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NEARBY



₹1-crore fine defies logic, says U.P. poet-politician

GAZIABAD
A day after the Moradabad administration slapped a fine of ₹1.04 crore on Imran Pratappgarhi for violating Section 144 and participating in anti-CAA protest, the poet-politician said the notice is arbitrary and the language defies logic. He said he would approach the court against it.

NEWS ▶ PAGE 13

Take back NSA against Kafeel: AMU students

GAZIABAD
AMU students protesting against the CAA on Sunday demanded that the charges slapped against Gorakhpur doctor Kafeel Khan under the National Security Act be withdrawn. They also condemned the Chennai police brutality against anti-CAA protesters.

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EDUCATIONPLUS ▶ PAGES 16 & 17

Will stand by decision on Art. 370, CAA: Modi

PM says these decisions were necessary in national interest

OMAR RASHID
LUCKNOW

Despite international pressure, the government will continue to stand by its decision to revoke Article 370 in Jammu and Kashmir and introduce the Citizenship (Amendment) Act (CAA), Prime Minister Narendra Modi asserted on Sunday.

He said the country had "awaited" these decisions for many years. "In national interest, these decisions were necessary," Mr. Modi said at an event in his parliamentary constituency Varanasi.

"Despite the various international pressures, we stand by these decisions and will continue to stand by them," Mr. Modi said. The country was now taking decisions that were always left behind in the past, he added.

The Prime Minister's tough talk assumed significance in view of protests against the CAA in various parts of the country.

Launches projects
In Varanasi, Mr. Modi launched projects worth



Reaching out: Prime Minister Narendra Modi meeting people at Jangamwadi Mutt in Varanasi on Sunday. ■ PTI

₹1,250 crore. He unveiled the statue of Deendayal Upadhyay, which, at 63 feet, is the largest statue of the leader in the country, as per the government. The Prime Minister also dedicated to the nation the Pandit Deendayal Upadhyaya Memorial Centre.

Mr. Modi flagged off the third corporate train, Mahakaal Express, which links three Jyotirling pilgrim centres – Varanasi, Ujjain and Omkareshwar.

Earlier in the day, Mr. Modi attended the closing cere-

mony of the centenary celebration of Jagadguru Vishwanatha Gurukul at Jangamwadi Mutt and released the translated version of 'Shri Siddhant Shikhamani Granth' in 19 languages.

He also launched the 'Shri Siddhant Shikhamani Granth' mobile app.

Citing certain key decisions of his government, Mr. Modi referred to the trust set up for the construction of the Ram temple in Ayodhya and said it would work "rapidly."

(With PTI inputs)

ment of the national capital and asserted that people may have voted for different parties, but he would work for all of them.

Setting his government's roadmap for the next five years, Mr. Kejriwal sought the Prime Minister "blessings" for fast-paced develop-

Kejriwal extends olive branch to Centre after taking oath for 3rd term

AAP leader seeks Prime Minister Modi's blessings for development of the Capital

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) convenor Arvind Kejriwal took oath as the Chief Minister of Delhi for the third time at a swearing-in ceremony held at the Ramlila Maidan grounds on Sunday. Lieutenant Governor Anil Baijal administered the oath of office and secrecy at the ceremony attended by thousands of AAP supporters.

Senior AAP leaders Manish Sisodia, Satyendar Jain, Gopal Rai, Kailash Cahlot, Rajinder Pal Gautam and Imran Hussain were also sworn in as Ministers in the Delhi Cabinet. All six were Ministers in the previous AAP government.

The swearing-in ceremony, for which Mr. Kejriwal had invited all of Delhi, was turned into an occasion to thank the voters for bringing the AAP back to power. Prime Minister Narendra Modi, who had been invited to the event, did not attend.

Setting his government's roadmap for the next five years, Mr. Kejriwal sought the Prime Minister "blessings" for fast-paced develop-



The helmsman: Arvind Kejriwal and Manish Sisodia greeting the crowd after the swearing-in ceremony at Ramlila Maidan in New Delhi on Sunday. ■ SHIV KUMAR PUSHPAKAR

ment of the national capital and asserted that people may have voted for different parties, but he would work for all of them.

"We have forgiven our Opposition for whatever remarks they made. I would also like to request the Opposition to forget what

happened during the elections. I want to work together with all the parties for the development of Delhi. I want to work together with the Central government to make Delhi a world-class city."

Mr. Kejriwal termed himself Delhi's "son" and the "Chief Minister of all" people

irrespective of the party they voted for. "The two crore people of the national capital are my family," he said.

Special invitees
The AAP invited 50 people from all walks of life as special guests. The party said it was these people, whom it termed 'Delhi ke nirmata' (builders of Delhi) who had run Delhi in the last five years and were being acknowledged for their work.

Among them was Shabina Naaz, who has been working with night shelters around Chandni Chowk and Kashmira Gate for the past five years. Ms. Naaz said, "When I got a call, I could not believe that it is really happening. I can tell you that only the AAP government can invite a person as unimportant as me."

Mr. Kejriwal credited the people of Delhi for giving birth to a new kind of politics of work and performance."

CONTINUED ON ▶ PAGE 12

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DELHI AT THE CENTRE

► EDITORIAL

NO CONFRONTATION ▶ PAGE 12

Video of police brutality in Jamia library goes viral

Uniformed men seen raining blows on students

SIDHARTH RAVI
NEW DELHI

A video, purportedly from the CCTV footage from inside the Jamia Millia Islamia's library, showing security personnel beating up students, has gone viral on social media.

On the night of December

15 last year, police personnel allegedly carried out a crackdown in the Jamia Millia, following protests against the Citizenship (Amendment) Act, including entering the university library and assaulting students studying there. Police had said they had entered the campus after miscreants, who had set buses in the vicinity on fire, took shelter inside. Students, however, had alleged that security personnel had even

entered the research scholars' section of the library and assaulted students.

The footage shared late on Saturday shows security personnel allegedly entering the section for research scholars and hitting students with canes. In a statement, Jamia Millia Islamia said the video had not been released by the university.

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OPPN. SLAMS POLICE ▶ PAGE 13



CCTV footage showing police beating up students at the Jamia Millia Islamia library on December 15.

Fire wall



Creating a barrier: Forest staff clearing shrubs to make fire lines at the Mukurthi National Park near Udhagamandalam ahead of summer. Fire lines are strips without greenery or dried twigs to prevent forest fires from spreading. ■ M. SATHYAMOORTHY

Chicken-killing monkeys trigger rethink on leopards

Beset by 'unmanageable monkeys', some parts of rural eastern Assam are turning to the spotted cats

RAHUL KARMAKAR
GUWAHATI

Some parts of rural eastern Assam are becoming more lenient towards the leopard. One of the reasons is "unmanageable" troops of monkeys that even kill chicken for food.

About six years ago, people of Negheriting in Golaghat district had blocked an arterial National Highway to force the authorities into taking steps to check the population of rhesus macaques that raid their grain stores and kitchens. Negheriting is about 80 km east of

Kaziranga National Park. "We went into the issue and found the monkeys were desperate enough to target hen coops and rip the chickens apart to eat the grain in the sac-like crop before digesting," said Mubina Akhtar of NGO Kaziranga Wildlife Society.

A deeper study revealed the macaque "population explosion" was correlated to the dwindling population of leopards as well as the transformation in the landscape. This was because



ILLUSTRATION: DEEPAK HARICHANDAN

traditional kathoni – small backyard patches of fruit trees – where leopards thrived. "Both macaques and leopards are highly adaptive and live close to humans. The kathonis sustained monkeys in the past, not requiring them to raid homes, while leopards preyed on the monkeys," Ms. Akhtar said. Wildlife officials said about 15 years ago, there were about 12,000 leopards in Assam, they said. The figure is likely to be less than 5,000 now. "There is a correlation between monkeys and

leopards although the changing landscape and availability of garbage have been major factors in the increase in monkey population across India," Qamar Qureshi of the Dehradun-based Wildlife Institute of India told *The Hindu*. "Macaques such as the rhesus, Assamese and bonnet are omnivorous. But they might not kill chickens for their flesh," he added.

"Six-seven leopards used to be killed in Noragaon in Golaghat. People now let the leopards be or have them captured and released in the wild," Ms. Akhtar said.

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Ranjiv Singh Dalal (Retd. IPS) * Former Director General of Police, Haryana	Shri R. Srinivasan IES (Retd.) (Retd. Advisor to the Govt. of India)
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Shri A.K. Upadhyay (Retd. IPS)	Dr. Bala Prasad (Retd. IAS) * Ex Special Secretary to Govt. of India
Shri Saurabh Kumar (Retd. IFS) (Former Ambassador to Vietnam, Ireland)	Prof. Rajveer Sharma (Retd. Prof. of Political Science D.U.)
Shri A.K. Mangotra (Retd. IAS) * Former Secretary Govt. of India, Ministry of Home Affairs * Joint Secretary President of India, Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam	Prof. V. Gautam (Retd. Prof. of Environmental Science & Biotech D.U.)

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Timings

DELHI

MONDAY, FEB. 17
RISE 06:59 SET 18:13
RISE 01:53 SET 12:43
TUESDAY, FEB. 18
RISE 06:58 SET 18:13
RISE 02:53 SET 13:31

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 19
RISE 06:57 SET 18:14
RISE 03:50 SET 14:23

Delhi Weather	max min
Delhi City	27 09
Safdarjung	27 09
Palam	26 09

Delhi Palam Today
27°C Mist/shallow fog is likely in the morning. A warm day with clear sky is likely. Rise in day temperature is likely.

Delhi Palam Tomorrow
28°C A cool morning with haze/mist is likely. A warm afternoon with light winds and sunny sky will prevail.

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THE HINDU

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7 killed in Agra Expressway mishap

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

UNNAO (U.P.)
Seven persons were killed on Agra Lucknow Expressway on Sunday when the car they were travelling in collided with a truck after one of its tyres burst at Bangarmau near here, police said.

The accident took place when one of the tyres of the speeding car got burst, the car swerved to the left and caught fire after hitting a truck in another lane, Unao Superintendent of Police Virkant Veer Singh said.

Seven persons in the car were burnt alive in the incident, he said, adding the victim was yet to be identified. Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath has directed the district administration to provide all help to the victims' family.

Take back NSA charges against Kafeel, demand AMU students

Gorakhpur doctor's lawyer alleges district administration acting under pressure

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

GHAZIABAD

Aligarh Muslim University students protesting against the Citizenship (Amendment) Act on Sunday demanded that the charges slapped against Gorakhpur doctor Kafeel Khan under the National Security Act be withdrawn. They also condemned the Chennai police brutality against anti-CAA protesters on Saturday.

72-hour ultimatum

In a memorandum given to the Additional City Magistrate, Aligarh, the students demanded a judicial inquiry and immediate action to revoke the NSA on Dr. Khan, as the right to speech is a fundamental right. "We are giving 72 hours to revoke the NSA on Dr. Kafeel Khan, oth-



Resident doctors taking out a march in support of Dr. Kafeel Khan at Aligarh Muslim University. ■ SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

erwise the student fraternity will go on a mass protest. We also demand appropriate action against the Chennai police," the memorandum said.

The Gorakhpur doctor was arrested by the Special Task Force of U.P. Police in Mumbai on January 29 on charges of making an inflammatory speech in AMU on

December 12 during an anti-CAA-NRC protest at Bab-e-Syed. He was granted bail on February 10 by an Aligarh court but instead of releasing him, the Uttar Pradesh government invoked the NSA on him.

Irfan Ghazi, lawyer of Dr. Khan, said that in the NSA order the District Magistrate

has said that the local intelligence unit has indicated possibility of his client returning to AMU and initiating the peaceful atmosphere.

"If the district administration had any such information, they should have opposed the bail order in the local court or should have approached the higher court. The district administration has taken the decision as an afterthought under political pressure. It seems the order has more to do with Dr. Khan's revelations on deaths in the BRD Hospital, Gorakhpur case than his speech at AMU," alleged Mr. Ghazi.

He further said the order held Dr. Khan responsible for the anti-CAA protests and violence in AMU and Aligarh, which is false.

Green message



Participants at a green marathon run in Bhopal on Sunday. ■ A.M. FARUQUI

ON LINE TENDERING
Road & Building Department
Government of Gujarat.
Tender Notice No. 16 of 2019-20

In the name and on behalf of Governor of Gujarat State the Executive Engineer, Dist. (R&B) Division, "Suprabhat Bunglow", B/h. Hotel Welcome, Alkapur, Vadodara-07 Ph. No. 2352099 invites online tender from registered contractors for 1 work of S.R. Bldg, (Est. Cost Rs. 7.96 Lakhs) in Form B-1 and 1 work of Road (Est. Cost Rs. 1014.91 Lakhs) in two cover bid system (Pre-qualification bid with technical bid and price bid) in Form B-1.

The Bid documents will be available for above works up to dt. 05/05/2020 up to 12:00 Hrs. on web site <https://rnb.nprocure.com>.

Last date of Online Submission of bid as above are up to dt.05/03/2020 up to 18:00 hrs.

For further particulars please visit above website and website of Gujarat Govt. www.statetenders.com or contact this office during office hours. Any changes/modifications will be seen online.

(INF-VAD-1382-2019-20)

E-TENDER NOTICE

ई.सीआर-ई.टी.ओ- कॉन्सार्टेशन-इ. नियमित-130-19-20, दि. 12-03-2020 E-TENDER NOTICE NO. ECR-CAO-CON-NORTH-ETN-130-19-20 E-TENDER IS INVITED ON BEHALF OF THE PRESIDENT OF INDIA FOR THE UNDERMENTIONED WORKS.

S.N.: 1, Name of work : Transportation, assembly, erection and launching of girders of major bridge No. 248 (2x12.20m plate girder) at Km 195/9-10, bridge No. 260 (1x18.30m plate girder) at Km 2027/8-9, bridge No. 274 (1x30.50m OWG) at Km 215/4-5, bridge No. 279 (1x18.30m plate girder) at Km 2227/8-9, bridge No. 283 (2x18.30m composite girder) at Km 225/8-9, bridge No. 286 (4x18.30m plate girder) at Km 229/12-13, bridge No. 287 (1x18.30m plate girder) at Km 232/5-6, and important bridge No. 285 (6x30.50m OWG) at Km 228/9-11, supply & fixing of bearings, supply & fabrication of H-beam/steel channel sleepers including track linking over bridges and other ancillary & miscellaneous works in connection with doubling work of Sagauli - Narkataganj section under Dy. CE/Con/Bettiah of East Central Railway. S.N.: 2, Approx. cost of the work : Rs. 9,04,478,75. S.N.: 3, Earnest money : Rs. 6,02,000/- S.N.: 4, Date and time for closing of tender : 12.03.2020 at 14.30 hrs. S.N.: 5, Website particular, Notice board location where complete details of tender can be seen and address of the office from where the tender form can be purchased etc. : The above E-Tender. E-Tendering document alongwith full information is available on website i.e. <http://www.ireps.gov.in> and also can see in the office of CAO/Con/ECR, MHX, Patna Note : Tenderers are requested to visit the website <http://www.ireps.gov.in> atleast 15 days before date of closing for latest corrigendum/corrections etc. in response to this E-tender.

CAO/Con/North, E.C.R., Mahendraghat, Patna PR/2242/CON/ENGG/T/19-20/52

For Principal Chief Material Manager PR/2246/HQ/STORE/T/19-20/44

EAST CENTRAL RAILWAY

e-Tender Notice

e-tender is invited on behalf of the President of India for the undermentioned work: Sl.No. 1, e-Tender No. ECR-CAO-C-S-ETN-55-19-20 in Two Packet System Name of work: Construction of Superstructure including Supplying, Fabrication, Erection & Launching of 3x12.20 m Span, Composite Girder at Chainage 103.775 on Bridge No. 1 (A) & 1x36 m Span, Composite Girder at Chainage 104.920 and other associated work of CIC line in view of construction of Ranchi Road - Patratu doubling work under Dhanbad Division of East Central Railway. Approx cost of the work in (Rs.) 5,06,85,691.93 Cost of tender form in (Rs.) 10,000.00 Earnest money in (Rs.) 4,03,400.00 Period of work completion: 06 [Six] Months. Date and time for closing of tender: 06.03.2020 at 15.30 hrs. Any e-tenders which is sent by Post/Courier/Fax or by hand will not be accepted. All such manual submission of tender even if it is on firm's letter pad or received in time will not be accepted. The above e-tender document alongwith full information is available on website <http://www.ireps.gov.in>. Note: In case of any discrepancies found in tender notices, English version will be final. Tenderers are requested to visit the website <http://www.ireps.gov.in> atleast 15 days before last date of closing for latest corrigendum/corrections etc. in connection with this e-tender.

CAO/Con/South E.C.R., Mahendraghat, Patna PR/2250/CON/ENGG/T/19-20/60

Centre's decisions leading to suspicion, says Gehlot

'An environment of doubt is inevitable as it is unclear in which direction the country is headed'



Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot and Deputy CM Sachin Pilot at protest in Jaipur on Sunday. ■ ROHIT JAIN PARAS

The Supreme Court had given the judgement last week, upholding the contention of the Uttarakhand BJP

government.

Congress leaders also submitted a memorandum to the President through the Rajas-

Encroachment of M.P. National Park land continues unchecked

Displaced families for tiger corridor await land allotment

SIDHARTH YADAV

BHOPAL

The Madhav National Park has claimed denotified land is unavailable for allotment to 39 tribal families displaced 20 years ago to make way for a tiger corridor, even though hundreds of others compensated for to vacate the Park continue to farm and encroach upon the corridor unchecked. Moreover, tigers are yet to be reintroduced in the park, let alone the corridor's development.

Over several years, the Chief Conservator of Forests (CCF), Shivpuri circle, has flagged the encroachment to the State Chief Wildlife Warden and the district administration stating "the corridor land hasn't been vacated, and several families who've received the compensation continue their encroachment and many have returned to resume farming," and that "no action had been taken so far," reveals an October 2019 letter.

"Many who took the compensation didn't leave. While 77 families which refused to take compensation have stayed back and continue farming," Y.P. Singh, CCF, Shivpuri circle, told *The Hindu*.

Of the 15 villages within the corridor of the Park, where tigers were last spotted in 1970s, 10 were relocated in 2000, while 391 of 468 families in the remaining accepted compensation. Still, most have refused to leave.

Mistaken allotment

And as part of the rehabilitation package, which promised two hectare land and relocation to each family, when Balapur village was being relocated, authorities belatedly noticed they had mistakenly allotted 61 families protected forest land instead of revenue, stalling the process for 39 families, although relocated, awaiting ownership of two-hectare agricultural land.

The State government has sought the land's denotification from the Centre, pending



Families displaced from the Madhav National Park staging a dharna at the Shivpuri Collectorate. ■ SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

policy endorsed by the State Congress government in 1999, the Centre, the Park and the Madhya Pradesh Human Rights Commission, informing The Hindu earlier,

"Members of the 39 families are ineligible for rehabilitation, as either they were not residing in the relocated village at the time or were minors."

"When the government's claiming they're ineligible, why hold a camp? They must state it in writing if they are ineligible. This is just delaying tactics to take away what rightfully belongs to the families," said Abhay Jain, of the Zenith Legal Aid Clinic.

In 2017, the Commission directed the district administration to speedily rehabilitate the families and reiterate its request to the Centre to denotify the land. "It's been three years, yet the administration has not acted. This shows its scant regard for our institutions," said Mr. Abhay.

At least in the forest, we fetched tendu leaves, mahua and glue for a living and farmed lands. Now we're forced to migrate to work as agricultural labourers," said Kunjawati Adivasi, 45, whose family tillt eight-ten bighas in the forest before.

+

"The district officials and foresters will hold a camp in the village on February 21 to listen to their grievances," said Ranjit Balodia, Additional District Magistrate, Shivpuri. This is despite Collector Anugraha P., who unilaterally upended the rehabilitation

"Ten days ago, when we protested here, the Collector was on leave. Now she says we must allow the Park Director some time to act, as he's just taken charge. This shows their casual attitude in ensuring our livelihoods," he said.

A long wait Devendra Namdev, 40, a daily wager, asked for how long they'd have to leave a day's work every time to flock to the Collectorate 22-km away to demand their rights.

"Their nationalism is pseudo-nationalism. Their aim is to win elections by investigating people. Where would 20% Muslim minority population go," he said.

Deputy Chief Minister Sachin Pilot said their protest is to alert the BJP government at the Centre that no ideology or power can abolish the fundamental rights of the citizens of the country.

He said Ambedkar had made a provision for reservation so that standard of living and in such a case, danger on quota for deprived communities was obvious.

Mr. Gehlot said the ruling party at the Centre can go to any extent to impose its agenda and in such a case, danger on quota for deprived communities was obvious.

He accused the BJP and the RSS of inciting people in the name of nationalism.

"Their nationalism is pseudo-nationalism. Their aim is to win elections by investigating people. Where would 20% Muslim minority population go," he said.

Confirming it, Sunam Deputy Superintendent of Police Sukhbir Singh Pal Singh said school owner-cum-principal Lakhwinder and van driver Dalbir were arrested on the murder charge on the complaint of a girl's father.

vardhan Singh, P.C. Sharma and Govind Singh, named in the function invite boycotted the event.

Black flags shown Congress workers led by Corporator Shabista Jaki protested at the site and showed black flags to the Mayor.

Ms. Jaki alleged the approach to the statue was made after removing several legitimate homes, while a road adjoining a bridge leading to the statue was being built on land meant for a Muslim graveyard.

Witnesses said workers from the two parties came to blows during the protests.

'No lack of communication between Scindia and Nath'

Talks on with guest teachers over their demands: Digvijaya

years. Right now, the government has completed only 15 months. Talks are on with the guest teachers over their demands and a formula is being worked out. A solution will be found," he said.

"There is no lack of communication between Kamal Nathji and Mr. Scindia...there is no need for any mediation," Mr. Singh added.

'Peaceful talks' Amid reports that Mr. Scindia had left the coordination committee meeting midway, Mr. Singh said, "During the meeting (in Delhi) we discussed all the issues. Some reports showed that

New Accord divides Bodos

Political ambitions of ABSU, NDFB leaders have rubbed the BPF the wrong way

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
GUWAHATI

The third Bodo Accord signed with a set of extremist groups more than a fortnight ago appears to have unsettled another set of extremists who signed the second accord in February 2003 and went on to rule the Bodoland Territorial Council (BTC).

BTC polls

The Centre had on January 27 signed the peace accord with all factions of the National Democratic Front of Bodoland (NDFB) and two other organisations including the All Bodo Students' Union (ABSU).

The signatories subsequently announced their political ambitions with Pramod Boro suddenly quitting as the ABSU president.

The elections to the 40-member BTC is expected in April.

The political ambitions of



HAGRAMA MOHILARY
BTC chief

the leaders of ABSU and NDFB appears to have rubbed the Bodoland People's Front (BPF), which has been ruling BTC since 2003 and is a partner in the BJP-led coalition government in Assam, the wrong way.

"The new accord that merely changes the name of BTC to Bodoland Territorial Region (BTR) and gives us nothing. We cannot just accept this accord, we will not even use BTR as part of our vocabulary," BTC chief Hagrama Mohilary said at a party meeting in Kokrajhar district's Parbatjhora area on Saturday.

Outburst significant

Mr. Mohilary's outburst attains significance ahead of the BTC elections where the ABSU has often sided with rival parties of BPF, such as United People's Party Liberal. Moreover, he was a witness to the January 27 ac-

cord-signing in New Delhi along with Assam Chief Minister Sarbananda Sonowal and Finance Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma.

The BTC chief, who headed the now-disbanded extremist group Bodo Liberation Tigers, has also been critical of Mr. Boro.

"He used to say he would never become a politician and contest elections. He lied when he was with ABSU, he will lie more if he comes to power," Mr. Mohilary said.

The incident occurred when a girder of the second

Boro retaliates

The former ABSU president retaliated by saying Mr. Mohilary has lost the trust of the people of BTC had in him. "The people are desperate for a change in leadership that has foresight and is honest about serving them," Mr. Boro said at a welcome ceremony for the new accord signatories in Baksa district's Musalpur area on Sunday.

Two killed, seven injured as girder of bridge falls

More workers are feared to be trapped under the debris

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
MALDA (W.B.)

An under-construction bridge collapsed in Baishnabnagar area of Malda district on Sunday evening, killing two labourers and injuring seven others, police said.

Farakka bridge gave away at 8 p.m., they said, adding more workers could be trapped under the debris.

Cause not known yet

Two labourers died, while seven others are under treatment at the Malda Medical College and Hospital, a police officer said. The condi-

tion of all the seven persons is stated to be critical, he said.

Personnel of the Disaster Management Department, Malda, are conducting the rescue operation, the officer said.

The cause of the mishap is yet to be ascertained, the police said.

Policeman courts controversy in Bengal

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
KOLKATA

A uniformed police officer courted controversy by trying to touch the feet of a West Bengal Minister after felicitating him at an event in Rampurhat in Birbhum district on Sunday.

Agriculture Minister Ashish Bandyopadhyay, who represents the Rampurhat seat, was seen preventing Assistant Sub-Inspector Ranjan

Dutta from touching his feet.

The incident happened when Mr. Bandyopadhyay was in Rampurhat police station to inaugurate a programme to felicitate elderly persons.

Opposition flays ASI

After the video of Mr. Dutta bending forward to touch the Minister's feet went viral on the Internet, the Opposition – BJP and Congress –

termed the act as "unbecoming of a police officer who lowered the respect of the force".

Congress MLA from Hansan seat Milton Rashid described Mr. Dutta's act as "pathetic and aimed at placating the ruling establishment".

Local BJP leader Shyamapada Mondal said the ASI has lowered the respect for police officers in the society.

New species of urban lizard found in Guwahati

The bent-toed gecko, named *Cyrtodactylus urbanus*, was earlier thought to be same as the Khasi Hills lizard

RAHUL KARMAKAR
GUWAHATI

Guwahati, the largest city in the Northeast, has yielded a new species of lizard - the urban bent-toed gecko.

Markedly different

Jayaditya Purkayastha and Madhurima Das, two of the five herpetologists and researchers who made the discovery, had teamed up with four others to be the first to record the brown blotched Bengal tree frog from urban West Bengal last year.

The new species of lizard, zoologically named *Cyrtodactylus urbanus*, is markedly different in molecular structure, blotch and colour from the *Cyrtodactylus guwahatiensis*, or the Guwahati bent-toed gecko, that was discovered two years ago.

The study on the urban bent-toed gecko has been published in the latest edition of *Zootaxa*, a peer-reviewed scientific mega journal for animal taxonomists. Apart from Mr. Purkayastha and Ms. Das, the study was co-authored by Sanath Chandra Bohra, Mumbai-based Ishan Agarwal and Aaron M. Bauer, a global authority on geckos



The new species of lizard, *Cyrtodactylus urbanus*.

SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

group in mitochondrial sequence data as well as aspects of morphology such as the number and arrangement of certain pores in males, the number of midventral scales and colour pattern.

The study on the urban bent-toed gecko also provided additional information on the Guwahati bent-toed gecko, the first of the two *Cyrtodactylus* endemic to the areas covered by the city and the fourth from Assam.

12th from Northeast

It was also the 12th recorded gecko from the Northeast.

"What this study tries to establish is that some urban spaces too have life forms that are often overlooked but in danger of being wiped out because of concrete development. More studies need to

be done before time runs out for such life forms," Mr. Purkayastha said, adding more than 50% of the species of bent-toed geckos on earth was described in the last decade.

Guwahati is home to 26 species of amphibians, 57 species of reptiles, 214 species of birds and 36 species of mammals. The city provides that edge for urban biodiversity to thrive because it encompasses 18 hills, eight reserve forests, two wildlife sanctuaries and a Ramsar site (wetland) besides the Brahmaputra river.

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One killed, eight injured as bus rams truck

HOWRAH (W.B.)
A man died and several others were injured after a bus rammed a truck in West Bengal's Howrah district on Sunday early morning, police said. The incident happened near the Janberia police station area, they said. The bus with around 40 people on board was returning from

Jamshedpur in Jharkhand when the incident happened, police said. The deceased has been identified as Joyram Shil (42) of Tarakeswar in Hooghly district. He was the helper of the bus. The injured have been admitted to the Uluberia Superspeciality Hospital and their condition is stated to be stable, officials said.

THE HINDU

India's National Newspaper



AAP convener Arvind Kejriwal (right), along with his Cabinet Ministers, after taking oath as the Chief Minister of Delhi at Ramlila Maidan in the city on Sunday. ■ SHIV KUMAR PUSHPAKAR

Kejriwal pads up for AAP's third innings

KNOW YOUR Ministers

ARVIND KEJRIWAL, Age: 51

Constituency: New Delhi
Portfolio held: Chief Minister, Delhi Jal Board

Education: B.Tech in mechanical engineering from IIT-Kharagpur



MANISH SISODIA, Age: 48

Constituency: Patparganj
Portfolio held: Deputy Chief Minister, Education, Finance, Planning, Land and Building, Vigilance, Services and Women and Child Development

Education: Diploma in journalism from Bharatiya Vidya Bhawan

SATYENDRA JAIN, Age: 55

Constituency: Shakur Basti
Portfolio held: Health, Industries, Power, Public Works Department, Home and Urban Development

Education: Graduate and a qualified architect



GOPAL RAI, Age: 44

Constituency: Babarpur
Portfolio held: Rural Development, General Administration Department, Irrigation & Flood Control and Labour

Education: Postgraduate degree in Sociology from Lucknow University

KAILASH GAHLOT, Age: 45

Constituency: Najafgarh
Portfolio held: Revenue, Administrative Reforms, Information and Technology, Law, Justice and Legislative Affairs and Transport

Education: BA (Hons) in Political Science from Sri Venkateswara College, University of Delhi; LL.B, Faculty of Law, University of Delhi; LL.M, Faculty of Law, University of Delhi



RAJINDER PAL GAUTAM, Age: 51

Constituency: Seemapuri
Portfolio held: Social Welfare, SC and ST, Gurudwara Elections, Water and Registrar of Cooperative Societies

Education: Law graduate from Delhi University. He has done a diploma in labour laws and a post-graduate diploma in human resource management

IMRAN HUSSAIN, Age: 38

Constituency: Ballimaran
Portfolio held: Food and Supply, Election, and Environment and Forest

Education: Bachelor's degree in Business Studies from Jamia Millia Islamia, Delhi



This is a celebration of the victory of every Delhiite, says AAP chief

In inaugural speech, Kejriwal defends government's signature schemes

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

Addressing the gathering after the Lieutenant-Governor left the dais, Arvind Kejriwal on Sunday defended the previous Aam Aadmi Party government's steady roll-out of populist schemes, including water and electricity bills and free travel for women on buses.

