will get a good cup of coffee (hopefully in the near future), as you bask in this Cochin-Club-aesthetic-meets-Scandinavian-design-sensibility space. Sunil says despite India's many successful start-ups, the young people who run them don't always have the exposure to look at big-picture branding with a global design sensibility. "The Common Room is a platform, a pipeline for start-ups, so the 'garage thinking' changes" he says.

Why should you go?

To listen to top people across businesses hold sessions or chat around a table: think Matrix, Bain, Sequoia, Space10. "Sessions happen on a Sunday morning, so the people who come are not just landing up — they are serious about it." This (largish) studio is where the various partners (including VCs) that own and support the space will meet young people informally. It's an opportunity to learn, a chance to get support through funding, and well, you're having coffee with Rahul Bhati — yes, the man who built Indigo Airlines.

Next up: 1 March 12 noon - 1 p.m.; Alex Tran, Principal at General Catalyst (an Amercian VC firm that has invested in Airbnb, Hive, Snapchat and more) on What do Growth Investors look for? *Register with info@commonroomfoundation.com*

SUNALINI MATHEW

5 EVENTS WORTH YOUR WHILE

PAINTING

Group show

An exhibition of paintings titled 'Terrain' by Sujata Singh, Suddhasattwa Basu, and Mala Marwah is on until March 8th. Subjects relate to nature, from the botanically-inspired to metaphorical interpretations and a nuanced pastoral space. The mediums: watercolours, inks, pencil, mixed media, and acrylic paints.

VENUE: Art Gallery, Kamaladevi Complex, IIC
TIME: 11 a.m. - 7 p.m.

FOOD

Dilli 6 food festival

The 9th edition of this fest at Edesia offers delicacies from the reigns of the Mughals and Britishers to regional specialities of the Punjabis. The buffet includes over 80 dishes: Mahi Subz Posh, Naan-E-Pista, Sarai ki Gosht Biryani, Jahangiri Quorma, Mian Ki Halim.

VENUE: Crowne Plaza, Okhla
TIME: 7 p.m. - 11 p.m.

EXHIBITION

Cottage Crafts mela

Central Cottage Industries Corporation of India is organising an exhibition of handicrafts and handloom fabrics. On display are artefacts, wood-craft, metalware, pottery, marble-craft, paintings, stone-craft.

VENUE: Crafts Museum, Bhairon Marg, Pragati Maidan
TIME: 11 a.m.- 8 p.m.

FILM

Tea time

Kiara Soul Kitchen has introduced its high-tea menu, to go with the weather and local produce. There's Shakarkandi and Kaddu Chaat (sweet potato and pumpkin chaat), Pokchoy Patta Chaat, and many more interesting options.

VENUE: M 30, First Floor, M-Block Market, Greater Kailash II
TIME: 4 p.m. - 7 p.m.

F&B

Mocktails and appetizers

House of Commons presents some interesting drinks: the Pink Panther Martini with its fruity blast; Tropical Sling, a fusion of watermelon, peach, mint, and lime. The Verdure Pizza combines grilled artichoke, mushroom, and bell peppers.

VENUE: M 39, 2nd Floor, Outer Circle, Connaught Place
TIME: 3 p.m. - 12 midnight