



Kafeel Khan being harassed in prison, alleges wife
page 9



Bar Association conveys concern over Justice Mishra's praise for PM
page 12



India takes on New Zealand in crucial T20 World Cup game
page 18



Five-time Major winner Maria Sharapova calls time on glittering career
page 18

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

NEARBY



Cabinet approves Bill to regulate surrogacy

NEW DELHI

The Union Cabinet on Wednesday approved the Surrogacy (Regulation) Bill, 2020, allowing a "willing" woman to be a surrogate mother and proposing that the Bill would benefit widows and divorced women besides infertile Indian couples. The Cabinet approved the Bill after incorporating the recommendations of a Rajya Sabha Select Committee.

NEWS ▶ PAGE 12

Set my mother free, Iltija Mufti urges SC

NEW DELHI

The government dossier justifies detaining former J&K Chief Minister Mehbooba Mufti under the Public Safety Act on grounds such as she was "scheming, hard-headed and a daddy's girl" with a "short-lived marriage". Iltija Mufti, her daughter, informed the Supreme Court on Wednesday. In a habeas corpus petition, Ms. Iltija sought a direction to the J&K police to produce her mother in the SC and set her at liberty.

NEWS ▶ PAGE 12

FUTURE IAS
AN ALCHEMIST OF CIVIL SERVICES
FREE INTERVIEW GUIDANCE PROGRAM
To Book your mock interview slot Call: 93339-94449
www.futureias.net | info@futureias.co.in

Death toll rises to 27 in Delhi violence

14 more succumb to injuries on Wednesday; NSA Ajit Doval, CM Arvind Kejriwal visit disturbed areas

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

The death toll in Delhi's worst-ever communal violence since 1984 rose to 27, with 14 more persons succumbing to injuries sustained in clashes that began over the Citizenship (Amendment) Act on Sunday evening.

After four days, both the Centre and the Delhi government swung into action, with National Security Adviser Ajit Doval and Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal going to the disturbed parts of the city on Wednesday to rebuild confidence among people.

In a walkabout shown live on television, Mr. Doval spoke to residents, some of whom posed tough questions. A bearded man could be heard telling him: "Muslims are being killed wherever their numbers are few."

"The situation is under control and people are satisfied. We have confidence in law enforcement agencies.



Restoring order: Paramilitary personnel conducting a flag march at Chand Bagh in Delhi on Wednesday. ■ SANDEEP SAXENA

The police are doing their job and are alert," Mr. Doval said, suggesting that the demand for calling out the Army was not under consideration.

PM's appeal

Minutes after Congress president Sonia Gandhi demanded the resignation of Union Home Minister Amit Shah, Prime Minister Narendra Modi appealed for calm

and normalcy to be restored at the earliest. These were his first public comments on the violence since Sunday.

Addressing the Assembly, Mr. Kejriwal, who has come under fire for not reaching out to the people, said,

"This was not done by Delhi's common people. It was done by people from outside, political and anti-social elements. Because of the actions of these people, some areas of Delhi are burning."

"We are hearing that it is a Hindu-Muslim fight. Hindus and Muslims are not fighting in Delhi," he said.

indulging in the violence and killings.

"We have obtained CCTV footage of miscreants to identify them and are using drones to check rooftops. We will take action against the building owners if stones are found on the rooftops. On Wednesday, we conducted route marches, and calls to police control rooms were monitored by senior police officers," Mr. Randhawa said.

CONTINUED ON ▶ PAGE 12
MORE REPORTS ON ▶ PAGES 3, 4, 5 & 13

Shah should resign: Sonia

Congress president Sonia Gandhi held Union Home Minister Amit Shah responsible for the violence in Delhi, and demanded his immediate resignation. She said the events since last Sunday had a "history, design and pattern". Ms. Gandhi held Delhi CM Arvind Kejriwal "equally responsible" for not reaching out to the people. ■ PAGE 13

Decide on FIRs for hate speech'

The Delhi High Court asked the police to take a "conscious decision" on registering FIRs against the three BJP leaders accused of making hate speeches. The Bench of Justices S.

Muralidhar and Talwant Singh observed that the city could not be a witness to another 1984-like riots. The court asked the police to communicate its decision by Thursday. ▶ PAGE 13

don't know what the situation on the ground is," Mr. Mehta kept repeating.

"This will happen if you allow people to get away. Unless you get the police to act, there will be no difference. Look at how police acts in the UK. Do they require somebody's nod? If somebody makes an inflammatory remark, police swings into action immediately," Justice Joseph responded.

Justice Kaul said what had happened (riots) in the past few days was "unfortunate".

CONTINUED ON ▶ PAGE 12

HC to the rescue of riot victims

Police told to provide necessary assistance, security

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

The Delhi High Court on Wednesday issued a series of directions to the Delhi police, the State government and other agencies for providing all necessary assistance to those affected by the violence in northeast Delhi.

The court said the highest constitutional functionaries who move with 'Z' category security should reach out to the affected people to give them confidence that the law was functioning.

The directions were given on a petition seeking police protection for the safe passage of the injured persons from AI Hind Hospital to other nearest hospitals.

Midnight hearing
The petition was first taken up during an urgent midnight hearing at the residence of Justice S. Muralidhar.



Fire services personnel dousing the flames at a scrap market in Gokulpuri. ■ SANDEEP SAXENA

had been shifted, the court commanded the police for a prompt response.

The court directed that Special Commissioner of Police Pravir Ranjan would ensure adequate number of help desks and persons assigned to handling distress calls. The police were also told to explore the possibility of taking help from the civil defence volunteers and Home Guard personnel.

The police had been directed to arrange for safe passage to fire tenders and ambulances. The Health Secretary and the Fire Services Director had also been given necessary orders. The State government had been told to provide shelter and basic amenities, including medicines, to the displaced. If necessary, rehabilitation centres had to be set up.

When informed that the victims at AI Hind Hospital

CONTINUED ON ▶ PAGE 12

In Rakhigarhi, anxiety trumps history

Villagers fear loss of land, as Centre moves to turn Harappan site into tourist hub



A look into the past: Local residents near a mound at the Harappan site of Rakhigarhi in Haryana. ■ SHIV KUMAR PUSHPAKAR

concern here. The Archaeological Survey of India has started planning the project. Union Tourism and Culture Minister Prahlad Singh Patel visited the site on Sunday and spoke to villagers about their concerns.

If Dholavira changed history, Rakhigarhi is changing history for the second time. People in Delhi will have to visit Rakhigarhi," Mr. Patel

said, adding that the government would work with the villagers to address their concerns as the tourist hub is formed.

A former sarpanch, or local head, Dinesh, told the Minister, "We are happy that there will be work in our villages, but we are scared about what will happen to us. Already, people are anxious about the rehabilita-

SHIFT TO FLATS ▶ PAGE 9

tion of homes around mound number four and five."

The ASI has been able to

get under its control just 83.5 acres of the 350-hectare site that spans 11 mounds, after first taking over the site in 1996, due to encroachments and pending court cases, said ASI Chandigarh Circle Superintending Archaeologist Zulfeqar Ali. The site is under ASI protection.

"If encroachments are removed, the cow dung on the mounds will also shift," he said, adding that about 5% of the site had been excavated so far by the ASI and Deccan College, Pune. Among the findings, which indicate both early and mature Harappan phases, were a 4,600-year-old female skeleton, fortification and bricks.

IBS®
Hyderabad

AACSB ACCREDITED

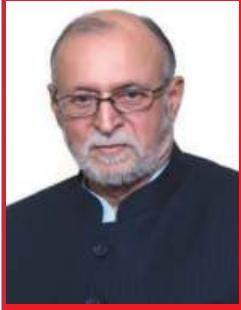
ICFAI Business School (IBS) Hyderabad joins the exclusive league of Top 5% B-Schools worldwide having AACSB International Accreditation



Facebook: /ibsindia | Blog: blog.ibsindia.org | Twitter: @ibsindia | Instagram: instagram.com/ibsindia | Pinterest: /ibsindia | LinkedIn: /company/icfaibusiness-school

MBA | BBA | Ph.D.
www.ibshydrabad.org

ICFAI GROUP Pioneering Professional Education for over 35 years



Lt. Governor, Delhi

APPEAL

My dear fellow residents of Delhi,

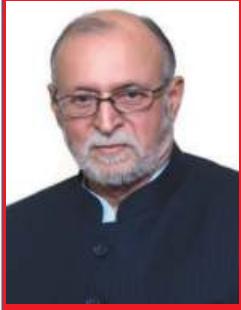
In the wake of recent violent incidents that occurred in some parts of Delhi over past few days, I appeal to you all to maintain public order and peace. Violence in a civilized society is unacceptable; we all should maintain mutual brotherhood and harmony.

I sincerely request to you all to beware of fake news. Do not lend ears to rumor mongers. Do not be part of any mob. Avoid circulating unconfirmed messages on social media. Do not post or share any kind of inflammatory remarks. Follow government advisories and exercise restraint. In case of any suspicious activity, please inform Police Control Room immediately. (**phone no- 100, 112, 011-22829334, 011-22829335**).

Delhi police and all concerned agencies are making earnest efforts to restore normalcy. I urge you to cooperate with Police and Administration in maintaining peace and harmony.

-Anil Baijal

Dip/Shabdarthy/D/0335/19-20



Lt. Governor, Delhi

'Govt. has broken the back of drug mafia'

CM Amarinder Singh accuses Parkash Singh Badal of spreading falsehoods

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

CHANDIGARH

Punjab Chief Minister Amarinder Singh said on Wednesday that his government's campaign against drugs had broken the back of the drug mafia in the State. He added that the campaign continues unabated in line with the party's poll promise.

"The State government had adopted a comprehensive EDP - Enforcement, De-addiction and Prevention - strategy to meet the requirements of its promise to the people of Punjab," the Chief Minister said in the Assembly during the ongoing budget session.

Timings

DELHI

THURSDAY, FEB. 27
● RISE 06:49 SET 18:19
● RISE 09:00 SET 21:32
FRIDAY, FEB. 28
● RISE 06:48 SET 18:20
● RISE 09:30 SET 22:24
SATURDAY, FEB. 29
● RISE 06:47 SET 18:21
● RISE 10:01 SET 23:17

Delhi Weather

max min

Delhi City 27 13

Safdarjung 27 13

Palam 27 14

Delhi Palam Today

28°C Shallow fog is likely in the morning. A warm day with mainly clear sky is expected. Night temperature may rise.

Delhi Palam Tomorrow

29°C A pleasant morning with shallow fog is likely. There are chances of rain and thunder-shower by tonight.

© Copyright Skymet Weather 2019
All rights reserved.

THE HINDU

DISCLAIMER: Readers are requested to verify and make appropriate enquiries to satisfy themselves about the veracity of an advertisement before responding to any offer made therein. THE HINDU PUBLISHING PVT LTD, the Publisher & Owner of this newspaper, does not vouch for the products and/or services offered by the advertiser or for any of the advertiser's products and/or services. In no event can the Owner, Publisher, Editor, Director, Employees or the agents of the company be held responsible/liable in any manner whatsoever for any claims and/or damages for advertisements in this newspaper.



Amarinder Singh addressing the Punjab Assembly in Chandigarh on Wednesday.

■ AKHILESH KUMAR

the drug menace.

"It did not behove of Mr. Badal to spread such falsehoods," he said referring to the Akali leader's remarks.

Capt. Amarinder said 34,373 NDPS cases had been registered during the last three years, with the arrest of 42,571 persons and seizure of 974.15 kg of heroin by the Punjab police. A total of 193 Out-patient Opioid Addiction Treatment clinics had been established and were providing free regular treatment to drug addicts, and, at present, 3.70 lakh persons were undergoing treatment for drug addiction in the State.

The Chief Minister also

trashed AAP's so-called Delhi model of development, saying his government had made bigger strides in the State on all counts, including the much-hyped education and power subsidies provided by the Arvind Kejriwal government in the national capital.

He said that the government was providing a total power subsidy of over ₹12,000 crore this year, with ₹9,000 crore to agriculture, ₹1,500 crore to industry and ₹1,900 crore to domestic consumers.

Capt. Amarinder said the reservation policy, including those in promotions, would continue in the State.

Azam Khan, wife, son surrender in court, remanded in custody

The case relates to two birth certificates of Abdullah Azam

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

LUCKNOW

Samajwadi Party MP Azam Khan, his legislator wife Taazeen Fatima and MLA son Abdullah Azam surrendered before a Rampur court on Wednesday and were remanded in judicial custody over Abdullah's allegedly fake birth certificate.



Samajwadi Party MP Azam Khan being sent to judicial custody in Rampur on Wednesday. ■ PTI

Rampur Superintendent of Police Santosh Kumar Mishra said they have been remanded in custody till March 2.

The case relates to two birth certificates of Abdullah Azam, who allegedly also gave a wrong date of birth while filing his nomination papers for the Assembly elections in 2017.

Abdullah's election was set aside by the Allahabad High Court last December. He then approached the Supreme Court, which is still hearing the case.

Rampur's Additional District Judge Dhirendra Kumar had on Monday rejected an anticipatory bail plea filed by the family and issued non-bailable warrants and a notice for attaching their property.

In a tweet, the SP accused the ruling BJP of vendetta against the powerful politician.

Rampur BJP leader Akash

Saxena had lodged an FIR at the Gang police station on January 3, 2019, alleging fraud related to Abdullah Azam's two birth certificates. In April, the police filed the chargesheet in court.

A case was also registered against Azam Khan and his wife as they had submitted an affidavit testifying their son's second birth certificate.

How do we make our farming sustainable and profitable?

How can technology help us achieve this?



Powered by

Partnership by
 Bayer

From 'Ship to Mouth' in 1960s to being the largest producer of many agricultural commodities, India has, indeed, come a long way.

Today, we take our food security for granted. But benefits of Green Revolution are fading away and leaving in its wake questions of sustainability. With meagre resources, there is an urgent need to maximise agriculture output with minimum inputs to feed a nation that is soon going to be the most populous in the world.

A two-day summit where experts from across the sector will deliberate on these issues, policy fixes, identify best practices and attempt to transform Indian farming.

DAY 1 - ENTRY BY INVITE ONLY

February 27th, 2020

Time: 6.00pm – 10.00pm

The Imperial, Janpath Lane,

Connaught Place, New Delhi

DAY 2 - BY REGISTRATION ONLY

February 28th, 2020

Time: 10.00am – 6.00pm

India Habitat Centre, Stein Auditorium,

Lodhi Road, New Delhi

(Near Airforce Bal Bharathi School)

TO REGISTER FOR THE DAY 2 EVENT

www.thehindubusinessline.com/agrisummit



Video of inflammatory slogans at MLAs' march surfaces

STAFF REPORTER
NEW DELHI

BJP MLA Abhay Verma on Tuesday night led a march in his area in east Delhi's Laxmi Nagar during which people allegedly chanted slogans to 'shoot the murderers of policemen'.

In a video of the march, the group was also heard raising slogans saying 'people who talk about the welfare of Hindus will only rule in the country' and 'Jai Shree Ram'.

When contacted, Mr. Verma confirmed that both the slogans were raised, but that it was by "common people" in the area and not his supporters. "You see the videos, I'm waving my hands and asking people not to raise the slogans. But in a mob, who will stop whom," Mr. Verma told *The Hindu* on Wednesday.

In the video, a person walking very close to Mr. Verma, on his right side, is raising the slogans, while others surrounding him completed the slogans.

DELHI TODAY

Talk: The fourth day event of Festival of Letters 2020, a seminar on Regionality, Environment and Literature will feature discussion on various topics and All India LGBTQ Poets' Meet at Sahitya Akademi, Rabindra Bhavan, 35 Ferozeshah Road, 10 a.m. onwards

Dance: A Bharatanatyam recital by Veena Kumar and Abhinaya Pennewar, disciples of Justin McCarthy at The Stein Auditorium, India Habitat Centre (IHC), 7 p.m.

Exhibition: "Divine Strokes", a painting exhibition by Neeral Sharma at Convention Centre Foyer, India Habitat Centre (IHC), 11 a.m. - 7 p.m.

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

CM says people from outside, some political elements behind violence

Kejriwal says he has requested Home Minister to call in Army to control situation

STAFF REPORTER
NEW DELHI

Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal and his deputy Manish Sisodia visited riot-hit Shiv Vihar in north-east Delhi on Wednesday night to take stock of the situation and interacted with residents.

"I have been in touch with large number of people whole night. Situation alarming. Police, despite all its efforts, unable to control situation and instil confidence. Army should be called in and curfew imposed in rest of affected areas immediately. Am writing to Hon'ble HM to this effect [sic]," Mr. Kejriwal said in a tweet on Wednesday night.

"I had requested the Home Minister this morning [Wednesday] and now, through this House, I would like to appeal to him again that if necessary, the Army should be called in to control the situation in the city," he added.

Earlier in the day, speak-



Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal at the Assembly session on Wednesday. •PTI

ing at the Delhi Assembly House, the Chief Minister said that the violence in north-east Delhi, in which over 20 people were killed, was unleashed by people from outside and some political and anti-social elements.

"Whatever happened in the last three days was not done by Delhi's common man. It was done by people from outside, some political and anti-social elements. Because of these people's actions, some pockets of Delhi are burning," he said.

The Chief Minister also said that the Delhi government will give ₹1 crore as compensation to the family of head constable Ratan Lal, who died while on duty in the riot-hit area, and one person from his family will be given a government job.

"We are hearing that it is a Hindu-Muslim fight. Hindus and Muslims are not fighting in Delhi," Mr. Kejriwal said. He then read out the names of people who have died in the violence in north east Delhi and said that both Hindus and Muslims have died in the violence.

"Hindus and Muslims in Delhi never want to fight. Everyone has suffered losses in the riots. Over 20 people have been killed. Veer Bhan has died, he was a Hindu. Mohammad Mubaraj has died, he was a Muslim. Parvez was killed, he was a Hindu. Zakir has died, he was a Muslim. Rahul Solanki has died, he was a Hindu. Shahid and Muhammad Furqan

have died, they were Muslims. Rahul Thakur has died, he was a Hindu. Hindus and Muslims have died in the riots. A policeman was also killed. I also have a list of the injured. Hindus and Muslims both have been injured, both are suffering," he said.

Stories of unity

"Many stories of unity were also heard from several parts of the city. It was observed that all the Hindus got together to save a Muslim residing in their area. Somewhere it was learnt that there is a Hindu in the Muslim-dominated area and all the Muslims saved his life. This is our Delhi. This is the future of Delhi. The situation is very sensitive," the Chief Minister said.

Before visiting Shiv Vihar, Mr. Kejriwal, Mr. Sisodia and AAP MP Sanjay Singh held a meeting with senior police officers at the office of Deputy Commissioner of Police (North-East) in Seelampur.

Priyanka says Centre failed in its job, demands Shah's resignation

Cong. leader urges workers to spread message of brotherhood

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

Wearing black bands in protest and calling for peace in the city, Congress workers led by party general secretary Priyanka Gandhi Vadra marched from the AICC headquarters to Gandhi Smriti on Wednesday.

Addressing the gathering, Ms. Vadra called for the resignation of Union Home Minister Amit Shah and said that the Central government has failed in its job of providing safety and security to the people of Delhi.

"This is our city and today, our city is burning as people are spreading hate. The Congress helped in the freedom struggle and it is our duty as members of the party to take steps to bring peace and maintain harmony.

I request all of you to go home after this march and take steps to spread the message of love and brotherhood," Ms. Vadra said.

She urged party workers to visit the affected areas and spread the message of



Congress leader Priyanka Gandhi Vadra during a peace march in the Capital on Wednesday. •SUSHIL KUMAR VERMA

peace and brotherhood, help those who were injured, console families who lost members, reach out to those who had lost property and home so that the situation is not worsened.

Stopped by police

Ms. Vadra accused the government of having "destroyed" Delhi, where people from across the country come to seek employment. "We wanted to walk till the Home Minister's house and demand his resignation, but the police stopped us," she said.

She added that the Congress needs to spread the word that politics of violence needs to stop.

"Those spreading hate need to be told that such politics will only cause loss and sadness and such politics is bad politics," said Ms. Vadra.

Besides Ms. Vadra, other senior leaders who attended the march included Mukul Wasnik, K.C. Venugopal, P.L. Punia, Randeep Surjewala, Rajeev Gowda, Mani Shankar Aiyar, Sushmita Dev, Ajay Maken, Krishna Tiwari and Subhash Chopra.

Air Quality of Delhi-NCR			
Delhi	274	Gurugram	238
Ghaziabad	308	Faridabad	235
Noida	272	Greater Noida	276
Good	■	Satisfactory	■
Moderate	■	101-200	■
Poor	■	201-300	■
Very Poor	■	301-400	■
Severe	■	>400	■

Air Quality Index at 4 p.m. yesterday (Average of past 24 hours) | Source: CPCB

Leaders, activists and residents call for peace, stage sit-in protest

Protesters blame Home Ministry and police for the situation; Yechury emphasises the need for Army deployment

AISHWARYA TRIPATHI
NEW DELHI



Demonstrators at Jantar Mantar on Wednesday. •BIBEK CHETTRI

Women general secretary Annie Raja, JNUSU president Aishe Ghosh and others who alleged the riots to be State-sponsored and discussed the inaction of Delhi Police in this critical situation. Placards reading 'Arrest Kapil Mishra', 'Stop the Violence' and 'Delhi wants Peace' were held high by the protesters.

Mr. Yechury said, "This is not the time for speech or applause. Today our foremost concern is that peace should be restored in Delhi.

We all need to stand united and fight the enemy together. People, our brothers and sisters, who were affected by the violence should know that Bharat stands with them in this time of distress."

Emphasising the immediate need for Army deployment, he said the situation demands prompt action and can't be controlled without the interference of the Army.

Gujarat-like riots

"What is happening in Delhi now is a chilling replay of

2002 Gujarat riots, when the current Prime Minister was the State Chief Minister," said Mr. Yechury. A similar comparison was made by other speakers as well.

Navsharan Singh from NGO Karwan-e-Mohabbat explained the attempts being made for the betterment of the situation. She informed that volunteers consisting of lawyers, doctors and activists are operating from their offices and working towards assistance required in the affected areas.

Several speakers held the police and the Home Ministry responsible for not nipping the outburst in the bud.

Calling the riots being in the making since long, lawyer Vrinda Grover called the police actions in JNU and Jamia Millia Islamia was a trailer of their role in the current riots.

TO ADVERTISE PLEASE CONTACT

Mr. N SELVA KUMAR
PH: 9820350726
selvakumar.n@thehindu.co.in

Mr. MANOJ KUMAR KUSHWAHA
PH: 9999490055
manoj.kushwaha@thehindu.co.in

THE HINDU
India's National Newspaper

SUNDARAM

Balanced Advantage Fund

An open-ended dynamic asset allocation fund

Striking the right balance between risk and reward with flexible moves across asset classes



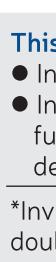
**NFO
CLOSES
TOMORROW**

NEW FUND OFFER

Feb 14, 2020 – Feb 28, 2020

Talk to your investment advisor or call: 1860-425-7237 Visit: www.sundarammutual.com

f /SundaramAMC **@SundaramMF** **/sundarammutualofficial** **/sundarammutual**



Investors understand that their principal will be at **Moderately High Risk**

This product is suitable for investors who are seeking*
● Income generation and long-term capital appreciation
● Investment in a dynamically managed asset allocation fund, consisting of a portfolio of equities, debt, derivatives and REITs/InvITs

*Investors should consult their financial advisors if in doubt about whether the product is suitable for them.

Scan me



SUNDARAM MUTUAL
UNEARTHING OPPORTUNITIES

Mutual fund investments are subject to market risks, read all scheme related documents carefully.



Forced exodus: Families leaving their homes as paramilitary personnel conduct a flag march in Chand Bagh on Wednesday. ■ SANDEEP SAXENA

Uneasy calm amid heavy deployment

STAFF REPORTER
NEW DELHI

Heavy police and paramilitary presence was seen in violence-hit areas, including Shiv Vihar, Gokulpuri, Jaffrabad, Majupur, and Chand Bagh on Wednesday.

Most of the residents stayed indoors as prohibitory orders were strictly imposed by security forces.

The violence that started with stone pelting in Jaffrabad between pro- and anti-CAA protesters on Sunday has so far claimed 27 lives and left over 200 injured. There has also been massive damage to property.

Dozens of gutted cars and two-wheelers, two school buses, a mini truck, and a container truck dotted the main road in Bhajanpura leading to Shiv Vihar – one of the worst hit areas.

The roads were littered with pieces of bricks, empty tear gas shells and broken bottles with wicks showing use of petrol bomb by the mobs.



Residents of north-east Delhi watch from their homes as security forces (not seen) patrol the area on Wednesday. ■ AP

Police and paramilitary personnel on duty said that with the deployment of the Rapid Action Force, the situation was under control.

Over 100 arrested
The Delhi Police has so far arrested 106 people in connection with the violence and registered 18 FIRs.

No untoward incident was reported on Wednesday “ said Additional Commissioner of Police (Crime) Mandeep Singh Randhawa. Two helpline numbers – 011-22829334, 22829335 – were also released.

Students in riot-hit areas worried about reaching Board examination centres

School principals can ask for special relief for students, says CBSE Secy.

PRISCILLA JEBARAJ
NEW DELHI

For students living in parts of north-east Delhi, fears of violence and curfews have exacerbated the stress of examination season.

The Central Board of Se-

condary Education postponed Class 10 and 12 Board examinations at 86 centres on Wednesday and Thursday.

However, many students worried about the uncertainty of later examinations. Those who live in violence-affected areas but have examination centres elsewhere were especially worried.

Swati*, a Class 12 student who lives near Karawal Nagar was worried about how to reach her exam centre near

Karkardooma Court for Thursday's English paper.