The Chief Minister said his government is often criticised for making everything free but nature has made everything precious in the world free. "When a mother loves her child or makes a sacrifice, that love is free. The fact that a father stays hungry to afford a good future for his child is priceless. Shrawan Kumar [a character from The Ramayana] served his parents with all his might. In the same way, Kejriwal loves his Delhiites and Delhiites love Kejriwal and this love is free. How can I charge a fee from a child in a Delhi government school or ask people to pay



AAP convener Arvind Kejriwal addressing the gathering at Ramlila Maidan on Sunday. ■ COURTESY: AAM ADMI PARTY

for healthcare?" the CM said.

Thanking everyone, Mr. Kejriwal stressed that it was not his victory that was being celebrated but the victory of every Delhiite. He promised that he would work for every person in the city irrespective of their affiliation to different political parties and would not discriminate on the basis of religion, caste or which strata of society they come from. "Your son has taken oath for the third time as Delhi Chief Minister. This is not my victory but yours. For

the last five years, we have worked to make the lives of every person in the Delhi better and we will continue to do the same in the next five years as well," Mr. Kejriwal said.

Making a mention of the 50 special guests he had invited to share the stage with him, he said, "Delhi is not created by us, or the politicians, or parties. Delhi is Delhi because of the teachers, students, doctors, auto drivers, rickshaw-pullers, businessmen, architects etc. who

run it." He added that the contributions and sacrifices of the people of Delhi is what will take it forward.

Mr. Kejriwal began his address with 'Bharat Mata ki Jai', 'Inquilab Zindabad' and 'Vande Mataram' and ended it by singing 'Hum Honge Kamyab', in which he was joined by the crowd at the venue.

Selection of venue

AAP chose to use Ramlila Maidan for the third time for the oath-taking ceremony as it was the site of the landmark anti-corruption protests of 2011, protests that snowballed into a movement and eventually led to the formation of the party.

The party had planned to keep the ceremony "Delhi-specific" and did not invite Chief Ministers of other States or political leaders. Only BJP MLA Vijender Gupta attended the ceremony, though all BJP MLAs and MPs from Delhi were invited.

Supporters' big dream: Ramlila to Red Fort

They say CM capable of becoming PM

STAFF REPORTER
NEW DELHI

Several Aam Aadmi Party supporters, who gathered at Ramlila Maidan for the swearing in of Arvind Kejriwal as Chief Minister, hoped that Mr. Kejriwal would one day address the nation from the ramparts of the Red Fort on Independence Day.

As Mr. Kejriwal was taking oath, sections of crowd started cheering him and asked the CM to become the next Prime Minister.

"The mandate in Delhi is not just for the post of Chief Minister but also the entire country. The work Kejriwal has done here will be spread everywhere," said Sandeep Mishra who held up a placard with the phrase "Goli Gali Manzoor Nahi, Lal Quila Ab Dur Nahi" [shooting and abuse are not acceptable, red fort is not far now].

Ramesh Chand, a street vendor from Khylala said, if Mr. Kejriwal continued to work in the way he had been, he would be capable of becoming Prime Minister.

C The mandate in Delhi is not just for the post of Chief Minister but also the entire country. The work Kejriwal has done here will be spread everywhere

SANDEEP MISHRA
Kejriwal supporter

Minister.

Chants of "Hamara PM Kaisa ho" were returned with crowds saying "Kejriwal Jaisa ho" in multiple small gatherings.

In his address, Mr. Kejriwal also said that he had a dream that people across the world would be praising India and that Delhiites had brought about a change in politics in the country by ushering in "politics of work."

The CM said that across the country, people were looking at how the Delhi government runs schools, mohalla clinics, gives uninterrupted electricity and provides for the safety of women.

Victory catapults Kejriwal's image to *Nayak, Singham* in perception

AAP chief changed politics the way Anil Kapoor did on screen'

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI



Party supporters holding poster of their leader at Ramlila Maidan in the city on Sunday. ■ SHIV KUMAR PUSHPAKAR

ics of the country the way Anil Kapoor did it in *Nayak*, adding his comparison between the real life and reel life heroes is obvious.

Asked about the poster, AAP supporter Jagendra said, "Kejriwal changed the politi-

by Ajay Devgan from Bollywood film of the same name. 'Delhi Ke CM Arvind Kejriwal – Singham Returns 3,' read the poster which showed the Delhi CM holding his party's poll symbol 'broom'.

Proud moment for 'Delhi ke nirmata' who shared stage with Kejriwal

50 people from different walks of life were special guests at event

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI

C No one recognises our contribution but this government [AAP] is different. It not only recognised our contribution but also honoured us

LAZWANTI
Sanitation worker

dress after taking oath as Chief Minister, also lauded the contribution of the 'Delhi ke nirmata', saying "it is not me, or AAP but all people like these who are responsible for developing the national capital".

Geeta Devi, a bus marshall, said she always wanted to be a police officer but could not become one.

When she got to know about the work of bus marshall, she applied for it and since then she says she never looked back. "I think that Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal is working very hard for the security of women of Delhi. I am a very proud bus marshal and I work to ensure the safety of passengers on the buses. The experience to attend the oath-taking ceremony was surreal," said Devi.

Gajraj Singh thought he was being pranked when he received invitation to attend the oath taking ceremony. Singh, who has been employed as a bus conductor for the last 20 years, believes that every work is important in society.

leader Gopal Rai said on Sunday.

Mr. Rai after a meeting with State office-bearers at the Chief Minister's residence here said that "it has been decided that work will be done on three

things."

"Firstly, the State units will start Rastrya Nirman campaign from February 23 to March 23. They will run it in all States and under it, volunteers will hold meetings and their target is to connect

one crore people with the party," he said.

"Secondly, they will also run a poster abhiyan and thirdly, all State office-bearers have been asked to hold press conferences on a daily basis to highlight the work of

the Delhi government," Mr. Rai added.

The meeting was attended by the party's representatives from Bihar, Jharkhand, Uttar Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Goa and Karnataka among others.

Lazwanti, who has been working as a sanitation worker for the last nine years in Delhi, said recognis-

"It is an honour for me to represent bus marshals. We work hard every day to provide security to women. The AAP government is very serious about women's safety and we are making the dream of Arvind Kejriwal true," said Kumar.

Mr. Kejriwal, in his ad-



(Clockwise from top) 'Chhota Kejriwal' at the oath-taking ceremony; an overview of the event; 'Success The Best Revenge', a banner being held aloft; a man dressed as peacock; balloons in the colours of National Flag during the event at Ramlila Maidan on Sunday.

■ PTI; AMIT BARAHU; BIBEK CHETTRI

Thousands flock to Ramlila Maidan to support AAP

Majority of people say they want the govt. to work like it did in the past five years

STAFF REPORTER
NEW DELHI

Thousands of people gathered at Ramlila Maidan to see the oath-taking ceremony of AAP national convener Arvind Kejriwal on Sunday.

The majority of the people present at the spot said they want the AAP government to work like it did in the past five years.

Shahida Begum from Old Delhi, who had come to Ramlila Maidan for the first time, said: "I had voted for him [Kejriwal] and just wanted to see him. My electricity bill is zero and we don't need to pay for water.

There should have been at least one woman [in the Cabinet]

HAFIZA

rent religions to get along "like both of us", she said referring to her friend.

For 53-year-old Mohammad Afak, Kejriwal is the "elder son" of the citizens of Delhi.

He said it would be enough if the Chief Minister fulfills the 10 promises mentioned in the "Guarantee Card".

Positive development

Commenting on AAP's plans to become a national party, Mr. Khan said: "It is a positive development. He [Kejriwal] has more experience than 500 Chief Ministers."

Some at the venue said they had no problem with the Delhi government having not even a single woman in the Cabinet. However, 24-year-old Hafiza said: "There should have been at least one woman."

Baby Singh, a housewife, said there were no women Ministers in the previous Cabinet either "but work got done right? That's all that matters," she said. With the ceremony ending by early afternoon, crowds from the spot spilled out onto the streets, celebrating the occasion with many chanting - Desh Ka PM Kaisa Ho. Kejriwal Jaisa Ho.



AAP supporters at Ramlila Maidan in New Delhi on Sunday. ■ SHIV KUMAR PUSHPAKAR

Group of AAP volunteers from Hyderabad attend event

Belonging to all age groups and from different walks of life, they feel need to revamp AAP in their State

SOIBAM ROCKY SINGH
NEW DELHI

Among the thousands of people at Ramlila Maidan on Sunday were several Aam Aadmi Party volunteers who travelled from places as far as Hyderabad to attend the oath-taking ceremony.

Acutely aware of AAP's intention to broaden its footprint across the country after the landslide victory in Delhi, the group of around 20 volunteers said: "We need to revamp the party organisation in the State from the ground-level."

They said they are hoping that in other States too "they get to see a similar level of development and work done by Mr. Kejriwal. This kind of politics should be an example for other



The group of AAP volunteers from Hyderabad at the event on Sunday. ■ SOIBAM ROCKY SINGH

States too".

The volunteers who had come on an invitation from AAP had people belonging to all age groups and from different walks of life.

Jairam Reddy, a full-time

AAP volunteer, said he has left everything to devote his time to the party. On being asked from where he gets money to support his family, Mr. Reddy said: "My wife is a government employee." He added: "We

all came to Delhi in a train...we are very happy to witness Mr. Kejriwal become the Chief Minister again."

Social change

Retired physics professor Balalaxmi said he has devoted his life to bring about social change. The 70-year-old said: "I wish to see the Delhi model of development in all States across the country."

Revanth Reddy, a young MBA graduate, who is currently working at a micro-finance firm in Hyderabad, said: "We are expecting him [Kejriwal] to be the Prime Minister of India someday."

As a volunteer, Mr. Reddy said he handles social media marketing for AAP in his region.

Talking about the support AAP has in Hyderabad, the volunteers said there are about one lakh volunteers in the State.

At the venue, a man

named Satyadev Manjhi

had cycled all the way

from Maharaiganj in Bihar

to witness the ceremony.

"Desh pe har jagah jhadhu lagna chahiye [every part of the country should be cleaned using a broom]. Main yaha AAP ko aashirwad dene aaya hu [I am here to bless AAP]," Mr. Manjhi said.

He also wished that Mr. Kejriwal will support his Hum Do Hamare Do scheme of population control.

"I have collected signatures of over 15,000 people, who have supported the idea," he added.

AAP-branded free soft drink causes chaos

A man sustains minor injuries while another loses his phone

SOIBAM ROCKY SINGH
NEW DELHI

Chaos ensued at a free beverages stall set up inside Ramlila Maidan on Sunday when an unruly crowd tried to get AAP-branded soft drinks.

The AAP Cola -with a tagline that says "drink and fight corruption" - was distributed for free at the venue. It came in cola, lemon, orange and 'surprise' flavours.

The commotion started when the stalls, which were manned by eight to ten volunteers, started giving away the soft drink to those who flocked there to witness the swearing-in ceremony of Arvind Kejriwal as Delhi Chief Minister.

He also wished that Mr. Kejriwal will support his Hum Do Hamare Do scheme of population control.

"I have collected signatures of over 15,000 people, who have supported the idea," he added.



A man sustained minor injury while trying to get his free bottle of cola at Ramlila Maidan in the city on Sunday. ■ SOIBAM ROCKY SINGH

plied by Delhi Jal Board, just next to the beverage stall.

Cola bottles in the air

In absence of any arrangement to maintain queues, the stall got overcrowded.

The people at the event started snatching the cola bottles from each other. After this, the AAP volunteers started throwing the bottles

at the crowd due to which the numbers started swelling up after the end of the swearing-in ceremony.

Amid the chaos, a man, in his early 50s, got injured while trying to get the cola drink. He, however, managed to get hold of a lemon flavour at the end.

Another man, Zulfikar from Bhajanpura said he lost his mobile phone while trying to get a cola bottle. "I regret the decision," he said.

As the security personnel at the spot failed to contain the mob, many people later resorted to ransacking the stall from the sides and the back to get hold of as many free drinks as they could. A few AAP volunteers nabbed a man, who they claimed was a phone snatcher. He was later handed over to the police.

KGwall: meet the 'Baby Mufflermen'



The trend started by 'Chhota Kejriwal' Aavyan Tomar seems to have caught on as many 'Baby Mufflermen' showed up at the oath-taking ceremony at the Ramlila Maidan here on Sunday. At least six children dressed up in Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal's trademark winter wear and sporting a make-believe moustache were present at the venue accompanied by their parents. Three brothers, Kashif, Sajid and Wajid from the Mirza family of Old Delhi brought their five children, aged two to six years, dressed in maroon sweaters, black trousers and mufflers. The youngest among them, Abu Bakar, son of Sajid Mirza, rode on his father's shoulders as he waved a big Tricolour. "I am 'Kejriwal,'" quipped Abu when asked his name, and chanted, "Lage raho Kejriwal! Abu goes to KG [kindergarten], so he is a 'KGwall', Mr. Sajid said in a lighter vein. PTI

Modi wishes CM 'fruitful tenure'

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday congratulated Arvind Kejriwal on taking oath as Delhi's CM earlier today. Best wishes to him for a fruitful tenure. "I congratulate Shri @ ArvindKejriwal on taking oath as Delhi's CM earlier today. Best wishes to him for a fruitful tenure," the Prime Minister tweeted. Mr. Modi was invited to the oath-taking ceremony on Sunday, but he was in his Lok Sabha constituency Varanasi. "Thank you for the warm wishes sir. I wish you could come today, but I understand you were busy," the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) leader responded on Twitter. "We must now work together towards making Delhi a city of pride for all Indians," he said. PTI



Rajendra Pal already in office



Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal is unlikely to make major changes in the portfolios of his newly appointed Cabinet Ministers, sources said on Sunday. Rajendra Pal Gautam, who had held the charge of social welfare and SC/ST in the previous AAP government, took charge of his office on Sunday, a few hours after the oath-taking ceremony, even as there has been no official announcement on portfolios. Sources said that Manish Sisodia, who was the Deputy CM in the 2015 Delhi Cabinet, is likely to remain on the post in the new AAP government as well. He is also likely to continue to hold the education portfolio, they said. Similarly, there would be no changes in portfolios of Gopal Rai who was the Labour Minister in the previous AAP dispensation. Most Cabinet Ministers will take charge of their respective offices on Monday. PTI

Martyrs in Minister's oath

In a departure from the tradition of taking oath in the name of God, Arvind Kejriwal's Cabinet member Gopal Rai did it in the name of martyrs of the freedom struggle. Rajendra Pal Gautam took oath in the name of Lord Buddha at the Ramlila Maidan where a joyous crowd kept shouting 'we love you Kejriwal'.

Imran Hussain took oath of office in the name of Allah and later oath of secrecy in the name of Ishwar, Aam Aadmi Party national convener Arvind Kejriwal and senior party leaders Manish Sisodia and Kailash Gahlot took oath in the name of God. Six legislators, including Satyendar Jain and Kailash Gahlot, were sworn in as Ministers in the newly formed Delhi Cabinet on Sunday. Lieutenant Governor Anil Baijal administered the oath of office and secrecy. PTI



Arvind Kejriwal and senior party leaders Manish Sisodia and Kailash Gahlot took oath in the name of God. Six legislators, including Satyendar Jain and Kailash Gahlot, were sworn in as Ministers in the newly formed Delhi Cabinet on Sunday. Lieutenant Governor Anil Baijal administered the oath of office and secrecy. PTI

Inmates clash inside Tihar

STAFF REPORTER
NEW DELHI

Several inmates were injured when a clash broke out between them inside jail number 4 of Tihar here, officials said on Sunday.

A senior jail officer said the incident occurred on Saturday at around 12.30 p.m.

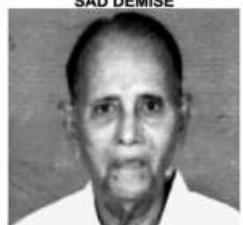
"From 12 noon to 3 p.m., we put inmates back into the barracks. On Saturday, an inmate was not ready to

go inside and he instigated fellow inmates, following which a scuffle broke out between them," the officer said.

"Two inmates got seriously injured and were shifted to Deen Dayal Upadhyay Hospital. They returned to the jail after treatment," the officer said, adding that around 10 to 12 inmates received minor injuries during the scuffle.

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STAFF REPORTER
NEW DELHI

Anti-Citizenship (Amendment) Act protesters, who have been on an indefinite sit-in at Shaheen Bagh, attempted to march towards Union Home Minister Amit Shah's residence on Sunday but soon returned after police denied them permission.

"We have been protesting here peacefully and if we go there to meet him, we will only go peacefully," said Shakila, one of the protesters, explaining why no altercation took place between protesters and the authorities.

The march, which started at 2 p.m., went till one of the barricades, where a police contingent stopped protesters and told them that they would not be allowed to move forward as they were not granted any permission.

"We were assured that our request to meet Mr. Shah would be conveyed," Ms. Shakila said.

Shabab Azam, a volunteer, said that the local SHO had proposed that the protesters form a delegation of about 10 people who may visit Mr. Shah, but many called this untenable.

"It is a public protest, it is



Protesters from Shaheen Bagh trying to take out a march to Union Minister Amit Shah's residence on Sunday. ■ BIBEK CHETTRI

highly decentralised," he explained.

"It would be easier if he [Amit Shah] comes here. If we have to meet him, then lakhs of us will have to go," said Rahat Parveen, another volunteer, adding that the Minister would be welcomed if he chose to come to Shaheen Bagh.

The demand of the protesters remains the same since demonstrations started over two months ago.

"Tomorrow if the Supreme Court tells us to move, we will not," said Shagufta Kausar, a protester, commenting on the hearing on Shaheen Bagh in the Supreme Court on Monday.

"If the Citizenship law is rolled back, we will leave the protest site in a minute,"

said Ms. Kausar.

R.P. Meena, DCP (South-East) said, the protesters had called for a march to Mr. Shah's residence stating that approximately 5,000 of them will start the march at 2 p.m. for a dialogue over the Citizenship (Amendment) Act.

Rounds of negotiations
The protesters were asked to take prior appointment from the Union Minister. After continuous dialogue and efforts from senior police officers of South-East district, including Additional Deputy Commissioners of Police, the protesters put their march on hold as they did not have the necessary permission from the law enforcement agencies concerned.

'Remain calm and don't succumb to provocation'

Shah lauds Delhi Police for its services

STAFF REPORTER
NEW DELHI

Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Sunday said that Delhi Police should remain calm despite "provocation" but should also be concerned about protecting people from "miscreants".

Speaking at the 73rd Raising Day ceremony of Delhi Police, Mr. Shah called it one of the leading metropolitan police forces in the country and the world.

Citing a speech of the country's first Home Minister, Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel in 1950, Mr. Shah said that despite all the anger and provocation, Delhi Police should remain calm and should also be ready to deal with miscreants with "firm hands" to protect the people. "I believe, on many occasions, Delhi Police has lived up to this advice of Sardar Patel," he said.

Mr. Shah lauded the police saying that they had helped the government on important occasions. It has helped foil attempts of disturbance.

Constructive criticism
The Minister observed that while constructive criticism of the police force is always welcome, it must also be kept in mind that more than 35,000 police personnel laid down their lives while on



Amit Shah during the 73rd Raising Day Parade of Delhi Police on Sunday. ■ PTI

duty.

The Minister also paid homage to five policemen who lost their lives in 2001 Parliament terror attack, and inspector M.C. Sharma who died in the Batla House encounter against terrorists.

The function was also attended by L.Gs of Delhi and Puducherry Anil Baijal and Kiran Bedi respectively, Delhi Police Commissioner Amulya Patnaik, and top officials from other agencies.

Speaking about police welfare measures, he said that the Union government has sanctioned ₹137 crore for housing. The police department itself is constructing more than 700 residences for its personnel, Mr. Shah said expressing confidence that the issue of residential needs would be successfully solved in the near future.

Bhim Army protests against SC ruling

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI

A large number of Bhim Army members took out a protest march on Sunday against the Supreme Court's ruling that State governments are not bound to provide reservation in promotions in public services.

Bhim Army chief Chandrashekhar Azad led the protest march from Mandi House to Jantar Mantar. He has given a call for a 'Bharat Bandh' on February 23 demanding that the government bring an Ordinance to nullify the ruling.

"Now the time has come when the SC/ST/OBC and other minority people need to come together for their rights. The Bharatiya Janata Party is against the minorities in the country. The nation will run with Ambedkar's Constitution and this movement will not stop here. There would be a big movement on February 23 and it should be held peacefully," Mr. Azad said.

The Supreme Court has held that States are not bound to provide reservation in appointments and there is no fundamental right to claim quota in promotions.

Air quality of Delhi-NCR			
Delhi	247	Gurugram	276
Ghaziabad	278	Faridabad	215
Noida	242	Greater Noida	232
Good	0-50	Satisfactory	51-100
Poor	201-300	Moderate	301-400
Very poor	401-450	Severe	>401
AIR QUALITY INDEX AT 4 PM, YESTERDAY (AVERAGE OF PAST 24 HOURS) SOURCE: CPCB			

DELHI TODAY

Talk: Lecture on "Reforming Agricultural Markets- Whose job is it anyway?" by Prof. Sukpal Singh, Professor and Chairperson, Centre for Management in Agriculture, Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad at Seminar Hall II & III, India International Centre (IIC), 6.30 p.m.

Music & Dance: An evening of Hindustani classical vocal recital by Ustad Shaukat Hussain Khan from Ahmedabad of the Agra-Atrauli gharana. He will be accompanied by Vinod Lele on the tabla and Vinay Mishra on the harmonium at C.D. Deshmukh Auditorium, India International Centre (IIC), 6.30 p.m.

Exhibition: "Baolis of Delhi", a group show by Urban Sketchers Delhi at Delhi's Delhi Foyer, India Habitat Centre (IHC), 11 a.m. - 7 p.m.

Exhibition: "Inner Mastery", a solo painting exhibition in mixed media by Ekaterina Abramova at Open Palm Court Gallery, India Habitat Centre (IHC), 11 a.m. - 7 p.m.

(Mail your listings for this column at citeditor@thehindu.co.in)

One dead, 3 injured in building wall collapse

STAFF REPORTER
NEW DELHI

A 32-year-old man died while three others were injured after a wall of an under-construction building collapsed in south Delhi's C.R. Park on Sunday, officials said.

The deceased has been identified as Toormal Mandal, while the injured persons have been identified as Sudama (21), Sanjay (30) and Tappan Mandal (25), they said. The police said the injured persons were admitted to AIIMS Trauma Centre and

are stable.

The fire department said five fire tenders were rushed to the spot after it received information about the incident at 2.13 p.m. During investigation, it was revealed that when the digging work at the basement at E-845 C.R. Park was in progress, the wall collapsed and the three labourers got buried under it, the police said.

A case has been registered and the contractor, Nidhish Gupta, has been apprehended, the police said.

DEUTSCHE GESELLSCHAFT FÜR INTERNATIONALE ZUSAMMENARBEIT (GIZ) GMBH

Tender Notice for Handholding of Urban Design Competition at Bhubaneswar - Odisha

Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit" (GIZ) GmbH, fully owned by the German Government and engaged in the field of international cooperation for sustainable development, intends to hire the services of a reputed consultancy company to handhold urban Design competitions in Bhubaneswar.

The objective of the assignment as well as other detailed terms are mentioned within the tender documents.

Interested firms are requested to visit the following web link and download the complete tender documents.

https://www.tendernews.com/free_tender/handholding-of-urban-design-competition-bhubaneswar.aspx

Last date of bid submission is Wednesday 11 March 2020.

GIZ reserves the right to cancel/modify this tender and / or reject a bid document including

Portuguese president visits churches in Old Goa

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Portuguese president Marcelo Rebelo de Sousa on Sunday visited churches in Old Goa, including Basilica of Bom Jesus where relics of St. Francis Xavier are preserved. He also paid a visit to Institute Mater Dei Santa Monica, a church in the Old Goa heritage complex, and the Christian Art Museum located on the premises.

All these structures at Old Goa, located about nine km from Panaji, are part of the complex certified as world heritage monuments by the UNESCO.

Basilica of Bom Jesus rector Fr Patricio Fernandes told reporters that he showed Mr. de Sousa the cascade containing relics of St. Francis Xavier. "The Portuguese president prayed to the relics of St. Francis Xavier and went around to see the building, which was constructed in 1605." The president was "impressed" with the structure and the spiritual vibes at the basilica, he said. The relics of Spanish saint are revered across the world by faithfuls.

The Portuguese president arrived on a two-day visit to Goa on Saturday after which he chaired a function where several MoUs were signed between Goa and Portugal in sectors like education, ship-building, water, and sewage management. He also addressed a seminar on "urban designs" in Panaji on Saturday before attending a dinner hosted by Goa Governor Satya Pal Malik.

The Portuguese president on Saturday said he was feeling at home in India, especially in Goa, because of the State's "human micro-climate".

Doctors remove large thyroid growths from Melghat tribals

Live relay of surgeries from a remote hospital organised for 100 London doctors

YOTI SHELAR
MUMBAI

For long, the massive enlarged thyroid glands among the Korku tribals living in Amravati's Melghat region have puzzled doctors. Doctors would see Korkus, mainly women, with these abnormal growths, known as goitre, weighing over one to two kilograms. An annual surgery camp held at a remote hospital in Chikhaldara has however changed that. While goitre remains prevalent, doctors now see smaller growths in the tribe.

At the 19th annual camp held early this month, 16 people from the tribe – 13 women and three men – underwent goitre surgeries. "Earlier we would see exceptionally large growths. That has changed over the past three to four years," said

ENT surgeon Dr. Madan Kapre who operated on four of the 16 patients.

"Lack of adequate medical attention is the main problem. They would seek medical help only when it became difficult to function with the growth on the neck," Dr. Kapre, who is also the founding president of Indian Society of Thyroid Surgeons, said. He said the annual camp brings senior specialists closer to the patients instead of the patients travelling for treatment.

Iodine deficiency is known as the common cause of goitre. But the staple diet of Korkus is fish, a rich source of iodine, and there is availability of iodised salt too. "We believe there are genetic factors at play," Dr. Kapre said.

The recent camp was un-

Lack of adequate medical attention is main problem. They would seek medical help only when it became difficult to function with the growth on the neck

DR. MADAN KAPRE
ENT surgeon

ique in many ways. A live relay of the surgeries was organised for over 100 doctors at St Mary's Hospital in London. "Prof Neil Tolley of Imperial College, London, had visited us two years ago and he was impressed with our surgeries carried out with minimum facilities. It was his idea to have a live broadcast," Dr. Kapre said, adding besides the large size of glands, the London doctors

were exposed to a unique technique of anaesthesia.

Lack of reliable internet network posed a challenge for the live transmission. However, a company called Valuable Edutainment helped in the transmission using its V-SATs.

Head and neck surgeon Dr. Abhishek Vaidya, who operated on two of the 16 patients, said the operation theatre in the rural hospital was built in 1994 by the Rotary Club of Nagpur South that organises the camp.

"Such large size goitres are only seen in textbooks by most. The thyroid gland is beneath the adam's apple and it should be imperceptible. But in these cases, the enlargement is much bigger than the size of a lemon," Dr. Vaidya said, adding the average growth seen was 6x4cm.

CM bats for a stronger judiciary to tackle crimes against women

Uddhav also suggests doing away with archaic British-era laws

TANVI DESHPANDE
MUMBAI

Expressing dismay that the accused in the Nirbhaya rape-murder case have still not been given death sentence, Chief Minister Uddhav Thackeray on Sunday said, "We need to build a judiciary and a society where separate fast-track courts will not be needed for crimes against women."

Mr. Thackeray also said strict implementation of laws requires seamless coordination between the legislature, executive, and judiciary. "The judiciary has the power to create the Maharashtra envisaged by Babasaheb Ambedkar, Shahu Maharaj, Mahatma Phule and Shivaji Maharaj."

He was speaking at a lawyers' conference 'Marching towards speedy modern judiciary' organised by the Maharashtra and Goa Bar Council in Nashik.



The CM stressed the need to do away with archaic British-era laws if they are irrelevant.

"People want speedy justice, and all four pillars of democracy need to come together to determine how to achieve that. A lot of positive changes can be made if the judiciary takes suggestions and expectations of the CM of every State. Archaic British-era laws need to be revised and changed according to the changed needs of society, and circumstances."

About the crimes against women, the CM said, it is the responsibility of all to create a judiciary and a society to ensure that fast-track courts are not required for such offences. "We need to create such a social structure. If we fail to form an ideal society, no number of jails will be enough to keep criminals. Apart from laws, instilling good values in a society is important."

Mr. Thackeray assured the audience that a law university will be set up with a special emphasis on those who want to become judges. He also unveiled the plaque of the new district court that will be constructed in three years.

Also present at the occasion were SC judge Justice Bhushan Gavai, Transport Minister Anil Parab, Justice Makarand Karnik and Justice Sandip Shinde of the Bombai High Court, and many senior officers from the judiciary.

Political parties unite to protest toll collection on Pune-Satara highway

Agitation suspended following assurances from NHAI officials; Union Minister Gadkari to take final call on abolition of toll at Ked-Shivapur plaza

SHOUMOJIT BANERJEE
PUNE

Legislators and MPs from different political parties came together on Sunday to protest the collection of toll at the Ked-Shivapur toll plaza on the incomplete Pune-Satara national highway (NH4).

Members of an all-party action committee demanded that the plaza be removed. The agitation was temporarily suspended following assurances from officials of the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) that no toll would be levied on vehicles from Pune district and Pimpri-Chinchwad going to and fro from Satara until Union

Minister for Road Transport and Highways Nitin Gadkari had taken a meeting in Delhi on the matter.

Prominent among the demonstrators were Nationalist Congress Party MP from Baramati, Supriya Sule, Congress MLA from Bhor, Sangram Thopate, and Bharatiya Janata Party legislator from Khadakwasla, Bhimrao Tapkir. The three were also present in the meeting with officials of the NHAI and Reliance Infrastructure.

"We held a meeting with authorities from the NHAI and Reliance Infrastructure on Sunday. I had already spoken to Mr. Gadkari on Saturday. However, as he is in Sweden presently and will be back within eight days, we



Cutting across party lines: NCP MP Supriya Sule was one of the demonstrators at Ked-Shivapur toll plaza on the Pune-Satara national highway on Sunday. ■ SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

day. However, as he is in Sweden presently and will be back within eight days, we

will be meeting again in Delhi. Till that time, we have received assurances that no toll

would be levied on vehicles coming from Pune, Bhor, Velhe-Mulshi, Purandar and Khadakwasla to Satara," Ms. Sule said, adding Mr. Gadkari would take the final call on the matter as he had the authority.

Complaint with CBI

Last month, Thane-based lawyer-activist Praveen Wategaonkar, along with Sanjay Shirodkar, a Pune-based activist, had filed a complaint with the Central Bureau of Investigation against P.S. Toll Road Private Ltd – a special purpose vehicle promoted by Reliance Infrastructure – for allegedly having illegally

amassed a toll revenue of nearly ₹1,780 crore in the last nine years despite the non-completion of the highway.

"The first step in our agitation has been successful and we have received a written assurance from the NHAI that no toll would be collected. We have temporarily suspended our agitation and not taken it back. If the Central ministry fails to fulfil its promises of abolishing toll, we will resume it again," a member of the committee said.

As per their contract, P.S. Toll Road was to complete the six-lane development of the 140-km Pune-Satara highway within a 30-month pe-

+ Lost in rapture



Victory dance: Supporters of the Aam Aadmi Party celebrate the oath-taking of Arvind Kejriwal as Delhi Chief Minister for the third time, in Nagpur on Sunday. ■ S. SUDARSHAN

No intention to bring down MVA govt.: BJP

Nadda clarifies no alliances will be made in future

ALOK DESHPANDE
NAVI MUMBAI

Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) president J.P. Nadda on Sunday said the party's break-up with the Shiv Sena in Maharashtra is an opportunity to ensure the BJP will no more require an ally in the State in future.

Directing party workers to not live in the hope to see the present tripartite Maha Vikas Aghadi government fall, Mr. Nadda said the situation where every party is contesting against the BJP will ensure that the latter sweeps the polls.

Mr. Nadda was addressing the party's State council conference in Navi Mumbai. This was Mr. Nadda's first interaction with the party leaders after he became the



Today what we are seeing is a position of all versus us. This is an opportunity for the party to ensure we won't require an ally in future. This is an unrealistic and unnatural alliance and it should continue. The BJP will single-handedly win the next Assembly election in Maharashtra," Mr. Nadda said.

Clear message

Mr. Nadda along with former Chief Minister and Leader of Opposition Devendra Fadnavis seconded Mr. Nadda, sending a clear message that the BJP will not be investing resources to bring down the government but would rather wait to fall on its own. "Don't just sit down idle. We will be working as an active, effective, and quality oppo-

serve to be in power."

"The Arjuna in Mahabharata faced the question of how to wage a war on his own brothers. But lord Krishna showed him the difference between dharma and adharma. The Sena today stands with adharma and therefore even though they were our brothers before, we will have to fight a war against them," Mr. Fadnavis said.

While asking the party workers to take on the government with aggression, Mr. Patil announced to conduct a sit-in in front of every tehsil in the State on February 22 over the issues of farmers, atrocities against women, and the government's decisions to stall development projects.

The party also announced to fight the Navi Mumbai and Aurangabad municipal corporation elections on its own.

Homage to
Jibanananda Das
The poet of Rupasi Bangla
on his
Birthday
Mamata Banerjee
Chief Minister, West Bengal

The State Government is steadfastly working towards the rapid socio-economic development of all sections of society, while maintaining communal harmony and peace in the State.

ICA-339 (16)/2020

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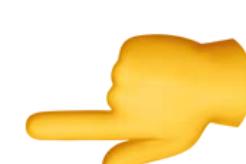
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IN BRIEF

**CPI(M) had expelled arrested youth: Kodiyeri**

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM The CPI(M) has expelled two party workers, Alan Shuhai and Thaha Fasal, who were arrested for alleged Maoist links as per the provisions of the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, Kerala. CPI(M) secretary Kodiyeri Balakrishnan has said. He said the local committees of the party they had represented had expelled them.

Two forest department officials killed in wildfire

THRISSUR Two forest department officials were on Sunday charred to death in a wildfire at Wadakkancherry near here, officials said. Poongodu forest station watcher K.U. Divakaran, 43, and temporary watcher A.K. Velayudhan, 54, died during a bid to douse the wildfire that had spread at the HNL plantation. "Two other officials also suffered burns," officials said. PTI

Wayanad Tiger Reserve proposal fails to find favour

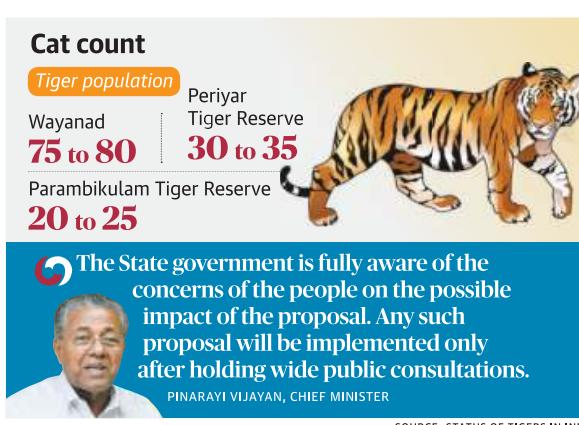
CM Pinarayi refers to public protests and human-wildlife conflicts in the district

K.S. SUDHI
KOCHI

Wayanad Wildlife Sanctuary, though home to more than half the number of tigers present in Kerala, may not be notified as a tiger reserve as the proposal lacks public support.

The attempts of the Kerala Forest Department to push forward the proposal for notifying the sanctuary as the third Tiger Reserve in the State came a cropper at the recently held State Wildlife Advisory Board. Citing the public resistance against the earlier attempts, the Board rejected the proposal.

The Status of Tigers in India report released last year had estimated the tiger population of Wayanad as between 75 and 80 individuals. Periyar Tiger Reserve, the first one in Kerala, has an estimated population of 30 to 35 big cats whereas Param-



SOURCE: STATUS OF TIGERS IN INDIA

bikulam, the second reserve, has a population of 20 to 25 tigers.

Piloting the Wayanad proposal, the department officials pointed out that more than half of the tiger population in the State was found in Wayanad. There are five Tiger Reserves in the neighbouring States that share boundaries with Wayanad,

they said.

The arguments of the officials that the notification would ensure financial aid from the Centre and the National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA), better conservation and management of the tiger population and help generate more employment opportunities failed to impress the State

authorities. Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan, who chaired the meeting, flagged the issue of human-wildlife conflicts in the district. Referring to the public protests that were staged in Wayanad earlier against the proposal, Mr. Vijayan expressed concerns over the possible impacts of the proposal. Any such proposal shall be implemented only after holding wide public consultations, he suggested.

Cattle lifting by the ailing tigers and their straying into human habitations have often triggered widespread public protests in the district.

The department had to backtrack from its earlier attempts to notify the reserve following stiff public resistance.

There were speculations that the notification would bring in stringent restrictions on development activities.

Students held in sedition case released

STAFF REPORTER
HUBBALLI

The Karnataka police, who arrested three Kashmiri engineering students on sedition charges in Hubballi district on Saturday, released them on Sunday. The students were arrested for raising pro-Pakistan slogans and posting it on social media.

Hubballi-Dharwad Police Commissioner R. Dilip said pending further investigation they had been released after first round of questioning with a condition that they should appear before the investigating officer as and when summoned.

It may be recalled that the students – Basit Ashiq Sofi, Talib Majeed, and Mohiuddin Wani – were taken into custody after a video in which they allegedly raised pro-Pakistan slogans went viral, leading to protests by Hindutva outfits.

The principal of the college had alerted the police.



Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman addressing a press conference in Hyderabad on Sunday. ANI

Did not cut share of States: Sitharaman

Allocation to Telangana higher: official

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
HYDERABAD

Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on Sunday said devolution of funds to the States was done as per the recommendations of the Finance Commission and it should not be construed as Centre not doing enough for the States.

"The Centre has not reduced the share of States [as] what it has done is implementation of the Finance Commission recommendation," she said to queries from media on Telangana ruling party leaders expressing disappointment at the level of devolution. Ms. Sitharaman, accompanied by senior officials of the Ministry, was speaking after the 'Jan Jan Ka Budget', an interactive session of Union Budget 2020-21 in the city.

The migrant woman said she wanted to clear the higher secondary equivalency exam conducted by the Mission, for which the director extended complete support.

She said "Hamari Malayalam", the textbook prepared for students of the 'Changathi' scheme, was very helpful in the daily life.

"It has helped me a lot in communicating in Malayalam, especially in railway station and market," she said, adding she also wanted to teach her children Malayalam.

this fiscal, the estimated release to Telangana would be ₹1,06,606 crore or an increase of 128%. Thus, it was not correct to say the transfers to Telangana had been short.

"In fact, it has been much higher than for many other States," he said. Telangana is one of the few States which has been given a higher borrowing limit of 3.5% of SDP instead of 3% which is allowed for most other States. By virtue of the higher borrowing limit and the devolution, Telangana is one of the best endowed States financially, he said.

Special grant

On a special grant of over ₹700 crore that the 15th Finance Commission had recommended to be issued to Telangana, the Finance Minister said it had been referred back to the Commission seeking certain clarifications.

Ms. Sitharaman also refuted that allocation for the MGNREGA scheme in the Budget had been reduced. "Compared to the BE announced in July 2019, for no programme [we] have reduced BE in 2020," she said.

Bihari migrant woman emerges topper in Malayalam literacy exam

Romiya Kathur scores first rank with full marks in the examination held by the Kerala State Literacy Mission Authority



Rare feat: Kerala State Literacy Mission director P.S. Sreekala visiting Romiya Kathur at her residence. ■ SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
KOLLAM

A 26-year-old Bihari woman has proved language is no barrier as she emerged the topper in a literacy examination conducted in Kerala for migrant labourers.

Romiya Kathur, hailing from a nondescript village in Bihar, scored the first rank with full 100 marks in the examination held by the Kerala State Literacy Mission Authority recently.

In search of job
She had reached Kerala in search of a job along with her husband Saifullah and set-

tled down in Umayanallor in southern Kollam district in 2014.

The mother of three, who runs a juice parlour here, had written the exam at a local higher secondary school carrying her four-month-old baby daughter, Thamanna last month.

'Changathi' scheme
A total of 1,998 migrant labourers had appeared for the literacy exam in the second phase of the scheme 'Changathi' across the State on January 19.

'Changathi' (friend) project is aimed at teaching mi-

grant labourers, living in the State, Malayalam within four months.

It had begun in Perumbavoor in Ernakulam district, the hub of migrant labourers in the State on August 15, 2017, Literacy Mission officials said.

Over 3,700 migrants, who flocked to the southern State in search of better wages and living conditions, had cleared the exam under the initiative so far in two phases, they said.

Kerala State Literacy Mission director P.S. Sreekala visited Ms. Kathur at her home recently and congratulated her for the rare achievement.

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"It has helped me a lot in communicating in Malayalam, especially in railway station and market," she said, adding she also wanted to teach her children Malayalam.

ISRO making preparations to launch GISAT-1 in March

This satellite will keep a constant watch on borders: official

FIROZ ROZINDAR
VIJAYAPURA

The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) is preparing to launch GISAT-1, a new earth observation satellite, in the first week of March.

GISAT-1 Geo Imaging Satellite – will be the first of two planned Indian EO spacecraft to be placed in a geostationary orbit of around 36,000 km. It will apparently be in a fixed spot looking over the Indian continent at all times.

All Indian EO's have been placed so far in a 600-odd km orbits and circle the earth pole to pole. GISAT-1 will be launched from the Sriharikota satellite launch centre. "With this satellite, which has high-resolution cameras, we can keep a constant watch on our borders, monitor any changes in the geographical condition of the country, etc.," said Alokkumar Srivastav, Senior ISRO scientist and Deputy Director, U.R. Rao Satellite Centre, Bengaluru.

Chandrayaan-3

On Chandrayaan-2, he said that after the failed lunar landing of the project owing

With this satellite, which has high-resolution cameras, we can keep a constant watch on our borders and monitor any changes in the geographical condition of the country

ALOK KUMAR SRIVASTAV, SENIOR ISRO SCIENTIST AND DEPUTY DIRECTOR, U.R. RAO SATELLITE CENTRE

are already under way at ISRO. He said ISRO had planned to repeat the project. "The government has already approved the [Chandrayaan-3] project. We are working on it. We are planning to relaunch the project within a year. I am hopeful that this time we will be successful in our endeavour to land our rover near the lunar southern where no rover has landed so far," he said.

Space station
ISRO is expected to develop its own space station within a decade. "ISRO scientists are making every effort to develop our own space station. Hopefully, in the next ten years, India will have its own space station like the U.S. and China," Dr. Srivastav said. To achieve this gigantic target, preparations

"Our astronauts are already undergoing training in Russia. After the completion of their training, they will be part of the first manned mission. The success of the mission will open new avenues for the setting up of our own space station, which will be possible within a decade from now," he said.

Dr. Srivastav said that as a space scientist, he was hopeful that life existed in some or the other form somewhere in the galaxy. "We are searching for them, and possibly they are searching for us, and hopefully some day we will meet."

ery batch of ₹1 issued in the Independent India.

In 2015, he along with his mother Renjitha Bai, entered Limca Book of Records after he sent her an envelope with most number of stamps pasted on it (322 stamps).

In the same year, he entered Asia Book of Records and India Book of Records for possessing the most number of Gandhi Stamps in Asia and India respectively.

Service court



Clean sweep: Badminton champion P.V. Sindhu, also the brand ambassador for the Vizag Steel, taking part in Swachh Bharat event organised as part of the 'Vizag Steel Walkathon' on R.K. Beach in Visakhapatnam on Sunday. ■ C.V. SUBRAHMANYAM

Man from Kerala tells country's history in one-rupee notes



Arvind Kumar Pai has entered the Limca Book of Records for having the largest collection of ₹1 notes totalling 11,111.

He has 1,200 notes bearing serial numbers that match with dates of important events in the country

SAM PAUL A.
ALAPPUZHA

Arvind Kumar Pai, a notaphilist and philatelist from Cherthala of Alappuzha, has many records to his credit.

The 33-year-old has now collected 1,200 one-rupee currency notes bearing serial numbers that match with dates of historical and important events in the country.

For instance, a note with

serial number 311084 match the date of assassination of former Prime Minister Indira Gandhi (October 31, 1984), 010148 (January 01, 1848 – India's first school for girls opened at Bhide Wada in Pune), 080457 (April 8, 1857 – Mangal Pandey was hanged), 280228 (February 28, 1928 – Discovery of Raman Effect), 121136 (November 12, 1936 – Temple entry proclamation), 261149 (No-

vember 26, 1949 – Constituent Assembly adopted the Constitution of India), 050457 (April 05, 1957 – the first-ever elected Communist government came into power in Kerala), 250675 (25 June 1975 – Emergency declared), to mention a few.

"I started collecting these notes in 2015. I am trying to tell the country's history through the collection," says Arvind, a teacher at Go-

vernment Town Lower Primary School, Cherthala.

Earlier, he entered the Limca Book of Records for having the largest collection of ₹1 notes totalling 11,111. He also entered record books for possessing at least three notes signed by each of the Finance Secretaries from K.R.K. Menon to Ratan P. Watal.

Mr. Arvind has at least three one-rupee notes in ev-

Madhya Pradesh grapples with spiralling neonatal deaths

Staff crunch, low community referrals major factors: National Health Mission

SIDHARTH YADAV
BHOJPAL

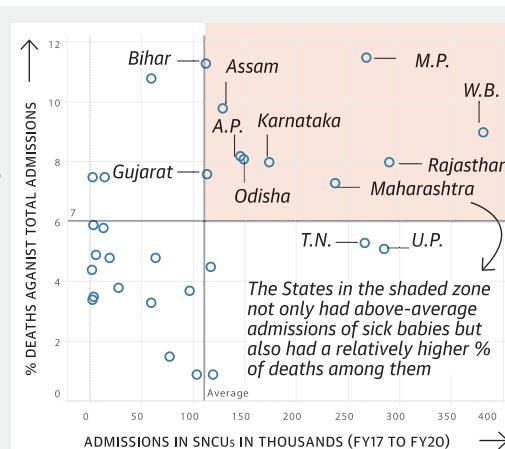
Madhya Pradesh has recorded the highest percentage of newborn deaths of 11.5% against the total admissions to government-run sick newborn care units (SNCUs) in the past three years across the country, a rate ominously spiralling since 2017, according to the National Health Mission (NHM). The country's average is 7%.

Although admissions of neonates (under 28 days) in the State have dropped from April 2017 to December 2019 – remaining lower than West Bengal, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh – the percentage of deaths at 12.2% surpassed Bihar's last year.

Meanwhile, West Bengal, where 34,344 neonatal deaths occurred in the pe-

Lives cut short

In the last three years, more than 7% of the babies admitted to sick newborn care units (SNCUs), across 13 States, died. Graph plots admissions of sick newborns in the last three years against % of deaths



The crunch is magnified as only one against the requisite five (82% shortfall) of surgeons, gynaecologists, physicians and paediatricians is available at hospitals.

As the units are located at hospitals with the delivery load of more than 3,000 infants per year, mostly in district headquarters, transporting neonates on time is

crucial. "Although there is a dedicated service to transport pregnant women to hospitals from remote areas, there is none for neonates, who are mostly dependent on the 108 ambulance service," said Dr. Sidana.

Madhya Pradesh has also recorded an abysmal sex ratio in admissions. Even with a sex ratio of 931 as per the

2011 census, 663 girls were admitted against 1,000 boys in the three years, against the country average of 733.

Bias against girls
"In almost three fourths of the cases relating to boys, more admissions can be attributed to the prevailing bias against the girl child in society," said an NHM offi-

cial, requesting anonymity.

In Bhopal, the capital city of Madhya Pradesh, one in every five children admitted to a unit died in the three years – the highest death percentage of 19.9% in the State, ten times above the NHM's mandated key performance indicator of below 2%.

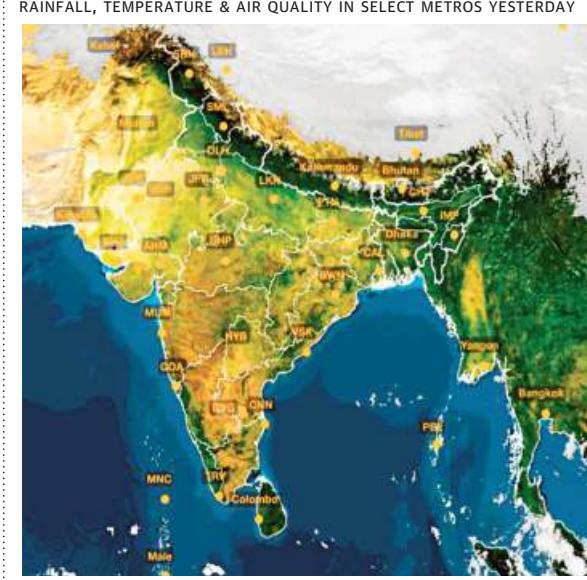
Under-reported deaths

"Urban areas report a higher death percentage as they offer tertiary care, and admit several serious cases from peripheral districts," said the official, who stated that several districts had under-re-

ported deaths as well.

The issue of under-reporting is illustrated by the NHM's Child Health Review 2019-2020, which highlights 43 districts where government officials didn't report more than 50% of deaths of children under five, to falsely jack up their score.

WEATHER WATCH



TEMPERATURE DATA: IMD; POLLUTION DATA: CPCB; MAP: INSAT/IMD (TAKEN AT 18.00 HRS)
Forecast for Monday: Dense fog likely in isolated parts over Odisha. Thunderstorm accompanied with lightning likely at isolated places over Arunachal Pradesh. Shallow to moderate fog likely in isolated parts over Bihar, sub-Himalayan West Bengal, Sikkim, Assam, Meghalaya, Nagaland, Manipur, Mizoram and Tripura during the next 2-3 days.

CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN	CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN
Agartala	...-28.0...	15.0	...	Kozhikode	...-36.0...	26.0	...
Ahmedabad	...-34.0...	19.0	...	Kurnool	...-37.0...	20.0	...
Aizawl	...-18.0...	9.0	...	Lucknow	...-26.0...	10.0	...
Aligarh	...-27.0...	12.0	...	Madurai	...-35.0...	22.0	...
Bengaluru	...-33.0...	17.0	...	Mangalore	...-36.0...	23.0	...
Bhopal	...-29.0...	11.0	...	Mumbai	...-33.0...	21.0	...
Bhubaneswar	...-34.0...	17.0	...	Mysuru	...-32.0...	19.0	...
Chandigarh	...-25.0...	10.0	...	New Delhi	...-27.0...	9.0	...
Chennai	...-32.0...	20.0	...	Patna	...-27.0...	11.0	...
Coimbatore	...-34.0...	21.0	...	Port Blair	...-29.0...	21.0	...
Dehradun	...-25.0...	10.0	...	Puducherry	...-32.0...	25.0	...
Gangtok	...-14.0...	8.0	...	Pune	...-34.0...	17.0	...
Goa	...-33.0...	21.0	...	Raipur	...-31.0...	16.0	...
Guwahati	...-27.0...	12.0	...	Ranchi	...-28.0...	13.0	...
Hubballi	...-33.0...	10.0	...	Shillong	...-15.0...	6.0	...
Hyderabad	...-32.0...	17.0	...	Shimla	...-21.0...	9.0	...
Imphal	...-23.0...	8.0	...	Srinagar	...-12.0...	0.0	...
Jaipur	...-29.0...	12.0	...	Thiruvananthapuram	...-35.0...	24.0	...
Kochi	...-32.0...	26.0	...	Tiruchi	...-34.0...	20.0	...
Kohima	...-16.0...	7.0	...	Vijayawada	...-35.0...	22.0	...
Kolkatta	...-30.0...	16.0	...	Visakhapatnam	...-30.0...	22.0	...

(Rainfall data in mm; temperature in Celsius)

Pollutants in the air you are breathing

CITIES	SO ₂	NO ₂	CO	PM2.5	PM10	CODE
Ahmedabad	7.3	80.5	123	.119
Bengaluru	10.6	64.40	136
Chennai	.6	30.16	.97
Delhi	22.34	29.2	327	.239
Hyderabad	25	60.33	.167
Kolkata	13	70.23	.283	.199
Lucknow	.8	48.49	.317
Mumbai	16.5	57.26	.113	.113
Visakhapatnam	78	24.79	.113	.95

In observation made at 4.00 p.m., Guwahati, Assam recorded an overall air quality index (AQI) score of 363, indicating a severe level of pollution. In contrast, Mahe, Madhya Pradesh recorded a healthy AQI score of 50.

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.

NO₂: Nitrogen Dioxide. Aggravates respiratory illness, causes haze to form by reacting with other air particles, causes acid rain, pollutes coastal waters.

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

PM2.5 & PM10: Particulate matter pollution can cause irritation of the eyes, nose and throat, coughing, chest tightness and shortness of breath, reduced lung function, irregular heartbeat, asthma attacks, heart attacks and premature death in people with heart or lung disease

COVID-19: India reaches out to China

'Will soon send a consignment of medical supplies'

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
BEIJING

India will do everything within its means to assist the people of China to combat the deadly COVID-19 outbreak and would soon send a consignment of medical supplies, Indian Ambassador Vikram Misri said on Sunday.

The death toll from COVID-19 outbreak in China has climbed to 1,665 after 142 more people died, mostly in the worst-hit Hubei province, officials said on Sunday.

"As a concrete step to tackle the outbreak, India will soon send a consignment of medical supplies to China," Mr. Misri said, adding this would fully demonstrate the goodwill, solidarity and friendship of the people and the Government of India with the Chinese people.

Ban lifted
Indian officials said the details of the aid required by China were being worked out and the consignment would be sent as soon as they were finalised.

India has also lifted the export ban and cleared some of the medical equipment ordered by Chinese importers.

China has said it needed medical masks, gloves and suits, especially for the medical staff attending the virus-affected patients. Masks have become scarce in China in view of the nationwide demand in the last three weeks.

The Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) submitted the reports to the ITBP, mentioning negative COVID-19 findings.

The group of people who were brought back from China's Wuhan, the epicentre of



Major relief: Indians who were airlifted from Hubei province of China, at ITBP's quarantine facility in New Delhi. All 406 people at the facility tested negative for the virus. ■ PTI

All 406 inmates at ITBP camp test negative, to be sent home

Central teams to inspect villages bordering Nepal

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI

All the 406 people housed at the quarantine facility at an Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP) camp in New Delhi will be sent to their residences in a phased manner from Monday as their final report has come out negative with no COVID-19 infection symptoms, the force said on Sunday.

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The Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) submitted the reports to the ITBP, mentioning negative COVID-19 findings.

Since then, they have been kept under the observation of an expert team of

doctors and medical professionals.

There are also seven people from Maldives and seven children, including an infant, among the people at the facility.

Central teams to probe the incident.

An NCW member said they found that a register was being maintained at the hostel to identify the menstruating girls, who were asked to eat and sleep separately. "We were shocked to find that a majority of girls agreed to this practice being followed in the name of religion," said NCW member Rajulben Desai.

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
BHUJ

A team of the National Commission for Women (NCW) on Sunday met the inmates of the hostel at the Shree Sahajanand Girls Institute in Kutch district of Gujarat, who were allegedly forced to remove their undergarments to check if they were menstruating on February 11. The police said they have formed a special investiga-

tory team for the incident.

The first 'Request for Proposal' for manufacturing of parts in India under the provision of IGA was also handed over by the Navy to the identified Indian industry," the Defence Ministry said in a statement. The conference was co-chaired by Dr. Ajay Kumar, Defence Secretary and Oleg Ryazantsev, Deputy Minister of Industry and Trade of Russia.

One important MoU was signed between the Bharat Dynamics Limited and the Almaz Antey of Russia for ex-

NCW team meets girls who were made to strip

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
BHUJ

Online Tenders are invited through E-Procurement Mode for the following items from reputed manufacturers directly or through their accredited agents in India required for NMDC Ltd, BIOM, Bacheli Complex, Dantewada (Dist) of Chhattisgarh (State) India.

INTEGRAL COACH FACTORY

Invites Prospective Vendors for a Vendor Meet & Product Exhibition on 11.03.2020 at 09.30 hrs.
To Know About Business Potential Available with ICF & Vendor Approval Process, Material will be displayed in exhibition.

Venue : Dr Ambedkar Arangam, Konnur High Road (Opp. To ICF East Colony), Integral Coach Factory, Chennai - 600 038.

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Perverse zeal

The NSA's misuse to suppress political dissent is a blot on India's democratic credentials

The detention of Dr Kafeel Khan under the National Security Act (NSA), within days of his being granted bail, betrays the perverse zeal with which the Uttar Pradesh government is hounding the suspended government doctor. His arrest, at Mumbai airport, was in connection with an allegedly inflammatory speech he had made on the contentious Citizenship (Amendment) Act at Aligarh Muslim University in December 2019. The Special Task Force of the U.P. police accused him of promoting enmity through his speech. It was obvious that the flawed approach that treats criticism of government policy as though it is some anti-national activity was at work. Although he was granted bail, he was not immediately released. A few days later, the NSA was invoked against him, ostensibly to prevent him from acting in a manner prejudicial to public order. The paediatrician from Gorakhpur was sought to be blamed when oxygen shortage in the BRD Medical College Hospital led to nearly 60 children dying in 2017. After he had spent months in jail, an internal inquiry absolved him of the charges of negligence and corruption. However, the State government said he had not been given a clean chit. A fresh departmental inquiry was ordered against him for "spreading misinformation" about the probe report, and some alleged "anti-government" remarks during his suspension.

That the authorities invoked a stringent preventive detention law meant only for booking those whose activities constitute an imminent threat of violence shows that they are not content with prosecuting him. If they were under a bona fide belief that his speech was provocative, they could have filed a charge sheet and let the court decide if it attracted Section 153A of the Indian Penal Code (IPC). The resort to preventive detention as soon as a person is granted bail, with the perverse purpose of continuing his imprisonment, is not uncommon in the country, but the practice is condemnable. It normally indicates mala fide targeting by the administration concerned, and one does not need to look beyond the case of Dr. Kafeel himself to conclude that the latest instance of the resort to the NSA is aimed at inflicting disproportionate punishment on him for expressing political dissent on a supposedly forbidden subject. It is regrettable that the police and the bureaucracy appear to act in wanton disregard for basic rights. The relentless hounding of Dr. Khan is a blot on the country's democratic credentials. Taking the cue from growing opinion, most recently articulated by Justice D.Y. Chandrachud of the Supreme Court, that protest and criticism directed at government policy do not amount to being anti-national, officials should pause before they are seen as enablers of the excesses of an authoritarian dispensation. To invoke the NSA in cases where sections of the IPC would suffice is to undermine its efficacy as a tool to protect national security.

Delhi at the centre

Kejriwal must now work within his mandate, and the Centre should not stall him

Enthusiastic his admirers and infuriating detractors, Arvind Kejriwal took oath as Chief Minister of Delhi for a third time in six years. From stomping out of office after nearly 50 days of dystopian conflict with the Centre, he reoriented his approach during his five-year tenure and focused on areas within his control to improve. Consequent administrative innovations by his government improved many lives and paid him rich electoral dividends in Delhi, where he won 62 seats in the 70-member Assembly. Inaugurating the new term, he bears the burden of ballooning expectations in Delhi and beyond. Delhi's unique status as the national capital has necessitated a diarchy in the city, where the State is forced to share authority with the Centre. Policing and most matters related to urban development are with the Centre. The Centre's obstructionism and the Delhi government's combative nature had slowed down critical development projects in the past. There cannot be a stronger, clearer message to the BJP and AAP from the people who chose, over two elections, the former for the Centre and the latter for Delhi – they must work together in the interest of the city. While the Centre must be magnanimous, the State must be conciliatory. Mr. Kejriwal made the right move by inviting Prime Minister Modi to his swearing-in ceremony.