“I live inside the narrow lanes. Everything is calm here now because the whole neighborhood was awake last night and guarding themselves. But I really do not think it will be safe to go for my exam because I have to pass through Bhajanpura to reach the exam centre which is the most affected area,” she told *The Hindu* on Wednesday morning.

Her worried family asked

her to contact the CBSE and she called the number found on the board's website.

“I do not know who picked up the phone. They just said, ‘You have to manage by any means,’ she said.

CBSE Secretary Anurag Tripathi later clarified that school principals could approach the board with proposals for relief for specific students.

However, Swati was still worried. “I do not think that my principal will go to request

to CBSE for just one or two children,” she said.

Muhammad Iftikhar, a resident of Kanti Nagar extension, said his Class 10 brother had to brave riot-hit areas on his way to his exam centre in Preet Vihar on Wednesday, riding pillion on a scooter. “My family considered the possibility of him skipping the exam because of safety concerns, but in the end my elder brother showed some courage and dropped him off,” he said.

Class 12 student Pulkit Arora tweeted a video of police announcing a strict curfew in his Majupur area and wondered how he would make it for Thursday's examination in Vasundara Enclave.

“Many are saying leave the exam, but it's not possible for us and our family... After Class 12, I am thinking of clearing the NEET exam,” said the medical aspirant.

*Name changed on request

Gurdwaras open door to victims of violence

Volunteers offer langar, safe space



Majnu Ka Tila Gurdwara on Wednesday. ■ SHINJINI GHOSH

SHINJINI GHOSH
NEW DELHI

In the aftermath of communal violence in north-east Delhi over the past three days, several gurdwaras across the city said that victims who required help were welcome to take shelter within the premises.

Volunteers at Nankasra Gurdwara, located near Bhajanpura, said that several people had come to the shrine to take shelter on Monday night.

Many parked vehicles

Balbir Singh, a volunteer at the gurdwara, said: “Lots of people came on Monday night to keep their vehicles here as we have a huge parking lot. They wanted to save their cars from being burnt by the mob. They had langar here also. They came later to take their vehicles away.”

“Whoever comes to us for shelter, we are ready to help them with whatever resources we have,” Mr. Singh added.

At Rakab Ganj Gurdwara,

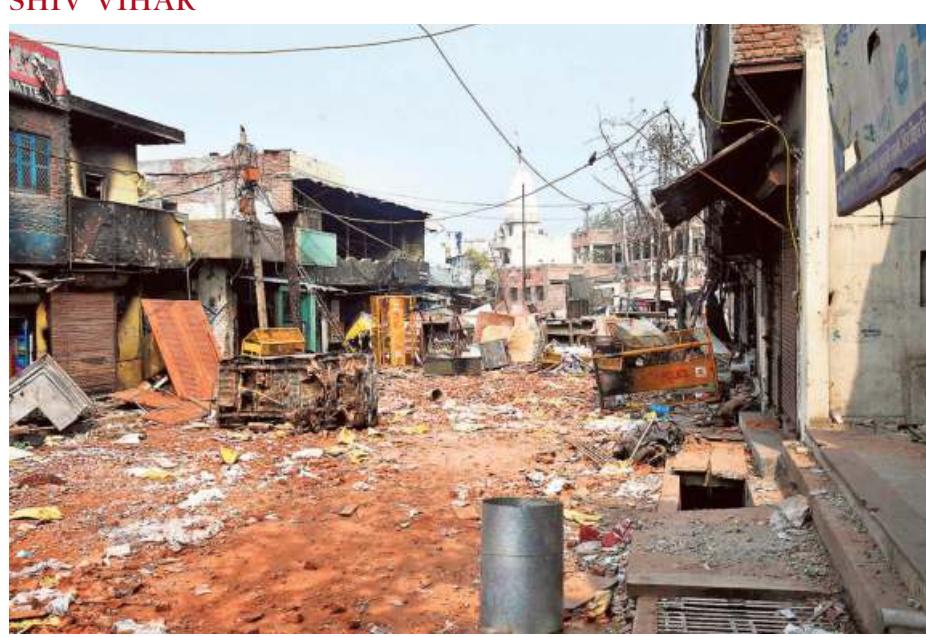
volunteers said that no victims of mob violence had arrived yet, but “they are always welcome”.

Sardar Dharmendra Singh, general manager of the shrine, said: “Considering that the situation is so bad, I do not think it is possible for anyone to step out of the area yet. Who is going to leave his home to come this far. But the doors of the gurdwara are always open.”

Volunteers at Majnu Ka Tila Gurdwara and Bangla Sahib Gurdwara said that even if victims show up, approval would be required from the management at Rakab Ganj before they would be permitted to stay.

“As we fall under the Rakab Ganj management, we need to seek permission from there before we can permit people belonging from Delhi to stay here. However, the gates to the gurdwara are always open and whoever wishes to have langar is free to do so,” said Balbir Singh, an official at Majnu Ka Tila Gurdwara.

SHIV VIHAR



Scenes of mayhem: Gutted vehicles and shops in Babu Nagar Tiraha at Shiv Vihar; a scrap dealer's shop smoulders in Gokulpuri; a school that was gutted during mob violence in north-east Delhi's Mustafabad, on Wednesday. ■ SANDEEP SAXENA

GOKULPURI



MUSTAFABAD



IN BRIEF

U.S. Embassy issues advisory for citizens

NEW DELHI
The U.S. Embassy in India has urged American citizens here to exercise caution in light of violent clashes in north-east Delhi. "Monitor local media outlets for updates on demonstrations, road and Metro closures, and possible curfews," read an alert issued by the Embassy. The advisory came a day after President Donald Trump departed Delhi after a 36-hour visit to India during which he visited Ahmedabad, Delhi and Agra. However, the visit was overshadowed by the communal clashes in Delhi.

High Court to hear violence case today

STAFF REPORTER

NEW DELHI
The highly anticipated hearing of the case on the ongoing violence in north-east Delhi will take place on Thursday before a Bench headed by Chief Justice of Delhi High Court.

On Wednesday, a Bench of Justice S. Muralidhar and Justice Talwant Singh took up the case initiated by activist Harsh Mander as the Chief Justice's Bench as well as the Bench of the second senior most Judge of the High Court, Justice GS Sistani, did not assemble.

With the Chief Justice D.N. Patel resuming duty on Thursday, the case will be heard by the bench headed by him.

Violence affects lives of people across religions

Some mourn the death of loved ones, others still searching for missing relatives; injured queue up at city hospitals

JATIN ANAND
NIKHIL M BABU
NEW DELHI

From a 22-year-old, who was allegedly shot and hacked to death less than a fortnight after his wedding, to a 50-year-old who was returning home to tend to his ill wife, the violence that erupted in several parts of north-east Delhi over the last three days transcended and impacted lives beyond religions, occupations and repair.

Victims continued to be wheeled into Guru Teg Bahadur Hospital throughout the day on Wednesday. While a majority of them were rushed to the emergency ward with visibly serious injuries, some were driven solemnly towards the mortuary.

Amid loud crying and shrieks of grief outside the mortuary, the family members of those who lost their lives in the violence were inconsolable, with many blaming the alleged absence of police and paramilitary personnel for the deaths of their loved ones.

On the other side of the hospital campus, injured people, who had received initial medical treatment, recounted tales of unbridled and inhumane horror.

"When we saw his body at the nursing home, there were injuries under the eye and on the head. His body was burnt and the clothes were sticking to it," said Yasmin (35), the sister-in-law of Mehtab, 22, who was mentally unwell and



A man injured during the violence in north-east Delhi is being brought to GTB Hospital for treatment on Wednesday. ■ PTI

allegedly killed by a mob.

"He was little slow mentally from birth, but he worked as a labourer and fed the family. He wanted to drink tea.

He said the situation was normal and stepped out to buy milk around 5 p.m. He returned without milk by 5.20 p.m. By that time, people in the Hindu community in our area had locked a gate that leads to our houses," Ms. Yasmin said.

As Mehtab started to walk away from the gate to take a different route to the house, Yasmin alleged, a group of people stopped him. They, she claimed, were chanting "Jai Shri Ram" and were wearing helmets and had sticks in their hands. They allegedly took Mehtab away by force as he yelled "Bhabhi, bhaiyya,

save me...". By the time the family got the keys [of the gate] from a neighbour, the group had left the area and it was too late, Ms. Yasmin said.

"We were shouting and shaking the gate, but could not open it. Then we got a call on Mehtab's younger sister's mobile phone and the caller claimed: 'Mehtab ko dag ka hawala kar diya'. When we reached the nursing home later, he was dead. Mehtab did not even hear us for the last time. There was no policeman. The police was hand-in-glove with the [rioters]," she alleged.

The family of garment trader Vir Bhan Singh, 50, a resident of Karawal Nagar, had gone to a relative's house in Krishna Nagar on Monday. "Around 4 p.m. on Tuesday,

he was returning to his house in Karawal Nagar where his daughter Khushi (14) and unwell wife were present, when he was shot from a building," said his brother-in-law Bhagat Singh. "He was shot from the area of the Muslims. Here every street has been blocked by them," said Rajat Sadh (27) a relative.

"He got married just 11 days ago," said Asma Khatoon whose 22-year-old nephew Ashfaque Hassan was allegedly killed after being shot multiple times and attacked with swords in Old Mustafabad. "The doctors told us he had sustained five bullet injuries as well as injuries inflicted by a sword. He got married on February 14. We don't know how to face his wife," she said.

Meanwhile, Mohammad Samad was sitting on a pavement opposite the emergency ward. The 21-year-old had a swollen right eye and reluctantly showed the other which had blood trickling down from it.

"I was attacked while I was praying at Farooquia Masjid in Mustafabad, by a mob on Tuesday afternoon. There were 100-150 people who barged inside the mosque. None of them said anything. They just started assaulting us," he alleged.

Mohammad Asif, a 20-year-old tailor who stays on rent in Ghonda and had multiple fractures, said: "My landlord asked me to vacate the house. I packed my things and walked out of the house and was caught by a mob. They asked my name. I told them and they began hitting me with iron rods," he alleged.

There were many people searching for missing family members at the hospital. Mohammad Qadir, from Bijnor said: "My 18-year-old brother, Aftab, is missing since yesterday [Tuesday]. He had come to Delhi for a welding job. We lost touch with him last morning. I called up his friends whom he was scheduled to visit. They said he was beaten up badly by a mob and is in the hospital. I am looking for him since morning. They have been asking me to check back after ten minutes, but there is no trace of him," he said.

He [Ashfaque Hassan] was shot five times. He sustained multiple injuries that seemed to have been inflicted by a sword. He got married on February 14

— ASMA KHATOON,
Ashfaque Hassan's aunt

Aftab has been missing since yesterday. His friends told me that he was beaten up badly by a mob and was hospitalised. I am still looking for him

— MOHAMMAD QADIR,
Aftab's brother

I was attacked by a mob of 150 people who barged into the Farooquia Masjid in Mustafabad

— MOHD. SAMAD,
resident of Mustafabad

Protesters detained outside CM's house

STAFF REPORTER

NEW DELHI
Scores of protesters under the banner of the Jamia Coordination Committee, who attempted to gherao Chief Minister Kejriwal's residence, on early Wednesday were allegedly water cannonned and detained. They were demanding action over riots in north-east Delhi,

Following a late night call to hold demonstrations at the CM's residence to demand effective measures be taken to control violence in north-east Delhi, the JCC in a statement said: "At about 3.30 a.m., water cannons were used to disperse the protesters".

It added that protesters stood their ground but were allegedly beaten up by the police and detained at Civil Lines police station.

The JCC said that around 8 a.m. on Wednesday, at least 41 protesters were taken to Aruna Asif Ali Hospital under the pretext of treatment but were then forced to undergo medicolegal cases procedure under heavy police presence.

"Doctors at the hospital are being pressurised to give a 'normal' report in the MLC," the group said.

While many protesters remained detained during the day, a member of the JCC said that all those detained were later released.

First came petrol bomb, stones, then they shot at me: reporter

Several other journalists allege threat or assault by rioters

NIKHIL M BABU

NEW DELHI
Lying in a bed in Ward 14 of GTB Hospital here on Wednesday, news reporter Akash Napa (34), who sustained a bullet injury few centimetres from his chest, shook his head before he said in a feeble voice that "there was no police".

A journalist with JK 24X7 News, Mr. Napa got shot by rioters on Tuesday afternoon while he was covering the riots in north-east Delhi. Mr. Napa was yet to undergo a surgery as doctors were waiting for him to get a "little more stable", his family said. Mr. Napa told *The Hindu* that he was shot by a mob in Yamuna Vihar, who first pelted stones and threw a petrol bomb before opening fire at him.

Scores of other reporters, who have been covering the violence, have alleged that they were either threatened or assaulted by the rioters in north-east Delhi.

"Mere saat jo tha, woh chala gaya [The guy, who was with me, has died]," Mr. Napa said with a sense of loss. The reporter claimed that he was shot by anti-CAA protesters.

Mr. Napa had got married about one-and-a-half-years back and has a son. "If something happens to him, what will happen to my grandson and my daughter-in-law?" said Mr. Napa's father Ramlakshman.

Mr. Napa had left his



Akash Napa was shot at on Tuesday. ■ SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

was a Hindu. Multiple reporters claimed they were stopped by the rioters from taking photos or videos in north-east Delhi and that their phones were also checked.

Though not shot, other journalists also faced the wrath of the rioters. Sanchit Khanna (25), a photojournalist with *Hindustan Times*, said his bike was set on fire by rioters on Monday in Bajapura. "First they burned my bike. I was at the terrace of a building and as the rioters entered the building and started thrashing another photojournalist, I ran out. But another group caught me on a narrow street and made me delete the photos of the violence I had clicked."

Somrita Ghosh, a reporter with New Indian Express, said: "On Monday, I was told by rioters in Karawal Nagar and Bajapura not to click photos. One walked up to me in Bajapura and said, 'We are talking to you politely since you are a woman. Keep your phone inside and leave'."

"I was stopped twice and asked to show my phone. They wanted to make sure I did not have any photo or video of the violence," said Sourav Roy Barman, a reporter with The Indian Express. "They did not directly ask my religion, but they asked my name," he replied when asked if the rioters enquired about his religion.



IB man's body found in Chand Bagh drain

He was missing since Tuesday

STAFF REPORTER

NEW DELHI
The body of an Intelligence Bureau (IB) staff was recovered on Wednesday from a drain in north-east Delhi's riot-hit Chand Bagh area, officials said. He was a resident of the area.

The police said that the deceased has been identified as Ankit Sharma (26) who had been missing since Tuesday, adding that he might have been killed during the violence.

His body was shifted to GTB Hospital for an autopsy.

Ankit's father Devendra, who works with the Delhi Police, said his son had returned home around 5.30 p.m. on Tuesday and left soon after to "assess the situation outside". As he did not return even after hours, we started looking for him. We also went to GTB and Lok Nayak hospitals to see if he was admitted, but failed to find him.

"We kept searching for him till 3 a.m. on Wednesday. Later, around 10 in the morning, we were informed that his body was spotted in a drain. We had never thought that he would be killed," the father said. Ankit's mother Sudha was inconsolable.

Ankit's elder brother Ankur alleged that the family was told by some women from their colony that they had seen people throwing his brother in the drain.

The police said that the deceased has been identified as Ankit Sharma (26) who had been missing since Tuesday, adding that he might have been killed during the violence.

"They [women] said that when the people, who had allegedly come to dump my brother, saw the women, they were threatened with dire consequences if they told about it to anyone. He sustained several stab wounds," Mr. Ankur claimed.

"I have been told by locals that Ankit was dragged to the house of Tahir Hussain, a local leader. Tahir is the main culprit," Mr. Ankur alleged.

Scene outside the house of (inset) Ankit Sharma on Wednesday. ■ SAURABH TRIVEDI

IB man's body found in Chand Bagh drain

He was missing since Tuesday

We kept searching for him till 3 a.m. on Wednesday. Later, around 10 in the morning, we were informed that his body was spotted in a drain. We had never thought that he would be killed," the brother said.

"I cannot go home leaving him [Mahroof] alone here," the brother said.

Mahroof's body has not been handed over to his family yet. Talking about the family, Mr. Majid said, "We are in no hurry. After all, where will I take him? The area where we lived is still burning and our family members have left. Only my father is at home."

Mahroof, who ran a small shop that was also burnt down, leaves behind two children aged nine and six.

"We have been living in north-east Delhi for 37 years now. And what we saw in the last two days was something beyond our wildest nightmare. The children and women are scared and in shock. They left the area on the first day of violence. They have lost the courage to return to their own houses now. All we can do now is just wait and watch," said Mr. Majid.

"We are just middle-class people who are getting used to being killed for political gains. Sadly, no politician has bothered to speak up on our behalf. Today we feel abandoned," he added.

want protection when we would go to the cemetery for his final rites."

Meanwhile, 28-year-old woman, Sahana, also claimed that her family was caught unawares when returning from work. Her father, who was hit on the head with a stone during the violence, brother and uncle are admitted in the hospital.

"They were returning from work on Tuesday when they were caught in the violence. While my brother and uncle reached home, my father was hit on the head and lost consciousness. He was brought home by two persons. We rushed all three of them to a hospital but today they were transferred here [Lok Nayak]. My father had shown no signs of recovery," she said.

She added that her family, which owns a small tailoring shop, may consider going back to their village in Uttar Pradesh. "How can we stay here when we are scared to even open our windows?" she said.

CHAND BAGH



Left in ruins: A road in Chand Bagh littered with bricks that were used for pelting during violence over the past three days; a school that was vandalised in Shiv Vihar; police conduct a flag march in Chand Bagh on Wednesday. ■ SANDEEP SAXENA, AP

SHIV VIHAR



CHAND BAGH



CMK

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY
E-TENDER NOTICE No. 237-H-M-D-Haz-Waste Dt: 22.02.2020
The undersigned, on behalf of the President of India, invites E-tenders for the following work:
Name of Work Approx. Value
Collection, transportation Rs. 17,16,209/-
and disposal of hazardous waste at authorized firm's disposal area from Diesel Loc Sheds, Hubballi including loading and unloading for a period of two years.
Last date for submission of bids: 17.03.2020 up to 11:00 hrs.
For details log on: www.ireps.gov.in

Divisional Mechanical Engineer/Diesel South Western Railway/Hubballi
PUB/434/AIV/PRB/SWR/2019-20

North Eastern Railway
E-Tendering Tender Notice No. 07/2020
Divisional Railway Manager (Engg.), N.E. Railways, Itzambar for and behalf of President of India invites "OPEN" e-tender through online (E-Tendering) for the following work:

S. No. 1, Description of Works : Construction of Sub way (LHS) at level crossing no.-234 Km-307/3-4 between DOX-IZN section. Approx Value : Rs. 2,70,15,599.81, E.M.D. Money : Rs. 2,85,100/- Cost of Tender Forms : Rs. 10,000/- Completion time/period from the date of issue of acceptance letter : 08 Months. S. No. 2, Description of Works : Supply of 900 nos. welding portion 52 Kg/90 UTS for welding of 52 kg/90 UTS rails under the sanctioned work of Kasganj-Mathura (SL)-TRR(S) BG loops -21.31 Km. Approx Value : Rs. 37,04,729.49, E.M.D. Money : Rs. 74,100/- Cost of Tender Forms : Rs. 3,000/- Completion time/period from the date of issue of acceptance letter : 07 Months. S. No. 3, Description of Works : Supply & Stacking of 65 mm size machine crushed track stone balls (S7000 Cum) as per latest RDSO's ballast specification with up to date correction slips and loading of the same in all type of Railways wagons at Mendum station. Approx Value : Rs. 6,22,99,860.00, E.M.D. Money : Rs. 4,61,500/- Cost of Tender Forms : Rs. 10,000/- Completion time/period from the date of issue of acceptance letter : 06 Months. S. No. 4, Description of Works : Welding 176 nos. of rails/joints of 52 kg/90 UTS rails in the jurisdiction of SR DEN/IZN under the sanctioned work of Kasganj-Mathura (SL)-TRR(S) BG loops -21.31 Km. Approx Value : Rs. 1,12,45,500.00, E.M.D. Money : Rs. 2,06,200/- Cost of Tender Forms : Rs. 5,000/- Completion time/period from the date of issue of acceptance letter : 09 Months.

• Online e-tender can be submitted upto 15.00 hrs. of dated 25.03.2020.

• For full details and submission of bid please see the Indian Railways IREPS website www.ireps.gov.in

Divisional Railway Manager (Engg.)

CPRD/W-382 Iatnagar

About any passenger amenity complaint SMS on Mob. No. 09794845955

Do not travel with inflammable article in train

Economic survey for Kachari Muslims

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
GUWAHATI

The Assam government has decided to conduct a socio-economic survey of Muslims who converted from the Kachari tribe, Welfare of Minorities Minister Ranjit Dutta said on Wednesday.

The Kachari Muslims are spread across Cachar and Hailakandi districts of southern Assam and Hojai district of central Assam.

The decision has come more than a fortnight after the government had announced a similar survey for Goria, Moria, Deshi and Jolaha - four categories of Assamese Muslims who belong to as many ethnic stocks.

"The decision followed a meeting between a delegation of Kachari Muslims, led by Assembly Deputy Speaker Aminul Islam Laskar, and Chief Minister Sarbananda Sonowal and the Welfare of Minorities Minister," Ziaur Rahman, a member of the community, said. Mr. Laskar is a BJP MLA from Sonai constituency.

Need to bring all anti-CAA protests under one banner, say activists

Movements united in their opposition to religion-based citizenship under the Act'

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

The anti-Citizenship (Amendment) Act (CAA) protests that started in Assam and other northeastern States in December and spread to the rest of the country were united in their opposition to religion-based citizenship under the Act and there was a need to bring these movements together, activists said on Wednesday.

The group of activists spoke at a press conference organised by academics under the banner of the Free Akhil Gogoi Campaign, which is demanding the release of the peasant leader in Assam who has been under arrest since December 12 in the wake of the anti-CAA protests.

Yogendra Yadav of Swaraj India party and Hum Bharat Ke Log said while there were different concerns of the anti-CAA movement in the Northeast, where the fear was "in-discriminate inclusion", and the rest of the country, where "unfair exclusion" was the worry, the movements need-



Activists speak at a press meet organised under the banner of 'Free Akhil Gogoi Campaign', in New Delhi. ■ SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

ed to be brought under one banner. He said the movements rejected religion-based granting of citizenship under the CAA, which fast-tracks citizenship for Hindus, Sikhs, Jains, Buddhists, Christians and Parsis from Pakistan, Bangladesh and Afghanistan who came to India before December 31, 2014.

Holiram Terang, former MLA from Assam, said the government had tried to spread "propaganda" that the northeastern States that have Inner Line Permit or come under the Sixth Schedule of the Constitution would be exempted

from the CAA. But, he said, the government had settled refugees from then-East Pakistan in the 1960s at two locations in Assam's Karbi Anglong district, where a tribal council had been in place, without even informing the council. He said the "binary of Hindu-Muslim" was not there in the Northeast, however, the concern was that the region would not be able to accommodate more refugees once they are given citizenship.

Avik Saha of the All-India Kisan Sangharsh Coordination Committee said the

working group of the body would meet on Friday to discuss plans for all-India protests to demand the release of Mr. Gogoi, who is a member of the group as well.

Pranjal Kalita, a student leader with Satra Mukt Sangram Samiti, said Mr. Gogoi had been arrested on charges of being a Maoist due to a photo of him at an event attended by a Maoist in 2009. "If that was the case, then what was the Assam government doing for 10 years? Those arrested after the anti-CAA protests, including Akhil, are not being asked about any Maoist link, but about when they will contest elections," he said, adding that he was asked the same when called in for questioning earlier this month.

Supreme Court advocate Colin Gonsalves said the use of Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act (UAPA) was intended to keep the person in jail, and not conviction. Mr. Gogoi has been charged under the UAPA and the case handed over to the NIA.

Delhi violence worries Kolkata protesters

We're watching out for mischief-makers'

BISHWANATH GHOSH
KOLKATA

Anti-CAA protesters in Kolkata, who have been staging a sit-in at the Park Circus Maidan for over 50 days now, on Wednesday said they were taking extra precautions after the violence in Delhi to make sure no one made speeches that was even remotely inflammatory.

"What has happened in Delhi is shameful, they are simply killing humanity. But I am not scared. If I was scared I wouldn't have started this protest in the first place. Our protest is not political or against any community, but against a law that divides people on communal lines," Asmat Jamil, the housewife who began the protest on January 7 along with other women in the neighbourhood, told *The Hindu*.

'Bengal isn't Delhi'

"We're making sure no one here makes a speech that is even remotely provocative. We were already cautious about it, we are now being extra cautious. What helps is that this is Bengal and not Delhi, where the police is openly biased. Here, even the West Bengal government is against CAA," Ms. Jamil said.

The protesters in Kolkata are eager to drive home that a parallel should not be drawn between Park Circus Maidan and Delhi's Sha-

We are making sure no one here makes a speech that is even remotely provocative. We were already cautious about it, we are now being extra cautious

ASMAT JAMIL
Housewife who began the protest at the Park Circus Maidan on January 7

heen Bagh, where the ongoing protest has hit the traffic. "Here, we are making sure that the traffic and normal life is not affected by our protest. We even changed the positions of the loudspeakers so that children studying for their exams are not disturbed," said Debu Shaw, one of the volunteers at the Park Circus Maidan.

"Every participant is now a volunteer, whose job is to watch out for potential mischief-makers and caution speakers against provocative speeches. We are also keeping an eye on new faces walking into the venue," said Mr. Shaw, a hardware engineer.

Ms. Jamil said: "We want to keep this protest peaceful. We simply cannot afford anything going wrong or else the whole purpose will be defeated. The fight is to turn India into Mahatma Gandhi's India, to rid the society of hatred. We are not going to stop until we have achieved this."