With local sources of pollution remaining largely unaddressed, apart from court-ordered steps such as the permanent closure of the Badarpur thermal power plant in 2018 and the Graded Response Action Plan, the shortage of public buses remains one of the biggest concerns – for reducing pollution as well as improving urban mobility. Having made bus rides free for women, the AAP government has to now make sure there are enough buses. In its 10-point "Kejriwal Ka Guarantee Card", the party promised Delhites over 11,000 public buses and 500 km of Delhi Metro network. The scheme of 20,000 litres of free water to every household every month will be continued, but the quality of that supply needs to be consistent. Governments, State and Central, have spent several crores over the past decades to clean the Yamuna, but the problem remains. The Delhi government will not be able to address this problem on its own and will have to work with the Centre. Delhi has a huge housing shortage, and both governments must get their act together in implementing the long overdue land pooling policy that will provide a roof over the head for lakhs and to kick-start the sluggish sector. The Chief Minister will also need to focus on working with his counterparts in neighbouring Haryana and Uttar Pradesh to deal with the city's problems. Mr. Kejriwal has shown remarkable ability to evolve, as a politician and as an administrator. He must stay the course.

China, the media and truth-telling in a crisis

Wuhan has shown that when given the space to work, Chinese journalists can play a much-needed watchdog role



ANANTH KRISHNAN

On February 3, *Caixin*, a Chinese magazine known for its independent reporting – at least as independent as a media outlet can get in China – published the first of a four-part investigation. The article, headlined "How Wuhan lost the battle", laid bare how a month-long cover-up allowed the novel coronavirus outbreak to spread, while the Chinese public remained completely unaware. That very same day, the lead story on the front page of the *People's Daily*, the ruling Communist Party's official newspaper, reported breathlessly on how a visit by China's President Xi Jinping to a village in Qinghai province had transformed its fortunes. That visit, incidentally, was in August 2016.

A window to coverage

The two contrasting stories from two contrasting media outlets present a snapshot of how the media in China is covering the novel coronavirus outbreak, which as of February 16 has infected more than 68,500 people and claimed 1,665 lives on the mainland. In India, there is a widespread assumption that the media in China is one, single, heaving, Communist Party-controlled beast, where every article has to be signed off by the Politburo. Those perceptions, to be fair, have only deepened in the eight years since Mr. Xi took over the reins of the Party, a period that has seen a relentless tightening of controls over the media.

The Wuhan outbreak has served a reminder that below the surface, the media landscape in China remains a contested terrain, and that when given the space to work, Chinese journalists can play

a much-needed watchdog role. Unfortunately, as the crisis and cover-up has reminded us, finding this space has become all too rare. We now know, thanks to the reporting of *Caixin*, *Caijing*, the *Beijing News* and a few other outlets, that the crisis was unfolding in Wuhan's hospitals throughout December, even as the city and provincial leadership hid the scale of the outbreak. As a doctor at the Wuhan Union Hospital told *Caixin*, clinics were being flooded since late December with as many as 900 patients a day showing pneumonia-like symptoms. On December 30, eight doctors sent warnings on chat groups about the outbreak. Among the whistleblower doctors was Li Wenliang, an ophthalmologist. The eight were hauled up by police for "spreading rumours" and forced to sign statements withdrawing their claims.

Moreover, a number of doctors and medical workers began falling ill, although hospitals barred doctors from disclosing this. The provincial government would maintain until January 20 that this viral pneumonia was under control and there was no clear evidence of human-to-human transmissions – a premature and ill-considered statement that helped magnify the crisis. Indeed, on January 19, the local government even held an annual community dinner for 40,000 families. It was only the following day, when respected Chinese epidemiologist Zhong Nanshan revealed the scale of the crisis did Wuhan realise it was in the middle of an unprecedented outbreak; Dr. Zhong rose to fame during the SARS or the Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome fight, in 2002-03. And just three days later, with little warning, the entire province of Hubei would be put in quarantine – from buffet dinner to complete lockdown in 96 hours.

Structure of control

We know these facts only thanks to the brave Chinese journalists



AFP

who have been reporting relentlessly from Wuhan's ground zero. What explains the return of Chinese investigative journalism? Maria Repnikova, author of *Media Politics in China: Improvising Power Under Authoritarianism*, suggested in a recent article that the central government in Beijing has often deliberately granted limited space in times of crisis. Doing so serves at least two purposes: releasing a pressure valve that helps assuage public anger and assess public sentiment, and helping the central government better identify the source of the problem when under-fire provincial officials would be more concerned about saving their careers. The structure of control of Chinese media, to some extent, also enables such reporting. While the Hubei Party Committee would have direct control over media in their province, they have no such say over a magazine from Beijing or Shanghai. This explains why media from other provinces have led the coverage. Of course, even this is only possible because Beijing temporarily sees it as in its interest to project what Ms. Repnikova calls "an image of managed transparency".

Unfortunately, the space for such reporting is usually fleeting, as was the case after the Sichuan earthquake in 2008 and the high-speed railway accident in Wenzhou in 2011, that claimed 40 lives.

Indeed, there are already signs that the clampdown will resume. "The window now seems to be closing," the China Media Project reported on February 5, citing an internal government directive stating "reports concerning the epidemic must take [information from] authoritative departments as the standard".

The death of the whistleblower doctor Li Wenliang on February 7, after he had contracted the coronavirus, unleashed public rage on Chinese social media that was unprecedented on many levels. Perhaps the only close parallel was the public response to the Wenzhou train accident. But this time around, the scale was much larger, underlining the public anxiety and the sense of immediacy of this crisis – anyone could be affected. On WeChat, everyone, from businessmen and academics to taxi-drivers and primary schoolteachers posted tributes to Li. The lyrics of "Do you hear the people sing" from *Les Misérables* went viral, and the phrase "freedom of speech" trended briefly on the Twitter-like social media website, Weibo, before censors stepped in.

Political impact

The current crisis is perhaps the biggest challenge facing the Party in the Xi era. The Party taking the unprecedented steps of showing, for the first time, videos of leaders speaking at usually secretive Politburo Standing Committee meetings, and subsequently releasing on February 15 an internal speech by Xi, suggest it is more than a little concerned about how the public is looking at its response. In the speech, Mr. Xi said he had as early as January 7 issued orders to deal with the crisis, a rare instance of him taking the step of actually explaining the Party's actions to the public. He called for lessons to be learnt, and for ensuring "social control and security". While a prolonged crisis could certainly hurt the Party's legitimacy, an early victory in the fight against coro-

navirus – which the world will be hoping for – could still end up as a rallying call for Mr. Xi ahead of the Party's 100-year-anniversary in 2021.

While the Party may well see more control as the answer, in the view of some Chinese, however, it is a systemic culture of secrecy that prides security above all else – one that only incentivises local officials to cover up, control their media, and maintain "stability" at all costs until a crisis has spiralled beyond control – that explains the Hubei provincial government's actions. How else would they respond if "stability maintenance" is a leading criterion for a promotion? In their view, transparency is the solution, although one need only look closer to home to conclude it is perhaps a necessary but not sufficient condition to deal with such outbreaks, which require a robust and prepared health-care system too.

Winds of change?

Moreover, they see the stifling of independent Chinese voices as hurting the government's own mission of trying to convince the world of its response. When much of the media is state-controlled and there are few independent outlets mediating China's rapidly

expanding engagement with the world, scepticism will likely abound overseas, even if China ironically has, at least since January 20, been far more transparent in handling the outbreak than it was during SARS 17-18 years ago. To that end, a petition put forward by academics from the elite Tsinghua University in Beijing, Mr. Xi's alma mater, has now called to make February 7, the day of Dr. Li's passing, a national day for freedom of speech. It is perhaps too early to tell where such calls will go, and whether the current sense of anger will end up as fleeting as this revival of Chinese journalism.

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In political micro-targeting, the vulnerable Indian voter

With the electoral process tapping data, a data protection framework must uphold a voter's informational autonomy



PRASHANT SINGH &
MEGHNA SHARMA

Two years ago, there was a massive outcry against the hiring, by Indian political parties, of Cambridge Analytica, a data mining and analytics firm. The episode highlighted the need for regulating social media platforms by way of a comprehensive data protection law which takes issues such as political micro-targeting seriously. With the recently introduced draft of the data protection law, the Personal Data Protection Bill, 2019, the debate has again resurfaced. In the Internet age, any data protection law must be alive to the potential impact of social media companies in shaping public opinion. The current draft empowers the Central government to notify social media intermediaries as significant data fiduciaries if their user base crosses a certain threshold and whose actions are likely to have an impact on electoral democracy. This provision merits serious discussion to ensure that digital tools are used for enhancing democracy

through citizen engagement, and not for harvesting personal data for voter targeting.

World of political advertising

In today's world, online presence, which ensures greater outreach, is a key source of competitive advantage. This realisation gave rise to strategic efforts by political parties to tap into the fragmented political discourse by catering to the individual. Earlier, the idea was to capture mass issues. But in the present day and age, the focus of the campaign is the individual. Political parties are increasingly employing data-driven approaches to target individual voters using tailor-made messages. Such profiling has raised huge concerns of data privacy for individuals and has become a burning issue for political debate. Therefore, the concerns related to regulation of the digital world are being debated in all jurisdictions which have experienced the impact of this technological advancement.

Although, each jurisdiction may have distinct factors influencing the final shape of the Internet governance model, the reasons for the initial debate are common to all, i.e. to arrest any negative externalities emerging out of the Internet. Therefore, any forward-thinking regulatory framework needs to have both supervisory mechanisms



in place as well as effective law enforcement tools in its quiver.

This situation is not particularly characteristic of Indian politics. The United States and European countries are equally affected by the impact of this unregulated practice of micro-targeting. This practice has raised some serious concerns with regard to the kind of data that is being collected, the manner in which voters are being profiled, how transparent the process of profiling and targeting is, what the nature of functioning of organisations engaged in this business is, and how neutral globally present intermediaries such as Google and Facebook are. Recently, regulators in the U.S. and Brazil have held Cambridge Analytica guilty of employing illegal practices while harvesting personal data of millions of Facebook users.

Over the years, political advisory and advertising firms have de-

vised sophisticated tools to gather voter data and made proper campaign products out of it. The politicians of today's age leave no stone unturned while canvassing for votes. The reason why this issue becomes important is that the passive users are just not aware of what they are being subjected to.

Unregulated zone

The informational autonomy of the voter is under serious threat because the entire business of collecting personal data continues to remain unregulated and is also proprietary in nature. It is extremely difficult to trace the methods used by such firms to scrutinise the personal life and intimate details of the individual. This threat becomes imminent in light of the rising number of political firms which are making most use of the right to freedom of speech and expression. The status of this right is near absolute with regard to political speech in most countries such as the U.S. It is but obvious that this can be misused by political entities. Profiling the potential voter has become a thriving industry. Therefore, there are extremely well-crafted techniques when it comes to electoral campaigning.

There is serious harm to the country's democratic nature resulting on account of loss of infor-

mational autonomy. The liberating and anti-establishment potential of the Internet are considered as a promise for the health of a liberal democracy. At the same time, it can have serious ramifications if this potential is used by demagogues to spread fake news and propaganda.

Although the digital revolution is being celebrated everywhere, the regulatory efforts regarding different spheres of its influence have only been reactionary. While innovators have continued to develop more advanced technologies, the regulators have never been able to catch up with it. There are infinite contours of this information age; hence, the scope of a data protection framework also needs to be sensitive towards the magnitude of a variety of data usage. The electoral process in India is becoming increasingly advanced in terms of use of data. It is highly likely that within a few years, Indian political parties may start using the same tactics as used by their U.S. counterparts in targeting individual voters. It remains to be seen as to how the privacy law responds to the implications of political micro-targeting.

Prashant Singh is a Delhi-based lawyer. Meghna Sharma works as Programme Officer, National Centre for Promotion of Employment for Disabled People



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.

In the name of 'nation'

The two most abused terms in a democracy are "national interest" and "national security". They are used to curb citizens' rights and to pull wool over people's eyes. We should not forget that everything Hitler did was in what he considered to be 'national interest' and yet he took Germany efficiently and determinedly on a path to ruin. The rise of Hitler in the inter-war years was possible because the silent majority in his country saw in Hitler's ascent a manifestation of the 'national German pride'. Similarly, the dilution of Article 370 in 2019 was done in the name of 'national interest' and 'national security'. If the dilution was meant to facilitate Jammu and

Kashmir (J&K)'s integration into the national mainstream, why did the government hold on to the Kashmir-specific Public Safety Act (PSA)? Here, in Goa, Section 144 has been imposed citing the excuse of 'terror threats'. The reality is, for authoritarian governments, the biggest threat comes not from external enemies but from its own citizens. This is when elements in the jurisprudence such as Section 144, PSA and Section 124A, dealing with sedition, come into play. While the British Empire used the sedition law to curb free speech during India's independence struggle, the present government is using it to silence and harass those with divergent opinions, activists

and protesters. Britain repealed this law in 2009 while we in India continue to have it in our statute books. Mysteriously, the 'national interest' always converges with the political interests of whichever party or leader is in power. Considering this, a true patriot must always be ready to defend his country against his government. D.C. DIAS, Taleigao, Goa

Missing in action

There cannot be a bigger falsehood than Pakistan's claim to the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) that the international terrorist Masood Azhar and his family are 'missing' (Front page, "Masood Azhar & family missing, Pak. tells financial watchdog FATF," Feb. 16).

The international community, hopefully, has not forgotten Islamabad's denials of Osama bin Laden's presence in the country, later proved to be false when the 9/11 mastermind was found to be hiding in an Abbottabad mansion located near a military academy. Pakistan's assertions will not find many takers this time among observers. K. VIJAYARAGHAVAN, Hyderabad

■ Pakistan has taken no real action against any of the terror networks and terrorists operating from its soil. The country is not willing to give up its confrontational attitude over Kashmir and needs the support of the likes of Azhar. It won't be surprising if, after the fear of blacklisting by the

FATF is warded off, the deep state there prevails upon the judiciary to get the recently convicted Jamaat-ud-Dawa leader Hafiz Saeed freed. S.S. PAUL, Chakdaha, Nadia, West Bengal

A common man's CM

By sharing the stage with Delhi's *safai karamcharis* (sanitation workers) during his swearing-in ceremony, Arvind Kejriwal once again proved that he is the Chief Minister of the common people. For political parties, people's involvement in our democracy often ends at polling booths. Spots at the

CORRECTIONS & CLARIFICATIONS:

In the report headlined "Slapping Section 144 during CAA protests 'illegal': Karnataka High Court" (Feb. 15, 2020), there was an erroneous reference to the Bengaluru City Police Commissioner imposing Section 144 of the Code of Civil Procedure. It should have been the Code of Criminal Procedure.

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swearing-in ceremonies are reserved for VIPs. Mr. Kejriwal has attempted to shatter this kind of 'democracy'. The Aam Aadmi Party (AAP)'s victory is partly because the group has made the umbilical cord relationship democracy must have with the people stronger. It has served its voters not merely through words but through deeds, by really providing or trying to provide the common people with better living conditions. SUKUMARAN C.V., Palakkad, Kerala

A ND-NDE

Museums without meaning

Recent declarations regarding the preservation of India's heritage leave many questions unanswered



NACHIKET CHANCHANI



At the Bhau Daji Lad Museum in Mumbai, curators are destabilising received narratives by juxtaposing artefacts crafted in the colonial period with site-specific contemporary artworks. ■ SHASHI ASHWAL

On a visit to Kolkata last month, Prime Minister Narendra Modi opened an exhibition; inaugurated a sound and light show at Howrah Bridge; and announced that five art museums in Chennai, Delhi, Kolkata, Hyderabad, and Srinagar will be upgraded to international standards. His announcement follows a spate of declarations. Over the next few years, North and South Block buildings that flank Rashtrapati Bhavan will be converted into museums, a national experiential archaeology museum will open at Vadnagar, and a hundred new experiential museums may be built across the country.

These announcements leave elementary questions unanswered. Where does the government plan to build new museums? How will objects be sourced to be displayed in them? Who will staff these museums? What narratives will be recounted in new institutions and those that are to be renovated? All we know from officials is that they will be stunning spaces modelled on the Acropolis Museum in Athens and other world-class museums.

A striking contrast
Good art museums worldwide share several characteristics. At their heart are commitments to serve as stewards of cultural common wealth, ensure that objects in their care are lawfully held, and promote research into objects with an aim of deepening public knowledge of the human experience. They also strive to acquire and occasionally deaccession objects without boosting illegal trade in such artefacts. Club Atlético in Buenos Aires and the Topography of Terror in Berlin, both located at excavated sites of detention and torture, are examples of thoughtful experiential archaeological museums. They use trenches, exhumed artefacts, and testimonies to turn visitors variously into witnesses of open wounds, observers of the meticulous evidence-gathering work of archaeologists, and informed participants

in struggles for social justice.

Consider, in contrast, experiments with truth at Rajkot in Gujarat. As dust settles on artefacts in the city's Watson Museum that hold intricate histories of colonial Saurashtra, Alfred High School has reopened its doors as the Mahatma Gandhi Museum. In one gallery, visitors encounter the "scenario in India when Gandhiji came back from South Africa in 1915." This takes the form of a collage of doctored, uncredited, and untitled images of events that did not occur that year. One image in the collage is based on Felice Beato's photograph of an execution held in Lucknow during the Revolt of 1857-58, another on Willoughby Hooper's photograph of victims of the Madras Famine of 1876-78 at a relief camp, and a third on A.G.E. Newland's photograph of junior British officers lounging in Burma around 1892. Elsewhere in this museum, Madame Tussaud-style sculptures take the place of archival prints, and florid banners replace personal papers.

From what is publicly known of the government's deliberations on founding an Indian Institute of Heritage and Conservation it is unclear whether such an establishment will remedy the situation. The proposed institution seems to be little more than bringing existing organisations under a new umbrella. If the proposed institution is to make a real difference, then it must partner with educational institutions across the country to foster a widespread interest in the historian's craft. It should also draw on the expertise of those visually attuned humanists and social scientists who separate scholarship from spectacle and listen to voices of persons marginalised on account of their race, class, gender, ethnicity, or religion.

The meaning of heritage

Furthermore, before new museums and overhauled galleries open their doors to the public, as Indians we all need to reflect on what heritage means to us. Is heritage something that we have somehow received in sealed containers? Or is heritage a material, or even an intangible trace, of a past reformed by its contact with manifold individuals who have handled it since its initial creation? If so, how will placing heritage in vitrines and vestibules alter identities and values? In probing these questions, we might want to learn from historians who have written on the politics of exhibition, nationalism, and religious revivalism.

We may also want to imbibe from

the work of skilled hands. At the Bhau Daji Lad Museum in Mumbai, curators are destabilising received narratives by juxtaposing artefacts crafted in the colonial period with site-specific contemporary artworks. At Amritsar's Partition Museum, teams are telling many sides of human stories that accompanied the birth of two nations. At the Jadunath Bhawan Museum in Kolkata, not only has the architectural fabric of a scholar's residence been preserved but space created to house endangered archives that hold the promise of writing histories of the metropolis, from the ground up.

Finally, a growing number of monuments across the country are being illuminated every night. This new development sequesters monuments from surroundings and condenses complex architectural fabrics into spectacular facades, well-suited for serving as backdrops against which visitors might pose for selfies. Sanchi Stupa, Rani ki Vav, Red Fort, a temple at Hampi, and a few other buildings have begun to be printed on our banknotes. These photographic and printed images are vicariously bringing millions into daily contact with a few iconic sites. Meanwhile, innumerable other places of archaeological and historical significance standing across India are slowly slipping away from our collective consciousness.

Forward-thinking master plans for the preservation and interpretation of numerous sites have not been articulated – or at least not been publicly released. Is this because these sites hold narratives that the government is reluctant to recognise? Or because they hold histories that government archaeologists are unable to unearth? We also need to train an army of historians to uncover and write new cultural histories of India that demonstrate how every artifact and architectural ensemble is a receptacle of incredible true stories, or, if you will, histories of resilience and resistance, adaptations and aspirations of individuals and communities. When we demand the retrieval, recording, and narration of these histories, then we will all be able to critically appreciate the wonder that was India – a museum without walls.

Nachiket Chanchani is an associate professor at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, U.S.

FROM THE READERS' EDITOR

Strident nationalism and rigorous journalism

Journalists always have to verify information before publication



A.S. PANNEERSELVAN

There seems to be little introspection in the government about what led to the deadly attack in Pulwama in Jammu and Kashmir a year ago. We do not know what steps the state has taken to prevent such dastardly attacks from taking place in future.

Like the state, can journalism too afford to not introspect? When a section of the media hyped up India's retaliatory strikes in Balakot, Pakistan, and its dogfight with Pakistani jets that led to the capture of Wing Commander Abhinandan Varthaman, this newspaper did it its duty by merely reporting facts. It did not provide fodder for propaganda.

Journalism and propaganda

My column titled "The difference between journalism and propaganda" (March 4, 2019) was subjected to a savage attack for not being "nationalistic" enough. It was written at a time when many believed that there were major strategic gains to be made with the Balakot strikes in Pakistan, and that the Indian Air Force shot down an F-16. While media propagandists were busy putting out unverified numbers of terrorists killed in the offensive, *The Hindu* decided to stick to reporting facts which it could either verify or attribute to a responsible authority. It consciously decided not to publish claims of military success by anonymous sources. The lack of accountability made selective plants in the media not only look suspicious but also violated the information environment. When eye-witness accounts of the Balakot strikes emerged in the international media (Indian journalists do not have access to Pakistan), discerning readers understood the difference between journalism and propaganda.

A year later, as this newspaper pointed out in its report, "Many loose ends hamper probe into Pulwama attack" (February 15, 2020), the National Investigation Agency has not been able to trace the source of high-grade explosives used by the car-borne suicide bomber. There is little or no inquiry into the intelligence failure that led to the attack. The dramatic arrest of Davinder Singh, Deputy Superintendent of the J&K Police, on January 11 when he was supposedly ferrying

two Hizbul Mujahideen terrorists, Naveed Mushtaq alias Babu and Altaf, as well as an unidentified lawyer who allegedly worked as an overground worker for terror groups, makes the issue murkier as Singh was posted in Pulwama.

Nationalism and patriotism

In my column, "Retaining the ability to question" (April 8, 2019), I invoked a George Orwell quote – "In a time of deceit telling the truth is a revolutionary act" – to explain the newspaper's meticulous reports on the U.S.'s count of F-16 planes in Pakistan. Orwell's 1943 resignation letter from the BBC has been a guiding light to many journalists to hold on to journalistic principles in the light of overwhelming governmental propaganda.

The author of 1984 also wrote an essay called "Notes on nationalism" which listed out the various blinkers generated by the notion of nationalism. Orwell made a clear distinction between the enabling idea of patriotism and the debilitating imagination of nationalism. It is important that this essay is read not only by journalists, but also by citizens to guard against the hijacking of our democratic rights by demagogues. In a searing passage, Orwell explained the trappings of nationalism: "Every nationalist is haunted by the belief that the past can be altered. He spends part of his time in a fantasy world in which things happen as they should – in which, for example, the Spanish Armada was a success or the Russian Revolution was crushed in 1918 – and he will transfer fragments of this world to the history books whenever possible. Much of the propagandist writing of our time amounts to plain forgery. Material facts are suppressed, dates altered, quotations removed from their context and doctored so as to change their meaning."

Journalism has survived various bouts of strident nationalism. But the present variant has a new complication in the form of digital multiplicities and algorithm-driven manipulations. For instance, Google maps shows two different versions of Kashmir: one for users accessing the Internet from India and one for those outside the geographical border of the country. Unlike algorithm-driven selective interpretations of events, which in many cases lie between half-truths and blatant lies, journalism refers to the act of first verifying information and only then publishing it.

readerseditor@thehindu.co.in

An unclear revamp

There is no clarity on whether the recent MEA restructuring aligns with India's strategic goals

MUKUL SANWAL

The restructuring of the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) to effectively empower seven different Additional Secretaries and re-organise their tasks along themes has been widely reported. There is less discussion on whether strategic goals have been updated and how the new capabilities mesh with expected outcomes.

Identifying areas of longer-term impact, empowering Additional Secretaries to oversee integrated tasks and giving Secretaries more time to strategise are laudable objectives of the organisational change. Inducting outside expertise in areas such as trade and economics, and cultural power and development partnerships is also needed as the contours of these issues are more technical than diplomatic.

That apart, negotiations in international organisations require understanding the negotiating strategy of others; listing compromises made in the past to secure lost ground; and assessing in advance implications of the inevitable trade-offs that are made at the final stage. But India's civil service tenure rules do not recognise the importance of negotiation history and global trends. For example, in climate change since the early 1990s, the same diplomats from the U.S., European Union, Russia, China and Saudi Arabia remained involved for the duration of serious negotiations for over 20 years.

Integration of two verticals
Consolidated territorial divisions reflect changing geopolitical realities in Europe, Africa and West Asia, but how are our vital interests affected by the integration of the Indian Ocean and Indo-Pacific regions into one vertical?

We see the region, as the Prime Minister stated in the Shangri-La Dialogue in Singapore, in 2018, as a "free, open, and inclusive" region, not "directed against any country," with "Southeast Asia at its centre." But are relations with ASEAN part of the vertical's remit? How will it interact with the other new verticals on international organisations and trade? Have India's priorities changed on maritime security?

It is also unclear why we are focusing to this extent on 'soft power,' or on shaping the preferences of others in terms of culture, instead of sharing the technology layer powering Aadhaar, in which many other countries have been showing an interest.

The missing piece in the restructuring is silence on the role of the Public Policy and Research Division, now headed by an outstanding officer. It was central in an earlier round of restructuring with inclusion of military officials and consultants from academia and think-tanks.

In reply to a Parliament question, Sushma Swaraj, former External Affairs Minister, had described the Division's mandate in terms of publication of the Annual Report of the Ministry, preparation of the Monthly Summary of important developments for the Cabinet, and supervision of the functioning of the MEA Boundary Cell, MEA Situation Room and MEA Library. No assessment of the Division's coordinating role has been shared outside the Ministry, if it has been made.

Unrealised potential

This raises the question of whether the persisting gap between our potential to play a global role and performance, which shows us more as a regional power, has been addressed. This would require us to understand why there is a gap in identifying decisions and actions that are more important than others, and in making difficult choices about what is most important. Have we assessed the future impact and consequences of today's decisions? What is the new vision of the MEA?

In a fast-changing global environment, resources need to be concentrated on a limited number of objectives, to be achieved within a defined time-frame. The institutions and rules established by the U.S. and the Belt and Road Initiative of China are examples. What is our 'big idea'? As the diplomats and the Chief of Defence Staff work out their new roles, they need to recognise that rearranging silos does not dilute the role of politicians and of officials in working across departmental boundaries.

Mukul Sanwal is a former envoy at the UN



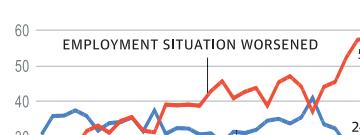
DATA POINT

Low confidence persists

Consumer confidence nosedived to a five-year low in January 2020, according to a routine RBI survey conducted in 5,389 households across 13 cities. The perception about the employment situation, price levels and household income remained weak in January. As the recent rise in prices was more pronounced in food items, consumers reported higher spending on essential items. By **The Hindu Data Team**

EMPLOYMENT SITUATION

About 58% respondents felt that the employment situation had worsened in Jan. 2020, the highest such share since at least June 2014. Chart plots the % share of respondents who felt that the jobs situation had improved or worsened



PRICE LEVELS

Since May 2019, the % of consumers who said that price levels have increased has steadily grown and reached a high in January 2020. In the recent round, over 90% of consumers said price levels have gone up



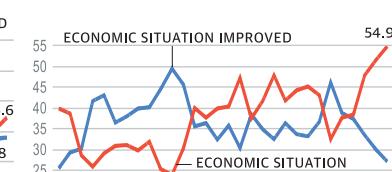
INCOME LEVELS

While most consumers felt that prices are up, many also felt that their income levels have come down. Since March 2019, more people feel that their income levels have decreased than those who feel that they have increased



ECONOMIC SITUATION

In January 2020, the perception about the general economic situation was at its lowest in 6 months. About 55% of the respondents perceived the situation to have weakened, the biggest such share since at least June 2014



The Hindu

FROM THE ARCHIVES

FIFTY YEARS AGO FEBRUARY 17, 1970

Britain on the brink

(From an editorial)

To prepare the public for the talks with the six members of the European Economic Community next summer regarding British entry into the Common Market, the Wilson Government has issued a White Paper. From all accounts, the memorandum came as a bit of shock to the layman who had been led to believe that Britain would benefit enormously from entry. He knew, of course, that it would cost something to integrate agriculture with the Europeans. But it seems that, even in the industrial sphere, it will be a long time before the economies of scale will take effect. However, the crucial argument for entry into West Europe is the political one. As the White Paper puts it, "the Government's purpose derives above all from our recognition that Europe is now faced with the opportunity of a great move forward in political unity and that we can – and indeed we must – play our full part in it". The vision of a West Europe that could become a great power capable of dealing on equal terms with the United States and Russia inspired General de Gaulle to welcome the Common Market but he raised a veto against Britain because London seemed to cling to the U.S. and to its special relations with the Commonwealth.

A HUNDRED YEARS AGO FEB. 17, 1920.

British Guiana and Fiji deputations
Mr. M.K. Gandhi writes in the 'Young India'
There are at present two deputations from the overseas. The one headed by its Attorney-General Dr. Numan is from British Guiana, and the other by the Bishop of Polynesia is from Fiji. Both have arrived for the purpose of obtaining Indian labour. Hitherto both have had indentured labour. In both, the existing indentures have only just been cancelled. His Excellency, the Viceroy, put the popular case very clearly when he said that India could not be expected to consider the convenience of the colonies at her own expense nor could the Government of India prevent free Indian emigration if there were Indians who wanted to go with a view to bettering their own position. The question for us, however, to consider is, do we want Indian labour to go to these colonies, and, if we do, are the terms such as would make the Indian morally and materially better? In my opinion, we want all the labour we have in India. A willing labourer has ample scope

FROM PAGE ONE

Kejriwal takes oath for third term

The new politics is "of schools, hospitals, 24-hour and cheap power supply, water, roads, women's security, corruption-free Delhi" and is being discussed all over the country, he said.

He also said that initiatives like *mohalla clinics* are being replicated across the country and abroad.

Kejriwal's parents, wife Sunita, and daughter Harshita also attended the swearing-in ceremony. Supporters also poured in from several states, including Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu and Telangana.

(With PTI inputs)

Video of police brutality in Jamia library goes viral

It highlighted that multiple Twitter accounts were using the university's name which was causing confusion. It also said any communication from the Jamia Coordination Committee (JCC), spearheading the protests against the CAA in front of

the university, should not be treated as official university communication.

A senior university official, however, said the footage was authentic and from the CCTV camera at the MPhil and PhD section of the university's old library.

JEM has a free run in Pakistan, say officials

They say Masood Azhar has been kept out of public view

DEVESHE K. PANDEY
NEW DELHI

UN-designated terrorist and Jaish-e-Mohammed (JeM) chief Masood Azhar has been kept out of public view by Pakistan to evade further sanctions of the Financial Action Task Force (FATF). However, the outfit continues to raise funds and indulge in terror activities, according to enforcement agencies.

After the Pulwama attack in February 2019, Azhar's movements were restricted. "He currently stays in Rawalpindi and Islamabad safe-houses and has been meeting Taliban and Haqqani network functionaries," a senior official said.

The outfit is raising funds and operating under the direct command of his family.

Azhar has been interacting with his followers through text messages. The latest one attributed to him was released on January 30 and circulated among JeM cadres, targeting the Indian government.

The agencies claim to have recorded the recent activities of the outfit. On January 15, its prominent functionaries attended an event



Out of view: After the Pulwama attack in February 2019, Mazood Azhar's movements were restricted. •PTI

in Markaz Sanan Bil Salma in Peshawar.

The next day, Azhar's younger brother Talha Saif was present at the release of a book titled *Saifullahi Nisbat*, authored by the outfit's chief. Saif said the JeM Amir [Azhar] had "sacrificed his freedom" for the cause.

In the run-up to the FATF meet, among those arrested by the Pakistani authorities in January was Azhar's another younger brother Abdul Rauf Asghar, who is the JeM's operations chief. However, as alleged, he was released later.

Among those also let off were Masood Ilyas Qasimi, who heads the outfit's preaching wing, Abdur Rauf (JeM head in Rajanpur), Abu Jundal Shafique (JeM head in

Punjab police bust Pak. link in drug trail

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
CHANDIGARH

The Punjab police on Sunday said its probe into the drugs trail exposed by the arrest of gangster Sukhpreet Singh has revealed further links of Jagdeep Singh and Gurvinder Singh, who were arrested three days ago, to expose a powerful nexus traced to Pakistan.

"Pakistan SIM cards have been recovered from the duo, both residents of Taran Taran," said an official statement, adding that the accused were arrested in a joint operation of the Organized Crime Control Unit (OCCU) and S.A.S. Nagar Police.

"They were booked under Section 21 of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act," it added.

Investigations so far have revealed that the duo, who had been absconding since 2014-15, had received large quantity of heroin and fake Indian currency from Pakistan through various modes. They were wanted by the Directorate Revenue Intelligence (DRI), Rajasthan police and Punjab police in cases related to receiving huge consignments of heroin from Pakistan," said the statement.

The Department of Telecom will take action after evaluating the sums paid.

₹1.47 lakh crore in AGR dues as per the Supreme Court order dated October 24, 2019. The deadline to pay the amount ended on January 23, but none of the telecom operators, except Reliance Jio, has paid its dues, including state-owned BSNL and MTNL.

Asked about telecom operators having sought time to assess the amount they have to pay, the DoT official said the court gave them three months to do so and even after missing January 23 deadline, the operators had sufficient time to calculate their dues.

"Before the due date, DoT has sent telecom operators 4 notices and reminders to pay to avoid punitive action," the source said.

State can conduct own probe, says Sharad Pawar

'Centre's taking over of Elgar Parishad case improper'

STAFF REPORTER
PUNE

While the Union government has the right to assign certain cases to the National Investigation Agency (NIA), it is improper to take over the Elgar Parishad case without taking the Maharashtra government into confidence, Nationalist Congress Party (NCP) chief Sharad Pawar said on Sunday.

Addressing a gathering at Jalgaon in north Maharashtra on Sunday, Mr. Pawar said the State government had the right to launch an independent investigation.

He asked if the Union government was shielding the Devendra Fadnavis government that was in power in the State at the time of the Bhima Koregaon clashes of January 1, 2018, and the Pune police for its investigation into the Elgar Parishad.

Sedition case
"In the Elgar Parishad case, the Pune police have slapped cases of sedition and arrested persons who had no link to the clashes but were vocal in expressing their dissent of the Central government through their



C Does merely expressing dissenting views amount to anti-national activity?
SHARAD PAWAR
NCP President

writings. Does merely expressing dissenting views amount to anti-national activity?" Mr. Pawar asked.

Mr. Pawar, who had urged the constitution of an SIT after publicly casting aspersions on the Pune police's investigation, recently expressed displeasure at Chief Minister Uddhav Thackeray's decision to give consent to the transfer of the Elgar Parishad case to the NIA.

However, the NCP chief, who had earlier expressed disappointment in Mr. Thackeray's decision to agree to the transfer of the case to the NIA, was cautious in stating that it was the Chief Minister's prerogative to do so.

Meanwhile, State Home Minister and NCP leader Anil Deshmukh has said that the State government had sought legal opinion to form an SIT to probe the Pune Police's actions in the Elgar Parishad case.

The model of an Aadhaar-linked electronic voting system, which will enable electors to cast their votes from any part of the country – irrespective of where they are registered to vote – or even abroad, is being prepared for the Election Commission of India by the Indian Institute of Technology-Madras (IIT-M), ECI officials said.

The model is likely to be presented before the Commission next month and if approved, a prototype can be ready by the year-end or early next year, Deputy Election Commissioner Sandeep Saxena told *The Hindu*. If the project is given the go-ahead by the EC, election laws will have to be

Poll panel working on remote voting system

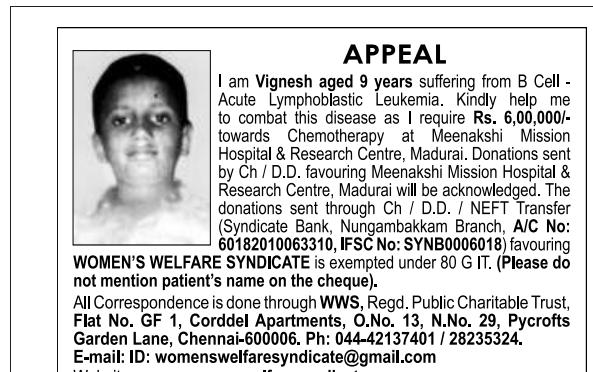
IIT-Madras is providing the technology

DAMINI NATH
NEW DELHI

changed. "The IIT-M is developing a system for two-way remote voting in controlled environment using blockchain technology. It will have to be integrated with our ERO Net so if a person votes remotely, the electoral roll will reflect that," he said. With the proposed linking of Aadhaar with voter IDs at an "advanced stage", the official said, the two-way system would be possible only when the linking is complete.

The ECI had used a one-way electronic system for service electors for the first time in the 2019 Lok Sabha elections.

The postal ballots were transmitted electronically to the service electors, which led to an increased turnout or 60.14%.



APPEAL
I am Vignesh aged 9 years suffering from B Cell - Acute Lymphoblastic Leukaemia. Kindly help me to combat this disease as I require Rs. 6,00,000/- towards Chemotherapy at Meenakshi Mission Hospital & Research Centre, Madurai. Donations sent by Ch / D.D. favouring Meenakshi Mission Hospital & Research Centre, Madurai will be acknowledged. The donations sent through Ch / D.D. / NEFT Transfer (Syncode Bank, Nungambakkam Branch, A/C No: 6018201006310, FSC No: SYNB0006010) favouring WOMEN'S WELFARE SYNDICATE is exempted under 80 G IT. (Please do not mention patient's name on the cheque).

All Correspondence is done through WWS, Regd. Public Charitable Trust, Flat No. GF 1, Onddel Appartments, N.M. No. 29, Pyrfect Garden Lane, Chennai-600016. Ph. 044-42137401 / 28235324. E-mail ID: womenswelfaresyndicate@gmail.com Website: www.womenswelfaresyndicate.org

Vignesh

Kejriwal wants to get on with governance now

Signalling his desire to end the politics of confrontation, the AAP chief says he wants to work with everyone

AMIT BARUAH
NEW DELHI

Arvind Kejriwal sounded more chief ministerial as he commenced his third term as Delhi's chief executive in less than seven years.

In his speech to tens of thousands of people at Ram-lila Maidan on Sunday after being sworn-in, Mr. Kejriwal sounded mellow, confident and aware of the challenges ahead.



All aboard: An AAP supporter at the swearing-in of Arvind Kejriwal on Sunday. Political support cutting across religion, caste and class stand the Delhi CM in good stead. •SHIV KUMAR PUSHPAKAR

efforts came a cropper.

"I want to work with everyone," the Chief Minister announced, pointing out that he had invited Prime Minister Narendra Modi for the swearing-in function on Sunday, but the Prime Minister

could not make it due to other commitments. Mr. Kejriwal went to the extent of saying that he wanted the blessings of the Prime Minister to develop Delhi.

Underlining the change in tack, no Chief Minister from

NEWS ANALYSIS

any Opposition-run State was invited to Sunday's ceremony, sending a clear signal that Mr. Kejriwal was not interested in beginning his

third term on a confrontational note.

Given the multiple sources of authority in Delhi and the fact that the Delhi police are very much under the firm control of the Union Home Ministry, Mr. Kejriwal's effort appears to be able to get on with the job of governance.

Dikshit's playbook

Former Congress Chief Minister Sheila Dikshit, who worked under this same system, took pains to ensure that she worked with the Centre under two Prime Ministers – Atal Bihari Vajpayee of the BJP and Manmohan Singh of the Congress. Mr. Kejriwal is, perhaps, taking a leaf out of the late Chief Minister's book.

By retaining the same Cabinet as in 2015, the Chief Minister has signalled continuity and also put the lid on the ambitions of new contenders. Many analyses after the

current Assembly election suggest that women workers turned out in large numbers and it remains to be seen what role Mr. Kejriwal gives to the women elected as MLAs on AAP ticket.

Given his stress on governance and delivery (*kaam ki rajniti* as he has called it time and again), expectations from Mr. Kejriwal and his team are sky high as he commences his third term.

Mr. Kejriwal also stressed he had forgiven his opponents for all the name calling and allegations during the campaign, and promised to be the Chief Minister for all voters irrespective of political affiliation, religion, caste or whether they were poor or rich.

The AAP Chief Minister will be closely watched, but his solid political support cutting across religion, caste, class and ethnicity will stand him in good stead.

India rejects Guterres mediation offer

Concerned about Kashmir: UN chief

SUHASINI HAIDAR
NEW DELHI

The government has rejected the latest offer by UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres to mediate between India and Pakistan on the Kashmir issue, saying that it would only discuss the matter bilaterally.

Speaking in Islamabad at the beginning of a four-day visit to Pakistan, Mr. Guterres had said he had offered his offices and was "ready to help if both countries agree for mediation."

In a response late on Sunday evening, the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) official spokesperson said, "The issue of [Jammu and Kashmir] that needs to be addressed is that of vacating of the territories illegally and forcibly occupied by Pakistan. Further issues, if any, would be discussed bilaterally. There is no role or scope for third party mediation."

The spokesperson added that India hopes the UN Secretary General would "emphasise on the imperative for Pakistan to take credible, sustained and irreversible action to put an end to cross-border terrorism against India."

Mr. Guterres was speak-



C India and Pakistan should de-escalate, both militarily and verbally
ANTONIO GUTERRES
UN Secretary General

ing to journalists in Islamabad ahead of a conference on Afghan refugees hosted by the UNHCR and the Pakistan government, which will be inaugurated by Pakistan Prime Minister Imran Khan on Monday.

Kartarpur visit
Mr. Guterres will also travel to the Kartarpur gurdwara and see the pilgrim corridor with India, which he described as a "unique experiment in cross-border ties".

Asked about the situation in J&K, he said he was "deeply concerned" and called on India and Pakistan to "de-escalate, both militarily and verbally".

Geelani stable, says J&K govt.

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
SRINAGAR

The Jammu and Kashmir government on Sunday said ailing Hurriyat chairman Syed Ali Geelani, 90, was stable and conscious. The Valley's popular Sunday Market was shut in the wake of rumours about deterioration in his health.

"The condition of senior political leader Syed Ali Geelani is stable, and he is conscious, cooperative and oriented," A.G. Ahangar, Director, Sher-i-Kashmir Institute of Medical Sciences, said here.

In a letter to J&K Chief Electoral Officer Shalendra Kumar, NC central secretary Rattan Lal Gupta said: "We reiterate our commitment to strengthening democracy at the grassroots level."

However, the NC spokesman said it had become practically impossible for the party to participate in the democratic process as the top leadership, including Farooq Abdullah, Omar Abdullah and Ali Muhammad Sagar, had been arrested under the Public Safety Act (PSA).

CPI(M) secretary G.N. Malik said the political situation in J&K was not conducive for polls.

The Congress, which participated in the 2018 elections, alleged that a particular party was being provided with every facility, including security, and free passage. The PDP is yet to decide on these polls.

PDP leader Firdous Tak said most of the leaders, who were part of the Political Affairs Committee, were behind the bars and booked under the PSA. "We are not even in position to discuss panchayat polls," he said.

CPI(M) secretary G.N. Malik said the political situation in J&K was not conducive for polls.

The Congress, which participated in the 2018 elections, alleged that a particular party was being provided with every facility, including security, and free passage.

"The party will hold a meeting soon on the participation," said Congress leader Ghulam Nabi Monga.

INTERVIEW | MONTEK SINGH AHLUWALIA

'We are not growing at the rate needed to reach the \$5 trillion target'

Former Planning Commission Deputy Chairman says steps taken by the government are not going to succeed in reviving private investment

SANDEEP PHUKAN

Reaching a \$5 trillion economy will require a GDP growth of 9% and revival of private investment, which the Union Budget does not address, says former Planning Commission Deputy Chairman Montek Singh Ahluwalia. His latest book, *Backstage*, offers an insider's view of how economic policies were formulated during the UPA tenure.

From a 'Hindu rate of growth', we are talking about a \$5 trillion economy by 2024-25. Is it possible in this time frame?

■ To reach the \$5 trillion target by 2024-25, the economy has to grow at something close to 9% starting with 2019-20. [But] We are going to end the year 2019-20 with growth below 5%. The economy may have bottomed out and next year, growth will be somewhere between 5% and 6% on optimistic assumptions.

But with that pace of recovery, we will not get to \$5 trillion in 2024-25. We must acknowledge that we are not growing at the kind of growth rate needed to reach that target. We will get to \$5

trillion ultimately, but not by 2024-25.

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman recently said there were green shoots and the economy was not really in trouble. You, too, have said the economy may have bottomed out.

■ Bottoming out just means that next year will be better than 4.5%. You could claim to have bottomed out if growth next year is above 5%. But it would be wrong, on that basis, to say the economy is not in trouble. What people are now looking for, is a quick and strong recovery.

What we are likely to get is a rather slow recovery. And there is no evidence of an

early return to 8%-plus, which is what we need.

Many experts have said the focus of the government has been wrong – instead of pushing consumption, focus has been on the supply side.

■ For a cyclical revival, you have to look at the demand side and I don't think the actions taken so far will actually have the impact that is expected on the demand side. I think the key areas on the demand side are reviving investment and reviving exports. I don't believe that the steps taken are going to succeed in reviving private investment.

Private investment is subdued because of a lack of animal spirits. Investors, who have the capacity to invest, are not able to get credit from the banks. Banks are not extending credit because they are very cautious. Some people have also talked of a fear factor depressing investment. Many people say that our tax laws have become so



There is a perception that we are not adopting totally transparent methods of producing data

widespread perception that we are not adopting totally transparent methods of producing and clearing data. We did change the method of calculating Gross Domestic Product [GDP]. And the way it's calculated, the negative impact of demonetisation on the informal sector was not

reflected in GDP growth.

There have been other instances when survey [NSSO] data have been held up and trashed.

You have seen several Prime Ministers from close quarters. Who do you think was the most decisive and also a quick decision-maker?

■ That is very difficult because each Prime Minister operated in a different political and economic context. Indira Gandhi's decision to go in for imported wheat seeds was a highly controversial decision at the time, but we wouldn't have had the Green Revolution now.

I worked directly in the office of Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi, and he was the first to signal the need for getting ready for the 21st century. He said in Parliament that we could not expect to be competing with other countries if we were working with systems that were 20 years out of date.

Under Prime Minister Na-

rasimha Rao's government, very dramatic changes were made. He gets full marks for backing his Finance Minister [Dr. Manmohan Singh], who orchestrated a broad-ranging reform programme. Prime Minister [A.B.] Vajpayee continued the reforms and also brought in privatisation.

In the case of the UPA 1, the coalition by itself didn't have a majority and had to depend on the Left for outside support. And of course, Dr. Singh was not the political head of the Congress. Nevertheless, working within those constraints, in the first seven years of the UPA, we saw a growth rate of 8.4%, which had never been seen earlier. The Indo-U.S. nuclear deal was a very bold decision by Prime Minister Manmohan Singh taken in the face of opposition.

If you were to advise this government on key issues, what will you tell it to do?

■ In my book, I have outlined a number of ideas which I

think should be on the future agenda. The bottomline is that the government should outline a credible action plan to get the economy back to 8% growth as quickly as possible.

Reviving private investment and rejuvenating public sector banks is critical. We also need to bring about much-needed reform in GST. In all this, we need the widest possible consultation, listening to expert opinion outside the government.

But to do this, we need to be realistic. If we feel we are on track to hit the \$5 trillion target, nothing more needs to be done. The trouble is we are not. The problems are very clear. We have to get the GDP growth up to 8% as quickly as possible. Unless we do this, we will not be able to generate the jobs we need. We also need to improve our export performance which has actually deteriorated.

(For full interview, visit <http://bit.ly/AhluwaliaInterview>)

It will be 'Namaste Trump' at Motera

Officials have planned a 22-km roadshow from airport to Sabarmati Ashram and from there to stadium

MAHESH LANGA
AHMEDABAD

It's neither "Kem Chho Trump" nor "Namaste President Trump". The mega event at the Motera stadium here will be called 'Namaste Trump', with U.S. President Donald Trump and Prime Minister Narendra Modi addressing 1.25 lakh people at the venue on February 24.

"The event at the Motera stadium will be called 'Namaste Trump', a senior Gujarat government official said.

The stadium will be full to capacity, while more than 10,000 persons will be sitting on the floors around the stage from where both leaders will be speaking.

According to sources, the audience will enter the stadium three hours before the event and will be allowed to leave two hours after the President and Prime Minister leave the venue.

There will be multi-layered security, and each participant will go through it



Getting ready: A view of the Sardar Patel Stadium in Ahmedabad on Sunday. U.S. President Donald Trump is scheduled to inaugurate it during his visit. ■ VIJAY SONEJI

from different entrance gates before reaching his or her seat.

Singers to attend

"Top Bollywood singers like Kailash Kher and performers and top Gujarati singers like Kirtidan Gadhavi, Parthiv Ghohil and others will be per-

forming at the stadium before and after the main event 'Namaste Trump', a senior official involved in the preparations said.

Besides the main programme at the stadium, another big event the State authorities have planned is a 22-km roadshow from the

airport to the Sabarmati Ashram and from there to the stadium.

"It's a mega roadshow we have planned in honour of President Trump and Prime Minister Modi," Ahmedabad Municipal Commissioner Vijay Nehra told *The Hindu*.

The civic body has invited

cultural groups, artists and performers from all States and Union Territories to participate and perform in the roadshow.

Show by artists

"There will be 50 stages along the roadshow route where artists will perform as the convoys of the President and the Prime Minister pass by. This is to showcase the country's cultural diversity," a senior official of the civic body said.

The civic body is expecting more than two lakh people to participate in the roadshow. "It's a historic event to the held in Ahmedabad city to welcome and honour U.S. President Donald Trump along with the First Lady and Prime Minister Narendra Modi," Mr. Nehra said.

The civic body has resurfaced and refurbished roads and streets while buildings have been painted as part of the beautification exercise ahead of the high profile visit.

The then PM was piqued by Rahul's stand on an ordinance

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI

After the Rahul Gandhi ordinance-trashing episode of 2013, the then Prime Minister Manmohan Singh asked Montek Singh Ahluwalia whether he thought he should resign, the former Deputy Chairman of the now-defunct Planning Commission said.

Mr. Ahluwalia said he told Dr. Singh, who was then on a visit to the U.S., that he did not think a resignation on this issue was appropriate.

Mr. Gandhi had denounced the ordinance brought by the UPA dispensation to negate a Supreme Court verdict on convicted lawmakers. He had termed it as "complete nonsense" that should be "torn up and thrown away." Dr. Singh, while returning home, had ruled out his resignation though he appeared piqued over the entire episode.

"I was part of the Prime



Manmohan Singh

Minister's delegation in New York and my brother Sanjeev, who had retired from the IAS, telephoned to say he had written a piece that was very critical of Dr. Singh. He had e-mailed it to me and said he hoped I didn't find it embarrassing," recalled Mr. Ahluwalia.

The article was widely reported in the media with reference to the author being Mr. Ahluwalia's brother.

"The first thing I did was to take the text across to the Prime Minister's suite because I wanted him to hear

about it first from me. He read it in silence and, at first, made no comment. Then, he suddenly asked me whether I thought he should resign." Mr. Ahluwalia writes in his new book *Backstage: The Story behind India's High Growth Years*.

"I thought about it for a while and said I did not think a resignation was appropriate. I wondered then, whether I was simply saying what I thought he would like to hear but on reflection I am convinced I gave him honest advice," he reasoned.

"Most of my friends agreed with Sanjeev. They felt the Dr. Singh had for too long accepted the constraints under which he had to operate and this had tarnished his reputation. The rubbishing of the ordinance was seen as demeaning the office of the Prime Minister and justified resigning on principle. I did not agree," Mr. Ahluwalia wrote.

₹1.04 crore fine defies logic: U.P. poet-politician

A way to 'gag' voices, says Pratapgarhi

ANUJ KUMAR
GAZIABAD

A day after the Moradabad administration slapped a fine of ₹1.04 crore on Imran Pratapgarhi for violating Section 144, participating in anti-Citizenship Amendment Act (CAA) protest in Moradabad, and allegedly instigating protesters at the Idgah Ground here, the poet-politician told *The Hindu* that he would approach the court against the notice.

"The notice is arbitrary and the language defies logic. It states that the police were not able to perform its *naitik zimmehdarī* (moral responsibility) because of the protest against the CAA. Isn't the maintenance of law and order not the responsibility of the police?" asked Mr. Pratapgarhi, who unsuccessfully fought the 2019 Lok Sabha election from Moradabad on Congress ticket.

'Protesters peaceful'

He said that if he was violating Section 144, was not U.P. Deputy Chief Minister Keshav Prasad Maurya doing the same when he addressed a pro-CAA rally in Moradabad on January 5.

"Does the Uttar Pradesh government want to suggest that it will not provide security to those peacefully protesting against it?" he said.



Imran Pratapgarhi

Listing the amount of money being spent on the security arrangements to maintain law and order during the sit-in protest, the notice issued by the Additional District Magistrate-City (ADM) said, "One company of Rapid Action Force and a half section of Provincial Armed Constabulary have been deployed at the protest site. It amounts to a total expenditure of ₹13.42 lakh per day...the total sum spent on security amounts to ₹1,04,08,693. It could be charged from Mr. Pratapgarhi."

The notice further said a large number of protesters continue to assemble at the protest site on Mr. Pratapgarhi's call.

"I didn't go there as a political leader. I read out the Preamble to the Constitution and sang the National Anthem. I didn't say anything incendiary," said Mr. Pratapgarhi, a poet with a huge following.

Opposition slams Delhi police

In CCTV footage of Jamia library, police were seen beating up students

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

Opposition leaders on Sunday slammed the Delhi police and the Centre after CCTV footage showed police personnel, along with paramilitary forces, beating up students at the Jamia Millia Islamia (JMI) library.

Sharing the footage (recording the event of December 15 last year) on Twitter, Congress general secretary Priyanka Gandhi Vadra accused the Home Minister and the Delhi Police of "lying" that Jamia students were not beaten up inside the library. "Look at how Delhi police is blindly assaulting students in the library. A boy is flashing his book but the

policeman is continuing to attack him with batons. Home Minister and Delhi Police lied when they said students were not beaten up inside the library. If no action is taken even after watching this Jamia video, the government's intentions would stand exposed

before the whole country," Ms. Vadra tweeted in Hindi.

The 48-second video purportedly shows seven or eight security personnel entering the Old Reading Hall and beating up students with batons.

"It has exposed the ex-

cesses committed by the Delhi police and the horrific attack on students. Delhi police are directly under Home Minister Amit Shah and now he must tell the nation what action is being taken against the policemen," CPI general secretary D. Raja told *The Hindu*.

The CPI(M) also demanded action against the police personnel. "This is what Delhi police did in Jamia that day. #ShameonDelhiPolice. On whose orders did Delhi police enter inside campus. Delhi police comes directly under Amit Shah. He needs to answer. Proper investigation should be done and people responsible should be booked," it tweeted.

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No.	Tender ID	Items
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(प्रशासन विभाग)
संख्या: 664 स्क्रु.एवं.सं.वि.प्रा.-701/2018
लखनऊ: दिनांक: 5/2/2020
लखनऊ से जमा करना अनिवार्य होगा।

ई-निविदा मूल रूप से 10000/- का डिमाण्ड ऑफर तथा अन्तर्गत दिनांक 17.02.2020 से 28.02.2020 को अपराह्न 12.00 बजे तक ई-टेंडरिंग की बैंबसाइट
<https://tender.up.nic.in> से डाउनलोड/अपलोड की जा सकती है। ई-निविदा की बैंबसाइट, निविदादाता की उपस्थिति अनुसार सम्बन्धित जमाने के लिए उपलब्ध होगी।

ई-निविदा के संबंधित विस्तृत विवरण, निविदा प्रपत्र, न

New China virus cases drop for third day

Death toll reaches 1,665, while more than 68,000 have been infected; Taiwan records first fatality

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
BEIJING

The number of new cases from China's COVID-19 epidemic dropped for a third consecutive day on Sunday, as the World Health Organisation chief warned it was "impossible" to predict how the outbreak would develop.

The death toll jumped to 1,665 in mainland China on Sunday after 142 more people died from the virus. More than 68,000 people have now been infected – but the number of new cases continued to decline.

In hardest-hit Hubei, the number of new cases slowed for a third consecutive day and at 139, the number of deaths was level with Saturday's toll. The number of new cases in other parts of the country has dropped for twelve straight days.

Mi Feng, National Health Commission spokesman, said the figures were a sign that China was controlling the outbreak. "The effects of epidemic prevention and control in various parts of the country can already be seen," he said.

But the WHO chief, Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, has warned that it was "impossible to predict which direction this epidemic will



Returning home: Buses carrying American passengers from the quarantined cruise ship leaving a port in Yokohama, near Tokyo, on Monday. ■ AP

take". "We ask all governments, companies, and news organisations to work with us to sound the appropriate level of alarm without fanning the flames of hysteria," he said, speaking at the Munich Security Conference.

Taiwan reported its first death on Sunday, after a 61-year-old man with underlying health problems but no recent overseas travel history died in hospital on Saturday. It is the fifth recorded death outside mainland China – previous victims were in the Philippines, Hong Kong, Japan, and France.

The scale of the epidemic

ballooned on Thursday after authorities in Hubei changed their criteria for counting cases, retroactively adding 14,000 cases in a single day.

Movement restricted

Chinese authorities have placed some 56 million people in Hubei and its capital Wuhan under quarantine, virtually sealing off the province from the rest of the country in an unprecedented effort to contain the virus.

Even as China insisted the epidemic was under control, Hubei authorities announced on Sunday a tightening of movement across

the province. This includes broad instructions that residential compounds and villages are "sealed off" from unnecessary visitors, with tenants' outings "strictly managed", as well as recommending bulk purchases of daily necessities. All non-essential public spaces will also be closed, and residential areas and workplaces with confirmed cases should implement a 14-day quarantine.

Beijing's municipal government has enacted a rule requiring people coming to the capital to self-quarantine for 14 days, according to official media.

'40 Americans on ship have COVID-19'

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
WASHINGTON/YOKOHAMA

A senior U.S. health official said on Sunday that more than 40 Americans on a quarantined cruise ship in Japan have been infected with the deadly virus and would not be a part of an evacuation effort.

"They're going to be in hospitals in Japan," Anthony Fauci, a senior official at the National Institutes of Health said on a TV show. They are among the 400 Americans who began leaving the quarantined *Diamond Princess* late on Sunday night to board chartered flights home.

2 more Indians infected

The move came as the number of new COVID-19 cases diagnosed on the ship jumped by 70 to 355. Two more Indians have tested positive for the virus, taking the number to five. They have been sent to medical facilities for further treatment.

(With inputs from PTI)

Xi's early involvement in fight against virus raises questions

It opens him up to criticism why public was not alerted sooner

ASSOCIATED PRESS
BEIJING

A recent speech by Chinese President Xi Jinping that has been published by state media indicates for the first time that he was leading the response to a new virus outbreak from early on in the crisis.

The publication of the February 3 speech was an apparent attempt to demonstrate that the Communist Party leadership had acted decisively from the beginning, but also opens Mr. Xi up to criticism over why the public was not alerted sooner.



Xi Jinping

mean that Mr. Xi, as the top leader, is willing to take responsibility because he was aware of the situation, Mr. Zhang said.

Trust in the government's approach to outbreaks remains fractured after the SARS epidemic of 2002 and 2003, which was covered up for months.

Authorities in Hubei and Wuhan faced public fury over their initial handling of the epidemic.

The anger reached a peak earlier this month following the death of Li Wenliang, a young doctor who was reprimanded by the local police for trying to spread a warning about the virus. He ended up dying of the disease himself.

In apparent response, the Communist Party's top officials in Hubei and Wuhan were dismissed and replaced last week.

Even as authorities have pledged transparency through the current outbreak, citizen journalists who challenged the official narrative with video reports from Wuhan have disappeared and are believed to be detained.

Multiple rockets hit U.S. coalition base in Baghdad

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
BAGHDAD

Multiple rockets hit an Iraqi base hosting American troops near the U.S. Embassy early on Sunday, the latest in a flurry of attacks against U.S. assets in the country.

"The Coalition confirms small rockets impacted the Iraqi base hosting (coalition) troops in the International Zone... No casualties," said coalition spokesman Myles

Caggins. An Iraqi military statement said three Katyusha rockets had hit the fortified Green Zone which hosts the U.S. Embassy, other foreign missions and Iraqi government buildings.

A fourth rocket hit a logistics base in a different neighbourhood operated by the Hashid al-Shaabi, a military network officially incorporated into the Iraqi state, the Iraqi military said.

There was no immediate statement from the Hashid.