UTTAR HARYANA BIJLI VITRAN NIGAM					
CORRIGENDUM NOTICE					
SR. NO.	NAME OF DEPARTMENT/ BOARD/ CORP/AUTH	LETTER/ MEMO NO. & DATE	OLD REFERENCE/ NIT/TENDER NO.	NATURE OF CORRIGENDUM	WEBSITE OF THE DEPARTMENT
1	UHBVN	Ch-20/XEN/P-I/MM-QH/I-2544 dated: 20.02.2020	Notice inviting Tender No. 8/UH/MM/QH/I-2544 dated: 10.01.2020	Part-I date of submission extended upto 04.03.2020 (15.00 P.M.)	uhbvni.org.in, etenders.hry.nic.in cemni@uhbvni.org.in 9357189013
PRDH-80057					

WALK-IN INTERVIEW					
FOR THE POST OF EXTENSION LECTURES IN HINDI & GEOGRAPHY.					
ACADEMIC QUALIFICATIONS:- AS PER UGC/HARYANA GOVT. NORMS.					
REMUNERATION:- AS PER HARYANA GOVT. NORMS.					
DATE & PLACE OF INTERVIEW:- 05 MARCH 2020, 9:00 AM, AT GOVT. COLLEGE HATHIN(PALWAL)					
Note:-					
1. No. of posts as per Workload/Requirement.					
2. Applicants to bring their Bio-Data along with all the original documents.					
PRDH-80059					
PRINCIPAL GCG BADOLI (PALWAL)					

CLASSIFIEDS MART

TO ADVERTISE:
www.thehinduads.com

011-43579738 • 43579797

EDUCATIONAL

EDUCATIONAL

ELITE IAS
IAS MOCK INTERVIEW 2019

TWO STEPS PREPARATION STRATEGY

STEP-1
ONE-TO-ONE interaction with Mr. Bibhash Sharma; Director, Elite IAS. He will guide you how to correlate your Interview answers with your DAF.

STEP-2
Mock Interview with our Board Members (Panel includes retd. IAS/IPS/IRS, Academicians & Psychologists)

To schedule your program
WhatsApp DAF to 8588883939
or mail us your DAF on info@eliteias.in
For queries, call on 8588883939

11A/22 Bada Bazaar Marg, Old Rajender Nagar, Delhi- 110060
www.eliteias.in | Info@eliteias.in

McGraw-Hill writer RAMESH SINGH'S GS ECONOMY Basics+Current
updated with the latest Survey 2019-20 & Budget 2020-21
New batch: Mar. 02-Apr. 20 (2.30-4.45pm)
4A/41, Old Rajender Nagar, Bada Bazar Road, N. Delhi- 60
www.ramesh singh.org | ph. 98182-44224; 80767-48812

AGRI
Regular Batch Starts: 2 March
Last Date for Admission: 29 Feb
8750602193
KAVERI'S IAS
56, Opp. Kotak Mahindra Bank, ORN, New Delhi

GSSCORE
An Institute for Civil Services
IAS MOCK INTERVIEW
India's Most Experienced Interview Panel is Here!

R.P. Aggarwal (Retd. IAS)
Amb Anil Trigunayat (Former Ambassadors & Secretary , Association of India Diplomats (Former Ambassadors))
S.B. Singh (Well known IAS Interview Mentor)
G.S. Patnaik (IAS, Former Vice Chairman - DDA, Former Adviser to Governor of Arunachal Pradesh)
R.P. Sinha (IAS, Former Secretary - Govt of India)
REGISTRATION OPEN
www.iasscore.in
9953595114

Office: 1B, 2nd Floor, Pusa Road, Karol Bagh, Delhi-110005 (Adjacent to Karol Bagh Metro Gate No. 8)
9953595114

CM YK

A N D N O D E

A N D N O D E

A N D N O D E

A N D N O D E

A N D N O D E

A N D N O D E

A N D N O D E

A N D N O D E

A N D N O D E

A N D N O D E

A N D N O D E

A N D N O D E

A N D N O D E

A N D N O D E

A N D N O D E

A N D N O D E

A N D N O D E

A N D N O D E

A N D N O D E

</

Council passes Bill making Marathi compulsory

It will be introduced in all schools, irrespective of board, from Class I to Class X from the coming academic year



TANVI DESHPANDE
MUMBAI

The Legislative Council on Wednesday unanimously passed a Bill making teaching and learning Marathi compulsory in schools across Maharashtra.

The Maharashtra Compulsory Teaching and Learning of Marathi Language in Schools Bill, 2020, introduced by Minister for Marathi Language Subhash Desai, will apply to all schools irrespective of the board they are affiliated to, and calls for phase-wise introduction of Marathi language as a compulsory subject from Class I to Class X starting from the academic year 2020-21.

The subject will be introduced in Class I and Class VI from this academic year and extended to further classes.

These provisions will be compulsory for schools seeking recognition or NOC from government. Schools which already have the NOC and do not teach Marathi will lose recognition. The Bill provides for a penalty of up to ₹1 lakh on schools violating this.

Usually, a Bill is intro-



Subhash Desai, Minister for Marathi Language, tabled the Bill. ■ FILE PHOTO

duced in the Assembly first. However, in this case as an exception, the Council chairman allowed Mr. Desai to introduce the Bill in the Upper House. It will be tabled in the Assembly on Thursday.

During the discussion, Chief Minister Uddhav Thackeray said, "I don't think Marathi is *sakti* (compulsion), but it is the language of *shakti* (power) and *bhakti* (devotion). Who are these people who ask for evidence of how old the language is? Were they even born then? Marathi can even bring English to task. We (the Thackerays) were criticised because my children studied in English medium, but my parents never taught me to despise another language. My children speak Marathi properly. Shiv Sena was formed for the very identity of Marathi and I am

fortunate this is happening under my government."

Former transport minister Diwakar Raote said, "I welcome this Bill that was originally proposed in the 1960s. I read a letter in a Marathi daily the other day that demanded that Marathi be made third language in other States as well. Government invitations these days are largely in English. All judicial business also happens in English. The government order to have shop signages in Marathi is in English. I am glad that our government has brought this Bill."

Leader of Opposition Pravin Darekar said, "This Bill will re-emphasise the glory of the Marathi language. I request IAS and IPS offices to talk in Marathi regularly. Even now, cars are penalised for having Marathi number plates."

Hemant Takle (NCP) said, "This one thing was lacking to restore Marathi's glory, which has been done today. Some people will say this will restrict students' growth, but it is the responsibility of the government to ensure nobody lags behind. There is a Sanskrit university and we need to try for a Marathi university."

Many members also demanded that Marathi be given the status of a classical language.

State to close education board set up by BJP govt.

Decision taken under pressure, says Oppn.

TANVI DESHPANDE
MUMBAI

School Education Minister Varsha Gaikwad on Wednesday told the Legislative Council that the Maharashtra International Education Board (MIEB), which has 83 public and private schools affiliated to it, will be shut down.

The board was a project mooted by Bharatiya Janata Party leader Vinod Tawde in the previous government. The State set up the MIEB in 2018 to upgrade government-run schools and provide quality education on a par with international schools. It had decided to roll out the plan in 100 schools.

Initially, the State had plans to tie up with Cambridge Board, but it eventually decided to form its own board and set up committees to determine its framework. However, there were several allegations against the MIEB.

On Wednesday, Shiv Sena MLC Vilas Potnis raised a calling attention motion on the matter, pointing out mistakes and a

lack of transparency in the board's curriculum. He sought to know who the experts on the board were. He said that even though schools are affiliated with the board, they have not started admissions. "If the board shuts down, it will cause further trouble to students," the motion read, demanding that the MIEB start operations.

Several members demanded a review of the board, following which Leader of Opposition in the Council Pravin Darekar said, "We don't feel the need to shut the board, you can take a review of the matter with an expert committee."

Ms. Gaikwad replied that there were several complaints about the MIEB administration. "It is our job to secure these children's future. If you want, we will take a review," she said.

Chairman Dattatray Sawant said, "Since the MIEB is not required, you (minister) take a decision immediately."

Ms. Gaikwad then announced that the board would be closed, saying, "If (chairman) feel something is wrong, we have to act."

The Opposition said the decision had been taken under pressure.

Bank fraud: MLC Anil Bhosale, three others get police custody

NCP leader, bank officials arrested on Tuesday

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
PUNE

A special court here on Wednesday remanded MLC Anil Bhosale, chairman of the Pune-headquartered ShivaJi Bhosale Cooperative Bank, and its three other officials in police custody for an alleged fraud of over ₹71 crore at the bank.

Additional Sessions Judge (Special Judge) S.S. Gosavi remanded the four in police custody till March 6.

Mr. Bhosale, a Nationalist Congress Party leader, has reportedly grown closer to the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) in the last few years. His wife, Reshma, also an accused in the case, is a BJP-backed corporator in the Pune Municipal Corporation.

In January, the police had

registered a case against the Bhosale couple and 15 to 16 others, including the board of directors of the bank, for alleged forgery, misappropriation and cheating.

The Pune Police arrested Mr. Bhosale, the bank's chief accountant Shailesh Bhosale, chief executive officer Tanaji Padwal and Suryaji Jadhav, a director of the bank, on Tuesday night.

The police said the complainant, who is an auditor, had on the directions of the Reserve Bank of India conducted a financial audit of the bank for 2018-19 and found ₹71,78,87,723 less in the 'cash in hand' segment. "All the accused colluded and cheated the bank by forging records," the police said.

Office of Executive Engineer B&R Division HP.PWD, Joginder Nagar
Himachal Pradesh Public Works Department, Mandi-175015
Phone & Fax No. 01908-222033 E-Mail:- ee-jog-hp@nic.in

e-Procurement Notice

INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB)

The Executive Engineer, B&R Division, HPPWD, Joginder Nagar on behalf of Governor of Himachal Pradesh invited the online bids on item rate, in electronic tendering system, in 2 cover system for the under mentioned work from the eligible and approved contractors/firms registered with HPPWD department:-

Sr. No.	Name of Work	Estimated Cost	EMD	Cost of Tender	Eligible class of Contractor	Time Limit
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
1.	Periodical maintenance of Dhelu to Dhelu Har road (VR0030) road under Annual Maintenance Plan 2020-21 (Sub Head:-Providing and laying built-up spray grout, bituminous concrete in Km. 0/0 to 1/0).	₹ 8,42,371/-	₹16,800/-	₹ 350/-	All classes deal with bituminous work	Three months (90 days)
2.	Periodical maintenance Dhelu Har to Tikroo road (VR0031) under Annual Maintenance Plan 2020-21 (Sub Head:-Providing and laying built-up spray grout, bituminous concrete in Km. 5/0 to 5/555).	₹ 4,66,125/-	₹9,300/-	₹ 350/-	All classes deal with bituminous work	Three months (90 days)
3.	Periodical maintenance of Sainthal to Parin road (VR0033) under Annual Maintenance Plan 2020-21 (Sub Head:- Providing and laying built-up spray grout, bituminous concrete in Km. 0/0 to 1/0).	₹ 8,11,424/-	₹16,200/-	₹ 350/-	All classes deal with bituminous work	Three months (90 days)
4.	Periodical maintenance of Dharudin to Dohag (VR0032) under Annual Maintenance Plan 2020-21 (Sub Head:-Providing and laying built-up spray grout, bituminous concrete in Km. 0/0 to 1/0).	₹ 8,45,650/-	₹16,900/-	₹ 350/-	All classes deal with bituminous work	Three months (90 days)
5.	Periodical maintenance of Bhater to Tramat (VR0038) under Annual Maintenance Plan 2020-21 (Sub Head:-Providing and laying built-up spray grout, bituminous concrete in Km. 0/0 to 1/0).	₹ 8,19,140/-	₹16,300/-	₹ 350/-	All classes deal with bituminous work	Three months (90 days)
6.	Periodical maintenance of Balakrupi Banai road under Annual Maintenance Plan 2020-21 (Sub Head:-Providing and laying built-up spray grout, bituminous concrete in Km. 0/0 to 1/0).	₹ 8,11,928/-	₹16,200/-	₹ 350/-	All classes deal with bituminous work	Three months (90 days)
7.	Periodical maintenance of Balakrupi Banai road under Annual Maintenance Plan 2020-21 (Sub Head:- P/L, built-up spray grout, bituminous concrete in Km. 3/0 to 5/0).	₹ 15,57,831/-	₹31,100/-	₹ 500/-	All classes deal with bituminous work	Three months (90 days)
8.	Periodical maintenance of Machhaliy Ropri Traimbi road under Annual Maintenance Plan 2020-21 (Sub Head:-Providing and laying built-up spray grout, 30 mm thick bituminous concrete in Km. 0/0 to 2/0).	₹ 8,31,426/-	₹16,600/-	₹ 350/-	All classes deal with bituminous work	Three months (90 days)
9.	Periodical maintenance of Sandhappattan Lad-Bharol Barwar Kotli road (MDR57) under Annual Maintenance Plan 2020-21 (Sub Head:-Providing and laying built-up spray grout, bituminous concrete in Km. 13/0 to 14/0).	₹ 8,58,939/-	₹17,000/-	₹ 350/-	All classes deal with bituminous work	Three months (90 days)
10.	Periodical maintenance of Sandhappattan Lad-Bharol Barwar Kotli road (MDR57) under Annual Maintenance Plan 2020-21 (Sub Head:-Providing and laying built-up spray grout, bituminous concrete in Km. 14/0 to 15/0).	₹ 8,67,385/-	₹17,300/-	₹ 350/-	All classes deal with bituminous work	Three months (90 days)
11.	Periodical maintenance of Kafkoun to Khetru road (VR0041) under Annual Maintenance Plan 2020-21 (Sub Head:-Providing and laying built-up spray grout, bituminous concrete in Km. 3/0 to 4/0).	₹ 8,51,647/-	₹17,000/-	₹ 350/-	All classes deal with bituminous work	Three months (90 days)
12.	Periodical maintenance of Kafkoun to Khetru road (VR0041) under Annual Maintenance Plan 2020-21 (Sub Head:-Providing and laying built-up spray grout, bituminous concrete in Km. 0/0 to 1/0).	₹ 8,46,384/-	₹16,900/-	₹ 350/-	All classes deal with bituminous work	Three months (90 days)
13.	Periodical maintenance of Shanan to Harabag road under Annual Maintenance Plan 2020-21 (Sub Head:-Providing and laying built-up spray grout, bituminous concrete in Km. 0/0 to 1/0).	₹ 8,30,309/-	₹16,600/-	₹ 350/-	All classes deal with bituminous work	Three months (90 days)

2. **Availability of Bid Documents and mode of submission:-** The bid document is available online and bid should be submitted online on website <http://hp.tenders.gov.in>. The bidder would be required to register in the website which is free of cost. For submission of the 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 HPPWD may obtain the same from the website: <http://hp.tenders.gov.in>. Digital signature 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.

3. **Key Dates:-**

1. Date of online Publication:- 26/02/2020 10:00 Hrs.

2. Document Download Start and end date:- 26/02/2020 10:00 Hrs upto 24/03/2020 17:00 Hrs

3. Bid Submission start and end date:- 26/02/2020 10:00 Hrs upto 24/03/2020 17:00 Hrs

4. Physical submission of EMD and cost of tender document on or before the time and date of submission of bids:- 24/03/2020 upto 17:00 Hrs.

5. Date of Technical Bid opening will be 25/03/2020 11:30 AM, Evaluation of technical bid opening and financial bid opening will follow on accordingly.

4. **Tender Details:-** The tender documents shall be uploaded online in 2 cover.

i) Cover 1:- Shall contain scanned copies of all "Technical Documents/Eligibility information".

ii) Cover 2:- Shall contain "BOQ/Financial Bids" where contractor will quote his offer for each item.

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 Deposited (EMD) and other technical Documents in O/O the Executive Engineer, B&R Division HP.PWD. Joginder Nagar District Mandi (H.P) on or before the time and date of submission of bids failing which the bids shall be declared non-responsive. No physical documents will be accepted after the closing date & time of submission of bids.

6. **Bid Opening Detail:-** The bids shall be opened on 25/03/2020 11:30 Hrs. in the office of Executive Engineer B&R Division HP.PWD. Joginder Nagar District Mandi (H.P) by the authorized officer in their interest the tenderer are advised to be present along with original documents as the specified in Key dates at Sr. No. 4. 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 submission.

8. Other details can be seen in the bidding documents. The officer inviting tender shall not be held liable for any delay due to system failure beyond its control. Even though the system will attempt to notify the bidders of any bid updates, the employer shall not be liable for any information not received by the bidder. It is the bidder's responsibility to verify the website for the latest information related to the tender.

9. In addition to instructions for use of standard form in bidding documents the bidder should upload the following information also.

(i) Total annual volume of Civil Engineering construction work executed and payment received in the last five year proceeding this year duly verified by the Chartered Accountant

Sd/-
Executive Engineer,
B&R Division HP PWD,
Joginder Nagar
District Mandi (H.P) on behalf of
Governor of Himachal Pradesh
Ph. 01908-222033

TAMIL NADU HOUSING BOARD CHENNAI CIRCLE

TENDER NOTICE NO: CC/36/2019-20 Dated: 26.02.2020

Sealed tenders with Pre-Qualification system duly superscribed on the covers with name of work, reference No, due date and name of tenderer are invited for the following works so as to reach the office of the Superintending Engineer (Chennai Circle), Tamil Nadu Housing Board, Chennai-600 035 upto 3.00 P.M (as per office clock) on the due dates mentioned below. The tenders will be opened by the undersigned at his office at 3.30 P.M on the same day in the presence of the tenderer or their agent who choose to be present.

Sr. No.	Description of work	Approximate value (Rs. in Crores)	EMD in Rupees
1.	Construction of 60 (Stilt+5 floors) flats (25 HIG & 35 MIG) under Self Finance Scheme S.No.102/4 at Nolambur Village, Chennai.	20.00	11,60,000/-
2.	Construction of Community hall at Madhavaram in plot No.R118, S.No-61 part, Mathur village, Madhavaram taluk, Thiruvallur District.	7.16	3,68,000/-

IN BRIEF



Yediyurappa's 77th birthday bash today

BENGALURU
Karnataka Chief Minister B.S. Yediyurappa is set to celebrate his 77th birthday on a grand scale at the Palace Grounds here on Thursday. While Defence Minister Rajnath Singh will inaugurate the event, former Chief Ministers Siddaramaiah from the Congress and H.D. Kumaraswamy from the Janata Dal (Secular) will be part of it.

Remove illegal hoardings in 10 days: Kerala HC

KOCHI
The Kerala High Court on Wednesday directed the secretaries of local self-government institutions to remove all unauthorised boards, banners, and flags in public places and impose penalties under the Kerala Land Conservancy Act, and also under the Kerala Municipality Act and the Kerala Panchayat Raj Act, on those who have installed them. The court ordered that such illegal boards and banners be removed within 10 days.

Kerala HC summons CBSE regional officer

KOCHI
The Kerala High Court on Wednesday ordered the regional officer of the Central Board of Secondary Education, Thiruvananthapuram, to be present on February 27 with all records regarding the affiliation of Arooja's Little Star School, Moolamkuzhi, in Kochi. As many 29 students of the school at Mattancherry are unable to write the Class 10 CBSE examination as the school was not recognised by the board.

Hyderabad police register cases against poet over anti-CAA event

Imran Pratapgarhi, organisers charged with violating conditions for programme

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
HYDERABAD

The Hyderabad police have registered cases against poet Imran Pratapgarhi and two organisers of a poetry programme for violating conditions pertaining to the conduct of an event.

The programme, Ehtaji Mushaira, was held as a mark of protest against the Citizenship (Amendment) Act (CAA), the National Population Register (NPR) and the National Register of Citizens (NRC) at QQ Stadium, Charminar, late on Monday.

During the protest, Mr. Pratapgarhi said "Mujhe ha-rath hey ki is Hyderabad mein koi Shaheenbagh kya nahi hai [I am shocked that there is no Shaheen Bagh in Hyderabad]".

It was stated in the FIR



Poet Imran Pratapgarhi's statement was provocative, the police said. ■ FILE PHOTO

that the statement was made in a "provocative manner". However, the Charminar police said the cases may or may not be extended against Mr. Pratapgarhi after investigation. Hyderabad's Addi-

tional Commissioner of Police granted permission to conduct the programme on the condition that the meeting be conducted between 6 p.m. and 9 p.m. and provocative speeches or slogans

hurting the feelings of public or any sections not be made.

Beyond permitted time

Nearly 3,000 people attended the Mushaira, which started at 6.30 p.m. However, the programme went on till 9.48 p.m. The police said that though they had asked the organisers to conclude the programme by 9 p.m., they – Syed Saleem and Kha-Ja Bilal – did not do so.

Cases under Section 188 (Disobedience to order duly promulgated by public servant) and 505 (I) (b) (With intent to cause, or which is likely to cause, fear or alarm to the public) were registered against Mr. Saleem, Mr. Bilal and Mr. Pratapgarhi. The Charminar police said that they would investigate the case.

Man arrested for spreading hatred online

STAFF REPORTER
PALAKKAD

The Kerala police on Wednesday arrested a man for allegedly spreading communal hatred on social media at Attappady.

Sreejit Ravindran, 24, from Padinjarekkara, Attappady, shared videos spreading communal enmity in the wake of the Delhi riots.

The man, who claims to be the block coordinator of the Bajrang Dal, was arrested on the charge of making derogatory remarks against those protesting against the Citizenship (Amendment) Act at Delhi's Shaheen Bagh.

The police at Agali said Sreejit was charged with offences under Section 295A of the IPC. The Democratic Youth Federation of India at Agali had registered a complaint against Sreejit. (With PTI inputs)



A file photo of Gajaratnam Guruvayur Padmanabhan at the Padmanabhaswamy Temple in Thiruvananthapuram.

Prized elephant of Guruvayur dies

It was known for its majestic looks

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
THRISSUR

Gajaratnam Guruvayur Padmanabhan, one of the most majestic elephants in Kerala, died at Guruvayur on Wednesday. It was 80.

One of the oldest elephants of the Guruvayur Devaswom, Padmanabhan had been undergoing treatment for the past two weeks for a swelling on its body.

Padmanabhan was a much sought-after elephant for festivals, including Thrissur Pooram. In 2004, it set a record for the highest procession fee of ₹2.25 lakh for a day for parading at the Nenmara-Valanki Vela.

Illegal activities'

The Bench said *The Hindu* report indicated that the water quality had come down owing to illegal activities being carried out while discharging untreated sewage, effluents and the dumping of garbage into the waterbody, affecting the quality of the water and the ecology and aquatic life, much required for ecological sustenance.

"If the quality of the water in the lake is affected, it will automatically reflect in the groundwater quality, which in turn affects the health of

the people who are likely to consume the poor quality of water, which is not in conformity with the norms provided for drinking purpose," it observed.

The committee will comprise the Deputy Commissioner of Bengaluru (Urban), a senior scientist from the regional office of the Central Pollution Control Board, the Karnataka State Pollution Control Board and the Commissioner, Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike.

The committee has been directed to inspect the area, find out the source of pollution and take action against those responsible. The panel has also been asked to suggest remedial measures.

It had a huge fan following. It has been bestowed with many titles, including Gajaratnam and Gajachakravarthy, for its attractive features, such as its long and well-carved tusks.

Burial today

With the death of Padmanabhan, the number of elephants in the devaswom has come down to 47. Its body will be buried after the post-mortem examination on Thursday, sources said.

The Forest Department on December 7 last year banned the parading of Guruvayur Padmanabhan and Guruvayur Valiya Keshavan at festivals, citing health issues.

Following protests, the Department formed a committee to examine the condition of the tuskers.

On February 3, it allowed Padmanabhan to participate in temple rituals. However, the elephant developed health issues soon afterwards.

Committee to study Ulsoor lake pollution

National Green Tribunal orders analysis of samples from the waterbody, neighbouring areas

T.K. ROHIT
CHENNAI

The Southern Bench of the National Green Tribunal (NGT) has ordered the constitution of a joint committee to take water samples from Bengaluru's Ulsoor lake and neighbouring areas to ascertain whether the lake is being polluted owing to illegal activity.

It also tasked the panel with carrying out an analysis of the water in the lake.

The Bench, comprising Justice K. Ramakrishnan and expert member Saibal Dasgupta, made a *suo motu* direction based on a report in *The Hindu* in 2016 after schools of fish in the lake were found dead.



"The water analysis should include not only Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD), Chemical Oxygen Demand (COD) limit, but also the Total Coliforms and Faecal Coliforms and also the presence of any heavy metals like Arsenic, Phosphorus, etc., which are likely to affect the human health and, if such things are found, suggest remedial measures required to restore the water quality in that area," the Bench ruled.

gest the remedial measures required to restore the water quality in that area," the Bench ruled.

Illegal activities'

The Bench said *The Hindu* report indicated that the water quality had come down owing to illegal activities being carried out while discharging untreated sewage, effluents and the dumping of garbage into the waterbody, affecting the quality of the water and the ecology and aquatic life, much required for ecological sustenance.

"If the quality of the water in the lake is affected, it will automatically reflect in the groundwater quality, which in turn affects the health of

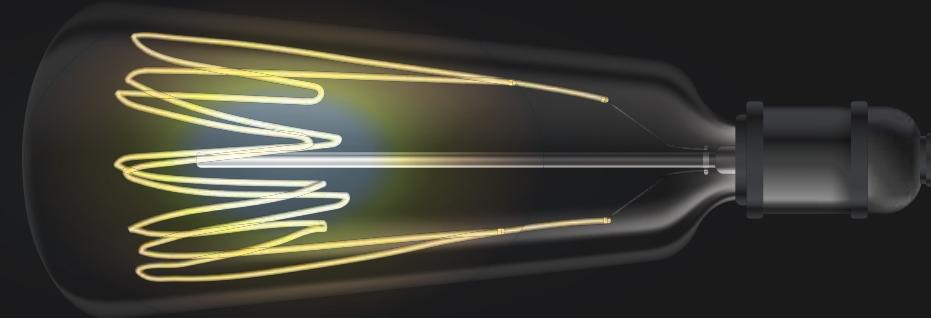
BusinessLine

www.blchangemakers.com

ENTRY BY INVITATION ONLY



THE HINDU GROUP



Celebrating people and organisations who are changing our world for the better.

March 6, 2020 | Taj Mansingh Hotel, Delhi | 5 pm onwards

Foraying into its third year, this awards that was launched as *The Hindu BusinessLine* entered its 25th year of publication, seeks to recognise and reward those whose work is transformational in a significant and positive way for our society, economy and planet

Award Categories:

Changemaker of the Year • Young Changemaker • Changemaker: Digital Transformation • Changemaker: Financial Transformation • Changemaker: Social Transformation • Iconic Changemaker of the Year

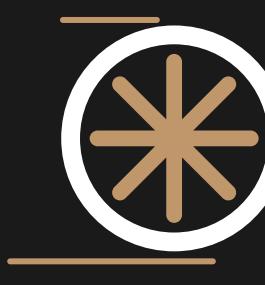


presents

THE HINDU
BusinessLine

CHANGE MAKER awards

RECOGNISING
HUMAN
CATALYSTS



Mentorship Partner

Digital Transformation Partner

Nutrition Partner

Sustainability Partner

Innovation Partner

Associate Sponsors

International News Partner

Gift Partner

Knowledge Partner

Validation Partner



CM
YK

AN-NDE

IN BRIEF



Will launch awareness drive against porn: Nitish

PATNA

Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar on Wednesday said that an awareness drive would be carried out under the "Unnayan" scheme, which is already in action in State-run schools, to keep children off from porn sites as they were a "leading cause of crimes against women". Mr. Kumar had earlier written to Prime Minister Narendra Modi on December 16, 2019 urging him to ban all porn sites on the Internet. PTI

M.P. sacks magazine editor for essay on Godse

BHPAL

The Congress government in Madhya Pradesh sacked the editor of the government's Public Relations Department's magazine *Sandesh* for publishing an essay allegedly glorifying Nathuram Godse. The essay titled *Mahatma Zinda Hai* (Mahatma is alive) was written by Hyderabad-based independent writer Shweta Rani. "For some Godse is a killer, while for others he is a martyr who had great respect for his religion," she wrote.

Three of family found dead at home in Odisha

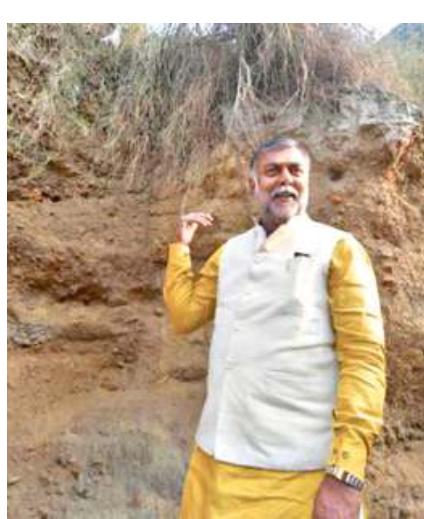
BERHAMPUR

Bodies of three members of a family were discovered from a house at Palia area in Odisha's Ganjam district on Wednesday. The deceased were identified as Brundaban Behera, 48, his wife Urmila Behera, 40, and daughter Sunita Behera, 17. While Urmila and Sunita were found in a pool of blood in the front room of their house, Brundaban was found hanging in another room. The house was reportedly locked from inside. The bodies have been sent for post mortem.

Hotstar blocks Last Week Tonight episode

MUMBAI

Disney-owned streaming service Hotstar India has taken down the latest episode of John Oliver's show, *Last Week Tonight*, which criticises Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the BJP and the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS). An Information and Broadcasting Ministry official said the government has "nothing to do with the matter."



Prahad Singh Patel, Minister of State for Tourism and Culture, at Rakhi Garhi village in Hisar. • SHIV KUMAR PUSHPAKAR

152 households being shifted in Rakhi Garhi

DAMINI NATH

RAKHIGARHI

As part of encroachment removal at the Rakhi Garhi heritage site, 152 households are being shifted to flats, Hisar Deputy Commissioner Priyanka Soni told *The Hindu*.

But, many villagers say that is not enough and if the rehabilitation scheme is a sign of things to come, there may be more tension over future projects. "They aren't giving us adequate space. If they are taking away a 500 square-yard house, they are giving us a 100-square yard flat in return. And what about the space to dry cow dung cakes? There is no talk of alternative land for that," said Sewa Singh, a farmer and resident.

'Iconic sites'

Union Tourism Minister Prahad Singh Patel, who visited the site on Sunday, assured the villagers that the government would not make public its "action plan" for the site without telling the panchayat.

He said all five archaeological sites mentioned in the Budget – Rakhi Garhi, Hastinapur in Uttar Pradesh, Shivsagar in Assam, Dholavira in Gujarat and Adichanallur in Tamil Nadu – would be developed into "iconic sites" simultaneously.

Assam at the centre of fresh border row

Mizoram seeks revision of boundary

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

GUWAHATI
Assam is at the centre of a fresh inter-State border row in the northeastern region.

The Mizoram government has sought the revision of the boundary with Assam, based on the Bengal Eastern Frontier Regulation (BEFR), 1873 and the Inner Line of the Lushai Hills Notification of 1993.

This followed an alleged bid by the Assam police on February 19 to pitch a camp at Umlawi in West Khasi Hills of Meghalaya, bordering Assam's Kamrup district, and a Nagaland group's reported attempt to grab land in eastern Assam's Jorhat district on February 12.

The BEFR allows Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, Mizoram and Nagaland not to let non-resident Indians in without an inner-line permit for a temporary stay. Mizoram



Long dispute: People stage protests in Imphal demanding the imposition of the Inner Line Permit System in 2016. • FILE PHOTO

used to be the Lushai Hills district of Assam before being made a Union Territory in 1972 and a State in 1987.

"We sent a letter to the Union Home Secretary on December 15 last, asking for a revision of the boundary with Assam. We are hopeful of a response from the Centre soon," said Mizoram Home Minister Lalchhamiana.

Mizoram shares a 123-km border with southern Assam and has been claiming a 509-square mile stretch "occu-

pied" by the neighbouring State. The last stand-off at Zophai in March 2018 left several people injured.

On Tuesday, Meghalaya Chief Minister Conrad K. Sangma said he discussed the problem at Umlawi with his Assam counterpart Sarbananda Sonowal. "The situation is under control now. We have decided to meet after our Budget sessions for easing tension," he said.

The Budget session of the 60-member Meghalaya Assembly ends on March 26.

Kafeel Khan's wife fears threat to his life in jail

He is being mentally tortured

OMAR RASHID

LUCKNOW
Days after Gorakhpur-based doctor Kafeel Khan's maternal uncle was shot dead, his wife on Wednesday wrote to authorities fearing a threat to his life and demanded that the detained paediatrician be provided better security in jail.

Dr. Khan is lodged in Mathura jail, after being booked under the National Security Act for allegedly delivering a provocative speech at a protest against the Citizenship (Amendment) Act (CAA) at the Aligarh Muslim University.

Shabista Khan wrote to the Chief Justice of the Allahabad High Court, Uttar Pradesh's Additional Chief Secretary (Home) and the Director General of Police (Jail) of the State asserting that she fears he could face a murder attempt.

Ms. Khan demanded that her husband be kept away



from "active criminals" and be lodged with "ordinary prisoners" in the jail. "My husband is being mentally tortured in jail," she alleged.

Nusratullah Warsi, a businessman and Dr. Khan's maternal uncle was shot dead late on Saturday in Gorakhpur. In June 2018, Dr. Khan's younger brother Kashif Jameel was grievously wounded after being shot thrice.

Superintendent of Mathura jail, Shailendra Maitrey, dismissed the allegations and said Mr. Khan was being "treated normally like ordinary prisoners."

IAF aircraft lands in Wuhan with medical supplies

Centre issues travel advisory for South Korea, Italy, Iran

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

NEW DELHI

India on Wednesday sent a heavy lift military transport aircraft to the COVID-19-hit Wuhan in China. The Indian Air Force's (IAF) C-17 Globemaster III aircraft carried 15 tonnes of medical supplies and will bring back around 120 citizens and five infants while flying back on Thursday.

Apart from the Indian nationals, the flight is also expected to bring back citizens of neighbouring countries. An Indian based in Wuhan said the Indian Embassy in Beijing had asked the citizens to remain ready for evacuation and the official process was underway till late Wednesday evening.

India had reached out to China on February 13 seeking permission for sending the aircraft with medical

3 communities wary of Clause 6 in Assam Accord

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

GUWAHATI

Three major communities, perceived to be migrants in Assam, have expressed concern over the recommendations of the high-powered committee on the implementation of Clause 6 of the Assam Accord of 1985.

"More than 80% of us have been living in Assam for centuries and 24 MLAs of our community had in 1946 voted against Assam becoming a part of Pakistan post-Partition," said M. Mahabar Ali, general secretary of the Parishad.

In addition, the Bharatiya Gorkha Parisangha said Gurkhas in Assam should be recognised as indigenous

community.

Clause 6 envisages measures to safeguard the cultural, social, linguistic identity of the Assamese people. It also seeks to ascertain who fits into the definition of an 'Assamese'.

On Wednesday, the Asom Miya Parishad said the Assamese people would not be safe if the Bengal-origin Muslims are excluded from the list of indigenous communities.

"... the Bengalis in Assam will lose all rights as their migration to the State took place after 1951. They will be reduced to mere voters," said AABYSF founder president Sahadev Das.

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 Thursday: Dense fog likely at isolated places over Odisha. Widespread rainfall with thunderstorm, lightning & gusts likely over sub-Himalayan West Bengal and northeastern States. Snowfall likely at isolated places over Arunachal Pradesh and Sikkim.

CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN	CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN
Agartala	... 23.0	15.0	5.0	Kozhikode	... 35.0	25.0	20.0
Ahmedabad	... 34.0	23.0	16.0	Kurnool	... 36.0	23.0	20.0
Aizawl	2.0	21.0	10.0	Lucknow	... 26.0	14.0	12.0
Allahabad	... 26.0	14.0	10.0	Madurapet	... 36.0	23.0	20.0
Bengaluru	... 33.0	19.0	12.0	Mangalore	... 35.0	24.0	20.0
Bhopal	... 28.0	14.0	10.0	Mumbai	... 35.0	22.0	20.0
Bhubaneswar	19.4	25.0	14.0	Mysoor	... 34.0	20.0	20.0
Chandigarh	... 26.0	13.0	10.0	New Delhi	... 28.0	15.0	12.0
Chennai	... 33.0	24.0	18.0	Patna	... 22.0	16.0	10.0
Coimbatore	... 34.0	22.0	18.0	Port Blair	... 31.0	26.0	20.0
Dehradun	... 25.0	14.0	10.0	Puducherry	... 32.0	23.0	20.0
Gangtok	5.1	9.0	6.0	Pune	... 32.0	16.0	12.0
Goa	... 36.0	23.0	18.0	Raipur	... 28.0	18.0	12.0
Guwahati	... 26.0	16.0	10.0	Ranchi	... 27.0	11.0	10.0
Hubballi	... 33.0	21.0	15.0	Shillong	9.1	15.0	7.0
Hyderabad	... 33.0	19.0	15.0	Shimla	... 19.0	6.0	4.0
Imphal	... 20.0	10.0	8.0	Srinagar	... 12.0	2.0	0.0
Jaipur	... 28.0	15.0	12.0	Thiruvananthapuram	... 34.0	24.0	20.0
Kochi	... 33.0	25.0	18.0	Tiruchi	... 36.0	24.0	20.0
Kohima	4.4	19.0	8.0	Vijayawada	... 33.0	22.0	20.0
Kolkata	1.5	28.0	17.0	Visakhapatnam	... 31.0	24.0	20.0

(Rainfall data in mm; temperature in Celsius)

Pollutants in the air you are breathing

CITIES	SO ₂	NO ₂	CO	PM _{2.5}	PM ₁₀	CODE
Ahmedabad	... 142	25	... 248	.207	... 350	... 200
Bengaluru	... 7	58	25	166	... 100	... 200
Chennai	25	23	24	127	... 100	... 200
Delhi	22	38	47	337	290	... 200
Hyderabad	16	23	127	137	... 100	... 200
Kolkata	23	68	15	115	110	... 200
Lucknow	3	43	75	120	... 100	... 200
Mumbai	18	90	20	79	163	... 200
Pune	67	25	83	121	98	... 200
Visakhapatnam	6	53	65	73	100	... 200

Yesterday

In observation made at 4.00 pm, Ghazabganj Uttar Pradesh recorded the overall AQI quality index (AQI) score of 305 indicating a severe level of pollution. In contrast, Siliguri, West Bengal recorded a healthy AQI score of 35.

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

SO₂: Sulphur dioxide. Short-term exposure can harm the respiratory system, making breathing difficult. It can affect visibility by reacting with other air particles to form haze and stain culturally important objects such as statues and monuments.

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

CO: Carbon monoxide. High concentration in



Signs and substance

PM Modi must leverage his rapport with President Trump to clinch the trade deal

President Donald Trump's India visit can easily be cleaved into two separate parts: the symbolism of the joint rally with Prime Minister Narendra Modi, along with their obvious personal rapport, and the actual bilateral outcomes of their Delhi meeting. On the former, it is clear that the public address at Ahmedabad's Sardar Patel Stadium reflected an unprecedented relationship between the leaders of India and the United States, with each expressing admiration of the work they had done in their own countries. Mr. Trump referred to Mr. Modi as a "true friend", and a "tremendously successful leader", who he credited with India's progress. A day later he described Mr. Modi as "a very religious man... a very calm man, but a very, very strong person". Mr. Modi in turn complimented Mr. Trump for his leadership, and thanked Mr. Trump's family for what he described as a historic visit that will open a new phase. The invitation to Mr. Trump was in itself a political endorsement, given that it came in an American election year, months after Mr. Modi referred to the slogan "Abki Baar Trump Sarkar" at his Houston rally. Mr. Modi would have been particularly pleased on three counts: with Mr. Trump's refusal to speak about restrictions in Kashmir, about the arson over the CAA that darkened Delhi's skies even as the two leaders met, and Mr. Trump's endorsement of Mr. Modi's belief in "religious freedom". This was some relief given earlier briefings by U.S. officials that these would be raised.

In contrast, the visit's concrete outcomes were not as dramatic or historical as the Trump-Modi rally images were. Although the External Affairs Ministry had said at least five MoUs would be ready for signing, the three made ready were two on health care, and one Letter of Cooperation on LNG pipeline infrastructure. There were a few major deals signed around the visit as well, and at least two that had been expected could not be completed – the conversion of an MoU for Petronet to invest in American gas company Tellurian into an agreement, as well as a commercial agreement for Westinghouse to build six nuclear reactors in Andhra Pradesh. The agreement signed for defence purchases worth \$3-billion, including American helicopters, has led to both sides signalling more cooperation in defence, military exercises and technology sharing. And while the two leaders shared strong language in references aimed at China's hegemony in the South China Sea as well as the Belt and Road Initiative, they did not broach the next steps in the Indo-Pacific partnership including possible militarisation as well as joint funding to counter the challenge from Chinese loans in the region. The two governments must now strive to complete the unfinished agreements and set the course for their newly designated 'Comprehensive Strategic Global Partnership'. More immediately, with the political backing of both leaders, negotiators must move towards the much anticipated yet elusive trade deal.

Sex and power

Weinstein's conviction is a vindication of the #MeToo movement around the world

Former Hollywood producer Harvey Weinstein has been convicted of two felony sex crimes and potentially faces 29 years in prison. His New York courtroom trial, during which six women testified that he assaulted them, was a touchstone for the global #MeToo movement and for holding powerful, wealthy men accountable for the sexual harassment and assault of women. The prosecution's case was tricky because, given the length of time that had passed since the alleged incidents, there was a lack of physical and forensic evidence that might have supported the allegations against Mr. Weinstein. As a result, the trial became a painful struggle for the survivors to prove their credibility. Matters were complicated by some of the survivors acknowledging having had consensual sex with him after being attacked by him, which gave the defence opportunities to argue that the women had wanted to further their careers. However the survivors, including a production assistant who said he had forced her to have sex in 2006, and a former actress who said he had raped her at a hotel in 2013, said that he was a predator whose premeditated actions included not only the attacks on the survivors but also attempts to leverage his power over their professional lives to buy their silence. While he was ultimately found guilty of a criminal sex act in the first degree and of rape in the third degree, he was acquitted of the more serious charges of predatory sexual assault involving two other women.

The #MeToo movement was kicked off in 2006 by activist Tarana Burke as a battle against traumatic, widespread and under-reported incidents of assault on women, in many – but not all – cases in the workplace. While it began in Hollywood and mostly in the U.S., it spread like wildfire and reverberated through India too. Soon, social media platforms became the means for women to tell their stories about high-profile men, specifically allegations of sexual impropriety detailing the alleged acts, and naming the men involved publicly. The outpouring of stories of abuse – often by multiple accusers for one man – centred on men of considerable professional standing in India. In many cases the accused person was fired or resigned, or, less often, has filed a lawsuit alleging defamation. If anything, the Weinstein conviction and the #MeToo movement have unearthed the seamy workplace culture of sexual abuse and harassment. Regardless of the shape that the movement now takes, that very act of shining a light on a dark social reality has given pause for thought to a generation of men who might have earlier adopted a more cavalier attitude about consent.

Trouble lurks behind the bilateral bonhomie

Trump's visit has aided U.S.-India ties; it has set the frame too on the extremes to which each leader will go with the other



NARAYAN LAKSHMAN

When history looks back upon the evolution of the India-U.S. bilateral relationship through the 21st century, it will likely reflect a consensus that the world's largest and oldest democracies held fast to a steady upward trajectory in their mutual engagement by capitalising on synergies and adroitly sidestepping roadblocks.

That assessment is certainly applicable to the current phase in the ties that bind New Delhi to Washington. U.S. President Donald Trump's visit to India this week has catalysed progress on outcomes in trade, defence, security and energy cooperation even as it has implicitly set parameters on how far either Mr. Trump or Prime Minister Narendra Modi will go to publicly or privately challenge each other's governments on areas where they have faced criticism from other quarters.

Consider first the momentum that Mr. Trump's visit, a two-day extravaganza in Ahmedabad, Agra and New Delhi, has imparted. At the Motera Stadium in Ahmedabad, Mr. Trump largely stuck to script, praising the peaceful rise of India as an "economic giant" that has lifted 270 million people out of poverty in a decade. Segueing to the accomplishments of two successive Modi governments, the President went on to praise the rapid increase in Indians' access to basic sanitation and cooking fuel and the construction of highways across the country. His comments were, in a sense, the mirror image of the words uttered by Mr. Modi at the 'Howdy Modi' rally in Houston, Texas, in September 2019,

Now, both Mr. Trump and Mr. Modi appear politically unassailable in their respective countries presently. Mr. Trump enjoying a relatively high approval rating across multiple demographic cohorts and Mr. Modi riding strong on the wave of popular support that catapulted him to a landslide victory in the 2019 Indian general

when Mr. Modi went so far as to imply an endorsement of Mr. Trump for a second term in office when he said, "Ab ki Baar, Trump Sarkar".

It's not all hurrah

It is at this juncture that the first wrinkle in the bilateral space becomes evident. For the best part of 20 years now, India has been a policy subject of bipartisan consensus in the U.S. government, including the White House and Congress. Yet, even as the extant polarisation of public opinion was further embittered through the election campaign and first term of Mr. Trump, a section of U.S. Democrats, traditionally seen as being the party whose support for India ran deeper, began to splinter away from the mainstream on this subject.

From presidential nomination frontrunner Bernie Sanders, who said in recent days, "Instead of selling \$3 billion in weapons to enrich Raytheon, Boeing and Lockheed, the U.S. should be partnering with India to fight climate change," to Pramila Jayapal, Indian-American Congresswoman from Washington state, who was denied a meeting with Indian External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar for criticising India's violation of minorities' right to religious freedom, there is a growing disengagement with several major policy planks of the second Modi government, including its Kashmir policy and the Citizenship (Amendment) Act, or the CAA, and the National Register of Citizens.

Now, both Mr. Trump and Mr. Modi appear politically unassailable in their respective countries presently. Mr. Trump enjoying a relatively high approval rating across multiple demographic cohorts and Mr. Modi riding strong on the wave of popular support that catapulted him to a landslide victory in the 2019 Indian general



REUTERS

election. Yet at least as far as U.S. politics is concerned, oppositional forces to an incumbent tend to mount through a slow boil. It is quite likely that the apparent distaste for the consensus on globalisation and the economics of competitive advantage, as well as for the Bretton Woods institutions that mediated this process, grew steadily through the two terms of former U.S. President Barack Obama, and perhaps even his free-market predecessor, George W. Bush.

Similarly, if Mr. Trump continues to turn a blind eye to the deep-seated concerns over allegations of human rights and religious freedom rights violations the world over, including by the current Indian administration, that would only add to the litany of criticisms levelled at the 45th President, alongside charges relating to the abuse of presidential power, obstructing Congressional inquiries and disregarding conflicts of interest. Is it thus wise for India to take a hostile position toward certain U.S. Democrats in the confidence that Mr. Trump is going to be around for a second term to bat for India's position on sensitive matters?

Glossing over violations

Setting aside the potential stumbling blocks in the longer term, the optics of Mr. Modi playing host to an American President, including motifs of peace such as their visit to Sabarmati Ashram and the spinning of the charkha before a

portrait of Mahatma Gandhi, appeared jarringly insensitive given that parts of the nation's capital were in flames over riots that had distinctively communal undertones. Rampaging mobs in the north-eastern parts of New Delhi were attacking Muslims on the streets, vandalising their shops and setting vehicles and homes on fire, even as law enforcement officials appeared to be standing by mutely, perhaps outnumbered, watching the spectacle unfold.

While Mr. Trump said in his press conference that he had discussed the CAA with Mr. Modi in their private parleys, he appeared satisfied with the assurance that the Prime Minister gave him that the issue was being dealt with. Over the longer term, this tactic of turning a blind eye to rights violations by the government of a trading partner may run afoul even of conservative elements in the U.S., including Republicans who have historically been unabashed about expressing support for religious freedom rights abroad.

Progress but also trade woes

Second, let us consider the major areas of policies in the bilateral space, where there has been substantive progress. In defence manufacturing and trade Mr. Trump's visit has nudged a deal for India to purchase \$3-billion in U.S. military equipment toward completion, including the sale of Apache and MH-60 Romeo helicopters. On security cooperation, there is much to look forward to by way of improved coordination between the two countries' governments in terms of joint military exercises and interoperability, as well as in fighting international crimes such as drug trafficking, narco-terrorism, human trafficking, organised crime and violent extremism.

India is also set to significantly increase its energy imports from the U.S., particularly LNG, after ExxonMobil signed a deal to im-

prove India's natural gas distribution network.

The only area where the full potential for bilateral cooperation may not have been realised is on trade. Mr. Trump's sharp focus on reducing the U.S.'s trade deficits with major trading partners, including India, has made for a bumpy ride in South Block over the past few years. In an escalating tariff war, Washington first slapped duties on Indian - and global - steel and aluminium in 2018, then pulled India out of its Generalized System of Preferences (GSP) in June 2019. Unsurprisingly, India responded with counter-tariffs and now U.S. dairy and medical device exporters are feeling the pain.

With the White House recently reclassifying India as a "developed country" to deny it any concessions on trade subsidy investigations, and with United States Trade Representative Robert Lighthizer cancelling a visit planned around the summit meeting, it appears unlikely that India will be returned to GSP or that even a limited trade deal might be announced any time soon.

Putting the trade deal question in perspective, Alyssa Ayres, Senior Fellow for India, Pakistan, and South Asia at the Council on Foreign Relations, said that ultimately more economic openness would be to the benefit of not only India's trading partners but itself.

Indeed, given the ongoing slowdown in the Indian economy, it is meaningful reform that: improves the efficiency of land and labour allocation; makes investment in infrastructure attractive, and puts job creation front and centre on the policy agenda, all of which might keep India on a strong footing *vis-à-vis* its strategic partners and make it unnecessary for its leaders to yield to the temptation of stirring the toxic cauldron of communal politics.

narayan@thehindu.co.in

Still no finality, the third time round

There are indications that the new Bodo accord does not spell closure of the statehood movement by Bodo groups



SUSHANTA TALUKDAR

The experiment of power sharing and governance under the Sixth Schedule of the Indian Constitution was expected to be the panacea of the ethno-nationalist identity questions in Northeastern States. Euphoria as well as anger over the third Bodo Accord have, however, held the mirror reflecting the complexities of exclusion of communities in such ethno-centric power sharing and governance model.

The new Accord signed by the All Bodo Students' Union (ABSU), United Bodo People's Organisation and all the four factions of the insurgent outfit- National Democratic Front of Bodoland (NDFB)

with Delhi and Dispur on February 10, 2003 led to creation of the BTC as a new experiment of territorial autonomy under the Sixth Schedule. However, the constitutionally mandated legislative power of the BTC has been reduced to a farce as the Assam Governor has not given assent to any of the legislations passed by the BTC Legislative Assembly.

Activating faultlines
Bodo groups have suspended their statehood movement, but the new Bodo Accord has triggered the intensification of the movement for Kamatapur State by organisations of the Koch-Rajbongshi community. The territory of the demanded Kamatapur State overlaps with the present BTAD, proposed BTR and demanded Bodoland. Clamour for Scheduled Tribe (ST) status by the Koch-Rajbongshis, Adivasis and several other non-ST communities has also grown.