19th attack

Strikes on assets of both the U.S. and Hashid at the same time are unusual, as Washington has blamed hardline elements within the military network for repeated rocket attacks on American installations across Iraq.

Sunday's was the 19th attack since October to target

either the Embassy or the roughly 5,200 American troops stationed alongside local forces across Iraq. No group has claimed responsibility for any of the incidents. In December, a rocket attack on the northern Iraqi base of K1 left one U.S. contractor dead and unleashed a dramatic series of events.

Washington responded with retaliatory strikes against Kataeb Hezbollah, a

hardline Hashid faction in western Iraq. Days later, an American drone strike in Baghdad killed top Iranian General Qasem Soleimani and his right-hand man, Hashid deputy chief Abu Mahdi al-Muhandis.

Hashid factions have vowed revenge for the pair's death but said they would prioritise a political objective first: the withdrawal of American troops from Iraq.

Air strikes 'kill 31 civilians' in Yemen

REUTERS
DUBAI

Yemen's Iran-aligned Houthi movement accused the Saudi-led coalition of carrying out retaliatory air strikes on Saturday that killed at least 30 people, including civilians.

The United Nations office in Yemen said preliminary field reports indicated that "as many as 31 civilians were killed and 12 others injured

in strikes that hit Al-Hayah area" in Al-Jawf province.

The Health Ministry in Houthi-controlled Al-Jawf province said women and children were among those killed, Houthi-run Al-Masirah TV reported. It followed a Houthi claim to have downed a coalition Tornado warplane in the area on Friday. But the Saudi-led coalition's spokesman Colonel Turki al-Malki said only that

a Tornado jet had crashed in Al-Jawf, Saudi state news agency (SPA) reported.

He later said that rescue operations had been launched and that the possibility of "collateral damages" had been reported, without providing more details.

Colonel Malki said the crew of two officers ejected from the plane before it crashed but the Houthis opened fire at them.

Iran will never yield to U.S. pressure for talks'

Their methods will fail, says Rouhani

REUTERS
DUBAI

Iran will never hold talks with the U.S. under pressure, President Hassan Rouhani said on Sunday, adding that Tehran's help was essential in establishing security in West Asia.

Relations between Tehran and Washington reached crisis point in 2018 after U.S. President Donald Trump abandoned a 2015 pact between Iran and world powers under which Tehran accepted curbs to its nuclear programme in return for the lifting of sanctions. President Trump has adopted a policy of "maximum pressure" to force Tehran to negotiate a broad-

er deal that further curbs Iran's nuclear work, ends its missile programme and its involvement in regional proxy wars.

"We will never yield to America's pressure and we will not negotiate from a position of weakness," Mr. Rouhani said in a televised news conference.

"America's 'maximum pressure' towards Iran is doomed to fail... our enemy (the U.S.) is very well aware that their pressure is inefficient," he said.

Mr. Rouhani added: "Securing peace and stability in the sensitive region of West Asia and in the Persian Gulf is impossible without Iran's help."

Biden attacks rival Sanders' past vote on gun policies

Pledges to hold gun makers accountable

ASSOCIATED PRESS
LAS VEGAS

Joe Biden, standing on a Las Vegas stage roughly 1,000 feet from the scene of the deadliest mass shooting in modern U.S. history, took on White House rival Bernie Sanders for his past vote to exempt gun manufacturers from liability for shootings.

The former Vice-President devoted the majority of his Saturday night speech at a Democratic gala on the Las Vegas Strip to deliver a fiery charge against the National Rifle Association and gun manufacturers, vowing to

hold gun makers accountable if elected President. "When I'm the president, we'll take them on, remove the immunity and allow those parents who are trying now to sue for the pain and mayhem they have caused," Mr. Biden said.

Mr. Biden, after decrying "carnage in our streets" and the anguish of families

whose loved ones were killed in gun violence, said he "will not rest until they're able to sue the gun manufacturers and get a ban on assault weapons".

Mr. Biden didn't cite Mr. Sanders by name when referring to a 2005 Federal law that shields gun makers from liability in most crimes, but said, "some of the people running for office voted for that exemption".

"Ladies and gentlemen that immunity was granted. Granted. And it was a horrible, terrible decision," he said.

Mr. Sanders has since changed his position, co-sponsoring legislation to repeal the protections for gun manufacturers.

Reconsider ban on Army chief, Sri Lanka tells U.S.

Action unnecessarily complicates ties'

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
COLOMBO

Sri Lanka on Sunday said the U.S. should reconsider its decision to refuse entry to the island's Army chief over his alleged war crimes and warned that relations were being "unnecessarily complicated".

The U.S. on Friday said the travel ban on Lieutenant General Shavendra Silva and his family was imposed over what it called credible evidence of human rights violations in the 2009 finale to the civil war.

U.S. Ambassador Alaina Teplitz was summoned by Sri Lanka's Foreign Minister Dinesh Gunawardena on Sunday, officials said.

He said Colombo was "disappointed" with the decision, the first against a Sri Lankan military officer.

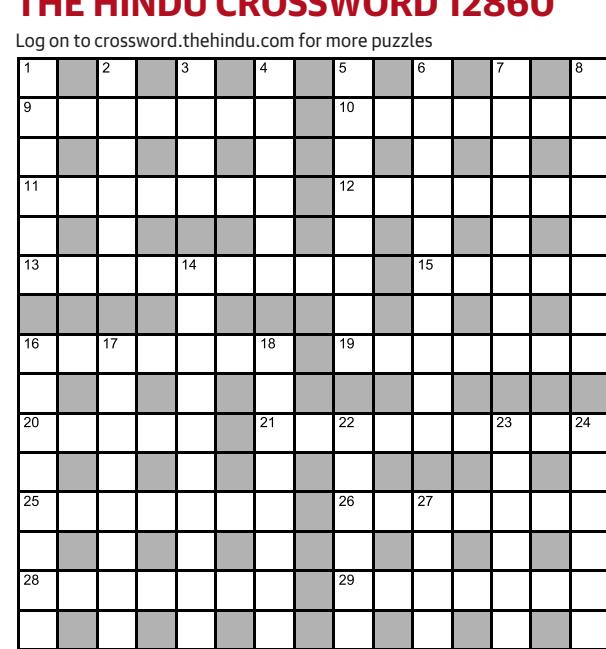
"The Minister said this action unnecessarily complicates the U.S.-Sri Lanka relationship," his office said in a statement shortly after the closed-door meeting.

Mr. Silva was unfairly barred on unverified allegations, Mr. Gunawardena added.

The Foreign Ministry quoted Mr. Teplitz as saying the U.S. would continue its cooperation with Sri Lanka, including in defence, despite the ban on Lt. Gen. Silva. There was no immediate comment from Mr. Teplitz or the U.S. Embassy.

THE HINDU CROSSWORD 12860

Log on to crossword.thehindu.com for more puzzles



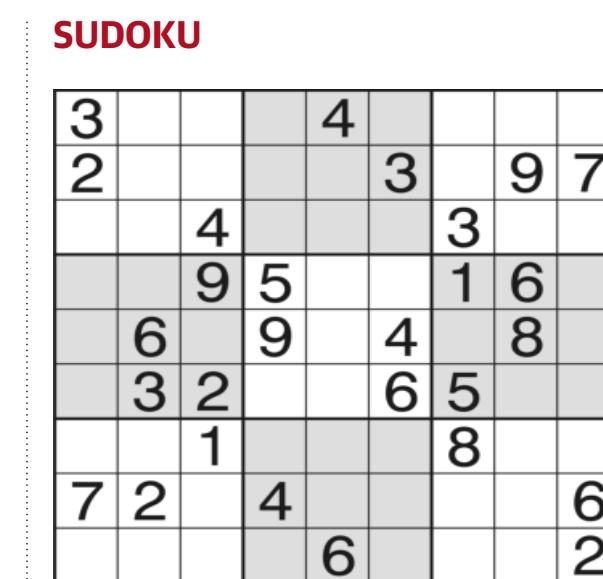
ACROSS

- 9 Maybe bad sign – it takes guts (7)
- 10 Sam, perhaps on a roll initially, can't make out (7)
- 11 Each adopted the wild cat (7)
- 12 Big bird with a nice clipped tail (7)
- 13 Rain on grass, odd rain creates a hotchpotch (9)

DOWN

- 1 Crazy plan to get an aide (6)
- 2 Start with one diamond opening (6)
- 3 Novel must be fitful (4)
- 4 Testing time for kids – Terminator bombed airport terminal (5)
- 5 Late to cover study, you can go no further (4,3)
- 16 American upset with scrambled eggs and tea – it's prompt (7)
- 19 Long, maybe nearly fifty gone (5)
- 20 Redemption – meant to modulate and check voice (9)
- 21 Long time spent in line like an animal (7)
- 22 Case of cockney demand for some bling (7)
- 23 Food complaint, two characters flipped inside (7)
- 24 Melissa used for earthmoving activity (7)
- 25 New meaning, not new puzzle (6)
- 26 Switch to Google – loves to go (6)
- 27 Scotch during regular reunions (4)

(set by Arden)



Solution to puzzle 12859

G	O	D	W	N	C	A	U	S	E	W	Y
O	E	A	P	H	A	A	A	A	A	A	A
I	M	P	R	E	T	R	E	N	C	H	
N	R	M	P	X	I	T	W				
G	R	A	V	I	S	N	O	O	Z	E	
R	A	V	I	T	A	K	N	H			
F	E	I	G	H	T	R	A	I	N		
S	H	O	T	I	N	G	S	T	A		
S	A	E	K	T	V	U	O				
C	E	L	B	S	W	E	I	L	D		
A	U	E	S	I	R	O	Y	O			
R	U	M	I	N	T	A	P	L			
P	L	I	N	A	T	E	Y	N			
A	N	C	O	N	T	E	N	N			
B	L	I	G	H	T	S</td					

ASK US



VIDYA BALA

Q. I am a 34-year-old central government employee with a net salary of ₹35,000. I could not save earlier but now I have no obligation. I'm not married and don't intend to get married. How much money should I be saving and where should I invest my money to get a guaranteed monthly income of ₹2 lakh (from 2046) once I retire at 60?

SHEKHAR S.

A. It is heartening to note that you are eager to save for retirement the moment you have some surplus. If we assume ₹25,000 a month of expenses for you, and a 5% inflation, after 26 years (when your reach 60), this expense would be about ₹89,000 per month. This will go up with inflation every year. For example, in your 80th year, if we assume the same rate of inflation, the monthly expense would be ₹2.24 lakh. If we consider that (assuming a lifespan until 80), you will need about ₹2 crore as corpus at the age of 60. If you save about ₹17,000 a month and your investments earn around 9%, you should be able to comfortably build your retirement corpus.

Start with whatever surplus you have and increase it slowly as salary goes up. Consider a 60:40 mix of quality multi-cap equity funds and 40% through your government NPS as well as low-risk, short-term debt funds. Closer to retirement, shift the equity funds to safer debt options such as deposits and post office schemes, depending on what safe options are available then.

Q. I am 23 and work for an MNC. I earn about ₹20,000 after deductions. Over the last six months, I traded in stock markets and lost ₹60,000. Now, I am thinking of trading in options through short selling. But I need a minimum capital of ₹1 lakh. I don't have this sum as I lost all my savings in the past six months. So, I'm thinking of taking a bank loan of ₹1 lakh to do short selling. Is my idea of taking loan to do trading worthy or not?

MOHITH

A. The answer is – avoid taking a loan to enter derivatives. This decision should not change, whether the loan is available at cheap rates or otherwise. Having lost money, don't compound the risk by taking a loan to make up the loss. It will likely push you into a debt trap. There are no sustainable short cuts to investing. Start by saving small sums in a few equity mutual funds every month. They can even be index funds. Add some mid and small-cap funds for some aggression, if you like that. Have a horizon of not less than 5 years.

If you want more excitement, allocate 10-15% of your total savings to stocks by having a mix of large companies and some well-known mid-sized companies – not for trading but for long-term investing.

Think long-term by following news on companies and reading up their annual reports. This will open your interest to the world of equity.

Like the famous economist Paul Samuelson said, "Investing should be more like watching paint dry or watching grass grow."

Q. I am 27. I want the best plans to invest ₹12,000 per month. I have heard about PPF and SIP. Please advise which option can get me good returns in 10 years among the two.

VINAYAK GOPAL

A. It need not be either, or. It can be a combination. PPF will provide you with a safe avenue to invest as it is a government scheme but will give deposit-like returns. SIP is a mode of investing monthly in mutual funds. It can be used to invest in a high-risk and volatile asset class like equity.

A combination of both will give you some stability and returns. Invest in both with a 60% allocation to equity funds and rest in PPF. Seek proper guidance and hold for the long term.

(The author is co-founder, Primeinvestor.in)

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

MIND YOUR MONEY

The goal quest

Know where you want to go. Then ensure your planning for financial requirements doesn't depend on external factors

GAURAV MASHRUWALA

"Saab kahaan jana hein aapko (Sir, where do you want to go?)" is typically what an autorickshaw driver or a taxiwala would ask us when we flag them down.

Imagine our answer is "Pata nahi hein (I don't know)", how do you think the driver would react?

In all probability, after initial awe, he may either request us to alight, or take us on a long ride, to fulfil his goal of making money.

Remember this, those individuals who do not work for their own financial goals, work for someone else's financial goals.

Goal setting, first step

The first step in any financial planning and wealth

creation activity is to make a list of financial goals. Financial goals are those responsibilities and dreams for which we save and invest money.

All of us have a certain set of responsibilities and dreams in life for which we work hard. That hard-earned money is then invested after paying off our expenses.

"My financial goals and those of my wife are the same" is the typical answer from husbands. The same is true in the case of the wife if she is the active partner, of the two, in managing family finances. The typical answer from women would be "my husband earns and I am responsible for managing the show, he never questions me."

As a financial planner, it is very common for me to hear such answers. However, real-life situations are different. The moment a separate sheet of paper is given to both the husband and wife to make a list of their family's financial responsibilities and aspirations, the quantum of money needed and the priorities, the reality is different. Sometimes, the list is completely different. If that is not the case, then the priorities of each financial goal and the amount needed to fulfil it would vary.

Know your destination

Here is a suggestion, after reading this piece, at the earliest, take your selfie. If you are married, take one with your spouse. Next to it, write down the list of responsibilities and

dreams for which as a family you have been creating wealth and will continue to create. This will give focus and direction to your wealth creation activity. From then on, every step of wealth creation will be in the direction of your own internal condition.

Those individuals and families who have not articulated their financial responsibilities and dreams are like passengers in a rickshaw/taxi not knowing where they want to go.

Look within

These individuals and families save and invest their hard-earned money looking outward. Their deci-

sions are based on external factors; for example, investing in equity as an asset class if the markets are up, or in a bank fixed deposit if the rate of interest is quite decent.

Their chain of thoughts does not end there; they find excuses to postpone their decisions – such as a falling GDP or unstable geopolitical conditions.

Fulfilling our responsibilities is not dependent on external conditions.

If someone falls sick in the family and requires hospitalisation, we wouldn't wait for the economy to stabilise to go ahead with the treatment. What are the chances of a

family cancelling a vacation to Europe just because GST rates on international air tickets have gone up?

Only when there is no clear articulation of financial goals, individuals and families take financial decisions based on external conditions. External conditions are always volatile and fragile. Many of them are based on hearsay. This leads to anxiety.

Queries like "Should I buy, sell or hold?" are manifestations of investments which are not linked to financial goals.

"We were at complete ease this time when there was a fall in stock market. We knew our monthly SIP in equity-based funds is for a retirement which is more than decade away. Fall in stock market for 10

consecutive days also did not disturb us," said a member of an audience in an investor awareness programme. This is an exemplification of investments made based on internal requirements. To this investor, the volatility outside did not lead to anxious moments.

My mind, my GDP

Wealth creation is a habit. Habit is an auto-behaviour of the mind. Develop the habit of looking within before taking and executing any financial decision. Instead of looking outside on parameters like the country's GDP, GST rates or WPI, focus on the 'My GDP' – my goals and dream plan.

(The author is a financial planner and the author of *Yogic Wealth*)

COVER NOTE: CANCER COSTS

Raise your guard against the big C

Cancer treatment can be prolonged and its high cost requires proper planning

K NITYA KALYANI

Cancer has become the most dreaded and least understood medical threat. It also appears much more prevalent than ever before. What is pretty clear is the havoc it plays with lives, lifestyles and finances. Cancer treatment can be prolonged and its high cost warrants proper planning.

Cancer insurance can be in the form of benefit policies or indemnity policies.

An indemnity policy reimburses hospitalisation and treatment expenses within the policy scope. It can be renewed in the usual course after a claim and will continue to offer coverage. Examples of indemnity policies covering cancer are Star Health Insurance Company Limited's pilot product, Star Cancer Care Gold, and HDFC ERGO Health Insurance Company Limited's iCan cancer insurance. The latest in this stable is Cancer Guard launched by The New India Assurance Company Limited.

The policy covers expenses related to cancer treatment and is available in sums insured of ₹5, 10, 15, 20, 25 and 50 lakh and anyone from 18 to 65 years of age is eligible for coverage.

A benefit policy pays the SI on diagnosis of cancer with no reference to expenses, and coverage ceases once the claim is paid. The payout



Critical illness policies also pay for cancer treatment, but only at advanced stages of the disease. ■ GETTY IMAGES/ISTOCK

can be one lump sum or over several years in a pre-specified manner.

Aditya Birla SunLife Insurance Company's ABSL1 Cancer Shield is a benefit policy, as are ICICI Pru Heart/Cancer Protect and HDFC Cancer Care.

So, it is important to be aware of the type of policy you are finalising. Usually, life insurance companies offer benefit policies and non-life insurance companies offer indemnity policies.

A person can avail one in each type of policy and claim under both – the combination offering added protection. Many indemnity policies now have an inbuilt lump sum benefit as well.

Specialised cancer policies cover multiple types of cancers, including lung cancer, breast cancer, ovarian cancer and prostate cancer,

and coverage is available at multiple stages of the disease. In most benefit policies, a lumpsum is paid on diagnosis and further premiums are waived under certain conditions. A monthly income is paid for a specified number of years for certain conditions.

Critical illness policies also pay for cancer treatment, but cover cancer only at an advanced stage and do not offer benefits like waiver of future premiums. While they do pay for hospital treatments, regular hospitalisation policies do not offer the robust financial support needed for cancer treatment. Indemnity type policies are more complex than benefit policies.

Complications arising from cancer, cases where cancer symptoms manifest within 90 days, skin cancer

and any cancer due to sexually-transmitted diseases, HIV or AIDS are not covered, and neither are cancers due to congenital conditions, pre-existing conditions and biological, nuclear or chemical contamination.

Age at entry determines the maximum sum insured and renewal is available on an ongoing basis. Most policies have no pre-underwriting medical check-up.

Once a positive diagnosis of cancer is made, claims for outpatient, inpatient and day-care expenses will be payable. Hospitalisation claims have their usual requirements and 30 days' pre-hospitalisation and 60 days' post-hospitalisation expenses are also within the ambit of the policy.

Some companies cover hospitalisation expenses to the insured and the donor in case of organ transplant as part of cancer treatment, within the SI limit. The cost of the organ is excluded.

Reconstruction of the affected body part to restore essential physical functioning is covered.

Some policies offer an additional lumpsum benefit if the insured is diagnosed for the first time with Stage IV cancer or advanced metastatic cancer.

(The writer is a business journalist specialising in insurance & corporate history)

BLACKBOARD: DEPOSIT INSURANCE

Spread your risks

K. BHARAT KUMAR

What has changed?

The central government has raised the insurance for deposits in banks, as proposed in the Budget 2020-21. Earlier, deposits were insured up to ₹1 lakh; now insurance cover has risen to ₹5 lakh.

What does it mean to you, the depositor?

Deposit Insurance and Credit Guarantee Corporation (DICGC) is a wholly owned subsidiary of the Reserve Bank of India and in case of failure of a bank, the corporation provides cover to bank deposits of customers.

If the bank in which you have deposited funds goes bankrupt, the DICGC will ensure that your deposits are now covered against such risk up to a maximum of ₹5 lakh.

All funds held in 'the same capacity and right', as defined by the DICGC, at the same bank are added together before deposit insurance is determined. But, if the funds are in different types of ownership or are deposited in separate banks they would then be separately insured.

For example, if Mr. A has a deposit with a bank in his individual capacity, and also holds an account with his spouse as the secondary holder, then these two accounts would each have deposit insurance cover of up to ₹5 lakh separately.

If Mr. A holds a third account for a minor, say his son Ajit, then the deposit insurance cover would apply separately to this account as well. A fourth account under Mr. A's name held jointly with his business partner would also be separately insured.

But if you have several accounts

of the same type (under one name, with one bank, across multiple accounts, and across branches) the insurance cover would be applicable to all your deposits at a clutch. Assume you have a deposit of ₹13 lakh with the Bandra (Mumbai) branch of a scheduled commercial bank, and ₹6 lakh with the Jayanagar (Bengaluru) branch of the same bank, both in your name. If the bank goes bust, all your deposits together would still be covered only up to ₹5 lakh.

Is it better to distribute money across banks, to make the best of one's savings?

Yes, it is. For someone with sizeable savings in the form of deposits, it is worth while to split them up across banks, up to ₹5 lakh per bank. If you have deposits with more than one bank, deposit insurance coverage limit is applied separately to the deposits in each bank.

While the safest option may be to earn interest through deposits with large, nationalised banks, your returns would be minimal, for, such banks don't offer high interest rates. Some good, Small Finance Banks (SFBs) currently offer better returns on deposits than do large nationalised banks. Choosing a strong SFB and opening deposit accounts may be a good option for those reliant only on interest from deposits for their upkeep.

What does it mean to banks? Banks now have to cough up more annual insurance premium to DICGC to cover deposits placed with them. From 10 paise per ₹100, the premium has been raised 20% to 12 paise per ₹100 worth of deposits with them, effective April 1, 2020

LOOSE CHANGE

RAVIKANTH



"I guess both sir and madam are good cooks! One won't be risking one's own money at these prices!"

Life insurance term plan premium

Age: 30 Years, Sum insured- Rs. 1 crore, Cover upto- 70 Years

Insurance company	Plan name	Maximum cover upto (years)	Annual premium (Rs.) (Male)
Aditya Birla Capital	Ultima Term	85	10,270
Aegon Life	iTerm Insurance Plan	100	9,114
Aviva Life	iTerm Smart	80	9,007
Bajaj Allianz	Smart Protect Goal	99	8010
Bharti AXA	Flexi Term Plan	85	9,440
Canara HSBC OBC Life	iSelect Term Plan	80	9,491
DHFL Pramerica Life	Flexi e-Term	75	9,403
Edelweiss Tokio Life	Zindagi+ Term Insurance Plan	80	9,309
Exide Life	Smart Term Plan	75	12,411*
Future Generali	Flexi Online Term Plan	75	9,427
HDFC Life	Click2Protect 3D Plus	100	12,478
ICICI Prudential	iProtect Smart	99	12,502
IDBI Federal Life	iSurance Flexi Term	80	12,402
India First Life	e-Term Plan	80	8,260
Kotak Life	Kotak e-Term Plan	75	9,558
Max Life			

The interview round of the UPSC Civil Services is more than a dialogue; it is a process of evaluating a candidate's strengths and weaknesses

C. SYLENDRA BABU

The interview round for the UPSC Civil Services 2019 is round the corner; this is also called a personality test, which will decide who among the 2,300 candidates will be appointed to the most coveted IAS/IPS/IFS postings.

Essentially, the interview is a series of interactions – a dialogue with a group of people, and your life ambition is at stake. Therefore, you cannot afford to be casual or careless. At the same time, you need not panic. If you know the rules of the game, you can succeed.

The interview has to proceed along a well-set procedure, which is the interview process. A process is defined as "a series of actions taken towards achieving a particular end". In an interview, a process does take place and you should be aware of it and be prepared to face it. The cardinal principle in any interview is 'sit up', 'speak up', and 'shut up'.

Evaluation process

The five steps that take place during the interview process are:

Introduction and initiation: An interview cannot start without the candidate being introduced to the interviewer or the panel of interviewers. Here, you must remember the old dic-

TALK your way to success



GETTY IMAGES/STOCK

tum: the first impression is the best impression. In the civil services interview, the candidate is called out by his/her name and therefore he/she need not repeat it. Nevertheless, should a member ask for the candidate's name, he/she should politely say it.

The appearance of the candidate conveys to the interviewers

the kind of person he/she is; this would greatly affect the subsequent communication between them.

Recent studies have shown that the effectiveness of communication is 10% by the meaning of words, 30% by the voice and its authority, and 60% by the body language.

The body language is the key

to your success in the interview.

Testing your knowledge about yourself: More often than not, the real interview starts with a question about your personal setting, say your native state or district or town.

This is what you should acquaint yourself with – if you haven't done earlier: learn more about your native place. For,

this is the more likely of all the questions you could be asked in the interviews. For example, if you are from Chennai, the likely questions are: Who founded Chennai and when? What were the old names of Chennai?

Questions could also be about your subject in the graduate or postgraduate degree, or about your hobbies.

Testing your understanding of the subjects: True, the subject knowledge was tested in the written (main) exam; nevertheless, the members may like to measure the depth of your understanding and your ability to analyse the subjects you have studied in college or for the civil services examinations.

There could be recent deve-

The real interview starts with a question about your personal setting, say your native state or district or town.

lopments in your subject of study that is of great interest. Sometimes, the member may be a professor in the subject in which you wrote the main examinations, or it may even be a subject of current interest such as cross border terrorism, CAA, the Ayodhya verdict, economic slow down, and so on. You should be prepared and not be caught off guard.

Therefore, it is best to keep the academic pot boiling even after the main exam so that you can answer the questions related to the optional subjects with ease and without any mistakes.

Testing the personality: Your personality will be assessed in the due course of an interview. If you learn the fundamental rules of the principles of personality, you can perhaps modify your behaviour to a desirable level, which is called personality development.

Conclusion: When the chairman and the board members of the interview panel feel that enough questions were asked, the candidate is in the concluding part of the interview.

You should be cautious not to get up from your chair until you are asked to leave, even if you are given an impression that the interview is over. You should wait for few seconds to confirm that they are through with you and want you to leave. Then, rise and say politely, "Thank you, sir/madam", and leave the hall.

The writer is the Director-General of Police (Railways).

SCHOLARSHIPS

Rolls-Royce Unnati Scholarships for Women Engineering Students

Rolls-Royce India Private Limited invites scholarship applications from girl students studying in the first, second and third year of engineering degree. The scholarship is meant to support girl students in completing their engineering programmes.

ELIGIBILITY: The scholarship is open for students in the first, second and third year of Engineering courses. They must be pursuing engineering in fields such as aerospace, computers, electronics, marine, etc. from an AICTE recognised institution in India. Marks scored in class X and XII board exams should be more than 60%.

PRIZES AND REWARDS: ₹35,000 each

DEADLINE: March 31

APPLICATION: Online
www.b4s.in/
 edge/UNSI

Heinrich Böll Foundation Scholarships for Post Graduation

Heinrich Böll Foundation is granting scholarships to graduates from outside Germany in accordance with the guidelines issued by Germany's Federal Ministry of Education and Research, and the Foreign office.

ELIGIBILITY: Applicants who have completed a master's degree can apply. They must also have proof of professional qualification.

PRIZES AND REWARDS: €850 per month along with various individual allowances.

DEADLINE: March 01

APPLICATION: Online
www.b4s.in/
 edge/HBOI

Taiwan ICDF International Higher Education Scholarship Programme

Applications are invited from undergraduate, master's and PhD applicants. Under this programme, scholarships for higher education will be provided by the International Cooperation and Development Fund (ICDF) in cooperation with partner universities in Taiwan.

ELIGIBILITY: Open for undergraduate, master's and PhD applicants. Applicants must satisfy admission requirements of the partner university and specific visa requirements. They must also meet the regulations governing resident, visiting and permanent residency of aliens set by ROC (Taiwan) National Immigration Agency.

PRIZES AND REWARDS: Monthly allowance up to TWD 17,000, full tuition-fee waiver, economy-class air tickets, accommodation, insurance fee, credit fee, and more.

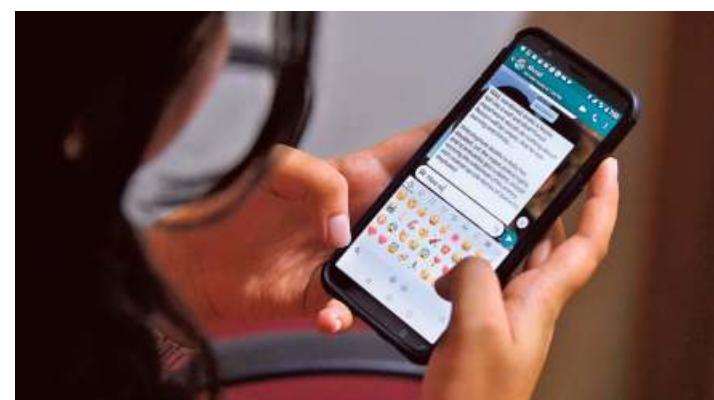
DEADLINE: March 15

APPLICATION: Online
www.b4s.in/
 edge/TISI

Courtesy: www.buddy4study.com

Move over emoticons

Using GIFs in textual communication helps us convey messages effectively



SHAU JOHN



Till recently, I used to be someone who preferred to communicate face-to-face or through video calls, and if neither was available, settle quite unhappily for audio calls. I think I was like that even when I was much younger. Then, I realised it was probably a generational thing.

Most of my peers are like me, preferring to communicate through old-fashioned methods, especially when it came to discussing important matters.

But today's youngsters seem to prefer exactly the opposite. The easiest and the most popular method seems to be texting. As impersonal and interrupted as it may seem, that works best with them. I should know. I have a team of millennials working with me. Every day, there is a barrage of texts going back and forth on our social media group created to stay in touch to discuss work matters. But what is quickly taking over words is an army of GIFs – Graphics Interchange Formats – that communicate a host of emotions. Happiness, lethargy, enthusiasm, shock, surprise, sadness, love, laughter – every emotion and expression finds its way into the conversation. This got me thinking about what is happening to communication these days and how it could evolve in the future of work.

Personal touch
 The reason I prefer face-to-face com-

Happiness, lethargy, enthusiasm, shock, surprise, sadness, love, laughter – every emotion and expression finds its way into the conversation.

ETCETERA

Dean's International Excellence Award - Undergraduate: Humanities and Social Sciences

The University of Strathclyde, Glasgow is offering this scholarship to new international students who will begin a full-time undergraduate

course in the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences in September 2020.

ELIGIBILITY: In order to be deemed eligible candidates must be available to commence academic studies in the UK by the start of the academic year in September/October 2020, register as an international, fee-paying student. They should have an offer of study

for a full-time, year one entry, to a four year undergraduate, Humanities and Social Sciences programme at the University of Strathclyde. This also includes year one entry to the two year Graduate entry LLB Law course.

Students with advanced entry to year two or year three are offered £2,000 in line with the International Study

Centre award.

PRIZES AND AWARDS: £3,500 per year of study

DEADLINE: May 31
<https://www.strath.ac.uk/studywithus/scholarships/humanitiesocialsciences/deansinternationalexcellenceaward-undergraduate/> or contact hass-ug-selectors@strath.ac.uk

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FINANCE

■ ALBERT P'RAYAN

Ever since the Union Budget 2020 was presented by Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman in the Parliament, several debates on the good, bad and ugly of the budget have been organised by television channels. Many articles analysing the budget have been published by leading newspapers and magazines, and numerous messages and memes commenting on its positives and negatives have been posted on social media. This may create an impression in readers' minds that people in India are highly budget literate. Are they?

With burning enthusiasm and great curiosity, I tried to discuss the current budget with some undergraduate students, and I was disappointed as most of them showed no interest in budget issues, proved to have inadequate knowledge, and thought that the budget was a mere annual exercise.

Let us assume that a survey is to be conducted to assess the budget literacy level of teachers and students at educational institutions. How many of them will be able to define the term 'budget', and understand and explain the terms such as balanced budget, surplus budget, deficit budget, service tax, direct tax, indirect tax, income tax, alternative budget, and so on? How many of them will be able to debate budget-related issues and

Students should be taught the importance of the budget and be encouraged to critically examine its aspects



FREEPIC

ments, and to encourage them to become responsible citizens.

In order to achieve this goal, students should be educated about the importance of the budget and encouraged to critically look at its various aspects and comment on them. They should know what taxes are, whether it is important to pay taxes, how they contribute to the country's economy, whether the allocation for the education and the health sectors in the budget is adequate, whether the budget is development oriented, and so on. It is also important to help students enhance their knowledge of government revenues and expenditures, fiscal policy, economic competence and civic awareness.

In 2015, the World Bank reviewed global trends in budget literacy. The study revealed that budget literacy has been incorporated into the school curricula of 34 countries. It is unfortunate that "budget literacy", "budget education" and "alternative budget" are

unfamiliar terms and alien concepts for most teachers and students in India.

Awareness

Budget awareness and literacy can be promoted in many ways. At the school level (classes IX and X), budget literacy can be incorporated into the curricula by introducing a few interesting, informative and thought-provoking lessons on budget related topics. During the process, students become familiar with many budget-related terms and concepts.

Schools and colleges can conduct quiz and essay contests and organise discussions and debates, and thus help students enhance their knowledge. They can also be given stimulating activities such as reviewing budgets and writing letters to the editor or articles to demonstrate their critical thinking skills.

Educational institutions can invite apolitical economists or per-

sons knowledgeable in budget-related issues to deliver talks on the budget and initiate healthy discussions and debates.

A few years ago, I discussed the highlights of the budget with the members of the Civil Service Aspirants Club of an engineering college in Chennai. Each student was given a copy of the highlights of the Union Budget published by *The Hindu*. It was quite a fruitful discussion and the students were asked to discuss and debate various aspects of the budget. They looked at the budget critically and raised some important questions. During the two-hour session, I introduced the concept of "alternative budget" and explained to them, the need for preparing one that will focus on certain priorities and the country's development.

Alternatives

The public, in general, and educators, teachers and students in particular should know that it is pu-

blic funds that are utilised for various purposes by the government, and they also should know that it is their right to tell the government that their money should be used to ensure people's better quality of life and national development. An alternative budget highlights the limitations of a particular public budget and proposes measures that are progressive, socially equitable and inclusive. As a community, educators, teachers and students should be able to propose alternative budgets and make the government consider reforms suggested by them. Their voice must be heard. It is possible only if they have budget literacy and become informed and responsive citizens. Educational institutions have the responsibility to produce informed and responsive citizens.

The writer is an academic, columnist and freelance writer.
rayanal@yahoo.co.uk

BON APP-ETIT

■ ARATHI MINI

There are innumerable apps available today that will help students enhance their cognitive abilities. This is because educators and researchers over the years have found that brain training is important to keep students motivated, relieve stress and assist them in their studies. Here are two apps that will help with the brain training process.

Beelinguapp

Learning a new language is one of the best ways of improving brain function, and its cognitive abilities are undeniable. Using Beelinguapp, you can learn German, French, Hindi, Portuguese, Chinese, Turkish, Swedish, Arabic and Japanese. It allows you to listen to stories and read them in two different languages so that you can simultaneously understand the meaning and learn. It comprises an audio book reader so that you can listen to stories in whichever language. When the audio book plays, a scrolling text can be seen on the screen which will let us know what the narrator is saying. Users can also follow news using the app. (<http://bit.ly/3ayqql>)

NeuroNation

This app focuses primarily on energising your brain. Be it a slow wiper or sluggish thinking, you can get rid of these by training merely 15 minutes a day. There are over 15 exercises with 250 levels that can provide an all-round brain workout. Users can follow their progress and analyse it based on their control group. NeuroNation lets the users compare results, train for a competition, and more with their friends who use the app. New exercises and levels are regularly updated. In case of any questions, a full customer support is always available. (<http://bit.ly/36ky6Ff>)



EAR SHOT

ASHOK RAJAGOPAL



EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS HAVE THE RESPONSIBILITY TO PRODUCE INFORMED AND RESPONSIVE CITIZENS.

critically comment on the union budget? I am sure that the survey results will show that the budget quotient of most of the teachers and students will be critically low.

Importance

How important is budget literacy education? Why is it important to incorporate it into school curricula? The main objective of budget education is to enable students to understand the basics of any public budget and the fiscal policy objectives and measures of govern-

ADMISSIONS

■ IFMR PhD Programme

IFMR Graduate School of Business (IFMR GSB), Krea University, Chennai, invites applicants for its full-time residential research programme leading to the award of PhD. Candidates applying to the programme can choose from several areas of specialisation including economics, finance, information systems and data science, marketing, and so on.

ELIGIBILITY: Candidates who have completed class XII, or will be completing it this year, can apply, irrespective of their stream, or combination of subjects in school, provided that they had math up to class X. Additionally, applicants to the BSc (Hons) Economics and BSc (Hons) Economics and Finance programmes must have math in class XII.

DEADLINE: March 5
<https://krea.edu.in/ifmrgsb/phd-programme-krea.html>

MSc Cities and Global Development

The University of Sheffield, the U.K., is inviting applications for MSc Cities and Global Development course starting in September. The course is suitable for recent graduates and those with professional experience. It is excellent preparation for careers (or further research) in international development, urban governance, planning. Students are assessed on their coursework and a dissertation.

ELIGIBILITY: Holders of a three-year bachelor degree with a minimum of 60% or "first class" from a reputable university. Overall IELTS score of 6.5 with a minimum of 6.0 in each component, or equivalent.

DURATION: One year

FEES: £19,000
<https://www.sheffield.ac.uk/postgraduate/taught/courses/2020-cities-and-global-development-msc>

■ MBA in Liberal Studies and Management

Indian Institute of Management Kozhikode (IIMK) has launched an innovative Masters in Business Administration in Liberal Studies and Management (MBA-LSM). Institute will also provide assistance for internship and final placements.

ELIGIBILITY: Applicants must hold a recognised UG/PG degree in any discipline with minimum 50% marks or equivalent CGPA and a valid score in CAT 2019 / GRE / GMAT. SC/ST/PWD candidates are allowed a relaxation of 5% in the minimum mandated marks. The candidates appearing for the final year of bachelor's degree examination and those who have completed degree requirements and are awaiting results, are also eligible to apply.

DURATION: Two years
FEES: ₹15,00,000 (₹2,000 application fee)

DEADLINE: March 31
research-inc@iimk.ac.in

A friendly arm

If someone in your class is struggling, extend your support in various ways



BACKPACKER'S GUIDE

USHA RAMAN

Lately, many of us who are part of the academic community – learners, teachers and administrators – have had to re-examine the nature of our work, how we go about it, and what comes of it. Students worry about whether their education will ensure them an entry into the job market. Teachers worry about whether all students, irrespective of background, will benefit from what they do in the classroom. Administrators (of public institutions, particularly) worry about offering a decent education infrastructure in the face of budget cuts and privatisation.

These seem to be big questions, of the kind that most us think we have little real control over. However, those of us who are either students or teachers can do something about addressing some of our concerns. Teachers can use considerable help from students as well, as they try to do a better job of reaching everyone.

It is no surprise, given the diversity of our country, that our classrooms can be extremely diverse spaces, with students coming from a range of backgrounds, some with a distinct set of advantages and others with an often undefinable (and even

invisible) set of disadvantages. This can make it quite challenging for the latter group to benefit at the same rate from what is offered at the average college. They could be hampered by differing levels of language fluency, varying access to (or need of) support in learning, or different levels of exposure to the world. While higher education institutions can be bewildering for all, some are more easily able to adapt, knowing whom to ask for help and how to ask for it. Others flounder not always having the means or the confidence to make the request.

Help your peers

You might argue that the teacher – or others in positions of responsibility – are the ones who should identify these needs and extend additional help. But, it often happens that a teacher does not have the bandwidth to perceive every need of every student. Students in need are often not entirely comfortable reaching out to him/her. The larger student group, however, may be in a better position to notice when a peer is not comfortable with something in the classroom, or seems to have difficulty keeping up. But the truth is that not all of us automatically consider helping others in such a context. We believe that academic support is something that is to be provided by the teacher or the institution, while emotional or psychological support is best left to a counsellor. While some situations do require professional intervention, a lot of the time all that is needed is for someone in the peer group to extend a friendly arm. But before this can happen, we need to first see ourselves as sharing this journey with our peers, rather than being in competition with them – or worse, thinking a peer's progress is none of our business.

An act of reaching out could take several forms. At its most basic, it could simply be having the sensitivity to notice and perhaps talk to the teacher about what you have sensed. Depending on the equation with your peer, you could offer to help in the most appropriate way: joint study perhaps, a shared trip to the library, inclusion in a group outing, or just conversation over a cup of tea. Support from peers can be mutually energising; there is always something to learn from those who come from different worlds of experience.



The writer teaches at the University of Hyderabad and edits Teacher Plus.
usha.bpgl@gmail.com

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Conservation & Restoration
Architectural History & Theory
Landscape Architecture

FP FACULTY OF PLANNING
Urban Planning
Urban Housing
Urban Transport Systems
Urban Infrastructure
Urban Design

FD FACULTY OF DESIGN
Interior Design
Furniture Design
Building Products & Systems

FT FACULTY OF TECHNOLOGY
Construction Engineering & Management
Structural Engineering Design
Geomatics
Building Energy Performance

FM FACULTY OF MANAGEMENT
Urban Management

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Now showing (Clockwise from below) Stills from *DAU*, *Natasha*, *Berlin Alexanderplatz*, *The Assistant*, *My Salinger Year*, the poster of *First Cow* and a still from *Never Rarely Sometimes Always*



KENNETH ROSARIO

As Berlin experiences its coldest time of the year, people look forward to the Berlinale for two reasons: it means spring is near and they can watch non-dubbed world cinema. The Berlin International Film Festival or Berlinale, is first of the three big European festivals (Cannes and Venice being the other two) that sets the agenda for the year's festival circuit. It is possibly the only time when Berlin's artists and hipsters huddle to its commercial centre, Potsdamer Platz, normally reserved for capitalists, suits and tourists.

Feeling adventurous

Now in its landmark 70th year, the Berlinale (February 20 to March 1) has, over the decades, built a reputation for taking risks and pushing the boundaries in both narrative and form. In 2018, *Touch Me Not*, the Romanian film on the fear of intimacy, won the Golden Bear, garnering a lot of rebukes. But the 2019 winner, *Synonyms*, a semi-autobiographical French-Israeli refugee rager, became a festival darling. At first glance, it seems the 2020 line-up could go either way but the appetite for risk-taking is evident.

Among the 18 films competing for the Golden Bear this year, is an offspring of Russian filmmaker Ilya Khrzhanovsky's bizarre Soviet experiment, *DAU*, which began in 2005. What started off as a biopic of Russian theoretical physicist Lev Landau, who won the Nobel Prize in 1962, became a social experiment. The filmmaker built a gargantuan set,

modelled after a secret Soviet research institute, to recreate three decades of Soviet history.

A cast of over 400 non-actors lived on set for over two years, wearing costumes even off-camera. With over 700 hours of footage and a lot of controversies akin to the infamous Stanford Prison Experiment, the much-anticipated experimental project was eventually showcased last year. The series of films and visual installations played non-stop for over three weeks in Paris. At the festival, one feature film from this project, *DAU. Natasha*, is in competition while the another *DAU. Degeneration* is in Berlinale Special.

Changes at the helm

The festival this year has had an overhaul. After heading the Berlinale for 18 years, festival director Dieter Kosslick, has passed the baton to artistic director Carlo Chatrian, who previously helmed Locarno, and executive director, Mariette Rissenbeck. But the 2020 competition lineup does not indicate a radical departure from the festival's curatorial mix of European art-house, indie titles and a nose for politically-responsive and potentially-controversial films.

For Berliners, Burhan Qurbani's *Berlin Alexanderplatz*, hits home by following the story of an African refugee from Guinea-Bissau who comes to the German capital on a boat without identity papers. *Todos os mortos (All the Dead Ones)*, the Brazilian-French drama by Caetano Gotardo and Marco Dutra, casts an eye on

All eyes on Berlinale

The festival's landmark year sees two new directors, dark tones and themes like migration. But there are no Indian films in competition

post-slavery in Brazil. In Abel Ferrara's, *Siberia*, actor Willem Dafoe traverses across a frozen landscape in search of meaning. "If there is a predominance of dark tones, this may be because the films we have selected tend to look at the present without illusion – not to cause fear, but because they want to open our eyes," says Chatrian.

Berlinale's beloved German auteur, Christian Petzold returns to the festival two years after the critically-loved *Transit*, to compete with his latest, *Undine*. While *Undine* is set in dream-like modern-day Berlin, *Transit* stripped a World War II story off

its period setting, in tandem with his penchant for ghostly figures. "When you have the past and contemporary moment in the same place, you start thinking about what is happening to Europe and why racists are everywhere," he had said after the première of *Transit* at the 2018 Berlinale. His earlier works *Barbara*, *Yella* and *Ghosts* had also competed for the Golden Bear.

No Indian entry

It is interesting to note that amidst smaller changes brought in by the new leadership, there is a conspicuous absence of Netflix films in competition. The Ameri-

can streaming giant has often found itself at loggerheads with top-league European film festivals like Cannes and Berlinale. But among the big American studios, Pixar's *Onward*, will have its world première at the festival.

Although, there's no Indian film in competition, Prateek Vats' *Eeh Allay Ooo!*, Pushpendra Singh's *Laila Aur Saat Geet* and Akshay Indikar's *Sthalpuran – Chronicle of Space* are part of sections like Panorama and Encounters.

Hong Sangsoo's *Domangchin yeoja (The Woman Who Ran)* from the Republic of Korea and Tsai Ming-Liang's *Rizi (Days)*

from Taiwan are representing Asian cinema in competition.

Gender bender

To be more gender-inclusive, the festival had pledged 50/50 last year, a gender-parity movement which aims to foster better gender ratio at film festivals. Among the competing films, six are directed or co-directed by women, a step down from seven last year.

Two of these six films, Eliza Hittman's *Never Rarely Sometimes Always* and Kelly Reichardt's *First Cow*, are not world premières, an unusual scenario for Berlinale. Beyond competition films, sexuality and gender have been an integral part of the festival's Panorama section. This year, migration, the idea of home, exploitation of our planet and queer identities are the dominant themes.

"The programme is emblematic of the urgency for political action and civil disobedience," observes Panorama head, Michael Stitz. Kitty Green's *The Assistant*, for instance, delves into the #MeToo movement in the en-

tertainment industry and David France's bold documentary, *Welcome to Chechnya* chronicles the systemic persecution of queer people by the Chechen authorities, in homophobic present-day Russia.

The 70th edition will open with Philippe Falardeau's *My Salinger Year*, which stars Margaret Qualley as an aspiring poet Joanna, who works as an assistant to a literary agent.

"Philippe Falardeau depicts the small NYC literary world of the 1990s with humour and a sweet note, but he never forgets the 21st century we are living in or the unifying role that art plays in all of our lives," says Chatrian.

The international jury will be headed by acclaimed British actor Jeremy Irons and actor Helen Mirren will be awarded an honorary Golden Bear for her lifetime achievement. Politician Hillary Clinton and actors Cate Blanchett, Johnny Depp, Elle Fanning, Javier Bardem and Salma Hayek are expected to walk the red carpet, lending star power to a festival that is striving to find a renewed relevance this year.

DOWN MEMORY LANE

The moor's last sight

Palam village was held in higher regard centuries ago than it is today



Rooted in the past A scene at present-day Palam village; a copy of the book on Ibn Battuta (below) ■ V.V. KRISHNAN



R. V. SMITH

Palam village is a relic of Dhilli or Dhillika, founded by the Tomars. The ancient name of Palam is Palamba and some historians trace its antiquity to Raja Soni, the founder of Sonepat, who was the 13th in descent from Arjuna. The village was flourishing at the time of Mohammad bin Tughlak, in whose reign the Moorish traveller Ibn Battuta visited it.

He was a native of Tangier who came to India in 1333 and remained in Delhi until 1342 after being appointed Chief Qazi. Battuta described Delhi as "a most

magnificent city, its mosques and walls without an equal on earth". But he observed that although the king was then re-peopling it (after his futile experiment to transfer the capital to Daulatabad), it was almost a desert.

"The greatest city in the world has the fewest inhabitants," he said. What a contrast to present-day Delhi, almost bursting at the seams, and extending even to the remotest pockets which were

once thinly populated villages!

One of the landmarks of Palam village (besides the airport to which it has given its name) is the mosque said to have been constructed by a nobleman called Ghaznafar in about AD 1528, which makes it perhaps the only structure of Babar's reign in Delhi that has survived the ravages of time.

The mosque is built of Kaka eent (small bricks), with three arched openings leading to its not very large prayer chamber. On the four corners of the roof are small minarets with domes. There are Persian and Arabic inscriptions on the mosque which give the date of its construction as 935AH (Al Hijri).

One is inclined to believe that either this mosque was rebuilt by the illustrious Ghaznafar or there was another masjid in the village that naturally called for an inspection by the Chief Qazi (Ibn Battuta). The Moor's

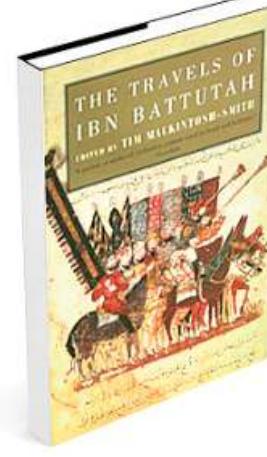
Travelogue, written after his return to Tangiers, is about the most truthful account of the reign of Mohammad Tughlak. Battuta was a keen observer, who would have made a fine journalist in more recent times.

Palam was also famous for its baoli or step-well, with a Sanskrit inscription, believed to have been written in 1276 during the reign of Balban, one of the great Slave rulers. This means that Palam was more than a village in those times.

Even as late as the time of Shehzada Ali Gohar, who ruled as Shah Alam II from 1759 to 1806, Palam was considered an important suburb of the capital.

The popular saying then was *Sultanat-e-Shah Alam, Az Dilli ta Palam*, a poignant assessment of the domain of the blind emperor (Andha Mogul to the residents of old Palam).

The writer is a veteran chronicler of Delhi



Back in time
The concept of money has existed since almost the beginning of civilization, says Razack

■ BHAGYAPRAKASH K

RANJANI GOVIND

Hailed as the largest collector of Indian currency, Rezwan Razack has opened South India's first currency museum in Bengaluru. "I am so happy that the former Governor of the Reserve Bank of India, C. Rangarajan inaugurated the museum," says Razack.

Razack, co-founder and joint MD of Prestige Group, is the Chairman of the International Bank Note Society, India Banknote Collectors' Chapter, and is recognised for his contribution to the advancement of numismatic knowledge. Razack, who built his collection over 50 years with exhaustive research, enjoys sharing his knowledge with students and encourages budding collectors to promote numismatics as a hobby.

He has co-authored *The Revised Standard Reference Guide to Indian Paper Money* in 2012, and in 2017 wrote *One Rupee One Hundred Years 1917-2017* to mark the centenary of the issuance of the one rupee note. "Rezwan Razack's Museum of Indian Paper Money will not only be the first of its kind in India, but also the world," says Razack.

The museum at Prestige Falcon Towers on Brunton Road, has trained guides to take visitors through the history of currency in India. "The story of money is woven into our very being, uniting us, dividing us, giving us a sense of identity and mapping people or the nation's power, crises and triumphs. I consider it a comprehensive restoration and preservation of an important national heritage. It is also something that numismatists worldwide will benefit from."

The initiative, he says, is to help educate, inform and entertain. "The rupee is one thing that is ever present in our lives but never seen as a source of history, information and national pride. I hope visitors understand, enjoy and value this museum of our collective economic heritage."

The museum displays a diverse collection of Indian paper money and the related material drawn from the Indian subcontinent. "While the concept of money has existed since almost the beginning of civilization, the invention of paper currency is more recent," says Razack. From the early barter systems and the use of coins as currency, the museum introduces the visitor to paper currency, its origins and its use.

Apart from its selection of banknotes dating back to the early 1800s, an auxiliary collection has also been put together to explain the inspira-

Take note of this...

India's history in currency is the subject of Rezwan Razack's Museum of Indian Paper Money

tions and techniques of making paper currency. While original hand-painted essays, patterns, proofs, trials, specimen notes, autographed notes and a rare Star of India Medal demonstrate fascinating aspects of money, meticulously sourced cheques, stamp papers relating to Indian paper money, booklets and banknotes help decode the world of money.

"This museum has been planned meticulously over three years to conform to international standards of lighting and climate control," says Razack, adding that people don't often retain paper money. "My visits to cut-note dealers in Chickpet and in Fort Bombay gradually increased my collection," he says, acknowledging that his persistence paid off.

Razack says his collection includes the oldest surviving note from 1812 of Bank of Bengal right up to the notes of 2017 of all denominations. The rare ones are the early Presidency Banknotes of Bank of Hindostan, Bank of Bengal, Commercial Bank, Calcutta Bank, Bank of Bombay, Bank of Western India, Asiatic Bank and Bank of

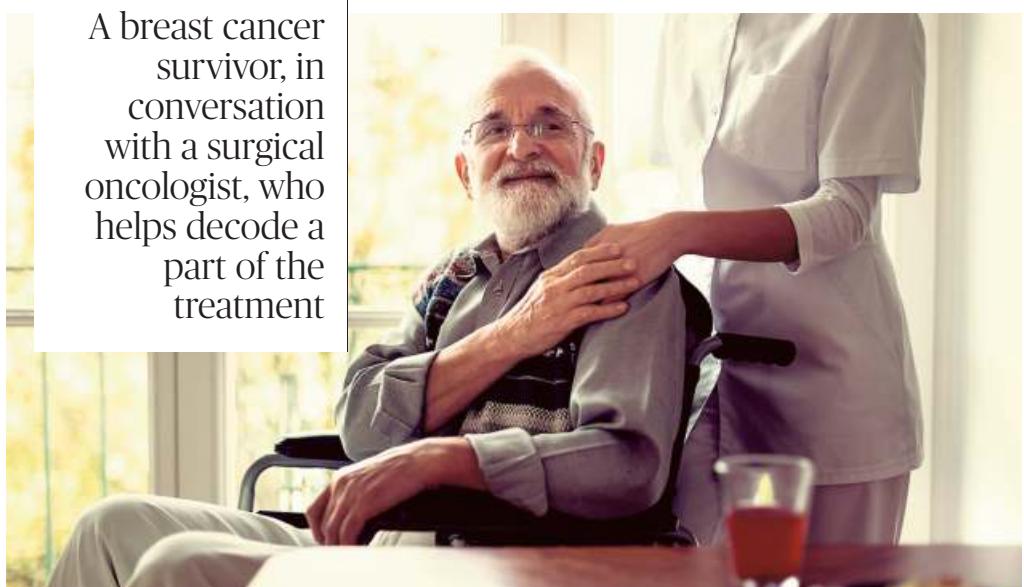
Madras; British India's Portrait Notes of Queen Victoria, Portrait Notes of King George V and King George VI; and Indian Notes used in Burma and Pakistan; Notes of Indo-Portuguese and Indo-French Territories and Indian Notes since Independence, also used by Haj Pilgrims and in Persian Gulf States.

There is also a lot of importance behind his book dedicated to the One Rupee note. The first One Rupee Note in India was issued on November 30, 1917. "To celebrate 100 years of the one rupee note in India, my book focuses on the origin and journey of the smallest existing denomination through the century, while examining its genesis. As the general population in India were unacquainted with paper notes until 1917, one of the methods adopted to increase the popularity of the one rupee note was to print a picture of the silver one rupee coin on both sides of the note."

At Prestige Falcon Towers, 19 Brunton Road, Bengaluru; 10:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.; closed on Mondays and public holidays; entry ₹100



A breast cancer survivor, in conversation with a surgical oncologist, who helps decode a part of the treatment



KAMALDEEP PETER

Cancer is more feared and less understood. What still resonates in my ears are the words of my doctor: "Not early but treatable," as he went through the report of stage three carcinoma in the left breast. The prognosis could have been much better had I acted on the warning signs and consulted an oncologist in time. I had felt a lump appear and disappear, reddened and lighten and my resistance to fight simple ailments greatly reduced. I had thought it was menopause setting in, that it was just a temporary change, a tiredness due to multi-tasking, always in a state of denial.

Dr. Tapaswini Pradhan Sharma is a Head and Neck Oncosurgeon, trained at the All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi. She is currently a Senior Consultant, Head and Neck Cancer, at one of the Capital's Fortis Hospitals. She helps us better understand the surgical aspects of cancer treatment.

Why is surgery the basic of cancer treatment?

• Surgery to a great extent remains as a mainstay of treatment for most solid cancers. Patient

Understanding CANCER SURGERY



and tumour factors – the site and type of lesion and the stage of disease – have a significant bearing on the final decision-making for treatment of these cancers. Surgery guarantees complete removal of the local disease.

However, advanced tumours will require additional treatment with radiation, with or without the combination of chemotherapy, to prevent a relapse. Surgery is considered the primary course of cancer treatment when the disease is localised, and also when the biology of the tumour does not portend a distant spread.

How is a surgical oncologist different from a surgeon?

• Cancer surgeries should be performed by specialists trained in various specialities of surgical oncology. Cancers originating from different anatomical regions behave differently, and to understand the finer nuances, one needs dedicated training.

A lot of tests are prescribed before a surgery. Why?

• A cancer patient is subjected to a large battery of investigations targeted at identifying different facts pertaining to the disease. Step one begins with a biopsy or

FNAC for diagnosing cancer and its subtype. Following diagnosis, radiological investigations are asked for, to stage the disease (to understand its extent). Then a set of haematological investigations are performed to look into the functional status of the various organs to confirm fitness for the cancer treatment. Various tumour markers done during the course of examination also throw light on the tumour burden. At times, these investigations are able to pick up other coexisting diseases.

What are the next steps after a cancer surgery?

• Following surgical resection (removing the cancerous part), a biopsy of the resected specimen is read in detail. This helps the clinician to assess the need for further adjuvant treatments and also offer the person a prognosis.

What do cancer stages and grades mean?

• Most cancers have four stages. Patients often interpret stage four as the end of the



Surgery is the mainstay of treatment for most cancers; (below) Dr. Tapaswini Pradhan Sharma ■ GETTY IMAGES/ISTOCK

journey, though it is not so. Stage three and stage four are considered advanced states, warranting intensification of therapy. Grading of cancer reflects their extent of differentiation. They can be high-grade cancers which behave aggressively and give a shorter survival period to patients, or they could be intermediate or low-grade; the latter have a better prognosis.

What are the general risks of a cancer surgery?

• The general risks for cancer surgeries are the same as with other surgeries: haemorrhages, wound infection and others. Wound healing issues are exacerbated on account of poor nutrition, the side-effects of chemotherapy and radiation.

Head and neck cancer treatment often has issues pertaining to disfigurement, impairment of speech and swallowing. Lymphoedema (swelling) of the arm is common in breast cancer surgery. Abdominal surgeries can be fraught with anastomotic leaks (a leak where two sections are joined), while gynaecological/urological surgical treatments are associated with urinary complications or lymphorrhoea (an abnormal flow of lymph).

How does a breast oncologist decide if it is a lumpectomy or a mastectomy that needs to be performed?

• Breast cancers are treated either with a breast conservation surgery (lumpectomy with oncoplasty) or a modified radical mastectomy. The decision-making regarding the type of surgery is influenced by size and multi-focality

(spread) of the tumour. Small breast tumours are amenable to conservation. Large tumours and multi-focal lesions on the other hand will warrant a modified radical surgery.

What are the signs and symptoms of head and neck cancer?

• Most patients with head and neck cancers present with signs and symptoms referable to the site of their lesion. Oral cancers, which account for 30-50% of these cancers, generally present with non-healing ulcer, abnormal growth, oral bres, progressive trismus, abnormal loosening of dentition and a change in voice. While cancers of the voice box present with persisting hoarseness, cancers of the food passage present with progressive difficulty in swallowing. Nose and paranasal sinuses present with nasal obstruction, nasal bleed, may be accompanied with headache and visual impairment.

Thyroid cancers and salivary gland cancers are mostly asymptomatic. Though the head and neck area is amenable to visual inspection, unfortunately only 12-13% of patients present in the early stage of the disease.

What are the various imaging techniques and how do they differ?

• The choice of imaging is guided by the type, site and stage of the disease. Most cancers are imaged using Computed Tomography (CT), Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) or Positron Emission Tomography CT (PET-CT). USG, nuclear scans, angiography are also used to complement. CT scans highlight bony tissues better, while MRI defines soft tissues with greater clarity. PET scans are used to detect the functional activity of the tissues.

In this three-part series, the author, a breast cancer survivor, speaks to oncologists about navigating the cancer care system

Q&A



My children, in Class X and XII are under stress because of the board exams. Which is the best form of exercise for them to take a break from studies?