Deeper ethnic faultlines in an ethno-centric power sharing model will become exposed when the Koch-Rajbongshis and the Adivasis are granted ST status, as promised by the Modi government. For, the reservation of seats of BTC is for the STs and not exclusively for the Bodos. The new accord has no clear answer to such critical questions.

In BTAD, the ST communities account for 33.50% of the total population; 2011 Census figures show that of the total 31,51,047 population in the BTAD, the ST population is 10,55,732. The Bodos

account for over 90% of the ST population in the BTAD. The ST populations are an overwhelming majority in territories overseen by nine other autonomous councils under the Sixth Schedule in Assam, Meghalaya, Mizoram and Tripura.

Such a demographic composition in the BTAD has allowed the space for political mobilisation of other non-Bodo communities and articulation of the campaign that the BTC is a faulty model as it allows the minorities to govern the majorities. The organisations of these communities have been demanding exclusion of villages with less than 50% Bodo population from the BTAD. Bodo organisations have a counter argument that non-Bodo is a political identity construction articulated to capture power in the BTAD by certain political forces. The new accord provides that, "If there are different Scheduled Tribes in an autonomous district, the Governor may, by public notification, divide the area or areas inhabited by them into autonomous regions." However, constitutional amendments were made following the previous Bodo Accord to ensure that this provision shall not apply in respect of the BTAD.

The erstwhile Pawi-Lakher Regional Council was the only regional autonomous council in the country. Following upgradation of the then Lushai Hills district of Assam into a Union Territory in 1972, the Mizo District Council was abolished. In 1972, the Pawi-Lakher Regional Council was trifurcated first into three regional autonomous councils. These three councils were later upgraded to full-fledged Autonomous District Council un-

der Sixth Schedule in the State of Mizoram.

The provision of setting up regional autonomous councils under the Sixth Schedule can be explored to create the space for communities aggrieved by exclusion from the power-sharing model of BTC.

Pivot of mobilisation
Euphoria among the Bodos over the accord is also fast evaporating with efforts to unite all the four factions of NDFB having turned futile; the factions are divided in two camps: one group with the present ruling party of BTC-Bodoland People's Front (BPF), an ally of the ruling Bharatiya Janata Party in Assam and one group siding with the opposition party, the United Peoples Party Liberal backed by the ABSU. The new accord will be the pivot of political mobilisation in the BTAD during the forthcoming BTC elections due in April.

A shift in the political equilibrium in the BTC resulting from a likely expansion of the ST list in Assam has the potential to keep the Bodos out of power in the BTC and push Bodo organisations to re-vive their homeland demand. Peace will continue to be fragile in Assam's Bodo heartland until an all-inclusive power sharing and governance model is evolved under the provisions of the Sixth Schedule.

Sushanta Talukdar is the Editor, nezine.com, a bilingual online magazine on the Northeast.

others. Having said that, the chronology of events leading to the communal violence in northeast Delhi reveals a shocking pattern of police inaction, indifference and excesses. The police acted to suit the interests of their political masters. At times, the Delhi police made themselves scarce, giving the rioters a free hand. At other times, they chose to ignore the hate speeches of Ministers and leaders from the ruling party ("Violence continues in Delhi for third day, toll climbs to 13," Feb. 26.)

All under control
Are the sentences reported in the news item (News page, "Delhi situation under control, says Amit Shah," Feb. 26) incomplete, or is this really what was said? When parts of Delhi are burning and many people are running away abandoning their homes and all their worldly possessions, some bureaucrats and politicians are saying that everything is under control and there is nothing to fear? The question is: under whose control? Is it under the control of leaders who have been working for many years to create communal discord in the country; or is it under the control of the law enforcement personnel? A flag march took place on Wednesday, more than three days after the violence began. Was the police's delay in action because of lack of personnel, considering that many were on duty because of the U.S. President's visit?

MATHEW GAINNEOS, Thiruvananthapuram

Mishra must resign

Dushyant Dave in his brilliant article "The unassailable keywords for the judiciary" (Editorial page, Feb. 25) quoted copiously how judges should conduct themselves to uphold an independent, strong and respected judiciary. Justice Arun Mishra's address makes one say: this is how the judiciary *should not be* in a changing world. The eulogy heaped on the Prime Minister was injudicious and irrelevant. It will convey a wrong message to the people. The Union government is one of the major litigants in the Supreme Court. How can the public expect impartial judgments from the likes of Justice Mishra? The best option for him now is to resign as his indiscretions have led to an avalanche of criticism.

V.N. GOPAL, Chennai

Piecemeal engineering
'Kejriwalism' succeeds because it is not only a post-ideology model, but also involves doing piecemeal engineering for the welfare of citizens (Op-Ed page, "The politics

of Kejriwalism," Feb. 26). The Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) has been doing the piecemeal engineering philosopher Karl Popper wrote about when he said: "the politician who adopts [this method] may or may not have a blueprint of society". Such a model emphasises measures like health and education reform. While the 'ideological parties' are constrained to be partisan, the AAP's post-ideology framework gives it freedom to be inclusive. It will be good for the country if such post-ideology politics spreads to other States.

SUKUMARAN C.V., Palakkad, Kerala

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.

To read more letters online, scan the QR code



INTERVIEW | GARY YOUNGE

'The further from power, the more you see'

The award-winning British journalist talks of politics, journalism and the politics of journalism

MEERA SRINIVASAN

Gary Younge, who served as *The Guardian's* editor-at-large and long-time U.S. correspondent, left the newspaper recently, after 26 years as a staff writer and 20 years as a columnist. His political commentary, grounded in his reporting experiences, has offered readers clarity and perspective on both key global developments and their local manifestations, while zooming into oppression and exploitation in those societies. The award-winning British journalist and author has now taken up a teaching assignment at Manchester University as Professor of Sociology. In a Skype interview, Mr. Younge spoke on politics, journalism and the politics of journalism. Excerpts:



lapse that involves immigrants and refugees. They did not cause the collapse. Misinformation and disinformation help breed and咖啡inate this 'enemy' and polarisation.

I'm not sure we can separate the media from the politics and say how does the media remedy the politics, because they are symbiotic. But I do think that if the media followed some basic precepts about factual reporting, curiosity, not 'I know why that happened but why did that happen', we would be in a different place.

You have reported extensively from the U.S. (2003-15) and the U.K. From Donald Trump's election to Brexit, the last few years have witnessed major political shifts in these two Western democracies. Did you see them coming?

No, I didn't. I try not to make predictions in my work anyway, because our job is not to foresee the future, it is to make sense of the present. Maybe thereby having a sense of what might happen.

I did see some of the things that made them possible. During the [Tony] Blair years I did see a disaffection with politics. There was a lower turnout, and people were alienated. I didn't know exactly where that would go, but I knew that it was not going to go anywhere good. While in America, I saw the rise of [George] Bush and the war, and the collapse of the war. And there were these moments, like with Obama's campaign, when you saw how much desire for change there was, but then he was a completely inadequate vessel; that was always clear to me. I didn't know where the disappointment in him

The Unions were very actively involved, weren't they?

Yes, at least the union leadership was during the civil rights era. Quite often lower down the union hierarchy they were quite resistant to the hiring of black workers. But yes, people forgot that in 1963, it was a march for jobs and freedom. And we don't have much of a union movement any more. Current 'movements' explode, and then they fade.

Whereas that's not how Trump came through. Trump came through thanks to the tea party, through a series of defeats, but each one raising the consciousness of a certain group of people. This is true in Britain too.

In a way more people are involved on the Left politically than they have been for a long time. And yet while there is resistance, there is no movement. There is this inability to cohere the resistance and find a home for it that isn't hostage to electoralism, to corporate interests and to co-optation.

I am still grateful for the resistance there is. Who'd have thought Bernie Sanders will be anywhere close? And here we are with a man who calls himself a socialist. In whatever way he is going to disappoint us later, here he is, and he is leading.

In one of your columns, you observed that 21st century journalists act not as critical interlocutors but convenient conduits. What drives these actions that appear to range from silence to self-censorship, subservience and a wilful alignment with the ruling class?

In much of the West there are two things. First, there is access. If I do this, they will keep talking to me. What is the price of this access? But even tied to that, they are essentially of the same class. In Britain, the percentage of columnists who went to private schools and Oxford or Cambridge is higher than it is in the House of Lords. So, when there are these ruptures, then they kind of band together, and the journalists become like political actors and as gatekeepers and they become affronted personally by the presence of these interlopers who have been selected by the great unwashed. And they find it much more cozy, comfortable to be in these much smaller cliques that represent quite a narrow band of political ideology.

As per published estimates of the Central Pollution Control Board, the country has a treatment capacity of only about 30% of sewage generated in the major cities, not to talk of other urban and rural areas where the sewage finds its way to local water bodies or rivers without treatment.

Debating water quality

The competitive politics of the Delhi election has brought the issue of drinking water to centre stage



NIKHILESH JHA

A significant outcome of the controversy surrounding the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) report of November 2019 on drinking water status is that the issue of water quality has got politically prioritised. The fact that water should be treated as an urgent concern for public health and the ecosystem of the country cannot be denied. The threats to human health due to poor water quality, except when they appear as an epidemic, are largely imperceptible. This generally subjects the population to subtle health problems without its knowledge or consent.

The controversy started with the release of the BIS report for 21 major Indian cities, in keeping with the objectives of the 'Jal Jeevan Mission', which aims to provide safe piped water to all households by 2024. The study is scheduled to cover all districts in the country within a year. Supply of potable water obviously requires first compilation of information on the existing status. The fact that drinking water in Delhi was ranked the most unsafe, as the samples failed in 19 out of 28 parameters, was challenged by the Government of Delhi and the Delhi Jal Board (DJB).

India is on the throes of a severe water crisis, not only because of a gradual reduction in per capita availability of water due to a rising population, but also because of rising and unchecked pollution in the country's rivers and water bodies, a fact which is mostly overlooked in the deliberations on water resources management.

As per published estimates of the Central Pollution Control Board, the country has a treatment capacity of only about 30% of sewage generated in the major cities, not to talk of other urban and rural areas where the sewage finds its way to local water bodies or rivers without treatment.

Impending water stress

A 2018 Report of the NITI Aayog has observed that currently 600 million Indians face high to extreme water stress and about two lakh people die every year due to inadequate access to safe water. The crisis is only going to get worse. By 2030, the country's water demand is projected to be twice the available supply, implying severe water scarcity for hundreds of millions of people.

In Delhi, according to the Census 2011 data, there are about 33.41 lakh households of which 27.16 lakh households, i.e., 81.30%, are provided water through a piped supply sys-

tem. However, only 75.20% of the households are supplied treated water. The treatment method is conventional – involving sedimentation, filtration and disinfection through chlorine and chloramine – whose effect is contingent upon the overall quality of water. For the water coming from the Yamuna released from Haryana, the DJB has to often stop the supply for a few days if the concentration of methane goes up beyond a certain level. This is because the tri-chloro-methane that may be produced during the disinfection process is highly carcinogenic. The effect may surface on human health not immediately, but over a period of time.

The capital's high pollutant load

Moreover, Delhi, which constitutes less than 1% of the total catchment of the Yamuna, contributes more than 50% of total pollutant load in the river, discharged over the 22 km-stretch between the Wazirabad and Okhla barrages. Delhi has 7,000 km of sewer line as on date, against a requirement of 24,000 km. The 17 sewage treatment plants being operated by the DJB are able to take care of not more than 30% of sewage treatment. There is no sewerage system at all for over 45% of the population in unauthorised and even regularised colonies and rural areas. As of now, there are 18 major drains carrying sewage, garbage and industrial effluents into the Yamuna.

It is not only the untreated sewage water and industrial effluents, but also the solid wastes and construction material discharged by individuals, companies and municipal bodies that have caused the suffocation of the Yamuna. Also, floodplains have been encroached upon by settlements. Hence, ensuring supply of quality drinking water is not only expensive, it also needs improvement in governance. It needs technical knowledge on measurement and regulation of water quality. It is not the fault of the DJB or the Delhi government alone that they have not been able to ensure 100% supply of quality water to the citizens of Delhi, considering the constraints they face, especially those concerning the water resources management and laws in the country.

We must appreciate that the Jal Jeevan Mission, even if it has not been so far structured, conceptualised and funded adequately, has begun the important work of gathering information on the scale and scope of the problem and making it available in an open and transparent manner. The best outcome is that the competitive politics of the Delhi election has ensured a political debate on water quality.

Nikhilesh Jha is a former Mission Director, National Water Mission. Views are personal

When a court pronounces a verdict, without giving reasons

Non-speaking orders undermine judicial integrity

ANMOLAM & SHIVAM

In a highly unusual move, a nine-judge Bench of the Supreme Court resorted to a non-speaking order as it ruled affirmatively on the preliminary issue arising out of the Sabarimala review petition.

The importance of a 'reasoned decision' in a constitutional democracy committed to the rule of law, besides being self-evident, cannot be overstated and this curious departure from the norm merits close analysis.

Time and again, the Supreme Court has unequivocally endorsed and underlined the requirement of giving reasons in support of an order. It has often chastised subordinate institutions for their failure to supplement their orders with reasons.

Juristic basis

The juristic basis for this has also been explored in a number of cases. In various decisions, the court has ruled that speaking orders promote "judicial accountability and transparency"; "inspire public confidence in the administration of justice"; and "introduce clarity and minimise the chances of arbitrariness". In addition to being "a healthy discipline for all those who exercise power over others", recording of reasons has been described by the Supreme Court as the "heartbeat of every conclusion"; the "life blood of judicial decision making"; and a cherished principle of "natural justice". In his dissenting opinion in the *Madhya Pradesh Industries Ltd* case, Justice Subba Rao K. stated: "The condition to give reasons introduces clarity and excludes or at any rate minimises arbitrariness; it gives satisfaction to the party against whom the order is made; and it also enables an appellate or supervisory court to keep the tribunals within bounds... A speaking order will at its best be reasonable and at its worst be at least a plausible one."

The need for a court to provide an intellectual substrate for its decisions

is also implicit in the expression "pronounce judgment" in Supreme Court Rules, 2013. According to settled decisions, the same signifies "judicial determination by reasoned order". However, when it came to applying the principle to its own verdict, the apex court has inadvertently devalued the importance of concurrent reporting of reasons.

The court seems to have downplayed the fact that it may be coming across as inarticulate at best and indecisive at worst. Besides undermining institutional integrity, a decision's authority as a binding precedent is also potentially compromised by this omission.

Culture of justification

The term "transformative constitutionalism" has recently found currency in constitutional adjudication (*Navtej Johar and Joseph Shine*). The Supreme Court is yet to articulate a comprehensive theory of the concept but it has been fleshed out in other jurisdictions. For example, Pius Langa, former Chief Justice of the Constitutional Court of South Africa, argued that "transformative constitutionalism" entails a transformation of legal culture from one "based on authority" to the one "based on justification". Karl Klare (the scholar who coined the term) posited that it may be legitimately expected of constitutional adjudication to "innovate and model intellectual and institutional practices appropriate to a culture of justification".

In the light of the above, it can be concluded that the practice of issuing non-speaking orders and giving post-hoc rationalisations later is an anathema to the principle of constitutional governance. Duty to give reasons is an incident of the judicial process and constitutional justice should not be a matter of afterthought.

Anmolam is a lawyer, running a non-profit organisation, BDLAAP. Shivam is a research scholar at the faculty of law, Delhi University

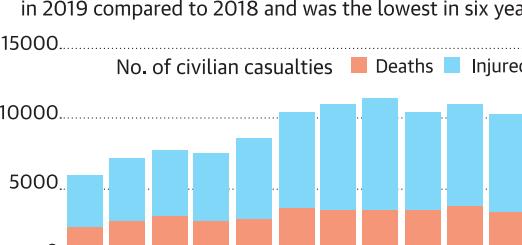


DATA POINT

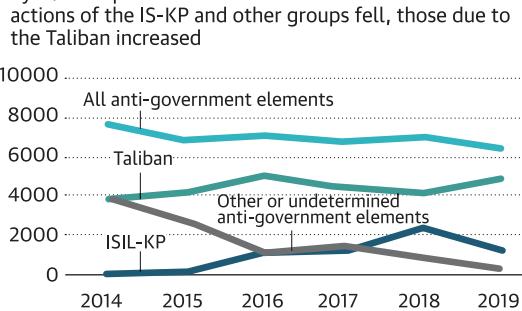
Between a rock and a hard place

Armed conflict in Afghanistan continued to affect more than 10,000 civilians in the country for the sixth straight year in 2019. The total number of casualties reduced in 2019. This was largely because deaths resulting from the actions of the Islamic State-Khorasan Province (IS-KP) reduced. However, the Taliban and international military forces inflicted more casualties compared to the previous year. By **The Hindu Data Team**

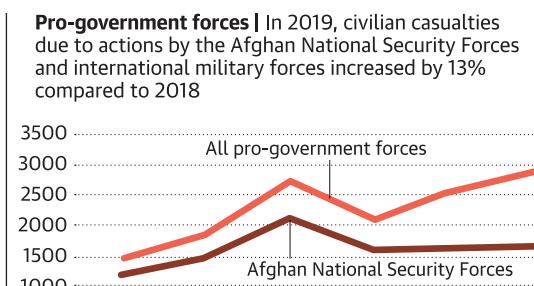
Marginal decrease | In 2019, Afghanistan recorded 10,392 civilian casualties (3,403 people deaths and 6,989 people injured). The number of civilians affected decreased by 5% in 2019 compared to 2018 and was the lowest in six years



Anti-government elements | In 2019, civilian casualties due to actions by anti-government elements decreased by 8% compared to 2018. While casualties due to the actions of the IS-KP and other groups fell, those due to the Taliban increased



Pro-government forces | In 2019, civilian casualties due to actions by the Afghan National Security Forces and international military forces increased by 13% compared to 2018



Deadly air strikes | International military forces, largely the U.S. armed forces, killed and injured civilians mostly through air strikes: 1,045 people were affected in 2019. The Afghan Air Force and other pro-government forces were responsible for a lower number of casualties



Source: United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan

The Hindu

FROM THE ARCHIVES

FIFTY YEARS AGO FEBRUARY 27, 1970

Minister tight-lipped on kissing

Mr. I. K. Gujral, Minister of State for Information and Broadcasting, declined to be coaxed in the Lok Sabha to-day [February 26, New Delhi] into giving Government's reaction to the Khosla Committee's proposal for relaxing censorship rules on kissing and nudism in the films. Mr. N. K. P. Salve described the Minister as an "expert" on the question and the Speaker, Mr. G. S. Dhillon, ruled out Mr. Lakshappa's objections to Mr. Gujral being called an "expert on kissing." Mr. Gujral got up amidst cheers and said "We cannot lightly dismiss the recommendations of a committee which had eight Members of Parliament serving on it. But Governments do not react. They only act." And the action would be taken only after a comprehensive examination of the report, which was not confined only to kissing and nudism on the screen, but covered a variety of other important matters. An usually alert Gujral sat confused when Mr. Manubhai Patel asked whether he had taken note of "

FROM PAGE ONE

Death toll rises to 27 in Delhi violence

The list of the dead at GTB Hospital is Deepak (34), Ishak Khan (24), Mohammad Mudassar (30), Vir Bhan (50), Mohammad Mubarik Hussain (28), Shan Mohammad (35), Pravesh (48), Zakhir (24), Mehtab (22), Ashfaque (22), Rahul Solanki (26), Shahid (25), Moham-

mad Furkan (30), Rahul Thakur (23), Ratan Lal (42), Ankit Sharma (26) and Dilbar.

Five bodies are yet to be identified at the hospital.

The two dead at Lok Nayak Jai Prakash Narayan Hospital are Mahroof Ali (32) and Amaan.

'Timely action by police could have saved lives'

But Mr. Mehta urged Justice Kaul to refrain from using the term "unfortunate" as it might "legitimise" whatever had happened.

"Who can deny that whatever has happened is not unfortunate? Yes, many unfortunate things have happened. It should not have happened," Justice Kaul addressed the law officer for the government.

"Of course... But you have to know the 'whys', 'hows' and 'whats,'" Mr. Mehta responded.

Both Justices Kaul and Joseph, however, conveyed their "absolute" opposition to the "expression of dissent in violence". Justice Kaul said contrarian views should be debated without violence.

Advocate Mehmood Pracha, one of the lawyers present, said, "Houses are being burnt even as we talk."

Shaheen Bagh protests
The court was hearing a petition filed by advocate Amit Sahni to shift the Shaheen Bagh protesters to another site as they had been "blocking" public movement and causing traffic snarls in the area.

Noting that it would not "expand the scope of the pe-

titition", the Bench disposed of an application of Wajahat Habibullah and Bhim Army chief Chandrashekhar Azad, to provide protection to the Shaheen Bagh protesters.

No interim order
The top court also did not pass any interim orders on the application that referred to media reports about how BJP leader Kapil Mishra instigated violence at a rally near the Majupur-Babarpur Metro station on February 23. It left the issue in the hands of the Delhi High Court.

Last week, the Supreme Court appointed interlocutors – senior advocate Sanjay Hegde and advocate Sadhana Ramachandran – to persuade the Shaheen Bagh protesters to shift to another site.

However, Justice Kaul indicated that the interlocutors report was inconclusive. "There are too many 'ifs' and 'buts'," he said.

As of now, the Supreme Court refrained from intervening further, saying the "atmosphere is not conducive" for passing orders on the petition seeking the removal of the protesters.

The next date of hearing is March 23.

24 dead as bus falls into river in Rajasthan

Residents from nearby villages rushed to rescue the passengers and joined the SDRF team.

Bundi Collector Antar Singh Nehra said the passengers were travelling from Kota to Sawai Madhopur via the Kota-Lalsot mega highway.

The injured were admitted to the government hospital in nearby Lakheri. The bodies were shifted to Kota, where they were cremated.

Delhi High Court to the rescue of riot victims

Night Magistrates would be on duty to attend to urgent matters. Zubeda Begum, the amicus curiae, would be appointed nodal officer for coordination between the victims and the authorities.

The Director, Institute of Human Behaviour and Al-

lied Sciences, would provide a sufficient number of qualified professionals to attend to riot victims suffering from post-traumatic stress disorder.

The next hearing has been fixed for Friday. (With PTI inputs)

Cabinet approves Bill to regulate surrogacy

It will benefit widows, divorced women

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI
The Union Cabinet on Wednesday approved the Surrogacy (Regulation) Bill, 2020, allowing a "willing" woman to be a surrogate mother and proposing that the Bill would benefit widows and divorced women besides infertile Indian couples.

The Cabinet approved the Surrogacy (Regulation) Bill after incorporating the recommendations of a Rajya Sabha Select Committee, Minister Prakash Javadekar said at a press conference.

The 15 major changes suggested by the 23-member committee to the Surrogacy (Regulation) Bill, 2019, also included deleting the definition of "infertility" as the inability to conceive after five years of unprotected

intercourse on the ground that it was too long a period for a couple to wait for a child.

"The Bill is aimed at banning commercial surrogacy and allowing altruistic surrogacy," said Mr. Javadekar.

Union Minister for Women and Child Development Smriti Irani added that only Indian couples can opt for surrogacy in the country.

The Bill proposes to regulate surrogacy by establishing a National Surrogacy Board and State Surrogacy Boards and appropriate authorities in the States and Union Territories respectively. The proposed insurance cover for a surrogate mother has now been increased to 36 months from 16 months earlier.

The SCBA believes any such statement reflects poorly on the independence of the judiciary and so calls upon the Honourable Judges not to make any statements in future, nor show any prox-

imity or closeness to the Executive, including Higher Functionaries," the SCBA said. However, its resolution was not unanimous.

The Supreme Court lawyers' body, led by president and senior advocate Dushyant Dave, said it "believes that the independence of the judiciary is the basic structure of the Constitution of India and that such inde-

pendence should be preserved in letter and spirit". The SCBA expressed a "deep sense of anguish and concern" at Justice Mishra's remarks.

Nothing wrong
Bar Council of India chairperson and senior advocate Manan Kumar Mishra, however, said: "Justice Mishra's speech was in the capacity of a host, and he used the best of words for all the guests who graced the occasion. He was not holding a court at that time. The Prime Minister and the Union Law Minister were the chief guest and guest of honour [respectively] of that function. I myself was present at that function, but I did not find anything wrong in Mr. Mishra's speech."

The Bar Association of India (BAI) had also issued a statement to convey its concern over the "effusive terms of praise and adulation" used by Justice Mishra. It said Justice Mishra's words went "beyond the terms of formal courtesy extended in a vote of thanks".

The BAI said it was the "foundational obligation [of judges] to maintain a discreet and dignified distance from the executive branch of the government".

"Such an act serves to dilute the perception of impartiality and independence and diminishes the confidence of the public as judges of the Supreme Court are expected to decide cases against the executive branch while upholding constitutional principles and the rule of law as paramount," the BAI said.

J&K an integral part, India tells Human Rights Council

'Cross-border terrorism from Pakistan posing a grave challenge to country'

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

Jammu and Kashmir will remain an integral part of India for ever, and the world should act against countries that shelter terrorists, India told the Human Rights Council on Wednesday.

Speaking at the 43rd Session of the Human Rights Council, Vikas Swarup, Secretary of the Ministry of External Affairs, highlighted India's heritage of non-violence, and claimed that India believed in inclusive development.

Grassroots play

"Jammu and Kashmir was, is and shall forever remain an integral part of India. The

transformative changes wrought by our Parliament last August were meant to strengthen the integration of Jammu and Kashmir, including to give fullest play to representative government from the grassroots level upward

VIKAS SWARUP
Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs

transformative changes wrought by our Parliament last August were meant to strengthen the integration of the State, including to give the fullest play to representative government from the grassroots level upward," the official said presenting the National Statement of India at the High Level Segment.



Pakistan also felt it necessary to offer advice and warnings about the situation within India. To paraphrase the poet Robert Burns, someone should give them the power to see themselves as others see them," Mr. Swarup said.

Pernicious violation

Mr. Swarup also pointed that terrorism is the "most pernicious violation" of the Right to Life.

"As a nation that has suffered for decades from cross-border terrorism, India calls for decisive action against those who direct, control, fund, abet or shelter terrorists," said the official in his speech.

Set my mother free, Iltija urges SC

Mehbooba's daughter requests court to quash February 5 order to detain her

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
AHMEDABAD

The Gujarat government has granted promotion to retired IPS officer D.G. Vanzara, who was a key accused in fake encounters of Sohrabuddin and Ishrat Jahan and others, with retrospective effect after he was discharged from the cases. He has been promoted from Deputy Inspector General to Inspector General (IG) with effect from September 29, 2007.

He retired from service on May 31, 2014. Later on he was discharged by court from both cases in which seven persons were allegedly killed by the police in staged encounters. He was arrested by the Gujarat Police CID (Crime) in 2007 after his name cropped up in the Sohrabuddin case.

A three-judge Bench, led by Justice Arun Mishra, issued notice to the J&K government. It then listed the

KRISHNADAS RAJAGOPAL
NEW DELHI

The government dossier justifies detaining former Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister Mehbooba Mufti under the Public Safety Act (PSA) on grounds such as she was "scheming, hard-headed and a daddy's girl" with a "short-lived marriage", Iltija Mufti, her daughter, informed the Supreme Court on Wednesday.

In a *habeas corpus* petition, Ms. Iltija Mufti sought a direction to the J&K police to produce her mother in the Supreme Court and set her at liberty. She also sought the court to quash the February 5, 2020 detention order of her mother under the PSA.

The *habeas corpus* petition of another former Chief Minister, Omar Abdullah, is also pending in the Court.

The petition said Ms. Mufti had been termed 'Kota Rani' in the dossier. The name was an insult as it referred to a "Muslim queen who rose to power by dubious means



habeas corpus case for March 18, nearly a month later.

The *habeas corpus* petition of another former Chief Minister, Omar Abdullah, is also pending in the Court.

The petition said Ms. Mufti had been termed 'Kota Rani' in the dossier. The name was an insult as it referred to a "Muslim queen who rose to power by dubious means

such as by poisoning her opponents".

The dossier called Ms. Mufti's politics "cheap" and her mindset "communal and divisive". Her "main motive is to create an atmosphere of fear and chaos", it said.

According to the petition, the dossier mentioned that the Jammu and Kashmir People's Democratic Party (PDP) was of a "dubious nature" and questioned its "green-coloured flag". Ms. Iltija Mufti questioned how the PDP had been termed "dubious" when it had come to power twice and its last alliance in government was with the ruling party at the Centre – the BJP.

Refusal to sign bond

The petition said the "foremost" ground for the PSA detention was that Ms. Mufti refused to sign a bond or surety, which required her to not speak, comment or make statements in public about "the recent events in J&K since it has the potential to disturb the peace and tranquility and law and order of J&K".

In short, it was a demand for her to give a "blanket undertaking" to the government that she would not go public about the abrogation of J&K's special status under Article 370 and the restrictions on public movement in the erstwhile State.

The dossier also mentioned some dozen or so "willy-nilly references" to "utterances" the former Chief Minister had made on the Citizenship (Amendment) Act (CAA) and the anti-triple talaq law.

India resolute against terror: Rajnath

To mark Balakot anniversary, ACM Bhadauria flies MiG-21 from Srinagar Air Base



On air: Air Chief Marshal RKS Bhadauria flew a five-aircraft mission in Srinagar on Wednesday. ■ SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Singh said, "The surgical strikes of 2016 and the Balakot air strikes of 2019 are testimony to this change. This is certainly a new and confident India in making."

To mark the anniversary, the Chief of the Air Staff, Air Chief Marshal (ACM) R.K.S. Bhadauria, flew a MiG-21

fighter jet of the Indian Air Force 51 Squadron from the Srinagar Air Base in a five-aircraft mission, along with the crew from the squadrons that took part in the operations on February 26 and 27 last year.

He flew in a MiG-21 Type 69 aircraft, along with the

Commanding Officer of the 51 Squadron, Group Captain Kamran Nazeer, in a formation comprising one MiG-21, two Mirage-2000s and two Sukhoi-30 MKIs, the IAF said in a statement.

In a pre-dawn attack on February 26, 2019, 12 IAF Mirage-2000 fighter jets struck the Jaish-e-Mohammed (JeM) training camp in Balakot inside Pakistan with SPICE-2000 precision-guided glide bombs.

On February 27, 2019, an aerial engagement ensued after Pakistan Air Force jets came close to the Line of Control and attempted to bomb Indian Army installations.

The IAF has since identified Airborne Warning and Control Systems aircraft and Beyond Visual Range missiles as top priorities.

With this single stroke in the Assembly yesterday [Tuesday], Nitish Kumar did three things: he silenced the Opposition's protest to make the CAA, NRC and NPR a big issue in the State; assuaged the ruffled feelings of Muslims here; and third,

relayed a message to the BJP

loud and clear that only he is the big brother in Bihar," Mr. Ajay Kumar told *The Hindu*.

Describing the move as a "master stroke" by Chief Minister Nitish Kumar, political analyst Ajay Kumar said the JD(U) president had simultaneously achieved multiple objectives.

"With this single stroke in the Assembly yesterday [Tuesday], Nitish Kumar did three things: he silenced the Opposition's protest to make the CAA, NRC and NPR a big issue in the State; assuaged the ruffled feelings of Muslims here; and third,

relayed a message to the BJP

loud and clear that only he is the big brother in Bihar," Mr. Ajay Kumar told *The Hindu*.

"By declaring that the government would implement the NPR in its 2010 format, Nitish Kumar also sent a message to his Extremely Backward Class (EBC) voters, who would have had to face more inconvenience in filling up the new format containing more complex clauses."

On Tuesday, Bihar became the first NDA-ruled State to unanimously pass a resolution against the proposed NRC. However, only a select few senior State BJP leaders were privy to the development.

Earlier, party MLA and Minister Prem Kumar had expressed surprise over the "sudden development".

Poll strategist and erstwhile JD(U) leader Prashant Kishor, who had earlier urged Mr. Kumar not to support the CAA, NRC and NPR in the State, took to Twitter on Wednesday to thank the Bihar Chief Minister for "sticking up to his words".

"But, beyond this, there are larger issues concerning the interest of Bihar and the social harmony around us," tweeted Mr. Kishor.

NIA conducts fresh searches in Pulwama

JeM commander Wani's house raided

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
SRINAGAR

Jammu on January 31. The teams questioned the inmates and searched the house for "material evidence", sources said.

The house of Sameer Ahmed Bhat, cousin of the Pulwama attacker Adil Bhat who detonated an explosives-laden vehicle on February 14 last year, killing 40 security personnel, was also raided. Bhat, a driver, was arrested from the truck carrying militants during the Nagaon attack.

A search was also carried out at the house of Ghulam Nabi Bhat in Pulwama's Drubgam village. Bhat's son was questioned during the raid. Houses of two militant supporters, who were recently arrested from Budgam, were also raided.

The brother of the active 'commander', Shoab Ahmed Wani, was arrested in connection with the Nagaon toll plaza attack in

Himachal CM sparks row with comment

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT</

Virus cases emerging faster globally: WHO

Sudden surge of infections is deeply concerning, says its chief; U.S. warns pandemic is likely

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE

GENEVA

There are now more new cases of COVID-19 reported each day outside China than inside the hardest-hit country, the World Health Organization said on Wednesday.

"Yesterday, the number of new cases reported outside China exceeded the number of new cases in China for the first time," WHO chief Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus told diplomats in Geneva, according to a written version of his speech.

The UN health agency put the number of new cases in China at 411 on Tuesday and those registered outside the country stood at 427.

Governments worldwide are scrambling to prevent the spread of the new coronavirus (SARS-CoV-2) after a surge of infections in Italy, Iran and South Korea.

Iran reported 19 deaths and 139 cases. Italy saw a fresh jump with another death, bringing the toll to 12 and 374 infections. South Korea reported 284 new cases, including a U.S. soldier, as health authorities prepared to test more than 200,000 members of a church hit hardest by the outbreak. The new cases pushed the tally to 1,261.

Germany said on Wednesday that it was heading for a



Street sanitisation: Workers in protective suits spraying disinfectant as a precaution against the coronavirus at a bus garage in Seoul, South Korea, on Wednesday. • AP

coronavirus epidemic and could no longer trace all cases. Germany, which has around 20 cases, said it was already impossible to trace all chains of infection, and Health Minister Jens Spahn urged regional authorities, hospitals and employers to review their pandemic planning.

Mr. Tedros said the "sudden increase of cases" in those countries was "deeply concerning", adding that a WHO team would travel to Iran this weekend to evaluate the situation.

Mr. Tedros said that as of

Wednesday morning, 78,190 cases of COVID-19 had been registered in China, including 2,718 deaths.

That compares with 2,790 cases and 44 deaths reported across 37 other countries.

But WHO has said the epidemic in China peaked on February 2 and has been declining since.

Mr. Tedros acknowledged that the hike in cases outside China had prompted a push for a pandemic to be declared. "We should not be too eager to declare a pandemic," he said, stressing that such a declaration could

"signal that we can no longer contain the virus, which is not true."

Question of 'when' not 'if'

Meanwhile, the U.S. warned of a pandemic..

The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention urged Americans to prepare, saying that while the immediate risk was low, the global situation suggested a pandemic was likely. "It's not a question of if. It's a question of when and how many people will be infected," the CDC's principal deputy director Anne Schuchat said.

Pak. confirms first 2 infections

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE

KARACHI

Pakistan detected its first two COVID-19 cases on Wednesday, days after Islamabad closed its border with Iran, where 19 people have died from virus.

"I can confirm first two cases of coronavirus in Pakistan. Both cases are being taken care of according to clinical standard protocols & both of them are stable. No need to panic, things are under control", tweeted health adviser Zafar Mirza.

Latin America reports 1st case

ASSOCIATED PRESS

RIO DE JANEIRO

Brazil's government confirmed on Wednesday that a 61-year-old Brazilian man who travelled to Italy this month has Latin America's first confirmed case of the contagious new coronavirus. "We will now see how this virus behaves in a tropical country in the middle of summer," Health Minister Luiz Henrique Mandetta said.

Sri Lanka notifies UN about rights resolution withdrawal

We are committed to achieving sustainable peace: Minister



Dinesh Gunawardena

Mr. Gunawardena's statement at the High-Level Segment at the ongoing UNHRC session follows President Gotabaya Rajapaksa and Prime Minister Mahinda Rajapaksa's earlier announcements that Sri Lanka would not honour Colombo's commitments to the Council. "We will always work with the UN, but I can't recognise what they [UN] have signed with past governments," Gotabaya Rajapaksa told the media during his campaign.

In 2015, six years after Sri Lanka's bloody civil war ended, the UNHRC adopted a consensus resolution, asking Colombo to probe allegations of large-scale rights abuses. The resolution, which Sri Lanka co-sponsored, was at that time widely seen as a bold commitment to Sri Lankans and the international community.

Amid Tamil leaders' growing concern over the pace at which Colombo implemented the resolution, Sri Lanka in 2017 sought an extension for two more years to fulfil its commitments. Last year, the Council approved giving another two years for Sri Lanka to take forward a credible probe into the alleged rights violations.

Cash doles for HK residents

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE

HONG KONG

Hong Kong's government said on Wednesday it will give a HK\$10,000 (\$1,280) handout to permanent residents in a bid to jump-start an economy in recession after months of protests and the COVID-19 outbreak.

Financial Secretary Paul Chan unveiled the cash gift

in the annual budget, committing a colossal HK\$120 billion to help alleviate the worst economic downturn the international financial hub has faced in a decade.

Hong Kong boasts significant fiscal reserves of more than HK\$1 trillion built up over the boom years, a stockpile that the government is now tapping into.

The cash handout to around seven million permanent residents will cost HK\$71 billion, but officials hope consumers will plough much of the money back into local businesses. "Making good use of fiscal reserves to support enterprises and relieve people's hardship is certainly in line with our people's expectations," he said.

REUTERS

KUALA LUMPUR

Malaysia's decades-old political rivals Mahathir Mohamad and Anwar Ibrahim set out claims to lead the Southeast Asian country on Wednesday after Mr. Mahathir's shock resignation as Prime Minister sparked turmoil.

The struggle between Mr. Mahathir, 94, and Mr. Anwar,

72, who formed a surprise pact to win a 2018 election, has shaped Malaysian politics for more than two decades.

Mr. Mahathir proposed a unified administration without political party allegiances. "Politics and political parties need to be put aside for now," he said in an address.

"I propose a government

that is not aligned with any party, but only prioritises the interests of the country."

Mr. Anwar later said he opposed forming a "backdoor government" and that three parties from the former Pakatan ruling coalition had proposed his name to the king as candidate for Prime Minister. "We wait for the decision of the king," he

told a news conference.

Mr. Anwar's Parti Keadilan Rakyat has 39 seats and alliance partners could potentially give it another 62.

While some politicians have openly voiced support for Mr. Mahathir to stay in office, it was not clear whether enough of them would give him their backing.

A unity government cut-

ting across party lines could give Mr. Mahathir greater authority than during a spell as PM from 1981 until his retirement in 2003. But the idea was rejected on Tuesday by an alliance of four parties, including the UMNO, which ruled Malaysia for six decades until being defeated by Mr. Mahathir's coalition in 2018.

Pak. will act against anyone targeting minorities: Khan

He condemns the violence in India

ELSEWHERE



Not even a 'smallest step back' in Idlib: Erdogan

ISTANBUL
President Recep Tayyip Erdogan on Wednesday vowed Turkey would not take the "smallest step back" in an escalating stand-off with Damascus and Russia over the northern Syrian region of Idlib. AFP

Kremlin sets date for constitutional vote

MOSCOW
President Vladimir Putin on Wednesday agreed to hold a nationwide vote on April 22 on amendments to the Russian Constitution, allowing citizens to have their say on a raft of changes. AP



Imran Khan

Pakistan's former Prime Minister Imran Khan on Wednesday warned that anyone targeting minorities in the country would be dealt with strictly, as he condemned the ongoing violence in India.

"I want to warn our people that anyone in Pakistan targeting our non-Muslim citizens or their places of worship will be dealt with strictly. Our minorities are equal citizens of this country," he said.

Mr. Khan also condemned the violence in India and said the world community "must act" now.

"Now 200 million Muslims in India are being targeted. The world community must act now," he tweeted.

"Whenever a racist ideology based on hatred takes over, it leads to bloodshed," he said.

Mr. Khan also condemned the violence in India and said the world community "must act" now.

Pak. declares Nawaz Sharif 'absconder'

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

ISLAMABAD

Pakistan's former Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif has been declared an "absconder" by the government for violating the bail requirements by not presenting his medical report from his doctors in London, according to a media report on Wednesday.

Mr. Sharif, 70, left for London in November last for treatment.

The government on Tuesday decided not to extend Mr. Sharif's bail for not presenting his medical report before a board formed on the order of Islamabad High Court, Dawn newspaper reported.

Sanders, under attack, hits back in feisty Democratic debate

Rivals call him too radical to appeal to fellow Americans

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE

CHARLESTON

Democratic White House hopefuls rounded on leftist frontrunner Bernie Sanders at a feisty debate on Tuesday, attacking him as too extreme for American voters and a flawed challenger to President Donald Trump.

Joe Biden, who needs a victory in South Carolina's crucial primary on Saturday to keep his campaign alive, hit Mr. Sanders as soft on gun control, while billionaire tycoon Michael Bloomberg claimed Russia was working to help Mr. Sanders win the nomination.

Bernie Sanders laid into his ability to deliver on costly programmes such as universal health care and tuition-free college.

Mr. Buttigieg warned a fight between Mr. Sanders and Mr. Trump would spell "chaos" and divide the nation. "I tell you what it adds up to," Mr. Buttigieg said, "it ends up as four more years of Trump."

The 78-year-old hit back at the charge his policies were too "radical," insisting such ideas "exist in countries all over the world," including the notion that health care is a human right.

German court scraps ban on assisted suicide

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE

KARLSRUHE

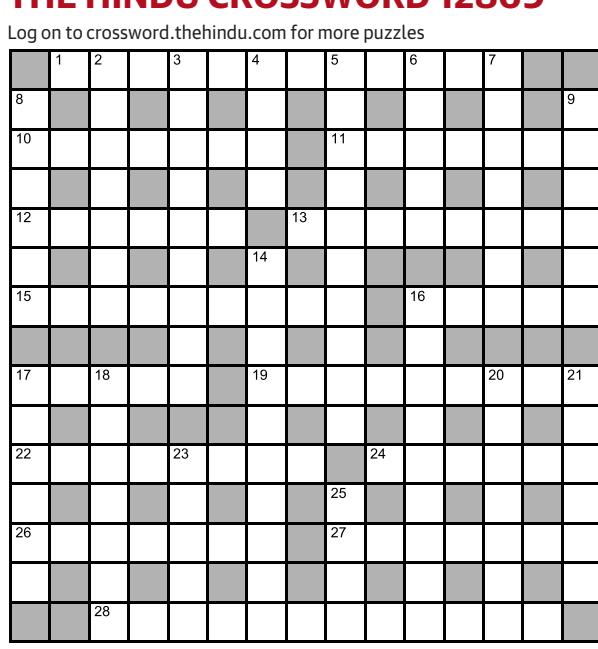
Germany's highest court on Wednesday ruled that a 2015 law banning professional assisted suicide was unconstitutional, saying in a landmark decision that people have "the right to a self-determined death".

The ruling is a major victory for the terminally ill patients, doctors and assisted suicide organisations who brought the case, complaining that the existing law went too far.

Judge Andreas Vosskuhl said the right to a self-determined death included "the freedom to take one's life and seek help doing so".

THE HINDU CROSSWORD 12869

Log on to crossword.thehindu.com for more puzzles



ACROSS

- 1 Cuisine that's exciting and lively (12)
- 10 Police chief said to be heroic (7)
- 11 Plain obvious, not a roundworm (7)
- 12 One from the UK mostly to employ another one from there (6)
- 28 Key measures brought about to protect life, primarily for one in need of protection (6,6)
- DOWN
- 2 Worried sick over in North America (7)
- 3 Musical hour with songs on piano by Charles! (4,5)
- 4 One in city, say (4)

(set by Vulcan)

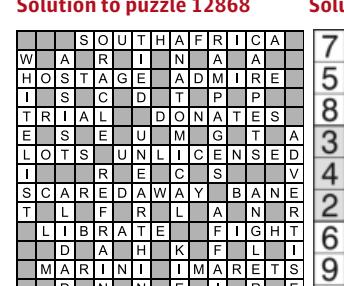
- 5 Rightly, Bill to organise an event at the end of fiscal year (10)
- 6 Liking cut sandwiches over bread that's crisp (5)
- 7 Local culinary stores – finding them is painful (7)
- 8 Entertained a thought (6)
- 9 Vocal about Democrat Pierce's extreme hardship (6)
- 14 Makeover with aunt wearing gold in a certain style (3,7)
- 24 One about to step over this is going to feel cold (3,3)
- 26 Symbols discussed in Physics for instance (7)
- 27 Eye specialist's clout is slipping (7)
- 28 Key measures brought about to protect life, primarily for one in need of protection (6,6)
- 21 Name is right, place is in Eastern European capital (6)
- 23 Tall and large, clumsy yank (5)
- 25 Consignments – huge amount (4)

SUDOKU

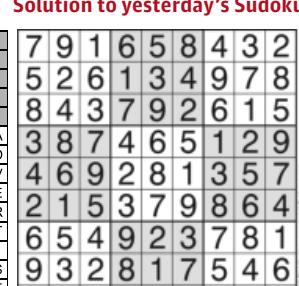
7	8	4	5	6				
5	8	4						
9								
8	6				2	1		
3	1							
1								
9					4	8	6	
3	9	7	2					

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★★

Solution to puzzle 12868



Solution to yesterday's Sudoku



FAITH

What is wealth?

What is wealth? It would seem this question is easy to answer, but Tamil poets have not gone by the conventional definition of the word. Thiruvalluvar says that the only indestructible wealth a man can possess is education. Instead of viewing wealth as material wealth alone, Thiruvalluvar saw good actions and a virtuous way of life as constituting wealth, said Malayaman in a discourse.

Thiruvalluvar shows us the importance of education in four sections. Listening to the speech of scholars and morally upright men adds to one's wealth of knowledge, and this is clearly shown by Thiruvalluvar in a verse, where he says that of all possible forms of wealth, that which we acquire through listening is the best.

MARKET WATCH

	26-02-2020	% CHANGE
Sensex	39889	-0.97
US Dollar	71.65	0.29
Gold	43502	-0.14
Brent oil	54.75	-2.34

NIFTY 50

	PRICE	CHANGE
Adani Ports	358.40	0.00
Asian Paints	1826.65	0.55
Axis Bank	729.40	0.65
Bajaj Auto	2946.60	-0.80
Bajaj Finserv	9387.00	-138.00
Bajaj Finance	4810.00	-15.95
Bharti Airtel	535.95	0.70
BPCL	448.80	-7.95
Britannia Ind	3041.35	7.80
Cipla	422.20	-3.60
Coal India	173.80	-1.30
Dr Reddy's Lab	3075.35	-11.55
Eicher Motors	17156.95	-375.35
GAIL (India)	108.05	-5.95
Gasim Ind	702.80	-17.60
HCL Tech	583.60	1.15
HDPC	2281.45	-21.15
HDFC Bank	1199.25	-1.05
Hero MotoCorp	2142.55	-41.60
Hindalco	169.90	-4.55
Hind Unilever	2236.20	2.60
ICICI Bank	523.70	-7.25
IndusInd Bank	1135.00	-18.85
Bharti InfraNet	218.75	2.45
Infosys	782.75	-15.65
Indian Oil Corp	108.35	-2.10
ITC	198.60	-3.20
JSW Steel	260.80	-1.80
Kotak Bank	1666.50	-9.30
L&T	1211.15	-30.90
M&M	503.00	-5.95
Maruti Suzuki	6234.85	-179.70
Nestle India Ltd.	16240.15	-140.35
NTPC	109.10	-1.00
ONGC	95.80	-1.75
PowerGrid Corp	185.85	-0.30
Reliance Ind	1392.00	-24.40
State Bank	328.20	1.40
Sun Pharma	374.70	-14.20
Tata Motors	144.55	-5.35
Tata Steel	416.30	-5.00
TCS	2123.60	-32.55
Tech Mahindra	811.45	-10.65
Titan	1255.10	-5.00
UltraTech Cement	4341.50	-2.50
UPL	563.00	-3.35
Vedanta	130.25	-2.45
Wipro	239.90	-4.20
YES Bank	36.55	1.40
Zee Entertainment	251.40	-0.50

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	71.46	71.78
Euro	77.80	78.15
British Pound	92.40	92.82
Japanese Yen (100)	64.70	64.99
Chinese Yuan	10.18	10.23
Swiss Franc	73.34	73.67
Singapore Dollar	51.12	51.37
Canadian Dollar	53.71	53.98
Malaysian Ringgit	16.90	16.99

Source: Indian Bank

India Cements surges, thanks to Damani

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

CHENNAI
India Cements Ltd. (ICL) shares rose 19.95% on the BSE on Wednesday, following the acquisition of its shares by investors Radhakrishnan Damani and his brother Gopikishan Damani.

The Damans increased their stake in the company through open market deals in the BSE and NSE respectively.

In a regulatory filing, Mr. Gopikishan Damani said he had purchased 2.25 crore shares of ICL along with Mr. Radhakrishnan Damani and Shrikantadevi R. Damani and Derive Investments (partners – Mr. Gopikishan Damani and Mr. Radhakrishnan Damani).

Earlier, the Damans had purchased 1.46 crore shares. With the current buy, their total stake in ICL rose to 11.98% from 4.71%.

Centre set to revamp IT Act

New law to focus on stronger framework to deal with cybercrimes: Prasad

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

NEW DELHI

The government will soon kick-start the process of revamping the nearly 20-year old Information Technology Act, 2000, with an aim to bring it in tune with the technological advancements with a focus on stronger framework to deal with cybercrimes, Minister for Electronics and IT Ravi Shankar Prasad said on Wednesday.

An expert committee will be set up with members from the government as well as the industry for discussion on the new IT Act.

Changed ecosystem

"Discussions are on in the department to revisit the IT Act... The IT Act is now 20 years old, and during this time, the IT ecosystem has developed beyond recognition. New technology has become very pronounced, the whole ecosystem of consumers has changed vastly and



Union Minister Ravi Shankar Prasad with Microsoft CEO Satya Nadella at New Delhi on Wednesday. ■ SHIV KUMAR PUSHPAKAR

so have the challenges," Mr. Prasad said.

The Minister added that one of the major challenges was the scale of users that consume technology. "The biggest challenge is the number of consumers we have to handle. Plus, today, in India, technology has become the centre of digital payment and delivery of services such as GST and UPI. This also raises the question of misuse [of technology]. The vast-

ness of these platforms was not even contemplated when the IT Act came into being," he said.

Mr. Prasad said that the new Act will also factor-in larger issues, including Supreme Court's judgment on privacy.

Noting that cyber issues have not been adequately responded to in the present IT Act, the Minister said the government may even look at including a separate chapter on cyber issues in the re-amped Act.

so have the challenges," Mr. Prasad said.