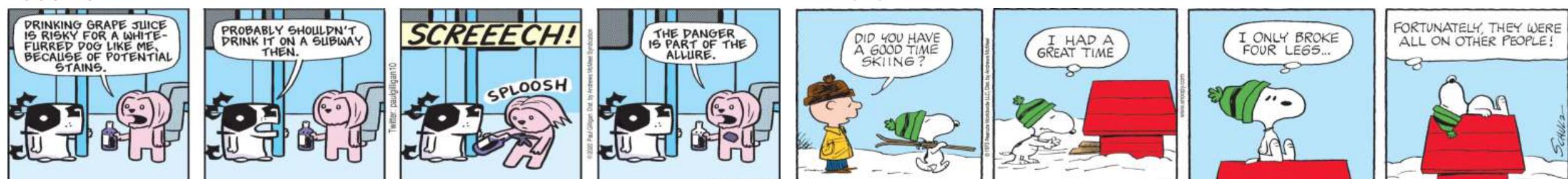
■ You need to breathe optimally for proper oxygen supply. This can be changed with exercise, so that you get energy. Take breaks and do some stretches once an hour or so. Have a warm bath before you begin studying, and you'll feel better.

I am a 16-year-old boy, 166 cm. My father is as tall as I am. Will using hanging bars for two minutes daily help increase my height, at least by three inches?

■ As a boy, you will grow for another three to five years. However, if you're very particular to find out, you can request a doctor for an X-ray of the knee, to measure if the growth plates are ossified (after which there will be no growth). Girls often stop physical growth at about 16 years. However, hanging on bars alone will not help. Get daily exercise by playing a sport, eat a healthy diet, avoid junk food, and you will grow well.

Dr Kannan Pugazhendi is a renowned sports physician and fitness consultant with over two decades of experience. Nothing in this column is intended to be, and is not, a substitute for professional medical advice, diagnosis or treatment. Please seek independent advice from a licensed practitioner if you have any questions regarding a medical condition. Email us your questions at mp_health@thehindu.co.in

POOCH CAFE



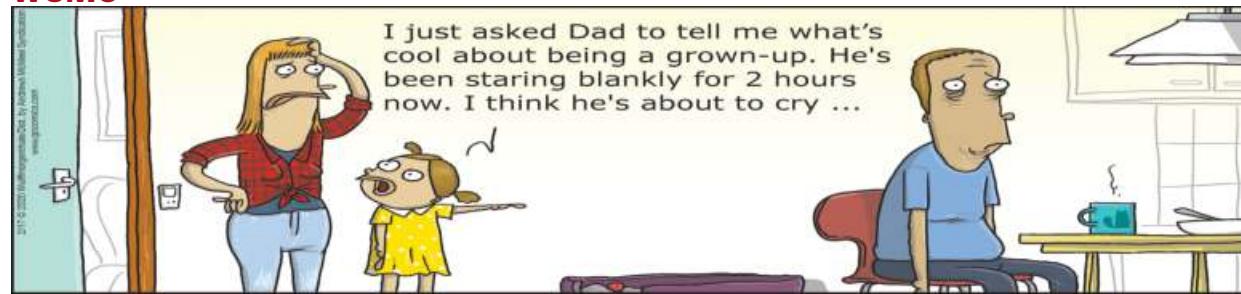
HAGAR THE HORRIBLE



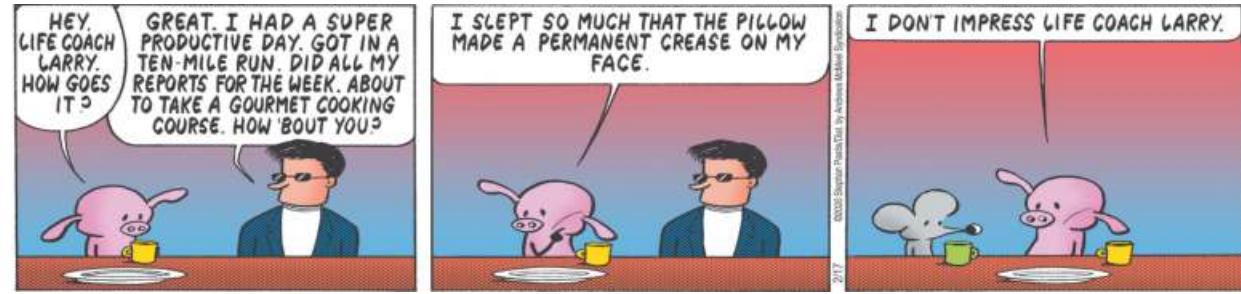
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PEANUTS



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- Across
1 Menacing (8)
5 Secular (4)
9 Dromedary (5)
10 Ramshackle (2,5)
11 It keeps hair oil off the back of a chair (12)
13 Nabokov's nymphet (6)
14 Swiss house with sloping roof and wide eaves (6)
17 Went from bad to worse (12)
20 (Of time) passed (7)
- Down
21 Audibly (5)
22 Architect of Buckingham Palace, d. 1835 (4)
23 Car on end (anag) – artillery (8)
- Across
1 Dissenting clique (4)
2 In name only (7)
3 Concern for number one (4-8)
4 Hebrew prophet who rebuked Ahab and Jezebel (6)

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

- 6 First sign of the zodiac (5)
7 Male singer operated on before puberty to retain his soprano voice (8)
8 Relax after a crisis (7,5)
12 Beat repeatedly with a heavy object (8)
15 Now idle (anag) – short rest (3-4)
16 Give thought to (6)
18 Golf course hazards (5)
19 Not in active use (4)

The solution will appear on February 18, 2020.
Solution No. 13303

O	N	O	N	E	S	F	E	X
E	A	B	N	L	X			
N	E	S	T	E	G	A	L	P
D	I	Y	U	G	O	S		
E	L	S	E	C	R	A	I	N
A	I	F	A	G	O			
R	E	F	I	N	T			
M	R	F	S	T				
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Birthday boy Mayank back among the runs

Pant comes up with a smart mix of caution and aggression; Shaw advances his case

INDIA IN NZ

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

HAMILTON
Mayank Agarwal found form on his birthday and Rishabh Pant mixed caution with aggression as India's warm-up match against New Zealand XI ended in a draw here on Sunday.

The match was called off an hour after lunch with India reaching 252 for four just 48 overs into their second innings.

Mayank, who has been going through a wretched period, retired on 81 off 99 balls with ten 4s and three 6s.

Easy hitting

To the relief of the Indian team management, Pant played in his customary manner to reach 70 off 65 balls, but also showed discretion when the bowlers were in the midst of a good spell.

There were four 6s – two each off leg-spinner Ish Sodhi and off-spinner Henry Cooper. While Sodhi was hit down the ground, Cooper was dispatched over extra-cover.

However, the best thing to have emerged from the match was Mayank's poor run coming to an end. The Seddon Park track easing out was definitely a factor, but Mayank's footwork was more assured as he played some glorious on-drives and pulls off fast bowlers.

Before this game, Mayank had played 10 competitive games, including First Class, ODIs and List-A matches, and couldn't cross the 40-run mark in 11 completed in-



Good news: Mayank Agarwal's run of poor scores seems to have come to an end. ■ FILE PHOTO: R.V. MOORTHY

nings. He even bagged a pair in the 'Test' against New Zealand-A.

He didn't come out to bat after lunch giving Wriddhiman Saha an opportunity to score an unbeaten 30, his runs coming mostly against non-regular bowlers.

The Mayank-Pant pair added 100 runs in 14.3 overs and it also helped that part-timers like Cooper were introduced.

In the morning, Prithvi

Shaw (39, 31b) was bowled through the gate by Daryl Mitchell.

Shaw, though, seemed to have done enough during his brisk 72-run stand with Mayank, to put an end to the debate around the opening slot even though the tracks in Wellington and Christchurch could be a test of technique for the flamboyant Mumbaikar.

It was a match that Shubman Gill would perhaps like

to forget in a hurry as he was dismissed cheaply for the second time in a row. He scored eight before Daryl Mitchell trapped him leg before.

The scores:

India – 1st innings: 263.

New Zealand-A – 1st innings: 235.

India – 2nd innings: Prithvi Shaw b Mitchell 39, Mayank Agarwal retired out 81, Shubman Gill lbw b Mitchell 8, Rishabh Pant c Cleaver b Mitchell

70, Wriddhiman Saha (batting) 30, Ravichandran Ashwin (batting) 16; Extras (b-4, lb-1, nb-1, w-2); Total (for four wkts in 48 overs): 252.

Fall of wickets: 1-72, 2-82, 3-182, 4-216.

New Zealand-A bowling: Blair Tickner 3-0-19-0, Scott Kuggeleijn 12-0-81-0, Scott Johnston 4-0-18-0, Daryl Mitchell 9-2-33-3, James Neesham 6-1-29-0, Ish Sodhi 5-0-32-0, Henry Cooper 3-0-27-0, Tom Bruce 5-1-8-0, Finn Allen 1-1-0-0.

'India to play D/N Test at Adelaide'

Ganguly outlines slew of measures to protect five-day format

VIJAY LOKAPALLY
NEW DELHI

Test cricket will be the top priority for Sourav Ganguly and his team of administrators in the upcoming season.

Ganguly, as president of the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI), has finalised a series of measures to attract spectators to watch Test cricket.

"We will play one day-night Test in each series beginning with the one against Australia (later this year)," Ganguly told *The Hindu*. He confirmed Adelaide as venue for the day-night Test, one of four listed for the series in which India will also play three ODIs and three T20Is.

"I am convinced that day-night Tests is the way forward. We saw a huge turnout at the Eden Gardens (last November) against Bangladesh and I know all countries are looking to encourage this idea. We are all for it," he stressed.

Ahmedabad will be the venue for the second day-night Test in India during England's visit next year.

Ganguly revealed the Board's plans to "market" Test cricket. "We have formed a committee to market Test cricket. The committee will reach out to various stakeholders and sell Test cricket to fans. There is a huge marketing potential waiting to be tapped," he said.

End of zonal system

Ganguly insisted the Board had decided to do away with the zonal system in the selection committee.



Sketching the roadmap: Ganguly and team mean business as they look to tap the market potential of the game. ■ AP

would step in to ensure smooth functioning of the Delhi and District Cricket Association.

He confirmed there had been numerous complaints against the present set of DDCA office-bearers.

"We have received complaints from various quarters and will hold a Special General Meeting and appoint an ad-hoc committee to run cricket affairs of the DDCA. It will be done within a month," Ganguly emphasised.

"We realise the potential that lies with our fans, majority of them being youth. The app will be launched to acknowledge the reach of social media. The app will allow fans to interact directly with the BCCI. It's a brilliant way to stay in touch with people who respect and love the game and the players," noted Ganguly.

The Board also released ₹2 crore for the newly-formed Indian Cricketers Association to begin functioning.

Ad-hoc panel for DDCA

In a major development, Ganguly disclosed that BCCI

The takeaways

- India to play Day-Night Test at Adelaide (vs Australia) and Ahmedabad (vs England)

- No zonal representation in selection committees

- Ad-hoc committee to run DDCA

- Marketing committee to sell Test cricket

- BCCI to launch App to reach out to fans

- Funds released for ICA and various State units

India's warm-up game against Pak. washed out

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

India's first ICC Women's T20 World Cup warm-up match against Pakistan was washed out here on Sunday without a ball being bowled.

Heavy downpour resulted in the match being called off without even the toss being held at the Allan Border Field. India will face West Indies in the second and final warm-up game here on February 18.

The T20 World Cup will begin on February 21 with India taking on defending champion and four-time winner Australia in Sydney.

Bangladesh's match against World Cup debutant Thailand here was also called off, while England defeated New Zealand by six wickets in Adelaide.

The Australia-West Indies match on Saturday had been abandoned owing to a wet outfield.

England takes the series

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE

CENTURION

England captain Eoin Morgan went on a six-hitting spree to take his side to a series win in a high-scoring third and final Twenty20 international against South Africa at SuperSport Park on Sunday.

Morgan slammed seven sixes in an innings of 57 not out off 22 balls as England chased down South Africa's 222 for six with five wickets and five balls to spare.

"It's a nice note to leave this tour on," said Morgan. **The scores:** South Africa 222/6 in 20 overs (T. Bavuma 49, Q. de Kock 35, H. Klaasen 66, D. Miller 35 n.o.; T. Curran 2/33, B. Stokes 2/35) lost to England 226/5 in 19.1 overs (J. Buttler 57, J. Bairstow 64, E. Morgan 57 n.o.; L. Ngidi 2/55).

Second T20: England 204/7 in 20 overs (J. Roy 40, J. Bairstow 65, B. Stokes 47 n.o.; M. Ali 39, L. Ngidi 3/48, A. Phehlukwayo 2/47) bt South Africa 202/7 in 20 overs (T. Bavuma 31, Q. de Kock 65, H. van der Dussen 43 n.o.; T. Curran 2/45, C. Jordan 2/30, M. Wood 2/39).

Greats line up for Laureus moment

STAN RAYAN

BERLIN

Eliud Kipchoge appeared to be a big favourite to win the Laureus Sportsman of the Year award when he made history by running the marathon under two hours late last year, but the latest developments in the running shoes story is likely to add a twist to the tale.

In an effort to make the sport equal for all, World Athletics, the sport's governing body, had banned the shoes which Kipchoge wore on his record run.

The Laureus awards will be presented at the Verti Music Hall here on Monday night and Spanish tennis star Rafael Nadal who, with 19, is close to Roger Federer's all-time Grand Slam record of 20, F1 star Lewis Hamilton, football great Lionel Messi, golf's great comeback man Tiger Woods and motorcycling star Marc Marquez are the other nominees for the men's award.

Meanwhile, Sachin Tendulkar's "Carried on the shoulders of the nation" – the scene after India's 2011 ICC World Cup triumph – is among the favourites for the Laureus Sporting Moment for 2000-2020, with South African female amputee swimmer Natalie du Toit expected to give the Indian legend a fight. Toit became the

first female amputee swimmer ever to qualify for the able-bodied Olympics in 2008 in Beijing.

The Laureus Sport for Good award went to South Bronx United, a project which used football to change the lives of young people and poor communities in New York. Andrew So, SBU's co-founder and executive director, and two youngsters who benefited from the project – Mohammed Konate and Maria Martinez – received the award.

(The author is in Berlin at the invitation of Laureus.)

Memorable moment: South Bronx United, winners of the Laureus Sport for Good Award on Sunday. ■ GETTY IMAGES

Liverpool opens up 25-point lead

Super-sub Pasalic hits winner for Atalanta

EURO LEAGUES

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE

LONDON

Sadio Mane struck as Liverpool overcame Storm Dennis and feisty basement club Norwich 1-0 to extend its lead at the top of the Premier League table to 25 points.

The result leaves Daniel Farke's Norwich rooted to the bottom of the table, six points behind 19th-placed Watford. It looks set for an immediate return to the Championship.

Mario Pasalic scored the winner seconds after coming off the bench as Atalanta came from behind to beat Roma 2-1 and consolidate fourth place in Serie A at the expense of its Champions League rival from the capital.

"This is an important victory," said Atalanta coach Gianpiero Gasperini.

The results: Premier League: Aston Villa 2 (Alderweireld 9-0, Engels 53) lost to Tottenham 3 (Alderweireld 27, Son

45+2, 90+4); Arsenal 4 (Auba-meyang 54, Pepe 57, Ozil 90, Lacazette 90+5) bt Newcastle 0.

Serie A: Udinese 0 drew with Hellas Verona 0; Sassuolo 0 lost to Parma 1 (Gervinho 25); Sampdoria 1 (Gabbiadini 90) lost to Fiorentina 5 (Thorsby 8-0, Vlahovic 18-0, 57, Chiesa 40-0, 78); Juventus 2 (Dybala 38, Cuadrado 75) bt Brescia 0; Cagliari 0 lost to Napoli 1 (Mertens 65).

Bundesliga: Cologne 1 (Uth 0) lost to Bayern Munich 4 (Lewandowski 30, Coman 5, Gnabry 12, 66); Mainz 0 0 drew with Schalke 04.

La Liga: Villarreal 2 (Gerard 9, Moises 61) bt Levante 1 (Mayoral 56); Granada 2 (Antonio Rodriguez 90+6) bt Valladolid 1 (Guardiola 56).

Serie A: Lecce 2 (Mancosu 41-0, Majer 66) bt SPAL 1 (Pettagna 47); Bologna 0 lost to Genoa 3 (Soumaoro 28, Sambra 12, 66); Atalanta 2 (Palomino 50, Pasalic 59) bt Roma 1 (Dzeko 45).

La Liga: Sevilla 2 (Ocampos 15,

Suso 80) drew with Espanyol 2 (Embarba 35, Wu Lei 50); Leganes 0 drew with Real Betis 0.

Saturday: Premier League: Norwich 0 lost to Liverpool 1 (Mane 78).

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La Liga: Sevilla 2 (Ocampos 15,

TV PICKS

NBA: Sony Ten 1 (SD & HD), 6.30 a.m.

IN BRIEF



Vikram Malhotra triumphs

OREGON Top seed Vikram Malhotra won the Oregon Open, a PSA challenger event, late on Saturday here. The 30-year-old beat Mexican Leonel Cardenas 10-12, 11-9, 11-8, 11-4 in the final for his 12th PSA title – the first Indian to have won many titles in the professional circuit.

Harinder Pal Sandhu, Joshua Chinappa, and Dipika Pallikal Karthik have eleven titles each.

Bopanna loses in doubles semifinals

ROTTERDAM Rohan Bopanna in partnership with Denis Shapovalov of Canada was beaten 5-7, 6-2, [10-8] by Henri Kontinen and Jan-Lennard Struff in the doubles semifinals of the €2,155,295 ATP tennis tournament in Rotterdam, the Netherlands.

Aravali Polo triumphs

NEW DELHI Manuel Llorente and Angad Kalaan scored all the goals in guiding Aravali Polo to a 5-3 victory over Golden Globe Hotels in the final of the Sawai Man Singh Gold Vase 10-goal polo tournament at the Jaipur Polo ground on Sunday. After two days rest, Sujan Northern India 16-goal polo championship will be played from Wednesday.

The results (final): Aravali Polo 5 (Manuel Llorente 3, Angad Kalaan 2) bt Golden Globe Hotels 3 (Daniel Tamandi 3).

TRAU holds CCFC

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

A resolute TRAU FC held defending champion Chennai City FC to a goalless draw in a Hero I-League match here on Sunday.

In Ludhiana, Punjab FC's unbeaten home run continued as it defeated Real Kashmir FC by a solitary goal. Dipanda Dicka struck the match-winner in the 44th minute.

Humpy jumps to sole lead

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

ST. LOUIS (USA) Indian Grandmaster Koneru Humpy inflicted a defeat on Valentina Gunina of Russia in the eighth round of the second Cairns Cup here, jumping to sole lead with 5.5 points and a round to play.

The results: Round eight: Carissa Yip (USA) 3.5 bt Wenjun Ju (Chn) 4.5; Koneru Humpy 5.5 bt Valentina Gunina (Rus) 2; Mariya Muzychuk (Ukr) 4.5 drew with D. Harika 4; Nana Dzagnidze (Georgia) 4 lost to Alexandra Kosteniuk (Rus) 5; Katerina Lagno (Rus) 4 drew with Irina Krush (USA) 3.

Vidit still in the lead

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

PRAGUE Indian Grandmaster Vidit Gujrathi continued to lead the standings in the Masters Category of the Prague Chess Festival here after sharing a point with Swedish GM Nils Grandelius in the fourth round.

The results: Round four: P. Harikrishna 1.5 drew with Sam Shankland (USA); Vidit Gujrathi 3 drew with Nils Grandelius (Swe) 2; Alireza Firouzja (Iri) 2.5 drew with Nikita Vitugov (Rus) 2.5; Markus Ragger (Aut) 1.5 drew with David Navara (Cze) 1; Jan-Krzysztof Duda (Pol) 2.5 drew with David Anton Guijarro (Esp) 2.



In the thick of things: Eli Sabia's assist saw Rafael Crivellaro net Chennaiyin's opening goal.

RAJEEV BHATT

Chennaiyin stuns ATK

Crivellaro, Schembri and Valskis find the target

ISL

AMITABHA DAS SHARMA

KOLKATA

Chennaiyin FC kept its playoff chances alive with a 3-1 win over ATK in an ISL outing at the Salt Lake Stadium here on Sunday.

Need a victory to keep itself afloat, Chennaiyin put up an inspired performance, scoring twice in the opening half and found the third late in the injury time of the second session. Rafael Crivellaro, Andre Schembri and Neruijs Valskis found the target once each for the visitor while Roy Krishna was the lone scorer for ATK.

Chennaiyin started at a fast pace and was better organised than the host. The visitors soon turned the ad-

vantage in their favour and found the break in the seventh minute. Eli Sabia made the most of an ATK miss and released Crivellaro a few yards from the half-line. The Italian made a darting run towards the goal and once in the box, Crivellaro unleashed a sharp angular left-footer to find the bottom left-corner of the net.

ATK tried to regroup after the reverse but it was Chennaiyin that kept launching attacks. The latter doubled the lead in the 40th minute owing to an error by Arindam Bhattacharya. The ATK goalkeeper rushed out and failed to punch out a corner, allowing Schembri to head home in the 39th minute.

ATK pulled one back in the next minute as Krishna

found the target, latching on to a long ball from Javier Hernandez. ATK put the ball twice in the Chennaiyin goal thereafter, but was ruled offside for both. Krishna also remained wasteful on two occasions, ending ATK's chances of a comeback. Valskis scored the third in the final minute of injury-time to make the Chennaiyin scoreline more emphatic.

Chennaiyin moved to 25 points from 16 matches while ATK remained on 33 points from 17 matches. The latter also saw its Asian Champions League hopes almost evaporating.

The result: ATK 1 (Roy Krishna 40) lost to Chennaiyin FC 3 (Rafael Crivellaro 7, Andre Schembri 40, Neruijs Valskis 90+4).

Amendola reigns

MOTORSPORTS

SPORTS BUREAU

CHENNAI

Michelangelo Amendola (Belgium) did not win any of the three races on Sunday, but picked up sufficient points from two third-place finishes and a sixth to emerge the new champion of the FIA-approved MRF Challenge which concluded at the MMRT here.

The results: MRF Challenge (all 15 laps unless mentioned, race-4): 1. Yuven Sundaramoorthy (USA) 22.53.075s; 2. Manaf Hijawi (Jordan) 22.54.066; 3. Dylan Young (Australia) 23.03.255.

Race-5: 1. Louis Foster (UK) 25.38.368; 2. Sundaramoorthy 25.41.064; 3. Michelangelo Amendola (Belgium) 25.45.004.

Commanding show: Michelangelo Amendola did well to emerge the new champion of the MRF Challenge.

* SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Race-6 (14 laps): 1. Young 21.33.558; 2. Valdemar Eriksen (Denmark) 21.34.874; 3. Amendola 21.36.464.

Final Championship standngs (top-3): 1. Amendola (247 points); 2. Young (223); 3. Joshua Mason (GBR, 176).

National Championship (12 laps) - Indian Touring Cars (race-2): 1. Arjun Balu (Race

Concepts) 23.12.264; 2. Keith D'Souza (FB Motorsports) 23.28.371; 3. Sunil Ranjith (Race Concepts) (+1 lap).

Super Stock (race-2): 1. Rithvik Thomas (Race Concepts) 24.13.207; 2. Raghu Rangasamy (Performance Racing) 24.20.261; 3. Alisha Abdullah (Race Concepts) 24.51.419.

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Balbir – the grand old man of hockey

The triple Olympic gold medallist, now 96, insists on doing things by himself

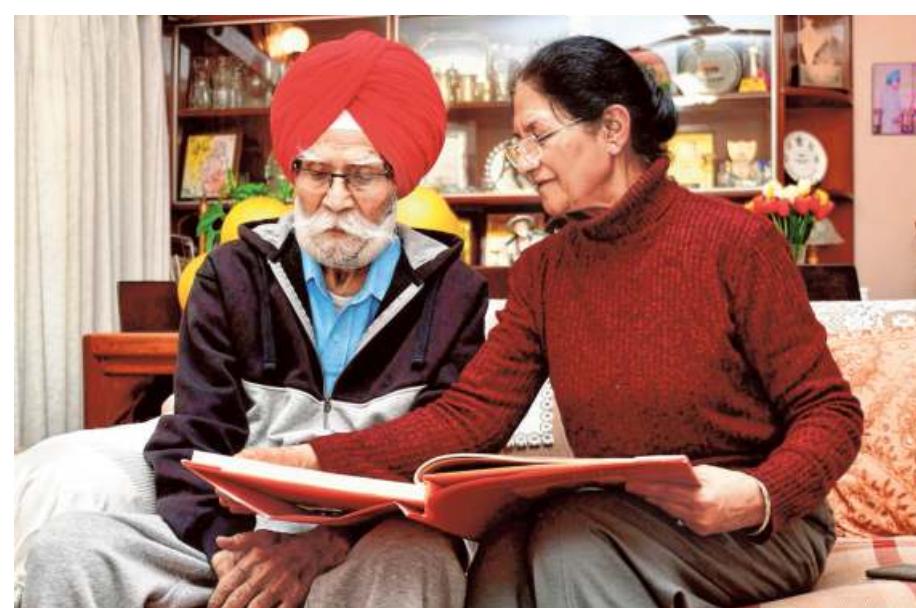
VIJAY LOKAPALLY

His home in Chandigarh can be termed a tribute to the great game of hockey. You are ushered into the drawing room, a virtual museum displaying a magnificent collection of trophies, medals and award citations that document Balbir Singh's journey.

The trophy, his first as a teenager when in school, may have lost the lustre but he does not let go of the little gem. "It's very dear to me," he fumbles. And why not? It has been with him for close to 88 years now.

Daughter's support
To call the 96-year-old Balbir frail, ill would disappoint him, for he protests by shaking his head. "I am fine," he insists with a smile.

"He is as good as he has been last three decades," smiles his doting daughter Sushbir. She gave up hockey to pursue studies on Balbir's advice and has not regretted



Nostalgia: Hockey legend Balbir Singh and his daughter Sushbir go down memory lane.

■ AKHILESH KUMAR

it. "I have lived my hockey through my father's exploits on the field and his love for the game."

For grandson Kabir, life revolves around Balbir. Having quit a lucrative job in South Africa and now devoted to serving his Nanaji, the genial Kabir is Balbir's eyes and ears.

"I just love every moment

spent with him. His energy and memory are an amazing source for all of us," gushes Kabir.

Balbir, triple Olympic hockey gold medallist (1948, 1952 and 1956) has spent 160 days (from October 1, 2018 to November 20, 2019) in hospital – 95 of them in Intensive Care Unit.

He returned from the

brink to the warmth of the house, owned by Sushbir.

According to Sushbir, Balbir needs constant attention. "He needs the help of a caretaker but also insists on doing things by himself too.

"He loves reading newspapers and watching news. He can stay up late if there is a live hockey match. He keeps himself abreast of the

happenings the world over."

Sharp memory

Balbir's memory is sharp, though not razor sharp as before. He recalls the 1948 Olympics with amazing details. "There was no greater joy for me than seeing the Tri-colour going up."

"The national anthem and the fact that we beat our rulers (British) on their home soil to retain the Olympic hockey gold can never be forgotten," the excitement in his tone confirms the awesome feat of the team in London.

The family has kept him in the dark on the loss of some of the memorabilia he had donated to Sports Authority of India.

"It was callous of them to have lost such priceless gifts from his personal collection," says a sad Sushbir. She and Kabir have made frantic efforts, in vain until now, for retrieving the medals, trophies and blazers.

"Come again soon," the grand old man of Indian hockey says with a warm handshake.

Jones out-dunks Gordon in overtime

Adebayo beats Sabonis in skills challenge



Perfect shot: This Derrick Jones manoeuvre had even the judges on their feet. ■ AP

NBA

REUTERS
CHICAGO

Miami Heat forward Derrick Jones Jr. won a slam dunk contest that required overtime with two extra rounds, edging Orlando Magic big man Aaron Gordon in a six-dunk display.

Jones won by a single point on his birthday on Saturday. "It was great, a great competition," Jones said.

The lone non-perfect

Using "7'5" Celtics center Tacko Fall as prop just in front of the rim, Gordon bounced off two feet and over Fall for a two-handed walk-off slam.

It was good for only a 47, the first non-perfect mark for Gordon.

Jones ran from the opposite 3-point line and jumped from 13 feet and banged in a lefty dunk for his one-point win.

Gordon, using Chance The Rapper to hold the ball, pulled the ball from his helper's hands and locked down his third perfect 50 in three tries.

Gordon nailed a perfect 50 – 10s from all five judges – with the fourth and final dunk of the first round. He matched it with his second slam – plucking the ball from the hands of Chance while jumping over him and moving from one sideline toward the other, spinning his body back to the basket in midair to finish the slam.

Jones followed up a miss and a birthday serenade from the United Center crowd to score 46 points for his first dunk.

Jones positioned teammate Bam Adebayo inside the elbow and leapt over him for a slam.

His second dunk appeared to defy gravity and brought all of the judges to their feet. Jones scored 50 with a looping 360° dunk, passing the ball under his leg before whipping it through with his left hand.

Jones cleared two men who were facing the basket, took the ball back while elevating, put it under his left leg and crammed it in with an authoritative left hand.

To start the first dunk off, Jones caught the ball off the side of the backboard and moved the ball from his right

Gordon followed with another 50, his fifth of the night, with his own rendition of the around-the-leg windmill.

Wicked!

Gordon's fourth dunk of the night was a perfect score and brought the stadium to a fever pitch.

He received a 50 for a wicked power dunk grabbing an assist from teammate Markelle Fultz off the side of the backboard.

Jones scored 50, taking the ball from a helper on a bounce off the backboard, under his leg and through.

Jones cleared two men who were facing the basket, took the ball back while elevating, put it under his left leg and crammed it in with an authoritative left hand.

Gordon, using Chance The Rapper to hold the ball, pulled the ball from his helper's hands and locked down his third perfect 50 in three tries.

Earlier, Edrice Femi 'Bam' Adebayo of Miami Heat defeated Indiana Pacers forward Domantas Sabonis in the 2020 All-Star Skills Challenge.

Saluting a legend



Special moment: Leander Paes receives a memento at a felicitation function organised by the KSLTA in Bengaluru on Sunday. ■ V. SREENIVASA MURTHY

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