The Minister was speaking to reporters after his meeting with Microsoft CEO Satya Nadella, who was on a three-day visit to India. "We had a very good meeting, it was a courtesy meeting. I wish to thank him for his observations on Digital India, in particular digital inclusion... We also discussed a whole range of issues around IT," he said with regards to the meeting that lasted for about 20 minutes.

The Minister added that he had suggested to Mr. Nadella that Microsoft should consider adopting some digital villages and mentor them to make them beacons.

"I am happy that he has readily responded," he added.

The Minister also pointed out that the issue of data sovereignty was discussed at the meeting. However, he did not share further details.

Q3 GDP to grow at 4.5%: SBI

Lender raises FY20 estimate to 4.7% from 4.6%

C

Low interest rate does not guarantee a rise in demand for investment

ty, geopolitical tensions, and idiosyncratic stress in key emerging market economies continued to weigh on global economic activity – especially manufacturing and trade. Considering all these factors, we now foresee a GDP growth at 4.7% in current fiscal," the report said.

Global slowdown

The report pointed out that the growth rate in FY20 should be looked at through the prism of synchronised global slowdown, and India cannot be an isolation.

There is worry that the impact of COVID-19 on India could occur with a lag and

the outbreak was now expected to cause a growth erosion of 100 basis points in China alone, it said adding new hotspots had emerged in South Korea and in Italy and these will result in more quarantines, border closures and disruptions in economic relations.

"Thus, the cost of death, even though it might be limited, the economic impact could be significantly large," the report said.

Commenting that the monetary policy was not enough in the current circumstances to revive growth, the report observed low interest rate does not guarantee a rise in demand for investment as it is the future expectation that drives investment decision rather than cost.

Investors can purchase MFs on bourses

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

NEW DELHI

The restructuring of micro, small and medium enterprises' (MSME) loans by banks will be done by March 15, according to Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman.

In fact, out of the 5.53 lakh accounts identified as of January 6, 2020, 5.28 lakh have already been restructured. The rest will be cleared by March 15, Ms. Sitharaman told journalists on Wednesday, speaking after a meeting with heads of public sector banks.

Earlier this month, the Reserve Bank of India had extended the one-time loan restructuring window for such MSME accounts from March 31, 2020 to December 31, 2020. Ms. Sitharaman added that as and when

stressed assets are identified, they will be cleared. However, those already identified and pending must be completed by March 15.

This ensures that stressed assets of standard MSME accounts will not be downgraded and classified as non-performing assets, so long as the

aggregate exposure to the telecom sector, Ms. Sitharaman said she had held discussions with representatives of the telecom majors over the last few days. However, the Department of Telecom would be taking a call and when solutions are worked out, they

would be announced.

Pending MSME loan revamp by March 15

5.28 lakh of the 5.53 lakh accounts identified as of January 6 restructured: FM



Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman and Minister of State Anurag Thakur in New Delhi on Wednesday. ■ PTI

she said the process is going on as per schedule and "there is no uncertainty." The Centre plans to merge 10 banks into four.

On the impact of the COVID-19, Ms. Sitharaman said the government was closely monitoring the issue. Department-level decisions are being taken on proposals to airlift raw materials for some sectors or source supplies from other countries if needed, she added.

On adjusted gross revenue (AGR) dues of the telecom sector, Ms. Sitharaman said she had held discussions with representatives of the telecom majors over the last few days. However, the Department of Telecom would be taking a call and when solutions are worked out, they

THE HUTTI GOLD MINES COMPANY LIMITED

(A Government of Karnataka Undertaking)

Hutti - 584 115, Raichur Dist., Karnataka State. Ph: 08537-275740/276339/275463

e-Mail: material276339@gmail.com website: www.huttigold.co.in

SHORT-TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION No. 58/19-20, Dt. 27.02.2020

(Through e-Procurement Portal only)

Tender is invited by "The Dy.General Manager (Materials)" for the service provider, as detailed below.

Sl. No.	Description	Qty.	Approx. Value (Rs. in Crore)	EMD (in Rs.)
01	System Integrator for Implementation of ERP Selection of System integrator for implementation of Enterprise resource planning solution at HGML, Hutti, as per the Specifications in Request for proposal(REP) document. This includes Design, development, customization and implementation of ERP. HGML/SERVICE/48/2019-20/Call-2	-	8.65	13,00,000/-

1. Pre-bid Meeting date & time: **06.03.2020 at 10.00 A.M.**
2. Last date for receipt of tender: **27.03.2020 at 3.00 P.M.**
3. Opening of Technical bid on: **28.03.2020 at 4.00 P.M.**

Tender shall be submitted through e-procurement portal only & tender processing fees as per e-portal norms.

Please visit <https://www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in> for submitting the bid.

Any further details can be obtained from the undersigned during office hours.

Sd/- Dy. General Manager (Materials)

"LEADING GOLD PRODUC

VIJAY LOKAPALLY

Jemimah Rodrigues is the new generation woman cricketer, athletic and aggressive. The 19-year-old has talent and confidence, which she showcases with a flair rarely seen in Indian women's cricket. Promising to play an important role in India's campaign at the ongoing ICC Women's T20 World Cup in Australia, Jemimah takes time off to talk about her dedication to the sport while retaining her fun-loving personality, and on playing for the country. Edited excerpts from an interview.

Your thoughts on your journey to the World Cup?

As a young girl, I always wanted to play cricket for India, and ever since I got selected for India, it was my dream to represent our country at the World Cup. Now, after so many years when I look back, those hours and hours of practice, sacrifices, and fitness have finally paid off, as the day has come when I am finally playing the World Cup. It's very special for me and I hope I do well.

You have brought in a lot of fun to the team. How does it help?

I think it's very important to maintain that balance in cricket. Along with focus, concentration, and dedication, it's important to have some fun and to enjoy what you do. So, for me, it's simple. I don't try to do anything extra. I just try to be the person I am, and I am a fun-loving person.

How serious are you with your love for music and playing guitar?

Honestly, I am more serious about cricket than I am about music. I just

'It warms my heart to see young girls take up sports'

The 19-year-old cricketer Jemimah Rodrigues, who is currently in Australia at the ICC Women's T20, on playing for India and women's sport in the country



Being herself (Clockwise from immediate left) Jemimah with her pet dog Theo; batting against Bangladesh on February 24th at the ICC Women's T20 Cricket World Cup, in Perth; posing with her bat

• @JEMIRODRIGUES ON TWITTER AND GETTY IMAGES



IN OUR BACKYARD

Small but feisty

The Red-breasted Flycatcher is a cute little furball, but also a magnificent hunter



These belong to the Old World Flycatcher family under the order Passeriforms (perching birds). They can be distinguished from other orders by the arrangement of their toes – three pointing forward and one backward, a design that helps them to cling onto branches efficiently. The Red-breasted Flycatcher prefers low, open perches in trees that serve as vantage points. From here, it makes circular flights in pursuit of insects, and mostly prefers to return to the same perch.

Its hunting prowess makes me want to stand still and observe the spectacle unravelling before my eyes. Thanks to its pointed black bill (beak), the bird is quite an aerial insectivore, dashing and



Participate in the city's spring birdcount

■ The city is celebrating Spring Season with the Delhi Spring Birdcount on March 1, 2020 (Sunday). To be a part of the festivity and to see and observe birds all day, send an email at ninox.edu@gmail.com

swooping in on insects in flight every now and then, as well as on unfortunate caterpillars in foliage. The wide array of insects beetles, butterflies, damselflies and invertibrates like spiders found in our region serves as a sumptuous buffet of sorts for the little fur ball.

Unless disturbed greatly, the Red-breasted Flycatcher may settle comfortably in certain areas protecting its territory from other similar-sized birds like Common Stonechat and sometimes Indian Robin in the vicinity.

It brings me immense joy when friends (not birdwatchers!) tell me about their experience with this bird, either in their own gardens, or in areas like Hauz Khas Fort, Deer Park, Vasant Kunj and several other areas in the city!

The writer is the founder of NINOX - Owl About Nature, a nature-awareness initiative. He is the Delhi-NCR reviewer for Ebird, a Cornell University initiative, monitoring rare sightings of birds. He formerly led a programme of WWF India

Distinct visitor A male Red-breasted Flycatcher; a female with an insect in its beak (far left) • SHERI CHANDER

PLACES

Doing it for the 'gram

A revamped version of Taxim cafe at Ansals Plaza, Gram is inspired, menu and decor, by Instagram



Four well-lit stairs lead you to the outdoor seating of Gram. The open area – filled with plants covered with fairy lights on one side, and with sofas, cocktail tables, and turquoise green chairs on the other – has the vibe of a breezy beach cafe.

Gram, which opened in November, is influenced by the social media app Instagram. The place offers discounts to their customers based on each of their individual popularity on the photo-sharing platform. For instance, a person with 100K+ followers on their profile, will be entitled to a food and beverages discount worth ₹5,000. The restaurant does not even have a minimum bill amount defined for such an offer.

"Trying to come up with a new concept, we figured, why not Gram? People love posting pictures on Instagram more than Snapchat or Facebook. Instagram is more trending now than it has ever been," says 25-year-old Vatsal Narula, one of the partners.

In keeping with their hashtag #doitfortheGram, the restaurant serves food and beverages that hook you visually. "From cocktails to food everything, we make sure the food looks and tastes equally good. The presentation is a very important aspect because if the food looks good, people tend to click a picture and post it, and there are followers who see it and want to come check it out," says Narula.

The cafe also uses the Instagram for research, so to speak – they find new trends and interests of their audience on the app. With influencers and food bloggers coming in, they focus on getting their 'professional' feedback as well.

Gram has a multi-cuisine menu along with fusion food like Mushroom Puffs (below), which are money bags pastries baked and served with lemon rice, tomato and chilli chutney; Butter Chicken Pizza, and Beetroot Kebabs topped with Indian spices, and surrounded by hot and tangy dips.

Their cocktails too are offbeat and unusual. Like Caramel Popcorn-sour, a drink of Bourbon and egg-white to be had with caramel popcorn on the side and Gram Republic, a banana drink with white rum and coconut cream topped with rose petals and decorated with sunny yellow daisy on the side.

"We also plan to keep changing our cocktail menu every 3-4 months so we have something new to offer every visit," Vatsal adds.

Starting February 29th, in collaboration with Cohoma Coffee, Gram is set to dedicate its second floor to an all-coffee space. Their coffee menu is divided in two sections, for coffee-based drinks with alcohol and those without. This includes an interpretation of a classic White Russian and another called Cohoma and Baileys, which is a blend of a standard Americano coffee with Baileys Irish Cream.

Ground Floor, Ansals Plaza, August Kranti Marg, Hauz Khas, New Delhi: ₹1600 for two

SANSKRITI FALOR



Contact us at delhimetro@thehindu.co.in

5 EVENTS WORTH YOUR WHILE



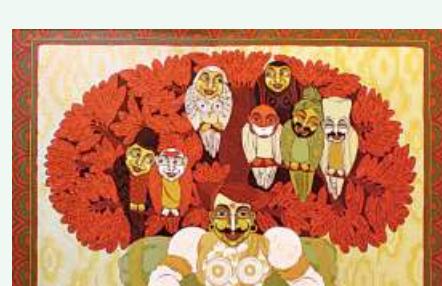
LECTURE

Music appreciation

Ashish Dha, Dublin-based Hindustani Raagdari composer-performer, will give a lecture-cum-demonstration titled Swar-bhed Rahasya, this evening at the India International Centre. The presentation will explore how Hindustani swar are different from the Western 12-note equal-tempered system.

VENUE: Lecture Room-II, IIC

TIME: 6:30 p.m.



EXHIBITION

Group show

Alturaash Art, a venture of the Dubai-based Alturaash Group, has recently launched its new art house in Delhi, with a group show called Aarambh (the beginning). On view till 29th February, it showcases recent works by a number of emerging, as well as established modern and contemporary artists from India.

VENUE: Alturaash Art Gallery, Saket

TIME: 11 a.m. - 7 p.m.



DINING

Food fest

The Westin Gurgaon has organised a Rajasthani Food Festival at its 24-hour restaurant Seasonal Tastes. On till 29th February, the menu offers dishes prepared in accordance with the traditional recipes of Rajasthani cuisine. This includes items such as Jodhpuri Chicken, Bajre ki Roti, Dal Bati Churma and Kesar Doodh.

VENUE: The Village Gallery India, Hauz Khas

TIME: 7 p.m. - 11:30 p.m.



ART

Embroidery

An ongoing show, called Kanthas, showcases the embroidery form once practiced by women in a village near Kolkata, and created under the guidance of the late Meera Mukherjee, an eminent sculptor. The textures and patterns of these works in varying sizes, depict everyday stories of village-life in great detail.

VENUE: The Village Gallery India, Hauz Khas

TIME: 10 a.m. - 7 p.m.



FILM

French thriller

Alliance Française de Delhi will screen *Feux Rouges*, a French movie this evening. Directed by Cédric Kahn, this 2004 film starring Jean-Pierre Darroussin and Carole Bouquet as married couple, is a subtle exploration of the power struggle in a troubled marriage, set against the couple's explosive clash with a violent criminal.

VENUE: M. L. Bhartia Auditorium, Lodhi Estate

TIME: 6:30 p.m.



Not to be CONTAINED

Hospitality brands are upcycling discarded shipping container boxes by turning them into wineries, boutiques and hostels. Cargotecture could redefine your next hotel stay

ADITI SUBRAMANIAN

The ubiquitous shipping container – a steel box that reshaped transportation and globalisation – is often undermined; usually discarded or left to rot, its role in the bustling world of commerce half forgotten.

However, these large boxes have found their way into everyday life, with societies adopting and upcycling them to form living spaces, which has made having to sleep in one a distinct part of the "ideal travel experience".

Shipping container architecture, or cargotecture, has witnessed a steep growth curve in the last few years, especially since these boxes were made the symbols of green living. Flexibility, portability and reduced construction periods make such units versatile.

While the process entails modi-



fication by adding electrical outlets, insulation and plumbing, owners also choose to go one step further by incorporating glass ceilings and roof gardens. Present as cafés, restaurants and studios

around the globe, this latest trend in the sustainability wave has engulfed the realm of hospitality. While some hotels are shifting to motion sensor technology and water-saving devices, other brands are changing the game entirely by using shipping containers as a structural element.

Cascading down the natural landscape, the Quadrum Ski and Yoga Resort in Gudauri, Georgia, provides stunning views of the Caucasus mountains. Large windows, generous balconies and warm wooden interiors characterise the resort, which was designed by architects Sandro Ramishvili and Irakli Eristavi in 2017. Erene Jerenashvili, the resort's manager, says the decision to use containers was a result of wanting the hotel to look different, with the architecture serving as a signature element.

Going local

"The commitment to local material meant that we sourced wood, stone and metal from the nearby region, sculpting them into a Nordic style structure. Even the furniture was customised using wood from Georgia," she adds.

Throw in yoga, fitness, swimming, and over four suites to choose from, and it makes the boutique hotel an ideal holiday destination. There is an added bonus. The slopes are just a five-minute walk away, and the resort is located less than two kilometres from the Gudauri ski lift.

In contrast, Hotel WineBox at Valparaiso, Chile, is an urban wine

Trendsetters (Clockwise from left) Zostel's Panchgani property, Quadrum Ski and Yoga Resort in Georgia • SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

ery that resonates the coastal town's edginess through funky graffiti that wraps around its walls. A colourful structure resembling stacked Lego blocks, one can catch stunning views of the Pacific Ocean while sipping on Chilean wine and leaning back on furniture crafted from bathtubs and sinks.

The rooms are priced upwards of \$111 but are lavishly furnished – modular kitchenettes, recycled pallets and private balconies beg for a party or two, and blur the spatial constraints of the storage unit. Located near the late Chilean poet Pablo Neruda's house, you can step out to find where he penned down his thoughts, or just go down to the hotel garage where you can crush grapes and inspect the ageing barrels of wine.

Testing waters

Closer home, container resorts are still a fairly new concept. There are only a few and they are located in areas where permanent construction is restricted. At Panchgani in Maharashtra, Zostel welcomes you with an art display that reads #BeContained, ushering you into a medley of volumes outlined with rustic colours. Combining dormitories with private rooms, the backpacker hostel is located above the scenic Krishna valley and was designed by architect Madhav Joshi and associates.

Discussing the containers, Dharameer Singh Chouhan, CEO and co-founder, Zostel, says, "We wanted travellers to feel they were floating above the clouds. The cantilever usage of the containers is one of the main reasons for using them in Panchgani."

Vishal Sudhakar, managing director, Building in a Box, adds that "People are now looking for alternative travel experiences. They are experi-

menting with jungle stays, tree houses and container resorts."

Sudhakar's firm has built beachside container properties at Sayal-gudi in Ramanathapuram, and is also behind the quirky Bell Tiffin Box restaurant concept in Madurai.

What is the experience inside a 20-foot container like? Most of the rooms can accommodate only two or three adults, but through innovations in furnishing, flooring and lighting, one hardly notices the difference in spatial volume.

"The experience of staying in a container has been designed so space is optimised in the best possible way. We had to do some modifications to our standard dorm bed designs so as to optimise space usage while not having to compromise on comfort," says Dharamveer.

Vishal pitches in: "Height is the major restricting factor as it is not advisable to open up the top of the container. In terms of cost, container architecture can result in a 25-30 % reduction, especially if you choose to compete with mainstream hotels."

With travel itineraries getting influenced by Instagram hashtags, and the desire to show off unique experiences, it is interesting to see where container resorts are headed. Maybe, in this case, thinking inside the box provides the best perspective!



GET, SET, GO



Leave no trace

Australia has a new national park – Houtman Abrolhos Islands National Park that comprises 105 islands. Located in the West, the islands were first spotted by Dutch traveller Frederick de Houtman. They were designated a National Park in 2017, and a budget of \$10 million was reportedly allocated to develop a sustainable tourism plan. The islands enjoy tropical weather that helps in its biodiversity, including protected species. The islands are categorised into three groups – Wallabi, Easter and Pelsaert. Visitors are expected to follow the seven principles of the 'Leave No Trace' initiative to keep the islands pristine. While visitors are encouraged to snorkel through the coral gardens and spot fish, anemones and seagrass meadows, they are advised to keep the islands pest-free by making sure their clothes, shoes, boats and gear are free of soil, seed and insects. Historically, shipwrecks at the Abrolhos represent the earliest European archaeological sites in Australia. The most famous wreck is the Batavia, which hit a reef in the Wallabi Group in 1629.



One for a mini-cation

If you prefer mini vacations or mini-cations, Thomas Cook (India) has launched a range of international tours of five to seven days, priced between ₹50,000 and a lakh of rupees, per person. The company analysed travel trends in India, and learnt that over 66% of Indian travellers prefer mini-cations over a long annual vacation. The survey also showed that India's millennials are displaying an increased appetite (of 35%) to fulfil their travel goals. The new bouquet of holiday packages includes destinations such as Australia, the UK, France, Germany, Austria, Hungary, Russia, the Netherlands and Belgium, apart from short-haul favourites such as Abu Dhabi, Dubai, Sri Lanka, Bhutan, Maldives, Mauritius and Myanmar. The all-inclusive tours include flights, hotels, visas, meals, sightseeing, insurance and the services of a tour manager. There is also a customised Europe 'land-only' holiday, starting at ₹31,600. The destinations include London, Paris, Greece, Iceland, Georgia, Amsterdam and Brussels, with the option of engaging experiences like an exciting Jack-the-Ripper tour in London, volcano tours at Santorini, fun family bonding at Disneyland Paris, thermal spa in Iceland's Blue Lagoon and more.

POOCH CAFE



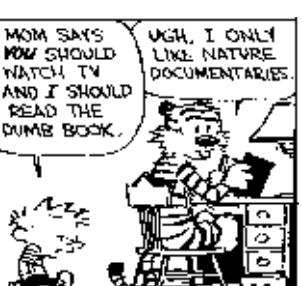
PEANUTS



HAGAR THE HORRIBLE



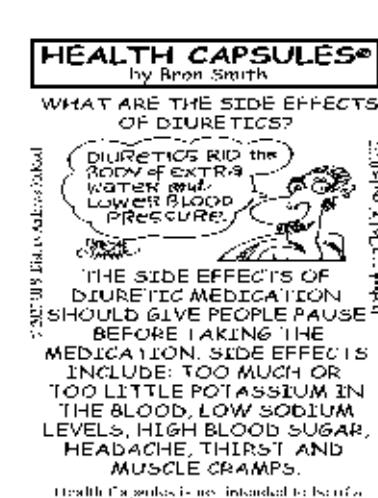
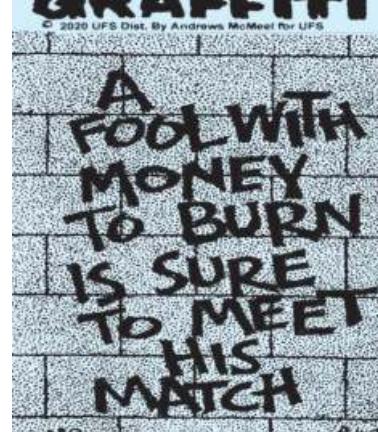
CALVIN AND HOBBES



TIGER



GRAFFITI



THE GUARDIAN QUICK CROSSWORD-1313

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8						
9			10			
11			12			
13						
14			15		16	
17						
18	19				20	
21						
22					23	
24						

© GUARDIAN NEWS AND MEDIA LTD., 2016

To play The Guardian Quick Crossword, the Hindu Cryptic crossword puzzles online & other puzzles online, scan the QR code.

- customary (8)
- 6 Opening through which fluid can pass (5)
- 7 Rhinestone Cowboy singer (4,8)
- 8 Say something very embarrassing (4,1,7)
- 13 Riders (8)
- 16 Rescue (7)
- 17 Relating to living organisms (6)
- 19 Violent weather (5)
- 21 German writer concerned with the role of the artist in society, d. 1955 (4)

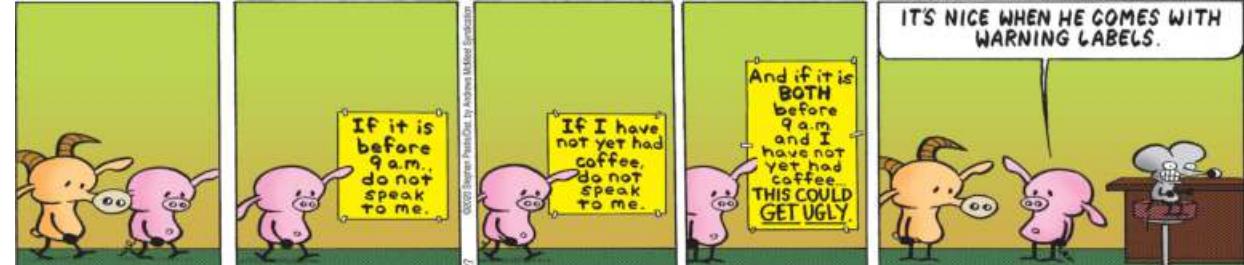
The solution will appear on February 28, 2020.

Solution No. 1313

WUMO



PEARLS BEFORE SWINE



- Across
- 1 Intensely painful (12)
- 9 Kingdom (5)
- 10 Streamlined cover for an aircraft engine (7)
- 11 Domestic animals (4)
- 12 Tyrannical (8)
- 14 Non-metallic element found in all organic compounds (6)
- 15 Rarely (6)
- 18 Killer (8)
- 20 Spill the beans (4)
- 22 Eyelet lining a small hole (7)
- 23 Blacksmith's block (5)
- 24 Place of detention for those awaiting trial (6,6)
- Down
- 2 Noteworthy special quality (1-6)
- 3 Play boisterously (4)
- 4 Curved outwards (4)
- 5 Conventional –

N	O	F	E	A	R	A	S	H	R	A
A	R	S	E	H	E	I				
T	R	A	N	S	O	M				
I	U	U	B	P	A	N				
V	O	D	K	A	R	I	S	O	T	T
E	U	G	O	T						
S	E	A	O							
H	A	T	C	H	E	M				
A	T	E	I	O	A					
M	E	L	O	N	M					
E	E	C	N	E	O					
D	O	D	G	E	R					

Bumrah and Shami need to fire

Both got their lengths wrong at Basin Reserve and let the Kiwi tail wag

INDIA IN NZ

S. DINAKAR
WELLINGTON

India has a bunch of world-class pacemen who have been slicing through lines-up both away and home in the last two years.

And there is intense competition for places. Not many teams would have someone of the quality of Umesh Yadav cooling the bench.

But the pace attack on view at the Basin Reserve, with the exception of Ishant Sharma, largely disappointed.

Let's take the case of Jasprit Bumrah. He was among the key factors in India's maiden Test series triumph in Australia last season. With his whippy and deceptive action, he was quick off the pitch, had a nasty short ball and a telling yorker.

Bumrah moved the new ball just enough to find the edge and, when the sphere became older, struck with reverse swing. His pace seldom dropped below 140 kmph even at the fag end of the day, something that impressed pace legend Glenn McGrath.

Just a shadow

Yet, the Bumrah seemed a shadow of his former self at the Basin Reserve. The nip off the track was missing.

Bumrah had spent a long period in the sidelines tending to a rather serious injury, stress fracture of the lower back.

He did not undergo surgery and when he came back, he was drafted into the shorter formats. Except for the game at Mount Maunganui, where he scalped three, Bumrah had a lacklustre T20I series in New Zealand.

And in the ODI series, he conceded 50 or more runs in each of the three games without picking a wicket. The alarm bells were ringing.

In the first Test at the Basin Reserve, one got the im-



Job on hand: Bowling coach B. Arun has to find a quick fix to the chinks in the armour of Mohammed Shami and Jasprit Bumrah. ■ AP

pression that Bumrah was not letting it rip; perhaps the back injury was playing on his mind.

There were times when Bumrah appeared pedestrian. The explosive release with the arm-speed was absent and the Kiwis were able to play him comfortably.

Down on speed

Bumrah appeared down on speed and was not bowling the right length for the Basin Reserve surface. The seamer pitched short of a good length when he should have, ideally, pitched the ball up.

By not pitching up and drawing the batsman into a drive, Bumrah was not giving the ball chance to swing. And he was bowling on middle and off-stump when his line should have been off-stump or just outside it.

In fact, it was this line that fetched Bumrah his only

wicket of the Test when he had B.J. Watling caught behind.

This was a Test where even the Kiwi lower order batsmen were able to pick his yorker – a major delivery in Bumrah's arsenal – and dig it out. Bumrah was missing the extra speed that gave his bowling the cutting edge.

No reverse swing

And there was no reverse swing for him either. If some one such as Bumrah finishes with 1/88, the Indian bowling has a problem.

Mohammed Shami too

had an ordinary Test, given the high benchmark he has set for himself. Like Bumrah, he, carried away by the grass, bowled the wrong length, only rarely pitching the ball up. Shami is a paceman who relies on the fluency of his run-up to generate

Except for the game at Mount Maunganui, where he scalped three, Bumrah had a lacklustre T20I series in New Zealand

In the first Test, the last three New Zealand wickets added 123 precious runs

speed. Then he uses his wrists and seam position for movement.

However, the stiff breeze at the Basin Reserve appeared to have adversely impacted the rhythm in Shami's run-up and the rest of his bowling suffered.

India normally blows away the tail. In the first Test, the last three New Zealand wickets added 123 precious runs.

It was a massive phase of the match. The pacemen have to get their act together at Christchurch.

Australia too hot for SA

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
CAPE TOWN

Australia trounced South Africa by 97 runs in the third and final T20I at Newlands here on Wednesday to win the series 2-1.

Sent in to bat, Australia made an imposing 193 for five in its 20 overs. David Warner (57, 37b, 5x4, 2x6) and Aaron Finch (55, 37b, 6x4, 1x6) added 120 for the opening wicket in just 11.3 overs before the former departed.

A late flourish by Steve Smith (30 not out, 15b, 2x6) took the visitors close to 200.

South Africa simply collapsed in the face of a daunting chase and was bowled out for 96, with Mitchell Starc and Ashton Agar picking up three wickets apiece.

The scores: Australia 193/5 in 20 overs (David Warner 57, Aaron Finch 55, Steve Smith 30 n.o.) bt South Africa 96 in 15.3 overs (Mitchell Starc 3/23, Ashton Agar 3/16, Adam Zampa 2/10).

Sri Lanka hammers WI

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
HAMBANTOTA

Sri Lanka crushed West Indies by 161 runs in the second one-day international to clinch the series here on Wednesday.

Chasing 346 for victory, West Indies was bowled out for 184 in 39.1 overs. Earlier, Avishka Fernando (127) and Kusal Mendis (119) put on 239 as the hosts amassed 345 for eight after being put in to bat.

The scores: Sri Lanka 345/8 in 50 overs (Avishka Fernando 127, Kusal Mendis 119, Thisara Perera 36, Sheldon Cottrell 4/67, Alzarri Joseph 3/57) bt West Indies 184 in 39.1 overs (Shai Hope 51, Nicholas Pooran 31, Wanindu Hasaranga 3/30, Lakshan Sandakan 3/57).

Edgar goes down memory lane

EXCLUSIVE

S. DINAKAR
WELLINGTON



Bruce Edgar. ■ S. DINAKAR

[the umpire] your father?"

Blood and guts

New Zealand won the series 1-0 and Edgar made blood and guts i27 in the third Test at Auckland, taking on Andy Roberts, Michael Holding, Joel Garner and Colin Croft.

The southpaw, a chartered accountant by profession, said, "Holding was the quickest, Roberts spoke very little and hated batsmen, Garner had bounce and Croft was awkward with his run-up and angle."

Edgar was part of the infamous ODI where Greg Chappell asked his brother Trevor to bowl underarm.

"Greg bullied Trevor to bowl underarm. I became good friends with Greg later. And I told him he had done the single biggest thing to promote cricket in New Zealand!"

Edgar played his cricket in a different era where his mom used to stitch his chest guard. And the New Zealanders, minutes before entering the arena for the WSC games in front of 50,000 spectators, would be washing and ironing their clothes in their hotel rooms.

Edgar made a typically gutsy 65 in the first innings. But he too could not escape a sharp comment. "Kallicharran, always talkative, shouted from gully after an appeal was negated. 'Is he

India eyes third victory

It has been impressive in batting and bowling, takes on NZ

T20 WORLD CUP

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
MELBOURNE

On a high after two victories on the trot, including one against defending champion Australia, the Indian women's cricket will aim to inch closer to a semifinal berth when it takes on New Zealand in the ICC Women's T20 World Cup here on Thursday.

India hardly broke a sweat during its 17-run and 18-run wins over host Australia and Bangladesh in its previous two matches and is perched atop the five-team Group A standings with four points from two matches.

A victory against New Zealand on Thursday will take the Harmanpreet Kaur-led side on the threshold of a knock-out stage spot, to be competed among the top two teams from Groups A and B.

India has been impressive both in batting and bowling in its two matches.

The 16-year-old sensation Shafali Verma has been a standout with the bat. She scored a whirlwind 17-ball 39 against Bangladesh, following 29 against Australia.

New Zealand, though, has a better head-to-head record against India in recent years, having won the last three matches between the two sides. Exactly a year ago, it defeated India 3-0 in a three-

Tennis - I'm saying goodbye

Sharapova announced her decision in an article for Vogue and Vanity Fair

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
PARIS

Five-time Grand Slam winner Maria Sharapova, one of the world's most recognisable sportswomen, on Wednesday announced her retirement at the age of 32.

"Tennis - I'm saying goodbye," Sharapova said in an article for Vogue and Vanity Fair magazines.

"After 28 years and five Grand Slam titles, though, I'm ready to scale another mountain - to compete on a different type of terrain."

Sharapova burst onto the scene as a supremely gifted teenager and won her Grand Slams before serving a 15-month ban for failing a drugs test at the 2016 Australian Open. The Russian's ranking is currently 373.

Sharapova has hardly played in the past year because of long-standing shoulder problems.

Sharapova shot to fame as a giggly 17-year-old Wimbledon winner in 2004, the third-youngest player to conquer the All England Club's hallowed grass courts.

Gave me life

She became World No. 1 in 2005 and won the US Open the next year. "One of the keys to my success was that I never looked back and I never looked forward," Sharapova said on Wednesday.

"I'll miss it everyday. I'll miss the training and my daily routine: Waking up at dawn, lacing my left shoe before my right, and closing the court's gate before I hit my first ball of the day.

"I'll miss my team, my coaches. I'll miss the moments sitting with my father on the practice court bench. The handshakes - win or lose - and the athletes, whether they knew it or not, who pushed me to be my best.

"Looking back now, I realise that tennis has been my mountain. My path has been filled with valleys and detours, but the views from its peak were incredible."

The Maria file

Age: 32 Current ranking: 373

Career high: No. 1 (Aug. 22, 2005) Singles Titles: 36

Career Prize Money: \$38,777,962

Career record (Win/Loss): Singles: 645/171

CAREER FACTOID

2001: Played first event at ITF/Sarasota-USA

2002: Figured in her first two WTA main draws, reaching the second round at Indian Wells and losing in the first round at Tokyo (Japan Open)

■ Bagged three singles titles on the ITF Circuit

2003: Burst into the top-50 for the first time; Clinched two WTA crowns (Japan Open and Quebec City)

■ Made her debut at all four Majors (Best result: Fourth round at Wimbledon)

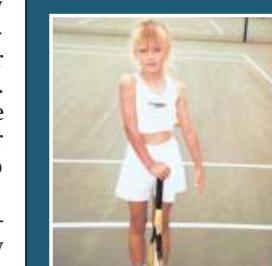
2004: Finished in the top-5 (ended year at No. 4)

■ The 17-year-old created a ripple by stunning Serena Williams in the Wimbledon final and becoming the fourth youngest Grand Slam champion in the Open Era after Martina Hingis, Monica Seles and Tracy Austin

2005: Reached the summit of the rankings for the first time on August 22

2015: Her last Grand Slam final appearance (Australian Open, lost to Serena)

2016: Handed a ban for failing a drug test at the Australian Open



SOURCE: WTA

GRAND SLAM COLLECTION

Wimbledon: 2004 | US Open: 2006

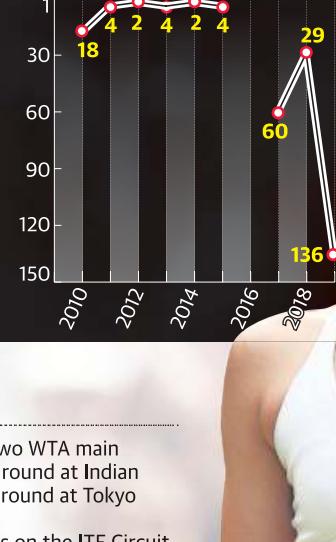
Australian Open: 2008 | French Open: 2012, 2014

OTHER MAJOR TROPHIES

2004: WTA Tour Championships | 2008: Fed Cup

2012: Silver (London Olympic Games)

YEAR-END RANKING SINCE 2010:



THE CAREER GRAND SLAM CLUB (WOMEN):

Maureen Connolly

Doris Hart | Shirley Fry

Margaret Court

Billie Jean King | Chris Evert

Martina Navratilova

Steffi Graf | Serena Williams

Maria Sharapova

COMPILED BY ANIRUDH VELAMURI

Pakistan stuns West Indies Knight stars for England



On the go: Heather Knight smashed the first century of the tournament against a hapless Thailand attack. ■ GETTY IMAGES

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE CANBERRA

Skipper Bismah Maroof anchored the chase admirably as Pakistan shocked former champion West Indies by eight wickets in its opening match of the ICC Women's T20 World Cup here on Wednesday.

Diana Baig's fierce spell of fast bowling exposed the Windies top-order as it posted 124 for seven, courtesy Staf

TV PICKS

NBA: Sony Ten 1 (SD & HD), 6 a.m.
Women's T20 World Cup: India vs New Zealand, Star Sports 2 (SD & HD), 9.30 a.m.; Australia vs Bangladesh, Star Sports 2 (SD & HD), 1.30 p.m.
Khelo India University Games: Star Sports 1 (SD & HD), 10 a.m.
Europa League: Sony Ten 2 (SD & HD), 1.30 a.m. (Friday)

IN BRIEF



James dazzles, powers Lakers past Pelicans

LOS ANGELES
LeBron James outgunned Zion Williamson as Los Angeles Lakers returned to action just 24 hours after the searing emotion of Kobe Bryant's memorial service. James scored a season-high 40 points in a 118-109 win over New Orleans Pelicans at the Staples Centre.

The results: Pacers 119 bt Hornets 80; Bucks 108 bt Raptors 97; Thunder 124 bt Bulls 122; Nuggets 115 bt Pistons 98; Lakers 118 bt Pelicans 109; Celtics 118 bt Trail Blazers 106; Kings 112 bt Warriors 94. AGENCIES

Ravi, Rithvik begin well

HAARLEM (THE NETHERLANDS)
Indian shuttlers Ravi and Rithvik Sanjeevi Satish Kumar registered victories in the U-19 men's singles opening round at the Dutch junior international tournament here on Wednesday. While Ravi wrapped up the match 21-11, 21-8 against Indonesian Made Deco Setya Atmaja, Rithvik thrashed Singapore's Zhiyuan Lee 21-12, 21-11.

Other results: M Fazrillah Mohamad Razif (Mal) bt Harsh Arora 21-18, 21-18.

Women: Anna Tatranova (Fra) bt Meghana Reddy 21-15, 17-21, 21-14; Julia Tuveson (Swe) bt Uthsava Palit 23-21, 22-20. PTI



Stephen Curry set to return to action

SAN FRANCISCO
Golden State Warriors star Stephen Curry is being lined up to return from injury in this weekend's game against Washington Wizards, head coach Steve Kerr confirmed on Tuesday. Curry has not played since fracturing his hand in the Warriors' fourth game of the season against Phoenix on October 30. AFP



Alonso to race for McLaren in Indy 500

PARIS
Fernando Alonso will race at this year's Indianapolis 500 for McLaren, the team said on Tuesday, as he embarks on another attempt to complete a rare motorsport triple crown. The 38-year-old Spaniard is trying to emulate the feat accomplished by the late Graham Hill, the only driver to win the Monaco Grand Prix, Le Mans and Indy 500. AFP

Bayern draws first blood against Chelsea

Griezmann comes to Barcelona's rescue against Napoli

CHAMPIONS LEAGUE

AGENCIES
LONDON

Two second-half goals in less than three minutes from Serge Gnabry and another one from prolific Pole Robert Lewandowski earned Bayern Munich a thumping 3-0 victory at Chelsea in its Champions League last 16, first-leg on Tuesday.

Meanwhile, Antoine Griezmann's second-half equaliser handed Barcelona a vital away goal and earned it a 1-1 draw at Napoli.

Bayern, sharper and livelier than its host, piled on the pressure from the start of the match and the stats showed it enjoyed 63% possession.

It was a bad night for Chelsea, whose home form under Frank Lampard has been suspect all season, and its misery was complete in the 83rd minute when wing back Marcos Alonso was sent off for violent conduct after he caught Lewandowski in the face with his arm.

The Arsenal connection
For former Arsenal forward Gnabry they were the fifth and sixth goals in London in the Champions League this



Opening salvo: Serge Gnabry is on hand to tap in Bayern's first against Chelsea. ■ AFP

season after he scored four in Bayern's 7-2 demolition of Tottenham Hotspur in the group stages.

The first against Chelsea in the 51st minute involved a one-two between Gnabry and Lewandowski, who cut back from the edge of the area when Chelsea's retreating defence expected him to shoot, leaving Gnabry with

an easy finish from less than 10 metres.

Chelsea, run ragged most of the evening, had barely got its breath back when Lewandowski and Gnabry exchanged passes halfway down the pitch before Gnabry raced away to score.

Lewandowski, clearly enjoying himself, got among the scorers in the 76th mi-

nute after a stirring run from Canadian full back Alphonso Davies.

In Naples, a superb curling strike from Dries Mertens put the home side in front after half an hour and saw the Belgian draw level with Marek Hamsik as Napoli's all-time top scorer with 121 goals.

But Barca breached a well-

drilled Napoli defence in the 57th minute when Griezmann fired in a Nelson Semedo cross. The visitor ended the game with 10 men after Arturo Vidal was sent off late on for picking up two yellow cards in quick succession.

Well organised

Barcelona dominated possession from the first whistle but struggled to find its way through the well-organised Italians, who then struck with their first meaningful attack of the game.

Junior Firpo lost the ball to Piotr Zielinski and the midfielder pulled a pass across to the waiting Mertens, who took a touch just outside the box before curling in his sixth goal in seven Champions League games this season.

But the Belgian limped off through injury early in the second half after a hefty tackle from Busquets, which earned the midfielder the yellow card that will rule him out of the second-leg.

The results (last-16): Chelsea 0 lost to Bayern Munich 3 (Gnabry 51, 54, Lewandowski 76); Napoli 1 (Mertens 30) drew with Barcelona 1 (Griezmann 57).

Divij-Sitak advance

INDIANS ABROAD

SPORTS BUREAU
SANTIAGO (CHILE)

Divij Sharan and Artem Sitak of New Zealand, beat Brazilians Thiago Monteiro and Fernando Romboli 7-6(5), 7-6(2). ■ 4,6-3, 6-4.

\$5,140 Challenger, Columbus, US: Doubles (pre-quarterfinals): Sriram Balaji & Jeevan Nedunchezhiyan bt Alexander Cozbinov (Mda) & Dennis Istomin (Uzb) 6-3, 6-4.

\$15,000 ITF men, Monastir, Tunisia: Singles (first round): Nicolas Alvarez Varona (Esp) bt Kaza Vinayak Sharma 4-6, 7-6(4), 6-5.

\$15,000 ITF men, Vale Do Lobo, Portugal: Singles (first round): Terence Das bt Fabio Coelho (Por) 6-4, 7-5.

Vaishnavi, Javia win



Proud moment: Champions Dev and Vaishnavi with Mary Pierce. ■ SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

Vaishnavi Adkar got past Sanjana Sirimalla 4-6, 6-4, 7-6(3) in the girls' final of the Roland Garros junior wild card tennis tournament on the clay courts of the DLTA Complex on Wednesday.

The champions from that event will get the wild card into the main draw of the Roland Garros junior event. Multiple Grand Slam champion Mary Pierce, who had won the women's title in Roland Garros in 2000, presented the trophies and the symbolic boarding cards to the champions.

The results: Boys: Final: Dev Javia bt Chirag Duhu 6-2, 6-1. **Third place:** Mohit Bonde w/o Nitin Jaipal Singh.

Girls: Final: Vaishnavi Adkar bt Sanjana Sirimalla 4-6, 6-4, 7-6(3). **Third place:** Reshma Maruri bt Akanksha Nitture 4-6, 6-2, [10-6].

A shot in the arm for shooters

Rajput lauds NRAI, IOA's efforts to keep CWG event going

KAMESH SRINIVASAN

NEW DELHI
Commonwealth Games gold medallists Sanjeev Rajput and Manu Bhaker were happy that shooting will figure in the scheme of things in the next edition of the Games to be staged in 2022.

At a press conference addressed by the president of the National Rifle Association of India (NRAI), Raninder Singh, here on Wednesday, Rajput said: "I felt sad when I got to know that shooting would no longer be part of the next Commonwealth Games. Now, thanks to the NRAI and IOA's efforts, it will be there. This is great news not just for the shooters, but also for the country as we do really well in shooting in the Commonwealth Games."

Innovative
The Commonwealth Games Federation (CGF), at its Executive Board meeting in London from February 21 to

23, had approved the innovative Indian proposal to hold separate shooting and archery competitions of Commonwealth Games in Chandigarh in January 2022, prior to the Games in Birmingham from July 27 to August 7.

It was agreed that one week after the closing ceremony of the Birmingham Games, the CGF would issue a medal table that would include results from the Chandigarh 2022 Commonwealth archery and shooting championships "as a further and final legitimate ranking of competing nations and territories from the respective competitions."

CGF president Dame Louise Martin was quoted as saying: "I am delighted that we have approved India's ambitious proposal to hold a Commonwealth archery and shooting championships in Chandigarh during 2022, with the aim of strengthening Commonwealth Sport."

"I am thankful to the IOA and the NRAI for the efforts in bringing shooting back into the Commonwealth Games as it will benefit our country," said Bhaker, the Youth Olympics champion who has been dominant on the world stage.

More countries withdraw

About the World Cup in rifle, pistol and shotgun to be staged at the Dr. Karni Singh Range from March 15, the NRAI president said Chinese Taipei, Vietnam, Hong Kong, Turkmenistan and North Korea, apart from China, had withdrawn due to the coronavirus scare. He revealed that Pakistan was not scheduled to compete in the World Cup.

The NRAI president clarified that all decisions regarding the travel of Indian shooters abroad would be on the basis of the guidance from the Union Government and agencies concerned.



Happy hunting ground: Raninder Singh, Sanjeev Rajput and Manu Bhaker are happy that the CWG shooting championship, where India has been a dominant force, will be held as usual.

Knotty Oak may score an encore

BENGALURU
Knotty Oak, who is in fine nick, may score an encore in the Narasimha Trophy (I, 200m), the feature event of the races to be held here on Thursday (Feb. 27).

False rails (width about 4.5m from 1,600m to the winning post) will be in position.

FLASHING STAR PLATE (I, 200m), rated 00 to 20, 1.45 p.m.: 1. Dontbreaktherules (4) Arshad 57, 2. Reverence (8) Sai Vamshi 60, 3. Blue Phoenix (2) Rayan 59, 5. Happy Dancing (3) John 59, 5. Elite Agent (5) Irvan 59, 6. Flicka (10) Ashok Kumar 59, 7. Desert Gold (9) Md. Aliya 57, 8. Mayurana (7) P.S. Chouhan 57, 9. Varsha (6) Jagadeesh 57, 10. Bellerophont (12) R. Manish 56, 11. Emerald Green (1) Darshan 53 and 12. Astron (9) Nagerel 51.

I. HAWKING, 2. MAYURANA, 3. REVERENCE

NETRAVATI PLATE (Div. II, 1,400m), rated 15 to 35, 3.5-y.o. & over, 2.15: 1. Tyto Alba (7) Ajet Kumer 60, 2. Red Indian (1) Jagadeesh 58, 5, 3. Cadillac Sky (10) Arshad 58, 4. Happy Dancing (1) Rayan 58, 5. Industrialist (6) Naveen Kumar 57, 5, 6. Limato (9) Kiran Rai 57, 7.

2. NETRAVATI PLATE (Div. II, 1,400m), rated 15 to 35, 3.5-y.o. & over, 2.15: 1. Tyto Alba (7) Ajet Kumer 60, 2. Red Indian (1) Jagadeesh 58, 5, 3. Cadillac Sky (10) Arshad 58, 4. Happy Dancing (1) Rayan 58, 5. Industrialist (6) Naveen Kumar 57, 5, 6. Limato (9) Kiran Rai 57, 7.

3. MAN 'O' WAR PLATE (I, 100m), 3.5-y.o. only, (Terms), 2.45: 1. Belator (9) Trevor 57, 2. Dynamical Vision (10) Suraj 57, 4. Shanae (5) P.S. Chouhan 57, 5. Welcome Surprise (2) A. Imran 57, 6. Baltimore (3) I. Chisty 55, 7. Cherokee Moon (7) Khurshed 55, 8. Ironic Humour (1) Jagadeesh 55, 9. Perfectimation (4) Neeraj 55, 5, 10. Prerana (8) Irvan 55, 11. Roc Girl (11) Chetan 55 and 12. Rule Of Engagement (6) Srinath 55.

1. SHANAY, 2. BELATOR, 3. RULE OF ENGAGEMENT

4. GAGANACHUKKI PLATE (Div. I, 1,200m), rated 15 to 35, 4.15: 1. Paradiso (4) Arshad 60, 2. Silver Swift (6) A. Imran 59, 3. Polar Express (3) I. Chisty 58, 5, 4. Florencia (5) Rayan 58, 5, 5. Torosanto (10) Anthony 58, 6. Challenging Star (9) R. Marshall 57, 7. Definitive (7) Ankit Yadav 57, 8. Desert Mirage (8) Kiran

Rai 57, 9. Sun Splash (1) Vaibhav 56, 5 and 10. Brave Boy (2) Jagadeesh 54.

1. TOROSANTO, 2. SUN SPLASH, 3. SILVER SWIFT

5. NETRAVATI PLATE (Div. I, 1,400m), rated 15 to 35, 5-y.o. & over, 3.45: 1. Hafni (10) Trevor 60, 2. Fictioneer (3) Antony 59, 5, 3. Le Marc (4) A. Imran 59, 5, 4. King Creole (7) David Allan 59, 5, Halfies (12) M. Naveen 58, 5, Revan Star (1) R. Pradeep 58, 7. Hidden Soldier (8) Sar Kiran 57, 8. Honey Trap (5) S. John 57, 9. Andra King 55, 8. Ironic Humour (1) Jagadeesh 55, 9. Perfectimation (4) Neeraj 55, 10. Big Boon (7) Chetan 57, 5, Blue Moon (3) I. Chisty 57, 5, 6. Knotty Oak (4) A. Imran 57, 5, 7. Royal Resoluti (1) Arshad 57, 5, 8. Sun Power (12) R. Manish 56, 9. Animal Queen (10) S. Hussain 55, 10. Spanish Beauty (11) Anthony 55, 11.

6. NARASIMHARA TROPHY (I, 200m), rated 45 to 65, 4.15: 1. Musical (1) S. Qureshi 60, 2. Side Winder (8) Arvind Kumar 60, 3. Mega Ikon (2) A. Imran 59, 5, 4. Big Boon (7) Chetan 57, 5, 5. Blue Moon (3) I. Chisty 57, 5, 6. Knotty Oak (4) A. Imran 57, 5, 7. Royal Resoluti (1) Arshad 57, 5, 8. Sun Power (12) R. Manish 56, 9. Animal Queen (10) S. Hussain 55, 10. Spanish Beauty (11) Anthony 55, 11.

7. MALAPRABA PLATE (I, 200m), rated 30 to 50, 4.45: 1. Cavalier (4) S. John 60, 2. Play Safe (5) Chetan 60, 3. Show Girl (6) Vaibhav 59, 5, 4. Crack Of Dawn (3) David Allan 59, 5, Aleef (7) Arshad 55, 6. Aferpi (1) Trevor 53 and 7. Sainthood (2) Neeraj 50, 5.

1. CAVALIERE, 2. CRACK OF DAWN, 3. AFERPI

8. GAGANACHUKKI PLATE (Div. I, 1,200m), rated 15 to 35, 5.15: 1. Desert Combat (6) Arshad 60, 2. Mr. Humble (4) S. Qureshi 59, 5, 3. Special Stone (3) M. Naveen 59, 4. Augustine (7) Vaibhav 58, 5, Annie's Song (9) Irvan 57, 5, 6. Capelli (8) Chetan 57, 5, 7. Kasauli (2) Rayan 57, 5, 8. Skithatos

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

ENGLISH

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

HINDI

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

GUJRATI

Sandesh

TELEGU

Eenadu
Sakshi
Nava Telangana

MARATHI

Loksatta
Sakal
Lokmat

Weekly News

Employment News
Karmasangsthan
Karmakshetra

Daily Update All Indian Newspaper in PDF

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

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

or

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



UPSC IAS All in One - Mission 2020

Web360 Education

3+

You don't have any devices.

Add to Wishlist

Download

[Click Here](#)

